



# THE SPIRE

The newsletter of the Bay Shore United Methodist Church

The Rev. Wendy C. Modeste, Pastor

APRIL 2017

## THE JOURNEY OF FAITH

During this season of Lent, we are journeying with Jesus to the cross. It's not as somber as it sounds because we are looking forward to Easter Sunday morning. *"Hallelujah, Jesus is alive. Death has lost its victory and the grave has been denied. Jesus lives forever."*

Ours is a journey of faith; that's what God requires of us. "But without faith it is impossible to walk with God and please God, for whoever comes near to God must necessarily believe that God exists and that God rewards those who earnestly and diligently seek God." (Hebrews 11:6)

We are a people of faith. We have confidence and belief in God whom we cannot see; yet, we know that God exists. Our faith gives us the ability to know God. Like the prophets and people of the Old Testament, we know God during our most difficult times.

In Genesis 16 is the story of Hagar, Abraham and Sarah. In antiquity, a barren wife could give her maid to her husband to produce a child – a surrogate wife. It has been 10 years since God promised Abraham and Sarah an offspring. So, they decided to take matters into their own hands. Sarah gave Hagar, her maid, to her husband, Abraham, as a surrogate wife. "So, Abram had sexual relations with Hagar, and she became pregnant."

When Hagar knew that she was pregnant, she began to treat her mistress with contempt. Sarah dealt with Hagar so harshly that she finally ran away. In the midst of her misery, Hagar, alone, doesn't know what to do or where to go. God showed up. Even when we make a mess of our situations, God still has our backs. The angel spoke to Hagar, calling her by her title, "Sarah's servant." The angel admonished her to return to her mistress and submit to her. From that day, thereafter, Hagar knew God by another name: "El Roi, the God who sees" me in my difficulties.

Is your faith alive as we journey through this Lenten season? Do you believe that God sees you in your struggles and is there to provide for your every need? How do you call God, Jehovah Jireh—the God who provides or Jehovah Rapha—the God who heals? What is your name for God? Let's bring our faith alive and believe that the God who exists is also the God who sees us and comes to our rescue.

On the Journey of Faith!  
Pastor Wendy



### SERVING UP LOVE

Thanks to all of you who made the Lenten Soup & Sandwich Supper and Service a big success. In all, we hosted more than 70 people who enjoyed a rousing sermon and beautiful music directed by Daniel Cafiero.

In this holy season, it was wonderful to share our many blessings with other members of the community.

- The Worship Committee

### CALLING ALL CRAFTERS

Adult Fellowship gathered on March 18 for an afternoon of crafting. Together, we made gift bags that will be sold at the November Craft Fair, as well as other fun projects.

Our next crafting klatch will be on Saturday, April 29th from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

In the future, we plan to make scented bath salts and potpourri sachets, as well as birdseed Christmas tree ornaments. There's something fun for all skill levels. It's also a great afternoon of fellowship.



### WOMEN'S PRAYER FELLOWSHIP

Women of the church -- and friends! -- are invited to join us on April 22nd at the parsonage, where we'll discuss women in the Bible and how their experiences relate to the challenges in our lives today. The gathering starts at 10 a.m., and refreshments will be served. If you have questions, see Pastor Wendy or Dale Dowd.

### THRIFT SHOP – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our Thrift Shop operates Saturdays from 10am to 1pm, providing clothing and household goods to the less fortunate in our community. If you can serve this ministry even once every couple of months it would be a great help to our dedicated cadre of volunteers. For more information please see Thrift Shop coordinator Chris Hoff.

### 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.

There is one last Lenten Worship this year on **Wednesday April 5th** – at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 3 Lawrence Lane. Gospel of Luke 23:46. Preacher: Pastor Craig Robinson of Bethel AME Church.





**PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE.** Sunday April 9<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am at Bay Shore UMC. The children will bring palm leaves to the altar during the Worship Service. The Sunday School will host an Easter Egg hunt.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP SERVICE.** Thursday April 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm at Bay Shore UMC. This service commemorates the day that Jesus celebrated the Last Supper with his disciples.

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE.** Friday April 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm at Islip UMC, 350 Main Street, Islip, New York.

**EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP.** Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am at Bay Shore UMC. Join us as we celebrate the resurrection of our savior. The sanctuary will be abloom in spring flowers, the music will be inspiring and uplifting, and the message will be one of hope and joy.

**BIRTHDAYS**

April 1	Nicolle Costa	April 19	Mathew Allen, Gail Moore
April 2	Dale Dowd, Bud Ruter	April 22	Gina Marie Biondolillo
April 3	Sean Sawyer	April 23	George Mack, Anyel Maritza Pinto
April 4	Randall Kane, Diane Stead	April 24	Juliana Fenton
April 7	Susan Arrigo	April 26	Brian Hoffmann, Stephen Munoz, Marjorie Myers
April 8	Maureen Aromi, Barbara Witherspoon	April 27	Beth DeCarbo, Richard O'Sullivan
April 9	Kevin Sharfenberg	April 28	Peggy Figliuolo, Robert Nickels, Pat Riedel
April 11	Alexandra Mayer	April 29	Robert Warren, Halley Low
April 13	James Markey, Tim Stein	April 30	Jean Finfrock
April 14	Donald Conste		
April 18	Hannah Gonzalez, Gene Ufer		

**ANNIVERSARIES**

April 4	Joseph & Eileen DiGiovanna	April 26	Charles & Jean Finfrock
April 15	Michael & Susan Arrigo	April 27	Michael & Lilyan Harrington

*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](http://bayshoreumc.org)

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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).

The SPIRE is published monthly September to June. Deadline for the May issue is April 10<sup>th</sup>. Send news and announcements to Spire Editor Tom Wilson at [news@bayshoreumc.org](mailto: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](mailto:office@bayshoreumc.org), Postal: 106 East Main Street, Bay Shore NY 11706.

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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*The Spire – April 2017*

