

Great Kills Moravian Church Herald

February 2025

Volume 2, page 1

Watchword for this Church for 2025:

Is anything too wonderful for the Lord?

Genesis 18:14 We believe this text is guided by the Holy Spirit, and we often find inspiration as we refer to the watchword throughout the year.

“Have Faith, Hope and Charity that’s the way to live successfully, how do I know, the Bible tells me so.” We sang that song with Roy Rogers and Dale Evans back in 1955. The first phrase comes from 1 Corinthians 13:13 in the King James Version of the Bible, “And now abideth faith, hope, and charity; these three. But the greatest of these is charity.” Newer Bible translations use words that are closer to what Paul wanted the Church in Corinth to know. Our church uses the New International Version that says, “and now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love.

One of the scripture readings for next Sunday, February 2, is 1 Corinthians 13:1-13. There are beautiful words and thoughts in that passage. Perhaps the pastor will use them in her sermon. But perhaps she will base her sermon on Luke 4:21-30, the gospel lesson for that day. Whatever scripture the sermon focuses on, I enjoy preparing for the lesson by reading the scriptures ahead of time.

Charlott Bramwell

Joint Board News:

Our 2024 weekly envelope offerings were down almost \$13,000 from this time in 2023. Loose change collections were also down.

Retiring trustee: Nancy Walker. Retiring elders: Jim Jimenez and Margaret Grace.

"In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, love."



Great Kills Moravian Church
Pastor: Blondel Jones-Grant

Phone: 718-317-7788

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*Office: Mon- Thurs 9am - 1pm

*office hours subject to change

Office Administrator: Michael Cipolla

Email: office@greatkillsmoravian.org

Website: www.greatkillsmoravian.org

We are also on Facebook

Email: pastor@greatkillsmoravian.org

Elders:

Blondel Jones-Grant, Pastor/Chair

Liz Reres, Vice Chair

Karen Maskuli

Debra Jelonek

Charlott Bramwell

Todd Hallett

Muriel Timari

Trustees:

Blondel Jones-Grant, Ex-Officio

Nancy Burri, President

Mike Crea, Vice-President & Treasurer

Claudia McGloin, Financial Secretary

Janice Hermansen

Stan Timari

Jim Jimenez

More Joint Board news:

From the Financial Secretary: Please include your envelope number in the memo on your check. Questions ask Claudia McGloin.

The church office will be closed Monday February 17th for Presidents Day.

Elders will meet Thursday February 20 at 11:00am.

Trustees are scheduled to meet Sunday February 23 after service.

New Elders and Trustees will be installed next Sunday Feb 2. Karen Maskuli and Debra Jelonek as Elder and Jim Jimenez as Trustee.

We thank Nancy Walker for her service as Trustee and Margaret Grace for her service as Elder. Well done, good and faithful servants .

Ministries and Events:

Sunday Worship Services: We continue to hold worship services on Sunday at 11am **in person and via Zoom**. Worship aids and worship services are available for Zoom on our website, <https://www.greatkillsmoravian.org/> If you missed a service click on the Watch Now button under Previous Services and then click on the service you would like to view.

Communion Services: *February Communion cups can be delivered if you plan to join a communion service on Zoom. Please contact the church office if you would like to have one delivered to you. Office phone 718-317-7788, e-mail office@greatkillsmoravian.org*

Sunday School: Sunday School begins at 9:30am, please contact Pam Bailey at eccep3@gmail.com for registration and additional information.

Children's Chat: Children's Chat meets every second Sunday of the month.

Bible Study: Bible study group will begin the Gospel of Mark downstairs after the worship service next Sunday, February 2. If you can, read the first two chapters of Mark beforehand. Contact Todd Hallett or the church office if you need more information.

Prayer shawl ministry: Prayer shawls are knit or crocheted for those who are in need of comfort or those who are celebrating something. If you are interested in volunteering to help make shawls or if you know someone that would like a Prayer Shawl, please contact the church office.

GKMC Fellowship Hour: Also, Fellowship hour is scheduled for February 9. Do you want to help or host? There's a signup sheet in the Narthex. Ask one of the ushers or greeters if you can't find it. Do you like to smile at people and welcome them? We could use you as a greeter or usher. Tell an elder or the pastor.

Resources for Caring for Immigrant and Refugee Neighbors:

Jesus commands us to love and care for our neighbors. The scriptures of the Old and New Testaments direct us to care for those seeking refuge and shelter in our lands. As our spiritual ancestors began as refugees receiving sanctuary in Herrnhut, and as a worldwide Unity with many of those seeking refuge from areas with Moravian populations, this is a critical time to remember our baptism and courageously bring light and hope to our immigrant and refugee neighbors. Our church office as well as Pastor Blondel have information to help.

Sue Koenig, suekoenig@mcnp.org and Marian Boyle Rohloff, pastor@wsmoraviangb.org have additional information.

