



THE SPIRE

The newsletter of the Bay Shore United Methodist Church

The Rev. Wendy C. Modeste, Pastor

SEPTEMBER 2019

PRESSING ONWARD INTO THE FALL SEASON!

It's difficult for us to move forward when we hold on to the things of the past. It becomes a weight and a heavy burden that we drag along, trying to press forward. But the more we press onward, it's the baggage that we don't want to let go of that pulls us backward. We then find ourselves in a stagnant place, frustrated that nothing is happening. God wants us to move forward, letting go of the past.



The apostle Paul declares in his letter to the Philippians that for him to move forward and reach his God-given potential and accomplish the work of the ministry, he cannot dwell on his past mistakes and failures. Yes, he persecuted the believers and even played a role in stoning Stephen, but Jesus called him and changed not only his heart but his name from Saul to Paul.

"Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:13-14)

As a church, God is calling us into a place of newness. We are grateful for the past and all those who labored in building and establishing the ministry that we are experiencing today. God is constantly at work, moving the church forward to greater heights as we build the kingdom of God. Let's not resist where God is leading our small but mighty ministry. We want to be transforming agents in Bay Shore-Brightwaters and beyond.

"Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." (Isaiah 43:19)

Warmly,
Pastor

RESTORATION UPDATE

The work continues, and it's a busy life at church. Alcohol Anonymous (AA) was moved last month from their original space to the Thrift Shop side. The contractors will have uninterrupted access to space under the kitchen for plumbing, electric, etc. The Thrift Shop will move to the former AA side when the kitchen construction is completed.

An overhang was constructed, giving AA easy access. The work in the basement includes fixing the ceiling, painting the ceiling and walls, and creating a utility storage room for ministries supplies. A dehumidifier was installed that drains into a slop sink, so the tank never has to be emptied.

A Cassone container was leased to store the thrift shop items. It is an additional expense, but the contractor refuses to constantly move the items out of his way as he works. The work in the kitchen has begun but we cannot move forward until we receive the permit from the Suffolk Department of Health Services. The work must be according to code. The Fellowship Hall renovations include removing the decommissioned steam radiators, using the space to build storage cabinets. New ceiling tiles and LED lighting will be installed. The Fellowship Hall floor will be refinished after the sanctuary restoration completed. So, the pews will not damage the floors.

We were awarded a \$6,000 grant from The New York Landmarks Conservancy Sacred Sites to engage Joel Snodgrass, an architect with Steward Preservation Society, to work with the contractor in designing the best ways to restore the sanctuary.

We are grateful to all who have contributed to help with the restoration project. As of June 2019, with your generous donations and the community support, we have raised over \$400,000. United Methodist City Society has given a grant of \$100,000. We haven't received the final \$50,000 from Park Avenue United Methodist Church's grant donation as yet. We are continuing to raise funds for the restoration of the interior of the sanctuary and the stained-glass windows, which is estimated to cost \$182,000. So, please prayerfully consider contributing to the cause. All donations earmarked to the restoration fund will be used exclusively for this effort.

David Timmoney
Board of Trustees Chair

HAVE YOU SEEN THESE ARTICLES?

"Prayers, Donations Revive Bay Shore UMC"

Wonderful coverage of our church and capital campaign in "The Vision" - August 2019. The newspaper of the NY Conference by Rev. Joanne S. Utley, Editor.

NYAC.com, [The Vision – August 2019](#)

"Bay Shore Saved by Donations"

Program: CBS2 News At 5 - Jennifer McLogan

<https://newyork.cbslocal.com/video/category/spoken-word-wcbstv/>

"Bay Shore's United Methodist Church raises nearly \$200K for repairs."

By Nicholas Esposito, June 6, 2018

BAYSHORE.GREATERLONGISLAND.COM

"United Methodist Church receives Sacred Sites grant"

Islip Bulletin - by Anthony Perrotta, August 8, 2019

The United Methodist Church of Bay Shore was recently awarded over \$20,000 to help fund an ongoing restoration effort.

In October 2016, Dale Dowd, who has attended the Bay Shore church since she was six, got an urgent early-morning call from Modeste to "come to my office . . . we need to pray." And pray they did, using the book, "Draw the Circle: The 40 Day Prayer Challenge" by Mark Batterson. The pair circled three concerns in prayer: the church leaders, the congregation, and the restoration of the church and parsonage.

When the 40 days were over, they continued to meet each weekday morning to pray, sometimes inviting others to join them. Modeste and Dowd "strongly encouraged all of us to ask God's help through prayer and scripture, which bolstered our morale and efforts," said DeCarbo. "We leaned on each other when there were rejections and setbacks."

[The Vision – August 2019](#)

"Answering Their Prayers: Congregation raises \$350,000 to repair landmark 19th century church"

Newsday Coverage, Friday, May 4, 2019.

By Rachele Blidner

"Congregation puts faith in fundraising to fix Bay Shore oldest church." Newsday.com

WORSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS!

Just a reminder....our Sunday morning worship Service will commence at 10:00 am, starting Sunday, September 8th. If you show up at 9:30 am you can rehearse with the choir. See you then!

**RALLY SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 8th
POTLUCK PICNIC AND FELLOWSHIP!**

Our Annual Rally Day Potluck Picnic & Fellowship will be held on the church lawn following Service. Lots of food, dessert, soft drinks, water are provided at no cost. Bring your family, friends, and come enjoy the end of summer weather on the front lawn. We’re looking forward to seeing you there!



