

NEW DORP MORAVIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the New Dorp Moravian Church is:

To **Grow** in Christ, to **Know** His love, to **Follow** His Footsteps.

CONGREGATION WATCHWORD for 2021

“You are the salt of the earth.” *Matthew 5:13*

The Moravian Church is a Protestant church. Moravians are Trinitarian (believing in God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit), are Christ-centered (affirming the Lordship of Jesus Christ by His life, death and resurrection) and affirm the Old and New Testaments as sacred scripture. Moravians affirm and value the ancient Creeds (e.g. The Apostle’s Creed) but believe that equally important is how we live in relationship with God and others. Moravians have emphasized the sacredness of living our faith rather than just reciting it or preaching it.

If you would like to know more about what a “Moravian” is, are looking for a new church home, or just want to talk with someone about a concern or your faith, Pastor Duane would be glad to speak with you. He can be reached by phone or email to arrange a time.

To contact Pastor Duane, you may call or email him at:

Office Phone: (718) 351-0090. Email: PastorDuane@verizon.net.

For Pastoral emergencies after office hours: (718) 351-4047.

If you have an idea, a suggestion, a concern, or are interested in serving on a committee, please speak with our Pastor or one of the Board members.

Board of Elders:

Stephen Greet (Vice-Chair)
Anna Gaw (Nominating)
Alice Giovanniello-Cohen
Jeremi Amagsila (Worship)
Cara Kay

Kim Loize (Christian Ed.)
Libby Neri
Ellie Wan
Bob Iadarola (Outreach)

Board of Trustees:

Andrew Kay (Chair) (Concerts)
John Gaw (Vice-Chair)
Ruth Carter (Admin)
Debbie Taverna (Finance)
John (Jack) Traut

Dorothy Ambrosino
Joe Rudy (Building & Maint.)
Claire Drinnan (Memorials)
Toni-Ann Fischetti

(Committee Chair)

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Web - www.NewDorpMoravian.org

The Week of February 21-28

GREETINGS! Thank you checking in today to see what is going on (or not going on) here at New Dorp Moravian Church. The reality for all of us is that because of Covid-19 (aka the Corona virus) and the renewed limitations, closings and restrictions, the way we have “always done things”, will be different. There are again some things that we cannot do, and also things that we should not do, to keep ourselves and others safe.

Yet, as we anxiously await the time when we can again hold in-person services and do things we took for granted, we remember that we are the “salt of the earth”, we are the Body of Christ – called to feed, comfort, and encourage – to minister to one another by sharing His Good News.

Help us to BE the Church we have been called to be. Let us know if you, or someone you know has a need – whether that need is physical, financial, emotional or spiritual – and let us learn together how we can minister to address that need. So, if you know of a need, say something:

Call the Church Office and leave a message

for the Office or Pastor Duane (718-351-0090)

or Send us an email: Office@NewDorpMoravian.org

Seeds for Thought.

On this first Sunday of Lent, the texts assigned for today reveal God’s continuing presence with us. Our nature is often to journey through life on our own. We are tempted to trust in our own strength, to trust in our own knowledge, to trust in our own abilities. As we begin our Lenten journey, we rejoice in God’s desire to journey with us. And we rejoice in God’s promise to love and to heal, to forgive and to save, to protect and to deliver. In this Lenten season, let us reflect on the promises of God, Who is always with us: in snow storms and clear skies, in pandemics and in health, in death and resurrection. Amen.

Due to Covid-19 Restrictions all of our “face-to-face” worship services, meetings, and events are temporarily suspended.

We look forward to seeing you, worshipping with you and serving Christ with you as soon as the restrictions are lifted.

Office Hours

Until the Covid-19 restrictions are lifted the Church Office will be closed. Please call 718-351-0090 and leave a message if you have a prayer concern, have a question or need assistance.

Office Email: office@newdorpMoravian.org

- Pastor Duane: pastorduane@verizon.net

Our Thanks to this week's Online Worship Leaders:

- Worship Leader: **Pastor Duane Ullrich**
- Lector: **John Gaw**
- Music Director: **Dylan Sauerwald**
- Special Music: **Andrew Kay**
- Video Editor & Tech Advisor: **Andrew Kay**

A Covid-19 Announcement

On Wednesday, Pastor Duane's wife, Susan and son, Nathan, tested positive for Covid-19. Fortunately, Pastor Duane tested negative. Susan and Nathan will be in quarantine at the parsonage. Pastor Duane will be in quarantine in their house in Bethlehem, PA. As he did during the first lock-down, he will be working remotely from there until at least February 28. At present everyone is feeling ok.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation Classes have resumed, but there will be no class on February 24 or March 3. This is for youth in 7th & 8th grades. For more information, contact Pastor Duane.