Events Happening beyond GKMC:

Vanderbilt Community Dinner: The next community dinner is *Saturday, February 15th 4:00pm-6:30pm*. You are invited to Vanderbilt's monthly community dinner. If you would like to help in any way or need more information, please contact Muriel Timari.

Moravian Women's Conference: June 22nd - June 28th Aboard the Royal Caribbean Oasis Of the Seas. Contact the office for more information.

Moravian Day of Giving is March 4. The Sunday before that, March 2, we will collect a special Unity Prayer Offering intended for, "the Common Moravian Theological Curriculum in Spanish." This offering is in addition to, not instead of, your weekly offering to Great Kills Moravian Church. Because we depend on your weekly offering to run our church, please continue to give what you have pledged in your heart to give. At the same time, please consider what you can contribute, in addition, to the special Unity Prayer Offering next month

The Joyful Noise Offering, collected every second Sunday by the children supports three different ministries. The most recent is the Essentials Cafe in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Located in the diverse neighborhood of West Bethlehem, the Cafe serves a community of people from all walks of life with no set prices for food. They operate on "donations, good will, and generosity." There are suggested donations for their delicious nutritious meals. Some give the suggested donation; some pay what they can afford, most pay more. Essentials Cafe has a web page: essentialscafe.org. They are also on Facebook. Joyful Noise Offering also supports Camp Hope and Moravian Open Door.

Pysanky Egg Classes Will be starting soon. Call the church office to register or for more information. Each class will be \$25 which includes refreshment.

Pysanky Schedule:

- Sat. February 22nd @ 10:00 am (advanced*)
- Sat. March 1st @ 10:00 am (advanced*)
- Sat. March 8th @ 10:00 am
- Fri. March 14th @ 6:30 pm
- Sat. March 22nd @ 10:00 am (advanced*)
- Fri. April 4th @ 6:30 pm
- Sat. April 12th @ 10:00 am
- Mon. April 21st @ 10:00 am
- Sat. April 26th @ 10:00 am (advanced*)

***Advanced sessions are for those who have experience creating Pysanky eggs and do not require additional instruction.**

Pastors scheduled for February

- Feb 2-** *Pastor Blondel Jones-Grant*
co-leader *Jim Jimenez*
- Feb 9-** *Pastor Blondel Jones-Grant*
co-leader *Muriel Timari*
- Feb 16-** *Rev. Blondel Jones-Grant*
co-leader *Jim Jimenez*
- Feb 23 -** *Pastor Jesus Laguerra*
co-leader *Todd Hallett*

Prayers for: *Sabrina, John Ducey, Bill and Carol Burt, Susan C, Frank and family, Nicholas Falvey and his family, Joanne K, Joyce Fernandez, Captain J. King, Madeline M, Doug Wycoff, Sean and family, Thora Mae and family, Hurricane Helene and Milton victims. (Please contact the church office to add or remove names from the prayer list)*

GKMC Prayer List

To add someone, send a request to the office. Request forms are in a basket in the Narthex. Otherwise contact Louise Brackett.



Happy 90th Birthday to Janet Buell and Madeline Muller!

February Birthdays

- 2/2 Mathilde Gutierrez
Jenna Jersek
- 2/5 Emma Hansem-Price
- 2/6 Assibi Ali
- 2/9 Sophia Pisano
- 2/15 Brittany D'Avino
- 2/16 Louise Brackett
- 2/17 Stephanie Smith
Jamie Jersek
- 2/18 Louis Pezzengrilli, Jr

February Anniversaries

- 2/20 Ethel & William Ducey

February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
www.greatkillsmoravian.org Facebook						1
2 Fourth Sunday After Epiphany 9:30am Sunday School 11am Worship In-person and via Zoom - Holy Communion 12am Bible Study	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Fifth Sunday After Epiphany 9:30am Sunday School 11am Worship In-person and via Zoom - Joyful Noise Offering 12pm Bible Study Fellowship Hour	10	11	12	13 AARP Meeting	14 Valentine 's Day	15 4:00pm Vanderbilt Community Dinner
16 Sixth Sunday After Epiphany 9:30am Sunday School 11am Worship In-person and via Zoom 12am Bible Study	17 Presidents Day Church Office closed	18	19	20 11:00am Elders Meeting	21	22 9:00am Pysanky Egg Class (advanced*)
23 Seventh Sunday After Epiphany 9:30am Sunday School 11am Worship In-person and via Zoom -Trustees Meeting After Service 12am Bible Study	24	25	26	27	28	

Great Kills Moravian Church
62 Hillside Terrace
Staten Island, N Y 10308

Great Kills Moravian Church Worship Weekly Scriptures

If you miss our In-Person worship service you may join in the recorded services available on our church website 24/7.

February 2— Fourth Sunday after Christmas

Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30

February 9 — Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 6:1-8,9-13; Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

February 16— Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 6:17-26

February 23 — Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

Genesis 45:3-11,15; Psalm 37:1-11,39-40; 1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50; Luke 6:27-38