

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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

April 7, 2025

DATE CHANGE: The Church Council will meet on Sunday, April 27, 2025 – **not** Sunday April 13, 2025.



♥† Family of Kevin Kennedy Brown, ♥Amanda Brown, ♥Jerry Noble (Tom Noble's dad), ♥Lionel Brown, ♥Chris Ukanwoke, ♥Diane Vitacco, ♥SofiaRose Curry (relative of Sing Larson), ♥Debbielee Thomsen, Cliff McBride (friend of Debbielee Thomsen), ♥Edie Zipperlen, ♥Mary Flynn (mom) and Maureen Andersen (daughter), ♥Priscilla Caparelli (friend of Kim Neri), ♥Manny Kurz, ♥Cecil and Carol Walker (friends of Barbara Woodford), ♥Everon Palmer (son of Enid Simpson), ♥Carol Whyte, ♥Winston Scarlett (brother-in-law of Maudlyn Scarlett), ♥Jennifer LaRochelle (friend of Kim Neri), ♥David Biegler, ♥Michael Kurz, ♥Vin Dowling, ♥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, ♥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 - 2025

MISSIONS – January/**April**/July/October 2025

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY – January 19, 2025

UMCOR SUNDAY – March 30, 2025

EASTER – **April 20, 2025**

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRY – May 4, 2025

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY – June 15, 2025

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY – October 05, 2025

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY – November 30, 2025

CHRISTMAS EVE – December 24, 2025 (Wednesday)

CHRISTMAS DAY – December 25, 2025

COUNTING TEAM SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 2025

April 13 – Everett Fitch

April 20 – Debbie Nicosia

April 27 – Marisa Pershad

PLEDGES FOR 2025 – Our current Pledge amount is \$128,874. Hopefully, if you haven't already pledged, **please** consider helping us reach our goal. Pledge cards are available in the Narthex or you can call or email the Church Office and your pledge will be entered. Thank you.

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 the Kim Family for volunteering on April 13th! Still looking for a volunteer on April 27.

The **THRIFT SHOP** revenue for the first quarter of 2025 was \$3,374 which is \$480 more than the 1st quarter of 2024. The expanded space has led to an increase in sales. We are now preparing for spring and summer switching out the fall and winter clothing for the lighter weight clothing. This is very labor intensive and, as a result, we have paused donations at the present time. We are in a critical need for volunteers on Thursday mornings and Saturdays from 10am-2pm to help us continue this ministry and serve our community. Please contact Maudlyn Scarlett, Eileen or Marianne Pike if you are interested in serving.

Marianne Pike

PLEASE put your **ENVELOPE NUMBER** on any of your donations (Check/Venmo/Zelle). This will help our Counting Teams and also help the Church Office to input your donation into the correct account.

April is Missions Month. Please give to Missions this April. You may put your money in an envelope marked "Missions" or write "Missions" in the memo line of your check or Zelle. Far Rockaway Mission (also called United Methodist Center in Far Rockaway), which operates a food pantry on Tuesdays and Thursdays and provides hot meals Monday through Friday, is one group that we support with our Missions money. Thank you! *Katherine Perkins*

Mark your calendar! **The International Potluck Dinner** will be Saturday, April 26 in the Grace Church gym. We want everyone to come! Start thinking about what food you will bring to share. We always have a wonderful time.

Missions Committee



Lilies. If you would like to place a Lily in the Sanctuary for Easter in loving memory or in honor of a special someone, please fill out the order form (located in the Narthex) or email (GraceVSNY@aol.com) me your request. The Lilies are \$14 each. Please make the check out to GUMC and either place it in the Offering Plate in a sealed envelope

marked for the Church Office, mail it to the Church Office, or use Venmo/Zelle. If you have an envelope number, please note it either on the order form or on your check. *The deadline for ordering is Monday, April 14, 2025.*

NOTE: There will be no Church School on Palm Sunday. Also, there will be no Church School on Easter Sunday. We will resume Church School on Sunday, April 27, 2025.