Online Worship

Our services continue to be online. They are being streamed live, and then "recorded" for you, or others to view at a later time. You can access them by, going to our webpage (www.newdorpMoravian.org) and clicking on the blue button that is the link to our latest service. A link to the latest Bulletin (Order of Service) and Weekly Announcements will also be posted in that same location.

Watching on YouTube Replay

You can access a taped replay of the service by going to our website. The Live Stream link will now take you to the YouTube location, or you can go to YouTube and search for NDMCTUBE and then click on the service you wish to watch. Be aware that the Replay sometimes begins with a black screen before the service begins. You may have to fast forward in order to get to the beginning of the service.

Receiving Communion



If you would like to receive Holy Communion, we can arrange for you to receive a sealed, individual set of the Sacraments. Please leave a message for Pastor Duane on the Church Message system to make arrangements with him.

2021 Offering Envelopes

The Offering Envelopes for 2021. You may pick them up at the Church Office on Mondays and Thursdays, or by appointment. Until you receive your new envelopes you can continue to mail in your contribution, use your checking account's bill-pay feature, or use the Vanco portal on our website to make an automatic gift to the church. We thank you for your continuing support.

Worship Leaders Wanted/Needed

Since March of last year, our services have been online. We began by remotely recording our services and posted them online. Then we were able to hold in-person services again and started to live-stream the services. And now we are live-stream only. We have learned a lot in the past 9 months. We have added new equipment and technology. And, we have had time practice and experiment. We did what we could, but now we want to "take it up a notch." We want to add more variety and more participants to our services and our worship team. We would like:

More readers and lectors – We invite you to **read the liturgies and responsive** readings. Or – we invite you to **read the week’s lessons**. For the lessons you don’t have to be here – live. You could have someone record you at your home, or come during the week and be recorded at the church.

More music – We invite you to assist with the music elements of the service. For example, you could:

- **Sing a solo**, (or a duet, trio or quartet)
- **Play an instrumental piece** as a prelude, postlude, or special music.
- **Be part of a small “choir”** that helps lead the singing of the hymns and responses.

Suggest a music video to share- there are a lot videos out there of great inspirational music. We like to add them in once in a while. Just remember, just because we can download it, doesn’t mean that it is free for us to use, as copyrights and permissions may be required.

Stewardship

As individuals, one of the things we need to do occasionally is to look ahead and make a plan for our future. This plan will include financial planning – figuring out how much we will earn or receive, and then deciding what you will spend, what you will save, and perhaps, what you will give.

We are grateful to all who have been regular with their giving. Some of you have been mailing in your donations. Others have been using the Giving Portal that can be accessed on our website.

You should have received more information about using the Giving Portal. We believe that on-line giving (e-giving, automatic giving, or any number of terms for this kind of giving) can be a helpful tool for you to use – its easy, safe, its regular, and you don’t have to use envelopes and stamps. It also means your donation arrives and is recorded almost immediately. It also helps the church with a more predictable income. And it helps our Counters and Financial Secretary, because it accurately records your donation, and makes their task easier.

Grants and Assistance

While there is reason to be hopeful as the Covid-19 vaccine is now available, it doesn’t change the reality is that this is still a stressful time for many. Stressful physically, emotionally and financially. We want you to know we are here to help. We may not be able to address every need, but we do have some resources available to assist you.

If you or someone you know needs help with **issues of food, utilities, rent, fuel or other bills**, contact Pastor Duane. He will assist you **confidentially**.

Teacher and Education Grants

The UBC Central Elders have also established a grant program for **any teacher who is a member of an SI Moravian congregation** can apply for a \$100 grant as a recognition that our teachers often make purchases for classroom supplies out of their own pockets. Contact Pastor Duane for more information.

The UBC Central Elders have also established a fund to assist **SI Moravian NYC students with their on-line educational needs**. If a student needs something to help get them on-line, from computers, monitors, keyboards, etc. to software upgrades or internet access, funds are available to help. To find out more about this fund, contact Pastor Duane.

Prayers:

We pray for all who are dealing with Covid-19. We pray for those who are sick with the virus. We mourn for those who have died, or are dying. We give thanks for the medical community for their dedication to their calling and care for us when risk is high. We give thanks for those who are now administering the approved vaccines. And we give thanks for the “essential services” including the police, fire, sanitation, food providers of all types, gas stations, the producers of medical supplies, and more.

- Prayers for Eugene Isola who recently had surgery for lung cancer. He is doing well.
- Prayers for Susan and Nathan Ullrich, who tested positive for the Covid-19 virus.
- Prayers for Steve Greet and his family in Texas who are experiencing the cold, power outages, and the directive to boil water.
- Prayers for Bobby Meacham, who now lives in Houston, TX. We haven't heard about how he is doing, but he is in an affected area.