

Bellport United Methodist Church

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

February 23, 2025

“Don’t Forget to Have Fun”

*Eat
Drink
and be
Merry*

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!

February 23, 2025

9:30 AM

Seventh Sunday After Epiphany

Reverend Matthew Querns, Pastor

Lynn Hoag, Director of Music

Kathleen Wells, Liturgist

Welcome visitors. Please sign our Guest Book!

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

GATHERING THOUGHTS

“Have fun, because that is what life is all about.” — Ryan Lochte

ENTERING INTO THE PRESENCE

♪ **PRELUDE & QUIET MEDITATION**

WELCOME (page 1) & ANNOUNCEMENTS (page 2)

♪ **BRING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

♪ **INTROIT**

***CONGREGATIONAL CENTERING**

Leader: Lent is coming; we are preparing for a time of spiritual transformation.

People: But first, before we move into a more serious and somber season,

Leader: Let us all remember one very important truth about life;

People: life is an adventure, and we should never be afraid to have fun!

♪ **Opening Hymn: (TFWS) #2082** *Woke Up This Morning*

***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

God of excitement, many Christian holiday seasons are serious times of deep introspection, where we dig down to allow the spirit of God to work within us to reshape exactly who we are; to make us more holy. Sometimes, we can get so overwhelmed by the somberness of the faith, that we forget that at its core, God wants us to have fun, to enjoy life. Dear Lord, before we get serious in Lent, allow us to remember to eat, drink, and be merry. You command it!

MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF GRACE

Ministry of Music *Halle, Halle, Halle* arr. by Hal H. Hopson

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 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 (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 (pages 7)

PASTORAL PRAYER

SONG OF FUN: (UMH) #333 *I'm Goin'a Sing When the Spirit Says Sing*

HEARING THE WORD

FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 1:1-10, 8:14-15 (NRSV)

The words of the Teacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem. ² Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. ³ What do people gain

from all the toil at which they toil under the sun? ⁴ A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever. ⁵ The sun rises and the sun goes down, and hurries to the place where it rises. ⁶ The wind blows to the south, and goes round to the north; round and round goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns. ⁷ All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the streams flow, there they continue to flow. ⁸ All things are wearisome; more than one can express; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, or the ear filled with hearing. ⁹ What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done; there is nothing new under the sun. ¹⁰ Is there a thing of which it is said, 'See, this is new'? It has already been, in the ages before us. ¹⁴ There is a vanity that takes place on earth, that there are righteous people who are treated according to the conduct of the wicked, and there are wicked people who are treated according to the conduct of the righteous. I said that this also is vanity. ¹⁵ So I commend enjoyment, for there is nothing better for people under the sun than to eat, and drink, and enjoy themselves, for this will go with them in their toil through the days of life that God gives them under the sun.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21(NRSV) For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore, all have died. ¹⁵ And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. ¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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:

Don't Forget to Have Fun

Reverend Matthew Querns

SERMON CHALLENGE: This week, let us remember that even though Lent is coming, and it is a serious time, we must never forget God's call to enjoy life!

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

***SENDING HYMN: (UMH) #404**

Every time I Feel the Spirit

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

March 3's Sermon: "Transfigured and Transformed" –

Exodus 34:29-35; Luke 9:28-36

JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR FELLOWSHIP.

THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US.

PLEASE, COME BACK ANYTIME!

CHURCH SERVICE: Sundays at 9:30 AM
CHURCH OFFICE: Monday - Thursday, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.
TELEPHONE: 631-286-0525
CHURCH WEBSITE & SUNDAY BULLETIN: www.umcbellport.org
CHURCH EMAIL: 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
MUSIC: Lynn Hoag & Choir, PIANO: Dan Fogel
COFFEE HOUR: Ellen Horn & Harold Daus
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
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. To the Antos family on the passing of Jack (John) Antos.

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.), the Downs family, Tess Mouquin, Peter & Barbara Berman (Village Walk at Patchogue), Doris Lundegard, Kristin Quatrala, Donna and Carl Catandella, the Vanderzalm family, Lillian Muttitt and the family, Dorothy Vogel and the family, Paul Herbst and Roseann Hannafey. 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: 2/16/2025

ADULTS	CHILD REN	ZOOM	FACEBO OK /YOU TUBE	GUESTS		TOTAL
28	3	5	71			113

Abundant Blessings for Offerings: 2/16/2025

Current/ (Pledge, Tithes)	Loose Envelopes	UMCOR	
\$550.	\$21.	\$	
Building Fund & Use	Special Thanks/ Benevolence	Souper bowl	Total
\$.	\$.	\$236.	\$807.

Send Offering Checks By Mail:

“Bellport United Methodist Church”

PO Box 460, Bellport, NY 11713

By ZELLE: bellportumc@optimum.net, Tel: 631-205-4050