

NEW DORP MORAVIAN CHURCH

JANUARY

2025



What Would Make It Better?

We've made it through the fourth quarter holidays of Halloween/All Saints, U.S. Thanksgiving, and Western Christmas (Christmas, in the Eastern Orthodox tradition, is in January). Did it all go well for you? Sometimes we feel like we've moved through events and it felt like something was missing, or that something could have made it better. Cooking and baking can be like that. Sometimes, we feel like an essential ingredient was missing. Other times, we feel like there could have been something added to make it even better. Salt is a very important ingredient, to me. I wish it was not bad for my blood pressure. Sometimes, it seems quite essential. For me, both eggs and potatoes almost always require salt.

In our home, we occasionally quote a phrase (usually as humor) "allow the flavors to marry." I'm not sure where we first heard it, but it refers to the joining together of two or more flavors that happens over time which gives it improved flavor beyond that of just mixing them together and eating the combination immediately. Quoting the blog of "the heartfelt homemaker,"

"Allowing the flavors to marry in cooking is when you mix two things together. Let us look at three basic things that happen when we do this. The flavors become forever linked together, the flavors become stronger and the flavors become developed. These

Elders

Pastor Walter Bishop*
Carol Bugge
Patrick Carolan
Marla DiForte
Anna Gaw**
Alice Giovanniello-Cohen
Kim Loize
Ed Ranieri, Jr.
Alexandra Romito
Peter Traut

Trustees

Dorothy Ambrosino*
Laura Campagna
Paul Chen
Harold Gerstenlauer
Stephen Greet**
Okim Hyon
Robert Iadarola
Richard Simpson
Jack Traut

Central Elders

Joyce Fernandez
Maria Glorioso

Central Trustees

Harold Gerstenlauer
Richard Simpson

Counters

José Amagsila
Isabel Ranieri

* Chair
** Vice-Chair



same basic principles apply to our lives as husbands and wives.”¹

As it applies in cooking and in marriage, this idea also works in church congregations. Each member or regular participant brings his or her own “flavor” to the larger whole. Each one has the potential to be that thing which was missing. Each member has the potential to make the congregation better. Each unique person, with their own gifts and talents, often best contributes to the life of the congregation by allowing their flavor to be married to the flavor of the rest of the gathered congregation. Note that flavors do not marry by being in separate containers. The marrying together of the flavors of church members and regular attenders into a most pleasant dish is accomplished by being gathered together in the same place, at the same time, over time. When you are absent from this dish, something is missing, and it could have been better.

I believe that we have ingredients that already make a wonderful dish. It can be still better. We can serve more. When we turn up the heat that is the warmth of Christian fellowship, the aroma of this dish will waft through our community and that community will hunger to know what’s cooking. Let’s turn it up! Together, let’s get cookin’, so we’ll be ready to serve them when they come to check it out! Let’s let our flavors become forever linked together, become stronger, and more developed. And don’t forget the salt.

“Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”²

In the kitchen with you,

Pastor Walter

¹<https://theheartfelthomemaker.wordpress.com/2013/05/20/let-the-flavors-marry-2/>

²*The Holy Bible: New Revised Standard Version.* (1989). (Mk 9:50). Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers.

A version of this article has been previously published.



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 any items you would like to donate to Trash to Treasure feel free to call our office at 718-351-0090.

This month: January 11th

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



Our annual Church Council will be held Sunday, January 26, following worship.

Please have year end reports in the office by Monday, January 13th.

This will allow time to prepare the report packet for distribution on Sunday, January 19th following worship. If you need a copy of last year's report, please let the office know. Reports not received by Monday, January 13th, may not be included in the distribution. In addition to receiving reports and approving budgets; there will be elections of members to serve on both the New Dorp Moravian Church and Central Boards of Trustees and Elders, in addition to other positions. If you have interest in serving please let the nominating committee know (Anna Gaw, Maria Glorioso, Dorothy Ambrosino, Harry Gerstenlauer).

