

# The Ties that Bind – NEWSLETTER



United Methodist Church  
Babylon, New York 11702  
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**February, March 2018**

*From the Pastor's Desk,*

January 25, 2018

Dear Friends in God's love,

First let me send to you a resounding THANK YOU for your help while I was away for various church related activities and family times for the three weeks following Christmas. You are the best, and I know our worship leaders brought you great and meaningful worship when I was away.

Well, 2018 is flying by. Before you know it Lent will be here. We will begin Ash Wednesday with

A Service of Communion and the Imposition of Ashes

Ash Wednesday – February 14, 2018

7:30pm

A Poignant Way to Mark the Beginning of Lent

A Time of Spiritual Renewal

My Lenten Study will be entitled Unity in Christ Jesus. This will be an exploration into what divides us using current films. The first film we watch will be *Pride* the true story of a group that experienced terrible prejudice as they were supporting an entire Welsh town during the Coal Miner's Strike. After that we will view some other films. Those under consideration are *The Help*, *The Great Debaters*, *A United Kingdom*, and *others*. The format of the study is this. We watch about 20 minutes of the film and then stop and discuss. This will be a

Soup and Study

A Simple Meal at 6pm

Study at 7pm

At the parsonage – 80 Village Line Road Babylon

There is much ahead for the United Methodist Church concerning full inclusion of a church that boasts Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors. There is so much news of prejudice and hate crimes these days. This will be a most timely study.

The dates will be mostly Wednesdays, with one Tuesday.

Wednesday February 21, February 28, March 7, and March 21  
and Tuesday, March 14.

Then there is Holy Week:

PALM SUNDAY, March 25<sup>th</sup>  
Services at 8, 9:30 and 11am.  
Palms will be distributed.

MAUNDY THURSDAY – March 28<sup>th</sup>  
Soup in Fellowship Hall at 6:30 pm  
Worship in the Sanctuary at 7:30 pm

This is the service of the Upper Room. Only the words that Jesus spoke in the Upper Room during the Last Supper are uttered at this Candlelight Service.

GOOD FRIDAY – March 29<sup>th</sup>

The Sanctuary will be open from Noon to 3pm. On the quarter hour the steeple bell will toll and parts of the Passion Story will be read from the pulpit.

7:30pm – The Good Friday Service of Tenebrae

**EASTER SUNDAY – April 1<sup>st</sup>**

Sunday Services at 8am, 9:30am and 11am.

*He is risen! He is risen, indeed.*

My door is always open. My office phone is 631 661-5151 extension 103. My cell is 631 983 9558.

Blessings,

Pastor Tom

**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.

**Welcome to eNewsletter for February, March 2018.** 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](mailto:babylonumc@yahoo.com).

**Information for the late March, April eNewsletter** must be submitted by March 1 for immediate release in this Newsletter. Please make every effort to get it submitted earlier.

**Worship Services are** at 8 and 9:30 am with Sunday School at 9:30 am.

**Sunday School classes** - Children will 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.

**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.

**Scout Sunday is February 11.** Scouts wishing to participate in the service are invited to contact Doris Richter, Scouting Coordinator at the church office or email [babylonumc@yahoo.com](mailto:babylonumc@yahoo.com). All Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Adult Scouters are invited to attend the 9:30 am service in uniform. Please let Doris know your name and troop or pack number so you can be listed on the roster.

#### **NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS -**

This winter has been challenging so far with the snow and the bitter cold but we are anxious to hear the predictions from the famous groundhogs, next week. I know a few children who cannot wait to get outside to run on the playground.

The teachers spent the last month preparing for the Parent Teacher Conferences and were happy to share the children's progress in Nursery School. It is astonishing to see how much they have grown physically and emotionally since September. We are very proud of them.

Registration for the upcoming school year (2018-19) is underway. If you would like more information, please contact the Nursery School Office at 631-661-5165 or email at [umcnsbabylon@hotmail.com](mailto:umcnsbabylon@hotmail.com).

**Want to smile?**

**Follow us on Instagram**  
**@unitedmethodist\_nurseryschool**

**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 soup is needed at this time.**



#### **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](mailto:priscilla1629@optonline.net) or [mardowning@optonline.net](mailto:mardowning@optonline.net) with "prayer shawl request" in the subject line. Please include, recipients name, address, and phone number, if known. Also, please include your name and phone # so that you can be contacted for delivery.

At this time, the prayer shawl ministry is in need of crocheted or knitted prayer shawls and lap robes. Yarn is available for those who would like to create a shawl or lap robe. Email (subject line "prayer shawl") or 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.

**The Rotary sponsored FOOD DRIVE for Babylon UMC** is scheduled for Saturday February 10 from 9 am to 3 pm – we need help! Can you help us – please call Doris at the church office or Sue Tremblay to let us know you will be there – an hour or two of your time would be appreciated and is needed. – Just come with a smile and an open heart!

