

The Ties that Bind – NEWSLETTER



United Methodist Church
Babylon, New York 11702
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MARCH - APRIL 2017

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus,

First I want to thank you for your many moments of thoughtfulness during my time of illness. I had type a flu that hung on far longer than any of the doctors had ever seen before and pneumonia. The doctors keep telling me how sick I was. So, I thank you for your patience as I recover. Thank you so much for your prayers, your cards and the food. I might fake future illnesses just for the FOOD. Total recovery will be slow but I am so grateful to be back in the pulpit. I missed you.

Lent is going to be exciting. See this Newsletter for all the up-and coming events. I do want you to know the April schedule well in advance as Easter approaches so here it.

The First Week in April - The Visit of Bishop Oliveto. See the separate invitation within in.

PALM SUNDAY - April 9 - Worship at 8, 9:30 and 11 am.

MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 13th - Soup Supper at 6 pm and the Service of the Upper Room Last Supper at 7 pm.

GOOD FRIDAY - April 14 - Noon to 3 - Sanctuary open during the traditional hours of the Crucifixion for renewal, meditation and prayers.

7:30pm Choir singing the moving *Man of Sorrows.*

EASTER - April 15 - Worship at 8, 9:30 and 11 am. He is risen! He is risen indeed.

God bless you all.

Pastor Tom

Pastor Tom

A Visit from Bishop Oliveto

Karen Oliveto grew up in the United Methodist Church of Babylon. Here she was more than active. She was a choir member, Youth group president and eventually student intern. After seminary Karen was appointed to a small church in the Catskills as Bloomville, NY. There a great and powerful ministry bloomed into a glorious flower as Karen taught seminary, served churches and was a leader for progress within the United Methodist Church. In 2016 she was elected Bishop in the United Methodist Church. She is the first member of the LGBT community to be elected to the highest office in the United Methodist denomination. She was elected by the Western Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church and was the frontrunner through all the balloting. Still, almost immediately, a ruling from asked for from outside the Western Jurisdiction asking if Karen, given her status in the LGBT community could hold office as Bishop. The Judicial Council will rule on this soon. Awaiting the ruling Karen has joyfully served as Bishop of the Rocky Mountain Conference. She lives in the heart of the conference in Denver, Colorado.

As she awaits the ruling, Karen has expressed the desire to worship where she first felt the church's love and support and encouragement. That is here in the United Methodist Church of Babylon.

So I invite you to come and be a part of this homecoming and this time where we can express God's love and our love.

Here is the schedule:

Saturday, April 1 - a Fellowship Covered Dish Supper at 6pm. Come join with Bishop Oliveto for dinner.

Sunday April 2 - 9:30am - A Very Special Communion Service
at 11am - The moment for further faith growth will be a Hymn Sing led by Ken White who loves hymns and loves to make organs sing.

Plans following the 11am event are still to be announced.

These are historic times. Come and continue to make history.

<p>OUR MISSION STATEMENT – We are a community of Christ's followers. Our mission is to be worshipping, welcoming, inclusive, caring, growing in faith and to live and proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ in the world.</p>
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Welcome to eNewsletter for March-April. Receiving your newsletter **via email will help us to save paper, postage and time.** Please let us know your email address if you have not already done so. Email us at babylonumc@yahoo.com.

Worship Services are at 8 and 9:30 am. Sunday School classes are in session at 9:30 am. Children come to church with their parents and then are dismissed to their Sunday School Class after the children's message. Special program offerings will occur at 11 am on Sunday morning. Information on these programs appears in this newsletter and is open to all.

The Infant Toddler Nursery is for all children 3 years and under and is an important element of our church mission. Nursery care is available at 9:30 am for worship services. **Our Infant Toddler Nursery** is located in the Education Building.

Finance Information

Good News - As you may know we have over the past 2 and one half years completed many important projects in our church. Maintaining what we have is an important part of Good Stewardship.

