

NEW DORP MORAVIAN CHURCH

OCTOBER

2024



The Color of the Leaves

What a beautifully green summer we've had! Warm, sunny days combined with frequent rains have given us green surroundings practically all summer long. During October, we'll be seeing the colors of autumn beginning to develop; beautiful shades of gold, red, and orange. While I love the season and colors of autumn, I am reminded that we see those colors because something goes missing. In the long hours of sunlight, the warm days of summer, and the bounteous rains, chlorophyll has given all of the leaves their various shades of green. With the shortening of days, the chlorophyll is no longer added to the leaves, and their underlying colors become evident. Eventually, the leaves fall away from the trees and other plants, turn some shade of brown, and lie on the ground to decompose.

We flourish like green leaves when we receive all of the benefits that God offers Christian disciples. We receive light and warmth from the Son/sun, we take in the air/Spirit, we draw up the waters of salvation. Without accepting the nurturing gifts of God, we might shine briefly like leaves on an autumn day, but we soon lose our vibrancy, die spiritually, and fall to the ground like a leaf in winter.

While there is a degree of uniformity in the green of



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summer and sameness of purpose in chlorophyll, there still is found great variety in the plant world. During a summer walk in the woods, we might find ferns and oaks, fruit-bearing plants and nut-bearing trees, vines that take support from other plants, and flower stems that stand on their own. Leaves may be broad or narrow, plain or variegated, simple or compound, nearly transparent, or leathery thick. And so it is with disciples following Jesus. There is found in the Body of Christ a great and wonderful variety, but also sameness and uniformity in many respects – especially that of having life rather than falling away from the source of life.

How amazing it is to look at a place like the islands of Hawaii and think that, through chlorophyll and photosynthesis, water, and air, every bit of lush vegetation growing there is taking root on a spot that was once bare volcanic rock. Seeds, spores, rhizomes, and tubers find the smallest crack, hole, or indentation in the rock and begin to set out roots that, over time, break up the rock into smaller and smaller pieces until it becomes sand and soil.

Followers of Jesus Christ, taking in and using all the gifts and benefits of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, can take root to bring abundant life to the most lifeless places, persons, and situations to create a lush environment of spiritual development. But we must accept those gifts, take them in, and allow them to do their work within us. If we fail to develop the gifts granted in such great abundance, we become like lifeless deserts or deserted islands, bare and lifeless.

Enjoy these changing days with shifting weather patterns, and take in the beauty of the autumn leaves, but do not let your spirit lose its fruitfulness to a season of spiritual winter and death. We were made for constant and eternal abundance through faith, with hope and love. We must claim it, in Jesus' holy name.

And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

John 17:3 (NRSV)

In abundance,
Pastor Walter

A version of this article has been previously published.



Blessing of the Animals

Please join us for this

Special Service

Saturday, October 5th, 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.



Trash to Treasure Sale

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: October 12th

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



This month we begin to collect food donations to benefit individuals and families in our community this Thanksgiving. Collection items include **turkey gravy, cranberry sauce, canned yams, canned vegetables/fruit, stuffing mix and instant mashed potatoes** (individual boxes only, no bulk packaged items). This year, instead of pre-packaged cookies, we will be collecting **shelf-stable milk and cake/cookie mixes**. Donations can be left on the tables in the Conference Center.

Benevolence of the Month

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

Breast Cancer Awareness Month



In support of the many survivors and in remembrance of those lost to this disease, NDMC will again hold a walk around the grounds on Sunday, October 27th, following our fellowship time. Donations will also be accepted to join the fight to improve treatments and make mammograms available to all those who need them. **Wear something pink and walk with us!**

St. Cecelia Concert

The St. Cecelia concerts will resume Wednesday, October 9, at 1:00pm in the church sanctuary.

Come enjoy some beautiful music and a time of refreshments following the concert.



October Counters

Thank you to
Steve Greet and
Barbara Impallaria
for serving as our counters this month!

