

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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

November 6, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! I trust this message finds you well as we journey through November. Last Sunday's sermon reminded us of the profound call to embody a servant's heart in our daily lives. So, what does it truly mean to serve others?

Having a servant's heart isn't merely an act of selflessness, it's a way of embodying Christ's love and compassion in our interactions with the world. It means finding joy in lifting others up, lending a helping hand, and humbly giving of ourselves for the betterment of our community. It's in these acts of service that we mirror the grace and love that God has bestowed upon us.

Here are a few practical ways we can demonstrate a servant's heart in our everyday lives:

- Volunteer at local community organizations or non-profits.
- Check in on neighbors, especially those who may need assistance.
- Help those within our congregation with tasks or errands.
- Listen with compassion and understanding to those who may be struggling and need a listening ear.
- Support local veterans by attending Valley Stream's Annual Salute to Our Veterans on Saturday, November 11 at 12 Noon.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all those who have graciously pledged their support of the mission and vision of Grace UMC in 2024. Your generosity enables us to continue spreading God's love and message throughout our community and the world beyond. For those who have not yet pledged, I encourage you to prayerfully consider how you will join in our shared mission of serving others. Your contribution, no matter the size, reflects your faith in God and your commitment to the church and the ministry we do together.

As we approach Veteran's Day, let us reflect on the tremendous sacrifices made by our nation's brave veterans. Their selfless dedication and unwavering commitment have safeguarded the values we hold dear. I give thanks for all the veterans who have dedicated their lives in service to our country and hope you will each thank veterans as

we celebrate Veterans Day on Saturday, November 11. Let us honor their service by nurturing a spirit of gratitude and extending our support to veterans in our community. Together, let our lives reflect the principles of peace, freedom, and unity that they have so valiantly defended. In all that we do, may we be mindful of the transformative power of gratitude, not just in words but through our actions as we continue to serve and uplift one another in the spirit of love and thanksgiving.

In Christ's service,

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey L. Hooker



♥♦Mary Turbeville (cousin of Lenore Kurz), ♥Jennifer LaRochelle, ♥†Family of Michael Estivo (friend of Debbielee Thomsen), ♥Michael Ciampi (friend of Kim Neri), ♥Peggy Robinson, ♥Michael Kurz, ♥Walter McKnight, ♥Vin Dowling, ♥Carolyn O'Loughlin, ♥Suella Fredrick (friend of Lorna McKenzie), ♥Juliana Bonds (sister of Eleanor Phillip), ♥Garvin Phillip (nephew of Eleanor Phillip), ♥Elaine Treske, ♥Marilyn Eller (sister of Elaine Treske), ♥Irene Misiti (friend of Rosario Hooker), ♥Charles Zipperlen, ♥Emma Donnelly, ♥Jim Poch, ♥All our Military men and women, ♥Ken Richardson, ♥Barbara Siegl, ♥All UMW in Rehabilitation and Nursing Homes, ♥Castells Family (family of Elaine Treske), ♥David Biegler, ♥Iris Molina, ♥Olga Molina (sister of Iris Molina), ♥Milly 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

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 – May 7, 2023

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)

COUNTING TEAM SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER

12 D. Nicosia

19 M. Pershad (Team 1)

26 M. Pershad

COUNTING TEAM SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 2023

03 D. Nicosia

- 10 K. Pearce**
17 E. Fitch
24 D. Nicosia
31 M. Pershad (Team 1)

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

Coffee Hour is being hosted this Sunday, November 12th, by the Evangelism Committee. Thank you for volunteering.

Church School. Today's lesson found us studying **Genesis 25:29-34**. Esau and Jacob continued to grow up. Esau still enjoyed hunting, and spending time outdoors, while Jacob enjoyed cooking and working in the tent. One day, Esau returned home from hunting. Jacob was making lentil stew, and Esau was very hungry. "Can I have some lentil stew and some bread, Jacob?" Esau asked. "Sure, if you trade me your birthright for some stew," Jacob said. Esau thought about this. His birthright would make him the leader of their family when they became adults. That was still several years away. He was hungry now. Did he really need to be the leader and get all the family's riches? Or did he need to eat? "You can have my birthright," said Esau. "One bowl of stew, coming right up!" said Jacob. After reading the story, we wondered what would we have done if we were Esau? And what would we have done if we were Jacob? We are thankful that God is always with us when we have to make difficult decisions. How helpful would it have been if Esau had prayed to God before he gave away his birthright? We know that God is always there to help us and to listen to us when we pray. We are very thankful for this blessing!

Janet Stone

Fall Food Drive Thank you - Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Fall Food Drive. Sending a special thank you to Grace United Methodist Nursery School families for their donations and to Brian Stone who drove the donations over to the INN. How nice to know that we have helped, in some small way, to make things a bit easier for our neighbors!

Katherine Perkins and Janet Stone

Far Rockaway Mission - Grace Church Missions Committee and other church members prepared sandwiches and passed out 78 lunches at Far Rockaway Mission on October 28/29. The money you give designated to "Missions" supports these lunches. One family of kids was especially happy about the bananas included in the lunch bags. Thank you!

The Thrift Shop is open every Saturday from 10am-2pm and has been busy serving our community. We are seeing old customers who are happy we reopened as well as new customers from diverse communities. We are in need of donations as we prepare for the holiday season and colder weather. Gently used clean clothing, jackets, gloves, shoes, sneakers, hats, kitchenware, pots, pans, blenders, toasters, cutlery, bedding, towels, costume jewelry and any items that would be useful to a household. Donations may be brought to the Thrift Shop on Saturday between 10am and 2pm and on Sunday after church. Thank you so much for your continued support.

The Thrift Shop Team

CALENDAR

Meetings: Please check the calendar below to see which meetings are being held in-person and/or via Zoom. Thank you.

Weekly Meetings, Rehearsals and Gatherings:

- *Every Sunday – Choir Rehearsal 8AM/Church
- *Every Sunday – Church School 10AM/Church
(except 1st Sunday of the month – 10AM/Education Building)
- *Every Wednesday – Bible Study 7:30PM-9PM/Zoom (Same Zoom Link every week)
- *Every Thursday – Westminster Ringers 7PM/Church
- *Every Saturday – Prayer Meeting 8AM/Zoom (Same Zoom Link every week)
- *Every Saturday – Thrift Shop 10AM-2PM

Upcoming Meetings:

- *Sunday, November 12, 2023 – UWF Meeting after Church in the Upper Lounge
- *Sunday, November 19, 2023 – UWF Bake Sale during Coffee Hour

Upcoming Events:

- *Saturday, December 9, 2023 – **Breakfast with Santa**
- *Sunday, December 10, 2023 – Annual **Christmas Concert**
- *Saturday, January 27, 2024 – 9th Annual Evangelism Prayer Breakfast



Eileen