



Bellport United Methodist

CHURCH LIFE

www.umcbellport.org



Church Life, a newsletter for the Bellport United Methodist Church membership and friends, is produced four times each year under the administration of Rev. Matthew Querns, Pastor, 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.

Bellport United Methodist Church
185 South Country Road, Bellport NY 11713
Mail to (PO Box 460, Bellport, NY 11713)
Contacts:
Church Office: (631)286-0525
Office Coordinators: John Hannon & Rachel Langert *(Monday ~ Thursday, 9 AM~ 1 PM)*
Thrift Shop: (631)286-0746
Church-Website: www.UMCBellport.org
Email-Address: bellportumc@optimum.net
Preschool Director: Paola Owen
Preschool Secretary: Bridget Borghardt
Preschool Program: (631)286-2498
Preschool Website
www.BellportPreschool.com

Pastor: Rev. Matthew Querns, Pastor
Cell: 845-208-1405, email: matthew.querns@nyac-umc.com
Minister: All the Members
Conference Lay Delegate: William Morse
Lay Servants: Tom Bracken, Bruce Groh,
 Danna Prather Davis,
 William Morse, Scott Munson

"Pastor Matthew's Musings"

"Because he lives, I can face tomorrow.
 Because he lives, all fear is gone!"

Christ has risen! Christ has risen indeed!

My beloved, the snow is gone, the birds are chirping, the buds are peeking out, and the chill is slowly, slowly disappearing. That means one thing: spring has arrived! The transformation of winter into spring is a powerful metaphor of Easter: a world once covered in darkness and chill with little sign of life, suddenly, gives way to God's promise of life. Not even the darkest, coldest day will last forever. On that note, I welcome you all to the Easter season. Like Christmas, Easter is often misunderstood. Easter is not just a day; it is a season, lasting 40 days from Easter Sunday through Pentecost. Thus, we remain in celebration today! Jesus' resurrection deserves more than a day. Now, I must say what an immense honor it has been for me to journey with you during our first Holy Week together. Yes, I would be lying if I said there were not a few times when I was a tad nervous. I wanted to make the week special, and I wanted to make sure I had the endurance to be my best, Sunday to Sunday. In the end, Holy Week was a joy! Thank you to everyone who played a role in making Holy Week a blessing. As you read this article, I am enjoying a Sabbath rest. Know that I miss you all! When I get back, I will be rested for the new season: the season in which we celebrate the risen Lord in our lives. It will also be the season when we will ask: how can we allow Christ to be resurrected in our lives, daily; how can we live as resurrected people every day? My blessings to you, and I wish you a wonderful week and an enjoyable May. I leave us with these words of

that celebratory hymn that connects the resurrection into our very beings: *"He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today. He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives, he lives, salvation to in part. You ask me how I know he lives. He lives inside my heart."* Love Always Wins!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Matthew Querns

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE **AT 9:30 AM**

Join Upcoming Special Services

- May 11 Mother's (Sun)Day
- June 8 Pentecost Sunday Service
- June 15, Father's (Sun)Day



SUNDAYS AT 9:30 AM.

Sunday School All Throughout the Year!

Offering lessons from the
"Parables of Jesus"

For further information contact Bill Morse or
Lori Labalsamo



Church Choir

**The choir is meeting on Thursday,
from 7:00 to 8:30, in the sanctuary.
Please come and join us in offering
our gift of music ministry.**



**The Handbell Choir meets on
Thursdays at 6:00 pm in the
Sanctuary. For further information
please contact Kathleen Wells at 860-
334-8416**

Preschool News



The preschool has been busy with great winter crafts and activities. We welcomed the New Year with a countdown and noise makers made by the children. They learned about winter animals and hibernation. For Valentines Day there was a friendship party, and the children made goodies to share with their friends and families. They learned how "March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb." We had a visit from the Leprechaun on St. Patrick's Day and he left a green scene in the classrooms. The children made shamrocks, leprechaun hats and rainbows. We enjoyed library visits from Miss Michelle at the Brookhaven library and Miss Carey at the South Country Library, who entertain the kids with stories and music. We celebrated Dr. Suess Birthday on March 2nd with stories and projects inspired by the writings and art of Dr. Suess.

