



Bellport United Methodist

CHURCH LIFE

www.umcbellport.org



Church Life, a newsletter for the Bellport United Methodist Church membership and friends, is produced 4 times each year under the administration of Rev. Lydia Han and Editor John Hannon. If you wish to have your name removed from this mailing list, please call, or write to the church office. Church Life is also available in PDF on our website.

Contacts:

Church Office: (631)286-0525
 Preschool Program: (631)286-2498
 Thrift Shop: (631)286-0746
 Church Website: www.UMCBellport.org
 Email Address: BellportUMC@optimum.net

Preschool Website
www.BellportPreschool.com
 Bellport United Methodist Church
 PO Box 460, Bellport, NY 11713

Church Office Hours
 Tuesday - Friday, 9am - 1pm
(Please call before coming)

Pastor: Rev. Lydia Han

Office Coordinators: John Hannon &
 Paulette Renna

Minister: All the Members

Lay Leader: William Morse

Lay Servants: Tom Bracken,
 William Morse, Scott Munson,
 Danna Prather Davis,

Council Chairperson: William Morse

Worship: Ellen Horn

Outreach: Carolyn Holtz

Christian Education: William Morse

Weekday Education: Angela Slawinski

United Methodist Women: Sara Morse

United Methodist Men: William Morse

Staff Parish Relations: Patty Munson

Finance Chair: Carolyn Holtz

Treasurers: Barbara Pannhurst, Pat Schultz,
 Jennifer Lawlor

Financial Secretary: Ellen Horn

Fiddlers Green: Denise Gregory,
 Jennifer Lawlor

From the Pastor

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

Grace, Peace, and Happy Spring to You from Bellport UMC in Christ!

Spring is a busy season of revival for all of us. March 2nd was Ash Wednesday, which began 40 days of Lent, and Lent will end with joyous Easter, the day of the Lord's resurrection. Many of us are busy buying gifts and cards for our loved ones, and many churches will have their Spring revival events. About revival, one of our church leaders asked us to pray for a church revival. Yet, I wasn't sure how a revival was possible in this pandemic time because many people, including me, had terrible experiences with Covid even after receiving booster shots to prevent Covid.

Charisma Revival: As I was recovering from Covid symptoms in January, I was invited to attend a revival called "Charisma Revival" at the First UMC in Queens. Since I knew the word "charisma" is about the supernatural power and the gifts of the Holy Spirit, I decided to accept the invitation. I joined about one hundred pastors from many different states for four days of revival. During the evening practice sessions, people from the community were invited to come for healing sessions. The events that happened at the charisma revival were similar to the event in Acts 3:6-9 in the Bible when Peter said to the disabled man, "In Jesus Christ's name, get up and walk," the man got up and walked. Like what Jesus and His disciples did in the gospel, we were told to practice

what Jesus and his disciples did to cast out demons and heal the sick. We were reminded that Jesus gave the church the power to bring charisma, God's resource to us so that we can heal people. Many pastors at the charisma revival confessed that charisma ministry is the weakest part of the church compared to teaching or outreach ministry because there is fear of rejection. When we prayed, some people recovered immediately; some left without recovery. Regardless of the results, we learned that we must pray for healing no matter what. It reminds me of what William Temple said, "When I pray, coincidences happen, and when I don't pray, they don't."

What Jesus has taught us: Jesus said, "All the authority of heaven and earth has been given to me and therefore go into the world and teach them **what I have taught you.**" (Matthew 28:18-19, Great Commission) Jesus taught us to preach the gospel and cast out demons in the name of Jesus with His kingly authority. Sick and oppressed people can be delivered from evil and be healed because God's plan is "to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11) For this Spring, I started sharing what I learned from the Charisma Revival. I believe God has His plan for everyone who believes and practices the faith. After attending the revival, my health is restored, and the joy of the Lord is with me. C.H. Spurgeon said, "A genuine revival without joy in the Lord is as impossible as spring without flowers or day-dawn without light." Jesus wants to continuously revive us so we can live an abundant life in this challenging world. Jesus allows His believers to use His name in all our work to revive us.

Dear friends in Jesus, please continue to join the church, find out God's plan for you, and be blessed by His plan to revive you. Please let us know what areas of your life need healings and let us pray together to witness the joyful revivals in the Lord.

