



THE SPIRE

The newsletter of the Bay Shore United Methodist Church

The Rev. Wendy C. Modeste, Pastor

January/February 2017

Becoming a Well Oiled Machine!

“Behold, how [wonderful], how [beautiful], when brothers and sisters get along (dwell together in unity)! It is like the precious oil upon the head, coming down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard, coming down upon the edge of his robes. It is like the dew of Hermon coming down upon the mountains of Zion; for there the LORD commanded the blessing--life forever.” -Psalm 133

Charge Conference, held this year on January 7, is another opportunity for us to reflect on our past year's ministry. I am extremely thankful to God for all that we have accomplished in 2016, and for each of you who have given of your time, talents and finances to advance God's plan. Our congregation represents the diversity of our multi-ethnic community and in spite of our differences; we are united because we are stronger together in our unity.

The spirit of unity is that we still maintain our individuality, but in agreement for the good of our church. When all of us work together toward the same goal, it is like that anointing that the Psalmist reminds us of –“the precious oil upon the head ...” God blesses unity and commands the blessing upon us and our church.

One of the areas that we have mastered is having great leadership. We have some of the most committed and dedicated leaders, which is so important in getting the work done. However, our leadership becomes unbalanced when one or two people do more than their share of the work. When leaders suffer exhaustion, burnout is inevitable.

No one person is a leader in every area, so fostering teamwork (and teambuilding) is critical for us to develop this year. Let us work together to share the load and prepare the next generation of leaders. John Maxwell, the leadership guru said, “Teamwork takes leadership and allows it to be what it really needs to become.” When one of our leaders suffers exhaustion, anger and resentment creep in and the ministry suffers. A leader's personal life also suffers, leaving no time for God, family, friends and self care. One of our goals this year is to become a well-oiled machine, in which members of our diverse congregation gather under God's direction and serve with joy.

A very Happy New Year to you and yours!
Pastor Wendy Modeste

PASTOR'S 2017 MINISTRY PLAN

Presented at January 7, 2017 Charge Conference, revised January 29, 2017.

The vision for 2017 remains the same presented at last Charge Conference. We are working toward four areas. It's a process that will take a few years to complete.

1) Restoration of the Sanctuary Building

- "Director of Community Outreach and Capital Campaign," will be responsible for implementing a three-to five-year fundraising campaign for the restoration of the church buildings. The Director will collaborate with community leaders.
- An architect has provided a written facilities report that identifies and prioritizes recommended repairs and maintenance. The report also included photographs to help illustrate his observations and recommendations. The facilities report is useful for us to plan our course of action for restoring the buildings.
- Hiring a General Contractor who will be responsible for overseeing the entire work and obtaining estimates.

2) Increase Membership—

- I believe that once the exterior and interior of the Sanctuary are restored, the appearance of the building will be more inviting to the community.
- Effective, well-balanced, Adult programs and ministries.
- Expand Children, Youth and Young Adult ministries.

3) Strengthen the Spiritual Life of the Church

- **Pastoral Dynamic Preaching and Teaching.**
- **Non-traditional Bible study**—finding other ways to teach the Bible, other than the traditional Wednesday night Bible study. Our congregation prefers Sunday gathering after Worship, rather than a week night. Looking at possible Bible study in increments (six-weeks—with a theme).
- **Empower Fresh (and new) Group of Leaders.**

4) Church and Community Collaboration

- Plans to empower the people we serve by helping them to help themselves. We are a mission-oriented church and have already established effective outreach ministries and programs to the community: Soup Kitchen, Thrift Shop, Christmas and Thanksgiving Dinners; Thanksgiving Food Pantry Collection; Collection for Domestic Violence; gloves and hats for Soup Kitchen guests at Christmas, Christmas Adopt-A-Family, and others.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Year end events, the early January Charge Conference, and a pinched nerve that limits the time the editor can spend at the computer delayed the January Spire until a combined January/February issue seemed the reasonable thing to do. Your Editor apologizes for the delay and will make the best possible efforts to get back on track for March. Please submit material for the March Spire by February 11th. – Tom Wilson, *Spire* Editor.

FALL FOOD DRIVE

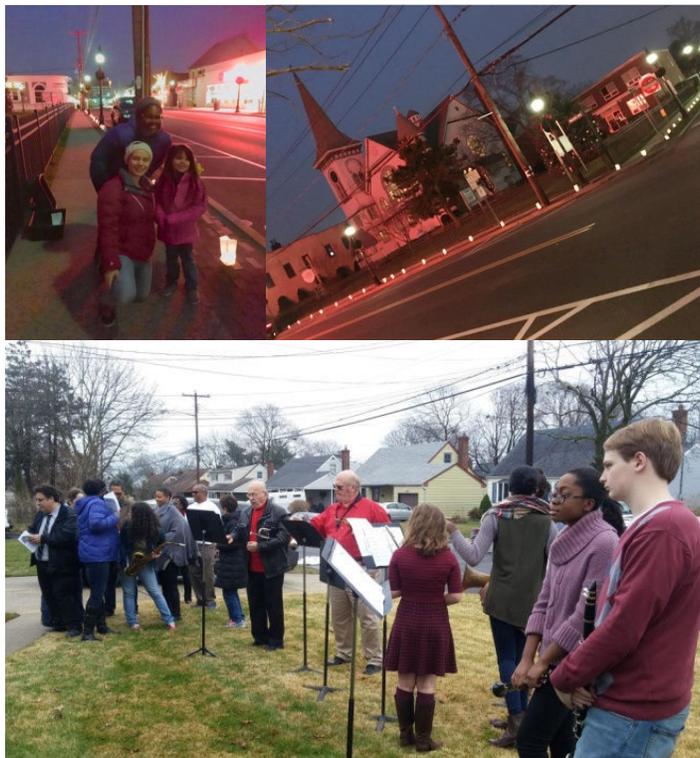
Missions Committee would like to thank all those who donated to the Fall Food Drive and those who worked to send donations to the Bay Shore Food Pantry. - Vida Owusu, Regina Schneider, and Ellen Fager.

