

# Connections

October 2019

Building a community where all are enriched through Christian Love, Service, and Spiritual Renewal.

Pastor's Note

## ***Reaching Out***

A week or so ago, I was in the office and the phones were ringing like crazy. Liz was on one call, Gloria another so I grabbed the third call. To my surprise and delight it was Rev. Bob Pierce. He was the Director of the Long Island Council of Churches (LICC) before Rev. Tom Goodhue held that position. When I first started my ministry, I would meet with Bob about my career path, and would benefit from his wisdom and insights. Periodically I would see him at UCC functions after his retirement and once met him on the streets of Broadway as we were both seeing a show with friends. Bob now visits his wife in a nursing home, gets out locally to the gym and to visit friends. He said he woke up with me on his mind and knew he had to call me and check on me.

I was beyond touched. Bob came to my Installation Service for becoming the Senior Pastor and as a gift connected me with the spiritual meditations of Richard Rohr. (Richard Rohr and Henri Nouwen are both in my awe-inspired camp of priests.)

How many of us think about someone we haven't seen in years and make the effort to call them? How many of us receive that call with joy and stop what we are doing and have a conversation with that person? It seems like a simple gesture OR it could be an intrusion to our overly-scheduled day. "Was that person listed in our Google Calendar," we might ask.

Our vision statement: *Faithfully Reaching Out, Inclusively Drawing In* took on a whole new meaning after that phone call. It reminded me how such a simple act can have such a profound affect.

As we return to a routine and rededicate ourselves to attending church, let us be mindful of the ones not in the pews and reach out to them. "I was thinking of you and want to know how you are," is all that needs to be said.

Using the words of Clint Eastwood, "Go ahead, make my day."

Blessings,

Lynn

Senior Pastor

## **Worship Schedule**

### **Sundays**

8:30 AM  
Chapel

10:30 AM  
Sanctuary

### **Tuesdays**

Intercessory  
Prayer Service  
9:30 AM  
Chapel

### **Wednesdays**

8:00 PM  
Gardner Hall

## **Inside This Issue**

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## **GRATITUDE GROWS!**

Gratitude Grows has been a way to thank and highlight members of our faith community who continue to take the extra step in helping our church and volunteering their time. If you are grateful for someone, contact Lynn to be added to next month's list:

Marcia and Greg Matzelle for hosting the ABC Dinner

Doug Yasso and Tim Martens for Live Streaming our Memorial services

Jim Burdi and Peg Mainusch for cleaning the choir robes and collars

Carolyn Herbst for her service as the Flower Deacon

Mico Faella for her willingness to take over as Flower Coordinator

Melva Victorino for her work as Communications Coordinator

Mary Clarke for her work in the 90 in 19 Campaign

Paul Cohn for tracking down every employee for the mandatory Sexual Harassment Training

Margie Price, Katie Masters, Karin Melkonian for their commitment to ABS

Our Liturgists for all the Services

Melva Victorino for creating the reception for Rev. Shernell Edney Stilley, Associate Conference Minister

Kirsten Bahlke for coordinating the Welcome Day Picnic

Welcome back Choir!

Our COT Leaders who are working behind the scenes

Kimberly Pauley for all her hard work on the garden

Our office angels: Jan Levine, Margot Smith, Jane Nelson, Barbara Nelson, Fred and Linda Schroeder

### **Coming Soon!!!**

23<sup>rd</sup> Season of

### **The Garden City Community Theatre**

Actors and vocalists — if you love to act and/or sing, share your talents and join us. The Community Theatre play is well-loved for its fun and laughter and being in the cast is a wonderful way to make new friends. Every year The Community Theatre stages an original musical comedy under the direction of Church members, Ruby and Brad Gustavson. The annual play is a Church fundraiser and plays an important role in the programming needs of the Church. Auditions are just around the corner, most likely coming sometime in December.

