

# The Methodist *Chimes*

June 2017

## ***From the Pastor's Desk***

*Mark 1:15: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." (from the New Revised Standard Version of the bible)*

The Greek word commonly translated as repent, *metanoia*, is Jesus' first proclamation upon beginning his ministry, as captured in Mark 1:15 printed above. The English word *repent* has an unfortunate negative connotation, bringing to mind regret, grief, and sorrow over sinful deeds that leads to a change of mind and life. Many scholars dating back to church father Tertullian argue that the word *metanoia* is better translated in different ways. Tertullian asserted that "in Greek, *metanoia* is not a confession of sins but a change of mind," and offered the word *conversion* as a better translation for *metanoia*. The Merriam-Webster Dictionary gives this transliteration: "a transformative change of heart; *especially*: a spiritual conversion."

Therefore, at the very outset of his ministry, Jesus is calling his followers to fundamentally change their minds and way of life in order to align with the onset of the Kingdom of God in the present moment. Acknowledgement of the reality of the Kingdom of God over and against the illusion of the powers of the world in our thoughts is therefore the first step; living out that belief with action follows.

As I write these words, the 1992 hit pop song "Free Your Mind" is echoing in my head. Sung by the group En Vogue, the lyrics describe instances of African-American women experiencing prejudicial racism in their everyday lives. The chorus perfectly captures the idea of *metanoia* in their context:

Why oh why must it be this way  
Before you can read me you gotta learn how to see me, I said  
Free your mind and the rest will follow  
Be color blind, don't be so shallow.  
Free your mind and the rest will follow  
Be color blind, don't be so shallow

How are we, as a congregation and community, called to align our minds, hearts, and actions with the proclamation of Jesus for *metanoia*, for conversion, for transformation? All too commonly, followers of The Way are resistant to change. Is this congregation more committed to preserving the traditions and the status quo than to engage in transformation? How can we grasp the concept of *metanoia* in our context in Red Hook? How can we shift our mindset toward the positivity of change and hope for a bright future? And importantly, how do we transform an acceptance of change in our minds into concrete actions that demonstrate our commitment to Jesus' *metanoia*?

I see lots of hopeful signs of *metanoia* in our congregation. In hallway conversations, in meetings, in actions taken, and in dreams shared, we are stepping in the right direction. I pray that we continue to persevere in the task before us as disciples of Jesus. I call upon God for the blessing of transformation, and for the patience and openness to share and listen to one another as we journey forward together into a future that is different from our present.

Peace,  
Pastor Nikki

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## Report of the Music and Worship Committee



Our Memorial Tribute Concert was well attended and many of the attendees congratulated the entire choir, Keith's playing and our other participants. We are already planning next year's concert. We will be holding a Music and Worship Committee meeting on June 4th after church.

*Barbara Melzer*, Chair



## From the Basement

We are always Busy!

Our Weekly Food Pantry is open Sundays from 1 - 2:30 pm. Someone can often be found down in the basement bringing in food donations, organizing the store room, and stocking shelves. The community has been very generous with its donations of money and food. Thank you very much for all your generosity! We can always we could use a few more hands down there helping out!



**If you would like to volunteer Please contact Janice Williams, 845-750-3057.**

**This Month's Food Bank Delivery is 6/16/17 in the morning**

I would like to thank the Church and the Community for supporting our Memorial Weekend Concert. I hope that everyone enjoyed it! It is a lot of work for the choir and especially for me, but it is a labor of love for me and I think the choir. If anyone has any thoughts or ideas on how we can get more people and Veterans Organizations and Scouts from the community to attend, in the future, please let me know. A different day on the weekend or time? I am open to suggestions. Thanks.

*Keith A Niver*

## Church Street Nursery School

It is Graduation time!

The children are so excited to end the school year and begin summer Vacation. Our Graduation/ Moving up Day Ceremony will be held, June 14<sup>th</sup> from 8am – 12:30pm.



## ***Prayer List***

Please pray for our Pastor, our Bishop, the NYAC staff and cabinet, our Congregation, our Churches, and for our entire Nation. Join us in prayer for our Military and their Families, for those suffering from all types of illness and disease, and the families who have lost their loved ones.

