

NEW DORP MORAVIAN

OCTOBER

CHURCH

2025



Elders

Pastor Walter Bishop*

Carol Bugge

Patrick Carolan

Maria DiForte**

Toni Ann Fischetti

Maria Glorioso

Ed Ranieri, Jr.

Alexandra Romito

Peter Traut

Trustees

Dorothy Ambrosino**

Paul Chen

Anna Gaw

Alice Giovannillo-Cohen

Stephen Greet*

Robert Iadarola

Richard Simpson

Jack Traut

Central Elders

Joyce Fernandez

Maria Glorioso

Central Trustees

Harold Gerstenlauer

Richard Simpson

Treasurer

Harold Gerstenlauer

Counters

Dorothy Ambrosino

Debbie Bishop

Harry Gerstenlauer

* Chair

** Vice-Chair

Reputation

Some years ago I lived near a large apartment complex that was called something like "Hideaway Hills Apartments." It had carried the same name for as many years as I could remember. Then, there was a bad fire there. It was on the evening news, and the morning news, on the radio, and in the daily newspaper. Whenever you heard of "Hideaway Hills Apartments," your mind immediately went to that fire and the suffering that was a result of it.

Whatever their reputation had been before the fire, now the reputation was of a place where a bad fire caused much loss and suffering. I imagine it became harder and harder to rent out the apartments that had acquired such a reputation. After the repairs were made and it was all cleaned up, "Hideaway Hills Apartments" quietly became "Brook Valley Apartments" (or something else very unlike "Hideaway Hills"). They took for themselves a name that did not have a poor reputation attached to it.

New churches sprout up here and there. Some really take off and grow quickly. Some of those have names like "XYZ Community Church." You might think that these churches are non-denominational since the name is not "XYZ Methodist Church" or "ABC Mennonite Church." A certain segment of



those churches are actually congregations of well-established denominations. But they have chosen to downplay their denominational affiliation because of the perceptions they are trying to create or to avoid. There are one or more Moravian Churches that have been named similarly. These churches may not have been trying to avoid a bad reputation so much as trying to create their own reputation and not be subject to the assumptions that folks might make if the name reflected a denominational affiliation. I imagine that they want to have as much control as possible over their reputation and how they are perceived.

The General Manager of a company that once employed me shared this bit of wisdom with me: “We have a reputation whether we want one or not. We do well to try to manage that reputation.” He also pointed out to me that we rarely hear about legal issues between banks and their employees, especially around embezzlement and financial wrongdoing. While banks carry certain assets, there is no asset more valuable to a bank than the trust of its customers. News of failure to keep their funds safe and secure could damage confidence and trust. If a bank does not have a reputation for being a place in which people can place their trust, people will not place their money there, either.

While serving in a congregation early in my pastoral career, the Vacation Bible School Director needed emergency surgery. All of the purchases had been made and all of the volunteers had been lined up. But it was up to me to take the role of Director. I began to study the material and the Director’s Guide. Quite honestly, I was freaking out. I had never done that work before. Then, I came across a piece of wisdom in the Director’s Guide that offered me great comfort and worthwhile guidance. It went something like this: “No matter how well the crafts work out, no matter if the skits don’t go well, no matter if the food is not as good as you would like it to be, **if the children know that you love them, everything will be OK.**” That has proven true enough for me. I have shared that bit of wisdom with others since that time.

I have long known the importance of love. I continue to learn how important it is and new ways of expressing it and living it. I still make connections, some of which I feel like I should have known much earlier.



When first starting out in ministry, I was given a variety of bits of advice. I believe that many ministers are given similar advice. One of the pieces of advice that I was given early on was something like this: “If a congregation feels that you love them, they will forgive many faults. If they do not feel that you love them, you will not be able to do much right in their eyes.” There was for me a kind of A-Ha! moment when I connected more deeply the advice in the Vacation Bible School Director’s Guide with the advice to me as a beginning minister. I feel like I should have known it so deeply long before I actually did. This idea applies not only to Vacation Bible School and beginning ministers. This idea also applies to congregations in relating to the community in which they are situated. A congregation will have significant positive impact in a community only if the community believes and feels that the congregation loves them. It is necessary for us to be accurately perceived in this way. That must be our reputation. Our love must be something in which they can trust. A reputation can be a liability or an asset. We can, in some measure, manage our reputation as an asset. We will manage our reputation best, when we demonstrate our love in all that we do.

Dear friends, let’s love each other, because love is from God, and everyone who loves is born from God and knows God. The person who doesn’t love does not know God, because God is love. This is how the love of God is revealed to us: God has sent his only Son into the world so that we can live through him. This is love: it is not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son as the sacrifice that deals with our sins. Dear friends, if God loved us this way, we also ought to love each other. (1 John 4:7–11, Common English Bible).

With love,

Pastor Walter

(A version of this article has been previously published elsewhere.)





