

## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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### JULY 2018 NEWSLETTER

#### FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN – THE DYNAMICS OF SERVING THE LORD

It is officially summer and I know that I am not alone in enjoying the beautiful weather and sunshine. Hallelulah!

As many of you know this month, the beginning of July, is the official one year mark of my pastoring here with the congregation. It is a milestone in my 30 years of ordained ministry and one of pure joy. I know you have been very patient with me and I sincerely apologize for mistakes in worship, missing cues, not being as available as I would like. I also thank you for letting me change things up from time to time. It is hard to find the pulse of a congregation and the dynamics of ours make it still a steep learning curve.

As you know my main concern is the spiritual health of everyone who graces our community with their presence. I know that we are all healthier and better when we have a sense of God's purpose as a community and too, each of us personally. As we have God's word each week and the fire of faith grows within us, we know we **have something to believe in**. As we share this belief in our actions and love, our greater community cannot fail to take notice of the Holy Spirit moving in our midst.

Equally important is building our sense of belonging, making sure every member knows they are loved and valuable. We take no one for granted. There are many ministries coming from our Methodist community and each is important. They take a lot of energy and time. We need to remember to care for the care givers and remind each other of our great value. We must also be certain of our neighbor's wellbeing. More than knowing a person's name and seeing them on Sundays we need to get to know each other well. The United Methodist Women and Man's Group, Community Suppers, Bible Studies, work projects, committees and special events are all opportunities to build the bonds of spiritual friendship and fellowship. I am hoping we can extend each of these ministries to make certain and without a shadow of a doubt that everyone knows they have **somewhere to belong** and **someone cares**. In the true sense of the word we need to become an affectionate community with the Love of Christ.

Lastly, I hope each and every one of you will spend some time with me in private. I have had the privilege of getting to know some of you. These things take time. **Over the summer my office hours will be on Fridays from 9-12 and I can be available at other times too.** I want to get to know each and every one of you better. As long as we are together in ministry we will live, laugh, love, cry and mourn with each other. I want to pray with you and for what is important in your life and share the love of Christ in the best of ways. All too often I get to know individuals during crisis or transition, I hope we can learn about each other long before those days come, as we know they will, so when they do come, we can stand together in faith and strength.

You are a deeply spiritual community with a hundred unique and gifted people around us. Hallelulah! I am blessed and grateful to be a part of this exciting ministry and looking forward to the coming year and all that the Holy Spirit will bless us with.

## **PLANNING AHEAD**

Over the summer, Pastor Eric Olsen and Michael Martin will be following the same spiritual outline for their weekly messages, concentrating on the theme: Gifts of the Spirit, Fruits of the Spirit.

We started on June 24 with God's gifts through the Spirit.

July 1: The Gift of Wisdom & Knowledge    July 8: The Gift of Faith    July 15: The Gift of Understanding  
July 22: Fruits of the Spirit    July 29: the Fruit of Joy    August 5: The Fruit of Patience  
August 12: The Fruit of Self-control    August 19: The Fruit of Peace    August 26: The Fruit of Kindness  
September 2: The Fruit of Hope

## **WORDS OF WISDOM**

Your prayers move God to change the world. You may not understand the mystery of prayer. You don't need to. But this much is clear: Actions in heaven begin when someone prays on earth. (The Great House of God by Max Lucado)

God does most of his work through people. May our lives be marked by kindness so that others will see God in us.

We don't get closer to God by passing judgement on others. Instead may we be quick to listen and slow to speak and to judge.

Christ is the door that keeps us in and keeps the dangers out; for the peace of mind that comes from knowing you are standing watch over the events of our lives helps us to rest securely in your protection.

"Silent" and "listen" are spelled with the same letters. (Guideposts)

A riddle: What is greater than God and more evil than the Devil? The poor have it, the rich need it. And, if you eat it, you will die. (the answer is NOTHING)

The more we understand God's love for us and what He did for us, the more love we will show to others.

For those who pray and wait; God does not depend on our time. Our time is chronological and linear but God is timeless. He will act at the fullness of His time. Our prayer will not necessarily rush God into action, but places us before Him in fellowship.

Lord, help me to love both words and deeds, to reach out to others and meet their needs. One act of kindness may teach more about the love of God than many sermons.

Loving God doesn't make life effortless, but having His strength makes it easier.

No danger can come so near the Christian that God is not nearer – especially when we are tempted to panic or to do things in our own strength.

The key to effective relationships are gentleness and humility. When correction is necessary, it should be done with kindness and love. In that way we become imitators of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**DID YOU NOTICE** - The delightful mural on the wall in the children's corner of the sanctuary? Many thanks to Susan Olsen (Pastor Eric's wife) for creating this.

## **SARANAC LAKE ECUMENICAL FOOD PANTRY**

July is peanut butter and jelly month. Please add your donation to the red shopping cart at the back of the sanctuary.