Many thanks to those who are completing their terms.

Music Director Hired

New Dorp Moravian has been on a search for a musician since May of this year. We have interviewed a number of organists and pianists and several of them have played for one or more of our worship services. We were on the verge of hiring someone when the opportunity to consider Mr. Ji-Yong Kim came along. Mr. Kim demonstrated a suitability for the position that had not been seen in some time at New Dorp Moravian. Mr. Kim is the organist at Fellowship Moravian Church in Brooklyn and will continue to play for their Sunday afternoon worship services. Ji-Yong's impressive biographical sketch is found below. Please continue to welcome him to our faith community.

Ji-Yong Kim is a pianist/organist, composer, producer, and educator. He launched his professional musical career at the age of ten with IMG Artists after winning the New York Philharmonic Young Artist Competition as the youngest musician to ever do so. Since then, he has appeared as soloist with many orchestras around the world such as the New York Philharmonic, BBC Symphony, Seoul Philharmonic, Toronto Symphony, Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich, and has held many recital tours around the US and Asia. As an avid lover of chamber music and interdisciplinary projects, he has been involved in projects at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, Seoul Arts Center, Budapest Spring Festival, Edinburgh International Festival, SXSW, La Folle Journée Tokyo, Ravinia Festival, and more. As a recording artist with Warner Music, he released J.S. Bach's Goldberg Variations on the Warner Classics label. Previous releases include Lisztomania (Universal Music), Bach Exhibition (CREDIA), and Ji-Yong LIVE (CREDIA). Ji received his Bachelor of Music at The Juilliard School under the tutelage of Yoheved Kaplinsky, Robert Macdonald, and Choong- Mo Kang, and his Graduate Diploma at the New England Conservatory under the tutelage of Wha Kyung Byun.

Welcome, Ji!
We're so glad
YOU'RE
HERE!

Our Benevolence for the Month is Wings of Mercy



Wings of Mercy is an aviation ministry of the Moravian Church in Honduras that serves the Miskito people living in the coastal lowlands of Eastern Honduras.

Due to the lack of accessible roadways in that region, Wings of Mercy transports people by air in need of emergency medical care to the Ahuas medical clinic. They also transport pastors, missionaries, church workers, and others who travel to these remote villages.

Formerly recognized as the Missionary Aviation Fellowship, it was founded in 1945 to provide access for mission to otherwise inaccessible areas. Altogether, they operate a fleet of 46 light aircraft from 17 bases across eight countries in Africa, Asia, Eurasia, and Latin America. Pilots save valuable travel time and cover seemingly impossible distances in minutes or hours compared to days by foot, road, or river. Each year, they fly over two million nautical miles to speed the work of some 600 Christian and humanitarian organizations. Flights support indigenous churches, create access to medical care, provide disaster relief, and make community development projects possible, in some of the most remote places on earth.





2025 JA

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
<p>O Lord, let my <i>New Year's resolution</i> be to follow you more closely and to trust in your <i>loving guidance.</i></p>			1
<p>5 Second Sunday after Christmas 10am Worship/SS 11ish Fellowship</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 7:00 pm Outreach Committee Meeting</p>	<p>8 10:00 am</p>
<p>12 First Sunday after the Epiphany 10am Worship/ Holy Communion/SS 11ish Fellowship</p>	<p>13 Committee Reports Due in Office 7:00 Board of Elders Meeting</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>19 Second Sunday after the Epiphany 10am Worship/SS 11ish Fellowship</p>	<p>20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 7:00 Board of Trustees Meeting</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 10:00 am</p>
<p>26 Third Sunday after the Epiphany 10 am Worship/SS 11ish Church Council Meeting/ Fellowship</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>

JANUARY



WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	2	3	4
Sonrisers	9	10	11 Trash to Treasure  10am—2pm
	16	17	18 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 1/18—1/25 4pm—6:30pm Vanderbilt Community Dinner
Sonrisers	23	24	25
	30	31 	



