



THE SPIRE

The newsletter of the Bay Shore United Methodist Church

The Rev. Wendy C. Modeste, Pastor

February 2016

“Face Time”: Show God Our Gratitude

We're only two months into 2016, so let's do a quick check-up on your New Year's resolutions. Most everyone wants to lose weight and get in shape, right? And some of you may be trying to quit smoking or vowed to spend more quality time with family. What about your church?

We have a small but loyal group of members who attend Sunday services regularly. You can see their dedication each week as we exchange handshakes and hugs when Passing the Peace. But they comprise only a fraction of our membership.

Religious attendance boosts the immune system and decreases blood pressure, according to the New York Times. It may add as much as two to three years to your life. People who regularly attend church report being happier, research indicates. And church-goers tend to have longer and stronger marriages. There's also evidence that children who regularly attend church are less likely to engage in sexual activity as teens, and are less likely to abuse drugs and alcohol.

As your pastor, I look beyond science and studies. Taking your place in the pews each week allows you to praise God in the company of fellow believers. Indeed, regular attendance is reinforced in the scriptures. Luke 14:6 tells us: “Jesus went back to Nazareth, where he'd been brought up and as usual he went to the meeting place on the Sabbath.”

And Hebrews 10:25 says, “Some people have gotten out of the habit of meeting for worship. But we must not do that. We should keep on encouraging each other, especially since you know that the day of the Lord's coming is getting closer.”

I have a special message for anyone who stopped attending because of anger or burnout: Come back. We're all here because we're human and we make mistakes. On behalf of the congregation, I apologize for any words or acts that have driven you away. Your return will be warmly welcomed—no explanation necessary. Come and enjoy the message and ministry of music, and take a break from the committees and other duties that may have led to your departure.

As part of our 2016 theme, “Serving With Joy,” I urge all members to make time for worship. Understandably, age-related issues, illness and travel make attendance impossible for some. For everyone else, this “face time” is one of the best ways to show God our gratitude for the many blessings he bestows on us.

In His name,
Pastor Wendy

Feel the Love

In the spirit of Valentine's Day, create a bespoke card that says ***I Love You***. Master crafter and longtime member Jean Finfrock will be teaching us techniques to create one-of-a-kind cards. No previous crafting experience is required. All materials will be provided.

Date: Feb. 13 at 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Fee is \$5.

Please see Beth DeCarbo if you have questions or plan to attend (so ample supplies can be purchased).

--Adult Fellowship

A Taste of Passover Traditions

Experience a Passover seder and learn about the rituals and symbols in this traditional Jewish feast. The esteemed Rabbi Leslie Schotz will be leading us in the retelling of the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. Understand the purpose of the haggadah and the significance of the four cups and seder plate. Afterward we will share some traditional fare, including apple kugel, matzo ball soup and gefilte fish.

Date: Sunday, March 6 from 11:30 to 1 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Fee is \$5. To register, please see Beth DeCarbo or email her at heybeth@optonline.net.

--Adult Fellowship

Remembering 9/11 A Trip to Lower Manhattan

Join us as we visit the 9/11 Memorial and Museum on Saturday, April 16. The trip begins with an 8:10 a.m. train from the Babylon LIRR station, followed by a subway ride to the site of the World Trade Center. There we will spend about 2 hours going through the museum and visiting the memorial. Lunch will follow at a nearby restaurant that offers deli sandwiches and other luncheon fare. Note that this trip will involve walking, and venues may have stairs or inclines.

Price:

Adults: \$51.50

Youths (ages 12-17): \$42.50

Seniors: \$38.50

The price does not include the cost of lunch. If enough people want a guided tour, that can be arranged as part of our group visit for an additional \$20 per person. Self-guided tours and themed itineraries are available at no or low cost. Deadline for registering and payment: March 15 (advance notice required by the museum) this gathering is open to members of the congregation and friends ages 12 or older. Please contact Beth DeCarbo (heybeth@optonline.net) if you have questions or to register.

