

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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

September 16, 2024

Words From the Pastor

¹¹ The Lord said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. ¹² After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. ¹³ When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. – 1 Kings 19:11-13

In my younger years, it seemed like God needed to do something drastic in order to get my attention. A crisis in my life would shake the ground upon which I stood, causing me to turn to God. A spirit-filled service would inspire me like a mighty, rushing wind. A miraculous answer to prayer would cause me to burn with zeal for the Lord. Yet when God spoke to Elijah, it wasn't through a mighty wind, powerful earthquake, or consuming fire but through a gentle whisper.

God still speaks through mighty winds, earthquakes, and fires. Don't get me wrong! But what I've come to realize is that God is far more likely to speak to us through a quiet morning walk, where the sun is beaming down on us and the birds are singing in the trees. God whispers to us through a friend who calls to encourage us during a difficult time. God whispers to us through the scriptures that speak words of strength and hope at just the right time. God whispers to us as we stop, breathe, and reflect on all the blessings we have received from God at different points in our life, thus being filled with gratitude and praise to God.

This week was so busy and I found myself feeling stressed and tired as a result. But it wasn't until I intentionally made the effort to stop and spend some time with the Lord through the scriptures and prayer, that my soul began to be nourished and restored. Take time today and every day to slow down from all your busyness and listen for God's quiet voice giving you words of comfort, hope, and love. Family and friends of Grace, have a blessed week.

Pastor Kim



♥♦Charles and Edie Zipperlen, ♥Priscilla Caparelli (friend of Kim Neri), ♥Manny Kurz, ♥Cecil and Carol Walker (friends of Barbara Woodford), ♥Veronica Stone (friend of Margo Morrison), ♥Everon Palmer (son of Enid Simpson), ♥Carol Whyte, ♥Winston Scarlett (brother-in-law of Maudlyn Scarlett), ♥Cliff McBride (friend of Debbielee Thomsen), ♥Jennifer LaRochelle (friend of Kim Neri), ♥David Biegler, ♥Michael Kurz, ♥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), ♥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 September 2024

September 22 – Debbie Nicosia
September 29 – Marisa Pershad – Team 1

COUNTING TEAM SCHEDULE FOR October 2024

October 06 – Marisa Pershad
October 13 – Debbie Nicosia
October 20 – Everett Fitch
October 27 – Debbie Nicosia



Chancel Choir rehearsals are meeting on Thursday evenings at 8:00pm in the church. Kimberly Neri will be leading the group until we find a church

music director replacement. **All** Adults and Teens who like to sing are welcome to join!! If you have any questions, please email Kim at violinkim@aol.com or call (516)644-0979.



BLOOD DRIVE. Give life, Give blood, **on Wednesday, September 25, 2024**, from 2:30PM-7:30PM we will be hosting our FALL 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. Please help us serve our community and save lives of God's children, bless you. *Bob DiSalvo*

Church School. This week we continued our study of Genesis 39:2, The Lord was with Joseph. Joseph was seventeen years old when his brothers sold him into slavery. The Ishmaelites who bought Joseph sold him to an Egyptian official named Potiphar who worked for Pharaoh. Joseph made himself useful to Potiphar and quickly earned a position of responsibility in Potiphar's household. Unfortunately, Potiphar's wife found Joseph attractive and harassed him. When Joseph refused her advances, Potiphar's wife lied and accused him of taking advantage of her. It is likely that Potiphar did not believe his wife's story, or he would have had Joseph executed. However, he did have Joseph thrown into prison. In prison, Joseph again made himself useful, this time to the prison warden. While Joseph was in prison, Pharaoh's chief baker and chief wine steward were thrown in prison on unnamed charges. Chief wine steward and chief baker were important positions as part of their jobs was to protect Pharaoh from being poisoned. While they were in prison, both the wine steward and the baker had unsettling dreams. Joseph interpreted their dreams although he attributed his interpretive ability to God. Joseph interpreted the wine steward's dream favorably and asked him to please remember Joseph when he was released from prison and reinstated to his job. The interpretation of the chief baker's dream was not favorable. When the two men were released from prison, Joseph's interpretation of their dreams was shown to be correct. The wine steward, however, happily back to work, forgot about Joseph. Joseph's up-and-down journey suggests that God does not always get God's way in the world. However, God's presence with Joseph was constant. When things were not going well, God was still at work behind the scenes, making opportunities for Joseph to be successful. Joseph's journey continued, and through it all, God was present.