COLLEGE CONNECTION

prayer chains uplifting scriptures
joyful reminders uplifting scriptures
care packages



Our “College Connection” ministry supports our college students as they grow, learn and prepare for exciting careers. We provide a spiritual lifeline to our college students: prayer chains, joyful reminders, uplifting scriptures, and care packages. Please see Linda Napolitano to donate and assist with this ministry. Also, send her your college address.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY!



It is that wonderful time when Sunday school starts. This year will be fun and exciting as we are beginning to use a new curriculum in our one room school house. We have lots of fun games, activities, and stories to learn and excite you all. Our first day is Rally Sunday September 8th. We will meet in fellowship hall and then go upstairs for some fun.

The first Sunday of every month, those children whose parents choose for them to receive communion will meet downstairs.

Those whose parents choose for them not to receive communion will go upstairs to have their children service and story. The teachers are excited to see you all and welcome you back. See you on September 8th!

A PRAYER FOR ALL OUR CHILDREN IN SCHOOL AND IN COLLEGE!

Loving Father in Heaven, bless our children this school year! Watch over them and keep them in your protective arms! Let your grace and mercy abound powerfully in their lives each day. We ask these blessings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Risen Christ! Amen.

WOMEN'S SHARING GROUP!

Calling all our beautiful sisters!
Please join the Women's Sharing Group on Saturday, September 7, 10 a.m. at the Parsonage. Discussing "Hagar's experience of God's grace in her rejected state." (Genesis 16) What can we learn from Hagar's experience? Refreshments are served; a time of sharing, praying and discussing God's Word. Please call Dale Dowd for further information.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY JIM COOPER

On Aug. 19th, we celebrated the 98th birthday of longtime member Jim Cooper. He still makes it to Worship most every Sunday and invites you to join him. We are so blessed to have him in our church family! Have a happy 98th birthday, Mr. Cooper! We love you!

OLDER ADULTS RECOGNIZATION SUNDAY!

On Sunday, May 19th, we recognized and celebrated the five oldest adults in our congregation. **Patricia Abrams - 93**, fell that weekend and was not able to be with us in Worship. Pastor Wendy brought her flowers to Good Samaritan Hospital that Sunday afternoon. She died the following morning. We loved her dearly. Rest in peace, Lady Pat!

Alice Cavalla – 92 attends Sunday services. Alice was an upfront active member for years: lay leader, trustees chair. She's still active behind the scenes. Her favorite Scripture verse is Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

James Cooper – 98, is one of our World War II Veterans; he served from 1943 to 1945. Jim loves attending Sunday Services, and when he misses a Sunday, it upsets his whole week. We love you! Blessings to you for long and healthy life.

Clara Trotta – 100, the oldest member of our congregation. Pastor Wendy and Linda Napolitano visit Clara at least once a month serving her Communion and spending time in Fellowship with her. She loves to reminisce about the days when she was one of the most active members. We love you, Clara! Long and healthy life to you!

Eugene Ufer – 95, Gene holds the longest membership in United Methodist Church of Bay Shore - baptized and raised right here! He served in many of the ministries and has been around long enough to witness many changes in the church. Gene was a Navy Officer in World War II. He was only seventeen when he joined, so young that his mother had to sign for him. Gene cried when he saw the pictures of the restored exterior of the Sanctuary. He said, "I love and respect my church and would ask everyone to spend money to restore it. It is a privilege."



Pat Abrams



Alice Cavalla



Clara Trotta



Gene Ufer



THRIFT SHOP NEWS

The Thrift Shop is an important source of economical clothing and household goods for all in our community. We are open Saturdays 10 am to 1 pm.

The Thrift Shop is closed and undergoing construction. Please send in clean, reusable clothing and household items to stock the shelves. We could also use more volunteers, even one shift every month or two helps out. Please see Christine Hoff, make donations.

BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|----------|--|----------|---|
| Sept. 1 | Erik Udvardia | Sept. 17 | Maureen Guadalupe, Diane Lewis, Justin Wells |
| Sept. 5 | Heidi Fahey, Thomas Madeska | Sept. 20 | Kaitlin Kresse, Edward Meehan |
| Sept. 6 | Irene O'Sullivan, Alice Swetland | Sept. 21 | Emanuel Jones |
| Sept. 7 | Gregory Sassone | Sept. 22 | Edward Owen, Ann Scharfenberg |
| Sept. 9 | McKenzie Dowd | Sept. 24 | Joel DiGenaro, Lucy McCarthy |
| Sept. 10 | Kevin LePrell | Sept. 25 | Pastor Wendy Modeste |
| Sept. 11 | Lecretia Charles, Patrick Dowd, Melissa Yost | Sept. 26 | John Ferraro, Jr. |
| Sept. 12 | George Mack, Jr. | Sept. 27 | Jonathan Bloom, Daniel Antonik |
| Sept. 15 | Raymond M. Allen, Jr., Cynthia Finrock, Rachel Wood | Sept. 28 | Jonathan Hoff, Joseph Calvacca |
| Sept. 16 | Ed Stein | Sept. 29 | Lenora Daniel, Jacqueline Suda |

ANNIVERSARIES

| | | | |
|----------|------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|
| Sept. 8 | Raymond and Dorothy Allen | Sept. 24 | Stephen and Jessica Schmalfuss |
| Sept. 10 | John and Barbara Witherspoon | | |

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: Close for construction

CONNECT WITH BAY SHORE UMC

Website: bayshoreumc.org

Pastor's email: Mwen481@aol.com Office email: UMCBS@aol.com



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 UMCBS@aol.com

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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, Postal: 107 East Main Street, Bay Shore NY 11706

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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 lawn.

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