## **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN YARD SALE**

Yard sale for benefit of UMW will be held July 27 & 28 at the church    On Friday July 27 from 9am to 4pm and Saturday July 28 from 9am to 3pm. Donations maybe left at church by July 24. All items must be in good working order. No TV,computers or exercise equipment. NO CLOTHING. We will start setting up Monday July 23 to Thursday July 26. Questions: call church at 891-3473, Charlotte Hall at 891-2129 or Deborah Donaldson at 891-4199.

## **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

Our annual dinner, 6:30 pm at the Red Fox. If any of you ladies would like to join us, please call Jessie Aubin 518-891-0822 for details.

## Upper New York Annual Conference **BOLDLY LIVES OUR CALL**

The information in this article comes from the BRIDGE, a Conference Communications Ministry tool that delivers to local churches news and stories of ministry from around the Upper New York Conference and the world.

Members of the Upper New York Annual Conference gathered for the ninth session May 30 – June 2 at the SRC Arena in Syracuse, NY.

Upper New York Area Resident Bishop, Mark J. Webb officiated and led the Conference around the theme Boldly Living Our Call.

If we are to boldly live our call – “if we are to be effective in the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ – our identity must be grounded in the identity of Christ,” Bishop Webb said, during opening worship. “We must acknowledge Christ! We must acknowledge who Christ is, not based on who the world says he is or based on our ideas, our definitions, our understandings, but on who Jesus said he was in word and in action. We must confess Jesus as our Savior and Lord.”

Conference Teacher, Rev. Dr. L. Gregory Jones led two study sessions. The first focused on not going back to Egypt.

“Each one of us has a ‘back to Egypt’ part of our souls,” Rev. Jones explained. “We get a glimpse of what God is calling us to do, and we get uncertain. And we say, ‘I don’t think so. Egypt sounds just fine to me.’ Oh how often we just settle for ‘going back to Egypt.’”

The second study session focused on getting the past out of our eyes to attain an extraordinary future.

“If we are going to boldly move into our call, if we are really going to be able to understand the summons coming from God, we need to recognize all that needs to be unlearned so we can change,” Rev. Jones said.

The Rev. Corey Turnpenny was the speaker for this year’s Memorial Service; visit <http://bit.ly/AC2018memorialservice> for the full article and the listing of those who were remembered. Bishop Webb honored retirees, new local church appointments, ordinands, commissioners, and the Cabinet at the Service of Blessing and Anointing.

Last year’s Harry Denman evangelism award winners Sandi Pearl (clergy) and Mark Jones (laity) presented this year’s Denman Award. Mark Jones presented the Denman award, posthumously to laity recipient Kevin T. Dunn. Kevin’s wife Amara, parents John and Wanda, and grandmother Eloise accepted the award for him. Pastor Perl presented the clergy recipient of the Harry Denman evangelism award to Pastor Mike Kelly.

Several recommendations were addressed through holy conferencing: The Conference Leadership Team Recommendation that every UNY congregation be required to use the Vital Signs Dashboard starting Sept. 1, 2018, was supported as amended to strongly encouraged rather than required

Board of Pension & Health Benefits recommendations one and two, both supported; visit <http://bit.ly/AC2018pensionandhealthreport> for details.

Equitable Compensation recommendations one through five were all supported or supported as amended.

Eleven resolutions were discussed. visit <http://bit.ly/AC2018resolutions> for a full article on the resolutions and to learn which were supported and which were not supported. The ninth session of the Upper New York Annual Conference concluded with the service of Ordination and Commissioning. Bishop Dennis V. Proctor from the North Eastern Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church was the preacher.

Bishop Proctor’s message was about what we can all give to help others: affirmation, information, and inspiration. His sermon was centered on Acts Chapter 3—the telling of James and John making their way into a temple when they saw a man unable to walk begging for alms. James and John, holding the man’s hand, said, ‘Silver and Gold, we have none, but such as we have, we give to thee. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth...rise up and walk.’ The man rose, walked, leaped, and praised God.

In terms of giving affirmation, Bishop Proctor said, “Peter and John paid attention to the man, holding his hand, affirming they hear his call.”

Speaking of the gift of information, Bishop Proctor said, “Peter and John did not take the credit for the power to perform a miracle; they said, ‘In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth’ Bishop Proctor continued, “You must be willing to tell the world who Jesus really is.

As for inspiration, Bishop Proctor reiterated how the man in the temple not only walked but he leaped, praising God. He said, "This man had new energy...he was not only healed physiologically but also psychologically...it's not you, me, us, but the power that works through us"

For a full list of the 2018 commissioners and ordinands and more on Bishop Proctor's sermon visit <http://bit.ly/AC2018ordination>.

For a full Annual Conference 2018 wrap-up including notes and videos, visit <http://bit.ly/AC2018wrapup>

### REMEMBER WITH A CARD

Rose Nadon: Neighborhood House, PO Box 46, Keene Valley, NY 12943

Genevieve Clarkson: Champlain Valley Senior Community, 10 Gilliland Lane, Willsboro, NY 12996

Bruce Barnard: P.O. Box 246, Rainbow Lake, NY 12976.