The children were super excited to get out on the playground finally, after the long winter. The preschool is very enthusiastic to debut themes of "Welcome Spring," "Wacky Weather" and "Planting." We will host our annual art show on April 30th featuring the artwork of all the students. Admission is free, please come to this beautiful event/fundraiser. Special Persons Tea will be celebrated on May 5, 6 & 7. Children will invite a special person in their life to enjoy a craft and a snack in the classroom with them. Our Pre-K kids will be taking field trips to the library and Costello's for pizza making in May.

Last day of school is on June 20th Moving up and Graduation ceremonies will be held on June 24th and 25th. Summer Camp this year will run from July 7 – August 1st.

<https://www.bellportpreschool.com/>

BIBLE STUDIES

****The BUMC Women's Bible Study is meeting at the home of Ellen Horn. Please contact Ellen at 631-286-8827 if you are interested in attending our group.**

Men's Bible Study

Mondays and Fridays at 3:00 pm on Zoom. For further information contact Bill Morse at 631-344-3859 or Bill Lang at 214-514-3260

Bible 101

Wednesday, 10:00 am to 11:30 am and 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm. Wesley House and Zoom.

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

For further information contact Pastor Matthew at 845-208-1405 or email him at matthew.querns@nyac-umc.com

CONFERENCE, DISTRICT, AND PARISH NEWS

NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND DISTRICT PROGRAM

Stamford Hilton
June 5-8, 2025

Information for Lay Servants

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 Matthew for Registration

Visit Long Island East District
for More Information

<http://www.liedistrict.com/>

SOCIAL JUSTICE & CHURCH

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

One of the UMC Lay Advocates:

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



A congregation's trustees cannot prevent their pastor from using church facilities to perform a same-sex wedding, The United Methodist Church's top court ruled in Decision 1516. The ruling was one of two decisions released by the Judicial Council on April 29. Photo by Kathleen Barry, UM News.

BIRTHDAYS AND FELLOWSHIP



**God bless you with a Healthy and
Happy B-day & the Year!**

*****Help Us Adding Yours! *****

APRIL

- 1 - Keira Ballan
- 6 - Rachel Langert
- 26 - Emily Rinfret

MAY

- 2 - Corrine Thompson
- 5 - Celia Bilfinger
- 7 - Tom Bilfinger
- 9 - David Smith
- 13 - Tim Montick
- 16 - Bill Morse
- 20 - George Vogel
- 25 - Rolf Beutenmuller
- 30 - Mindy Smith
- 31 - Marion Harder

JUNE

- 4 - Hailey Cutrone
Molly Harder
- 7 - Carl Catandella
- 8 - Jessica Ryan
- 11 - Justin Schultz
- 15 - June Beutenmuller
- 16 - Lynn Hoag
- 18 - Barbara Pannhurst
- 19 - Brody Kolasinski
- 22 - Emily Montick

- 25 - Pete Berman
- 29 - Jack Cuenin

S/PPR (Staff/Pastor Parish Relations)

Our committee is here to support our staff and church family. We have paired a committee member with our staff. You can come to the S/PPR members below.

Pastor Matthew - Celia Bilfinger, Tom Bracken
Church Office (John Hannon and Rachel Langert) -
Sheryl Moodt- Cleaners (Maureen) - Pat Schultz
Thrift Shop (Denise) - Pat Schultz (and Jennifer
Lawlor) Sexton (Mike Scalise) - Trustees will
oversee (Rita)

Preschool Staff (8) – Tom Bracken with Rita Temple
Event Manager (Maureen Martinez) and Cleaner
(Maureen Martinez) - April Conklin, Pianist (Dan) -

To Learn more about S/PPRC's Leadership and
Responsibilities, you may visit the link.

https://asburyofandrews.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Pastor_Staff-Parish-Relations-Committee-Job-Description.pdf



**Trustee Meets on the Second Wednesday of Each
Month. For further information, Contact Scott
Munson.**



Monthly Food Collection

Outreach is resuming the First Sunday of the Month Food Collection. Non-perishable food and personal care products will be collected and delivered to the St Joseph the Worker's food pantry for distribution to those in need.