**2020 Play Dates are: Friday, March 27th ~ Saturday, March 28th ~ Sunday, March 29th**

The cast meets 3 times a week for regular rehearsals on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays from January until play weekend.

~ Further Information to Follow ~

**Come! Have fun! All are Welcome!**

### **LITURGISTS AND COMMUNION SERVERS WELCOMED**

If you are interested in becoming a Liturgist assisting in the worship service, or helping set up and serve Communion, please contact Worship Committee Chair, Janet Martens. Liturgists can read scripture, lead prayers, and assist with offering.

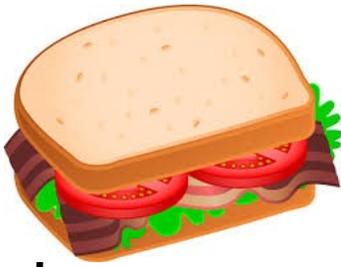
### **YOUTH LITURGISTS RETURNING**

Anyone in grades 4<sup>th</sup> and up that would like to be a youth liturgist, please contact [Margie@thegccc.org](mailto:Margie@thegccc.org)

### **Men's Breakfast**

All men are invited for food and fellowship at the Park City Diner Saturday October 5th at 8 AM.

Come and join us!



## SANDWICH SUNDAYS

Looking for a new way to serve God and the community this year?

Sunday, October 27, 2019 Gardner Hall 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Sandwich Sundays is a monthly ministry in which members of the Garden City Community Church make sandwiches after worship and deliver them to the Interfaith Nutrition Network (INN) in Hempstead, where they are served to those in need with the Monday lunch.

There are many ways to get involved! We need shoppers to purchase the cold cuts from local vendors who support our efforts (with funds donated) and givers to provide lunch items such as sandwich bags, fruit, water, brown bags and chips. We need donors to help us offset the cost of the cold cuts with monetary donations to support this program. We need many church hands to assemble the sandwiches after church, and we need a driver to deliver the sandwiches. Each month Sandwich Sunday involves in the range of 30 church members and feeds almost 200 people in our community. Will you help grow this vibrant service ministry?

To participate or donate items, sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084BACAD2EAA8-sandwich2>

To donate funds, sign up here:

[www.osvonlinegiving.com/1454/DirectDonate/62698](http://www.osvonlinegiving.com/1454/DirectDonate/62698)

To join our Sandwich Sunday mailing list for regular emails about Sandwich Sunday,  
email [churchoffice@thegccc.org](mailto:churchoffice@thegccc.org)

To join our leadership team to help set-up and coordinate our Sandwich Sunday efforts  
email Jennifer Gisolfi at [jgisolfi@optonline.net](mailto:jgisolfi@optonline.net)

### OWL (OUR WHOLE LIVES)

#### PROGRAM

The 2019 OWL (Our Whole Lives) Program schedule:

10/6 6pm – 9pm (Pizza party extended opening session)

10/20, 10/27, 11/3, 11/10, 11/17, 11/24  
7pm – 9pm

Meeting in the Youth room

This Program is open to all High School students in Grades 9-12.

#### **Topics covered include:**

Use of Social Media

Relationships (including speakers from Planned Parenthood and LIGALY)

Drugs and Alcohol

**Parental Consent Forms are mandatory for youth participation**

**When it is possible, be kind.**

**It is always possible.**

**Dali Lama**

#### Mission Trip Reveal

Sunday, October 6, 2019

11:30 in Gardner Hall

9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders come to see where we will be going next!

#### World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 6, 2019

Please join us for worship as we celebrate this day

# ABS NEWS

ABS (Adventures in Bible School) is under way! We started on Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> with the joy of a large group of our youngest church-members. We got to see some old friends and make some new ones we look forward to getting to know better in the coming weeks.

Typically ABS will follow the lectionary schedule with the Spark curriculum, however we started the year with lessons about Creation, and how God created us all in God's image and blessed us, in all of our marvelous diversity. If you have a moment, take a look at the bulletin boards going downstairs. You will see a reflection of this lesson we learned.