We replaced the Pipe Organ. The balcony organ had been badly damaged by water and pipes had been given away in the belief that we would never repair the instrument. On the main organ pieces of the swell division were used to repair more used parts of the instrument damaging the instrument. The weight of the organ was causing the organ to sink into the basement. This repair cost well over \$350,000.

We replaced the steeple. Over the last 40 years there have been two major repairs to the steeple and yet we found the steeple to be leaking once again. It was finally decided to replace the steeple with a fiberglass facsimile. This project cost well over \$160,000.

We replaced the windows on the north side of the education building. These windows could no longer be opened. This cost about \$24,000.

We replaced the large windows in fellowship hall which were broken and falling apart. The cost of this project was \$38,000.

We replaced the sunroom at the parsonage. Dampness and leaking had caused the sunroom to suffer rot and the seals on all the windows were broken. The cost of this project was \$14,000.

Many many lights in the building have been replaced by more cost effective energy efficient lighting. The lights over the choir and altar were changed to be brighter and energy and cost efficient. The cost for just the sanctuary lighting was \$5,500.

The office area has been painted and floors replaced both upstairs and down. Many have commented on what a great improvement has been made.

In short much work has been done. Many gave to these projects and we are so grateful. The Evening NOT Under the Stars yielded over \$9,000 in one evening. And we used some inheritance money to make this happen. We are so fortunate to that we could make these repairs before the damage to our building and treasures became greater.

WE ALSO WORKED HARD TO PRESERVE \$2,000,000 dollars so that the church would have an endowment. In June of 2013 there was barely enough cash on hand to pay the moving expense of the new minister.

The Endowment is well invested and a committee watches over it. Each year \$24,000 in interest from the endowment is given to the Current Expense Fund. This is used to slightly augment the program staff of the church. At one time this church had three clergy on staff. The church needs its program staff to make for great worship, music and programs.

Finance Information (continued)

We try to be wise in our stewardship. For the day to day expenses of the church we depend on the weekly giving of the members, constituents and visitors. We thank you for your support. Remember we need \$5,250 per Sunday collection to support our ministry. For the first 8 weeks our weekly collections have averaged \$4,999 per week.

Lenten Prayer Challenge

You are invited this Lent to participate in a Lenten Prayer Challenge. There are three ways that you can do that.

1. The book is entitled *Draw the Circle*. Purchase and read the forty daily readings this Lent.

2. Then join us for reflections each week over bread, soup and salad. The time is 6:30 each Wednesday starting on the March 8th. We will meet at the Parsonage, 80 Village Line Road, Babylon, NY.

3. OR just come to the Wednesday meetings over dinner. Each week major themes will be taken from the book and discussed. On March 8th we will discuss *How to Pray, Living in Sync with God, Keeping at It, Expecting the Amazing to Happen AND the Idea on Just One God*

Bible Study – Join an open Bible study and discussion group - **Monday morning at 9:45 am** Sharon Niggemeier and Ed Tournu, facilitators. **Tuesday Evening at 6:45 p.m.** in the library with Rich Santoro, facilitator. For more information, call the church office.

DID YOU FORGET SOMEONE SPECIAL? A Christmas Ornament commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Candlelight Service is still available for purchase at \$25 each. See or email Sue Tremblay – susantrem@aol.com. A great gift or keepsake.

Information for the next eNewsletter is due no later than March 31 for immediate Easter mailing-limited. Please get your information to Doris in a timely manner.

Easter lilies in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone may be ordered through the church office at \$20. Please order before April 10th..

The lilies will be delivered to “Our Friends to Remember” after church services on Easter Sunday. Please volunteer to deliver plants after the 11 am service.

Ushers are needed for Palm Sunday (8, 9:30, 11:00), **Holy Thursday** (7:30 in the sanctuary, **Good Friday** (7:30 in the sanctuary, and **Easter Sunday** (8:00, 9:30, 11:00). Please call Doris Richter (669-7065) or the church office to volunteer.

