



THE SPIRE

The newsletter of the Bay Shore United Methodist Church

The Rev. Wendy C. Modeste, Pastor

December 2016

THE CHRISTMAS STORY!

The Christmas story features excitement, joy and fulfillment of God's sovereign plan of redemption. He sent God incarnate to live among humanity. The mighty creator became man in God's likeness, the God-man. Although it sounds like a juicy fiction story, it's the true story of the Christ child, *Christ-mas*.

“For God so loved YOU that God gave His only Son, so that whoever believes in him will not perish, but have eternal life.” -John 3:16

The first Christmas 2000 years ago was about love and is still about God's love that gives its best. We give and exchange presents during this season because we are expressing our love for each other. Christmas is about spreading the love of Christ with everyone we encounter, not just the people who can give in return, but especially those who cannot give. Love someone this Christmas season. Love gives!

This Christmas make a special effort to give to someone who is not as fortunate enough to give back to you. Bless someone with your love.

Christmas is also a reminder that we are moving into a new beginning. As our congregation moves into 2017, our goals for the New Year are:

- 1) Start the New Year with a Prayer Challenge for 21 days. We will share further information about this later in the month.
- 2) Jump-start our Youth ministry.
- 3) Begin refurbishing the church.

Please join us as we begin a new year together in worship, fellowship and service to God.

“We love because he first loved us.” -I John 4:19

Wishing you a MERRY CHRISTMAS from my family to yours!

Sending love!

Pastor Wendy



JOY TO THE WORLD, THE LORD IS COME!

Join us on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day as we celebrate the birth of our Lord.

On Christmas Eve the family service is at 4 p.m. and features Lessons and Carols. The late service takes place at 11 p.m. with special music directed by Daniel Cafiero. Communion will be served at both services, and both will conclude with passing the light.

On Christmas Day the Sunday worship service begins at 10 a.m., and afterward we'll gather in Fellowship Hall for some birthday cake in honor of the baby Jesus.

-The Worship Committee

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Eight faith leaders came together Sunday November 20th for Bay Shore's 2016 Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. Let us lift up this example of respect for all of God's children, thanks for our many blessings, and celebration of our diverse community.

Left to right: Reverend Julie Newhall - Unitarian Universalist Society of South Suffolk, Cantor Arlene Zucker - Bay Shore Jewish Center, Pastor Kris Baudler - St Luke's Lutheran Church, The Right Reverend Johny Itty - St Peter's by the Sea Episcopal Church, Doctor Hafiz Rahman - Masjid Darul Quran, Reverend Dr. Daris Dixon-Clark - First Baptist Church, Pastor Wendy Modeste - Bay Shore United Methodist Church, Monsignor Thomas Coogan - St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church.



Thanks to St. Patrick's Church for hosting the Service in their beautiful sanctuary.

SOUP KITCHEN THANKSGIVING DINNER THANKS

On Thanksgiving Day our Soup Kitchen served the best holiday meal in town to over 80 guests - and sent them home with leftovers! Thanks to all the cooks and servers both from our Church and volunteers from the Bay Shore community as well as to coordinator Susan Yost for their service to our neighbors.



CHURCH CHRISTMAS CARD AND POINSETTIAS

Instead of sending cards to your church friends, you can participate in the Church Card that is mailed to all our members. Forms are available at Worship (see Donna Lechner) or email the Church Office at UMCBS@aol.com with your name exactly as you want it to appear. DEADLINE IS SUNDAY DECEMBER 4TH. Cost is \$3.00 (if you email you can pay later).