Elders Report from September 2025 meeting

The Elders gathered on September 8 with five members present. A devotion was presented by Maria Glorioso to open the meeting. Minutes from the August meeting were reviewed. Ongoing discussion was held around the idea that New Dorp could host fellowship time with refreshments following the UBC Annual meeting with a final decision made to provide food before and after the meeting. Ed R. agreed to arrange for the food and beverages. An infant baptism was approved for November 9. Initial planning for Thanksgiving and Christmas events were reviewed. Acknowledgement in worship on Sunday, September 14, of the events of September 11, 2001 was discussed. Discussion around a blog post on healthy church culture was shared. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Prepared by Pastor Walter Bishop
New Dorp Moravian Church


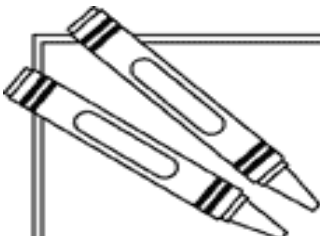
Trustees Report

During the month of August into September the Trustees met on September 15th. Bob Iadarola had the best month to date in Trash to Treasure (T&T) and brought in \$1500. It seems that T&T is steadily growing with the number of people visiting and purchasing. As part of T&T the Outreach committee will be registered on the Staten Island Care Portal for families in need; if families have a need we can help. Gym fans have been installed in the Parish House (PH) basement and Richard is waiting on Scaran to demonstrate the operation. Refinishing of the PH main floor has been approved with an expenditure of up to \$2000. This is a necessary project in order to preserve the floor. The hiring of a part time handyman (in lieu of a Sexton) at a cost of \$17/hr., not to exceed 20hr./wk., is working out very well with many small painting jobs done, securing of paneling throughout,



cleaning and scrubbing of the sink, oven and counters performed. A shout out to Peter Traut for the numerous volunteer work projects he performs on a routine basis along with the painting of the outside of the church.

Prepared by Steve Greet
Chair, Board of Trustees



Jesus Traveled to Many Places

Jesus traveled to many regions, cities, towns and villages to preach the Good News. In the puzzle below, find and circle the names of some of those places. Can you find all the names on the list?

BETHANY

BETHLEHEM

BETHSAIDA

CAESAREA

PHILIPPI

CANA

CAPERNAUM

DECAPOLIS

EGYPT

EPHRAIM

GALILEE

JERICO

JERUSALEM

JORDAN RIVER

JUDEA

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We have begun to collect food donations to benefit individuals and families in our community this Thanksgiving.

Items being collected are:

- ♦ Turkey Gravy
 - ♦ Cranberry Sauce
 - ♦ Stuffing Mix
 - ♦ Canned Yams
 - ♦ Canned Vegetables
 - ♦ Canned Fruit
 - ♦ Instant Mashed Potatoes
- (Individual boxes only, no bulk)

This year, instead of pre-packaged cookies, we will be collecting shelf-stable milk and cake/cookie mixes.

Cans of frosting could also be included.

Please leave your donations on the tables in the Conference Center.

Thank You!



Benevolence Giving

Our Benevolence of the month for October will go toward our Thanksgiving baskets. In addition to the items collected, recipients are also given gift cards to purchase additional food items.



2	Joseph Passburg	11	Frank Taverna
4	Michele Salvaggio	16	Marlene Bjorklund
	Ryan Godoy	18	Maria Schuler
	Carole Heins	21	Christin Fernandez
6	Marion Vulture	26	Joseph Bruzzese
9	Sophia Rose Bruzzese	26	Debbie Taverna
	Deanna Ciccone	30	Dorothy Ambrosino



3	Gregory & Jessica O'Donnell	2009
5	Patrick & Alice Carolan	2002
9	James & Dawn Bartiromo	1993
11	Matthew & Deanna Ciccone	2020

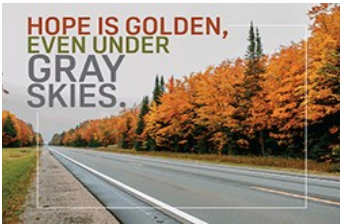




2025 OCT

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
			1
5 World-wide Communion Sunday 10am Worship/SS/ Holy Communion 11ish Coffee/ Fellowship— Inquirers'/New	6	7 7:00pm Outreach Committee Mtg.	8 10:00 am 1:00 pm Cecelia C
12 18th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship/SS 11ish Coffee/ Fellowship— Inquirers'/New Members' Class	13 Columbus Day/ Indigenous Peoples' Day 7:00 Board of Elders Meeting	14	15
19 19th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship/SS 11ish Coffee/ Fellowship— Inquirers'/New Members' Class	20 7:00 Board of Trustees Meeting	21	22 10:00 am 5:30 pm 7:00 pm Collegia
26 20th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship/SS 11ish Coffee/ Fellowship— Inquirers'/New Members' Class	27	28	29

CTOBER



ESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	2	3	4
Sonrisers St. oncert	9	10	11  Trash to Treasure 10am—2pm
	16	17	18  Vanderbilt Community Meal 4:00pm-6:30pm
Sonrisers UBC Meal UBC te Council	23	24	25
	30	31 Reformation Day  Happy Halloween	

Food, Fellowship and



The Annual Collegiate Council of the United Brethren's Church on Staten Island (UBC) will be held on Wednesday, October 22, at New Dorp Moravian Church beginning at 7:00 p.m.

