



The Parish News

United Methodist Church of Hempstead
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March 2020

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A Message From the Pastor's Desk



"Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights..." (Matthew 4:1-2, NRSV)

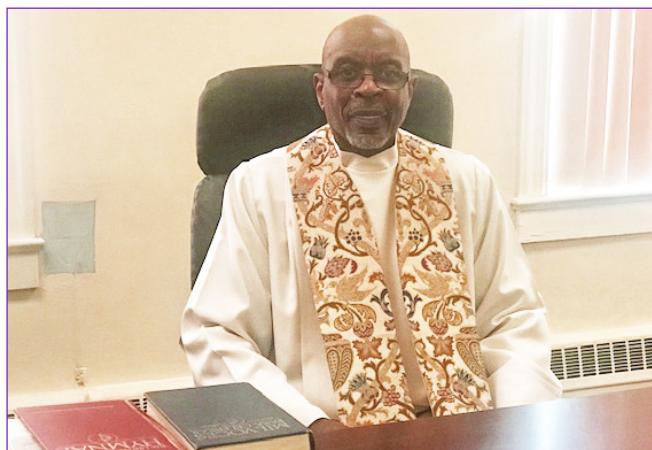
Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We have begun the forty-day journey in which we reflect on our Savior Jesus' wandering in the wilderness, tempted by Satan. Each of us goes through temptation in a personal way. Sometimes we think no one else understands what we are experiencing. But the truth is others go through what we are going through.

Lent is about examining ourselves and being reminded that we depend on God alone. To help us remember how Jesus denied himself, some people give up something during Lent. Others, recognizing all that Jesus took on for our salvation, will take on something during the season of Lent. For example, some will take on a more disciplined prayer and devotional life. And there are those who will devote more of their time to mission or other service projects.

This season has been given to us as a way of strengthening our relationship with God. It is a time to meditate on the life of Christ and to realize and appreciate what Christ has done for us.

Whether we deny ourselves or give of ourselves during this season, the purpose is to draw us closer to God through Jesus Christ, by the power of the



Holy Spirit.

Lent is also a time of preparation for the celebration of Jesus' triumph over death by his resurrection. But we must relive the events of Holy Week—the final days leading up to Easter.

The resurrection of Jesus is what gives us hope. At Easter we celebrate the good news that in Christ's death and resurrection we and all of creation are continually being made new by God's love and saving grace.

As we continue on this Lenten journey may we make use of the opportunity to grow in our faith and discover our path of personal reflection and spiritual renewal.

Yours in Christ,

St. Clair A. Samuel



Family Fellowship Dinner and Variety Concert

Many people from the congregation, as well as friends of the church participated in the first **Family Fellowship Dinner and Concert**, organized by the Evangelism Committee. It was held on February 15, 2020 at the UMC of Hempstead. The afternoon was alive with camaraderie, laughter, and delicious aromas from a variety of cooked food, prepared and cooked by Ruth Robinson, Leon Williams, and Oniel Rose. The menu included a choice of roast beef, fish, and chicken with an array of side dishes, vegetables, desserts, and refreshments. Royston Bailey said the food was delicious, and there was “plenty of it.” “Ruth Robinson, Leon Williams, and Oniel Rose did a spectacular job in the kitchen. Mrs. Pollock’s salad, and rum and carrot cakes were a hit with everyone.”

In addition to a bounty of food, those who attended were treated to entertainment and readings that drew smiles all around. Shari Bailey gave a dramatization of poems which was well received; Joshua Boucicaut performed on the saxophone. “Joshua’s performance was the highlight of the event. Everyone applauded heartily,” said Royston. Royston’s cousin, Maurice Archibald, played the steel pan, and George Blair sang a solo, “Great is Thy Faithfulness,” which rocked the house. Last, but not least, Pastor Samuel sang a short rendition of “Love Lifted Me,” an appropriate tune to set the mood for the Valentine’s Day weekend.

Many thanks to the Evangelism Committee and all the volunteers from the congregation who gave their talents and time to ensure the event was a success.



Photos, courtesy of Grace Brammer.