The Board of Elders of New Dorp Moravian Church met on December 9, 2024. Peter Traut offered a time of devotion and Anna Gaw offered to bring a devotion next month. Minutes from the November meeting were presented by Kim Loize and approved as presented. The pastor's scheduled vacation time in December was mentioned as a reminder. Bishop Chris Giesler was noted as the preacher for December 22. Work continued on planning for Youth Group activities as well as Children's Ministry and outreach to parents of young children. The hiring of Mr. Ji Yong Kim as organist was noted. Discussion was held around the request of a Chinese language church group from Brooklyn for using space at New Dorp Moravian for their outreach to Asian persons on Staten Island. This will be an ongoing conversation involving the Joint Board. Nominating Committee progress was reviewed as was the membership review process. It appears that the membership review process has completed a particular stage in the process and we are a little bit closer to having a better understanding of our membership statistics. The upcoming Joint Board meeting scheduled for December 30 was noted.

From the Board of Trustees: *A new architect has been hired for the design of our ADA bathroom in the Parish House. The existing two bathrooms on the main floor will be converted to accommodate both handicapped and non-handicapped use. This will save thousands of dollars in both construction and asbestos abatement. The plans have been filed and approved by the building department. *The Building Committee is investigating alternative ideas to replace the broken projector that we use for viewing during church services. They will be presenting their ideas to the Joint Board at a future meeting. *A new water cooler for the serving area now replaces the broken cooler. *The PH elevator light switch will be repaired soon. *Our fire alarm system for the church, which is over 20 years old, will need to be replaced as there are no longer parts to repair it. *A water leak in the church basement damaged an electrical junction box and wires had to be replaced. *Additional chairs and tables were purchased for the PH. *109 Thanksgiving baskets and gift cards were given out. *Bob is overseeing the distribution of Christmas food baskets to be given out in December. The Italian Club generously donates much of the food.



JANUARY
Birthdays

3	Carter Sibbio	15	Maria Glorioso
5	Dominick Tomasuolo	18	Heather Gaw
7	Annika Harkin	21	Ermel Abdul-Halim
12	Evangeline Carolan	21	Charles Schneiweis
12	Cristine Zipf	23	Bobby Meachem
14	Jason Hoppe	28	Moriah Ruiz
14	Michelle Rumney	29	Ruth Carter



JANUARY
Anniversaries

14 Nick & Rosie Anderson **2018**



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 January 18th.

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

Sonrisers Group

The Sonrisers are a prayer and card ministry group that meet 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

January 8th and 22nd

at 10:00 am.





*Please be
Praying for...*


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, Marie Moser, Dolores Cavallo, Richard Iadorola, Shyanna McKelvin (return of Long Covid), Alfred Yee-Litt (undergoing treatment for cancer), Erik Faraj (complications from serious stroke), Christinjoy Fernandez, Carmel McCarthy, Carolann Cherubini, Nadira Edwards (stage 4 cancer), Patrick Eng, Joyce Fernandez (treatments for breast cancer), Ruth Madison (undergoing chemotherapy), Ida Perez, Phyllis Collins (undergoing cardiac rehab), Barbara Carolan, Luke Downs (infection from surgery), Linda Griggs, Connie Vadola, Tanya Smith, William Hill and family (Mr. Hill is under hospice care), Michael Cericola (recovering from surgery), Wayne Chase (suffered a severe fall with expected long-term recovery), Charlotte Goldgrabe, Dorothy Ambrosino, Lois Zipf (in rehab), Jayden Perez, Jay and Tara Christian, Christians around the world suffering persecution, Stephen Gencarello (undergoing cancer treatment), the family of Anthony Gerardi, Sr., Libby Neri (recovering from a broken hip), all of those continuing to recover from natural disasters, and ongoing concerns throughout the world.

For continued healing: Deborah Griggs, and Alison Griggs

Please remember to pray for our denominational leaders, 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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Newsletter is also available to read on our website.

The Rev. Walter Bishop, Pastor



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