Rev. Lydia Han, Pastor

One Human Race with Many Colors

by Susumu Ando

February is Black History Month. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr said in one of his sermons, "Now, let me suggest first that, if we are to have peace on earth, our loyalties must become ecumenical rather than sectional. . . We must develop a world perspective. No individual can live alone; no nation can live alone, and as long as we try to live alone, the more we are going to have war in this world. . . It really boils down to this: that all life is interrelated. We are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. We are made to live together because of the interrelated structure of reality."¹

The Apostle Paul similarly said, using the analogy "One Body with Many Members", "¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body— Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. . . ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you,' nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' . . . ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it." (I Corinthians 12:12-13, 21, 26 NRSV)

Racism comes from the lack of the knowledge of one human race; and fear, anger and hate. First, one human race means that God created humankind in God's image, in the image of God created them, (Gen. 1:27). No exceptions! All people in this world are children of God because of God's unconditional love, mercy and grace, not because of what we have done or what we have said. All of us are one human race with many colors of skin. This is God's masterpiece of human mosaic. Every one of humans in this mosaic is beautiful and precious. One color does not stand alone at all.

Every single color is needed for God's artwork. If one human suffers by racism, or for any reasons, all suffer together with him/her. We are all interrelated and interdependent in this world. Therefore, as God loves us unconditionally, we ought to love one another. Jesus showed us the example of God's unconditional love. He washed the feet of his disciples, including Judas. In this humble and loving act, Jesus commands us to do the same to others.

Racism also comes from fear, anger and hate. The colonial settlers were afraid of losing their power and wealth. Their prosperity was built at the expense of Africans and African Americans. So, they did not want to share their political power, economic power and institutional power with them. To keep their wealth, they became oppressors of African Americans. There were many laws issued by them to suppress African Americans: the Black Codes, Jim Crow Laws, segregation, redlining, police brutality, mass incarceration, voter suppression, and housing discrimination. This list goes on and on. This is the systemic racism.

For these reasons, we need to learn Black history. When our brother and sister African Americans suffer, we all suffer together, too. When African Americans are liberated from the systemic racism, other people, especially Asian Americans, Hispanic Americans, Latinx, and Native Americans, will be liberated as well. Also, those who have oppressed others will be liberated from fear, anger, and hate. If they do not work out these negative emotions, they will fester their souls and damage their well-beings whether or not they are aware of it.

When one person of color is respected, honored and loved with his/her dignity, all rejoice together with him/her. So, we need to

educate ourselves, and participate in the grass-roots movement Black Lives Matter and other movements which do justice for all people. As Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. dreamed, the promised land "where little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls and walk together as sisters and brothers" will come no matter how the oppressors strongly resist, for justice and love never go away, but come back again and again. Remember, we are all one human race with many colors. We are all children of God no matter who we are. We were born to be loved and to love. Therefore, do not hate yourself. Instead, love yourself as who you are. Amen.



Preparing for My Lenten Journey
By Deborah Keller

I know, you're thinking: "Isn't fasting enough?" It is, generally speaking; unless I have something going on, I then add a moral inventory to the Season. Let's look at what I mean when I say: "taking a moral inventory of myself".

Many religious traditions suggest periodic retreats from worldly concerns to turn your attention inward, take a look at times you may not have acted gracefully, or just plain badly. In the 12 Step Faith Tradition, it is essential to make a fearless, moral inventory of any past actions or words that have harmed you and others and make a list. "Having swept the searchlight back and forth over our lives, if it has revealed in stark relief those experiences you'd rather not remember, if you've come to know how wrong thinking and action have hurt you and others, then the need to quit living alone with those tormenting ghosts of yesterday gets more urgent than ever." * Admitting to God, ourselves, and another human being the exact nature of our wrongs

is the theme of confessing to another. To do so requires humility, and one definition of humility is making a true evaluation of conditions as they are. To make an objective appraisal of your character flaws requires a willingness to face the facts, “followed by a sincere attempt to become what we could.”* We couldn’t appraise ourselves fairly without freedom from false pride and arrogance. “It is most evident that a solitary self-appraisal, and the admission of our defects based upon that alone, wouldn’t be nearly enough. We’d have to have outside help if we were to know and admit the truth about ourselves—the help of God, and another human being. Only by discussing ourselves with another, only by being willing to take advice and accept direction could we achieve honesty and a genuine humility.”*

The last three years have been rigorously demanding of me. Not only for the world event of the pandemic that’s affected us all; but, personally I lost a few years due to injuries and the virus. Then, my surgeries became infected, prolonging the recovery. On top of that, last July, my estranged husband, with our daughter’s help, received tests for what he thought was high blood pressure, to avoid the possibility of a stroke. A month later, after another five day hospitalization, the diagnosis of 4th stage cancer was given - shocking us all.

I am so grateful to Pastor Lydia, who offered to pray daily with me, when I asked, or I would have surely lost my mind. It was so needed and rewarding that we formed a Small Group Prayer Meeting at 7 am each morning (M-F) open to the whole church. Two of us became four, and as we keep the focus on the prayers for our congregation’s needs, trustees, pre-school & our own prayers, through The Upper Room, New Every Morning, we learn Scripture and discuss the meaning we derive from them, for half an hour.

