

# GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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

**February 27, 2023**

## **Words from the Pastor**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we are beginning this journey of Lent I think it's a great time to remember our basics as United Methodists and children of God. On Sunday, I spoke about starting this journey to learn and grow together. Over these next few weeks, I will share some of the information I encounter in my time of study in hopes that we will grow during our time in the wilderness.

Worship is central to the Christian experience and the life of the church. "In worship we discover that we are the church. We are reminded of who we are and what, by God's grace, we are becoming."<sup>1</sup> There are five basic principles of worship:

1. God's Word is primary.
2. Active congregational participation is crucial.
3. Spontaneity and order are both important and should be done in love and for mutual upbuilding.
4. Worship should be relevant and inclusive.
5. Worship is communion between God and those who are gathered.

In the United Methodist tradition, these basic principles along with the basic pattern of worship are rooted in Scripture, our United Methodist heritage, and our experience. Through worship, we "encounter the living God through the risen Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit" (*Book of Worship 13*). The pattern of worship is drawn from early worship experiences of Jesus and his disciples, worship in the synagogue, and over two thousand years of Christian tradition.

Today, the basic pattern of worship is as follows:

**ENTRANCE** - coming together in the Lord's name with greetings, music, prayer and praise

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE** - opening of the Scriptures and responses to God's Word with reading of lessons, preaching, music, prayers

**THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION** - Holy Communion, prayers of thanksgiving for God's mighty acts in Jesus Christ

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<sup>1</sup> Hoyt L. Hickman *Worshipping with United Methodists* page 24.


SENDING FORTH - the people are sent into ministry with the Lord's blessing

Through the patterns of worship, we are nurtured in the faith and opened to change and spiritual growth.

Stay tuned for next week's *Church Life* to learn more about the Basic Pattern of Worship.

In Christ's Service,

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey L. Hooker

 ♥Victims of the Earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, ♥†♦Family of Christine Louise Doeringer, ♥♦Noah Castells (grandson of Elaine Treske), ♥♦Coleen Murray, ♥♦Loretta Lewis Zimmer and Bob Zimmer, ♥Ron Albretchsen (friend of Rosario Hooker), ♥Irene Misiti (friend of Rosario Hooker), ♥Charles Zipperlen, ♥Rosa Maria de la Cruz (friend of Rosario Hooker), ♥Leonides Hernandez (friend of Rosario Hooker), ♥Ekow Eshun and mom, Pat Eshun, ♥Juzer Kasubhai, ♥NYPD, ♥NJPD, ♥Kevin Brown (father of Naomi Brown), †♥Family of Robin Geffken, ♥†Family of Sylvia Obeng (cousin of Pat Eshun), ♥Karen and Peter Kiernan, ♥Meagan Kiernan (daughter of Karen and Peter Kiernan), ♥Jennifer Morton, ♥Honey Knice, ♥Emma Donnelly, ♥Audrey Weaver and Family, ♥Elaine Treske, ♥Patricia Sullivan (friend of Jenifer Hartig), ♥Jim Poch, ♥All our Military men and women, ♥Ken Richardson, ♥Barbara Siegl, ♥People of Ukraine, ♥Anne Mahoney, ♥All UMW in Rehabilitation and Nursing Homes, ♥Castells Family (family of Elaine Treske), ♥David Biegler, ♥Iris Molina, ♥Olga Molina (sister of Iris Molina), ♥Evelyn Neber (friend of Elaine Treske). **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. † - Death in family, ♦ - New entry

### COUNTING TEAM SCHEDULE FOR March 2023

05 D. Nicosia  
12 M. Pershad  
19 M. Pershad  
26 D. Nicosia

### COUNTING TEAM SCHEDULE FOR April 2023

02 K Pearce  
09 E. Fitch  
16 D. Nicosia  
23 M. Pershad  
30 M. Pershad

### SPECIAL SUNDAY OFFERINGS - 2023

**MISSIONS** – January/April/July/October 2023  
**HUMAN RELATIONS DAY** – January 15, 2023  
**UMCOR SUNDAY** – March 19, 2023  
**EASTER** – April 09, 2023  
**NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRY** – April 23, 2023  
**GOLDEN CROSS SUNDAY** – TBD  
**PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY** – June 04, 2023

**WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY** – October 01, 2023  
**UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY** – November 26, 2023  
**CHRISTMAS EVE** – December 24, 2023 (Sunday)  
**CHRISTMAS** – December 25, 2023 (Monday)

**WHERE CAN YOU VOLUNTEER....**

Church School – Contact Janet Stone  
Evangelism – Contact Andrea Owen-Boyd  
Thrift Shop – Contact Andrea Owen-Boyd  
Music – Call the Music Ministry Office (516/825-1940) Ken Richardson  
Missions – Contact Katherine Perkins  
Worship – Contact Kim Neri or Carol Provenzano  
Acolytes – Contact Tim Neri  
Ushers – Contact Mike Provenzano or Carol Provenzano  
Counting Team – Contact Marisa Pershad or Eileen Robertson  
Hospitality – Contact Bob DiSalvo  
Greeters – Contact Naomi Brown or Carol Provenzano  
(Please call Eileen if you need contact information – 516/825-1182)



**HAPPY 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday to our dear friend, Marilyn Ike.**

On this past Sunday, we were so pleased to have the **Scouts** included in our Service. They were greeters, ushers, and acolytes. Luke Lopez gave an informative speech. We have received so many positive comments about what a wonderful group of young people they are. During the year they are also quick to answer our request for “volunteers”. Thank you Scouts!!

