

June 3, 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,

One famous verse in the Bible is, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28). This verse is often misquoted or stretched to mean more than it says. The Apostle Paul does not promise that only good or pleasurable things will come to Christians. Paul never minimizes suffering; after all, his own life included beatings, imprisonment, shipwreck, assassination attempts, and chronic illness. However, Paul insists with absolute conviction that future rewards will outweigh all present sufferings.

The way we face our disappointments, challenges and obstacles can greatly impact the way we deal with ourselves and others. Our faith will impact the way we respond. According to the late and much adored writer Rachel Held Evans, "Faith isn't about having everything figured out ahead of time; faith is about following the quiet voice of God without having everything figured out ahead of time." How do you see Evans' view of faith? Does it provide you with a clearer understanding of faith than that recorded in Hebrews 11:1, "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see?" (New Revised Version of the Bible)

As we journey through life there are three stages that we might consider: 1) Youth- you have all the time and energy, but not the money; 2) Adulthood- you have money and energy, but no time; 3) Old Age- you have money and time, but no energy. The moral of these statements is: enjoy each moment of life with what you have, because you can never have it all at the same time.

The Scriptures for our worship service on June 9th, Pentecost Sunday are: Acts 2:1-21, Psalm 104:24-34, 35b, Romans 8:14-17, and John 14:8-17 (25-27). At least two of these scriptures will be the focus of the message.

Confirmation class continues on June 4, from 6 PM-7:30 PM in the Bert Keller Room. Confirmation Sunday is June 16th.

Religious Education classes for Scouts continue on Thursday evening, June 13, 6:30 PM – 8 PM in the Bert Keller Room. There will be no class on Thursday, June 6. Pastor Nation will be at Annual Conference June 6-9.

Journeying in Easter,
Pastor Nation

Church School Sunday/Pentecost Sunday - June 9, 2019. Janet Stone will be giving the Message; Ken Richardson is the Organist and Director of the Chancel Choir, Kim Neri is the Director of the Rainbow Ringers, Cherub Choir and Junior Choir; Greeters are Pre-K/K and 1st and 2nd Graders; Acolytes are Maxwell Charles and Miles Charles; Ushers are Alanna Bolden, Ava Bolden, Emani Brown, and Casey Morton; Counting Team Members include Barbara Casey, Pat Eshun, and Debbie Nicosia.

Prayer List. ♥Desmond Nation, ♥Miki Nation (daughter-in-law of Pastor and Desmond Nation), ♥Family of Vicki Pemberton's Grandmother, ♥Lascelles Boyd (father of Earl Boyd), ♥David Biegler, ♥Monica Campbell (friend of Margo Morrison), ♥Joan Bertie, ♥Debbielee Thomsen, ♥Cylene Brown (friend of Pearl Hamilton), 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.

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.

There were 19 students present in **Church School** on Sunday, June 2nd. There were three students in the Pre-K/Kindergarten class. There was one student in the First and Second grade class. There were five students in the Third and Fourth grade class. There were six students in the Fifth and Sixth grade class and there were four students in the Youth class. Please join us as we celebrate the students and teachers on **Church School Sunday, June 9!** *Janet Stone, Church School Director*

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!

Grace Methodist Nursery School is looking for certified teachers for potential part time employment during the 2019-2020 school year. If interested, please submit resume to the nursery school either by mail or by email to gmns21@aol.com. If you have any questions, please contact Diane or Michele at 516/825-2354.

June Calendar

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

Tuesday, 6/4 – GMNS 7PM/Rm#2

Tuesday, 6/4 – Education Scholarship/Campership Meeting 7:30PM/BKR

Sunday, 6/9 – Church School Sunday/Pentecost Sunday

Sunday, 6/9 – UMW after Church/UL

Tuesday, 6/11 – Confirmation Class 6PM/BKR

Wednesday, 6/12 – SPPR 7:30PM/BKR

Thursday, 6/13 – Religious Education for Scouts 6:30PM/BKR

Sunday, 6/16 – HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Sunday, 6/16 – Confirmation Sunday

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

Sunday, 6/23 – Church Council Meeting after Church

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

Sunday, 6/30 – NO Youth Sunday

Have a great week.

Eileen