If it is our objective to become of maximum service to God and others, then we need to do certain things to become better stewards of our lives, our bodies, our Spiritual development. A few things will assure us this, i.e. reading the Bible, journaling, worshiping God, asking for Spiritual Direction, prayer partnering, and making healthy food choices.

As for fasting for Lent, I normally make a plan to add a few healthier choices to my diet, rather than adhere to a diet of strict deprivation, seasonally speaking. In Winter, I removed caffeine, adding Chai teas. (I took a pass on this one discipline this year, but I aim to do better next year.)

In Spring, I subtracted meat, and sometimes dairy, depending upon how disciplined I am. I will substitute fish for red meats, and I have found plant based milks are an improvement, so much better, that I am thinking of never going back to dairy milk again. You get the concept.

Well, I hope that this let’s you get to know me better, and if any of this makes sense, ask me to start a small group based upon Rick Warren’s publication “The Daniel Plan” and join me.

“Day by day the healing advances, and continued immersion in Christ’s presence becomes your goal. One day you will find that the prayer is starting up within you on its own, like a dearly loved melody.”
Philippians 2:10

*Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions pp 55-59

***PPR (Pastor/Staff Parish Relations) Update**

Our committee is here to support our staff and church family. Please share any positive input, concerns, and suggestions with us at any time. We have paired a committee member with our staff. You can come to me (Patty Munson) or to the PPR members below.

Pastor Lydia - Celia Bilfinger, Patty Munson
Church Office (John and Paulette) - Sheryl Moodt

Cleaners (Maureen and Mary) - Pat Schultz
Thrift Shop (Denise) - Pat Schultz (and Jennifer Lawlor)

Sexton (Mike) - Trustees will oversee (Rita)
Preschool Staff (8) - Patty Munson with Rita Temple

Event Manager (John Smith) and Cleaner (Maureen) - April Conklin
Pianist (Dan) - April

Pastor Lydia also welcomes your feedback.

Thank you for continuing to pray 🙏 for and support our church family and staff.
Patty

Welcome Paulette Renna

We warmly welcome Paulette Renna to our church office. Paulette is an answered prayer! Please stop by and introduce yourself.

Preschool News



When the mask mandate was lifted the preschool staff and children were delighted to SEE each others' faces!!!! It was heart warming to observe the students taking in all the faces around them and commenting on how pretty their teachers are. Everyone continues to share their smiles as they enjoy their lessons and fun activities.

Each class is exploring a different artist through books, observing artwork and then creating their own art by imitating the artist's master pieces.

The children have been studying a new author each month. They reinforce lessons through literature and songs.

Saint Patrick's Day brought magical fun to each classroom. The students are almost to the end of the alphabet - another sign of spring! Some classes welcomed spring with a festive fruit party and are so happy to be out on the playground!

We welcomed Abbielle to our 3 year old classroom.

We all thank Mike for installing new window shades on the double doors and hanging up drop boxes outside each classroom.

Many thanks to the staff for all they do daily.

The smiles on the faces of the children and families are sure signs of the love and fun they

experience under their care.



Palm Sunday, April 10th,

Worship Service at **9:30 am**

Maundy Thursday, April 14th, 7:00 pm.

A celebration of
Jesus' Last Supper through a sharing in Holy
Communion and hand washing.

Good Friday, April 15th, 7:00 pm.

We gather to remember Jesus' death on the cross as an everlasting example of how God's love for us was literally "to die for."

Easter Sunday, April 17th,

6:00 am, Ecumenical Easter Sunrise at
the Bellport Dock.

9:30 am, Family Worship Service in Bellport
UMC



Easter Egg Hunt follows the Family
Worship Service, children 3 years old thru
grade school.



Mother Daughter Dinner Is Back!

Bring your sisters, aunts, cousins, or friends to celebrate the love for our Moms!

TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2022

FROM 6 - 8 P.M.

Fellowship Hall

FREE WILL OFFERING

YOU MUST RESERVE A SEAT FOR THIS EVENT.