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Sunshine Column



Birthday List - March 2020

George Knight	March 8th
Irma Alleyne-Mahabir	March 8th
Maxine Knight	March 11th
Paul Ross	March 12th
Kimberly Johnson	March 13th
Beatrice Nwatu	March 14th
Jade Page	March 14th
Linda Gomes	March 15th
Charlene Brown	March 17th
Glenston Bucknor	March 19th
Sheila Smith	March 20th
Janice LaLumia	March 20th
Cherie Brown	March 23rd
Nadine Samuels	March 31st
Errol Foo	March 31st



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 March 16th. The next *Parish News* will be distributed in April 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

LENT



February Hempstead Fellowship Brunch



HFB volunteers, including members of the **Hicksville South Rotary Club**, were on hand in February to provide a hot and hearty brunch to more than 100 guests from the community. In addition, congregation members donated blankets, hats, socks, gloves, and clothing, which were given to those who needed these items. Thank you to everyone who assisted.



A Worship Moment

Once again the festivities and feasting of Mardi Gras have ended and the season of Lent has begun. These weeks are traditionally a time of repentance and fasting. Why not do a little of both during these coming weeks by fasting on our wordly pursuits and feasting on His word? What better time to learn more about this man Jesus, who we profess to love and whom we seek to follow and serve. We are called to be like him and to imitate him and so we need to know what he is like. To accomplish this, why not read again his four autobiographies written by the writers of the Gospels? Remember, their stories are not fiction. These are true stories written by eyewitnesses. Through them, follow the Christ on his inevitable journey from the manger to the cross and even beyond.

In their pages, learn of his life, his ministry, and his teachings. Who did he claim to be? What were his promises? How may we claim them? Who did others say he was? As we, today's followers of the way, learn about those early followers, do we see something of ourselves in any particular one of them? Or do we perhaps see a little of ourselves in every one of them? Most importantly, do we see anything that resembles the Christ in ourselves? Think on these things during the coming weeks as we draw nearer to the time of remembering the final chapters of His story, the most beautiful story ever told!

- 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.



**UNITED METHODIST
MEN of HEMPSTEAD**

"Building Men Who Resemble Jesus"

Men's Ministry Seminars

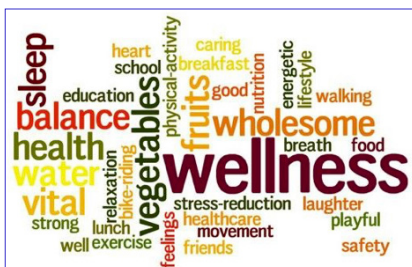
March 7, 2020 ~ 10:00 am
(Includes Breakfast)

Financial Seminar

Speaker: Donna Fykes, Investment Advisor; Primamerica

Men's Health

Speaker: Allean T. Brown, Lay Speaker; Brooks UMC



**ATTENTION: ALL CHURCH MEMBERS, ESPECIALLY
OUR YOUNG ADULTS**



United Methodist Church of Hempstead
40 Washington Street ~ Hempstead, NY 11550
516-485-6363



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

UMW Annual Brunch
Sat., March 21st
10 am - 1 pm



**Entrees, salads, desserts, fruit, hot
and cold beverages will be available**


Guest speaker: Ms. Sharon Noisette Jenkins
Program: Creating a Space for Grace

**Please bring a non-perishable food item
for our food pantry. Bring a guest!**

The United Methodist Church of Hempstead
40 Washington Street • Hempstead, NY 11550
516-485-6363 • Rev. St. Clair Samuel, Pastor



March Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Outreach, 12 Noon	2	3	4 Lenten dinner and Reflection, 7:00 pm	5	6	7 UMM Men's Ministry Seminars, 10 am
8 Evangelism, 12 Noon	9	10	11 Lenten dinner and Reflection, 7:00 pm	12	13	14 UMM Prayer Service, 8 am
15 UMM meeting, 8:30 am Wellness, 12 noon	16	17 Finance, 7:30 pm  Happy St. Patrick's Day	18 Lenten dinner and Reflection, 7:00 pm	19	20	21 UMM Prayer Service, 8 am Trustees, 10 am UMW Brunch 10:00 am
22 Women's Day Service, 10 am UMCOR Sunday	23 Church Council, 7:30 pm	24	25 Lenten Dinner and Reflection, 7:00 pm	26	27	28 UMM Prayer Service 8 am Hempstead Fellowship Brunch, 11am-1pm
29	30	31				