This year New Dorp MC will host a time of food and fellowship both before and after the meeting beginning at 5:30 pm with hero sandwich from Novelli's, fruit, vegetables, and beverages. Following the meeting there will be desserts, beverages, and other items.

By including a meal, it is hoped that this will encourage more people to attend and also provide meaningful fellowship between the member churches.

We look forward to seeing you on the 22nd!

St. Cecelia Concert

The St. Cecelia Choir will have their next concert on Wednesday, October 8, at 1:00 pm in the New Dorp MC sanctuary.

A reception will follow the concert.

Come join us!



**Please join us for this
Special Service**

Saturday, October 4th, at 10:00 am!

Bring your furry, feathered, shelled, or scaly friends for a Blessing Service and some giveaways. Parking may be found in the church parking lot with the service taking place on the grounds of the Parsonage. Look for the tent!

In the event of rain, the service will be held in the gymnasium of the Parish House.

If you have any questions, please call the New Dorp Moravian Church Office at 718.351.0090.

New Dorp Moravian Church
2205 Richmond Rd.
Staten Island, NY 10306

Breast Cancer FUNDRISER

On Sunday, October 26, we will hold our annual Breast Cancer Walk at 12:00pm on the grounds of the church/cemetery. (If there is inclement weather we will walk in the sanctuary.)

We all know survivors or those currently undergoing treatment. According to the National Breast Cancer Foundation "1 in 8 women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime. In 2025, an estimated 316,950 women and 2,800 men will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer, and an additional 59,080 new cases of non-invasive (in situ) breast cancer will be diagnosed." When caught early, the 5 year survival rate is 99%! Early detection and treatment is key and has vastly improved!

A collection jar will be located in the Conference Center for your donations to support mammograms, research, and treatment! Please donate and walk with us!

**LET'S GO ON
A HAYRIDE**



In addition to the Breast Cancer Walk on Sunday, October, 26, we will also enjoy a Hayride on the scenic grounds of the cemetery. Peter Traut has again graciously volunteered to provide the rides. Walk for Breast Cancer then enjoy a fun ride with your fellow church members to celebrate fall!

See you then!



New Dorp Moravian Church Fair

Saturday

Nov. 8th, 2025

10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

2205 Richmond Road,
Staten Island, NY 10306

If interested in being a
vendor

Contact Edward Ranieri,
646-823-6007,

office@newdorp moravian.org or

New Dorp Moravian Church,

718-351-0090



The monthly **Trash to Treasure Sale** will take place
Saturday, October 11, from 10 am—2 pm.

Donations may be made at the church any time but please note we do not accept clothes, linens, or heavy/large furniture.

If you have questions you may call the church office at 718-351-0090.

Sonrisers Group

The Sonrisers are a prayer and card ministry group that generally meets two Wednesdays out of the month in the Conference Center.

All are welcome to participate and/or submit prayer requests. Your donations of greeting cards and/or postage stamps would be also be appreciated.

This month's meeting schedule is
as follows:

October 8 10:00 am

October 22 10:00 am





**Please help us keep our prayer list current
and notify the church office if changes occur.**

For On-going Concerns: Dolores Cavallo, Richard Iadorola, Carmel McCarthy, Barbara Carolan, Linda Griggs, Connie Vadola, Lois Zipf, Libby Neri, Estefania Griggs, Charlee Cheru and family (Charlee undergoing treatment for childhood leukemia), John DiForte.

For Healing: Nadira Edwards (stage 4 cancer), Joyce Fernandez (treatments for breast cancer), Carol Bugge (cancer), Diane Serrano (cancer), Debbie Lotito (suffering from severe, chronic pain), Jean DelBagno (vision problems, Jennifer Fitzpatrick (breast cancer), Marla DiForte, Deborah Griggs, Maria Metzger (undergoing chemotherapy), Jackie Passburg (in rehab), Lauren Mormile, Michael Cericola (return of brain cancer, and experiencing kidney failure), Domenick Denares (in rehab recovering from a fall), Robin Lawson (surgery/treatment of throat), Beverly Wolf (treatment/recovery for brain aneurysm), Shyanna McKelvin (return of Long Covid symptoms), Alana Guarino, Van Takoushian (diagnosed with partial heart failure.)

Other Concerns: Those affected by recent storms and disasters, for leaders here and throughout the world to find solutions for peace and justice, and an end to all war.

Everyone involved in the school system in teaching, guiding, and keeping children safe

Please remember to pray for our denominational leaders, our Pastor, Board Members, and Committee Chairs as they lead us in the work of the church, and for our church, that we may follow God's call and leading in our service and ministries, and help those who come to us seeking, find whatever they need.



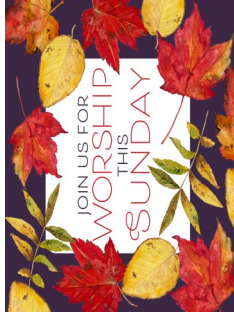
New Dorp Moravian

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Newsletter is also available to read on our website.

The Rev. Walter Bishop, Pastor



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