Janet Stone

Church School (4/6/2025). Peter followed at a distance when the soldiers took Jesus to Caiaphas, the high priest. The rest of the disciples ran away just as Jesus had prophesied. A number of people were in the courtyard of Caiaphas, so Peter tried to blend in with them. He was afraid, so he didn't want anyone to know he was a follower of Jesus. Three times during the night, he was challenged by others in the courtyard. Three times he denied he knew Jesus. Then the rooster crowed just as Jesus said it would happen. Peter left the courtyard and cried uncontrollably over his betrayal of Jesus. He had failed Jesus, but he repented. Jesus always offers us forgiveness and reconciliation. Peter thought he understood what following Jesus meant, but he really didn't understand until after Jesus' trial, crucifixion, and resurrection. He had boldly claimed that he would never betray Jesus, but Jesus' arrest made him afraid and he reacted to the fear. Peter's sorrow and repentance were immediate, but he wasn't able to make it right with Jesus until after the Resurrection and Jesus appeared to the disciples. After Jesus' resurrection, Peter was entrusted with a mission to take the good news to the Gentiles.

Janet Stone



Wednesday Evening Lenten Services.

We will continue to offer Wednesday evening services for every Wednesday of Lent leading up to Holy Week. Services will be an opportunity to draw closer to God during this Holy Season. Please join us for an intimate time of prayer and worship.

Spring 2025 marks the return of our beloved **Tenebrae Service** for the evening of Good Friday. The word "tenebrae" is Latin for "shadows" or "darkness," and the service is characterized by the gradual extinguishing of candles as readings and music reflect on the suffering and death of Jesus Christ. The service typically culminates in darkness and a loud noise, symbolizing the closing of Christ's tomb. It is a somber and reflective experience that helps to prepare Christians for the celebration of Easter. **Volunteers are needed to participate in this service.** No special talent is required, just a willingness to participate in this beautiful tradition. If you have questions or wish to volunteer, please see Bob DiSalvo, Pastor Kim or anyone on the worship committee.

5 Week In-Person Lenten Bible Study

Starting on Wednesday, March 12 at 7pm and continuing every Wednesday evening for five weeks, we will be starting an in-person Lenten Bible Study on the book He Chose the Nails: What God Did to Win Your Heart by Max Lucado. The book as well as a study guide will be available for purchase as we go through this study which has been specifically made to journey us through the Lenten season. If you are interested in participating, please reach out to Pastor Kim at pastoreumin@hotmail.com or 646-

468-9450. There will also be a sign-up located in the narthex on Sundays. *Also, it is important to note that the weekly online Bible Study that currently meets every Wednesday evening will move to Tuesdays beginning on March 4 and last throughout the Lenten season.*

CALENDAR

Weekly Meetings, Rehearsals and Gatherings:

- *Every Sunday – Church School 10AM/Church (except 1st Sunday of the month-10AM/Educ Bldg)
- *Every **Second Sunday of the month** – Healing Prayer Service after Church/Chapel (*Starting Date TBD*)
- *Every **Wednesday** – Bible Study 7:30PM-9PM/Zoom (Same Zoom Link every week) *See above for temporary changes*
- *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 Events/Meetings

- *Saturday, April 26, 2025 – International Potluck Dinner
- *Sunday, April 27, 2025 – Church Council Meeting after Church
- *Saturday, October 25, 2025 - New York United Women in Faith Annual Meeting

Upcoming Special Dates

- *Sunday, April 13, 2025 – Palm Sunday
- *Thursday, April 17, 2025 – Holy Thursday
- *Friday, April 18, 2025 – Good Friday
- *Sunday, April 20, 2025 – Easter
- *Sunday, May 11, 2025 – Mother's Day
- *Monday, May 26, 2025 – Memorial Day
- *Sunday, June 15m, 2025 – Father's Day
- *Sunday, October 19, 2025 – Laity Sunday
- *Sunday, November 2, 2025 – All Saints Day
- *Sunday, November 2, 2025 – Daylight Savings Time ends



Nap Time!
Eileen