We have also started our youth liturgist program. Any of our youth 4<sup>th</sup> grade and up are welcome to participate in leading our service. To sign up go to our Sign-Up Genius at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A4AAEA828A1FA7-liturgist> and choose some dates your child would like to participate, or email Margie Price at [Margie@thegccc.org](mailto:Margie@thegccc.org).

Come join us!! We have plenty of opportunity for new students. And we would love to have some more volunteers. If you would like to spend some time with our children, we would welcome your help and support. You can sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A4AAEA828A1FA7-sunday> or email Margie.

Those of us on the ABS team are so enjoying the time we get to spend with your children and look to more opportunities to share God's love with them.

Blessings,

Margie Price

## OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN THE CHURCH

This October 20 will be the 90th anniversary of our first worship service at a private home. (We signed the charter to be an established church Easter of the following year.) To begin celebrating our 90th year, we will have New Member Sunday and hope to welcome people who have been worshipping with us that are ready to join. If you are ready to join or know of someone who is, please contact the office so we can reach out to them. Trivia question: when will the next time October 20 falls on a Sunday?

## SUNDAY FORUM SCHEDULES

9:15 AM in the Parlor

**October 6th - Drew Hearon, Chair of Council of Trustees**

Updates on 90 in 19

**90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of GCCC**

**October 13<sup>th</sup> - Angel Reyes Rivas, Long Island Coordinator Rural & Migrant Ministry**

"Immigrants and Rural Workers on the East End of Long Island" Rural Migrant Ministry and in particular the Farmworker's Bill.

**October 20<sup>th</sup> - TBA**

**October 27<sup>th</sup> - James Burdi**

From One Religious Tradition to Another: One Christian's Faith Journey

## SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES

Throughout the years, our members and friends have grown in many ways through our small group ministries, such as: the Men's Breakfast, the Reader's Circle, the Prayer Service, the Garden Group, the Theatre Group, and our various choirs and music groups. If you would like to join a group, or start a new group, contact the church office.

### Blessing of the Animals Sunday, October 6th 2019

3pm Church Lawn

Bring any animal you wish to be blessed (All pets **must be leashed, in a cage or tank or a picture.**) A member of the clergy will provide a blessing to all God's creatures.



### HOME COMMUNION

Home Communion is available to anyone not able to attend church. Please contact the church office at [churchoffice@theGCCC.org](mailto:churchoffice@theGCCC.org) or (516) 746-1700 to arrange a time for a visit.

## Intercessory Prayer Service

At the Intercessory Prayer Service, we faithfully pray for your loved ones each Tuesday morning at 9:30 AM in the Chapel. If you have a request for prayer, please fill out the yellow "Prayer Request" card in the back of the pew and place it in the offering plate or give it to an usher or minister.

All matters of prayer are strictly confidential. All are invited to join us in the work of prayer each Tuesday morning.

## ATTENTION 8<sup>TH</sup> AND 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS

### CONFIRMATION CLASS DATES

Students going into 9<sup>th</sup> grade will move up to become our **Confirmation II Class** and will meet on **Tuesday nights** from 7:30 – 9:00 pm starting in Fall 2019.

Students going into 8<sup>th</sup> grade will move up to become our **Confirmation I Class** and will meet on **Monday nights** from 7:30 – 9:00 pm starting in Fall 2019.

#### Confirmation I:

Oct 7<sup>th</sup> – **Mandatory** parent/student meeting 7:30-Parlor

Oct 14<sup>th</sup> – no class – Columbus Day

Oct 21<sup>st</sup> and Oct 28<sup>th</sup> – Class 7:30 pm

Oct 25<sup>th</sup> Tanglewood Preserve

#### Confirmation II:

Oct 8<sup>th</sup> – **Mandatory** parent/student meeting 7:30-Parlor

Oct 15<sup>th</sup>, Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> and Oct 29<sup>th</sup> – Class 7:30 pm

Please contact Rev. Lynn Sullivan ([lsullivan@thegccc.org](mailto:lsullivan@thegccc.org)) or

Chris Dieguez ([chris@thegccc.org](mailto:chris@thegccc.org)) for any questions.

