

NEW DORP MORAVIAN CHURCH

July

2026



Elders

Pastor Walter Bishop*
Patrick Carolan
Marla DiForte**
Toni-Ann Slevin
Maria Glorioso
Ed Ranieri, Jr.
Alexandra Romito
Peter Traut

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Dorothy Ambrosino
Anna Gaw
Alice Giovannello-Cohen
Stephen Greet*
Robert Iadarola
Richard Simpson**

Central Elders

Joyce Fernandez
Maria Glorioso

Central Trustees

Harold Gerstenlauer
Richard Simpson

Treasurer

Harold Gerstenlauer
Jose Amagsila (Asst.)

Counters

Steve Greet
Barbara Impallaria

* Chair
** Vice-Chair

Into the Wind

I am not a sailor, by any means. The time I've spent on a sailboat might be limited to a single day. On that day, I had joined a friend on a boat that was on loan to him. We launched the boat and sailed the lake for a while, then we took down the sails and stopped to eat the lunch we had brought with us, and to take a swim. When it was time to head back to land, we raised the anchor and began hoisting the sails again. We became so focused on the task of getting the sails up that we did not realize we were already being carried along by the wind being caught in the incompletely raised sails. No one had a hand on the tiller (steering control). Thankfully, we had not inadvertently sailed into the path of another vessel or found any other harm. But it was eye-opening.

Many things get caught in the wind and travel along with it. In autumn, I enjoy watching leaves appear to dance or to run along the ground in a light wind. In the spring we can see dandelion seeds lift off from the main plant and take flight on the breeze. Poorly contained trash can also be found carried along by the wind, especially when the wind has been particularly strong. In the case of severe weather, trees, cars, even homes can be caught up and carried in the wind stream. →

The society and culture in which we find ourselves can have an effect like wind. We may find ourselves caught up in it and flowing in the same direction. We might not even notice that we are caught in the flow and are being carried along. We might even find that it carries us along on a dangerous path. Like a good sailor, we need to be sure that someone has a hand on the tiller, and that a good course has been chosen and is being attentively navigated. Also like a good sailor, we do not necessarily need to go in the direction in which the wind is blowing. In fact, some of the most efficient sail-powered travel is accomplished by sailing across, and somewhat into, the flow of the wind. Trying to sail directly into the wind, however, becomes much less productive.

Followers of Christ in every age have had to deal with being in the world, but not of the world – not caught up in the flow of worldliness. Human nature changes little across time, it seems to me. But the societal and cultural winds do shift. The movement of Christians should be steadily focused on Jesus, but the response to that focus may find differing approaches in differing circumstances. When the winds of the world blow in the direction of greed, we can flow across and against that with generosity. When ignorance is a force against godliness, we can offer education. When hatred rules the day, we can set our tiller in the direction of lovingkindness. In the same way that a person who is hungry can express their desires for their next meal better than the person who has just eaten, so a person who is caught up in the spiritual hunger and poverty of a negative flow of worldliness can most readily respond to the offer of Kingdom riches.

To the Jews, Jesus spoke in culturally relevant ways. To the Samaritans, he spoke differently, but still in ways relevant to the society and culture of which they were a part. To the outcasts – lepers, demon-possessed, Gentiles, tax collectors, etc. – Jesus offered an appropriate change of course to a path leading to restoration and reconciliation. Today, we are a people in the midst of a flow of worldliness in the culture of our time and place. Like Jesus, we do well to carry the true faith in ways that are relevant to the winds in which people are caught. Might we be a hand on the tiller in our community? Can we show our neighbors how to sail against the currents of worldliness which so often lead to despair, hopelessness, and strife?



We who know the Master of the Sea must find the appropriate ways to say to those around us who are floundering “Come Aboard.” We and our neighbors are all sailors on the same sea. Let us, as a community of Christian faith, serve as a flagship for our neighbors, with Jesus as our captain.

We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people’s trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love. (Ephesians 4:14–16, NRSV)

On board with Jesus,

Pastor Walter

**A version of this article has been previously published elsewhere.*



As for me,
I would **seek** God,
and to **God** I would
commit my cause.

