



# THE SPIRE

The newsletter of the Bay Shore United Methodist Church

The Rev. Wendy C. Modeste, Pastor

March 2016

## The Season of Emptying Ourselves--“Kenōsis”

Many of us this Lenten Season will give up something as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the Resurrection of Christ. The Resurrection speaks of victory and triumph. Resurrection means that a conversion has taken place during these 40 days of Lent. We want to come through renewed and changed, with a different mind-set. What are you giving up during this Lenten Season and is the sacrifice significant enough to bring about a transformation in you?

Christ Jesus sacrificed his life for the freedom and salvation of all humanity—Jesus gave up his life that we might have a renewed life with God the Father. Jesus laid aside his glory—he “emptied” himself; the Greek “transliteration: “to empty, make empty.” (“kenōsis” Lexicon #2758).

Jesus did not give up his deity; he was God and always will be God. But he gave up his privileges: the mighty Creator who created man in God’s own image, now voluntarily humbled himself and made himself in man’s likeness, became a part of his own creation, restricted by time and space and vulnerable to aging, sickness and death. Jesus was humiliated and died a shameful death on the cross to rescue you and me and give us eternal life.

How do we pattern the example of Christ in his obedience, humility and compassion for others? We, Christians, are admonished by the apostle Paul to “No longer be conformed to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of our minds.” (Romans 12:2) It’s not enough to be a Christian, the next step is a renewed mind—a new mindset--an inward spiritual transformation that will manifest itself in our outward behavior.

As Christians, God wants a deeper and more intimate relationship with us. God wants us to spend time with Him in that “Secret place,” a place of solitude, where God can pour out God’s glory on us. We want to move from just being a Christian to being a Christian in a personal-intimate relationship with God.

During this Lenten Season, spend time in prayer. Prayer not only keeps us connected to God, but prayer is a powerful tool that brings us into the presence of the Almighty God. As you give up meat, sweets, television or whatever you chose to sacrifice for this Season of Lent, do it with an understanding, knowing that you are emptying yourself so that you may be filled with God. Then let us come together on Easter Sunday to celebrate His greatest gift: the Resurrection of Christ Jesus.

In His service,  
Pastor Wendy



### EXPANDING THE COMMUNION TABLE

On Feb. 7, the children of our church joined the full congregation for one of our most sacred rituals: communion. About a dozen kids knelt at the rail, where they learned about the meaning of the bread and juice. Pastor Wendy served each child the elements and followed up with a special prayer and individual blessing.

Communion is at the core of our Christian beliefs. The February communion was both a teaching experience and an experiment to include our Sunday School students and teachers in our congregational celebration of The Great Thanksgiving.

--The Worship Committee

### LENT AND HOLY WEEK SERVICES

**LENTEN WORSHIP WITH SUPPER.** During Lent, five Bay Shore Churches join together for Worship every Wednesday evening at 8:00 pm. Before each Service the host church provides a Soup & Sandwich Supper at 7:15 pm.

Please join us in traveling to different parts of God's Universal Church for rewarding fellowship and uplifting messages as we prepare for the resurrection of Christ.

**Wednesday March 2** – at FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH .  
1860 Union Blvd. Bay Shore, New York 11706.  
Text: Matthew 26:57-75. Preacher: Gary Gerth of First Congregational Church.

**Wednesday March 9** – at BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
54 Brook Street Bay Shore, New York 11706,  
Text: Matthew 27:1-31. Preacher: Pastor Wendy Modeste of Bay Shore United Methodist Church.

**Wednesday March 16** – at UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BAY SHORE  
107 East Main Street Bay Shore, NY 11706.  
Text: Matthew 27:32-66. Preacher: Pastor Craig Robinson of Bethel AME Church.

**DISTRICT-WIDE LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICE.** Sunday March 6<sup>th</sup>, 4:00pm.  
at Riverhead United Methodist Church, 204 East Main St, Riverhead NY 11901.  
Preaching: Rev. Adrienne Brewington, District Superintendent.

