

**May 23, 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,

'I don't have to go to church to worship,' is a statement I have heard from folks. While this statement is true, there is value in coming together to worship. In congregational worship God may speak very personally to the depths of your heart, and you may silently utter a very personal prayer. You are not alone with God. You are surrounded and upheld by other worshipers who can help to strengthen your faith. Our worship as Christians is part of the universe whose whole history is an act of worship in which the continuing call of the Creator is answered by the continuing response of the creation in a communion of Creator and creation.

“Our worship, in both its diversity and its unity, is an encounter with the living God through the risen Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. When the people of God gather, the Spirit is free to move them to worship in diverse ways, according to their needs. The Spirit is the source of unity and truth” (BOW). “Christian worship is a celebration of the gospel, in which God calls anew to us through the risen Christ and the Holy Spirit within us to hear and respond. Christian congregational worship is far more than a worship of a number of solitary individuals. The Holy Spirit enables it to be an encounter of the assembled congregation both with God and with one another in the name and through the presence of Jesus Christ. We are renewed as the body of Christ, since we are made one not only with Christ but also with one another” (Hickman).

Congregational worship is one way of connecting with other Christians. Here we will meet other people who have similar blessings and challenges. Here you can fellowship with others and be supported and encouraged on this journey of life. It is not an easy road we are traveling to heaven. However, as you travel with others, trusting and obeying God, learning and following the teachings of Jesus, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, the road gets easier.

The Scriptures for our worship service on May 26, the 6th Sunday of Easter, are: Acts 15:9-15, Psalm 67, Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5 and John 14:23-29. At least two of these scriptures will be the focus of the message.

Confirmation class continues on May 21, from 6 PM-7:30 PM in the Bert Keller Room. Classes will continue through June. Confirmation Sunday is June 16th.

Religious Education classes for Scouts continue on Thursday evening, May 23, 6:30 PM-8 PM in the Bert Keller Room.

Journeying in Easter,  
*Pastor Nation*

**May 26, 2019.** Pastor Nation will be giving the Sermon; Ken Richardson is the Organist and Director of the Chancel Choir, Ekow Eshun is the Liturgist; Judith Vendryes is the Reader; Ushers are Jenifer Hartig, Chris Ukanwoke, Carol Provenzano and Richard Tiedge; Counting Team members include Bill Hartmann, Jennifer Morton, Eleanor Phillip, Savi Thomas, and Karen Vetter.

**Prayer List.** ♥Nicole Robinson and her family, ♥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

There were 20 students present in **Church School** on Sunday, May 19th. There were three 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 six students in the Fifth and Sixth grade class and there were seven students in the Youth class. Next week is Family Worship (Memorial Day Weekend). Our last regular church school Sunday will be June 2. We will celebrate the students and teachers on Church School Sunday, June 9. 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.

**HAPPY 96<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY TO  
DICK TIEDGE.**

**We wish you a very happy and healthy Birthday. Enjoy your very special day.**

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.** *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!

**Education Scholarships.** On behalf of the Grace Educational Scholarship Committee, we 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 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](mailto:mom2springers@gmail.com) if you are interested in volunteering.

### **May Calendar**

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

Thursday, 5/23 - Religious Education for Scouts 6:30PM/BKR

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

**Monday, 5/27 – Memorial Day**

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

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

Have a great week. Have a safe Memorial Day Weekend.