--Adult Fellowship



A Tasteful Gathering



On Jan. 9, Adult Fellowship enjoyed a cooking demonstration by Newsday reporter Erica Marcus. We learned how to butterfly a chicken and made two simple pasta sauces. Erica is steeped in knowledge about the origins of authentic Italian food, how poultry is raised and the different types of salt used by chefs today. The best part: We sampled her handiwork when the demo was done. Thanks to everyone who came, to Erica, and to Frank and Maria's Pork Store for discounted ingredients.

--Adult Fellowship



Anointed in the Lord

Last month, the congregation celebrated the baptism of Jesus in a special way. The bible reading told us the story of John the Baptist, who baptized Jesus in the Jordan River. Afterward, the Holy Spirit descended from heaven in the form of a dove. And God spoke, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased." After the reading, Pastor Wendy circulated throughout the sanctuary with a chalice and anointed each person, renewing the baptismal rites in which we proclaim ourselves followers of Christ.

On Feb. 14, the first Sunday of Lent, Pastor Wendy will offer another special activity to mark the period of repentance and sacrifice. We encourage you to attend services throughout this holy season, as we suffer His death and celebrate His resurrection.

--Worship Committee

EASTER LILIES

The lovely Easter lilies that beautify our sanctuary on Easter Sunday have a dual purpose: not only do they symbolize God's promise of rebirth, but they also enable us to share this joyous spirit with the sick and shut-ins among our church family. If you would like to provide flowers for these purposes, please fill out the form below and give it to Flaye Stahl (665-2575).

NAME OF DONOR: ***(Please print all information)***

DONATED: _____ To the glory of God

_____ In memory of: _____

_____ In honor of: _____



_____ I will take my plant after Easter

_____ I would like my plant delivered to a shut-in

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM NO LATER THAN MARCH 13! Thank you!



Pennies for Preservation

For the month of December you donated \$13.00 for the preservation of our historic church building. The total for the year was \$221.00 and the total to date is \$3706.38.

Many thanks to the person who put a \$10.00 bill in the collection container. Your fellow parishioners thank the Lord for your generosity.

Hopefully we will find more coins to deliver so that we can maintain the sanctuary that He has provided for us. If you don't know where you can leave your donation (should you be so inclined) there is a container as you enter the sanctuary. No, don't think that you have to pay to come to church. God's grace is free for all of his children.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Our friend and sister in Christ, Katherine Cooper, passed into the Life Eternal on January 1st. Please include her husband James, her children Jeanne and Kenneth, grandson Jessie, great-grandchildren and friends in your prayers.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**BIRTHDAYS**

February 1	Jennette Hemmerle
February 2	Christopher Forino, Rocco Gosline
February 3	Patrick Jones
February 5	Zachry Abrams, Mark DiGiovanna, Charles Kirkup, Stephen Navratil
February 8	Alison Finfrock
February 10	Cindy Amos
February 12	Dylan Schmalfuss
February 15	John Witherspoon
February 16	Joyce Bennett, Danielle Keskinen
February 20	Charles Finfrock
February 21	Alana Aceveda-Guittard
February 22	Jameela Charles
February 26	Geri DiGiovanna, Elijah Davis, Bernard Essuman
February 27	Deborah Biondolillo, Michael Lechner, Joyce Stein, Kelly Anne Williams
February 28	John Maniscalco, Aaron King Thomas

ANNIVERSARIES

February 8	William and Susan Yost
February 14	Winston and Heather Charles

OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER

Soup Kitchen Thursdays at 4:30 p.m.


Thrift Shop Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

CONNECT WITH BAY SHORE UMC

Website: bayshoreumc.org

Pastor's email: pastor@bayshoreumc.org Office email: office@bayshoreumc.org



Find us on Facebook: click on the  icon on the upper right of our website home page

Yahoo email group: to receive occasional emailed news and notices about the Church, please send a request to be added to office@bayshoreumc.org.

