

# **Bellport United Methodist Church**

**185 S. Country Rd., Bellport, N.Y. 11713 631-286-0525**

**January 5, 2025**  
**“Live in the Light”**



**Welcome!**

**The Bellport UMC family welcomes visitors from all backgrounds. You are invited to join us for our fellowship hour following the service. For childcare, large print hymnals, or directions to our accessible access (elevator), please see any of our ushers. Our current newsletter and church brochure with upcoming events are available in the Entrance Area and Fellowship Hall. We hope you will feel God’s presence with us, and we invite you to join us again. We invite members and guests to sign in at the Entrance Area. Thank you!**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### IMPORTANT CHURCH MEETINGS

Women's Bible Study: Mondays at 7:00 PM, at the home of Ellen Horn

Men's Bible Study: Every Monday at 12:15 PM. On Zoom

Men's Breakfast: 2nd Saturdays (1/11, 9:00 AM) at the Church

Bell Choir: Thursdays at 6:15 PM

Choir for Worship: Thursdays at 7 PM, Sundays at 9 AM.

Church Council Meeting: 1/21, 7:30 PM, Zoom.

Finance Committee: 1/7, 7:00 PM, Wesley House

Trustee Meeting: 1/8, 7:30 PM, Wesley House

Staff Pastor Parish Relationship: TBD

Worship Team & Ushers Meeting: 2nd Sundays at 8:45

Stewardship Committee:

Outreach: TBD

😊 **Thank you for your Food Pantry Donations;** the Drop Box is available.

- **Please Sign Up for Coffee Hour** in the Sign-Up Sheet. Thank You!
- **The Thrift Shop** is closed for the winter. The Thrift Shop will reopen in the second week of February 2025, weather permitting.

**The Epiphany of Our Lord**

Reverend Matthew Querns, Pastor

Lynn Hoag, Director of Music

Ellen Horn, Liturgist

**Welcome visitors. Please sign our Guest Book!**

*(All are invited to stand if comfortable doing so, where the \* appears)*

**GATHERING THOUGHTS**

*“There's nothing better [than] when something comes and hits you and you think, 'YES!'” – J.K. Rowlings*

**ENTERING INTO THE PRESENCE**

**♪ PRELUDE & QUIET MEDITATION**

**WELCOME (page 1) & ANNOUNCEMENTS (page 2)**

**♪ BRING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

**♪ INTROIT**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL CENTERING**

Leader: Today, with the coming of the Wise Ones, we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed.

**People: We would all do well to be very attentive to this!**

Leader: As a lamp shines in a dark place,

**People: Until the day dawns and the morning star rises in our hearts.**

**All: Let the message long foretold be one that brings us from far and wide to honor the child of God with our gifts of love.**

**♪ Opening Hymn: (UMH) #254 *We Three Kings***

**\*PASSING THE PEACE-** Conclude by singing (UMH) #666 *Shalom to You*

*“Shalom to you now, shalom my friends,  
May God’s full mercies bless you, my friends,  
In all your living and through your loving,  
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.”*

# OPENING TO THE PRESENCE



## Gathering Prayer

**God, radiance of faithful souls, You brought the nations to Your light and the magi to the brightness of Your birth. Fill the world with Your glory and show Yourself to the nations; through Him who is the truest light. Forgive us when we put the Messiah last in our lives. Just like those first star seekers, let us ask ourselves: what do we bring the Christ-child? Let us all bring ourselves!**

## **MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER**

## **WORDS OF GRACE**

**Ministry of Music**

*Three Kings in Splendor*

by Douglas Wagner

## **Moments for Children/ The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in Heaven hallowed be your name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen**

## **CALL TO PRAYER (UMH) (TFWS) #2215 *Cares Chorus***

*"I cast all my cares upon you,  
I lay all of my burdens down at your feet,  
And anytime, I don't know what to do,  
I will cast all my cares upon you."*

## **GOD SIGHTINGS, JOYS & CONCERNS (page 7)**

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

**CHRISTMAS HYMN: (UMH) #245**

*The First Noel*

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6 (NRSV)** Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup> For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. <sup>3</sup> Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. <sup>4</sup> Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses'

arms. <sup>5</sup> Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. <sup>6</sup> A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

**SECOND READING: Matthew 2:1-12 (NRSV)** In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.’ <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup> “And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.”’ <sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.’ <sup>9</sup>When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt-down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

For the Word of God in scripture  
For the Word of God among us,  
For the Word of God within us,  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON:**

*Live in the Light*

Pastor Matthew Querns

**SERMON CHALLENGE:** This week let us remember while there may be much darkness, we are people of the Epiphany- which means we are people of the light. Let us all shine brightly, so those people who still need love may see us shining.

