



# THE SPIRE

The newsletter of the Bay Shore United Methodist Church

The Rev. Wendy C. Modeste, Pastor

DECEMBER 2019

## HAVING A FAITH MINDSET!

Sometimes, God will allow situations to come into our lives to remind us of whence we have come. It could be a human quality that we tend to forget where we were and how God has brought us through the deep waters.

There's a story in the Bible that tells us how God rescued the people of Israel when they were under heavy burdens in Egypt. God performed miracle after miracle and finally brought them out unharmed, safely, even though their enemies were pursuing them to destroy them. One of the greatest miracles is the crossing of the Red Sea. God parted the Red Sea, and they walked through on dry land. The waters separated like two banks on the opposite side. Yet, as soon as they got into the wilderness, they began to complain. They forgot all the miracles and wonders which God wrought.



Preparing to closeout 2019, we are on the precipice of the New Year 2020, and I remind you never to forget all that God has done this year for our ministry. We have moved from a poverty mindset to a faith mindset. At our Charge Conference, when Rev. Yim asked what is one of our greatest accomplishments this year, Trustee Vice President Greg Goodrich stood up and said, "I've had a boost in my faith this year."

As we move forward into a new season and a new year, we journey with faith in God remembering if God did it for us in 2019, God is more than able to do it for us again in 2020. Even if you are not able to see beyond 2020, let's take one year at a time.

***"Now to him who is able to do exceedingly, abundantly, above all that we may ask or think, according to his power that is at work within us."  
(Ephesians 3:20)***

I completely stand on God's Word, and my faith in God will not waver. I believe God that we are a people who will continue to thrive. We will work together; we will give of our apportionments to the NYAC, which is our tithes, we will continue to support our ministry with our tithes and offerings, and we will see the hand of God on our lives, our families, our church and all that we put our hands to do.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Blessed and Happy New Year!

Warmly,  
-Pastor Wendy



FEAR NOT! FOR, BEHOLD, I BRING YOU  
*good tidings of great joy,*  
WHICH SHALL BE TO ALL PEOPLE.  
LUKE 1:10

## **A CHRISTMAS MIRACLE!**

God's people waited for centuries for a Savior, and finally, God fulfilled the promise. "But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman..." (Galatians 4:4)

God sent the angel Gabriel to a city in Galilee called Nazareth to a young virgin named Mary, who was engaged to be married to Joseph. Gabriel announced to her that God chose her, she had found favor with God, to bring forth the "Son of the highest," God's Son. His name will be called Jesus and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and his kingdom will have no end.

Mary was terrified at Gabriel's saying. "How can this be, since I am a virgin, I do not know a man," Mary replied. Gabriel said, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, the Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God." (Luke 1:35)

That is the Christmas story, the miracle of Christmas! Isaiah prophesied, "For unto us a child is born to us, and unto us, a Son is given to us; the authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6)

Christmas is the greatest miracle that ever was and still is. Jesus is the Son of God who reigned before the beginning of time – he was God's Son before he was Mary's baby boy. Jesus is God's gift to humanity to save and restore us to God. He is the God-man, fully-God and fully-human. Have you accepted him in your heart? That is truly what Christmas is about, accepting God's most precious gift in our hearts.

From my family to yours, we wish you a merry Christmas and a blessed and happy New Year.

Warmly,  
Pastor Wendy

***Christmas Eve Services, December 24<sup>th</sup>***

***4 P.M. - "Lessons and Carols" Family Service  
With Passing of the Light and Communion***

***11 P.M. - Traditional Worship Service  
With Passing of the Light and Communion***



## JOY TO THE WORLD, THE LORD IS COME!

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

On Christmas Eve, the family service is at 4 p.m. and features Lessons and Carols. At 11 p.m. is the Traditional Service with special music directed by Music Director Daniel Cafiero. Communion will be served at both services, and both will conclude with passing the light.