The **SHARING & CARING Soup Kitchen** is in need of monetary support from our loving church community. We do receive a small New York State Grant through applications made by the Babylon Clergy Cluster and generous help from the Babylon Rotary Club who also supports our Food Pantry but is about a quarter of our yearly needs. Therefore, we are dependent on individual donations from generous individuals and organizations. Without your contributions, as well as donations of food and helping hands from our angels, we could not run our kitchen. Many people who depend on us would go hungry. We've had numerous openhearted gifts in the past, and now are depending once again on your financial assistance. Donations made by check may be written to Babylon United Methodist Church, with Soup Kitchen written on the memo line. Cash donations may be put in an envelope, with Soup Kitchen written on the outside, either put in the Sunday church collection plate or sent to the church office. We are extremely grateful for all, thank you.

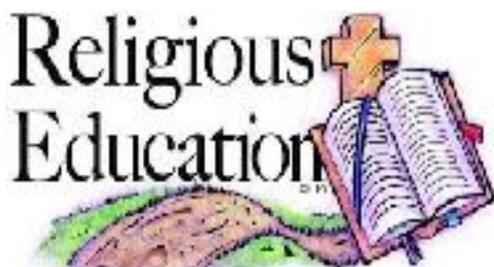
**The Church Food Pantry** is open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10 - 12 noon, and is in need of volunteers. Assistance is needed to sign in our patrons and distribute a box of food to them. If these mornings are busy times for you, perhaps you would be willing to help with the shopping which we do at Aldi. If you can do either, please call the church office and let Doris know. Thank you!

### **MARCH 18 IS UMW BLANKET SUNDAY!**

In times of trouble after natural disasters that happen around the world, blankets are a part of every relief effort. Please help provide these blankets. The United Methodist Women are collecting \$10 for each blanket on this day. Blankets are then purchased by Church World Service and distributed to those in need. \$10 buys one blanket, \$20 buys 2 blankets, etc.. Please make checks payable to UMW and specify "Blanket Sunday" on your check. The UMW sincerely thanks you.

**Once again, Kits are needed by Church World Service for worldwide distribution.** When disasters strike, readymade 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 I Millie Scott 631-884-9183 Scott, 884-9183, or a UMW Circle chairperson. Completed kits are due at the UMW Spring luncheon on Tuesday, March 13.

631-884-9183 or a UMW Circle chairperson. Completed kits are due at the United Methodist Women's Spring luncheon on Tuesday, March 13.



### **Bible Studies**

Bible Study continues to meet on Tuesday mornings and evenings

### **Sunday School**

When kids have fun at church, they look forward to returning each week. The Sunday School teachers are doing a great job creating fun ways to engage the children about Jesus, cultivating faith, and building a relationship with God, including the use of games, activities, singing and community service. They have covered many stories of Jesus' life.

### **Upcoming Events**

Sunday School procession of Palms on Palm Sunday.

### **Help Wanted**

We are looking for person or persons to be the coordinator Vacation Bible School.

This program runs once a year, in August for one week from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon, all interested, may contact Barbara Blaskopf.

Hello, my name is Jessica Cronk and I am getting confirmed this year. My mentor, Barbara Blaskopf, and I will be working together with the Sunday School on this year's Lenten project. The Lenten project is to collect and assemble UMCOR health kits, which are sent throughout the world to people in need. We are asking our Sunday school classes and members of the church to help with donations of money and/or supplies. A separate letter will be given out to all Sunday school classes asking for specific supplies needed to assemble health kits - hand towels, wash cloths toothbrushes, band aids, soap, nail files/ clippers and combs. All church members are welcome to also donate supplies and/or money. A collection bin will be in back of the church during Lent. All money collected will be used to purchase any additional supplies needed to finish health kits. Thank you for your support.

Jessica Cronk and Barbara Blaskopf

# **COME ONE – COME ALL SHROVE TUESDAY FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE TUESDAY**

Call it whatever you like, it is the day before Ash Wednesday which is the beginning of the 40 days of Lent.

We will be serving wonderful homemade pancakes with several chefs at the griddles

TIME: 5:30PM TO 7:00PM

DATE: TUESDAY, FEBRAURY 13, 2018

PLACE: FELLOWSHIP HALL

PRICE: \$5.00 Adults \$1:00 Children under 10

We ask that you please make a reservation so we may plan for the right amount of these delicious pancakes,

We want to make sure we have enough for everyone.