CHRISTMAS FAIR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH

10 AM — 4 PM

**LOCATED IN THE PARISH HOUSE
AND CONFERENCE CENTER**

LOTS OF VENDORS

FOOD

RAFFLES

FUN!



!!WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU!!



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.

October 20th








2024 OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
		1 7:30 pm Outreach Committee Meeting	2
6 WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY 10 am Worship/ Communion/SS	7	8	9 10 am Sun... 1 pm St... Cor... 7 pm UBC... Com...
13 Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship/SS 11 ish Fellowship	14 Columbus Day Church Office Closed 7 pm Board of Elders Meeting	15	16
20 Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship/SS 11 ish Fellowship/ Hayride	21 7 pm Board of Trustees Meeting	22	23 10 am Sun... 7 pm UE... Collegia...
27 Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship/SS 11 ish Fellowship/ Breast Cancer Walk	28	29	30



OCTOBER



WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	3	4	5 Blessing of the Animals 10:00 am 
Trainers Cecelia Concert Advisory Committee	10	11	12  Trash to Treasure Sale 10 am—2 pm
	17	18	19 4 pm—6:30 pm Vanderbilt Community Dinner 
Trainers BC State Meeting	24	25	26
	31  Happy Halloween		



Elders' Update

The Board of Elders has been working on updating our membership rolls and doing some outreach to members that we've not seen in a while. Two infant baptisms have been approved for the coming months. Notation was made that it is time for the Nominating Committee to begin its annual work of discerning candidates for open positions. The Christmas Fair also received some attention during the meeting.

Submitted by Pastor Walter

Trustees' Update

+Plans and architecture have changed for the building of the ADA (handicapped) bathroom for the PH (Parish House). The existing two bathrooms on the main floor will be converted into a unisex, handicapped bathroom(s?). This will save us considerable money and also not take space away from the kitchen serving area or require extensive asbestos abatement.

+New asbestos testing will be done for one wall in the PH and hopeful permits will be granted soon by the building dept.

+purchasing of a new air conditioning system for the sanctuary is underway. Hopeful it will be ready by the spring of 2025.

+Power washing of the front and rear of the PH was completed. Also poison ivy was removed and shrubs were trimmed.

+carpeting in the sanctuary, conference center, hallways, and offices will be cleaned soon.

+Preparation for the Christmas bazaar is underway thanks to the leadership of Ed Ranieri Jr.

+ The very large tree, which many people feel is obstructing the whole right side of the church is being considered to be removed and possibly replaced by a smaller tree that would be easily decorated for the Christmas holidays. Parishioners are urged to let us know your opinion on this matter.

Submitted by Dorothy Ambrosino



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



1	Frank & Laura Campagna	2005
3	Gregory & Jessica O'Donnell	2009
5	Patrick & Alice Carolan	2002
9	James & Dawn Bartiromo	1993



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 October 19th.

The Free Community Dinner at VAMC is distributed as a takeout. For more Information, contact the Church Office by phone or email.

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

October 9th and 23rd





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@newdorp moravian.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. We do need you 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), Alfred Yee-Litt (undergoing treatment for cancer), Erik Faraj (complications from serious stroke), Christinjoy Fernandez, Jackie Passburg, Carmel McCarthy, Carolann Cherubini, Nadira Edwards (stage 4 cancer), Linda Williams, Patrick Eng, Joyce Fernandez (recovering from surgery), Theresa and John Sahaj (Theresa has been moved to rehab prior to surgery), Enrico Leongson (critical injuries from motorcycle accident), Luke Downs (infant to recovering from heart surgery), Ruth Madison (undergoing chemotherapy), Ida Perez, Phyllis Collins (recovering from heart surgery), and ongoing concerns throughout the world.

For continued healing: Deborah Griggs, and Alison Griggs (undergoing tests.).

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

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Staten Island, New York 10306-2557

Newsletter is also available to read on our website.

The Rev. Walter Bishop, Pastor



CONTACT INFORMATION:

PHONE: 718-351-0090

OFFICE@NEWDORPMORAVIAN.ORG

WWW.NEWDORPMORAVIAN.ORG

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