

The Master's Message

The Newsletter of the Church of the Master

October, 2024

Virtual Adult Bible Study
Wednesday, 7:00 PM
Saturday, 12:00

2783 Lafayette Avenue
Bronx, N.Y. 10465
718-597-6298

Sunday Worship
Sunday 11:00 am

cotm47@verizon.net

WWW.COTMBRONX.ORG

Rev. Dr. Melva J. Hayden, Pastor

Emergency numbers

If you are depressed → Psalm 27
When you are lonely → Psalm 23
When you want courage → Joshua 1
If people seem unkind → John 15
When your faith needs stirring → Hebrews 11
When you have sinned → Psalms 51
When you worry → Matthew 6:19-34
When God seems far away → Psalms 139
Feeling bitter and critical → 1 Corinthians 13
When in sorrow → John 15
When you're in danger → Psalm 91
If your wallet is empty → Psalm 37
Discouraged about work → Psalm 126
When you want peace → Matthew 11:25-30
Christian assurance → Romans 8:1-30
When prayers grow selfish → Psalm 67
For a great opportunity → Isaiah 55
Understanding Christianity → 2 Corinthians 5:15



SPECIAL DATES

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

- World Communion Sunday, October 6th
- Columbus Day Observance, October 14th
- Reformation Sunday, October 27th
- Reformation Day, October 31st

News From the Pews



Prayer Requests

Continue praying for
Ellen McCullough,
Allen Ford, Carole Mahon,
Loretta Byrd, John Bruno,
Alice & Alex Rivera

Everyone is invited to join our virtual **"Hour of Prayer Power"** every Friday at 7:00 PM.
The conference call-in number is 605-475-4860,
code: 371231#

Our **Online Bible Study** meets
Wednesday at 7:00 PM and Saturday at 12:00.
Contact Ron Rivera (917-716-8273)
for information on joining

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

Sunday, October 27th is our Annual Friends & Family Worship Service & Luncheon.
Speak to Sandra McPherson for info.

Rev. Ron Cadmus will be our guest preacher



A word of wisdom

You cannot stay where you are and go with God. You cannot continue doing things your way and accomplish God's purpose in his ways. Your thinking cannot come close to God's thoughts. For you to do the will of God, you must adjust your life to him, his purposes and his ways.

—Henry Blackaby

CHURCH CHUCKLES

Finding himself lost in the mountains on a cold Friday night, a man prayed for the Lord's guidance and is led to a monastery. He is welcomed in, just in time for dinner. He is served a wonderful meal of fish and chips – the finest he has ever had, in fact. He asks if he may meet the cooks so he can thank them for the food.

When he tells them how much he enjoyed the meal, they thank him and introduce themselves.

"You're most welcome, friend. I am Brother Vincent, the fish friar, and this is Brother Paul, the chip monk."

A mortal said to God, "What is a million years like to you?"

God answered, "Like one second."

The mortal asked, "What is a million dollars like to you?"

"Like one penny," God answered.

"Can I have a penny?" asked the mortal.

"Just a second," God replied.

The Seniors' group is sponsoring a picnic this Saturday. Each person is asked to bring a friend, a vegetable, or a dessert in a covered dish.

"Sometimes the most scenic roads in life
are the detours you didn't mean to take"

—Angela N. Blout

A call to serve

Ruth M. Walsh wrote: "I was naked, and you questioned my lack of modesty in my appearance. I was imprisoned, and you debated the legal aspects of interference. I was penniless, and you discussed tax-deductible donations from your wealth. I was sick, and you thanked the Lord for the blessings of your health. I was hungry, and you formed a committee to study malnutrition. I was homeless, and you said God's love was shelter under any condition. I was lonely, and you left me by myself while you and your friends prayed. You seem so holy and close to God, yet I'm still sick and alone and afraid!"

By contrast, in the parable of the sheep and the goats, Jesus says, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:40, NRSV). When we fail to serve our neighbors, we fail to serve Jesus. Yet when we feed the hungry, we're actually feeding Jesus. When we visit the sick, we're actually visiting Jesus. And when we love one another, we're actually loving Jesus.

A thousand words leave not the same deep impression as does a single deed.

-Henrik Ibsen

What we'd like to hear in church

- Hey, it's my turn to sit in the front pew!
- I was so enthralled, I never noticed your sermon ran longer than usual.
- I'll volunteer to be the permanent junior high Sunday school teacher.
- I love it when we sing hymns I've never heard before.
- Because we're all here, let's start the worship service early.
- Pastor, we'd like to send you to this Bible seminar in the Bahamas.
- Nothing inspires me and strengthens my commitment like our annual stewardship campaign.

