NEW DORP MORAVIAN Church

SEPTEMBER



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What Do You Want to Be?

A question that I imagine has been asked of just about every American child is "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Sometimes, the answers are pretty comical. My family has recalled to me that my various answers to that question have included 1) skinny enough to slip between jail bars 2) a garbage man, and 3) a green snake. My family recognized that there was a very low likelihood of accomplishment for one of those. Believe it, or not, I was pretty skinny for much of my early life, so there may have been some degree of possibility attached to number 1. I did not want to be all of these things at once, but I had different aspirations at different times. I cannot now say, in my adulthood, that I achieved any one of those goals.

"Rich Man, Poor Man, Beggar Man, Thief, Doctor, Lawyer, Indian Chief." So goes the old nursery rhyme. If we are wise, we choose behaviors that support our aspirations. If we want to be a lawyer, we choose to study and to try to make it through law school. Sometimes, circumstances may present a very low likelihood of bringing our aspirations to fruition, no matter our behaviors (i.e. if we want to be an Indian Chief but have not been born into such a tribe). For a wide variety of aspirations, there are expected paths, some easy, some extremely difficult. For other hoped-for outcomes, there may

be a variety of paths. One of my college instructors liked to say that the easiest way to become president of a company is to start your own company. There are, of course, other paths to corporate presidency. Even when we reach the goals that we set for ourselves, there often remains a set of behaviors by which we maintain that accomplishment. Many professions require annual Continuing Education credits. Other positions call for periodic recertification. Sometimes, simply having an ongoing involvement in a field of endeavor is enough to maintain a place and sense of accomplishment. Of course, goals can change either before or after the accomplishment of one previously set. Additionally, attained goals can be stepping stones to further goals.

One of the functions of Old Testament prophecy was to present to the people of Israel two potential outcomes and the paths by which those outcomes would be attained. Generally, one path, or set of behaviors, with its resultant outcome was favorable to Israel, the other, unfavorable (even disastrous).

But if you listen attentively to his voice and do all that I say, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and a foe to your foes. ...if you worship their gods, it will surely be a snare to you. (Exodus 23:22,33, NRSV)

On every journey, along every path, it is wise for a person to periodically check to see that he or she is still pointed in the direction of the goal to which he or she is called, and to be sure that the goal is still the one he or she would choose to pursue. How is it with your goal and path? Is it in accordance with God's will for you, and for the communities of which you are a part? How is it with New Dorp Moravian's path? What do we want to be? Are we choosing the behaviors that are in keeping with our goal(s)?

If you feel that you, and we, are on the right track with our goals and our behaviors, keep up the good work! But, if you feel a need for a new path, a return to a previous path, and/or different behaviors, there are many available resources and numerous guides to which we might turn for personal or congregational guidance. Let me know if you want to talk about it. But, above all, remember that even if there seems to be a very low likelihood of accomplishment, *I can do all things through (the*

Lord) who strengthens me. (Philippians 4:13, NRSV) As we move forward, whether on old paths or new, let us say with Joshua "... as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15, NRSV)

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, And a light unto my path. (Psalm 119:105, KJV)

Thank you for allowing me to share in this congregation's journey alongside of you,

Pastor Walter

A version of this article has been previously published.





Thank you for helping in September!

Carol Bugge

Anna Gaw



Our Benevolence for the Month of September is MORAVIAN DISASTER RESPONSE (MDR)

The MDR program of the Board of World Mission coordinates shortterm mission efforts that support our partner provinces in times of need, as well as areas within our own borders where help in projects would be beneficial. Work crews have helped with repairs to buildings, placement of solar systems, replacement of hangars, and construction of churches and parsonages.

In addition to helping with ongoing needs in our provinces, BWM provides funds and teams to assist with ongoing disaster relief, both globally and within our borders.

The Board of World Mission recognizes that we cannot adequately mount a first-response in the face of a current disaster, and we generally focus on more long-term efforts to provide help with repairs. When a disaster occurs, our MDR coordinator will post a notice to the congregations to make them aware of any relief teams that might be forming.

We encourage that donations to cover disaster relief needs be designated for our general disaster relief account and not for a specific concern so that any excess might be used for subsequent needs.





Please let Pastor Walter know if you would like a pastoral visit if you are homebound or in the hospital. You may also schedule in-office visits by contacting the him.

