

February 12, 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,

We pray that you are enjoying the winter days while appreciating the blessing of a mild winter. Let us continue to pray for our country, and for residents in the states where the winter days are challenging. Remember to pray for the leaders of our country, schools, hospital, churches, and our church family.

Our church school records indicate that some of our children are eligible to participate in confirmation class. It would be good to start by the last week in February so that we can complete the classes to have confirmation Sunday on Pentecost Sunday, June 9, 2019. If your child is 12 years old or older and has not been confirmed, and you want to have your child confirmed, please call the church office, and provide the following information: child's name, parent's name(s), telephone number, and e-mail address. We will schedule a meeting with the parents and children. At this meeting we will determine a day and time that our children can meet for confirmation class, and the guidelines for confirmation class. If you have any questions, please call me at [646-483-1221](tel:646-483-1221).

As we celebrate Black History Month, let us honor the contributions of African Americans to U.S. history. In 1926, the contribution of Blacks to this country began to be celebrated. It was a one-week celebration until 1976, when it became a month-long celebration in February. February was chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. Did you know that Madam C. J. Walker was America's first woman to become a self-made millionaire, or that George Washington Carver was able to derive nearly 300 products from the peanut?

The weekday Bible study will resume on February 20th at 11AM-noon in the Bert Keller Room. We will study another woman in the Bible, Mary – the mother of Jesus. Please call the church office if you want to participate. If you have any question, please call me at [646-483-1221](tel:646-483-1221).

There will be an Alpha retreat on Saturday, February 23, 2019, 9AM-3PM, at the NYAC (conference room). This will conclude our first Alpha course. It is our hope that we can facilitate a second Alpha course in 2019.

To help us learn more about God, ourselves, and others, and to prepare for the worship service on Sunday, February 17, please read the following scriptures: Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20; and Luke 6:17-26. At least two of these scriptures will be read during our service and will be the focus of the message.

Journeying with you towards Lent,

Pastor Nation

February 17, 2019. Pastor Nation will be giving the Sermon; Kenneth Richardson is the Organist and Chancel Choir Director; Liturgist is Katherine Perkins; Reader is Enid Simpson; Ushers are Donna Hartmann, Carol Provenzano, Elias Tarquino and Richard Tiedge; United Methodist Women will be hosting Coffee Hour; Counting Team members include Helen Avedisian, Everett Fitch, Carol Provenzano, Michael Provenzano, and Richard Tiedge.

Prayer List. ♥Iris Molina, ♥Anne Mahoney, ♥Marianne Pike, ♥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), ♥Gisela Nunez (friend of Naomi Brown), ♥Nadia Gay (aunt of Renée and Marlon Polycarpe), ♥Rose Ramsaran (mother of Savi Thomas), ♥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.

Grace Methodist Nursery School. Registration for programs at Grace Methodist Nursery School is now available for eligible children of members of Grace United Methodist Church. Please contact the Nursery School office at 516/825-2354 to obtain a registration packet or arrange a tour.

Church School. There were 22 students in Church School on Sunday, February 10th. There were three students in the Pre-K/Kindergarten class. There were four students in the First and Second grade class. There were two students in the Third and Fourth grade class. There were three students in the Fifth and Sixth grade class. There were ten students in the Youth class (three of whom were participating in the Scout Sunday service). This coming Sunday, February 17th, will be a Family Worship Sunday in honor of President's Day. *Janet Stone, Church School Director*

Church Offering Envelopes. There are several remaining offering envelopes in the Narthex. We will leave them there another week and then bring them over to the BKR. If they are not picked up, we will eliminate those envelopes next year. Your envelope number will remain. If you are unable to attend church and would like them mailed to you, please contact Eileen in the Church Office. Thank you.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED. We are looking for two volunteers who would be willing to work on Monday's and Thursday's from 10AM-3PM in our Thrift Shop. Our Thrift Shop is not only a service to the community, but a ministry for our Church. Please either speak with Jean Biegler or Eileen in the Church Office. Thank you.

REMINDER. If you put the heat up in the room you are using, please remember to put it back down before your leave. Thank you for your cooperation.

Jonathan Prashad's Eagle Scout Project is Soles 4 Souls (Wearing Out Poverty). 300 million children and untold numbers of adults around the world need footwear. RECYCLE YOUR GENTLY USED SHOES by donating them to those in need. Simply drop them off at one of the following locations in Valley Stream: Henry Waldinger Memorial Library, King Kullen, Grace United Methodist Church, Sip This, VS Central High School or Grace Methodist Nursery School. If you need more information, please contact Jonathan Prashad at 516/455-3302.

Scouts. We would like to send out a very BIG THANK YOU to Pack 109, Troop 109, Parents and Leaders for the thoughtful buffet that they set up for us this past Sunday. It was very much appreciated and enjoyed. We also would like to thank them for the wonderful job they did participating in our Sunday Service. Thank you all!

February Calendar

Tuesday, 2/12 – GMNS 7PM/Rm#2

Wednesday, 2/13 – Troop 109 7:30PM/G

Wednesday, 2/13 – SPPR Meeting 7:30PM/BKR (*Tentative*)

Thursday, 2/14 – Happy Valentine's Day

Sunday, 2/17 – Church Council Meeting after Church

Monday, 2/18 – President's Day/Washington's Birthday

Saturday, 2/23 – Alpha Retreat NYAC (Conference Room) 9AM to 3PM

Have a wonderful week. Happy Valentine's Day!

Eileen