

# THE SPIRE

## The Rev. Dr. Sungmu Lee

## May 2014

As many of you know, the story of Kwasi Enin has been broadcasted and written on the newspapers. Just so you know, Kwasi is one of the active young members at our church and has been accepted into all eight Ivy League Schools. I am so proud of him and thankful to God, not only because he has been successful, but also because he has been faithful to God and God's church.

He with his parents and his sister comes to church almost every Sunday, and he was an outstanding student at the Confirmation class when he was an eighth grader. At the Confirmation ceremony, I ask each Confirmand, "Will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, and your service?" If you do not say *yes* to the question, you cannot be confirmed. However, half of those who were confirmed have not even come to church on Sunday. This is the reality.

Nowadays, many Christians say, "I am too busy to go to church. I am too busy to participate in church activities. I am too busy to help others in need. I am so busy studying hard to enter a good college. So, I do not have enough time to spend for others." Kwasi has not been too busy to keep his promise with God at the Confirmation. We Christians cannot be too busy to serve God and God's church. It is like we cannot be too busy to breathe. This is the matter of priority.

Kwasi has used his talents for the glory of God, participating in many church activities, including the youth choir, the bell choir, the church cabaret, and so on. Kwasi is not spectacular but humble. He is not fluent but wise. He is gentle but strong inside and patient. He is able to be led by others so that he may lead them. He is able to be part of a group so that he may be a good leader.

His success gives the precious instruction to us, modern people, who tend to seek the fantastic rather than the humble and look at the appearance rather than the heart. His success shows modern people that when you are faithful to small things, you will be successful in life.

I remember the story of King Solomon. During the night in a dream, God appeared to Solomon and said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you." Solomon answered, "Give me the wisdom to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong." God said to him, "Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for wisdom in practicing justice, I will do what you have asked. In addition, I will give you what you have not asked for both riches and honor all your life, so that no other king shall compare with you" (1 King 3:5-14).

When Solomon's priority was the same as God's, he received even what he had not asked for. Friends, what is your priority?

Sungmu Lee

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#### MISSIONS

The Missions Pancake Breakfast raised \$268.00 with your support. Special thanks to those who contributed in making it a success.

On Sunday, March 16, a pancake breakfast was held at our church. Eric Schneider would like to give special thanks to Cindy Conste, Corrine Conste, Yaa Owusu, Pat Dowd and Steve Hemmerle for all their hard work in the kitchen.

The congregation's participation is very much appreciated, as is Regina & Eric Schneider's faithful service.

Missions will be collecting items for UMCOR health kits. A signup sheet and a list of needed items will be posted in fellowship hall shortly.

The parishioners have filled the needs for the UMCOR health kits; please remember to have the items in by May 25<sup>th</sup>. We want to thank everyone who contributed food for the Bay Shore Food Pantry.

May 4<sup>th</sup> is Native American Sunday and a special offering is being taken on that Sunday.

Vida Owusu Missions

#### **Remembering Our Deceased Veterans**

On Memorial Day Sunday, May 25, we will be once again be reading the names of deceased veterans. If you have any name(s) to submit, please fill out this form and put it in the offering plate, drop it off at the church office or email the church office at <u>UMCBS@aol.com</u> with the information. Please print clearly. **DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING NAMES IS MAY 18.** 

Please remember the following deceased veterans on May 25:



God's faithful servant, Delores Bess, passed into eternal rest on April 4, 2014. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

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### <u>"All Ivy" - Kwasi Enin</u>

In case you haven't watched a news broadcast or read a newspaper these past weeks.....Kwasi (pronounced kw-EHsi) Enin, who is Doreen and Ebenezer Enin's son, has made national news. Kwasi applied, and was accepted into all 8 Ivy League Schools, among others. He made national headlines, appeared on the Today Show, and Late Night with David Letterman. Quite an amazing accomplishment. Kwasi is a remarkable young man, and he is to be congratulated.

Kwasi sings in our Youth Choir, and rings in our Bell Choir. Kwasi also sang a wonderful performance of "Ol' Man River" at the Cabaret Concert in November. He is a gifted singer with a beautiful bass voice, and attended All-State Choir this past fall.

Congratulations to Kwasi, and his family. He is a kind, respectful, and humble young man. A true testament to his upbringing. Although Kwasi has not decided where he'll attend yet, we know he'll be a success wherever his path leads him. We are so proud of him! God Bless, Kwasi.

#### *"He Who Sings, Prays Twice!"- St. Augustine* Notes from the Music Director



#### **THANK YOU!**

I wanted to thank everyone who attended "A Family Affair" concert on Friday March 28<sup>th</sup>. I truly appreciate your donation, time, and support. My sisters and I had a great time performing, and I hope everyone enjoyed the concert. Through your donations we raised \$1,130.00 for our music program.