-The Worship Committee

## INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> Bay Shore's 2019 Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, held at the Bay Shore Mosque, Thanks to Dr. Hafiz Rehman, MD FAAP for his hospitality, a time of celebrating our diverse community. The Reverend Monsignor Seán Gann (St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church), Rev. Wendy C. Modeste (The United Methodist Church of Bay Shore), Rabbi Marvin Demant (The Jewish Center of Bay Shore), Bishop Johncy Itty (St. Peter's Episcopal Church), Rev. Kristian T. Baudler (St. Luke's Lutheran Church), Rev. Daris-Dixon Clark (First Baptist Church), Rev. Brandon Karl Allen (Bethel AME Church), Unitarian Universalist Society, Harriet and Akbar Fishman (The Baha'i Faith) and Elaine Lockwood (Masjid Darul Quran).

## SOUP KITCHEN THANKSGIVING DINNER THANKS

On Thursday November 28<sup>th</sup> community members came together with Bay Shore United Methodist Church to serve over 80 guests the best Thanksgiving Dinner in town - because none of us cooks as well as all of us together! Those in red shirts served in memory of Tyler, a family member who passed at the age of 14.

Thanks to the volunteers (many not pictured) who donated, cooked, served, and provided holiday cheer, and to Ken and the American Legion for hosting the dinner while the Church kitchen is being renovated. Special thanks to Susan Yost for coordinating.



## GREENING THE SANCTUARY

Thank you to everyone who stayed after worship on Sunday, Dec. 1 to help green the sanctuary. So many stayed and helped, and it was complete in under an hour. Thank you so much and wishing everyone a very blessed Advent season!

-Daniel Cafiero, The Worship Committee



## TRUSTEES RESTORATION UPDATE



The Restoration continues; we are in the process of receiving a permit from the Suffolk County Department of Health for the Kitchen. Once the Kitchen and Fellowship Hall are completed, the next phase of work will be the Sanctuary, including the Stained-Glass Windows. The estimate received for the Stained-Glass Windows is \$182,000. Although, we have raised to date \$517,802 – PRAISE THE LORD, we are still in need of funds to complete the whole project of the church and parsonage.

We thank you for your generous giving towards the restoration project. We marvel at all that God has done and is doing among us. We continue to trust and obey God’s leading and direction. Our faith has been challenged and God has proven to be our provider, our Jehovah Jireh.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees

## CHARGE CONFERENCE 2019

The Annual Charge/Church Conference with Rev. Julia Yeon-Hee Yim was held on Sunday, December 8 at Bayport United Methodist Church. The South Shore Cooperative Parish is comprised of eleven churches: Bay Shore; Islip; Patchogue; Sayville; Babylon; Lake Ronkonkoma; Bellport; Bayport; Hauppauge; Central Islip; and First. The message from our D.S. was encouraging and empowering: “I wish you FAT, FAT, JOY.” D.S. Julia led a spirited worship, playing her guitar. “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers and sisters to dwell together in unity!” (Psalm 133:1)



*From left to right:*

D.S. Julia Yim, Pastors: Doug Madlon – Islip; Adrienne Brewington – Babylon; Chuck Ferrara – Patchogue, Wendy Modeste – Bay Shore; Richard Allen – Sayville; Constance Pak – Lake Ronkonkoma; Suhee Kim – Bellport; David Czeisel – Bayport.



*Picture of churches, pastors and lay leaders receiving certificates for 100% paid apportionments.*



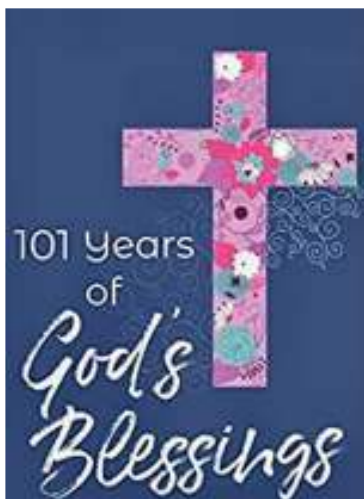
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### CELEBRATING CLARA TROTTA'S 101 BIRTHDAY

Happy 101<sup>st</sup> Birthday to one incredible woman, Clara Trotta! She is a longtime member of our church who has served on numerous committees and groups. Clara, we love you and miss seeing you on Sundays. On behalf of our church, we want to wish you a very special day! May God's grace be with you and may His love surround you on this special day and always!