2024 SEF						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDN			
 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship/ Communion 11ish Fellowship 	2 Labor Day	3 7:30 pm Outreach Committee Meeting	4			
8Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship 11 ish Fellowship	9 7 pm Board of Elders Meeting	10	11 10 am S			
15 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship/SS 11ish Fellowship Moravian Day of Service	16 7 pm Board of Trustees Meeting	17	18			
22 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship/SS 11ish Fellowship	23	24	25 _{10 am S}			
29 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship/SS 11ish Fellowship	30 7:00 pm Joint Board Meeting					



IESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	5	6	7
unrisers WE WILL NEVER FORGET	12	13	14 Trash to Treasure Sale 10 am—2 pm
	19	20	21 _{4 pm} —6:30 pm Vanderbilt Community Dinner
unrisers	26	27	28
			Pray for Students and all School Workers



Community Meal

The Moravian Churches of Staten Island

invite you to come to our free community dinner.

Vanderbilt Moravian Church, 285 Vanderbilt Ave

Every 3rd Saturday of the month

from 4:00pm to 6:30pm.

The next Dinner is September 21st.

The Free Community Dinner at VAMC is distributed as a takeout. For

more Information, contact the Church Office by phone or email.



5	Christine & Stephen Reich	1998
5	Kim & Jean Loize	2004
11	Lorraine & Rolf Meyer	1982
12	Melody & Manny Sandhu	1999
20	Theresa & Nassef Dewidar	1991
30	Doreen & Peter Traut	1989



- 2 Charles Hulsizer
- 4 Kyla Rumney
- 5 Erica McCord
- 5 Lorraine Meyer
- 5 Joseph Simone
- 8 Lillian Slevin
- 12 Madeline Bazzoni
- 13 Michael Godoy
- 14 Carleen Bruzzese
- 14 Reese Isola
- 14 David Burtner
- 16 Pamela Kelter
- 22 Alice Giovanniello-Cohen
- Suzanne Nasti 22 22 Isla Penfold 24 Michael Kelter Alfredo Nasti 24 **Christine Wilson** 24 25 Nancy Tomasuolo Janine Pinto 26 27 Harrison Gerstenlauer 28 **Courtney Hulsizer** 28 Jeff Bollinger Joan Ciccone 29 **Bob** Iadarola 29
- 29 Janet James
 - 30 Fred Connell



Join us every **second Saturday** of the month for our Trash to Treasure sale hosted and run by Bob Iadarola. The sale is in our church basement from **10 am until 2 pm** and benefits Outreach and Ministries of the church. If you have anything you would like to donate to Trash to Treasure feel free to call our office at 718-351-0090.

This month: September 14th

*We do not accept clothing, bed linens, or large furniture items.

Sunrisers' Prayer Group

This prayer group meets

two Wednesdays out of the month

in the Conference Center.

All are welcome to participate and/or

submit prayer requests.

This month the group will be meeting on



September 11th and 25th





We are happy to partner with you in prayer. If you have a concern to add to our list, please complete a prayer request card if at worship and place it in the offering plate or call (718-351-0090), or email the church office. (office@newdorpmoravian.org).

Please be advised, we continue to pray for the members who have been on our prayer list. If a previous request is no longer listed, but the concern is still present, we will certainly add it back on with a new request. <u>We do need you</u> to help us keep our list up to date.

For Your Prayers at this time:

For health Concerns: John DiForte, Linda Griggs, Marie Moser, Connie Vadola, Dolores Cavallo, Lois Zipf, Ed Ranieri, Richard Iadorola, Libby Neri, Carol Grande, Nate Morse, Shyanna McKelvin (return of Long Covid), Theresa Dewidar (shingles), Alfred Yee-Litt (undergoing treatment for cancer), Erik Faraj (complications from serious stroke), Christinjoy Fernandez, Jackie Passburg, Carmel McCarthy, Carolann Cherubini, Phyllis Collins, Nadira Edwards (stage 4 cancer), Paul Iadarola (undergoing tests), Eliana Machado (recovering from surgery), Linda Williams, Patrick Eng, Joyce Fernandez (recovering from surgery), Theresa and John Sahaj (Theresa has been moved to rehab), Jamie Velez and family, Dorothy Ambrosino, Joyce Hart (moved to rehab), Enrico Leongson (critical injuries from motorcycle accident), and ongoing concerns throughout the world.

For continued healing: Deborah Griggs, and Alison Griggs.

Please remember to pray for 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 leading in all of our endeavors.

New Dorp Moravian

Newsletter is also available to read on our website. Staten Island, New York 10306-2557 New Dorp Moravian Church Published Monthly by 2205 Richmond Road

The Rev. Walter Bishop, Pastor



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