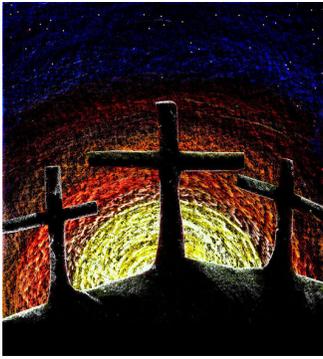
**PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE.** Sunday March 20<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am.  
at United Methodist Church of Bay Shore.

**HOLY THURSDAY WORSHIP SERVICE and SEDER.** Thursday March 24<sup>th</sup>, 8:00pm.  
at Islip United Methodist Church, 350 Main Street, Islip, New York 11751.

**GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE.** Friday March 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:00pm.  
at United Methodist Church of Bay Shore.

**EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP.** Sunday March 27<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am.  
at United Methodist Church of Bay Shore.





### GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE MARCH 25<sup>th</sup>

Plan to attend this moving and meaningful service on Good Friday, March 25, at 8 p.m. at our Church.

Tenebrae is Latin for “shadows” or “darkness.” Scripture readings will relive Christ’s crucifixion, and the music and other powerful symbols will evoke the nails in the cross and darkness that fell over the earth upon Jesus’s death. Members of the congregation who have attended Tenebrae services in the past say the experience is deeply emotional and captures Christ’s suffering and sacrifice.

### SIGN UP FOR THE MARCH 16<sup>th</sup> LENTEN SOUP AND SANDWICH SUPPER

Our Church will be hosting the Lenten Soup and Sandwich Supper at 7:15pm on Wednesday March 16<sup>th</sup>, followed by Lenten Worship at 8:00pm. This is a great chance to meet and break bread with members of other Bay Shore-area churches.

We need cooks to prepare a variety of soups, sandwiches, and desserts, as well as four or five volunteers to set up and help serve. There is a signup sheet in Fellowship Hall or you can sign up by calling or emailing the Church office.

### MAKE AN IMPACT ON THE WORLD AROUND YOU

Please join us for the third meeting of the Impact discussion group, an open, non-political discussion group that aims to offer hope and meaning in a chaotic world. Moderators are the Rev. Dyanne Blair-Pina, a youth and family counselor who is the author of “Stuck in the Past Can Get You Burned.” She is joined by longtime Bay Shore UMC member Dale Dowd, the mother of four daughters who is active in the Bay Shore-Brightwaters Community. The event is sponsored by Bay Shore United Methodist Church, so we hope to see some members of our congregation join the discussion.

Wednesday, March 30, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
Bay Shore-Brightwaters Public Library, 1 South Country Road.

### AN AFTERNOON OF GRAND OPERA AND CLASSIC MUSICAL THEATER

On Sunday March 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm our Music Director Daniel Cafiero will bring an afternoon of beautiful music to our historic sanctuary. Bring your friends and neighbors to a performance that is guaranteed to amaze and delight. Tickets are \$20 each, available at the door, with proceeds benefitting our Music Ministry.

Bay Shore United Methodist Church presents:

## AN AFTERNOON OF GRAND OPERA AND CLASSIC MUSICAL THEATER

a concert to benefit our music ministry

with:  
Suzanne Balaes-Blair  
Daniel Cafiero  
Russell Cusick  
Malinda Haslett  
Eric Malson

Sunday March 13th  
4:00 p.m.

BAY SHORE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
107 East Main Street, Bay Shore, N.Y. 11706

\$20 General Admission

## ADULT FELLOWSHIP

*Adult Fellowship has some fun activities planned for the spring. Below is the lineup from March to May. Come to meet and mix with your fellow congregants – with a little fun and food on the side. Contact Beth DeCarbo (email: [heybeth@optonline.net](mailto:heybeth@optonline.net)) if you have questions or wish to register for any of these activities.*



**MARCH - A Taste of Passover Traditions.** Experience elements of 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 potato kugel, matzo ball soup and gefilte fish.

