

## *CHURCH LIFE*

**April 2, 2019**

### **Words from the Pastor**

#### ***Mission statement:***

***Grace United Methodist Church is a family of faith striving to share God's love with all people.***

Dear Church Family,

As we continue to journey through the season of Lent, let us take time to practice silence and meditation. These means of grace help us to do self-examination, which is an essential part of the Lenten journey. Self-examination with truth seeking, acknowledgements of our shortcomings, confession, and receiving and giving forgiveness propel us into further spiritual development. This enhances our relationship with God, self and others.

In relationship with the divine, we learn more of divine things. Divine things allow us to reap a more abundant harvest of ideas for every aspect of our lives. Divine order is the spiritual process of creation. It is how everything comes into being. From divine mind comes ideas that are expressed in our reality. It is how God as principle manifests into that which can be seen and experienced. Remember, we do have a say in what happens to us.

All things are possible in divine mind. Divine ideas are flowing to meet our every need. Let us quiet our thoughts and open our minds to the rich possibilities available to us through our relationship with God. Consider the differences we can experience if we fast from some negatives and feast on affirmatives during this Lent and beyond. For example, fast from worry and feast on divine order; fast from judging and feast on beholding the Christ in each other; fast from discouragement and feast on hope; fast from bitterness and feast on forgiveness; fast from pessimism and feast on optimism; fast from thoughts of illness and feast on the healing power of God.

Religious Education for Scouts meets on April 4, 6:30PM-8PM in the Bert Keller Room. The purpose of these classes is to help our children and youth in scouting learn more about God, life and church. There are 14 participants in the class.

Confirmation class continues on April 2, at 6PM–7:30PM in the Bert Keller Room. Children 12 and older are invited to participate in confirmation class. There are seven participants in confirmation. Classes will continue through June. Confirmation Sunday is June 16th.

To help us learn more about God, ourselves, others, and prepare for the worship service on Sunday April 7, please read the following scriptures: Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; and John 12:1-8. Two or three of these scriptures will be read during our service and will be the focus of the message. Holy Communion will be served. Come and be fed with food for the journey of life.

Please come to Bible Study at 7PM-8PM and Lenten Service at 8PM on Wednesday evenings, April 3 and 10. Laity will lead the services. We will study the book of Romans. We are reading chapters 11, 12, 13 for Wednesday.

Journeying towards Easter Sunday,  
*Pastor Nation*

**Sunday, April 7, 2019.** Pastor Nation will be giving the Sermon; Kenneth Richardson is the Organist and Chancel Choir Director; Liturgist is Pat Eshun; Reader is Amos Akinyooye; Ushers are Everett Fitch, Brian Lynch, Carol Provenzano, Michael Provenzano, and Richard Tiedge; Counting Team members include Pamela Applewhaite, Al Greifenberger, Debbie Nicosia and Fazile Remy.

**Prayer List.** ♥Herb Biegler, ♥Iris Molina, ♥Anne Mahoney, ♥Debbielee Thomsen, ♥Shirley Shivrattan-Dookhi, ♥Buddy Dookhi, ♥Marilyn Ike, ♥Fay Rose (mother of Nichole Robinson), ♥Everol Palmer (son of Enid Simpson), ♥Donna Lowe (daughter of Loretta Lewis Zimmer), ♥Joan Bertie, ♥Rev. Barbara Melzer, ♥Evelyn Neber (friend of Elaine Treske), ♥Bill Hammen (brother of Edie Zipperlen), ♥Wilfredo Ortiz (brother of Frances Ortiz), ♥Family of Excelencia Price-Edwards, ♥Carmelita and Charlie Seraphin (grandparents of Brianna and Jessica Knice), ♥Vincent Morrison, ♥Rondolph Ives (brother of Margo Morrison), ♥John Simpson. **Note.** Prayer List names will continue to be listed for two weeks. After that period of time, the names will be removed unless you call us with current information.

**Spring Food Drive** ~ Grace Church will be collecting boxed or canned food items from **March 31-April 14**. Please bring your donated items to one of the collection boxes in the Narthex and Education building. All food donations will benefit the INN in Hempstead and the Far Rockaway Mission. Questions? See Janet Stone or call the Church Office 825-1182. Thank you!

Place your order today for a beautiful **LILY** in loving honor of or in loving memory of someone special in your life. Order forms are located in the Narthex, from the Church Office, or you can email your order to [GraceVSNY@aol.com](mailto:GraceVSNY@aol.com) or call the Church Office (516/825-1182). The plants are \$12 each and can be taken home after the Easter services. Please send your check (made out to GUMC) with the order form to the Church Office or place them in the Offering Plate (in a sealed envelope marked for the Church Office). Mark your check "Lilies" and if appropriate include your Envelope Number.

We are currently seeking a volunteer to become a **Church School teacher** beginning in September 2019. We use Sparkhouse Lectionary curriculum, which provides weekly lessons and scripture readings that are the same scriptures heard during worship service. If you love children and sharing the Word of God, this is a wonderful way to serve your church. We would love for you to visit a Church School classroom in the near future so you can see for yourself how rewarding being a Sunday School teacher can be. Please speak to Janet Stone for more information.

**Church School.** There were 26 students in Church School on Sunday, March 31st. There were two students in the Pre-K/Kindergarten class. There were six students in the First and Second grade class. There were six students in the Third and Fourth grade class. There were three students in the Fifth and Sixth grade class. There were nine students in the Youth class. This coming Sunday, April 7th, our lesson will be **Mary Anoints Jesus**, John 12:1-8. We look forward to working with your students. *Janet Stone, Church School Director*

We will be holding an **Easter Eggstravaganza!** on **Saturday, April 20th**, from 4PM-6PM here at Grace United Methodist Church ~ BKR/Gym. This event will include Egg Coloring, an Egg Hunt, Games and Activities with a Special Visitor - The Easter Bunny! Bring a dozen hard-boiled eggs for coloring. **All children MUST be accompanied by an adult.** Questions? Please speak with Deb Donaghy.

## **April Calendar**

Tuesday, 4/2 – Confirmation Class 6PM/BKR  
Wednesday, 4/3 – Lenten Bible Study 7PM/Chapel  
Wednesday, 4/3 – Lenten Service 8PM  
Thursday, 4/4 – Religious Educ for Scouts 6:30PM/BKR  
Tuesday, 4/9 - Confirmation Class 6PM/BKR  
Tuesday, 4/9 – GMNS7PM/Rm#2  
Wednesday, 4/10 Lenten Bible Study 7PM/Chapel  
Wednesday, 4/10 – Troop 109 7:30PM/G  
Wednesday, 4/10 – Lenten Service 8PM  
Thursday, 4/11 - Religious Educ for Scouts 6:30PM/BKR  
Saturday, 4/13 – Troop 109/Shoe Packing 10AM/U  
Sunday, 4/14 – PALM SUNDAY 10AM  
Sunday, 4/14 – UMW after Church/UL

Have a great week!! Eileen