Job 5:8

Our Benevolence of the Month



This wonderful ministry, located at the Avenue of the Americas, was begun in 1985 by Ganga Stone in response to the growing AIDS crisis. What started as one meal by Ms. Stone to a single AIDS patient has grown to 20,000 meals each weekday to patients and caregivers suffering from a variety of diseases (AIDS, cancer, Parkinson's, ALS, diabetes, etc.) And the meals are not "just food", they are medically designed by nutritionists to meet the needs of the individual's illness and culture.

In addition to meals, birthday cakes are also baked and delivered on a patient's (or their child's) birthday along with a homemade card.

While the organization does have some corporate sponsors, they rely heavily on community donations and an army of volunteers.

Although a sectarian ministry, the organization does indeed deliver God's love to others throughout the five boroughs of New York city and in some areas of New Jersey.

Please remember "God's Love, We Deliver" in your benevolent giving this month as well as your Joyful Noise donations.



Elders Report from June 2026 meeting: The Board of Elders gathered on June 8 with four members present. A devotion was presented by Marla DiForte to open the meeting. Minutes from the May meeting were reviewed and approved. The pastor's scheduled absences were noted (vacation, Synod, Continuing Education) Gifts for high school graduates were reviewed and approved. Requests for baptisms and membership were reviewed, discussed, and approved. The status of the musician position was discussed. The Nursery was discussed and a paid attendant position considered. Potential outreach opportunities were noted and will be considered by the Outreach Committee. Various other projects in-progress were discussed, especially around youth and children's ministries. The church calendar was reviewed. The meeting was closed with prayer. Submitted by Pastor Walter Bishop.

Sonrisers Group

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

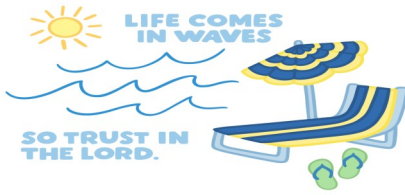
All are welcome to participate and/or submit prayer requests.

The schedule for this month:


July 8 10:00 am

July 22 10:00 am








2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
			1
5 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship/ Holy Communion 11ish Fellowship	6 John Hus Festival (official)	7 7:00 pm Outreach Committee Meeting	8 10:00 am 6:30 pm w/DeCy possible
12 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship 11ish Fellowship 11:00 am John Hus Celebration at Vanderbilt MC	13 7:00 pm Board of Elders Meeting	14	15 6:30 pm and Mo
19 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship 11ish Fellowship	20 7:00 pm Board of Trustees Meeting	21	22 10:00 am 6:30 pm and Mo
26 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship 11ish Fellowship	27	28	29 6:30 pm and Mo

JULY

SHINE

This Summer

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	2	3	4  HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA!
m Sonrisers n Dinner cles and e movie	9	10	11  9:30 am—1:30 pm
Dinner vie	16	17	18 
Sonrisers Dinner vie	23	24	25
n Dinner vie	30	31	

9TH
ANNUAL

Children Helping Children FUNDRAISING CONCERT



Meagan Lee Piano & *Kaitlyn Lee* Cello



Sunday July 12th



3:00 PM
EST



Live &
Virtual



New Dorp Moravian Church

2205 Richmond Rd. Staten Island NY 10306

Featuring works by **Beethoven, Chopin, Kapustin, Liszt, Saint Saëns, Schubert,** and more



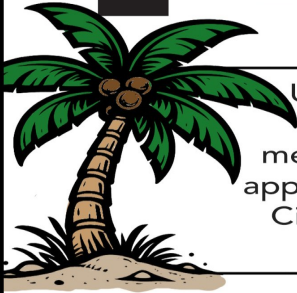
GENERAL ADMISSION \$20 | CHILDREN \$10

All donations will benefit
the work of **GMR**



Beginning with the July 11th sale, Trash to Treasure will now be held from 9:30 am until 1:30 pm. Doors will not open until 9:30am! Also, while there will be a sale in August (8th) we will not be accepting donations that month. With the enormous amount of donations that we receive this allows us time to catch up with sorting and organizing the basement. The Outreach Committee appreciates all of the donations received and the many shoppers that come through. We appreciate all of you. See you July 11th!

Puzzle!



Use the Scripture verses below to locate the places in the puzzle. (If a verse mentions more than one place, only one appears in the puzzle, so choose carefully.) Circle each place as you find it.