Janet Stone

FINANCE MEETING. There will be a Finance Meeting on Monday, September 23, 2024, in the BKR at 7:30PM.

Improvements are being made to our Facebook livestream of the Sunday service.

Thank you all for your continued patience as we are attempting to upgrade the quality of our livestream for Sunday service. Just to give an update - we had a professional audio and video consultant come and spend several hours this week inspecting our audio and video equipment. He made recommendations for quick immediate fixes as well as long-term improvements. One important change that will take place is that we will no longer be using Zoom to livestream the Sunday service. Instead, we will be switching to a brand-new YouTube channel that will broadcast the service live. (This switch took place on **Sunday, September 15th**) For those who are familiar with our Facebook livestream, the changes will not affect you as we will simply add a link on the Facebook page that automatically brings you to the YouTube livestream. In the meantime, please subscribe to the channel by following the link below. Reverend Prumeh Lee, the wife of Pastor Kim, will be available on Sunday mornings to assist everyone.

Please call, text or email her if you need help at 646-280-9885 or prumeh.lee@nyac-umc.com
<https://www.youtube.com/@gracevalleystreamumc>.

Please sign up for *Coffee Hour*, now known as **FELLOWSHIP HOUR.** There is a sign-up sheet in the Bert Keller Room. Please use the sign-up sheet in the BKR or call the Church Office. Thank you to our Hospitality Team for hosting this Sunday, September 22. The United Women in Faith hosted on Sunday, September 15. Thank you UWF for volunteering. Also, Please remember to put the collected Fellowship Hour money in the envelope and put it in the mail slot by the Church Office. Thank you.

CHURCH SCHOOL BEGAN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH. It's never too late to join us. My name is Janet Stone and I am writing to invite your child to join us for Church School each Sunday. Church School is where students will learn about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit and how to live a Christian life. We learn Bible stories and we learn how to use those stories to help us be better people. All rising PreK-8th Grade students are welcome. Children start out in Church at 10:00 with their families and are sent to Church School following the Children's Sermon. Please note that on the first Sunday of the month, children are directed to the Education Building first and then return to the church building in order to be with their family for communion. I am looking forward to a wonderful Church School year! Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns at mom2springers@gmail.com
~Janet Stone~

CALENDAR – If you have any dates that you would like to have on our calendar, please send them to me at GraceVSNY@aol.com. The meetings could be weekly, monthly or just a special meeting or event. Thank you.

[CALENDAR](#)

Weekly Meetings, Rehearsals and Gatherings:

- ***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
(Starting October 13, 2024)
- ***Every Wednesday** – Bible Study 7:30PM-9PM/Zoom (Same Zoom Link every week)
- ***Every Thursday** – Westminster Ringers 7PM
- ***Every Thursday** – Chancel Choir 8PM/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

- ***Saturday, September 21, 2024** – Nassau Cooperative Parish – 10AM-12N/BKR
- ***Monday, September 23, 2024** – Finance Meeting 7:30PM/BKR
- ***Sunday, October 13, 2024** – Church Council Meeting after the 10AM Service
- ***Saturday, November 9, 2024** – Charge Conference at St. John's/10AM
- ***Tuesday, November 12, 2024** – Board of Trustees 7:30PM/BKR (Teams Meeting Link is optional)
- ***Sunday, December 8, 2024** – Church Council Meeting after the 10AM Service
- ***Tuesday, January 14, 2025** – Board of Trustees 7:30PM/BKR (Teams Meeting Link is optional)

Upcoming Events

- ***Wednesday, September 25, 2024** – Fall Blood Drive 3PM-8PM/Gym
- ***Sunday, September 29, 2024** – UWF Sunday
- ***Saturday, October 19, 2024** – Career Day and Luncheon 10AM-2PM/Gym



Have a relaxing week! Eileen