

April 9, 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 on our journey in the season of Lent, we are reminded of how much God loves us. Flowers in spring are a symbol of faith, a reminder that even though we may feel down sometimes, the earth is in order and on schedule because God is in control. So when we feel like our faith is low and hope seems futile, hold on. God promises renewal and rebirth as surely as the daffodils return each spring. Lent is a season of renewal and rebirth.

Let this be your prayer: Lord help me to live one day at a time, one step at a time; to have the strength and will to keep on keeping on; to have the wisdom to handle the affairs of your life; to have the ability to make right and good decisions; to have the courage to let the past go, to forge ahead resolutely; to have the faith to know there is no loss or separation in God, that in God you are forever one with those you love; and to know that “underneath are the ever-lasting arms,” that God will never fail you nor forsake you (Martha Smock).

Let the positive statements of Truth call forth the divine activity of Spirit. In the light of Truth, we walk in paths of harmony, grace, and peace. Let us feast on the eternal Truth and allow God to sustain and fill us with abundant supply. When Truth is active in consciousness, false beliefs based on lack or unworthiness are rendered null and void. Thanks be to God who gives us the victory.

Religious Education classes for Scouts continue on Thursday evening, April 11, 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 9, at 6PM-7:30PM in the Bert Keller Room. This will be our seventh class with eight participants, ages 12 and older. 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 14, Palm Sunday, please read the following scriptures: Luke 19:28-40; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11 and Luke 22:14-23:56 or Luke 23:1-14. Two or three of these scriptures will be read during our service and will be the focus of the message. Come and feed on food for the journey of life.

Please come to Bible Study at 7PM-8PM and Lenten Service at 8PM on Wednesday evening April 10. This is our last class for the Study of the Book of Romans. We are reading chapters 14, 15, 16 for Wednesday. Laity will lead the service. This is the last Wednesday evening service in Lent.

Journeying towards Easter Sunday,

Pastor Nation

Palm Sunday, April 14, 2019. Pastor Nation will be giving the Sermon; Kenneth Richardson is the Organist and Chancel Choir Director; Liturgist is Katherine Perkins; Reader is Diana Thomas; Ushers are Earl Boyd, Pat McKnight, Carol Provenzano, Michael Provenzano, and Richard Tiedge; Counting Team members include Bill Hartmann, Jennifer Morton, Eleanor Phillip, Savi Thomas and Karen Vetter.

Prayer List. ♥Herb Biegler, ♥Joan Bertie, ♥Debbielee Thomsen, ♥Cylene Brown (friend of Pearl Hamilton), Iris Molina, ♥Anne Mahoney, ♥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), ♥Rev. Barbara Melzer, ♥Evelyn Neber (friend of Elaine Treske), ♥Bill Hammen (brother of Edie Zipperlen), ♥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 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. (**Deadline for ordering is Monday, April 15, 2019.**)

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 22 students in Church School on Sunday, April 7th. There were two students in the Pre-K/Kindergarten class. There were two students in the First and Second grade class. There was one student in the Third and Fourth grade class. There were seven students in the Fifth and Sixth grade

class. There were ten students in the Youth class. This coming Sunday, April 14th, our lesson will be **Passion/Palm Sunday**, Luke 19:28-40; 22:14-23:56. 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.

The **UMW** invites you to a luncheon on Saturday, May 4th, at 11:30AM in the Education Building. As part of our Social Justice Ministry, the program will focus on youth incarceration. The issues that will be discussed are what brought them to prison, why do they come back, interventions, and advocacy to prevent incarceration. The program will be presented by Mr. William Tyson, Program Counselor - Youth Offender Program, Department of Correction. Come and learn more about this pressing social issue and how you can help prevent incarceration in your community and become an advocate for youth offenders. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students. They will be available after church from Andrea Boyd and UMW members. Tickets will also be available at the church office (516/825-1182). (Please see attached flyer)

Dear Church School Family, As you know, next Sunday is Palm Sunday. Our Church School students will be singing a Hosanna song and waving palms at the beginning of the worship service. It is very important that your student arrive by 9:50AM in order to participate in this Palm Sunday tradition. **Thank you for getting your student to church by 9:50AM on Palm Sunday, April 14, 2019.**

April Calendar

Tuesday, 4/9 - Confirmation Class 6PM/BKR

Tuesday, 4/9 – GMNS 7PM/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 Education 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

Tuesday, 4/16 - Confirmation Class 6PM/BKR

Thursday, 4/18 – Holy Thursday/Communion 8PM/Church

Friday, 4/19 – Good Friday 2PM/8PM

Sunday, 4/21 – EASTER 9AM/11AM

Tuesday, 4/23 – No Confirmation Class

Thursday, 4/25 - Religious Education for Scouts 6:30PM/BKR

Saturday, 4/27 – Far Rockaway Mission 10AM/K

Sunday, 4/28 – Church Council after Church

Tuesday, 4/30 – Confirmation Class 6PM/BKR

Have a restful week. Eileen