



The Parish News

United Methodist Church of Hempstead
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February 2020

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A Message From the Pastor's Desk



"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?" (Psalm 27:1)

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We are living in fearful times. Even the strongest person becomes afraid. The Merriam-Webster Dictionary describes fear as "an unpleasant often strong emotion caused by expectation or awareness of danger." Fear comes in various forms. For example: anxiety, apprehension, depression, panic, and terror. Our minds get filled with fear. We are afraid of the dark and many other things. We have personal fears, family fears, political and other fears. Even the strongest Bible characters, who had overcome various challenging moments in their life time, had their share of fear.

Who do we turn to when we are fearful? Our friends and family do their best, but we are all imperfect human beings who let others down from time to time. The Psalmist David experienced difficult times. During those difficult experiences, he realized that God was with him. He learned to put his confidence in God.

God Almighty provides us the light to live in this world through His Holy Word. The Bible guides and strengthens us so that we are not afraid of any situation. And we are able to trust in the countless



promises of God.

The psalmist also reminds us of the great salvation that God has secured for us by the death of His Son our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. When sorrows and troubles come and make us fearful, as children of God, we need to embrace the Word so that we would be able to face our situation courageously. As Jesus Christ, our true Light and our Salvation has said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you, do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." (John 14:27)

Yours in His Service,

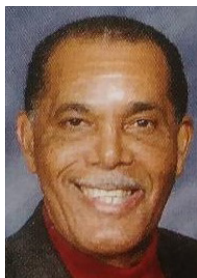
St. Clair A. Samuel



In the Spotlight

Leon Williams

Winston Robinson



Congratulations to Winston Robinson and Leon Williams who received Lifetime Achievement awards several months ago for their accomplishments and dedication to the United Methodist Men

Winston Robinson was born on the Island of Jamaica, West Indies. As a teenager, he relocated to America and lived in the Bronx, NY. During his young adult life, Winston had the opportunity to meet Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. several times, due to his father's involvement with the Civil Rights Movement. These interactions with Dr. King left a lasting impact on Winston, as the meaning and value that he took from Dr. King's work and mission became foundational pillars that positively steered his life's journey.

As an adult, Winston moved to West Hempstead, where he attended the United Methodist Church of Hempstead, and joined the membership in 1996. During his twenty-plus years as a member, Winston served on many committees: Race and Religion, Social Concerns, Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee; and as Council Chairperson, Lay leader, Head Usher of one of the Usher's teams; Scholarship Committee, as well as contributed to the construction of the Sunday School classrooms. He particularly enjoyed his role as one of the breakfast chefs for the United Methodist Men's monthly breakfast meetings, as well as one of the coordinators for the UMM of Hempstead's Annual Dinner Dance.

Although Winston remains a man of conviction, faith and prayer, due to his current health challenges he is unable to regularly attend Sunday Worship, Bible Study Sessions and the UMM Saturday Prayer Services, but continues to pray for the unity and spiritual development of our congregation.

Leon Williams was originally from Charleston, South Carolina and relocated to Harlem, NY in 1955. A previous officer of the NYCPD, he retired from his job 1985. Leon is the husband of Rev. Elizabeth L. Williams, a retired United Methodist Pastor.

Together, he and his wife raised their three daughters, now adults. He is a family man who also enjoys being the proud grandfather of twelve.

Leon has been a resident of the Hempstead Community since 1974. He joined the United Methodist Church of Hempstead 1985. During his 34 years of active membership, he has always made himself available in numerous areas of volunteering. He was the past president of the United Methodist Men and is still involved in this group. Because of his expertise and love of cooking, he was regularly sought out to cook at church events, willingly applying himself to the task. He never said no to a request for help. He is a staunch advocate and volunteer of the Hempstead Fellowship Brunch and always lends a hand at this important ministry, which provides healthy and hearty meals to those in need in the community. Leon has an abiding love for the fellowship and warmth of this church and has always been a reliable and dependable volunteer.

Black History Month - Remembering Those Whose Contributions Impacted the World

February marks Black History Month, a federally recognized, nationwide celebration that calls on all Americans to reflect on the significant roles that African-Americans have played in shaping US history.

The man behind the holiday, **Carter G. Woodson**, considered a pioneer in the study of African-American history, is given much of the credit for Black History Month.

The son of former slaves, Woodson spent his childhood working in coal mines and quarries. He received his education during the four-month term that was customary for black schools at the time.

