



THE SPIRE

The newsletter of the Bay Shore United Methodist Church

The Rev. Wendy C. Modeste, Pastor

NOVEMBER 2019

IT'S STEWARDSHIP SEASON!

The month of November is Stewardship month – a time when we prepare the budget for the coming year. It's important to understand that giving of our finances to the work of the ministry is our way of giving back to God.

Do you know the principle of how we ought to manage our money? In Luke's gospel, Jesus taught his disciples this principle, "give to receive."

"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." (Luke 6:38)



Giving to God's work is the first requirement that God asked of us. God's economy is not practical; it doesn't make sense. We all give our

money equally when we give from our hearts reflecting our love for God. Everyone can give, the poor as well as the wealthy. When the people entered the temple and brought their offerings; the poor widow gave as well as the wealthy Scribes. God's economy is full, overflowing and, will spill over into your laps.

On Sunday, September 8, as we celebrated Rally Sunday, Lay Reader Kailey Dowd prayed the following offertory prayer from the pulpit. Let us pray:

"O Lord, our Rock and our Redeemer, the cost of discipleship seem just and reasonable as we bow our heads in prayer. However, when we think about the economic pressures in our lives – the mortgage, car payments, school supplies, health care, college tuition, and credit card debt – giving money is a challenge. Strengthen the connection between your call to discipleship and our giving habits. We strive to grow in generosity so that our giving is a reflection of our desire to be in a covenant relationship with you. In your holy name, we pray. Amen."

Warmly,
Pastor



Thanksgiving

*Praise the LORD your God,
who is from everlasting to everlasting.*

NUMBERS 9:5 (NIV)

As we approach the Thanksgiving Season, a time of the year in which we express our appreciation and thanks to God for His many blessings, I'm reminded of the story in the Bible, Luke 17:11-19, of the ten lepers Luke writes that Jesus healed ten lepers as he was traveling one day; yet, only one man returned to give thanks to the Lord for his miracle. The other nine men went their way rejoicing and never returned to say thanks. Jesus was surprised and asked the man, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Because he returned with gratitude in his heart, he received a double blessing from Jesus. We are reminded throughout the Bible, especially the Psalms to give thanks to the Lord.

*"Oh, give thanks to the Lord for the Lord is good and His mercy endures forever!"
(Psalm 106:1)*

Traditionally, November is Stewardship month when we set the church budget for the coming year. We invite you to express your gratitude to God for our church and the many ways in which we are helping to change lives in the Bay Shore-Brightwaters community. Please complete the enclosed pledge card to let us know how you will support the ministry this coming year.

God has blessed our church abundantly over the 200 years of its existence. We are grateful for all our members and how you have made this church great. With your help, we serve the community with numerous ministries and programs: the Bay Shore Day Care and Preschool, the Head Start program, thirty-five weekly group meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous, a weekly soup kitchen serving hot meals to the homeless and hungry, and the community Thrift Shop. Thank you for your giving towards the Restoration project, but none of that money can be used for the everyday current expenses to keep the doors of the church open.

Greg Goodrich and Dale Down are the new co-chairs of the Stewardship ministry. They are excited to work with you to make sure that we all give towards the building up of our church. Join us on Sunday, Nov. 24 as we celebrate Thanksgiving Sunday and Stewardship Sunday. Our pledge cards will be blessed during that service.

Wishing you and your family a blessed and happy Thanksgiving!

Warmly,
Pastor Wendy



Pledge Campaign 2020

As United Methodists, we covenant (promise) five things to bring to God's Service as participants in this congregation. These are our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.

So, what exactly is a pledge - and what relationship does it have to bringing our gifts to the Church?

A pledge is your personal goal for monetary giving to the Church in the coming year:

- **It is confidential** - only two people in the church see the individual pledges.
- **It in no way affects your standing in the Church** – this is guaranteed by the rules of United Methodism.
- Finally, **it is non-binding**. We are here to serve the poor, not make you poor. We are only interested in the amount you can give freely and joyfully and not a penny more. If that amount changes during the year, so can your pledge.

So why pledge? The Bible asks it of us. Proverbs 3:9 advises “**Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops.**” Now most of us aren't farmers anymore but the principle is the same. Pledging is a way of saying “I am going to make a priority of returning a portion of the bounty the Lord has provided to His Service, not just give what is left over.”

In Matthew 6:21, Jesus says “**Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**” Pledging is one way we put “skin in the game” and commit ourselves to support our Church.

Think about all the wonderful things our Church does with our gifts. We provide a sacred space for the worship of a loving and forgiving God – and for Fellowship with one another. We come here to celebrate and consecrate the most joyful events of our lives – and for comfort in the most difficult times. Church is a place for spiritual development – and a source of direction and hope when our lives are confusing and burdened.

