



THE SPIRE

The newsletter of the Bay Shore United Methodist Church

The Rev. Wendy C. Modeste, Pastor

September 2016

DON'T LOSE YOUR FAITH

Has it affected your faith, these recent acts of violence across the country? Humanity has a tendency to explode when the pressures of life become unbearable. When rage bursts out into the community, we all experience it. [And when everyone is screaming, it's hard to hear the voice of God.](#)

In his book, *The Prophetic Imagination*, Walter Brueggemann speaks of the inner rage of God's people, sitting by the river and remembering their homeland. They actually prayed to God to cause harm to innocent children. (Psalm 137:7-9) Their outburst of violence was vented to God and not against the community. God, a just and forgiving God, will hear our cries for help. Don't ever lose your faith and your ability to cry out to God in whatever state we may find ourselves. The Psalmist cried out with assurance to God.

Hear my cry, O God; listen to my prayer. From the end of the earth I call to You, when my heart is overwhelmed *and* weak; lead me to the rock that is higher than I [a rock that is too high to reach without Your help]. For You have been a shelter *and* a refuge for me, a strong tower against the enemy. Let me dwell in Your tent forever; let me take refuge in the shelter of Your wings. *Selah. (Psalm 61:1-5)*

[Rather than turn on each other, we should turn to God.](#) Our faith supports and sustains us in difficult times. Let us continue to pray with assurance and conviction, not just for ourselves but for each other. Our faith is strengthened as we come together to hear the preached word, sing hymns and enjoy fellowship.

This month, as our children return to school, let us think about the world we want to create for them. Together, we seek peace. We seek safety. And, yes, we seek God.

Blessings!
Pastor Wendy

CELEBRATING GOD'S CREATION

Over five weeks this summer, children attending Vacation Bible School learned about God's creation. Together we created a tornado, ate dirt cups (yuk!), made birdseed feeders and played games. In our last class, we were superheroes who conquered a Tunnel of Terror and Wall of Flames. Many thanks to the teachers who helped in the classroom and with supplies: Susan Yost, Dot Allen, Jeannie Aromi, Donna Lechner, Christine Hoff and Beth DeCarbo.



THREE GENERATIONS REJOICE!

Long time member John Gunther returned from Arizona in August to join his family for the baptism of grandchild Charlotte Rose Harbin.

WHERE WARM WELCOMES AROUND

Ushering is a vital role within our Church: Fellow congregants and visitors love being greeted by a friendly face and a smile at Sunday Services. Unlike many other positions within the Church, ushering doesn't require any committee meetings or time commitments aside from Sunday worship.

The Worship Committee has worked to simplify and streamline ushering so that it isn't a weekly commitment. So instead of a "head usher," we'd like to appoint a "lead usher" who would serve one Sunday a month. The lead usher would then recruit one or two people from the congregation to help out that week -- something that has gone smoothly over the summer.

We'll provide "on the job training," but the duties basically cover these six things:

1. Arrive early to open the doors, turn on the lights and, if necessary, open one or two windows for ventilation.
2. Pass out bulletins and help anyone who needs extra assistance to their seats.
3. Light the candles on the altar (the younger members of the congregation often volunteer for this duty.)
4. Just before the offering, take a head count of everyone in attendance.
5. If it is the first Sunday of the month, set up the rail for communion and guide congregants, by section, to and from the rail as the elements are served.
6. Extinguish the altar candles at the end of Service, close windows and turn off lights.

There is flexibility with the scheduling, of course, especially over the summer and holiday seasons. Your service would be much appreciated. If you would be available to usher one Sunday per month please contact Beth DeCarbo at heybeth@optonline.net or 631-968-2634.

YOUNG PEOPLE JOIN US FOR COMMUNION

Children's Communion resumes in October. On the first Sunday of each month, kids and the Sunday School teachers are invited to the rail to take communion and receive a pastoral blessing. It's a good way for children to participate in the service and learn about the Lord's sacrifice and resurrection. The table is truly open to all who believe.



SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY DAY

Welcome back!

Sunday School Rally Day will be September 11. We are looking forward to a new and exciting year in Sunday School!

-Susan Yost

POT LUCK PICNIC AND BARBECUE SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11th

Our Rally Day Pot Luck Picnic and Barbecue will be held on the Church lawn after Service on Sunday September 11th. Hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments, paper goods, and cake will be provided. Each family is invited to bring a side dish or beverage to share.



The cost is \$6.00 per family. You can pay at the door. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall, or contact the Church Office (631-666-7194 or office@bayshoreumc.org) by Thursday, September 8th so we know how many people to buy for.

