

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 (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 interest 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)

NEW DORP MORAVIAN CHURCH
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Web - www.NewDorpMoravian.org

The Week of March 7-14

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.

Rules. They are everywhere. Some are written. Some are implied. And some are in the fine print. One problem, is that human beings tend to ignore the rules they don’t like, or they look for ways around them. It was “business as usual” in the Temple when Jesus arrived. By technicality, they were following the rules, helping people fulfill the required rituals. But in the process, they forgot the purpose of those rituals, and the purpose of that sacred place – the Temple was to be a place of worship and prayer, not a marketplace. And what about us? Can we miss church and still keep the Sabbath? What swear words actually “take God’s Name in vain?” And in the process, we, too, miss the point. The point is not blind obedience a law, but taking the Law, and the Law Giver serious. It is about honoring and respecting God, and not seeing what we can get away with.

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 only be open Mondays and Thursdays from 9am – Noon.

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**
- Scripture Readers: **Confirmation Students**
John-Carmine Campagna, Jack Cohen, Evangeline Carolan
- Special Music: **Andrew Kay**
- Video Editor & Tech Advisor: **Andrew Kay**

Update

As most of you know, Pastor Duane's wife, Susan and son, Nathan, tested positive for Covid-19. At the same time, Pastor Duane has tested negative. Nathan had a very mild case of the virus, but Susan's case was more severe. At this time, Pastor Duane is fine and has had no signs of the virus. Nathan's symptoms are gone and Susan, while still experiencing fatigue, is starting to feel better. All three have also now received their first dose of the vaccine.

Thank you to everyone for your thoughts, prayers, calls and expressions of support.

Worship Leaders Wanted/Needed

Since March of last year, our services have been online. We have had time practice and experiment with our latest equipment. We are doing ok, but as you can imagine, we need a few more to be part of our team. We are fortunate that Pastor Duane was able to participate remotely, but we do need additional team members, in case one or more of the team is not available. We also 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 and lead the liturgy 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 can record it in advance either at your home, or at the church.

Call or email the Church Office for more information.

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

A taped replay of the service by going to our website. The service is recorded and posted in such a way that the same button that takes you to the Live Stream link will later take you to the Replay location on YouTube. You can also go directly to YouTube and search for NDMCTUBE. It will show you all of our services are stored. Because the replay starts when the recording begins, the Replay may begin with a black screen. You may have to fast forward 5-6 minutes 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.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation Classes have resumed. This is for youth in 7th & 8th grades. For more information, contact Pastor Duane.

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.

Stewardship

We are grateful to all who have been regular with their giving. Some of you have been mailing in your donations. Some of you have sent your donations using the check writing feature on your checking account. And some of you have started using the Vanco Giving Portal that can be accessed on our website.

We especially want to that those who are using the Vanco Giving Portal. We believe that this method of on-line giving (also called e-giving or automatic giving) is tool that can be helpful to you and to the church. For one, it is easy and safe to use. You can stay regular in your giving, and you don't have to worry about envelopes and stamps. It also means your donation arrives and is recorded almost immediately. It helps the church by providing a more predictable and regular income. And it helps our Counters and Financial Secretary, because your donations are automatically records your donation, making their tasks simpler, quicker and maintains accuracy.

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 the 500,000 who have died, and for those who will die before this pandemic is under control.

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 workers" including the police, fire, sanitation, food providers of all types, gas stations, the producers of medical supplies, teachers, postal and delivery workers and more.

Prayers for those who are dealing with the Covid-19 virus – the sick, the dying, the caregivers, and the researchers.

Prayers for the people of Texas and other areas of our nation who are struggling because of storm created power outages, lack of heat and drinking water, broken water pipes and more.

Prayers for Cemetery Security – John and his daughter, Gina. John's wife, (Gina's mother) passed this week. after a long struggle with health issues.