Our Church is a place where change begins - both within ourselves and in the larger world because of our support for over 30 mission projects with scopes that range from local to global.

Our Church has done all these things and more, not just this year but for 209 years because every year people like us decided to make it so with their prayers and their presence and their gifts and their service and their witness. Now it is our choice whether we will with God's help continue these things into the future for the benefit of ourselves and all those who come after us.

If we choose as wisely as those saints who have come before us, Jesus promised “**Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back**” (Luke 6:38).

All that you are and all that you have is God's gift to you. What you choose to do with those things is your gift to God. The fact that you pledge is more important than the amount you pledge. We ask that you prayerfully consider your personal circumstances, fill out the pledge form with an amount you can freely and joyfully give, and return it to the church office or at any Worship offering.

2020 Pledge Form

Please join us on Sunday, November 24 at the 10 am Service as we celebrate Thanksgiving and for the blessing of the pledges. However, you may return your pledges at any time. Thank you for your consideration of this request - and for being a unique and valued part of our little corner of God's Universal Church.

Please fill out, fold to keep your pledge confidential, and return to the Church office or in any offering. *Additional pledge forms are available at Worship or from the Church office.*

Bay Shore United Methodist Church - 2020 Pledge Form

My/our pledge to the church is \$_____

() Weekly () Monthly () Quarterly () Yearly

I (we) understand this commitment begins January 1, 2020 and concludes December 31, 2020, and may be revised at any time by contacting the church office at 631-666-7194 or by email at office@bayshoreumc.org

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Bay Shore Thanksgiving Interfaith Service

The annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service will take place Sunday, November 24, beginning at 3:00 pm. at Bay Shore Mosque, 1514 E 3rd Avenue. Donations and non-perishable food items will be collected for the Bay Shore Emergency Food Pantry.

Soup Kitchen Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinner

As in years past, our Thursday Soup Kitchen at Bay Shore United Methodist Church will expand to full holiday dinners on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 28th, and the Thursday before Christmas, December 19th. Servers, setup, cleanup, and good cheer are all needed.

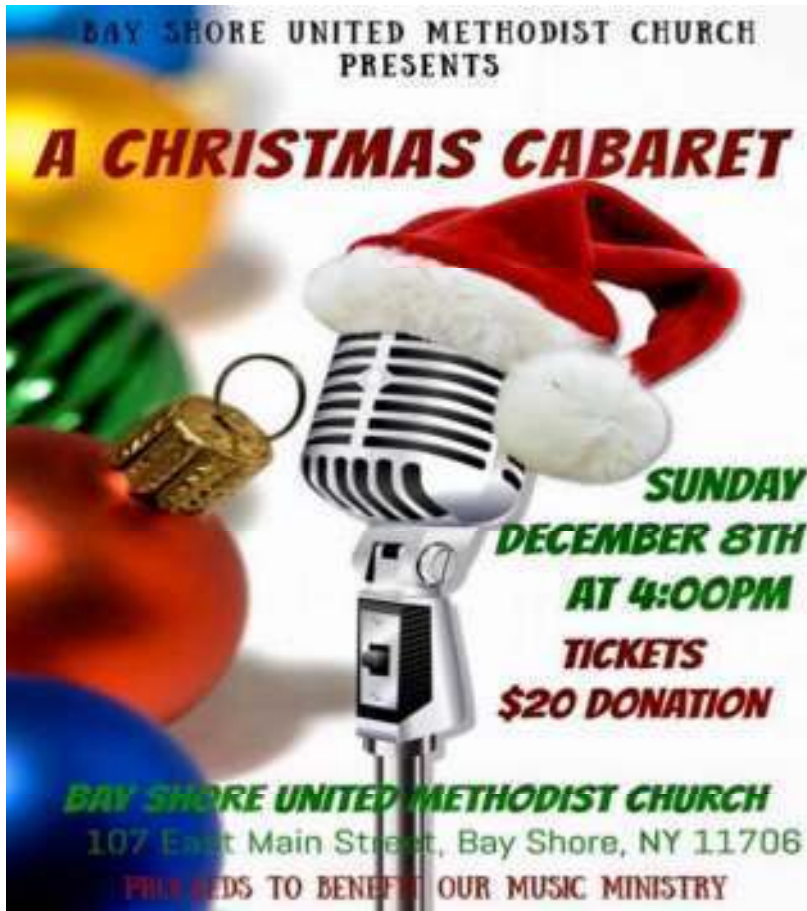
IMPORTANT: because of construction in our Fellowship Hall, we will be serving across the street at the American Legion Hall. Thanks to the Legion for opening their doors!

Those wishing to volunteer or donate should contact the Church Office at 631-666-7194 or umcbs@aol.com, Thanksgiving Dinner Coordinator Sue Yost at cluele3972@aol.com, or Christmas Dinner Coordinator Tom Wilson at twilson@brightwaters.com.