The SPIRE is published monthly September to June. Deadline for the March issue is February 10th. Send news and announcements to Spire Editor Ellen Fager at citylife4@verizon.net

The SPIRE is available in electronic form on our website (click MEDIA / e-Newsletter) or printed and mailed. Send mailing requests, removal requests, and address corrections to the Church office:
Tel: [631-666-7194](tel:631-666-7194), email: office@bayshoreumc.org, Postal: 106 East Main Street, Bay Shore NY 11706

**WEDNESDAYS IN LENT
BAY SHORE ECUMENICAL WORSHIP SERVICES**

"The Passion & Death of our Lord"

February 17 – ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Kristian Baudler
3 Lawrence Lane
Bay Shore, NY 11706

**Ash Wednesday: February 10th
Bay Shore UMC
8:00 p.m. Worship Service**

Text: Matthew 26:1-29 **Preacher: Pastor Daris Dixon-Clark**

February 24 - FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Daris Dixon-Clark
175 Second Avenue
Bay Shore, NY 11706

Text: Matthew 26:30-56 **Preacher: Pastor Kris Baudler**

March 2 – FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Pastor Gary Gerth, Pastor
1860 Union Blvd.
Bay Shore, NY 11706

Text: Matthew 26:57-75 **Preacher: Pastor Gary Gerth***



March 9 – BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Rev. Craig Thomas Robinson, Jr.
54 Brook Street
Bay Shore, NY 11706

Text: Matthew 27:1-31 **Preacher: Pastor Wendy Modeste**

March 16 – UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BAY SHORE

Rev. Wendy C. Modeste, Pastor
United Methodist Church of Bay Shore
107 East Main Street
Bay Shore, NY 11706

Text: Matthew 27:32-66 **Preacher: Pastor Craig Robinson**

All participating congregations will meet in their home churches for **ASH WEDNESDAY** and **HOLY WEEK**. All Wednesdays-in-Lent services begin promptly with Soup & Sandwiches at 7:15 p.m. followed by worship at 8 p.m.

*The First Congregational Church extends an invitation to all who wish to join them in their Maundy Thursday service at 7:30 p.m.

Exciting opportunity for growth in discipleship
coming to a UMC near you

- Sat. Jan. 30th Hampton Bays UMC or
Sat. Feb. 6th Westbury UMC –

D2D

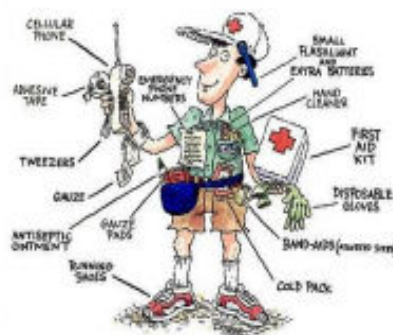
"Disciple 2 Disciple LIE District Training Event"

Featured workshop by UMCOR

"Personal Preparedness in Disaster Response"

Also "Church & Technology-Responding in Disaster" with RPM Box Digital Ministries, "Church Finances" with Ross Williams, "Being a Contagious Christian" with Bill Flipse, "Role of Lay Servant and Lay Leader" with Michelle Sanchez & Lorraine Leaks, "Missions: Responding to Disaster" with Joseph Ewoodzie, "Growing in Trusteeship" with Fred Brewington, Esq., and "Inclusive Worship: On Communion" with Hal Low. Begins with Worship at 9am, Morning Workshop at 10am, then Lunch, Afternoon workshops at 12:30pm. The event is free and for all!

To register email liedistrict@nyac-umc.com or call Barbara at 631-366-2396 or come that day (8:30am) and register at the reception desk.



Elaine Williams is now at
Bella Mi Salon
135 East Main Street East Islip NY

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*The
Season
of
Lent*



"Have mercy upon me, O God, according
to your lovingkindness: according unto
the multitude of your tender mercies blot
out my transgressions."
--Psalm 51:1