FOOD PANTRY We wish to thank everyone who supports the Food Pantry. We appreciate your donations of food and gift cards, and especially wish to thank the people who volunteer their time for the food collections at Stop/Shop. **We desperately need volunteers for the Rotary Club Food Drives in general and the next one is on APRIL 8th. Please volunteer to Sue Tremblay – susantrem@aol.com**

Please continue to remember the Food Pantry when you are shopping – Spam, corned beef hash, beef stew, tuna, chili, peanut butter, jelly, dry milk, canned fruit, spaghetti sauce, instant potatoes, rice(2 lb),and coffee. **Shampoo, toothpaste,**

bar soap, disposable razors, dish detergent and laundry detergent are greatly appreciated. NO spaghetti or cereal or soup is needed at this time.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - Help with sending newsletters, **Update collections** in the library, **help at Rotary food collections** to benefit our food pantry, **Teach and Substitute** at Sunday School. Call the church office for additional information and/or offer to help in other areas.

The Sharing & Caring Soup Kitchen will be seeking donations of packaged candy for “goody bags” from our good stewards to serve for their Easter Sunday celebration. All donations are greatly appreciated! We continue to need your loving donations of hearty soups. If you would like further information, or wish to make donations of soup or candy, please call Rose Alfini 631-827-2245 or Kathy Montreuil at 917-476-6338.

Once again, **Kits are needed by Church World Service for worldwide distribution.** When disasters strike, ready made Kits help families clean up, stay healthy and provide school supplies. **Our United Methodist Women are preparing such kits** that go to refugees, displaced people and victims of natural disasters at home and around the world. The types of kits are: Hygiene Kits (value \$15), School Kits (value \$15), and Emergency Clean-up Buckets (value \$75). Everyone in our Church family is invited to contribute to this UMW program. Prepare a kit or donate money. You may write out your check to United Methodist Women. For kit details, call Millie Scott, 884-9183, or a UMW Circle chairperson. **Completed kits are due at the UMW Spring luncheon on Tuesday, March 14.**

DECORATE-A-TABLE FOR “TEA AT TWO”. Would you like to decorate a table and 4 chairs for the “TEA AT TWO” UMW fundraiser on Saturday, May 6? Decoration is open to all of our church family. It is an enjoyable experience and a fun event! For more details or to sign up, please call Millie Scott, 884-9183.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

If you know of someone who is experiencing a special joy, a loss, an illness or you just want to bless them with God's love, you may request a blessed prayer shawl or lap robe for them by filling in a [prayer shawl request card](#) found in the pew racks and placing it in the offering plate, or email: priscilla1629@optonline.net or mardowning@optonline.net with "prayer shawl request" in the subject line. Please include, recipients name, address, and event also include your name and tel # and if you can deliver it.

We have yarn available for those who would like to create a shawl or lap robe. Call [Priscilla Schlegel 631-667-8252](tel:631-667-8252) or [Marlene Downing 631-242-8740](tel:631-242-8740) and we will arrange for you to get the yarn. Suggested sizes are: rectangular shawls, 19" x 69" or 14" x 70", triangular shawls 65"W x 32" center, Lap robes 36" X 42". Please do not put fringe on any pieces.

We appreciate and thank all of you who support this ministry with your time, talents and gifts. Please remember to include all those who have received these gifts of God's love in your prayers.



OUR NURSERY SCHOOL -

March came in like a lamb—let's see what the rest of the month will be like!

The children and teachers will be participating in our annual cereal drive. **UMC Nursery School Blocks Out Hunger** benefits the United Methodist Food Pantry. This event gives us the opportunity to demonstrate to the children that there are those in our community who don't have what they may consider a staple in their cabinets- breakfast cereal. In addition to discussing our community, the children will construct a large “building” in the lobby of the school using their problem solving and creative skills. The cereal building will be on display the week of March 13^h.