Answers go: → ↓ ↘

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Genesis 2:15 | Isaiah 23:1 | Luke 24:13 |
| Genesis 11:9 | Isaiah 23:2 | John 2:1 |
| Genesis 35:1 | Isaiah 23:3 | Acts 8:5 |
| Exodus 13:18 | Jonah 1:2 | Acts 11:22 |
| Ruth 1:1 | Matthew 3:6 | Acts 17:16 |
| 1 Kings 18:19 | Matthew 4:18 | Romans 1:15 |
| 1 Chronicles 11:4 | Matthew 26:36 | |

S	I	D	O	N	G	N	I	L	E	S	O
J	J	O	R	D	A	N	R	I	V	E	R
E	S	G	A	A	R	C	A	N	A	A	M
R	A	E	T	B	D	C	D	B	E	O	O
U	M	T	H	B	E	T	H	E	L	F	U
S	A	H	E	T	N	E	A	T	N	G	N
A	R	S	N	Y	O	M	N	H	I	A	T
L	I	E	S	R	F	M	T	L	N	L	C
E	A	M	D	E	E	A	I	E	E	I	A
M	F	A	R	S	D	U	O	H	V	L	R
G	H	N	O	A	E	S	C	E	E	E	M
I	J	E	M	B	N	A	H	M	H	E	E
T	O	W	E	R	O	F	B	A	B	E	L

Answers: Garden of Eden, Tower of Babel, Bethel, Red Sea, Bethlehem, Mount Carmel, Jerusalem, Tyre, Sidon, Nile, Nineveh, Jordan River, Sea of Galilee, Gethsemane, Emmaus, Cana, Samaria, Antioch, Athens, Rome



3	Vincent DiForte	14	Nick Anderson
3	Laura Moschella	16	Thomas Nolan
3	Cayden Hulsizer	21	John DiForte
6	James Tomasuolo	23	Ann Bjelka
8	Violet Khabut	24	Walter Bishop
8	Susan Ullrich	25	Margo Darzano
12	Linda Williams	27	Harold Gerstenlauer



6	Edward & Barbara Mireider	1994
7	Jose & Marilou Amagsila	1975
8	Vincent & Brenda DiForte	2011
8	Lee & Nancy Reycraft	1972
9	Michael & Alice Cohen	2003
20	Scott & Robin Fox	1985
27	Jeff & Maryann Bollinger	1969
27	Brian & Carol Bugge	1972

THE POWER OF PRAYER

Please help us keep our prayer list current and notify the church office if changes occur. Names may be periodically removed but will be added back if you notify the church office.

For On-going Concerns: Dolores Cavallo, Richard Iadorola, Barbara Carolan, Linda Griggs, Libby Neri, Estefania Griggs, John DiForte, Jean DelBagno, Jackie Passburg, Debbie Lotito, Carmel McCarthy, Peter Jones, Lois Zipf, Doris Burtner, Jennifer Burtner.

Healing, Praise, and other concerns: Joyce Fernandez, Carol Bugge, Marla DiForte, Van Takoushian (heart issues), Megan Poljak (treatment for breast cancer), Donna (recovering from hand surgery), Carol Diamond (Walter's sister, kidney disease), Connie (Bob Iadarola's neighbor now under hospice care), Maria Metzger (cancer recurrence), Maria Critelli (cancer on the heart), Vickie Hill (health problems), Phyllis Collins (health issues), Lauren Mormile (prayers for good doctor's report), Rosemarie Beyer (radiation for colon cancer, friend of Irene Malley), Vivian Moser (mobility issues), Liz (treatment for liver cancer), Charles DeRosa (brain cancer), Paul Chen (recovering from a heart attack), Jessica Lee Cho (dealing with shingles, niece of Irene Malley), Deborah Griggs (recovering from surgery), David Burtner (will be undergoing cardiac testing), the family of Rob Danischewski (he recently passed away), containment of the Ebola outbreak in DR Congo and Uganda (those suffering and those treating the ill), those suffering the effects of the recently devastating tornadoes in the Midwest, those involved in care-giving of family members, for our church, and churches worldwide, and for peace in the world.



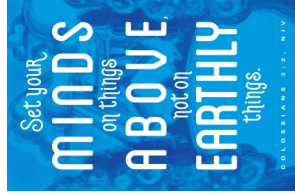
New Dorp Moravian

Published Monthly by
New Dorp Moravian Church
2205 Richmond Road

Staten Island, New York 10306-2557

Newsletter is also available to read on our website.

The Rev. Walter Bishop, Pastor



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