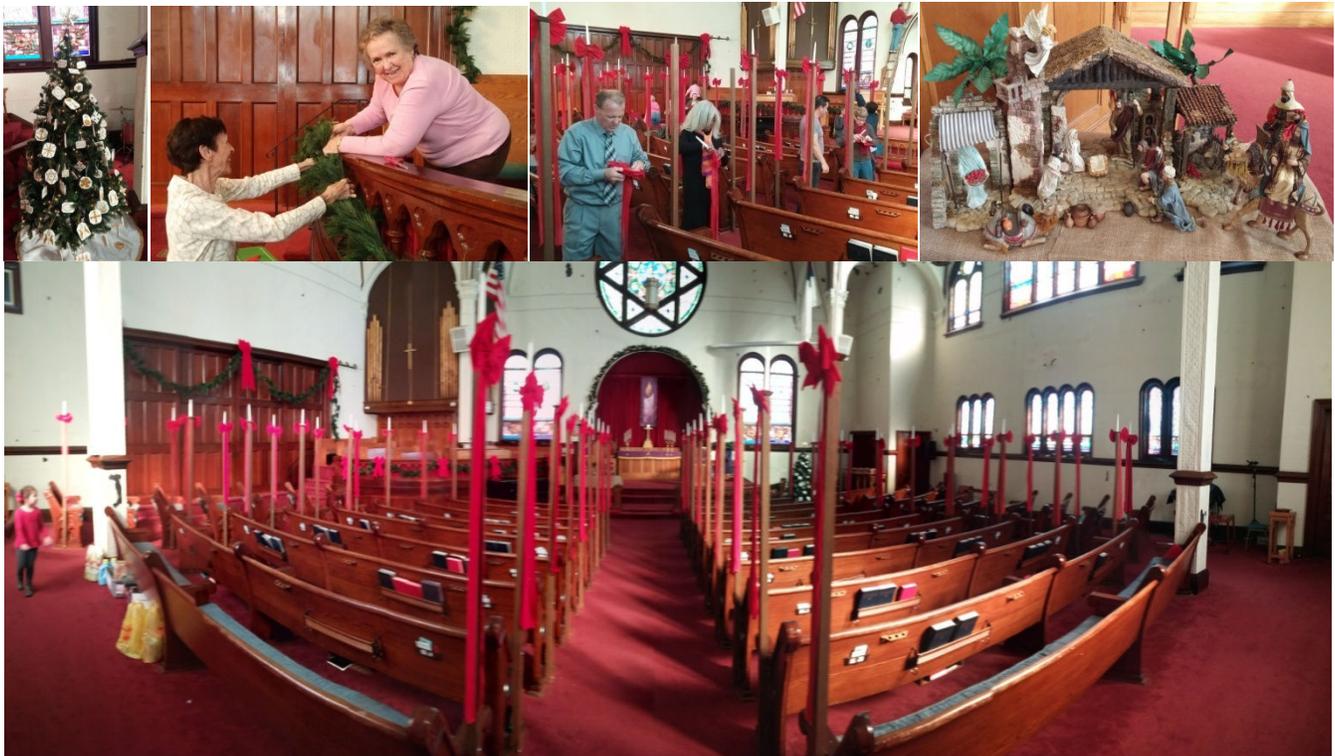
The beautiful Christmas Poinsettias which decorate our sanctuary on Christmas Eve have a dual purpose: Not only do they symbolize the birth of Jesus; they also enable us to share the joyous holiday spirit with the sick and shut-ins among our church family. If you would like to provide flowers for these purposes, please fill out a form at Worship (see Flaye Stahl) or email the Church Office at UMCBS@aol.com. If you email please let us know:

- 1) Your name exactly as you want it to appear on the list of donors.
- 2) Whether you are donating in memory of someone (and that name), in honor of someone (and that name), or to the Glory of God.
- 3) Whether you will take your poinsettia after Christmas or want it delivered to a shut-in.

DEADLINE IS SUNDAY DECEMBER 4TH. Cost is \$10.00 per plant (if you email you can pay later).

Thank you!

GREENING THE SANCTUARY – NOVEMBER 27th 2016



CRAFTERNOON WITH JEAN

We had a fun and festive gathering in November thanks to craft master Jean Finrock, who showed us how to transform Dollar Store wine glasses into holiday-themed candlesticks. Under Jean's tutelage, the group created adorable Christmas décor. Thanks to everyone who came for the fun afternoon!