### ARE YOU CONNECTED?

Do you want to stay on top of what is happening at the GCCC in real time?

Sign up for one or more of our email blasts:

Monthly Newsletter

Weekly e-Blast

Pastoral Concerns

Weekly Church School News

Wednesday Eve Worship

You can sign up on our website

(<http://www.theGCCC.org/contact/>)

Or email us at [churchoffice@thegccc.org](mailto:churchoffice@thegccc.org)

## Church Membership News

### Deaths:

Marily Huth Hult – September 4, 2019

Jane MacDougall – September 13, 2019

### Baptisms:

Christopher George – September 29, 2019

Phoebe James George – September 29, 2019

## READER'S CIRCLE BEING REVISED

After nearly 20 years of having a bi-monthly book discussion on a variety of excellent books, the Reader's Circle is changing its emphasis. Inspired by Holy Envy, the book discussion for September, we will be reading inspirational and theological books. Everyone is invited to read these books, and always welcomed to join us for the discussion. Below are the next books and dates.

Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at noon in the Whitehall Conference Room. Book: Searching for Sunday by Rachel Held Evans. Bring your lunch - Dessert Hostess: Marion Levins

Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at noon in the Whitehall Conference Room. Book: The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World by The Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu. Bring your lunch - Dessert hostess: Mary Dewar

## AMERICANA FAIR Saturday, November 9, 2019

It's time to gather your Fair donations and remember that The **Silent Auction** is a very important contributor to the Fair's success. Please donate gently-used furs, jewelry, antiques, special treasures and collectibles for the Silent Auction. Wrap them separately and label them. For other rooms, put aside any of the following items: jewelry, user-friendly books, china, crystal, linens, silver, pictures & frames, lamps, new, unloved items for the Boutique, toys, and household items for Attic Treasures.

We **do not accept** any large pieces of furniture or electronics. Make sure all items are clean and in saleable condition. There will be a "Shabby/Chic" room for new and gently-used, clean clothing and accessories (for children and adults.)

Hold on to these items until sorting week begins (November 2, Saturday). Also, we have space: for the past few years, we have been collecting items for the Americana Fair beginning before drop-off week. We have people who have volunteered to store these items until sorting week. Please contact Melanie Ross for info.

Contact Cindy Campbell for more Americana Fair info or to volunteer in the fall ([cindala86@gmail.com](mailto:cindala86@gmail.com)).

**Middle-school and high-school youth** are needed as volunteers. Please contact Robin B. Laisure at [raboye@optonline.net](mailto:raboye@optonline.net) for a permission slip.

**The Fair can use many hands -- it is an all-church fundraising event! Please consider playing a role (large or small) in this great tradition.**

**Sorting week begins on Saturday, November 2, 2019**

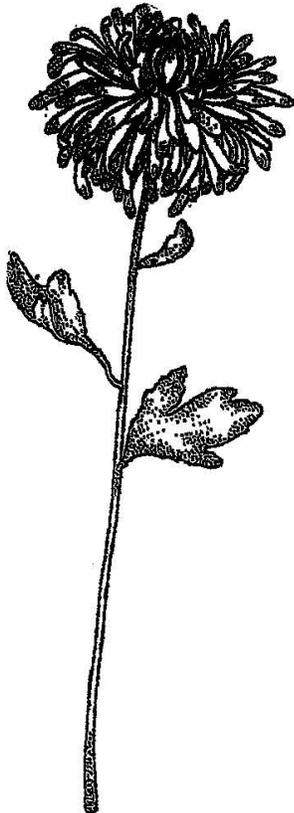


The Garden City Community Church  
 CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO ITS ANNUAL

**CHRYSANTHEMUM BRIDGE & MAHJONG LUNCHEON**

All Games Are Welcome!