Lenten Calendar

Lenten Suppers and Sponsors - 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Lenten Reflections - 8:00 pm - 8:30 pm

March 4: United Methodist Men & United Methodist Women
 March 11: Worshp, Evangelism & Ushers
 March 18: Missions & Finance
 March 25: Trustees & Pastor-Parish Relations
 April 1: Hispanic Ministry & Choir

April 5: Joint Passion/Palm Sunday Service of Lessons, Hymns & Communion, 10 am
 April 9: Joint Holy Thursday Service with Communion, 7:30 pm
 April 10: Good Friday Service, Western End Cooperative Parish, 12 Noon
 April 12: Easter Sunday Service (English) in the Sanctuary, 10 am; Easter Sunday Service (Spanish) in the Sanctuary, 12:30 pm.



POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
The United Methodist Church of Hempstead
"Parish News" at 40 Washington Street,
Hempstead, NY 11550

The Parish News (USPS 421-140)
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40 Washington Street, Hempstead, NY 11550
Telephone: 516-485-6363 Fax: 516-485-4803

March 2020 Editor and Art Director: Karen Bonnet



Lenten Dinners and Reflections: During Lent we gather together for Wednesday Lenten Supper at 7pm. Just bring a dish, be it a home-made specialty, or store-bought, we love it all. There is no planned menu, except dessert is provided. It is always an adventure and a wonderful time for fellowship. At 8 pm, following dinner, there will be a half hour session in the chapel covering a Gospel lesson.

UMCOR Sunday is March 22nd: A special collection will be taken to support administration costs of UMCOR. In supporting this, when a disaster happens, 100% of donations will go where it is most needed for relief of the victims.

Church World Service (CWS) Health Kit Campaign:

Watch for the HEALTH KIT collection table. When people are forced to abruptly leave their homes because of emergencies, they may not have time to pack the things they use on a daily basis like toothbrushes or soap. But after a few days without these items, they definitely miss them. The health kit offers a refreshing daily boost for someone when supplies are hard to come by. Last year we assembled over 100 kits to be shipped to Church World Service. Once again, we will be collecting items during coffee hour. While you are out shopping, pick up an item or two needed to complete the kits: hand towel, washcloth, wide tooth comb, fingernail/toenail clipper, bath size soap, toothbrush in original package and ten standard size Band-Aids. A \$2.00 processing fee is required for each kit. Thank you!



Years ago the church recognized the importance of becoming a **GREEN** Church, not only to save money but to help the planet. This is just a reminder of things to be done, not only in church but also in your home: turn off lights if you are last to leave a room, do not leave water running; no styrofoam (it is not biodegradable); use the recycle bin for all plastic, cans, bottles. Today, more than ever, we hear how important it is to care for our planet—let us all do our part.

UMW Brunch: UMW is hosting a fellowship brunch on Sat., March 21st for all the women of the church.

Invitations have been sent to other Methodist and local churches. Come and enjoy the fellowship. You are asked to bring a can or box of food for LICC food pantry. Join us!

Women's Sunday is March 22: All women of the church will be honored. The colors of the day are white and purple. There will be a special coffee hour in celebration. Please plan to attend that day. (Plan to attend every Sunday, each one is special).



The United Methodist Men held a Prayer Wall Seminar on February 16th at the UMC of Hempstead, organized by Royston Bailey. The speaker, Jaime Novesteras, also led the group in prayer; the men in attendance shared breakfast, as well as thought-provoking conversations.

Pictured above (L-R): Royston Bailey, Jame Novesteras, Thomas Pollock, Kene Erike, David Reid, Vance Bailey, Kevin Lloyd, and Pastor Samuel.