

# GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



***Mission statement: Grace United Methodist Church is a family of faith striving to share God's love with all people.***

**May 2, 2022**

## **Words from the Pastor**

Greetings to our Church Family and Friends,

We pray that your Easter season is going well as you spend quality time with family and friends in the most challenging days. Remember to continue to be safe and well as we experience another spike in the COVID infection rate. Let us continue to pray for our country, the people of Ukraine, and others who are suffering from manmade or natural disasters.

For our next Bible Study class, we are studying some chapters in the Book of Psalms. The Book of Psalms is one of the five poetry books in the Old Testament. Psalms, also called the Psalter is claimed by Jews and Christians of all persuasions and all ages. People of all ages and cultures revel in the Psalms. The Book of Psalms has been the prayer book and hymnal for countless generations of God's people. Psalms help us to love God with our hearts by giving voice to the deepest thoughts and emotions of our human spirit. The Psalms express virtually every sort of feeling and attitude that people can have toward life, from dark depression to exuberant joy. Thus, the Psalms invite us to open up to God.

The Book of Psalms is considered one of the most widely read books in the Bible. For some, Psalm 23 was the first portion of scriptures that they heard and were encouraged to learn. It is also widely used at funeral services. One can find a prayer for almost any occasion in the Book of Psalms. The Psalms appeal to our emotions and intuition, not just our intellect and logic, treating the subtleties of life that are more easily expressed than explained. Here are some examples of Psalms for different occasions: Lament - Psalms 90, Penitence-Psalms 38, Thanksgiving - Psalms 2, Praise - Psalms 100, and Wisdom – Psalms 73. Try reading a chapter of Psalms today and see what thoughts and emotions the words stir in you.

There will be Zoom Disciple Bible Study on Wednesday, May 4, 2022. We will begin at 7:30 pm and end 9:00 pm. We are preparing lesson 11 "God Responds to the People."

Zoom Confirmation Class will meet on Thursday, May 5, 2022. We will begin sharply at 6:00 pm and end at 7:00 pm. Confirmation Sunday is June 12, 2022.

On May 8, 2022, we will celebrate 4th Sunday of Easter/Festival of the Christian Home/Mother's Day/United Women in Faith. The scripture readings are Acts 9:36-43,

Psalms 23, Revelation 7:9-17, and John 10:22-30. Please read these scriptures to help enhance your worship experience.

Our church is open for in person worship service in the sanctuary. Zoom and Facebook will continue at 10:00 am. We will continue to follow the COVID guidelines for in person worship. The Zoom worship service Meeting ID is 883 8493 0735, Passcode: 086482, Telephone # 1 929-205-6099. Zoom Sunday School is at 12:30 pm, Meeting ID is 886 7860 9822, Passcode: 673474, Telephone # 1 929-205-6099. Zoom invitation will be go out by Saturday. Please visit the church's website at GraceVSNY.org. From the website homepage you can visit the church's Facebook page. Please share with your families and friends. Thank you.