PLEASE RSVP BY SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2022 TO:

**Carolyn Holtz at 631-286-4236,
Sara Morse at 631-286-1712, or
Ellen Horn at 631-286-8827**

**Hosted by the United Methodist Women
Catered by the Café Castello**

SOCIAL JUSTICE & CHURCH

All United Methodist Churches including Bellport UMC stand against any hate crimes. For any assistance, contact

One of UMC Lay Advocate:

**FREDERICK K. BREWINGTON, ESQ. LAW
OFFICES OF FREDERICK K. BREWINGTON**
556 Peninsula Boulevard Hempstead,
New York 11550 (516) 489-6959 e-mail:
fred@brewingtonlaw.com
www.brewingtonlaw.com

VIRTUAL CONNECTION



• Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6312860525>

Meeting ID: 631 286 0525 (646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 631 286 0525# & Password:
11713

• Facebook Live Stream

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

THE WAYS TO GENEROSITY



- Offering Baskets at the Church
- Online banking by Zelle to bellportumc@optimum.net
- Online banking-bill pay or Mail your check to PO Box 460. Bellport NY 11713, Bellport NY 11713

😊 Your offerings will support all the churches and missions locally and worldwide by United Methodist Church Denomination. We will continue to pray for your personal finance as well as the church mission. Thank you for your support!



Prayers and strength for ~Tilly Austin ~
The Caim Family ~Mark & Lois Barton~
Donna & Carl Catandella ~ Joseph Allan
Harder ~The Hoag Family ~ Caryl
MacDougall ~ Blake & Elaine Lawlor ~
Gianna & Kaylee Martinez ~ Susan
Payne ~
Anna McClure ~ Kristin Quatrone
(waiting for a kidney transplant) ~
for Barbara Downs and family ~Justin
Schultz ~ Ann Stonebridge ~ Marie
Keller ~ Janet VanderZalm and family ~
Dorothy Vogel ~ Trudi Wiesen~ for the
revival of our Church.



Ministry Opportunities: If you are interested in taking part in any of the following ministries, please contact the person listed.

- **Hospitality:** Coffee Fellowship:
June Beuttenmuller (631-286-2045)
Currently there is a sign-up sheet in the Gathering area as well.
- **Thrift Shop:** Anna McClure (631-286-1172). Volunteer once a month or more at the Thrift Shop.
- Prayer Shawl:** Barbara Downs (631-475-0141), Lillian Muttit (307-9061). Knitting or crocheting for the healing of others.
- **Outreach:** Carolyn Holtz (631-286-4236) Helping to help others.
- **Loveline:** Anna McClure (631-286-1172) Preparing food for families in our church that are experiencing a crisis.
- Church Office:** John Hanon and Paulette Renna (631-286-0525) Assisting with special mailings, distributing flyers, folding bulletins/newsletters or phones.
- Building Use:** John Hannon and Paulette Renna (631-286-0525) Facilitating the comings and goings of people using our buildings for private

Join Spring Programs

YOUTH PROGRAM

- April 22-24, Youth Retreat (Friday night to Sunday)
Camp Quinipet, Shelter Island
99 Shore Rd. Shelter Island Heights, NY 11965

Reservation: Contact

Mark Hamann

District Youth Pastor

(631)-697-5417

markrh3825@gmail.com

lieyouthpastor@nyac-umc.com

ADULT PROGRAM



Alpha

Wednesday Bible Study

Come and enjoy coffee, a bagel and Bible study using the ALPHA Course

9:30 am in the Wesley House

For further information, contact

Rev. Lydia Han, Pastor

(646) 464-2215

Lydia.han@nyac-umc.com

ALL AGE PROGRAMS

- Morning Service 7 am (Mon-Friday)
(Zoom)
 - Sunday Service 9:30 am
(Main Chapel) (Zoom)
- Sunday School for Children and Youth
(Wesley House)

Also the following programs are available as needed:

- Memorial Service
- Hospital or Home Service
- Support Group for Singles
- Support Group for LGBTQ & more
- Support Group for Grief Recovery
- Women's Group
- Men's Group
- Marriage or Premarital Counseling
- Bible Study in English & Korean



Spring Schedule: April 24th

For Assistance, Contact

Rev. Lydia Han, Pastor

(646) 464-2215

Lydia.han@nyac-umc.com



Sunday May 1st

DISTRICT PROGRAM

Lay Servant Ministry

Lay Servant Ministry is a United Methodist system for lay leadership development. The courses are designed to help UMC members develop their skills in leadership, communication, and caregiving and to discover their Spiritual Gifts. Basic Course is the foundation of LSM and must be taken to earn Certificates.

*Ask Pastor Lydia for Registration

COOPERATE PARISH PROGRAM

- **Monthly Clergy & Laity Group**

*Ask Pastor Lydia for Schedule

BELLPORT UMC PROGRAM

The Pastor is prayerfully looking for innovative people to join the pastoral ministry through a “Church Development Team” to grow the church through active evangelism and caring ministry. *Ask Pastor Lydia (646) 464-2215



Thanks to family and youth ministry!



THE CORNER OF
BREWSTER & MAIN

*THE FIDDLER'S
GREEN THRIFT SHOP*

Open Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.
10am to 4pm – Call 631-286-0746