

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

**March 30, 2025**

**“Coming of Age with the Pigs”**

**Growing  
In Faith**



**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

Bible 101 Bible Study: Wednesdays at 11am or 1pm, in the Wesley House, with Zoom option.

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

Men's Bible Study: Mondays and Fridays at 3:00 PM on Zoom.

Men's Breakfast: 2nd Saturdays: 4/12, 9:00 AM at the Church

Bell Choir: Thursdays at 6:00 PM

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

Church Council Meeting: 5/20, 7:30 PM, Zoom.

Finance Committee: 5/6 or 5/13, 7:00 PM, Wesley House

Trustee Meeting: 4/9, 7:00 PM, Wesley House

Staff Pastor Parish Relationship: TBD

Worship Team & Ushers Meeting: TBD

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 open on Tuesday, Fridays, and Saturdays, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.
- **Outreach Meeting:** April 6th, 11:00 AM, Smith Room.
- **Lenten Services:**
  - Maundy Thursday: April 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM, Sanctuary.
  - Good Friday: April 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM, Sanctuary. A 24-hour Vigil will begin at 8:00 pm on Maundy Thursday, and end at 7:00 pm on Good Friday. Pastor Matthew is asking for volunteers to assist with the Vigil.

**\*\* Just a Reminder:** Anyone using space on the BUMC campus, such as the Community Room, on a regular basis must complete a "Building Use Request Form" for approval by the Building Use Committee. A "Certificate of Liability Insurance" form must also be submitted for our records.

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 30, 2025

9:30 AM

Reverend Matthew Querns, Pastor

Lynn Hoag, Director of Music

Scott Munson, Liturgist

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

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

### **GATHERING THOUGHTS**

*“When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways.” – 1 Corinthians 13:11*

### **ENTERING INTO THE PRESENCE**

#### **♪ PRELUDE & QUIET MEDITATION**

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

**♪ BRING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

**♪ INTROIT**

#### **\*CONGREGATIONAL CENTERING**

**Leader:** Like a shepherd who searched for a lost sheep, so God seeks lost souls. Like the woman who searched for her lost coin, so God rejoices over a restored.

**People:** Like the father who received a returning wayward son as an honored guest, so does God welcome us and lets the past be the past.

**♪ Opening Hymn: (UMH) #384 (v1-3) Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

**\*PASSING THE PEACE- (UMH) #431 Let There Be Peace on Earth.”**

*“Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me; let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be. With God our creator, children all are we. Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now. With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow: To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally. Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.”*

### **OPENING TO THE PRESENCE**



#### **Gathering Prayer**

**God of change, with each step in life, it feels like there is a great leap back. Yet, the journey must be taken for our sake and the world's. Lord, teach us**

**and nourish us, so we may be self-sufficient in faith and life. As our spiritual maturity grows, let us have the strength to offer ourselves to others. Grace, love, and mercy are cycles begun by Your hand and continued in us. When we needed food, You fed us; when we needed a home, You housed us; when we ran, You found us. Teach us to do the same in Jesus' name to others.**

## **MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER**

### **WORDS OF GRACE**

**Ministry of Music (See insert)      *God Has Work for Us To Do***

by Mark A. Miller

## **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 (page 7)**

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

**SONG OF LOVE: (UMH) #292      *What Wondrous Love Is This***

## **HEARING THE WORD**

**FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12 (NRSV)** The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.' And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. 10 While the Israelites were encamped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. 11 On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. 12 The manna ceased on the day

they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

**SECOND READING: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 (NRSV)** Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, ‘This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.’ <sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>11</sup> Then Jesus said, ‘There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, “Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.” So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>But when he came to himself he said, “How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.’” <sup>20</sup>So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>Then the son said to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.” <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his slaves, “Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!” And they began to celebrate. <sup>25</sup> ‘Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>He replied, “Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.” <sup>28</sup>Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup>But he answered his father, “Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!” <sup>31</sup>Then the father said to him,

“Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.” ’

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:**            *Coming of Age with the Pigs*            Reverend Matthew Querns

**SERMON CHALLENGE:** This week, let us remember we must challenge and grow our faith, and as we do, let us remember that with challenge comes spiritual freedom, strength, and joy. The more we grow faith, the more sense life makes.

### **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:** (See insert) #3101

*Love Lifted Me*

#### **BENEDICTION**

#### **CHORAL RESPONSE**

#### **POSTLUDE**

**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](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: Darice & Bill Lang

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 Anna McClure on the passing of her cousin, Ernest (Ernie) Sykes. 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: For Mary Scott's recovery. 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 Lundgaards, Kristin Quatrале, Donna and Carl Candela, the Vanderzalm family, Lillian Muttis and the family, Dorothy Vogel and the family, Paul Herbst and Roseann Hanafi. 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: 3/23/2025

ADULTS	CHILD REN	ZOOM	FACEBO OK /YOU TUBE	GUESTS		TOTAL
30	3	4	84			121

## Abundant Blessings for Offerings: 3/23/2025

Current/ (Pledge, Tithes)	Loose Plate	Methodist Men	
\$247.	\$127.	\$.	
Building Fund (Use)	Special Thanks/ Benevolence		Total
\$.	\$.	\$.	\$374.

**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**