

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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

April 29, 2024

Good Morning Friends and Members of Grace United Methodist Church,

Below is a letter that was written to the Church Council and missed the last issue of Church Life. It was to be shared with all our members.

Dear Church Council,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ! As I reflect on our Lenten season and the journey we've shared, I am filled with gratitude for the remarkable spirit of fellowship and dedication within our congregation. This Lenten season has been a profound experience for me, one that I will cherish deeply. I extend my sincerest appreciation to each of you for your unwavering support and tireless efforts in making this journey with me.

Our Easter celebration was a resounding success, and it's thanks to the collective efforts of our congregation. From the heartfelt worship, the decorations, and the preached word, the joy of Easter was palpable. With over 215 individuals joining us in person and online, we demonstrated the impact of our outreach efforts.

I express my deepest gratitude to everyone who contributed their time, talents, and resources to make Easter such a memorable occasion. Your dedication and enthusiasm have been instrumental in spreading the message of hope during our ministry together.

I close by sharing with you the words Dorothy spoke in the final episode of The Golden Girls she said, "it's been an experience that I'll always keep close to my heart. And that these are memories we created together that I'll wrap myself in when the world gets cold and I forget that there are people who are warm and loving in my life."

With heartfelt gratitude and blessings,

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey L. Hooker



♥†Family of Karen Kiernan, ♥†Family of Dr. A.B.A Prempeh (Pat Eshun's brother), ♥Manny Kurz, ♥Jasmin Whittaker, ♥Emma Donnelly, ♥Veronica Stone (friend of Margo Morrison), ♥Everon Palmer (son of Enid Simpson), ♥Eugene (Gene) O'Brien, ♥Hedy Kling, ♥Gene Marks, ♥Declan Jurgens, ♥Pat Hamilton, ♥Carol Whyte, ♥Winston Scarlett (brother-in-law of Maudlyn Scarlett), ♥David Biegler, ♥Vivian (4 months old) Peeples and sister Emilia (4 years old) Peeples, ♥Michael Ciampi (friend of Kim Neri), ♥Michael Kurz, ♥Walter McKnight, ♥Vin Dowling, ♥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), ♥Charles Zipperlen, ♥Jim Poch, ♥All our Military men and women, ♥Barbara Siegl, ♥All UMW in Rehabilitation and Nursing Homes, ♥Castells Family (family of Elaine Treske), ♥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 - 2024

MISSIONS – January/April/July/October 2024

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY – January 14, 2024

UMCOR SUNDAY – March 10, 2024

EASTER – March 31, 2024

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRY – April 14, 2024

GOLDEN CROSS SUNDAY – May 5, 2024

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY – May 26, 2024

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY – October 06, 2024

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY – November 24, 2024

CHRISTMAS EVE – December 24, 2024 (Tuesday)

CHRISTMAS DAY – December 25, 2024

COUNTING TEAM SCHEDULE FOR May 2024

May 05 – Debbie Nicosia

May 12 – Marisa Pershad (Team 1)

May 19 – Marisa Pershad

May 26 – Debbie Nicosia

COUNTING TEAM SCHEDULE FOR June 2024

June 02 – Everett Fitch

June 09 – Debbie Nicosia

June 16 – Marisa Pershad (Team 1)

June 23 – Marisa Pershad

June 30 – Debbie Nicosia

Coffee Hour – The Evangelism Committee will be hosting Coffee Hour this Sunday. Thank you. Don't forget to put the donated coffee money in the envelope provided and put the envelope in the mail-slot by my Office. Worse case, slide it under the door!!

Church School. Today's lesson was based on Acts 3:1–10, **Peter and John**. Today's story illustrates the wonders of Jesus and his amazing power to heal. During biblical times, poor people who needed assistance would sit by the gates of the temple and ask for help from people who passed by. People sometimes would give them money, food, or clothes. Jesus instructed people to give to everyone who asked. In the story, when a man who is crippled sees Peter and John, he immediately asks them for money. However, Peter tells the man that they have no money for him, and instead offers him something better. Peter commands the man to rise up in the name of Jesus and then pulls him up by the hand. The man is healed by the power of Jesus and begins to walk, leap, and praise God. He even joins Peter and John in the temple. People are amazed to see this man who was unable to move on his own for so long, up and moving about freely. Children also encounter people who need help. They might not always know what to do. We can't always heal everyone, but we can help with a small task or assist one person at a time. This story includes amazement and surprise, common responses to these kinds of healings. Like many of the stories we have read, there is great mystery in what happened; they give children the space to wonder about Jesus and his teachings, healings, and ministries. As disciples, we can choose to be a witness to the love of Christ to people who are sick and shut in. While we may not be able to heal everyone, we can share the love of Christ with others during times of sickness or trouble. We can share the love that has been shared with us. *Janet Stone*

2024 Camperships-

*Camperships are financial gifts given to Church School students who wish to attend either Camp Quinipet or Camp Kingswood. Camperships are determined by the Educational Scholarship Committee. Consideration is given to church involvement, church school attendance and service to church. Submissions may be made by email or paper. See the link for the application. Please note that it is due **no later than May 19th**. Late applicants may receive a reduced scholarship. Please be sure to submit both sections (parent and camper).*

[2024 Campership Application](#)

2024 Educational Scholarships-

Educational Scholarships are financial gifts given to church members who are college students. Consideration is given to church involvement and community

service. Submissions may be made by email or paper **NO LATER THAN MAY 19TH**. Only complete applications will be considered.

2024 Educational Scholarship Application

Questions? Please email mom2springers@gmail.com.

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 1st. If you have any questions, please see Janet Stone or email mom2springers@gmail.com. Thank you so much for your generous donation!

VOLUNTEERS – HELP NEEDED

HELP – The Thrift Shop continues to provide inexpensive articles for sale to the community thanks to the many donations we receive. Keep them coming! It is also providing revenue to support the church. Three of our volunteers are moving which leaves us very short of help. In order to continue volunteers are needed. We meet Thursday at 10 am to sort through donations and prepare for Saturday. We are open Saturday from 10am-2pm. Even a two hour commitment would be appreciated from either 10am – 12pm or 12pm to 2pm on Saturday. This is a time of fellowship as well as a commitment to our church and our community. Please contact Eileen at the church office if you are able to volunteer. Thank you!

Thrift Shop Ministry Team

UWF Career Day and Luncheon postponed to the fall. It was brought to our attention during the Church Council meeting that May 25 is Memorial Day weekend. We will postpone our Career Day and Luncheon Event to the Fall. United Women in Faith looks forward to hosting it then.



Prison Ministry

We are asking our friends and members to bring Mother's Day Cards to the Church so we can bring them to the inmates at Rikers Island to send to their Mom's on Mother's Day. There will be a basket in the Narthex to put them in. Thank you so much for your help and generosity.

CALENDAR

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 *Second Sunday of the month* – Healing Prayer Service after Church/Chapel
- *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
- *Every *Fourth Sunday of the month* – United Women in Faith

Upcoming Meetings

- *Tuesday, May 21, 2024 – Education Scholarship/Campership Meeting 4:30PM/BKR
- *Sunday, June 9, 2024 – Church Council Meeting after Church

Upcoming Events

- *Sunday, December 8, 2024 – Christmas Concert



Eileen