

June 19, 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,

At worship yesterday we celebrated Father's Day and Confirmation Sunday. Father's Day provides an opportunity for children all over to let fathers know how much they are appreciated. It was an extra blessing for fathers to witness the confirmation of their children. In addition to our members, local family members and friends, there were family members who flew in from Florida and Antigua to support our confirmands.

As a church one of the primary goals of confirmation classes is to equip and inspire our confirmands to devote themselves to lives of Christian discipleship. We do this by telling the story of our faith, inviting confirmands to enter into a covenant relationship with the church, and making clear what will be expected of them as professing members of the United Methodist Church. When our youth are confirmed they become full members of our church. I believe that our confirmands did a great job in sharing with the congregation some of the things they learned in the confirmation classes. Thank you to the parents who took the time to encourage and support their children. A big "thank you" to the confirmation class for their love, hard work, sharing, caring, and creative ideas in the preparation for Confirmation Sunday. I pray that the things they learned and the relationships they developed will help them to continue to grow in their faith. Parents, thank you for the words of appreciation and gifts. I am encouraged by all that you have done.

Helen Steiner Rice was an American writer of religious and inspirational poetry. I was introduced to her works in the 1970's, when I lived in Canada, and continue to enjoy them. During worship yesterday, the confirmation class recited one of her poems. The poem's title is "Seek the Lord Continuously". The words of the poem are a good reminder to all Christians.

It's not enough to say 'I believe', It's not enough to 'ask and receive,'

It's not enough to repeat the Lord's Prayer, It's not enough to just say 'I care,'

It's not enough to be pleasant and kind, It's not enough to keep God on your mind,

It's not enough just to feed the poor, It's not enough to forbear and endure,

*For while these things are all good to do, They cannot insure salvation for you,
For not until you are born anew can the Spirit of God be alive in you,
For the Spirit of God will soon be dead unless it is daily nourished and fed!*

The Scriptures for our worship service on June 23, the 2nd Sunday of Pentecost are: 1 Kings 19:1-15a, Psalm 42, Galatians 3:23-29, Luke 8:26-39. At least two of these scriptures will be the focus of the message.

Journeying together in Pentecost,
Pastor
Nation

Sunday, June 23, 2019. Pastor Nation will be giving the Sermon; Ken Richardson is the Organist and Director of the Chancel Choir; Flowers are given in loving memory of Irene Robertson by Eileen and Sarah Robertson; Liturgist is Katherine Perkins; Reader is David Dorsey; Ushers are Jenifer Hartig, Chris Ukanwoke, Carol Provenzano, and Richard Tiedge; Counting Team Members include Helen Avedisian, Everett Fitch, Carol Provenzano, Michael Provenzano, and Richard Tiedge.

Please join us this Sunday, June 23, 2019, to **honor Diane Panzarino** on her retirement after twenty-nine years at Grace Methodist Nursery School. She started in 1990 as a Music Teacher and has been the Director of the Nursery School since 1996 (23 years). We will also congratulate Michelle Shipley on her promotion from teacher to the Director of the Nursery School.

Prayer List. ♥Danny DiSalvo (nephew of Bob DiSalvo), ♥Susan Selsen (friend of Steve Savarese), ♥Samuel A Dorsey (father of David A. Dorsey), ♥Family of Cylene Brown (friend of Pearl Hamilton), ♥Desmond Nation, ♥Miki Nation (daughter-in-law of Pastor and Desmond Nation), ♥Lascelles Boyd (father of Earl Boyd), ♥David Biegler, ♥Monica Campbell (friend of Margo Morrison), ♥Joan Bertie, ♥Debbielee Thomsen, ♥Iris Molina, ♥Anne Mahoney, ♥Shirley Shivrattan-Dookhi, ♥Buddy Dookhi, ♥Marilyn Ike, ♥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.

Envelopes are available in the Narthex for your donation to the Project Fund Drive. Make sure you put your name and/or envelope number on the envelope. Thank you.

Blast off with the first **VBS** to land on the moon! *To Mars and Beyond* will help kids discover the wonders of God's universe. They'll become Voyagers on a journey through space, exploring where God's power can take them. Along the way, they'll learn how God walked with heroes of the Bible, and that God is always with them, too. The adventure continues with out-of-this-world fun, learning, and timeless Bible stories that inspire kids to give glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine! VBS at Grace Methodist Church will be held **August 19-August 22** daily from 9AM to 12PM. Children who will be in K-8 in September may participate in VBS. Teens who are 14 and older may serve as assistants. Adult volunteers are needed to lead groups! Registration information will be available soon. Please see Janet Stone or email mom2springers@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering.

Thrift Shop. *HOLD THE DATE!!* The Thrift Shop will be open on Saturday, June 29, 2019, for their **HOT SUMMER SALE**. Make sure you drop in and take a look at all the bargains!

June Calendar

Saturday, 6/22 – Far Rockaway Mission Prep 10AM/K

Sunday, 6/23 – Church Council Meeting after Church

Thursday, 6/27 - Last Issue of Church Life until September

Saturday, 6/29 – Thrift Shop HOT SUMMER SALE 10AM-3PM

Sunday, 6/30 – NO Youth Sunday

Have a great week and RELAX.

Eileen