On the first Sunday, please put your donations on the altar. Items brought in on other Sundays can be put in the gray tub in the hall between the Sanctuary and the stairs.



Church Council Meeting

Council meeting requires all ministry chairs, and Anyone is welcome to join with any questions to meet remotely with church's zoom. 7:30 pm. This is the nominal schedule. It could change if special topics come up. Third Tuesday of: Jan. Mar. May Sept. Nov.

"Rejoice always,"
Bill.



THE FIDDLER'S GREEN THRIFT SHOP

THE CORNER OF BREWSTER & MAIN
Open Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.
10am to 4pm – Call 631-286-0746

**Thank you for your Donations!
Welcomes Volunteers!
For further information,
contact Jennifer Lawlor**

A Thank You to...
a church volunteer



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:** Carolyn Holtz (631-286-). Volunteer once a month or more at the Thrift Shop.

-- **Outreach:** Carolyn Holtz (631-286-4236) Helping to help others.

--**Church Office:** John Hanon & Rachel Langert (631-286-0525) Assisting with special mailings, distributing flyers, preparing bulletins/newsletters. Answer the Office phone.

--**Building Use:** John Hannon & Rachel Langert (631-286-0525) Facilitating the comings and goings of people using our buildings for private events.



Dear Parishioner,

Thank you for your financial commitment to our church during the past year, with a special thank you to all who have submitted Estimates of Giving/Pledges for 2024. If you have not submitted your pledge and would like to do so, it is never too late and would be much appreciated by your Finance Committee.

The year ahead will continue to be challenging financially. Your contributions will enable us to continue our mission, including our Sunday worship services and music programs, Christian education, support and guidance for our youth, small group study classes, pastoral visitation, and counseling, and to provide space for our wonderful pre-school program and ministry to the community through the Thrift Shop. Your gifts also help provide benevolences of many kinds, missionary support, and, of course, payment of our utility and insurance costs. Again, thank you for your continuing faith in the work of our church.

Ellen L. Horn, Financial Secretary

Weekly Collection Total: Winter (from December 29, 2024, to March 16, 2025)
\$45,474.00

Thank you all for your generosity.

THE WAYS TO GENEROSITY



The Easy Way to Send Your Offering is by Setting Up Online Payment To

- Bellport United Methodist Church,
PO Box 460. Bellport NY 11713
- ZELLE: bellportumc@optimum.net,
Tel: 631-205-4050
- Also you can mail your offerings and donations to the church.

☺ 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!

CHURCH 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 FOLLOWING SERVICES ARE
AVAILABLE UPON YOUR REQUEST**

Contact the Pastor or the Office

Sympathy & Condolence:

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

Sympathy Prayers for Anna McClure on the passing of her cousin, Ernest (Ernie) Sykes. The Barton family on the passing of Mark Barton. To the Antos family on the passing of Jack (John) Antos. To the Vander Zalm family on the passing of Janet Vander Zalm.

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, For Edward Schultz, 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, Lillian Muttitt and the family, Dorothy Vogel and the family, Paul Herbst and Roseann Hanafi.

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

- Fellowship Hall Event Rental Service
- Baptism Service
- Wedding Service
- Memorial Service
- Hospital or Home Service
- Support Group for LGBTQ & more
- Support Group for Grief Recovery
- Marriage or Premarital Counseling
- Bible Study

SPRING EVENTS

**Concert by the Long Island
Symphonic Choral Association to
benefit L I Cares. Sunday, May
4th, 3:00 PM, Fellowship Hall.**

Mother Daughter Dinner
Bring your sisters, aunts, cousins, or friends to
celebrate the love for our Moms!
TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025
FROM 6 - 8 P.M.
Fellowship Hall
Suggested Donation: \$20

**YOU MUST RESERVE A SEAT FOR THIS
EVENT.**

**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**