Date: Sunday, March 6 from 11:30 to 1 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Cost is \$5 per person.

**APRIL - A Museum for Remembrance.** Join Adult Fellowship for a trip to lower Manhattan to see the 9/11 Memorial and Museum. 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 light fare. Note that this trip will involve walking, and venues may have stairs or inclines.

Date: Saturday, April 16.

Cost: Adults: \$51.50

Youths (ages 12-17): \$42.50

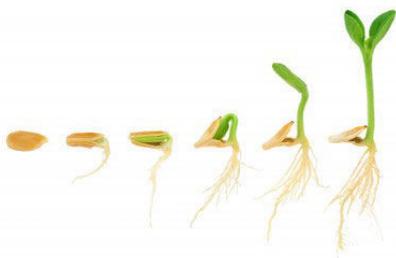
Seniors: \$38.50



Spencer Finch, *Trying To Remember the Color of the Sky on That September Morning*, at the National September 11 Memorial Museum.

The cost does not include the cost of lunch. Self-guided tours and themed itineraries are available at no or low cost. This gathering is open to members of the congregation and their friends ages 12 or older.

**Deadline for registering and payment: March 15** (advance notice required by the museum).



**MAY - Get Your Green Thumb in Gear!** Join Adult Fellowship as we plant starter vegetables, flowers and herb gardens. Participants can create a windowsill garden with rosemary, oregano and other herbs; start seedlings for summertime tomatoes and other veggies; and choose annuals that can be transplanted in the church flower beds. All materials--planting-soil, seeds, fertilizer and containers--will be provided.

Date: to be determined.

Cost: \$5.00, and participants will take their plantings home.

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**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

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March 1	Joseph DiGiovanna, Jeanne Wood	March 24	Delia Berka
March 2	Jasmine Jones	March 26	Leslie Owen, Brandon Robinson, JessicaSchmalfuss, Elizabeth Suda
March 3	Nick DeLuca, Larissa DiPietro,	March 27	Nicholas, Janna & Janel DiGenaro, Joseph Schlamowitz
March 8	Garrett DiPietro	March 28	Karen Lozano
March 15	Jennifer Swetland	March 30	Karl Bocchieri, Patti Booy, Paul Burvenich, James Cameron, Kristin Lechner De Vita
March 16	Brian LePrell, Edward Shirley		
March 17	Karen LePrell, Katrina Jones, Edward Stein		
March 19	Dorothy Miller, Lillian Montemagno		
March 20	Mary Wilson		

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**MARCH ANNIVERSARIES**

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March 8 Gene and Jean Ufer

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**OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER**

Soup Kitchen Thursdays at 4:30 p.m. Thrift Shop Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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**CONNECT WITH BAY SHORE UMC**

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Website: [bayshoreumc.org](http://bayshoreumc.org)

Pastor's email: [pastor@bayshoreumc.org](mailto:pastor@bayshoreumc.org) Office email: [office@bayshoreumc.org](mailto: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](mailto:office@bayshoreumc.org).

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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: [office@bayshoreumc.org](mailto:office@bayshoreumc.org), Postal: 106 East Main Street, Bay Shore NY 11706

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**EASTER LILY ORDER FORM**

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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 return it to Flaye Stahl or the Church Office with a \$10 donation to cover costs.

(Please print all information)

NAME OF DONOR: \_\_\_\_\_

FLOWERS 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!

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

## Bay Shore Day Care and Preschool

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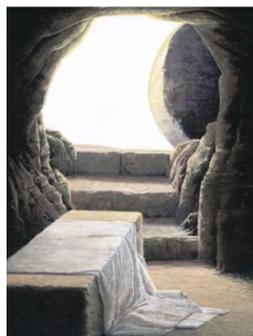
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**He is not here;  
He is Risen  
just as He said.  
-Matthew 28**