We are looking forward to warmer weather and all of the events we have planned. Field trips to the Babylon Fire House and Fire Island Lighthouse, Our Community and our Spring Show are among the exciting days ahead.

Once again, the Nursery School will hold a **Yankee Candle Fundraiser**. This fundraiser will supplement our Equipment Fund. After the success of last year's fundraiser, we were able to replace all of the rugs in the classrooms, a table and chairs.

Last fall, the Science and Nature enrichment class planted daffodil bulbs in front of the school. The children have been watching for signs of spring and are delighted to see growth peeking from the ground. We can't wait for the bulbs to bloom!

The Nursery School wishes everyone a very Happy Easter!

Looking ahead-

April Showers bring May Flowers...on May 10^h and 11th the Nursery will hold its annual plant sale. The proceeds from the **Flowers for Families Plant Sale** benefit the Nursery School's scholarship program. The scholarship program is designed to assist families who otherwise may not be able to send their child to school. We hope you were able to stop by to shop for beautiful flowering baskets and potted plants and support a great cause at the same time!

Open Registration is underway for the upcoming school year 2017-18. If you would like more information, please contact Lisa Murray at the Nursery School (661-5165) or email umcnsbabylon@hotmail.com. To learn more about our school, visit our website at <http://www.babylonumcnurseryschool.com>.

United Methodist Women Book Club

Explore books on the UMW 2017 Reading Program List. Discuss different points of view. Share popular titles in all areas – fiction, non-fiction, biography, children's books, and young adult stories

Wednesday, May 10th at 6:30 PM in the Church Library
Soul Repair: Recovering from Moral Injury after War
by **Rita Nakashima Brock**

Although veterans make up only 7 percent of the U.S. population, they account for an alarming 20 percent of all suicides. And though treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder has undoubtedly alleviated suffering and allowed many service members returning from combat to transition to civilian life, the suicide rate for veterans under thirty has been increasing. Research by Veterans Administration health professionals and veterans' own experiences now suggest an ancient but unaddressed wound of war may be a factor: moral injury. This deep-seated sense of transgression includes feelings of shame, grief, meaninglessness, and remorse from having violated core moral beliefs.

Soul Repair will help veterans, their families, members of their communities, and clergy understand the impact of war on the consciences of healthy people, support the recovery of moral conscience in society, and restore veterans to civilian life. When a society sends people off to war, it must accept responsibility for returning them home to peace.

Book Talks will be led by librarian CaroleAnne Weik on the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm at the church library.

All are welcome. Call or email for questions – 516 318 2928 / email caroleanneweik@yahoo.com



United Methodist Women

March / April 2017

It's March!! As we enter this time of the year awaiting flowers and warmer weather, let us also be mindful of the Lenten Season and note the many ways to celebrate these 40 days. Since March will also be UMW month, UMW members will usher each Sunday. Please remember that pledges and health kits are due. THANK YOU to Connie Pancella and her daughter Nancy Hussain who will be the co-chairs for our Tea at Two this year. We invite all women to learn what we are about and join one of the five Circles. Call me at my cell, 516-429-6964.

Thank you, Vicki Troise

March 8 - Exec Board meeting at 7 pm

March 12 - UMW Coffee Hour, please contribute food items

March 14 - General Meeting at 12:30, Anna is Hostess and Priscilla has the Program

April 5 - Exec Board meeting at 7 pm

April 23 - Priscilla Circle has the Food Sale

May 3 - Exec board meeting at 7 pm

May 6 - Tea at Two -Doors open at 1:30 for the Jewelry Boutique

Flowers for March - Esther Circle

Flowers for April - Anna Circle

The UMW Book Club is open to all parishioners , family , and friends. For details, see the separate page in this newsletter.