LIGHT THE NIGHT AND CAROLING

Thanks to our own Girl Scout Troop 1651 for setting luminaries at our Church for Light The Night and sharing the artsy photos at right.

On Sunday December 18th seven musicians and more than a dozen singers brought the joy of Christmas to people at seven different locations and gave out almost a hundred lyric books as gifts.

Thanks to all those from congregation and community (including Bay Shore High School and Girl Scout Troop 1651) for sharing their time and talents.



SOUP KITCHEN CHRISTMAS DINNER

On Thursday December 22nd our weekly Soup Kitchen expanded to the best holiday dinner in town - because none of us cook as well as all of us! More than fifty guests enjoyed gifts of hats and gloves, a pop-up food pantry courtesy of the Blind Shepherd Fund, a caroling singalong, and an additional full meal packaged for takeout.

Thanks to the donors and volunteers for their generosity. May the joy you shared be returned to you many times in the coming year.

Top left: hat and glove table, middle left: pop up food pantry, bottom: volunteers.



CHRISTMAS BEAUTY



In addition to the beautiful holiday decorations in the Sanctuary, a “Prayer Tree” in Fellowship Hall was hung with prayers handwritten on ornaments by the congregation. Thanks to all who greened the Church on November 27th and de-greened on January 8th.

CATCH THE KRAFTING KLATCH



In January, Adult Fellowship gathered in Fellowship Hall to work on a variety of crafts to incorporate into personal projects and donate for sale at the November Craft Fair. We invite you to join us at the next Krafting Klatch on Saturday February 11th from 2 pm to 4pm. Don't have a craft? Don't worry. Some members will be bringing extra materials and will happily share their techniques. To register, contact Beth DeCarbo or Donna Lechner.

WOMEN'S PRAYER FELLOWSHIP



Women's Fellowship

With the holidays behind us, on January 8th we launched a new season of Women's Fellowship with a prayer circle devoted to sharing and supporting one another. We are learning how women of the Bible responded to challenges in their lives and how we can apply those lessons to how Christians can grow and thrive in the modern world.

Please join us at our next Women's Fellowship gathering: Saturday February 11th at the parsonage, beginning at 10am. Questions? See Pastor Wendy or Dale Dowd.

HAVE ANY EXTRA RIDE-ON TOYS?

Our Childcare needs gently used wheeled toys such as tricycles suitable for three to five year olds. If you have any that your family has outgrown please contact the Church office.



BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|--|---|
| Jan. 2 Ellen Fager, Evan Nock | Jan. 23 David Allen, Alice Cavalla, Michael Falcon |
| Jan. 3 Rashida Charles | Jan. 24 Adwoa Enin, Michael Renwick, Jr. |
| Jan. 5 Ally Sullivan | Jan. 25 Heather Molaro |
| Jan. 4 Shirley Giesler | Jan. 27 Robert Booy II, Steven Hemmerle, Eric Schneider |
| Jan. 6 Fran Vinas | Jan. 28 Dee Navratil, Lynda Ruter, Ginger Sullivan |
| Jan. 11 Doreen B. Enin | Jan. 29 Jacob Fahey |
| Jan. 15 Jacob Sawyer | Jan. 30 Mary Hemmerle |
| Jan. 18 Regina Schneider | |
| Jan. 19 Elijah Smith, Anna S. Hoffman | |
| Jan. 20 Nancy Erale | |
| Jan. 21 Kwaku G. Owusu | |
| Feb. 1 Jennette Hemmerle | Feb. 16 Joyce Bennett, Danielle Keskinen |
| Feb. 2 Christopher Forino, Rocco Gosline | Feb. 20 Charles Finfrock |
| Feb. 3 Patrick Jones | Feb. 21 Alana Aceveda-Guittard |
| Feb. 5 Zachry Abrams, Mark DiGiovanna, Charles Kirkup, Stephen Navratil | Feb. 22 Jameela Charles |
| Feb. 8 Alison Finfrock | Feb. 26 Geri DiGiovanna, Elijah Davis, Bernard Essuman |
| Feb. 10 Cindy Amos, Christopher Hirsch | Feb. 27 Deborah Biondolillo, Michael Lechner, Joyce Stein, Kelly Anne Williams |
| Feb. 12 Dylan Schmalfluss | Feb. 28 John Maniscalco, Aaron King Thomas |
| Feb. 15 John Witherspoon | |

ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Jan. 3 Samuel and Vida Owusu | Feb. 8 William and Susan Yost |
| Jan. 19 Ebenezer and Doreen Enin | Feb. 14 Winston and Heather Charles |
| Jan. 21 Norman and Flaye Stahl | |

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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Send news and announcements to Spire Editor Tom Wilson at 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: 106 East Main Street, Bay Shore NY 11706

Elaine Williams is now at
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