A child's prayer for protection

If indeed childhood was ever carefree, it's hardly so now. Some children face bullying, while others deal with rough home lives. Many fret over their performance at school and in sports. News of dangers and tragedies makes parents want to shelter their kids from worldly harm.

Whether real or imagined, childhood anxieties are best confronted in the same way as adult anxieties: through prayer and the assurance of God's presence. Teach this traditional prayer to a young person in your life — and find comfort in it yourself:

God in heaven, hear my prayer.
Keep me in thy loving care.
Be my guide in all I do.
Bless all those who love me too.
Amen.



In our newsletters, we will now be sharing our financial reports with our readers so everyone is aware of our situation. These are our latest reports:

Excess Income/Expense Totals

July, 2024: - \$365.03

August, 2024 : - \$435.01

As you can see, both July and August had negative balances. We're trying to cut corners as much as possible but we need the help of our members, former members and friends. As a member, if you miss a week or two, please make up your weekly donations for those weeks. You may not be here for those weeks, but our expenses don't skip a week.

We do thank our generous former members and friends who send us a donation, whether it's on a regular basis, occasionally during the year or during the holiday season. We really appreciate the donations, as well as hearing from you.

One way we're trying to save some money is with sending this newsletter. If you receive our monthly newsletter by mail, we would appreciate it if you would let us know if you want to continue to receive it before the end of the year. Our postage keeps going up and a donation toward it will help us to continue sending it.

Our prayer is that we can continue to keep in touch with everyone and that will only be with your help.

ONE BIG HAPPY

By RICK DETORIE



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Passionate about pumpkins

According to PBS.org, the oldest domesticated pumpkin seeds were found in Mexico, in the Oaxaca Highlands.

According to the University of California, there are more than 45 pumpkin varieties, including Hooligan, Cotton Candy and Orange Smoothie pumpkins.

Jack-o'-lanterns originated in Ireland and Scotland and were originally made from turnips and potatoes, according to History.com. These were swapped with pumpkins when people immigrated to North America.

Packed with purpose

In *Cure for the Common Life* (W Publishing Group), Max Lucado recounts grabbing the wrong suitcase at an airport, not realizing the mistake until he'd reached his hotel room. "No one wants to live out of someone else's bag," he writes, yet that's what many people do with their career choices.

An estimated 70 percent of people go to work without enthusiasm or passion because they've been urged to force themselves into roles that aren't the right fit. "You cannot be anything you want to be," Lucado writes, "but you can be everything God wants you to be."

By living out of the "bag" that God packed specially for you, you'll experience fulfillment and joy — in your work and in your life.



A strong harvest

Seeds of strength are planted in the soils of weakness. Your most uplifting strength tomorrow may grow from your most debilitating weakness today.

—V. Gilbert Beers



Every now and then, all church pastors need a brief respite from their ecclesiastical responsibilities!

However, prior to their departure they should be forewarned to **not** enlist the musical assistance of...



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October brings fall weather; pumpkin spiced everything, costumes, and our Annual Friends and Family Day Service and Luncheon on October 27, 2024. The Bible tells us "A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. (Proverbs 18:24).

On our Friends and Family Day, we invite our friends and family members to ask them to join us on this special occasion! If we find a lost item of great value to us, we can't wait to tell our loved ones, friends and family about our good fortune. When we meet that special someone and get engaged to marry, we can't wait to tell our loved ones, friends and family the good news! Likewise, we shouldn't hesitate to share the good news that Jesus saves with our loved ones, friends and family!

When Jesus comes into our life we should shout and tell everyone that we have found a Savior in Jesus and he has made a wonderful change in our life. But you don't have to wait for any special occasion to share Jesus with your loved ones, friends and family. Hopefully, they will see the difference knowing Jesus has made in your life. Now, let us run and tell everyone we meet that Jesus is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother! Happy Fall and Happy Friends and Family Day!



"Where was his guardian angel?"

God's highly valued investment

Someone once asked IBM founder Thomas Watson if he would fire an employee who made a mistake that cost the company \$60,000. To the questioner's surprise, Watson replied, "Why would I fire someone in whom I've invested \$60,000 in training?"

Neither will God "fire" or in any way dismiss us for our mistakes and failures. He has invested far too much — even his own Son's life! — in each of us for that.

Don't hold back for fear of failure. Serve the Lord boldly. Try something new for the sake of the Gospel, and when you make a mistake, bring it honestly to God in prayer. Be open to the Holy Spirit, who provides "continuing education" — in Scripture, through other Christians and by connecting directly with your heart — to improve your skills and gifts every day.

- "Prayer is thinking deeply about something in the presence of God."

—Wayne Cordeiro

- "The beautiful thing about learning is nobody can take it away from you."

—B.B. King