

Bellport United Methodist Church
185 S. Country Rd., Bellport, N.Y. 11713 631-286-0525

May 17, 2026

“Animals: Our Sacred Charge”



BLESSING *of the* **ANIMALS**

Welcome!

The Bellport UMC family welcomes visitors from all backgrounds. You are invited to join us for our fellowship hour following the service. For childcare, large print hymnals, or directions to our accessible access (elevator), please see any of our ushers. Our current newsletter and church brochure with upcoming events are available in the Entrance Area and Fellowship Hall. We hope you will feel God’s presence with us, and we invite you to join us again. We invite members and guests to sign in at the Entrance Area. Thank you!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

IMPORTANT CHURCH MEETINGS

Bible Study 101: Wednesdays, 10:00 AM.

Men's Bible Study: Mondays and Fridays at 3:00 PM on Zoom.

Men's Breakfast: 2nd Saturday of the month: 6/13/2026, 9:00 AM at the Church.

Bell Choir: Thursdays. Sanctuary. Startup Date TBD.

Choir for Worship Rehearsal: Thursdays, at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary.

Church Council Meeting: 5/19/2026, 7:30 PM, Wesley House.

Finance Committee Meeting: 6/2/2026, 7:00 PM, Wesley House.

Trustee Meeting: 6/10/2026, 7:00 PM, Wesley House.

Staff Pastor Parish Relationship Meeting: TBD.

Worship Team & Ushers Meeting: TBD.

Outreach: TBD, Wesley House.

😊 **Thank you for your Food Pantry Donations;** the Drop Box is available.

- **Please Sign Up for Coffee Hour** on the Sign-Up Sheet. Thank You!
- **The Thrift Shop** is now open. Hours of operation are Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.
Volunteers are needed. Three-hour shifts (10:00 AM to 1:00 PM or 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM). Donations can be placed in shed behind the Thrift Shop. For further information or to volunteer, call 631-286-0746.
- **The Blessing of the Animals:** Today, May 17, 2026, 9:30 AM
- **Concert:** "Lachrimae & Blue": Sunday, May 30, 2026, at 3:00 PM (See Insert)
- **Special Music Sunday:** June 28, 2026 (See Insert)

All Church services, programs, and events are also posted on the Church Website: www.umcbellport.org

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026

9:30 AM

Reverend Matthew Querns, Pastor

Lynn Hoag, Director of Music

Sheryl Moodt, Liturgist

Welcome visitors. Please sign our Guest Book!

*(All are invited to stand if comfortable doing so, where the * appears)*

GATHERING THOUGHTS

“Not to hurt our humble brethren (the animals) is our first duty to them but to stop there is not enough. We have a higher mission to be of service to them whenever they require it.” - St. Francis of Assisi, Patron Saint of Animals

ENTERING INTO THE PRESENCE

♪ **PRELUDE/PROCESSIONAL/QUIET MEDITATION**

EASTER SEASON ACTS READING

Acts 1:6-14

WELCOME (page 1) & ANNOUNCEMENTS (page 2)

♪ **MEDITATING ON THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

***CONGREGATIONAL CENTERING**

Leader: God’s animals inhabit the skies, lands, and seas. They share our fortune and are a part of human life. God confers gifts on all living things and uses the service of animals a reminder of salvation.

Leader: Animals were saved on the ark and made part of Noah’s covenant.

People: The paschal lamb recalls the Passover sacrifice and also reminds us of Israel’s deliverance from slavery in Egypt.

Leader: A giant fish saved and delivered Jonah.

People: Ravens brought Elijah food.

Leader: Animals were a part of the repentance of Nineveh.

People: Animals share in Christ’s redemption of all creation.

All: We invoke God’s blessing on the animals and thank God for making us stewards, caregivers, and protectors of Earth’s many creatures.

♪ **Opening Hymn: (UMH) #147**

All Things Bright and Beautiful

***PASSING THE PEACE- (UMH) #431** *Let There Be Peace on Earth.*”

“Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me; let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be. With God our creator, children all are we. Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now. With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow: To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally. Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.”

OPENING TO THE PRESENCE



Gathering Prayer

Leader: God created us and placed us on Earth to be stewards of all living things; therefore, let us proclaim the glory of our creator, saying:

All: Blessed are you who creates the animals and gives us the ability to train them to help us with our work. Blessed are you who gives us food from animals to replenish our energy. Blessed are you who, for the sake of our comfort, gives us animals as companions. Blessed are you who cares for us as you do for the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and the animals of the field. Together, we are all your vast wondrous creation.

MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF GRACE

Moments for Children/ The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in Heaven hallowed be your name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen

CALL TO PRAYER (TFWS) #2215 “Cares Chorus”

*“I cast all my cares upon you,
I lay all of my burdens down at your feet,
And anytime, I don’t know what to do,
I will cast all my cares upon you.”*

GOD SIGHTINGS, JOYS & CONCERNS (Pages 7&8)

PASTORAL PRAYER

HEARING THE WORD

FIRST READING (NRSV) Isaiah 11:1-9- A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ² The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Ministry of Music*Creation Will Be at Peace*

arr. by Ann Laura Page

Lynn Hoag, handbells

SECOND READING (NRSV) Genesis 2:15-20a- The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.' ¹⁸ Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' ¹⁹ So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man

called each living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner.

For the Word of God in scripture
For the Word of God among us,
For the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

SERMON: *The Animals: Our Sacred Charge* Reverend Matthew Querns
SERMON CHALLENGE: This week, let us remember animals are not here to amuse us. They are all God's wondrous creation. We must care for them as such.

Blessing of the Animals- (All are welcome to be blessed.)

Pastor: Lord bless *name* and fill our hearts with thanksgiving for *their* being.
People: Praise be to God.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

WORSHIPPING WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

***DOXOLOGY (UMH) #94**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Praise God, the source of all our gifts.

Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts.

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

***SENDING HYMN: (UMH) #62** *All Creatures of Our God and King*

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

May 17th's Sermon- *Adopted into God's Family*

Romans 8:14-17, Acts 2:1-18, 21

**JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR FELLOWSHIP.
THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US.
PLEASE, COME BACK ANYTIME!**

CHURCH SERVICE: Sundays at 9:30 AM
CHURCH OFFICE: Monday - Thursday, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.
TELEPHONE: 631-286-0525
CHURCH WEBSITE & SUNDAY BULLETIN: www.umcbellport.org
CHURCH EMAIL: bellportumc@optimum.net
ZOOM MEETING LINK: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6312860525>
DIAL BY PHONE: 16465588656 then 6312860525#
PASTOR: Rev. Matthew Querns, 845-208-1405, matthew.querns@nyac-umc.com
MUSIC: Lynn Hoag & Choir, PIANO: Dan Fogel
COFFEE HOUR: Danna Prather-Davis
USHERS: Bruce Groh, Bill Morse, and Youth
YOUTH & CHILDREN: Lori Labalsamo and Bill Morse
TECHNOLOGY: Barbara Pannhurst and Bill Lang
CHURCH FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/bellportmethodist.church.5>
PRESCHOOL: 631-286-2498, www.BellportPreschool.com
THRIFT SHOP: 631-286-0746, <https://www.facebook.com/Umcbellportfiddlersgreen>



Prayer List (Please email/contact the office or the Pastor)

Rescue and recovery for victims of natural disasters & wars, Peace of the World, Revival of the Church, Prayers for healing and strength for the following:

Kent Adee, Lois Barton (Heather Heights, Pittsford, NY), Joe Harder (Jr.), Doris Lundegard, Donna and Carl Catandella, and Edward and Patricia Schultz.

Sympathy Prayers

Prayers for Tom Bracken on the passing of Kathleen Wells. Prayers for the family of Dorothy Vogel on her passing. To the Gerig family and the Pannhurst family on the passing of Joseph Gerig.

Prayers for COOP Churches (Cooperative Parish): United Methodist Churches of South Shore, & UM churches/ All the churches worldwide

Stewardship

All things are possible with God



Devote Time



Share Talent



Give Treasure



A way of life

Lord's Day Attendance: 5/10/2026

ADULTS	CHILD REN	ZOOM	FACEBOOK /YOUTUBE	GUESTS		TOTAL
33	2	6	54			95

Abundant Blessings for Offerings: 5/10/2026

Current/ (Pledge, Tithes)	Loose Plate	Methodist Men	
\$2,245.	\$92.	\$25.	
Building Fund (Use)	Special Thanks/ Benevolence	Building Use	Total
\$10.	\$50.	\$50.	\$2,472.

Send Offering Checks By Mail:

“Bellport United Methodist Church”

PO Box 460, Bellport, NY 11713

By ZELLE: bellportumc@optimum.net, Tel: 631-205-4050