Setup both days will be between 3:00-4:30 pm, serving from 4:30-5:30 pm, and cleanup from 5:30-6:00 pm. Please feel free to volunteer for any or all of these time slots. Last year we served the best holiday dinners in town - because none of us cooks as well as all of us! We invite you to participate so we can serve our neighbors just as well again this year.

Bring on the Green!

After worship service on Sunday, Dec. 1, we will be Greening the Sanctuary to kick off the Christmas season. With many hands, the work goes quickly. For those who have cordless screwdrivers, please bring them charged and ready to go. -Daniel Cafiero on behalf of the Worship Committee



A Christmas Cabaret!

Please join us Sunday, December 8th at 4:00pm, Bay Shore UMC will host a "Christmas Cabaret". All proceeds from the concert benefit our music ministry. The concert will feature members of our music ministry singing all the songs they don't get to sing during Christmas services. Selections will include, "White Christmas", "I'll Be Home for Christmas", "I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm", "You're a Mean One Mr. Grinch", and many more. Come out and support our church and enjoy a great concert! Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased following worship service, starting November 24th, and at the door. Thank you!

-Daniel Cafiero, Music Director

Rally Sunday, September 8, 2019



On Sunday September 8th, our Church Family came together for worship, special music, fellowship, and the first day of Sunday School. After Service we had great weather and a wonderful time at the Potluck Picnic. Thanks to all who made Rally Sunday a success with their help and their presence!

Women's Sharing Group



The next Women's Sharing Group is held on **Saturday, Dec. 14, 2019 10 A.M.**

Discussing "The Virgin Mary: Highly Favored by God!" (Luke 1:26-56) What does it feel like to be highly favored by God? What can we learn from Mary's experience? Come and join the discussion! Refreshments are served; a time of sharing, praying and discussing God's Word. Please call Dale Dowd for further information: 631-745-0334.

We're looking forward to seeing you there!

Church Christmas Cards

Instead of sending cards to your church friends, you can participate in the Church Card that is mailed to all our members. Just submit your name, the way you want it to appear, **AND RETURN THIS FORM NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 8.** The cost is \$5.00.

Please print your name(s) exactly as you want them to appear.

Christmas Poinsettias

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 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 or leave it at the church office. You may also call the church office at 666-7194 to order your plant. Cost of each plant is \$15.00.

(Please Print)

NAME OF DONOR:

DONATED: _____ To the glory of God

_____ In memory of: _____

_____ In honor of: _____

_____ I will take my plant after Christmas

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

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 8.

Christmas Craft Fair/Bake Sale



Due to the construction in our kitchen and Fellowship Hall this year, we will not be able to host our annual Cookie and Craft Sale. Believe me, we are just as upset about it as you. But next year, it will be bigger and better. We promise!!

BIRTHDAYS

Nov. 3	Stan Orme	Nov. 15	Edward Goldman
Nov. 4	Allison Becker, Sean Joseph, Alyssa Hourican	Nov. 16	Yaa Antiwiiwaa Owusu
Nov. 5	Jonathan Wood	Nov. 17	Ava Lynn Statam, Caren DeRonde
Nov. 6	Vanessa Milla	Nov. 18	Ashley Hirsch
Nov. 7	Cameron Allen, Christopher Witherspoon, Manuel Costales	Nov. 19	Ann Marie Falcon, John Murray
Nov. 8	Payton Feil	Nov. 21	Devin Keskinen
10	Eric Fager	Nov. 22	Jennifer Allen
Nov. 11	Kara Seyda	Nov. 25	Max Lyman
Nov. 14	Barbara Zelenka	Nov. 26	Christopher Rivera
		Nov. 27	Adwoa Ababio
		Nov. 27	Marguerite Meehan

ANNIVERSARIES

Nov.25	Eric and Regina Schneider	Nov. 30	Bill and Ann Scharfenberg	Nov. 29	Jeffrey and Dawn Lawther
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Contact the Church Office to add or correct your birthday or anniversary.

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 December issue is November 10th. Please send your contributions to 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: 107 East Main Street, Bay Shore NY 11706

Elaine Williams is now at
Casual Hair Affair
179 East Main Street East Islip NY



Bay Shore Day Care and Preschool

A nonsectarian public service ministry
of the Bay Shore United Methodist Church

Now enrolling for Summer and Fall
New! "Discovery Playground" Outdoor Classroom
Fun and learning in the fresh air.

8am - 6pm M-F * Day Care ages 3 to 5
Preschool ages 3 to 5
Early Head Start ages 18-36 months

631-647-4326 * bayshoreumc.org/childcare

No better start anywhere!

A black and white illustration of a large, multi-story house with a prominent porch and a tall chimney. The house is surrounded by trees and a fence.

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