I wanted to say a special thank you to everyone who supported our event. Thank you to Hyeonjin Kim for her beautiful flyers, tickets, programs, and power-point presentation. She did an exceptional job! Thank you to Donna Lechner for all her help with tickets and organizing the hospitality. Thank you to Diane Timmoney for her help with the 50/50 Raffle. Thank you to everyone who helped out in the sanctuary, served at intermission, and who baked! Especially Donna Lechner, Kristin DeVita, Cindy Conste, Corinne Conste, Regina Schneider, Eric Schneider, Alice Cavalla, Lois Fallon, Dot Allen, Diane Timmoney, Dorene Gonzales, Mackenzie Gonzales. Please forgive me if I left you off this list, it was unintentional. Thank you to all!

#### <u>Chamber Choir Rehearsals</u> Thursday May 1<sup>st</sup>

Thursday May 1 <sup>st</sup>	7:00 pm. – 8:30 pm.	School Building
Thursday May 8 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 pm. – 8:30 pm.	School Building
Thursday May 15 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 pm. – 8:30 pm.	School Building
Thursday May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	7:00 pm. – 8:30 pm.	School Building
Thursday May 29 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 pm. – 8:30 pm.	School Building
<u>Penataquit Handbell Choir Rehearsals</u>		
Sunday May 25 <sup>th</sup>	11:15am-12:00pm	West Room
<u>Youth Choir Rehearsals</u>		
Sunday May 4 <sup>th</sup>	11:15am-12:00pm	Sanctuary

Anyone wishing to join our music groups, please speak with Danny. New members are always welcome!

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#### POTLUCK CELEBRATION LUNCHEON HONORING SUNGMU & HYEONJIN

After nine years of leadership and Service here in Bay Shore, our Christian brother and sister Sungmu and Hyeonjin are being called to serve another congregation. Please mark your calendars for Sunday June 29th after Worship to participate in the "Potluck to End All Potlucks" as we celebrate our friendship and fellowship with Sungmu and Hyeonjin.

Details and signups to follow. Please feel free to communicate your ideas for the celebration to Tom Wilson at <u>twilson@brightwaters.com</u> or Marvin Allen at <u>marvineallen@yahoo.com</u>

Hope to see you there!

#### **OUR NEW MINISTER**

Dear members of Bay Shore United Methodist Church:

In July of this year, we will welcome our new Pastor, Reverend Wendy C. Modeste.

Acting on behalf of the congregation, the Staff-Parish Relations Committee met with our District Superintendent, Reverend Adrienne Brewington, on April 1, 2014 to confirm Bishop Martin D. McLee's intention to appoint Reverend Modeste as Pastor of our church. I received written confirmation that the appointment will be effective on July 1, 2014.

Members of SPR met with Reverend Modeste and she spoke energetically about her accomplishments with her ministries over the years. She shared detailed thoughts on what she hopes to do in her new role. She is looking forward to meeting all of you and is excited about working with the congregation on a number of levels.

Reverend Modeste's resume has been posted on a bulletin board in Fellowship Hall for all to view.

I received written confirmation from Reverend Brewington's office of Reverend Modeste's appointment effective on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Your supportive prayers and acts of kindness during the transition period will be greatly appreciated by everyone. We hope that you keep Reverend Modeste in your thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,

Marvin Allen, Chair

Staff - Parish Relations Committee

#### MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

#### BIRTHDAYS

- May 1 Lorraine DiGenaro, Jessica Wood
- May 2 Shaylin Kane, Andrew Navratil
- May 5 Kwasi Enin
- May 9 Robert Hogan, Kevin McElroy, Christopher Madeska
- May 10 Ellie Barbieri, Samuel Owusu
- May 11 Ridley Tomlinson
- May 12 Carmen Berka, Kaitlyn DiPietro
- May 16 Jean Carr, Aurora Costales, Sean Tomlinson
- May 18 Arvind Chandran
- May 19 Deirdrea Renwick
- May 23 Joseph Essuman
- May 24 Akosua Aboagye
- May 26 Richard Berka, Catherine Bernard
- May 29 Donald Conste

#### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

- May 3 Floyd and Donna Lechner
- May 9 Ed and Joyce Stein
- May 10 Bill and Shirley Giesler
- May 17 Frederick and Adwoa Ababio
- May 18 Richard and Carmen Berka
- May 20 Roy and Ellen Fager
- May 28 Steven and Mary Hemmerle

#### **OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER**

#### **Soup Kitchen**

Thursday 4:30 p.m.

#### **Thrift Shop**

Wednesday 12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m. Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



United Methodist Church of Bay Shore 107 East Main St., Bay Shore, NY 11706 (631) 666-7194 Rev. Sungmu Lee, PhD, Pastor smlee@optonline.net (631) 666-6211 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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