–Beth DeCarbo

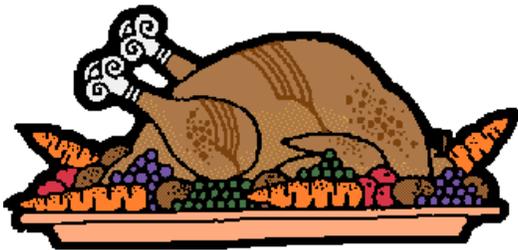
CAROLING – SUNDAY DECEMBER 18th

The Church Band and carolers will be singing and playing on Sunday afternoon December 18th. We will be visiting homebound Church members and nursing homes. This is a wonderful and spiritually uplifting experience for all who attend.

We will gather in Fellowship Hall after Service to assemble lyric booklets, pass out maps, set up the car pools, and warm up on a few tunes. Pizza will be provided, after we munch we'll drive around to several performance locations, returning to the Church around 4:45pm. If you have to come late or leave early that's fine. Most of our locations are indoors so caroling will be rain or shine. For more information or to play in the band please contact Tom Wilson via email to twilson@brightwaters.com or phone 516-662-3528.



Last year the weather was so mild we caroled in shirtsleeves!



SOUP KITCHEN CHRISTMAS DINNER – THURSDAY DECEMBER 22nd

On the Thursday before Christmas we expand our Soup Kitchen to “the best holiday dinner in town” because none of us cooks as well as all of us together, followed by a caroling sing-along.

We need your help to cook, serve, and provide good cheer. Remember that we do have a soup kitchen fund so cooks with tight budgets can turn in receipts and we will gladly reimburse you for materials purchased.

The schedule for this year will be: DROPOFF 2:30pm - 3:00pm. Those who are cooking but not serving can deliver food at this time. SETUP: 3:00-4:30pm. SERVE DINNER 4:30pm. SING-ALONG 5:15pm. CLEANUP 5:45pm until done.

I hope you will join us in worshipping God not just with our words but with our deeds in this holy season. Please sign up to cook and/or serve by signing up in Fellowship Hall or contacting Tom Wilson via email to twilson@brightwaters.com or phone 516-662-3528. Thanks in advance for your generosity.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL CRAFT FAIR

The Christmas shopping season kicked off in Methodist style. Many thanks to everyone who baked cookies and brought homemade wares to our 22nd annual craft fair. Your handiwork brought in \$1,078 toward church expenses. A special note of gratitude to Donna Lechner and Christine Hoff, who organized the sale and volunteers.





PLEDGE DRIVE 2017

Our Pledge Drive continues through the end of the year. Your financial pledge to our Church is your personal and confidential commitment to honor God with the “first fruits” of your labors, and the fact that you pledge is more important than the amount.

If you have already returned a pledge for 2017 – THANKS! If not, we ask that you carefully and prayerfully consider what you can freely and joyfully and responsibly give, fill out the pledge form you received in the mail (also available from the

Church office or print from the November Spire on the Church website), and return it by the end of the year, either in an offering at Worship or to the Church office.

BIRTHDAYS

Dec. 1	Winston Charles	Dec. 15	Eleanore Owen, Alyson Lawther
Dec. 2	William Harbert	Dec. 16	Deborah Carr, Yvonne Sing
Dec. 3	Jason DiGenaro	Dec. 18	Julie Aromi, Doreen Hirsch
Dec. 4	Charles Kirkup, Jr	Dec. 19	Nahseam Seabrooks
Dec. 5	Marvin Allen, Lois Fallon	Dec. 21	Charles Beaudrie, Jack Biondolillo, Jackie Hubschmitt, Dolores Hoffmann
Dec. 9	Joan Burvenich	Dec. 25	Jesus of Nazareth (observed)
Dec. 10	Molly Dowd	Dec. 28	Jeannie Aromi, John Witherspoon
Dec. 11	Clara Trotta	Dec. 31	Don Hoffmann
Dec. 12	Audrey Muzzy		
Dec. 14	Roy Fager		

ANNIVERSARIES

Dec. 3 Charles and Margery Kirkup	Dec. 23 Bill and Jean Carr
Dec. 16 Harold and Alice Swetland	Dec. 31 Mike and Deirdrea Renwick

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 January issue is December 10th. Send news and announcements to Spire Editor Tom Wilson at news@bayshoreumc.org

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

WISHING YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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

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*For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given, and the
government will be on His shoulders.
And He will be called
Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

-Isaiah 9:6 (NIV)