Journeying in the season of Easter,  
*Pastor Nation*



**Prayer List.** ♥Christine Doeringer, ♥Rasheen Rutledge (cousin of Naomi Brown), ♥Richard Keller (son of Bert Keller), ♥Lisel (daughter of Evelyn Neber), ♥Carolyn O'Loughlin, ♥Our Military men and women here and abroad, ♥Mason Baker (cousin of Debbie Nicosia), ♥Sherry Schutt (niece of Pearl Hamilton), ♥Thornton Stone (father of Brian Stone), ♥People of Ukraine, ♥Roael Cooke (brother-in-law of Pearl Hamilton), ♥Ramona Morrison (daughter of Margo and Vincent Morrison), ♥Averil Wallace (relative of Earl Boyd), ♥Neil Allen (son-in-law of Margo and Vincent Morrison), ♥Pastor Nation, ♥Walter McKnight, ♥Coleen Murray, ♥Velda Mathis (sister-in-law of Marianne Pike), ♥Maria Smith (mother of Rebecca Heyward), ♥Kenneth Richardson, ♥Kris Thomsen (cousin of Debbielee Thomsen), ♥Nancy Roman (friend of Sing Larson), Emilia Peebles (granddaughter of Debbie and Joe Nicosia), ♥Alice Shubrick (friend of Pearl Hamilton), ♥Susan Short and her daughter ♥Sarah Short (friends of Nancy Wasek), ♥Faith Pollack (friend of Sing Larson), ♥Pearl Hamilton, ♥Charles Zipperlen, ♥Anne Mahoney, ♥Douglas Hayes, ♥Ulysses Ceazer (friend of Svetlana Hamlet), ♥Hensbert Neville Brooks (husband of Mahalia Brooks), ♥Kay Hartmann, ♥All United Methodist Women in Rehabilitation and Nursing Homes, ♥Shirley Shivrattan-Dookhi, ♥Juliana Bonds (sister of Eleanor Phillip), ♥Maudlyn and Keible Scarlett, ♥Amy Cooke (sister of Pearl Hamilton), ♥Bob von Schmid (son-in-law of Adam and Christine Doeringer), ♥Kenneth Kurz (grandson of Lenore and Manny Kurz), ♥Michael Kurz (son of Lenore and Manny Kurz), ♥Airman Jayvee Kurz (grandson of Lenore and Manny Kurz), ♥Elaine Treske, ♥Castells Family (family of Elaine Treske), ♥Margo and Vincent Morrison, ♥Cyril (friend of Pat Eshun), ♥Samuel A. Dorsey (father of David A. Dorsey), ♥David Biegler, ♥Iris Molina, ♥Olga Molina (sister of Iris Molina), ♥Everol Palmer (son of Enid Simpson), ♥Evelyn Neber (friend of Elaine Treske), ♥Bill Hammen (brother of Edie Zipperlen), ♥Rondolph Ives (brother of Margo Morrison), ♥Health care workers fighting the Viruses, those who are suffering, and grieving families. **Note.** Prayer List names will continue to be listed for three weeks. After that period of time, the names will be removed unless you call us with current information. † - Death in family, ♦ - New entry

## COUNTING TEAM SCHEDULE FOR MAY 2022

5/8 E. Fitch  
5/15 D. Nicosia  
5/22 M. Pershad  
5/29 K. Pearce

## SPECIAL SUNDAY OFFERINGS - 2022

**MISSIONS** – February/April/July/November 2022

**HUMAN RELATIONS DAY** – January 16, 2022

**UMCOR SUNDAY** – March 27, 2022

**EASTER** – April 17, 2022

**NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRY** – May 1, 2022

**GOLDEN CROSS SUNDAY** – May 8, 2022

**PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY** – June 12, 2022

**WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY** – October 2, 2022

**THANKSGIVING** – November 24, 2022 (Thursday)

**UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY** – November 27, 2022

**CHRISTMAS EVE** – December 24, 2022 (Saturday)

**CHRISTMAS** – December 25, 2022 (Sunday)

**DONATIONS.** *We continue to need your help in supporting Grace Church.* Your checks can be mailed to the church office or you can use **Venmo or Zelle**. Venmo allows you to make a direct deposit donation to Grace Church electronically. If you are already signed up, you can use this now. If not, it is easy to sign up. Go to [Venmo.com](https://venmo.com) and follow the easy directions. The Church is listed as Grace Methodist VS. Currently a good number of the congregation are using **Zelle** (*do not use the Church phone number*, use the Church email address – [GraceVSNY@aol.com](mailto:GraceVSNY@aol.com)). More and more of our friends and members are using these avenues for their donations and we appreciate it. Thank you

*Just for your info*, you can also donate via Venmo or Zelle to our Special Sunday's (Missions, Student Day, etc.). In the memo line just notate Regular Offering and or Regular Offering and Missions. Also mention the amount you would like to give for each.

**Zoom Sunday School.** We had 5 kids and 10 in all for Zoom Sunday School May 1. In the younger kids' lesson, we remembered the story of Jesus showing Thomas the nail marks in his hands, and we heard the story of when Jesus appeared to the disciples by the Sea of Galilee after his resurrection, and how he told Simon Peter to "Feed my sheep." Then Kim Neri led us in singing, "Shalom, My Good Friend," "This is the Day that the Lord Has Made," "Sing and Celebrate," and "Twelve Disciples." In the older kids' lesson, we remembered the story about Peter denying that he knew Jesus three times. Then we read from John 21 when Jesus asked Peter three times, "Do you Love Me?" and said, "Feed my sheep." Then we listened to Don Francisco sing, "Feed My Sheep" on YouTube. Please join us next week! (P.S. On May 29, which is Memorial Day weekend, we will not have Zoom Sunday School.)

