



THE SPIRE

The newsletter of the Bay Shore United Methodist Church

The Rev. Wendy C. Modeste, Pastor

March 2017

THINK SMALL - THEN THINK BIG!

March 1st begins the season of Lent, a time of rebirth and new beginnings. At Bay Shore United Methodist Church, I want you to *think small*. That's right, think small.

Some of the most meaningful moments in the New Testament occurred when only a few people were present. Think about Jesus as a boy, sitting in the temple and teaching the rabbis. Elsewhere, we learn about Jesus visiting the home of Martha and Mary. Later, Jesus and a handful of others went to the tomb of Lazarus, where Jesus raised his beloved friend from the dead.

Small group gatherings allow us to connect with each other in ways that go far beyond casual friendship. Late last year we began a Women's Prayer Fellowship, a ministry that encourages both meaningful relationships with each other and a deeper faith in God. In the coming year, we will create opportunities for our youth to gather, to share, and to support one another as well. My dream is to see the men's fellowship reborn, too. Is God calling you to make these deeper connections? Is 2017 the year we commit ourselves and fully engage in the church and its ministry?

Now, I'd like you to think big. I'm asking each of you to pray that the church's finances will stabilize and grow in ways that allow us to draw up big plans for our future. The Church's childcare ministry is expanding significantly, and the Trustees are applying for grants that, with God's help, will enable us to undertake long-needed repairs and improvements. With additional resources, Bay Shore United Methodist can think big about our ministries and role in the community. Is God calling you to help shape our future? Is this the time we commit to improving our church and our community in amazing new ways?

As you think about the coming year, I ask you to put Bay Shore United Methodist Church on your list of resolutions. How can we better ourselves and our church in ways that will impact future generations?

"May the Lord, maker of heaven and earth, bless you ..." –Psalm 134:3

Lenten Blessings!

Pastor Wendy

A CRAFTERNOON OF FELLOWSHIP



It was cold outside, but Bay Shore United Methodist Church crafters were cozy and chatty in Fellowship Hall. The January and February "Crafternoons" attracted veteran and novice crafters alike. Projects included cross-stitch, crochet, matchbox memories and "Hymn-spirations" on canvas. Much of our handwork will be saved and sold at the November Craft Fair.

Join us on March 11 for our next crafting klatch. Bring a project or work on one with someone else. We'll meet in Fellowship Hall from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. See Beth DeCarbo or Donna Lechner if you have questions.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



I would like to thank everyone who donated to our Souper Bowl Sunday. We were able to donate \$134.00 to the soup kitchen and food pantry along with food items. Great job!

I would like to mention also that the Sunday school will once again be collecting candy and plastic eggs for our Palm Sunday Egg Hunt. There will be a donation box in fellowship hall in the month of March. The Easter Egg hunt will be on Palm Sunday April 9th. Thank you - Susan Yost

CHILDCARE REPORT

WE ARE GROWING! Two new classrooms have just opened and are filling fast.

There are just two spots left for Early Head Start (18 to 36 months). We have a few spots for full or part time Day Care and morning preschool for ages 3 to 5.

Please recommend our childcare to your friends and neighbors with small children: Facebook users please "like" Bay Shore Day Care and Preschool to help get the word out about our quality non-sectarian community service childcare ministry.



Valentine's Week Craft

LENT



ASH WEDNESDAY Worship. Wednesday March 1, 7:30pm at Islip United Methodist Church, 350 Main Street, Islip.

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.



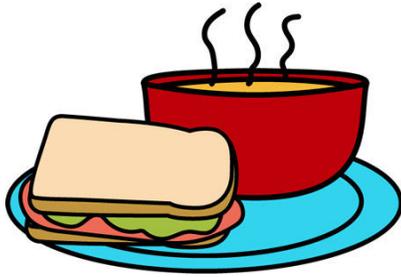
March 8 – UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF BAY SHORE – 107 East Main St.
Text: "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do." Gospel of Luke 23:34
Preacher: Pastor Daris Dixon-Clark of the First Baptist Church of Bay Shore.

March 15 - FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH – 1860 Union Blvd.
Text: "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." Gospel of Luke 23:43
Preacher: Pastor Kris Baudler of St. Luke's Lutheran Church.

March 22 – FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH – 175 Second Ave.
Text: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Matthew 27:46 and Mark 15:34
Preacher: Pastor Wendy Modeste of Bay Shore United Methodist Church.

March 29 – BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH – 32 Brook St.
Text: "I thirst." Gospel of John 19:28; "They put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop and put it up to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, 'It is finished;' and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit." Gospel of John 19:29-30
Preacher: Pastor Gary Gerth of First Congregational Church.

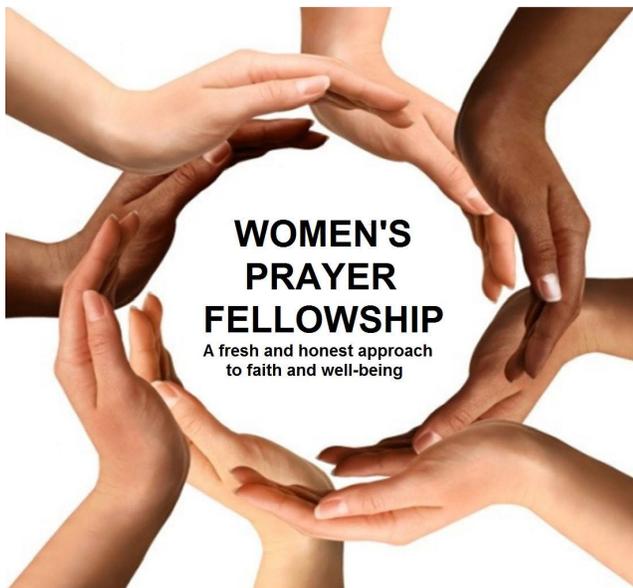
SIGN UP FOR THE MARCH 8th LENTEN SOUP AND SANDWICH SUPPER



Our Church will be hosting the Lenten Soup and Sandwich Supper at 7:15pm on Wednesday March 8th, 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.

LIFE LESSONS FROM THE WOMEN'S PRAYER FELLOWSHIP



Read: John 4:1-26, the story of the woman at the well,

Reflect: The woman at the well had no name, and she was far from perfect. She was also doing her chores at noon – the hottest time of the day. And yet, after talking to Jesus, she went back to her village and told the people: “Come see a man who knew all about the things I did, who knows me inside and out. Do you think this could be the Messiah?” And they went out to see for themselves.

Act: How are you using your everyday encounters – sometimes with strangers – to show God’s love and share the Good News?

Pray: *O, Lord. Let me be a messenger for you, that I will be an example of faith and righteousness each and every day.*

Come: Women of the church -- and friends! -- are invited to join us on March 18 at the parsonage, where we'll discuss other women in the Bible. The gathering starts at 10 a.m., and refreshments will be served. If you have questions, see Pastor Wendy or Dale Dowd.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|----------|---|----------|--|
| March 1 | Joseph DiGiovanna, Jeanne Wood | March 24 | Delia Berka |
| March 2 | Jasmine Jones | March 26 | Leslie Owen, Brandon Robinson, Jessica Schmalfuss, 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 | | |

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

March 8 Gene and Jean Ufer

Please contact the Church Office to add your birthday or anniversary to our list.

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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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

EASTER LILY ORDER FORM



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 APRIL 2! Thank you!

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

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of the Bay Shore United Methodist Church

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