# **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

## **WORSHIPPING WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

### **\*DOXOLOGY (UMH) #94**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise God, all creatures here below;*

*Alleluia, Alleluia.*

*Praise God, the source of all our gifts.*

*Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts.*

*Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit.*

*Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

## **SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**Invitation and Great Thanksgiving**

**Prayer after Sharing**

**Eternal God, we give thanks for this holy mystery in which You have given Yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of Your Spirit to give ourselves to others in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

## **WESLEYAN COVENANT PRAYER: (UMH) #607**

**\*SENDING HYMN: (TFWS) #2095**

*Star Child*

## **BENEDICTION**

## **CHORAL RESPONSE**

## **POSTLUDE**

January 12th's Sermon: *A Tale of Two Baptisms*

– Isaiah 43:1-7, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

**JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR FELLOWSHIP.  
THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US.  
PLEASE, COME BACK ANYTIME!**

CHURCH SERVICE: Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

CHURCH OFFICE: Monday - Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

TELEPHONE: 631-286-0525

CHURCH WEBSITE & SUNDAY BULLETIN: [www.umcbellport.org](http://www.umcbellport.org)

CHURCH EMAIL: [bellportumc@optimum.net](mailto:bellportumc@optimum.net)

ZOOM MEETING LINK: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6312860525>

DIAL BY PHONE: 16465588656 then 6312860525#

PASTOR: Rev. Matthew Querns, 845-208-1405, [matthew.querns@nyac-umc.com](mailto:matthew.querns@nyac-umc.com)

MUSIC: Lynn Hoag & Choir, PIANO: Dan Fogel

COFFEE HOUR: The Congregation

USHERS: Bruce Groh, Bill Morse, and Youth

YOUTH & CHILDREN: Lori Labalsamo and Bill Morse

TECHNOLOGY: Barbara Pannhurst and Bill Lang

CHURCH FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/bellportmethodist.church.5>

PRESCHOOL: 631-286-2498, [www.BellportPreschool.com](http://www.BellportPreschool.com)

THRIFT SHOP: 631-286-0746, <https://www.facebook.com/Umcbellportfiddlersgreen>



### **Prayer List (Please email/contact the office or the Pastor)**

**Sympathy Prayers** for Mary Scott and family on the passing of her daughter, Josephine Pond, The family of Jean Barone. The Barton family on the passing of Mark Barton.

**Prayers:** Rescue and recovery for victims of natural disasters & wars, Peace of the World, Revival of the Church, Prayers for healing and strength: Rachel Langert and her father, Lois Barton (The Bristol, Sayville), Joe Harder (Jr.), Jack Antos & the family, the Downs family, Tess Mouquin, Peter & Barbara Berman (Village Walk at Patchogue), Doris Lundegard, Kristin Quatrone, Donna and Carl Catandella, the Vanderzalm family, Lillian Muttitt and the family, Dorothy Vogel and the family, Prayers for Young Adults including: Andrew, Ethan, Amy and Seann, Shelby, Derek, Diana, Oliver, David and Samuel, and all Church affiliated people.

**Prayers for COOP Churches (Cooperative Parish):** United Methodist Churches of South Shore, & UM churches/ All the churches worldwide

# Stewardship

*All things are possible with God*



Devote Time



Share Talent



Give Treasure



*A way of life*

## Lord's Day Attendance: 12/29/2024

ADULT S	CHILDREN	ZOOM	FACEBOOK	YOUTUBE	GUESTS	TOTAL
34	4	N/A	N/A	N/A		38

## Abundant Blessings for Offerings: 12/29/2024

Current/ (Pledge, Tithes)	Loose Envelopes	Christmas Donation	
\$2,007.	\$70.	\$175.	\$.
Building Fund & Use	Special Thanks/ Benevolence		Total
\$420.	\$180.	\$.	\$2,852.

**Send Offering Checks By Mail:**

**“Bellport United Methodist Church”**

**PO Box 460, Bellport, NY 11713**

**By ZELLE: [bellportumc@optimum.net](mailto:bellportumc@optimum.net), Tel: 631-205-4050**