Margaret Turnbull: 3873 Burnup Road Black River, NY 13612

**DID YOU KNOW...?** Your church can be found on Facebook. Just go to First United Methodist Saranac Lake. (complete with capital letters and spaces.) When the page comes up, click on "like."

### LECTIONARY for JULY

#### July 1

6th Sunday after Pentecost  
II Samuel 1:1, 17-27  
Psalm 130  
II Corinthians 8:7-15  
Mark 5:21-43

#### July 8

7th Sunday after Pentecost  
II Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10  
Psalm 48  
II Corinthians 12:2-10  
Mark 6:1-13

#### July 15

8th Sunday after Pentecost  
II Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19  
Psalm 24  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
Mark 6:14-19

#### July 22

9th Sunday after Pentecost  
II Samuel 7:1-14a  
Psalm 89:20-37  
Ephesians 2:11-22  
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

#### July 29

10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
II Samuel 11:1-15  
Psalm 14  
Ephesians 3:14-21  
John 6:1-21

### WEEKLY EVENTS FOR JULY 2018

*Sun. July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	8:15 am	Lutheran Service	Fellowship Hall
*Sun. July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	7:00 pm	Zumba	Fellowship Hall
*Mon. July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	6:30 pm	Zumba	Fellowship Hall
*Tue. July 3, 10, 17, 24, 30	6:30 pm	Zumba	Fellowship Hall
*Wed. July 4, 11, 18, 25	11:30 am	Devotions	DeChantel Apts.
*Wed. July 11, 18, 25	5:00 – 6:00 pm	Community Supper	Fellowship Hall
*Wed. July 11, 18, 25	7:00 pm	AA	Heidi Rich Room
*Thur. July 5, 12, 19, 26	6:00 pm	Zumba	Fellowship Hall
*Fri. July 6, 13, 20, 27	9 – noon	Pastor Eric will be in his office	

### SPECIAL EVENTS FOR MAY, 2018

Wed. July 4	<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>		
Thur. July 5	6:45 pm	Trustees	Tellers Room
Thur. July 12	6:30 pm	United Methodist Women	Red Fox
Wed. July 18	6:45 pm	Methodist Church Council	Tellers Room
Sat. July 21	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast	Kitchen
	July 22-26	UMW Yard Sale set up	Fellowship Hall and Outside
Fri. July 27	9 am – 4 pm	UMW Yard Sale	Fellowship Hall and Outside
Sat. July 28	9 am – 3pm	YMW Yard Sale	Fellowship Hall and Outside

**JULY BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Renee' Clark
- 2 Mary Kent  
Nancy Roberts
- 3 Leslie Wilson Rich
- 5 Andy Clark
- 7 Bea Hall
- 10 Dale Burman
- 11 Betty Isele  
Ruth Woodward
- 15 Emily Martin
- 16 Bill Cross
- 17 Gabriel Fravor
- 18 Emily Leavitt
- 19 Jim Stinson
- 20 Lindsay Reeve
- 21 Kelly DeNicolo  
Brent Freeburg
- 23 Alec DuMond
- 24 Vic Burman  
Emmalee Kelting  
BJ Tanzini
- 25 Virginia Santy
- 27 Cheryl Wilson
- 30 Martha Donnelly

**JULY ANNIVERSARIES**

- 17 Mitchel & Cindy Smith
- 21 Eric & Tammy Wilson
- 28 Jim & Eva Stinson
- 31 Vernon & Angie James

**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Melissa Lincoln
- 3 Ruth Damp
- 4 Hillary Barnard
- 6 Ashlee Charette  
Aaron T. Hesseltine
- 8 Matt Bouton  
David Kelting
- 10 Gabriel Wilson
- 11 Abigail Fuller  
Cody Barry  
Anna Wilson
- 14 Faith Day
- 15 Samuel Hesseltine
- 16 Betsy Pond  
Owen Wilson
- 17 Donna Burman  
Adam Heverly
- 22 Carla Ellis
- 24 Art Leavitt
- 27 Caleb Smith
- 29 Murphy Stringer
- 31 Alan Roberts

**AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES**

- 14 Bill & Kathy Cross
- 31 Matt & Stacy Ferguson

**First United Methodist  
Church**

**Worship Service 9:45 a.m.**

**Coffee Hour 10:45 a.m.**

**Sunday School resumes in  
September on the first and  
third Sundays.**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**

*ALL ARE WELCOME*

*First United Methodist Church*  
*63 Church Street*  
*Saranac Lake, NY 12983*



**For Those of You Who Are Receiving  
This by Mail**

**PLEASE HELP US BY  
GIVING US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS**

The best way would be to send an email to  
Claudia at:

[firstumcsl@centralny.twcbc.com](mailto:firstumcsl@centralny.twcbc.com)