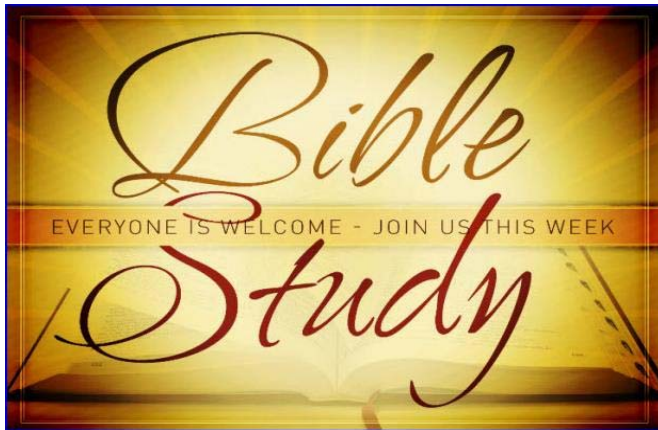
**Father, we give all to you...**

**AMEN**

## ***Our Prayer Chain***

A vessel for individuals to use to pray for anyone in need of prayer. All prayer requests are kept confidential.

If you are interested in using our Prayer Chain, please contact either Joan Murray, 758-5189; Joan Morrison, 758-5375; or Betty Tabor, 758-9011. Our goal is to give support, not to judge anyone's circumstances and put in place the **POWER OF PRAYER**.



Pastor Nikki's Weekly Bible Study

Thursday evenings from 3-5pm.

All are Welcome!

### **Pastor Nikki is available for Pastoral Care Visits!**

She is willing to meet you at the Church, your Home, or another Location.

If you are Interested Please Call or Email Pastor Nikki,

[nedleman@hotmail.com](mailto:nedleman@hotmail.com), 845-546-3260

Or the Office, 758-6283

## ***Regular Programs***

### **Sunday**

Food Pantry's Open weekly, 1-2:30pm

Choir Rehearsal weekly, 10am

### **Monday**

United Methodist Women Meet, the 4<sup>th</sup> week of the month, 6:30pm

### **Tuesday**

Finance Committee Meets the 1<sup>st</sup> week of the month, 6:30pm

### **Wednesday**

Membership Committee Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the month, 2pm

Trustees Meet the 1<sup>st</sup> week of the month, 7pm

Hand to Mouth Weavers Meet weekly, 7pm

### **Thursday**

Pastor's Bible Study Meets weekly, 3-5pm

## ***Save The Date, this month***

June 5<sup>th</sup> – Council of Churches meeting, 10am

June 7<sup>th</sup> thru the 10<sup>th</sup> – Annual Conference, Hofstra University

June 10<sup>th</sup> – Annual Strawberry Festival, 4:30 – 7pm

June 16<sup>th</sup> – Food Bank Delivery

## ***Volunteers Opportunities***

To help out at the Food Pantry

Please contact Janice Williams if interested, 845-750-3057

To help Hand to Mouth Weavers

Join us any Wednesday evenings from 7- 9pm, all are welcome!

## ***Help us Save the Earth***

**Go Green Initiative**, in order to conserve our natural resources and money we would like to encourage you to Go Paperless! If you do not wish to receive our Monthly Chimes or would like to provide an email and switch from paper mailings, please let the office know, either by phone, 845-758-6283 or by email, [redhookumc@umcchurches.org](mailto:redhookumc@umcchurches.org) Thank you for your help!



# **151<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL**

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF RED  
HOOK  
Corner of Church & West Market Streets**

**Saturday, June 10, 2017  
4:30 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Menu Includes:**      Baked Ham  
                                Potato Salad  
                                Baked Beans  
                                Cole Slaw  
                                Rolls & Butter

**-- and --      Fresh Strawberry Shortcake  
                                With Real Whipped Cream!**

**Adults \$15 – Seniors \$13  
Children 6 – 12 \$5 – Children 5 & Under – Free**

Red Hook UMC  
4 Church Street, Suite 2  
Red Hook, New York 12571



# The Methodist *Chimes*

JUNE

**Red Hook United Methodist Church**

“Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors”

Pastor Nikki Edleman  
Secretary Melissa Moore

Pastor or Secretary: 845-758-6283  
Emergencies: 631-871-4430  
Office Hours: Tues & Thurs, 9-11:30am  
E-mail: [redhookumc@umcchurches.org](mailto:redhookumc@umcchurches.org)

Organist Keith Niver