**The new Grace UMC Website is now live!** Please check it out at <https://www.gracevsn.org> (same website name as before). One good thing about the new website is that it should display well on a phone, tablet, or computer screen. You will find the weekly order of worship and church newsletter posted there, as well as a link to Facebook for viewing worship services. There is also an enhanced calendar feature that allows you to display it by month, week, as a list, or by category. Be sure also to check out the dropdown menus at the top of the home page for more content. We welcome feedback and suggestions. You may contact Katherine Perkins at [katherine.lowe.perkins@gmail.com](mailto:katherine.lowe.perkins@gmail.com). Thanks!

**TIME IS RUNNING OUT!!** We are having a Retirement Dinner for Pastor Nation on Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. It is being held at the Coral House located at 70 Milburn Avenue in Baldwin (516/223-6500). The cost per person is \$80 and the event will last from 6PM-10PM. We are looking forward to celebrating with Pastor and Desmond as they begin their new journey. Invitations have been sent out. RSVP is needed no later than May 9<sup>th</sup>. NOTE: We are carefully monitoring the increase in the infection rate of COVID-19. If it continues to rise, masks and proof of vaccination may be required. The safety of our guests is of the utmost importance to us. You will be advised the week prior to the Retirement Dinner of the final decision. You can also call the Church Office for further clarification.

### **Audio-Visual Technician Job Posting**

Grace United Methodist Church in Valley Stream, NY is seeking an experienced Audio-Visual Technician to live stream church services over online platforms such as Zoom and Facebook Live. Eligible candidates should possess the following skills and experience:

- Familiarity with audio and video equipment and accessories: cameras, microphones, audio mixers, computers, LCD projectors, etc.
- Camera Operations: Basic video and/or DSLR camera operations suitable to shoot and record a religious service from a fixed location.
- Audio: Setting up and mixing multiple microphones for a live broadcast. Placement of microphones for music broadcast, setting up handheld microphones, lavaliers, etc.
- Experience with online broadcast platforms such as Zoom and Facebook Live. Must possess the ability to prepare the broadcast, broadcast over multiple platforms simultaneously, and troubleshoot on-the-fly in order to broadcast an uninterrupted service.
- Computer and network experience: Candidates should possess the skills to operate a computer and access a network to log into and broadcast over online streaming services.

Please submit your resume with a cover letter summarizing your strengths, skills, and relevant experience to [gracevsny@aol.com](mailto:gracevsny@aol.com).

## CALENDAR

**Meetings:** Our Church has re-opened. Several of our groups will also begin to meet in-person. However, please check the calendar below for Zoom meetings. Thank you.

### **Weekly Meetings:**

- \***Every Sunday** – Choir Rehearsal 8:15AM/Church
- \***Every Sunday** – Zoom Sunday School
  - 12:30PM – Younger Kids will have a Bible Lesson and Fellowship
  - 12:45PM – Older Kids will join the Younger Kids for singing
  - 1PM -1:15PM – Older Kids will have a Bible Lesson and Fellowship
- \***Every Monday** – Retirement Committee Meeting 8:15PM/Zoom
- \***Every Wednesday** – Junior Choir 4:30PM-5PM/Church
- \***Every Wednesday** – Rainbow Ringers 5PM-5:30PM/Church
- \***Every Wednesday** – Bible Study 7:30PM-9PM (Zoom/FB)
- \***Every Thursday** – Westminster Ringers Rehearsal 7:30PM/Church
- \***Every Thursday** – Confirmation Class 6PM-7:30PM/Zoom

### **Upcoming Meetings:**

- \***Tuesday, May 3, 2022** – SPPRC Meeting 7:30PM/Zoom
- \***Tuesday, May 17, 2022** – Church Council Meeting 7:30PM/Zoom

### **Monthly Meetings:**

- \***Every Second Sunday is Youth Sunday** until June 12, 2022 (Church/Zoom)
- \***Every Second Monday** – United Women in Faith (UWF) 7:30PM/Zoom

### **Upcoming Events:**

- \***Sunday, May 8, 2022** – Mother's Day (All Day!)
- \***Sunday, May 8, 2022** – UWF Fundraiser during Church
- \***Sunday, May 15, 2022** – Music Sunday 10AM
- \***Thursday, May 19, 2022** – Retirement Dinner for Pastor at the Coral House/6PM
- \***Sunday, June 12, 2022** – Confirmation Sunday
- \***Sunday, June 19, 2022** – Father's Day (All Day!)



*Eileen*