Come and enjoy the summer weather, our beautiful front lawn, and your Church Family as we celebrate one of our great fellowship traditions. Hope to see you there!

CALLING ALL CROONERS (Croakers Welcome, Too!)

Adult Fellowship kicks off on a high note: Later this month, resident trillers Diane Timmony and Regina Schneider are leading us in an afternoon sing-along. Join in as we belt out classic oldies like "Runaround Sue," "Hound Dog" and "Great Balls of Fire." Words and music will be provided, and light refreshments will follow.

When: Saturday, Sept. 24 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Where: Fellowship Hall. Fee: Free

SAY CHEESE!

In October, Adult Fellowship welcomes Frank Salvaggio of Frank & Maria's Italian Pork Store in downtown Bay Shore. Frank is bringing an assortment of imported cheeses for an informative cheese tasting. We'll hear about the origins of the various cheeses and learn how to prepare and serve them in classic Italian dishes. A sampling will follow, with cheeses available for purchase following the tasting.

When: Saturday in October, date and time to be announced Where: Fellowship Hall Fee: \$5
To register: Please see Beth DeCarbo

JUMP START THE HOLIDAYS

Our November Adult Fellowship features master crafter Jean Finfrock, who will show us how to make decorative candlesticks for the holidays. Learn how to turn inexpensive glassware into festive holiday décor that can be displayed or given as gifts.

When: Saturday, Nov. 19 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Where: Fellowship Hall. Fee: \$5
To register: Please see Beth DeCarbo

REPORT FROM ANNUAL CONFERENCE

This year as I prepared for Annual Conference, I reflected on why I enjoy attending. Yes, keeping up with conference events is important, but I like the feeling of being with so many other Methodists.

Conference is a large celebration. There are Bible study classes, excellent sermons, shopping in the Mission booths and at Cokesbury (the publishing house of the UMC).

I attended a group discussion on Asset- Based Community Development in the local church. Our church is already doing most of the ideas that were mentioned, but it was interesting anyway.

The Legislative session that I choose was #4, Leadership/Commissioning. The sessions consist of reading reports and discussion any questions that may arise.

Fred Brewington, one of the Lay Delegates to General Conference, brought us up to date on the events there. We are one of the Conferences who endorse the rights of LGBT persons.

I gathered papers and information for our Mission group and Sunday School. I spoke with former pastors Tom Goodhue and Sungmu Lee. Both send greetings.

Respectfully submitted, Christine Hoff, Delegate to Annual Conference.

BAY SHORE UMC HONORED BY LONG ISLAND HEAD START



This August, Long Island Head Start celebrated their 50th anniversary at Captain Bill's in Bay Shore. The new Early Head Start program was highlighted during the evening, with Bay Shore UMC receiving a framed certificate of appreciation for the successful partnership between Bay Shore Day Care and Preschool (our Childcare ministry) and Head Start. Head Start has also confirmed it will be renewing the partnership for a second year and expanding the program at Bay Shore UMC.

PENNIES FOR PRESERVATION

Many thanks to you who continued to save your change during this hot summer and put it in our preservation container. During July \$20.00 was collected.

We appreciate your efforts and encourage you to continue in your desire to help our church in this way. If you forget your pennies one week don't feel badly about making your contribution the next (just don't go and spend the pennies on something else).

While the jar is called Pennies for Preservation, our pennies are not snobs. They welcome all legal tender to join them just as our congregation is a welcoming one.

Wishing you much joyful contributing – Alice Cavalla.

GET A JUMP START ON CHRISTMAS CRAFTING

On Saturday, Aug. 6, some of the church's hobbyists and crafters gathered with materials and ideas to produce an assortment of goods to sell at the Craft Fair in November. So far we've made tabletop Christmas trees, fabric angels, snowman ornaments, socks and sleeves for sweet treats and sporty necklaces and bracelets.

Would you like to join us for our next "Crafting Klatch"? You can bring materials to make the craft of your choice, or complete a project brought by another crafter. Please contact Donna Lechner or Beth DeCarbo if you're interested, and we'll arrange a date that works for the group.

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, 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
		Sept. 30	Emmanuel Jones

ANNIVERSARIES

Sept. 8	Raymond and Dorothy Allen	Sept. 24	Stephen and Jessica Schmalfluss
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: 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.

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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
Bella Mi Salon
135 East Main Street East Islip NY

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Rev. Wendy C. Modeste, Pastor
Tel: 631-666-7194
www.bayshoreumc.org



Those who wait for the LORD
will gain new strength;
They will mount up with
wings like eagles,
They will run and not get tired,
They will walk and not
become weary.
Isaiah 40:31