At 19, having taught himself English fundamentals and arithmetic, Woodson entered high school, where he completed a four-year curriculum in two years. He went on to earn his master's degree in history from the University of Chicago and later earned a doctorate from Harvard. Disturbed that history textbooks largely ignored America's black population, Woodson took on the challenge of writing black Americans into the nation's history. To do this, he established the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. He also founded the group's widely respected publication, the *Journal of Negro History*.

In 1926, Woodson developed Negro History Week. He believed "the achievements of the Negro properly set forth will crown him as a factor in early human progress and a maker of modern civilization."

In 1976, Negro History Week expanded into Black History Month. Woodson chose the second week of February for this celebration because it marks the birthdays of two men who greatly influenced the black American population:

Frederick Douglass, who escaped slavery and became an abolitionist and civil rights leader; though his birthdate isn't known, he celebrated it on February 14.

President Abraham Lincoln, who signed the Emancipation Proclamation, which abolished slavery in America's confederate states; born on February 12. For his work, Woodson has been called the Father of Black History.

*CNN article, "Meet the Man Who Created Black History Month," Feb. 1, 2019. Retrieved from www.cnn.com.



Save the Date!



UNITED METHODIST
MEN of HEMPSTEAD

"Building Men Who Resemble Jesus"

Men's Ministry Seminar

February 16, 2020 ~ 8:30 -9:30 am
(Includes Breakfast)

Prayer Ministry

Speaker: Jaime Novesteras
NYAC, UMM Prayer Advocate
(Wesley UMC)



All Men of the Western End Cooperative Parish of the
LIE District are Invited



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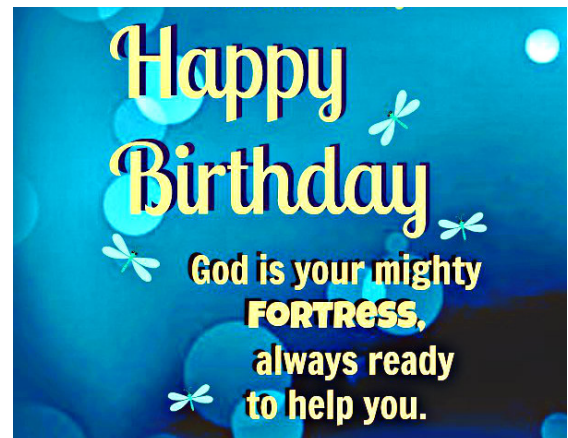
Sunshine Column



Birthday List - February 2020

Patrick Thomson	February 3rd
Hugh Brown	February 4th
Daniella Johnson	February 5th
Celeste Walwyn	February 6th
Jean Bearak	February 9th
Alexis Redman	February 10th
Chelsea Redman	February 10th
Xavyer Thomson	February 11th
Meda Hill	February 12th
Dorothy Zondag	February 13th
Miriam Harris	February 14th
Paulette Brown	February 16th
Marilyn Harris	February 17th
Shirley Brown	February 18th
Jackie Morgan	February 18th
Ruth Robinson	February 20th
Roger Eastman	February 21st

Shari Bailey	February 23rd
Norman Brown	February 24th
Daniella Dwyer	February 24th
Clifford Brown	February 26th
Xavier Gooding	February 26th
Stephen Samuel	February 28th
Jon Lee	February 29th



If your name is not on this list, please contact Mary Johnson or Karen Bonnet in the church office.

Parish News Announcements

Please submit all information (articles, announcements, photos) about events, committee/ministries news, and other information that you can share with our church family to: hempsteadumc@gmail.com, or drop them off in the church office by February 16th. The next *Parish News* will be distributed in March 2020. Your church-related articles and photos are welcome.

If you are new to the church and wish to become a member, please see Pastor.

Church Schedule

**Sunday: 8:30 AM Bible Study
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM Morning Worship
(Social Hour to Follow)**

**Sunday: Service in Spanish,
12:30 PM**

**Wednesday: Bible Study, 7:30 PM
Thursday: Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM**



2020 New Year's Day Brunch

The congregation and friends of the church enjoyed the annual New Year's Day Brunch held at the UMC of Hempstead on January 1, 2020, hosted by the Evangelism and Hempstead Fellowship Brunch committees.

In addition to a variety of breakfast and brunch foods, prepared by volunteers from the church, there were plenty of smiling faces and fellowship, as everyone welcomed the New Year.





Happy New Year!