**DECORATE-A-TABLE & 4 CHAIRS
FOR OUR UMW FUNDRAISER
TEA AT TWO – Saturday, May 6, 2017, 2-4pm – Fellowship Hall**

Please volunteer to “decorate” a card table and 4 chairs. Individuals, groups, or a Circle may “decorate” a table and 4 chairs. Anyone interested is invited to participate. (Table and 4 chairs are provided unless we need extra tables.)

TABLEWARE REQUIREMENTS:

All does not have to match, you may mix it up.)

4 cups & 4 saucers or 4 fancy mugs

4 dessert (or luncheon) plates

4 teaspoons

1 creamer

1 sugar bowl (sweet&low, if needed)

1 sugar spoon

1 teapot

4 butter knives or 4 more teaspoons for spreading the crème fraiche and jam

4 paper napkins (extras are handy)

1 small bowl for the crème fraiche

1 small bowl for jam

Simple centerpiece or flowers, or other

Candles are optional

Provide 1 tablecloth to cover the 34 in sq. table – an overlay or topper can be added or 4 cloth placemats, or 2 crisscrossed runners. (See Peg Davis for available toppers or a gold tablecloth.)

4 CHAIRS REQUIREMENTS

4 pillowcases to slip over the back of the chairs (color is your choice). Or inexpensive folding chair covers can be purchased from: linentablecloth.com

Provide white or colored tulle (or other fabric to tie around the back of each chair and then tie into a bow. (Millie has extra white tulle for this if needed.)

Silk flower or other decoration to attach to the tulle/fabric at the back of each chair.

Or other type of chair cover.

Please set up your table and chairs and table settings on Friday, May 5, (time to be announced.) or on day of the Tea between 9 am-12 noon.

*****SORRY, UMW IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY BREAKAGE.

*****PLEASE DO NOT DISASSEMBLE YOUR TEA TABLE BEFORE 4:30PM!

***** PLEASE BE SURE TO COLLECT ALL OF YOUR MATERIALS IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE TEA OR ARRANGE TO HAVE SOMEONE PICK THEM UP.

Call Millie Scott, Decorate-A-Table Coordinator, 884-9183, if you would like to sign up.

MAUNDY THURSDAY –THE LAST SUPPER
SOUP AND BREAD SUPPER AND HOLY COMMUNION

April 13th, 2017

Soup at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Service at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday offers an opportunity for the celebration of the Lord's Supper at an hour when, perhaps the associations are most fraught with meaning and responsive feeling. The name by which the day is identified is a corruption of the Latin word "mandatum" meaning mandate; and refers to Christ's new commandment "that ye love one another as we have been loved." found in John 13:34.

You are cordially invited to come celebrate this most important Christian Observance around tables with a soup and bread supper.

Immediately following the Soup Supper we will go to the Sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. for the Ancient Communion Service of the Upper Room.

I/we plan to attend the Maundy Thursday Soup and Bread Supper on Thursday, April 13th at 6:30 pm

Homemade soups will be served.

I/we will bring: _____ a loaf of homemade or bakery bread **or** _____ a container of grape juice.

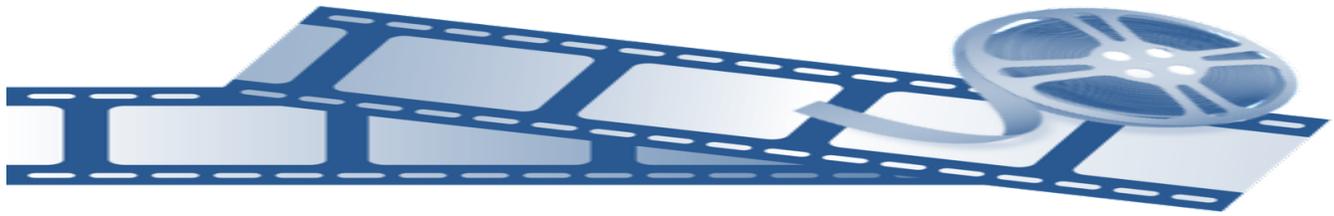
Name _____ Phone # _____

No. of people attending _____

Or call the church office - 661-5151 ext. 201 to make your reservation.

