

**May 14, 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 often talk about our faith and try to evaluate the depth of our faith. Here are some things about faith that I think are worthy of sharing. Faith without work cannot be called faith. Faith must inspire action. Faith is not believing, trying, or hoping. It is the knowing by which you do. Faith develops endurance to face the trials without being tempted to stop. Faith is obedience to the urging of the spirit. Faith is the porthole through which all things have their being. Faith controls the tongue, soothes the head, and stifles the lust to control. Faith produces patience. Our words and actions determine the depth of our faith. Our life is the only true measure of our faith.

It is because of our faith in God and the universe that we worry less about things like having enough air to breathe and what we would do if the laws of gravity ceased to operate. For some reason, we worry less about the very essential elements we need to stay alive. We trust that our heart will beat, our blood will flow, and our lungs will expand, and that we will stay firmly planted on the earth. We trust that every organ within us will do exactly as it should except if we know of any bodily disease. We trust that our body will support us if we are healthy. Why not trust that the Creator and the universe will provide the things that we need as we work with God to fulfill the plans for our lives.

Mothers seem to be some of the most faithful people on earth as we observe the love, care, nurture and protection that they provide for their children. Most mothers think the best of their children from the day they are born until the children prove otherwise. Still some mothers will continue to pray for, encourage, seek help and guide their children until the mother or the children die. On May 12, 2019, we celebrated Mother's Day. We visited, bought gifts, cooked meals, and participated

in other activities to express our love to our mothers. One of the greatest gifts we can give our mothers is to pray for them. Here is a starter for those who feel challenge in praying - Gracious God, we pray for our mothers: who cared for us when we were helpless, comforted us when we were hurt, and whose love and care we often take for granted. Let us continue to pray for our mothers.

Confirmation class continues on May 14, at 6PM-7:30PM in the Bert Keller Room. Classes will continue through June 16th. Confirmation Sunday is June 16th.

Religious Education classes for Scouts continue on Thursday evening, May 16, 6:30PM-8PM in the Bert Keller Room.

The Scriptures for our worship service on May 19, the 5th Sunday of Easter, Heritage Sunday, and Music Sunday: Acts 11:1-18, Psalm 148, Revelation 21:1-6 and John 13:31-35. At least two of these scriptures will be the focus of the message.

Journeying in Easter,  
*Pastor Nation*

**Music Sunday, May 19, 2019.** Pastor Nation will be giving the Sermon; Ken Richardson is our Music Director and Organist and Director of the Chancel Choir, Wesley Ringers and the Youth Ensemble; Kim Neri is the Director of the Rainbow Ringers, Westminster Ringers, Cherub Choir and Junior Choir; Coleen Murray is the Liturgist; Michele Charles is the Reader; Ushers are Donna Hartmann, Carol Provenzano, Elias Tarquino, and Richard Tiedge; Counting Team members include Pamela Applewhaite, Al Greifenberger, Debbie Nicosia and Fazile Remy.

**Prayer List.** ♥Marianne Pike, ♥Desmond Nation, ♥Miki Nation (daughter-in-law of Pastor and Desmond Nation), ♥Family of Vicki Pemberton's Grandmother, ♥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, ♥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.

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

There were 13 students present in **Church School** on Sunday, May 12th. There were two students in the Pre-K/Kindergarten class. There was one student in the First and Second grade class. There were four students in the Third and Fourth grade class. There were two students in the Fifth and Sixth grade class and there were four students in the Youth class. Next week is Music Sunday. We WILL be having Church School although students who are participating in the service may stay in church and receive attendance credit. The lesson will be on Peter's Dream from Acts 11:1-18. We look forward to working with your students. *Janet Stone, Church School Director*

**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](mailto:gmns21@aol.com). If you have any questions, please contact Diane at 516/825-2354.

**Eagle Scout Project.** Life Scout Fabrizio Fratarcangeli of Troop 109 at Grace Methodist Church will be collecting travel size toiletry items for his Eagle Scout project. Please consider donating small items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes,

soap, shampoo, conditioner, etc. They will be assembled as welcome kits to the Veterans and Guide Dog Foundation. Collection bins can be found at the entrance of the church and Nursery School until May 31, 2019. Thank you.

We are having a **DIAPER DRIVE!** Did you know that Social Services benefits such as Welfare do NOT cover the cost of diapers? And that in order to leave a child with a subsidized daycare the parent MUST provide disposable diapers, not cloth? As we celebrate mothers during the month of May, let's remember to donate diapers, wipes and baby food to those less fortunate. Collection boxes are located in the Church and in the Education Building. All donations will benefit organizations like The INN or the Long Island Council of Churches. We will be accepting donations through June 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have any questions, please see Janet Stone or email [mom2springers@gmail.com](mailto:mom2springers@gmail.com). Thank you so much for your generous donation!

**Thrift Shop.** The Thrift Shop is still looking for volunteers to help with sorting items, making sure the racks are filled and neat, etc. The Thrift Shop is open from 10AM-3PM on Mondays and Thursdays. Please speak with Jean Biegler if you are interested!

**Education Scholarships.** On behalf of the Grace Educational Scholarship Committee, I would like to invite you to apply for an Educational Scholarship. There are two forms, one for the student and one the parents to fill out. This scholarship is for the 2019-2020 school year, and all students who will be in college or seminary are urged to apply. If you are eligible and interested, please contact the Church Office and the forms will be mailed to you. You can also pick them up at the Church Office or in the Church Narthex. Applications are *due back to the Church Office no later than Sunday, May 26, 2019*. Please make sure that the story of your involvement in the life of Grace United Methodist Church is attached to the application. A decision on the award will be made based on your involvement at Grace United Methodist Church. Sunday, June 9, 2019, is Education Scholarship Sunday. Awards will be distributed at that time.

**2019 Camperships.** Camperships are financial gifts given to Church School students who wish to attend either Camp Quinipet or Camp Kingswood. Camperships are determined by a committee which consists of the Pastor, Church School Director, Trustees President and several other committee chair-people. Consideration is given to church involvement, church school attendance and service to church. Submissions may be made by email or paper. Please note that it is due **no later than May 26th**. Please be sure to submit both sections (parent and camper).

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

### **May Calendar**

Tuesday, 5/14 - Confirmation Class 6PM/BKR

Wednesday, 5/15 - SPPR 7:30/BKR

Thursday, 5/16 - Religion Education for Scouts 6:30PM/BKR

**Sunday, 5/19 – MUSIC SUNDAY**

Tuesday, 5/21 - Confirmation Class 6PM/BKR

Saturday, 5/25 – Far Rockaway Food Prep 10AM/K

**Monday, 5/27 – Memorial Day**

Tuesday, 5/28 - Confirmation Class 6PM/BKR

Have a great week. Don't forget to join us this Sunday, MUSIC SUNDAY!!

Eileen