**Coffee Hour.** We are looking for more Volunteers for Coffee Hour. Perhaps one of our Committees could take a week – cookies, cake, cupcakes, etc.? If you have any questions, please see Bob DiSalvo. Thank you.

**REMINDER.** Please remember to put your Envelope Number on your checks, your donation envelope or include with your Venmo or Zelle. Thank you.

**MISSIONS COMMITTEE.** Grace Missions Committee will be serving lunch at **Far Rockaway Mission** on Saturday, March 25. We will meet in the church kitchen at 10AM to prepare the sandwiches and bag the lunches. Anyone who would like to help make sandwiches and bag lunches is welcome to join us!

**Sad News.** Christine Louise Doeringer (nee Arndt) went home on February 23, 2023. Christine was born on February 16, 1935 and raised in Ridgewood, Queens to Anna and William Arndt. In 1956 she married the love of her life, Adam. They were married for 65 years. Together they raised two children, Helen and Barbara and were proud grandparents to three incredible grandsons; Adam, Ryan and Jake. Together they even welcomed their great granddaughter Madeline. On March 27, 2022 God called her beloved husband Adam home and today God chose to reunite them. The most important thing in her life was her family. Christine is survived by her daughters, Helen Stolfa, Barbara von Schmid (Bob), grandsons Adam Mirabelli (Gina), Ryan Dowling (Jamie), Jake Dowling (Hannah) and great granddaughter Madeline.

**BLOOD DRIVE.** Give life, Give blood, on March 15, 2023, from 2:30pm-8:30pm we will be hosting our SPRING BLOOD DRIVE in the Education Building gym. We have an opportunity to serve our brothers and sisters while we serve our Lord and Savior. Please give so others may live! Dinner will be served to all donors and their family from 5pm-7pm. We are in need of five blood captains to call established donors for scheduling. Even if you cannot donate, you can still help by serving as captains. Also, some assistance is needed to welcome and serve dinner. Contact Bob DiSalvo at 516-318-9106. Please help us serve our community and save lives of God's children, bless you.

*Bob DiSalvo*

**Church School.** This week in Church School, we focused on understanding the Lenten period and how we are to use this time to prepare ourselves for the coming of Easter Sunday. Our scripture this week was Matthew 4:1-11 wherein Jesus is tempted by the devil. We learned that in order for us to turn away from temptations, we can think about God's word. We learned about Psalm 119:11 which says "I keep your word close, in my heart, so that I won't sin against you". By keeping God's word close we will find the strength we need to say no to those temptations. We decorated a bookmark inscribed with Psalm 119:11 to help us remember to keep God's word in our hearts and minds.

**Evangelism.** Our Evangelism Committee continues to accept donations of T-Shirts, Socks, Underwear, Paperback Books, greeting cards, etc., for the Prison Ministry. You may leave your donations in the box marked Prison Ministry in the Narthex of the Church. Thank you in advance for your help.

**Grace Thrift Shop** is accepting donations now. You may leave them at the outside door. The Thrift Shop will be announcing shortly when they will officially open.

Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup> is **Camping Sunday**. Please open the attached flyer that has been provided to promote the summer camp programs.

## [CALENDAR](#)

**Meetings:** Please check the calendar below for which meetings are being held in-person or via Zoom. Thank you.

### **Weekly Meetings:**

- \*Every Sunday – Choir Rehearsal 8AM/Church
- \*Every Sunday – Sunday School (in-person) 10AM
- \*Every Wednesday – Bible Study 7:30PM-9PM/Zoom (exception – Lent)
- \*Every Thursday – Westminster Ringers 7:30PM

### **Upcoming Meetings:**

- \*Monday, February 27, 2023 – SPPRC 7:30PM/Zoom(Special Link)
- \*Wednesday, March 1, 2023 – Lenten Service GUMC Valley Stream **7:30PM**/Zoom
- \*Wednesday, March 8, 2023 – Lent Service **7:30PM**/ Floral Park/ Zoom & In-person
- \*Tuesday, March 14, 2023 – Nursery School Meeting 7PM
- \*Tuesday, March 14, 2023 – Board of Trustees 7:45PM/Zoom(Special Link)
- \*Wednesday, March 15, 2023 – Blood Drive 2:30PM-8:30PM/Gym
- \*Wednesday, March 15, 2023 – Lent Service **7:30PM**/ Zoom & In-person
- \*Sunday, March 19, 2023 – Church Council after Church
- \*Wednesday, March 22, 2023 – Lent Service **7:30PM**/Zoom & In-person
- \*Sunday, April 2, 2023 – Palm Sunday 10AM/In-person and Zoom
- \*Thursday, April 6, 2023 – Holy Thursday **7:30PM**/ Zoom & In-person
- \*Friday, April 7, 2023 - Good Friday Service GUMC Valley Stream **12N** and Zoom
- \*Friday, April 7, 2023 – Good Friday **7:30PM**/ Zoom & In-person
- \*Sunday, April 9, 2023 – Easter Sunrise **6:30AM**
- \*Sunday, April 9, 2023 – Easter **10AM**

**NOTE:** All of our [Church Services](#) at Grace will use the same link that we have been using. Other meetings such as Bible Study will have their own link.

### **Monthly Meetings:**

- \*Every Second Sunday – UWF after Church/Upper Lounge - In-person

### **Upcoming Events:**

- \*Sunday, May 14, 2023 – Music Sunday
- \*Sunday, December 10, 2023 – Annual Christmas Concert



Eileen