

# Great Kills Moravian Church Herald

April 2025

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It's Spring. Daffodils are blooming. Soon the cherry trees and magnolias will be out. Canada geese are crossing Cleveland Avenue and strolling through the church parking lot. The vernal equinox, the time each spring when day and night are the same length, has passed. The full moon is April 12. And the first Sunday, after the first full moon, after the vernal equinox, is Easter—April 20 this year.

Easter is THE Christian holy day. We are Easter people. We proclaim Jesus Christ as God's son risen from the dead for our salvation. As Paul explained in 1 Corinthians 15:17, "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins."

At his last meal with his closest friends, Jesus told them to remember him. Remember how they shared bread and wine at the Passover Seder. Recall that Passover is when God's people remember that they were slaves in Egypt and how God rescued them.

After all these centuries, Christians still gather to remember our Savior. We worship together every Sunday at 11:00, unless we can't make it. Then we Zoom in. We share communion on the first Sunday of each month. If you want communion cups delivered to your home, call the church office: 718-317-7788.

This month we have additional days and times to get together to remember Jesus. Holy Week begins Sunday, April 13 with the children reenacting Jesus's entry into Jerusalem when children welcomed him by waving palm branches.

Monday, April 14; Tuesday, April 15; and Wednesday April 16; we will share Holy Week Readings at 7:00pm via Zoom only. Click on the worship link on our [greatkillsmoravian.org](http://greatkillsmoravian.org) website to join.

Maundy Thursday, April 17, at 7:00pm we will serve the Last Supper in the upper room of Fellowship Hall. Tables will be arranged as depicted in Michelangelo's painting. Zoom will be available.

Good Friday, April 18, we will worship in person at 7:00pm in the sanctuary with a Tenebrae service. Tenebrae is an ancient worship practice where light is gradually removed from the sanctuary leaving shadows. Zoom will again be available.

On Easter, the joyful Day of Resurrection, we will celebrate together in person and on Zoom at 11:00am. We are Easter people. Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Hallelujah!

Charlott Bramwell

*"In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, love."*



Great Kills Moravian Church

Pastor: Blondel Jones-Grant

Phone: 718-317-7788

Fax: 718-356-2826

\*Office: Mon- Thurs 9am - 1pm

\*office hours subject to change

Office Administrator: Michael Cipolla

Email: [office@greatkillsmoravian.org](mailto:office@greatkillsmoravian.org)

Website: [www.greatkillsmoravian.org](http://www.greatkillsmoravian.org)

We are also on Facebook

Email: [pastor@greatkillsmoravian.org](mailto:pastor@greatkillsmoravian.org)

Elders:

Blondel Jones-Grant, Pastor/Chair

Liz Reres, Vice Chair

Karen Maskuli

Debra Jelonek

Charlott Bramwell

Todd Hallett

Muriel Timari

Trustees:

Blondel Jones-Grant, Ex-Officio

Nancy Burri, President

Mike Crea, Vice-President & Treasurer

Claudia McGloin, Financial Secretary

Janice Hermansen

Stan Timari

Jim Jimenez

## Ministries and Events:

**Sunday Worship Services:** We continue to hold worship services on Sunday at 11am in **person and via Zoom**. Worship aids and worship services are available for Zoom on our website, [www.greatkillsmoravian.org](http://www.greatkillsmoravian.org). If you missed a service click on the Watch Now button under Previous Services and then click on the service you would like to view.

**Communion Services:** April **Communion cups** can be delivered if you plan to join a communion service on Zoom. Please contact the church office if you would like to have one delivered to you. Office phone 718-317-7788, email [office@greatkillsmoravian.org](mailto:office@greatkillsmoravian.org)

**Sunday School:** Sunday School begins at 9:30am, please contact Pam Bailey at [eccep3@gmail.com](mailto:eccep3@gmail.com) for registration and additional information.

**Children's Chat:** Children's Chat is held the second Sunday of the month during worship.

**Bible Study:** Bible Study group meets after worship about 12:15 Sunday mornings. We are studying the Gospel of Mark. All are welcome.