12/11/2019



12/11/2019

### OUR PRECIOUS GIFTS!



Baptized: July 21, 2019

**Avarie Belle Williams**



Baptized: November 24, 2019

**Julian Caleb Naples**

### JAMES COOPER

**Aug. 21, 1921 – Nov. 11, 2019**



On November 11, 2019, James Cooper peacefully went home to Glory to be with Jesus and to join his beloved Kate. His family and Pastor Wendy surrounded his bed as he took his last breath.

“Dad especially loved his church and Pastor Wendy. When my mom was in the nursing home, dad also fell and broke his hip. When Pastor Lee left, dad hadn't really, gotten to know the new Pastor that well,

but when she came to visit my mom and found out that he was in the hospital, she went to visit him, too. Her visit really impressed him. I think that's when dad really fell to admire the Pastor. Thank you, Pastor Wendy for loving him.” –Jeanne Cooper

## Women's Sharing Group



## Women's Prayer Fellowship

Inviting all women to join us on **Saturday, Jan. 11 at 10 a.m.** at

the Parsonage for our next Women's Sharing Group.

Refreshments will be served. Looking forward to seeing you there!

For further information, please contact Dale Dowd at (631) 745-0334

## SOUP KITCHEN 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 23rd, 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](mailto:umcbs@aol.com). Christmas Dinner Coordinator Tom Wilson at [twilson@brightwaters.com](mailto:twilson@brightwaters.com).

Setup will be between 3:00-4:30pm, serving from 4:30-5:30pm, and cleanup from 5:30-6:00pm. 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.

## CHRISTMAS CAROLING DECEMBER 15TH

We will be caroling Sunday December 15th after Service to members who have difficulty attending Worship. There is no greater gift we can give to these Christian brothers and sisters (and their friends at adult residences) than our presence. You may just find your heart is filled with the spirit of Christmas too. Hoping you can join us.



**PLEDGE DRIVE 2020**

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 2020 – 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. 14	Roy Fager
Dec. 2	William Harbert	Dec. 15	Eleanore Owen, Alyson Lawther
Dec. 3	Jason DiGenaro	Dec. 16	Deborah Carr, Yvonne Sing
Dec. 4	Charles Kirkup, Jr	Dec. 18	Julie Aromi, Doreen Hirsch
Dec. 5	Marvin Allen, Lois Fallon	Dec. 19	Nahseam Seabrooks
	Skyler Hirsch	Dec. 21	Charles Beaudrie, Jack Biondolillo, Jackie Hubschmitt,
Dec. 9	Joan Burvenich	Dec. 25	<b>Jesus of Nazareth</b> (observed)
Dec. 10	Molly Dowd	Dec. 28	Jeannie Aromi, John Witherspoon
Dec. 11	Clara Trotta		
Dec. 12	Audrey Muzzy		

**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](http://bayshoreumc.org)

Pastor’s email: [pastor@bayshoreumc.org](mailto:pastor@bayshoreumc.org) Office email: [umcbs@aol.com](mailto:umcbs@aol.com)



Find us on Facebook: click on the icon on the upper right of our website home page email group: to receive occasional emailed news and notices about the Church, please send a request to be added to [umcbs@aol.com](mailto:umcbs@aol.com).

The SPIRE is published monthly September to June. Deadline for the January issue is December 10<sup>th</sup>. Send news and announcements to Spire Editor Susan Yost at [news@bayshoreumc.org](mailto: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: [umcbs@aol.com](mailto:umcbs@aol.com), Postal: 107 East Main Street, Bay Shore NY 11706

**WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

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



## Bay Shore Day Care and Preschool

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of the Bay Shore United Methodist Church

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631-647-4326 \* [bayshoreumc.org/childcare](http://bayshoreumc.org/childcare)

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*The Spire – DECEMBER 2019*