Red Stocking Campaign

The persons listed below have collectively donated \$381.00 to the Brooklyn Methodist Hospital's Red Stocking Campaign. Many good wishes for a 2020 full of blessings:



Marilyn Harris
Dorothea Samuel
Marcia & Duncan Chase
Pearl Miles-Lee
Julia & Jim Ross
Sheila Smith
Royston Bailey

Margaret & Errol Foo
Rubia Rivas
Janice LaLumia
Dot Zondag
Jean Bearak
Gloria Howard
Miriam Richards
Eileen & Bentley Bailey

Grace Brammer
Lettsome Family
The Redman's
Cynthia & Winston
Elizabeth Williams
Miriam Harris
Ann & Carlson Connor



February Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 Black History Moment	3	4	5 Bible Study, 7:30 pm	6	7	8 Evangelism, 12 Noon
9 Black History Moment	10	11	12 Bible Study, 7:30 pm	13	14 	15 Trustees, 10:00 am UMW, 10:30 am
16 UMM, 8:30 am Black History Moment	17	18 Finance, 7:30 pm	19 Bible Study, 7:30 pm	20	21	22 Hempstead Fellowship Brunch, 11am-1pm
23 Black History Moment	24 Church Council, 7:30 pm	25	26 Ash Wed. Evangelism, 12 Noon Bible Study, 7:30 pm	27	28	29

A Worship Moment

"Call to me and I will answer you." - Jeremiah 33:3

Oh, how great our God, and how reassuring His promises! Isn't it wonderful to know that when we come to Him in quiet prayer each morning, seeking His will and guidance, bringing our needs before Him, and humbly offering ourselves to His service, we can face the problems and challenges of the new day unafraid? He will direct our decisions, give us the strength we need to meet the challenges of the day, allay our fears, ease our pains, comfort us in any sorrows, and use us in His service. The above scripture continues, "and I will show you great and mighty things which you do not know!" Surely with this in mind, we can live each new day confidently, filled with hope and peace. So, call to Him, be filled with joy at knowing Him, take delight in serving Him, and enjoy the abundant life He has promised as you and He walk together through the day. What new and wonderful things will He show you today?

- Jean Howell

Note: Jean Howell was a member of the UMC of Hempstead for many years until her passing in April 2014. A dedicated lady who was active in church activities, she was also a caring, spiritual person who made a positive impact on many people in the congregation and within her family. She wrote her inspirational "A Worship Moment" articles for the congregation to enjoy.

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The United Methodist Church of Hempstead,
40 Washington Street, Hempstead, NY 11550
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February 2020 Editor and Art Director: Karen Bonnet



At the beginning of Advent, you received an Advent coin box for your loose coins. It's time to turn it in. Perhaps it got pushed to the back of your counter, table or where ever it had been placed (oh no). The funds from these banks are used for the ministries of the church. Please bring it in and give to an usher. If you can't find it, there are Gratitude coin boxes in the Narthex that serve the same cause. Help yourself.

White Gifts: Seventy-nine toys were donated in December for children in need. Thank you for your generosity.

United Methodist Women: The February meeting will be held on February 15th at 10:30 am. We will discuss planning for the upcoming UMW annual spring brunch on March 21st. All are welcome.

Black History Month: February is Black History Month and each Sunday during worship service, we will have a "Black History Moment," where a speaker from the congregation will share a meaningful experience or story. Please join us!

Family Fellowship Dinner and Variety Concert: Join the congregation on February 15th, 4 pm, hosted by the Evangelism Committee. Tickets will be available during Coffee Hour on Feb. 2nd and Feb. 9th.

Ash Wednesday is on February 26th. Each Wed. evening during Lent, beginning with March 4th, we invite you to share a Lenten supper & prayer reflection, beginning at 7 pm. Additional information will be available in the March newsletter and the Sunday bulletins.

Take time in the Narthex: When entering or leaving service, see what is on the table in the Narthex. The latest *Upper Room* and *Parish News*, boxes for used stamps and old batteries, envelopes for "In Memory Of," "In Honor of" and UMCOR contributions. The book shelf has information about the church and a basket with gratitude boxes (empty). Feel free to take one and fill to help support the ministries of the church.



UMW Brunch - Saturday

March 21st, 2019

10:00 am

All are welcome!



**The
Evangelism
Committee
Invites You To**

**Family Fellowship
Dinner and Variety Concert**

**Saturday, Feb. 15, 2020 - 4:00 pm
At UMC of Hempstead**

**Adults: \$15
Children, 12 and
under: \$10**
**A variety of music
and talent!**

Menu Choices:
Roast Beef, Chicken or Fish
With sides: Potatoes or Rice
With vegetables: Broccoli or
mixed veggies.
Cake, water, iced tea, coffee and
tea also included.

**Tickets will be available for purchase on January 26th
and February 9th during Coffee Hour.**

**COME JOIN THE
FUN!**



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Rev. St. Clair A. Samuel, Pastor