**The Joyful Noise Offering:** The children collect coins every second Sunday as a Joyful Noise collection that supports three missions: Camp Hope in NJ, the Essentials Cafe in Pennsylvania, and Moravian Open Door in New York City. Moravian Open Door is a not for profit organization(501c-3) committed to providing transitional housing and supportive services to the homeless, distressed and underserved population of New York City. The children enjoy the clanking noise the coins make when they land in the offering can. So bring your coins. They will also accept bills or checks.

**Prayer shawl ministry:** Prayer shawls are knit or crocheted for those who are in need of comfort or those who are celebrating something. If you are interested in volunteering to help make shawls or if you know someone that would like a Prayer Shawl, please contact the church office.

**Pysanky Egg Classes:** Call the church office to register or for more Information. Each class will be \$25 which includes refreshment.

### **Pysanky Schedule:**

Fri. April 4th @ 6:30 pm

Sat. April 12th @ 10:00 am

Mon. April 21st @ 10:00 am

Sat. April 26th @ 10:00 am (advanced\*)

**\*Advanced sessions are for those who have experience creating Pysanky eggs and do not require additional instruction.**

### **Joint Board news:**

Elders will meet April 24 at 11:00am.

The financial secretary asks that you write your envelope number in the memo section of your check.

### **Trustee Book Keeping Report For February**

Revenue. \$2513

Expenses. \$6467

Surplus. -\$3954

### **Events Happening beyond GKMC:**

**Vanderbilt Community Dinner:** The next community dinner is ***Saturday***, April 19, 4:40pm to 6:00pm. You are invited to Vanderbilt's monthly community dinner. If you would like to help in any way or need more information, contact Muriel Timari.

**Moravian Women's Conference:** Do you want to learn ways to increase your faith? Do you want to go on a cruise? Join Pastor Blondel Jones-Grant on Royal Caribbean's Oasis of the Seas from June 22nd through 28. The church office has more information.

**Unity Prayer Offering:** The Unity Prayer offerings will be accepted through May. Use the small brown envelopes located on the table in front of the church. If writing a check, indicate "unity offering". In the memo section. The Moravian Church in North America plans to use these funds to help create a "Common Moravian Theological Curriculum in Spanish."

**Stewardship:** Being good stewards in the church means responsibly managing the gifts, resources, and opportunities that God has entrusted to us. This stewardship extends to our time, talents, finances, and care for the church community and beyond. Here are some key ways we can be good stewards:

1. **Faithful Financial Giving:** Supporting the church through tithes and offerings ensures that ministry, outreach, and operational needs are met. Giving generously and joyfully reflects our trust in God's provision.
2. **Using Our Talents and Gifts** :Each person has unique abilities that can serve the church, whether through music, teaching, leadership, hospitality, or service. Offering our gifts strengthens the body of Christ.
3. **Caring for Church Property:** Maintaining the church building and grounds ensures a welcoming space for worship and community activities. **(Continues on the Next Page)**

This includes responsible use of facilities, regular upkeep, and supporting necessary improvements.

4. **Serving Others:** Stewardship involves reaching beyond the church walls to care for those in need. Volunteering in ministries, mission work, and local outreach programs is a way to serve God by serving others.

5. **Time Management:** Prioritizing time for worship, prayer, Bible study, and service reflects our commitment to spiritual growth and community. Being present and engaged in church life fosters a stronger, more connected congregation.

6. **Environmental Stewardship:** Caring for God creation by promoting sustainability, reducing waste, and making environmentally conscious choices aligns with biblical principles of stewardship.

7. **Encouraging & Discipling Others:** Investing in the spiritual growth of fellow believers through mentorship, small groups, and encouragement strengthens the church's mission and builds a strong faith community.

Ultimately, good stewardship is about honoring God with all that we have and using it wisely for His glory and the benefit of His kingdom.

**Eastern Women Moravian Workshop** will be held in Jamaica, Queens on Saturday April 26 at Grace Moravian Church starting at 10:00am. Pastor Blondel Jones-Grant will be speaking. Fun activities will include a hymn quiz and a Bible quiz based on the first 10 chapters of the book of Judges.

Cost is \$25. The church office has registration forms and more information.