Please fill in the bottom of this page and place it in the offering plate or call the church office 631-661-5151 with your reservation by February 11th

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NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

FOR PANCAKE DINNER: ADULTS \_\_\_\_\_ CHILDREN \_\_\_\_\_

Could you help with: Set Up – Tuesday Afternoon @ 4:00pm\_\_\_\_\_

Serve @ 5:15 \_\_\_\_\_Clean Up\_\_\_\_\_

## United Methodist Women NEWS

**Welcome to 2018, and another exciting year of working together** to explore ways to assist each other, our church, and the United Methodist Women worldwide. Please remember that any woman in the church may join. We have Circles that meet regularly, as well as some that communicate by emails and phone. There are no special requirements!! We are all busy with our individual responsibilities, and I certainly respect and THANK YOU ALL for doing whatever you are able to do for our UMW. No plate of cookies, distributing flowers, or help setting up tables is too small a contribution.

“Thank you” to Connie Pancella for stepping up to Chair the **Tea at Two on May 5**. The first planning meeting will be after church at 10:45 on February 11. All are welcome to attend.

Please call my cell phone, 516-429-6964, any time if you have UMW questions or comments.

Thank you, Vicki Troise

**Executive Board** now meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 10 am in Wesley Hall.

### **February:**

February Food Sale on Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup>. Miriam Circle is in charge. It is Super Bowl Sunday.

Executive Board will meet on Wednesday, February 7 at 10 am in Wesley Hall.

Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup>, Tea at Two planning meeting right after church. All are welcome.

Priscilla Circle has the Flowers for February.

### **March will be United Methodist Women month.**

UMW will sponsor a **Coffee Hour on Sunday, March 4**.

Executive Board will meet on Wednesday March 7 at 10 am.

General Meeting Luncheon on Tuesday, March 13 at 12:30 pm.  
Anna is Hostess and Priscilla has the Program. Health kits are due this day.

Blanket Sunday will be March 18.  
Esther Circle has the Flowers for March.  
Please offer to usher any Sunday this month if you are able.

Please check the UMW bulletin board for information about the Book Club



**MYF Schedule - February-May – 2018**  
*(all meetings/events are for 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade unless otherwise noted)*

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**February 3:** Dinner, Board Game, and a Movie! - 5:00-8:00pm

**February 11:** MYF Meeting - 6:00-7:30pm

**February 16-18:** No MYF Events - President's Day Weekend

**February 25:** MYF Meeting - 6:00-7:30pm

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**March 3:** MYF Field Trip - Museum of Natural History - Open to the church

**March 11: MYF Meeting - 6:00-7:30pm**

**March 17: Big Charity Service Day - Jenn!**

**March 25: MYF Egg Meeting - 6:00-7:30pm**

**March 31: Easter Egg Hunt - MYFers arrive at 9:30**

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**April 7: MYF Kickball - 10:30am**

**April 15: MYF Field Trip - Fire Island Lighthouse - 2:00pm**

**April 22: MYF Car Wash - 10:30am**

**April 28 or 29: Rain Date for Kickball, Lighthouse Field Trip, or Car Wash**

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**May 6: Confirmation Sunday - MYF Meeting - 6:00-7:30om (or maybe Youth Sunday)**

**May 13: Rain Date for Kickball, Lighthouse Field Trip, or Car Wash - OR Nature Walk**

**May 18-20: Quinipet!!!**

**May 18-20: No MYF Events - Memorial Day Weekend**

# MARCH 3

## **MYF field trip** **Museum of natural** **history**

### **MYF Field Trip - Open to the entire church**

On Saturday, March 3, the MYF is taking a field trip to the American Museum of Natural History in New York City.

This event is open to everyone! All are welcome!

Meet at the church at 9am and take the LIRR together.



MYF FIELD TRIP

MUSEUM OF  
NATURAL HISTORY

SATURDAY

MARCH 3

9AM

THIS EVENT IS OPEN  
TO THE WHOLE  
CHURCH!!

ALL ARE WELCOME!

MEET THE CHURCH  
AT 9AM

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF  
NATURAL HISTORY  
Central Park West & 79<sup>th</sup> St  
New York, NY 10024

Saturday- March 3 - 9am



# Scenes from an Italian Restaurant

Written by Gerry Ferretti

*"A bottle of red, a bottle of white...  
and a dead body under the table tonight..."*

## James Street Players

**Murder**  
**Mystery**  
**Dinner**

Presented by the

***On Saturday Feb 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm,***

Join us for a delicious spaghetti dinner and help the world's greatest detectives solve this mystery!

***Adults \$15.00 (Children 12 and under \$10.00)***

***Due to limited seating in the dining room  
Advanced Ticket Sales are recommended***

***R.S.V.P by Feb 21<sup>st</sup> 2018***

Send payments (check/cash) to:  
James Street Players - ***Attn: Lisa Landry***

21 James Street, Babylon NY 11702

Questions?? Contact us at:  
[TheJamesStreetPlayers@GMail.com](mailto:TheJamesStreetPlayers@GMail.com) Box Office: (631) 649-4140

*Snow Date March 3, 2018*