AGAIN this Year! Sandwiches and Dessert will be served for Lunch



MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2019  
 NOON

The Garden City Community Church  
 Stewart Avenue and Whitehall Boulevard  
 Garden City, NY 11530

**TABLE PRIZES – RAFFLES**

**\$25 per person (\$100 Per Table)**

Please send reservation form and check(s) to:

Susan Bashian  
 21 Nassau Boulevard  
 Garden City, NY 11530

Checks to be made out to Garden City Community Church

Reservations must be received by Thursday, October 17, 2019

*\*\*\* (Please bring your own Mahjong set) \*\*\**

**Chrysanthemum Bridge & Mahjong Luncheon Fund Raiser**

**October 21, 2019**

Table Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

( ) I am unable to attend but wish to support the bridge. Enclosed is my donation.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount \_\_\_\_\_



WITH COUNSELING SITES LOCATED IN:  
NASSAU SUFFOLK MANHATTAN QUEENS  
WESTCHESTER BROOKLYN

Prepared especially for LCC  
Association Congregations & Schools

### **Body and Soul**

**By Craig Canfield, MA, LP, LCC Therapist**

*"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them." Gen. 1:27*

If we are all "fearfully and wonderfully made" (Ps. 139:14) as a basis of the *imago Dei* (image of God), shouldn't we focus on taking care of and valuing our physical state? Every therapist who has lost a patient to heart disease knows how the body in therapy can be betrayed. After all, we are told that there are physicians who can tend to these issues. Like so many other things in which we are told not to meddle, we are often told that our business is solely with the Psyche, that there are enough issues here to attend to without our insistence on the importance of physical matters.

But then the inevitable call one day comes. . . *"I'm just calling to inform you that Jim will not be attending his session with you today. This morning he died suddenly of a heart attack."* There can follow a nearly comically, macabre moment when the therapist then recollects one minute, now totally irrelevant detail of something that had occurred to the patient decades ago, but that had been unearthed only a session before his death, that the therapist had intended to return to in today's session. "Heart mysteries", as the poet W.B. Yeats spoke of, may extend beyond the physical, but without the physical, well, what then?

There might be a few other "concepts" contributing to such a betrayal. The second, the projected idea of 'heaven' resulting in the view that the body is just a shell, a vehicle for journey on earth to get us to heaven. The reasoning then often heard in response to voiced concern about some physical issue is, *"then why worry so much about the body? After all, should we not live for the next life, the life in heaven?"* However, God called "very good" his creation that includes physical bodies. If our bodies are His temples (1 Cor. 6:19-20), doesn't it warrant our focus and attention?

And third: our idea of the Resurrected body, the Mystical body, the Body of Christ, that this "body" has nothing whatsoever to do with the body of man, therefore keeping it entirely apart from an image of our own "health" to be obtained. However, one might argue that through his incarnation, Christ became flesh to restore bodily life through the Resurrection, not to rescue only spirits for an ephemeral heaven.

Walking the loop around Prospect Park, I spotted last week a very, very young boy trying out his newly acquired "running legs" towing a kite behind him. The kite would rise and then fall, rise and then fall, but the falling had little to do with his own endeavors. What he never turned around to see was his two little mischievous brothers stepping every other second on the tail of his kite, keeping it from ascending. Thus the blocking agents within us, or outside of us, trying to get our "kite of health" forever from soaring in the air. It's good on occasion to turn around and note the interference.

*Craig Canfield counsels teens, adults and couples at our LCC: Paul Qualben site in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. For more information or to set an appointment at one of our nine counseling sites in the metro NY area, call us at 1-800-317-1173. Please visit our website at [www.LCCNY.org](http://www.LCCNY.org)*