Volunteers are needed to make soup, set up and cleanup. Please let us know where you can help.

Setup at 5:00 _____ Cleanup _____ Make Soup _____



The United Methodist Church

Babylon

Spring Movie Night

Join your church family in watching

A Heart Transformed Can Change the World

**Friday, March 31th, 2017
at 7:00 pm**

The festivities will be held
in Fellowship Hall Theater
at 21 James Street

Everyone is welcome

Free Admission

Free Popcorn

Bring you lounge chair (optional)

Sponsored by the Education Committee



MYF March to April 2017 Schedule

March 11 - Saturday - 5:00pm-7:30pm

MYF Sunset Field Trip - Hecksher State Park, East Islip - Grades 6th-12th

March 19 - Sunday - 6:00pm-7:30pm AND Sunday - 11:00am-12:00pm

MYF Meeting: Fellowship Hall - Grades 6th-12th (6:00pm)

Youth-led 11am offering: sharing your thoughts on what is "authentic" worship

March 25-26 - Saturday - 9:30am-12:00pm AND Sunday - 9:00am-11:00am

MYF Community Service Event: Fellowship Hall - Grades 6th-12th (Saturday)

MYF Hosting Coffee Hour (Sunday)

April 2 - Sunday - 5:00pm-7:00pm

Special MYF Alumni Meeting: Fellowship Hall - Grades 6th-12th

April 8 - Saturday - 9:30am-11:00pm

MYF Annual Easter Egg Hunt - Weather permitting: Playground - Otherwise: Fellowship Hall

Event is 9:30-11:00, MYFer's are expected to be there 9:00am-11:30am

April 14-16 - Easter Weekend

No MYF Events - Have a good, safe weekend!

April 22 - Saturday - 9:30-12:00pm

MYF Earth Day Field Trip!

April 30 - Sunday - 6:00pm-7:30pm

MYF Meeting: Fellowship Hall - Grades 6th-12th

*** SAVE THE DATE: QUINIPET RETREAT - May 26-28, Memorial Day Weekend!! ***

 **Please Join Our Facebook Group Page: Babylon MYF**



MYF ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, APRIL 8TH

9:30 am-11:00 am

**** EGG HUNT WILL BEGIN AT 10AM SHARP, DON'T BE LATE!**



FELLOWSHIP HALL

OR



PLAYGROUND

21 JAMES STREET BABYLON, NY

\$5 per child

Ages 2-5 *only* can participate in the egg hunt



Babylon United Methodist Church is looking to create a Business Directory

It will be BUMC's version of the "Yellow Pages" or "Angie's List"

Depending on participation, we are looking to have the Business Directory available in print and possibly our Church website – www.babylonumc.org

If you are interested in including your business in the directory, please complete the following information and return to the church office:

Your Name		
Name of Your Business		
Business Address		
Business Phone Number		
Email Address		
Website/LinkedIn Profile		
Industry		
Description of Your Business and List of Services		

If you have any questions, please email Peter Owh (peterowh@msn./com), Sue Macaluso (sueslav@optonline.net) , or Katie Schrader (ktocs88@gmail.com)

11am offerings – March-April 2017



**Come join us for a new time of fellowship,
fun, and spiritual growth on Sundays at 11am!!
Located in the Sunday School Chapel,
unless otherwise indicated. All are welcome!**

March 12: *Our Family Tree - Catholics, Protestants and...*

March 19: *What is "Authentic" worship?*

March 26: *Field Trip! (to be determined)*

April 2: *Hymn-Sing with Rev. Ken White! (in the sanctuary)*

April 9: *Palm Sunday (no offering)*

April 16: *Easter (no offering)*

April 23: *Kite Flying! (outside, of course!)*

April 30: *Prayer and Meditation Workshop (outside)*