**Easter Plants:** Order forms are available for Easter plants on the table when you first walk into the church. These plants will help decorate our sanctuary for Easter service. Cost is \$12 per plant. Orders are due to the church office by Tuesday April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Prayers For:** Anna Maria V, Chad, John Ducey, Bill and Carol Burt, Charlee, Linda Golino, Susan C, Frank & family, Nicholas Falvey & his family, Joanne K, Joyce Fernandez, Captain J. King, James Peterson, Madeline M, Doug Wycoff, Sean & his mom Sue, Thora Mae & family, Amanda, Dr. Krelensteri and Florence.

#### **GKMC Prayer List**

To add someone, send a request to the office. Request forms are in a basket in the Narthex. Otherwise contact Louise Brackett.

#### **April Birthdays**

April 4 Maya Timari / Victoria Pezzengrilli  
 April 7 Nancy Burri  
 April 8 Mark D'Avino / Wanda Bench-Emery  
 April 9 Leslie Bruzzese  
 April 13 Allan Ali  
 April 15 Angela Jordan  
 April 16 Alexis Pulice / Barbara Balla / Leonardo Gutierrez  
 April 18 Margaret Grace  
 April 20 Joseph Christopher Crea-Ricco  
 April 25 Zakariah Ali  
 April 27 Barbara Pezzengrilli

#### **April Anniversaries**

April 24 Mark and Vanessa D'Avino

# April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<a href="http://www.greatkillsmoravian.org">www.greatkillsmoravian.org</a> Facebook		1	2	3	4	5
<b>6 Fifth Sunday in Lent</b> 9:30am Sunday School 11:00am Worship In-person and Zoom <b>Holy Communion</b> <b>12:15pm Bible Study</b>	7	8	9	10	11	12
<b>13 Palm Sunday</b> 9:30am Sunday School 11:00am Worship In-person and Zoom <b>Children's Chat</b> <b>Joyful Noise Offering</b> <b>12:00pm Fellowship</b> <b>12:30pm Bible Study</b>	14 <b>Holy Week</b> <b>Readings On</b> <b>Zoom Only</b> <b>7:00pm</b>	15 <b>Holy Week</b> <b>Readings On</b> <b>Zoom Only</b> <b>7:00pm</b>	16 <b>Holy Week</b> <b>Readings On</b> <b>Zoom Only</b> <b>7:00pm</b>	17 <b>Maundy Thursday</b> <b>7:00pm Service</b> <b>Upper fellowship</b> <b>Hall</b> <b>Holy Communion</b>	18 <b>Good Friday</b> <b>7:00pm Church</b> <b>Service in the</b> <b>Sanctuary</b>	19 <b>Vanderbilt</b> <b>Community</b> <b>Dinner</b> <b>4:40pm</b>
<b>20 Easter Sunday</b> 9:30am Sunday School 11:00am Worship In-person and Zoom <b>Sunday School Easter Presentation</b>	21	22	23	24 <b>Elders Meeting</b> <b>11:00am</b>	25	26
<b>27 Second Sunday of Easter</b> <b>No Sunday School</b> 11:00am Worship In-person and Zoom <b>12:15pm Bible Study</b>	28	29	30			

Great Kills Moravian Church  
62 Hillside Terrace  
Staten Island, N Y 10308

## ***Great Kills Moravian Church Worship Weekly Scriptures***

*If you miss our In-Person worship service you may join in the recorded services available on our church website 24/7.*

***April 6— Fifth Sunday in Lent***

***Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8***

***April 13 — Palm Sunday***

***Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 118:1-2,19-29; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 19:28-40 or Luke 22:14-23:56***

***April 20— Easter Sunday***

***Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2,14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26; Luke 24:1-12***

***April 27 — Second Sunday of Easter***

***Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 150; Revelation 1:4-8; John 20:19-31***

### **Leaders & Co Leaders:**

**April 6** - Pastor Blondel Jones-Grant  
co-leader Todd Hallett

**April 13** - Pastor Jesus Laguerra  
co-leader Liz Reres

**April 17 - Maundy Thursday**  
Pastor Blondel Jones-Grant  
co-leader Jim Jimenez

**April 18 - Good Friday**  
Pastor Blondel Jones-Grant  
co-leader Liz Reres

**April 20—** Pastor Blondel Jones-Grant  
co-leader Muriel Tamari

**April 27** - Jesus Laguerra  
co-leader Donna Ziegeler