

Pressing On

“Pressing On” seems to be our normal mode these days. We are overwhelmed with changes, overrun with failures, overruled by objections. It seems as though every step is an uphill climb. Yet, we press on.

There are tasks to perform and goals to reach; there are people to lead and a kingdom to build. Is this how we understand pressing on— checking off our lists of accomplishments? Certainly, a task-oriented approach can be fruitful in our ministry. What we do as individuals and as a church community is important. It could also be exhausting for each and for all, which is why pressing on is multidimensional.

Yes, there are tasks to perform; yes, there is doing involved; but the doing grows out of being the body of Christ. We can pay attention to who we are, even as we engage in what we do. This October, you are invited to be “Pressing On.”



PRESSING ON // WORSHIP SERIES



So Quickly Has This Week Flown By

Here is a **Thank You** to all who are working diligently to make our live stream the best possible, particularly our tech team and worship team. It may give all of you some insight into Sunday morning and those working to make it happen a good laugh.



*A hymn written to LASST UNS ERFREUEN
Zack Stachowki with words by John H. Taylor, Rev. Canon Greg Larkin. Of
the Episcopal Church*

So quickly has this week flown by! Set up the tripod, it is time for your weekly Sunday live-stream! Hook up your i-Phone or i-Pad, untangle eve'ry wire you have. Find that one thing that you're missing, that one item you rely on, you rely on

this point it all worked fine. This makes me lose my *-&-\$ mind! What, it works, no, “disconnected”, this all makes me apoplectic, apoplectic.

Three minutes now until we start, this is the time the Wi-Fi stops. Who's the first-hand saint of broad band? Up til

Now that the livestream mass is done, sit back, relax, enjoy the sun. All is posted, stream's been hosted. Think of the service you provide; You bring mass to those stuck inside. Though the task is not your go to, we give thanks for all you go through, all that you do.

Pastor's Ponderings

There may have been a PAUSE in how we operate in our daily lives this summer, but as the leaves begin to fall as well as the temperatures, it does not seem to me that we experienced a PAUSE that allowed us to truly relax in what was beautiful summer weather.

For some of you it was painfully long, with a feeling of loss at not being able to freely gather with those you care about, as well as a feeling of isolation. For some of you the summer brought opportunities to gather outside, socially distant, with others, but not as many of those opportunities as you would have liked. For others, the extra responsibilities of remote or extra layers of precaution - working, communication, family gatherings, worship, etc. have you coming into fall in need of a summer vacation.

As many of you have shared, it is definitely a time to be gentle with one another as we all are finding difficult parts to this journey through, what often feels more like a real, rather than figurative, wilderness.

We are finding more ways to come together safely in the building while continuing to offer remote opportunities to be together, all of which is important as the weather increasingly drives us back inside. In this newsletter is a plan for worship as we end our outside opportunity. It looks different in some ways from what you are "used to" but in many ways it will feel familiar. You may already have had a phone call asking which service you prefer, and we hope we will be able to accommodate that preference and appreciate your understanding, if for any reason, we cannot.

Our understandings of WELCOMING are as varied as we are as individuals and we are making every effort to be welcoming, however, "Come on back, nothing has changed," are not the words we can offer at this time, if ever. Those words, guidelines, messages on our doors and arrows on our floors, are there to make it as safe and welcoming a place to be as possible. They are foreign to us, reminders that something we cannot see is ordering our lives together. We can see that as unwelcoming, as something to push back against. We can see it as an opportunity for looking for new ways to watch out for each other, to live out the commandment to love neighbor above self. We have a choice.

Few of us would say we really are able to get to know a person we met just a few months ago so well that we could predict their every like or dislike, every habit, every idiosyncrasy. Scientists met this virus only a few months ago and are still learning how it operates, how it moves between people, how to successfully treat it so fewer succumb to its presence. The picture changes every minute as research surfaces new guidance. Last week guidance on when to quarantine classrooms in school changed four times.

As we move into a fall schedule, I expect we will be tweaking on a regular basis to meet the needs of our faith and greater community and to do our best to keep everyone safe. God extends grace to us all for all the rough places in our lives, I pray we can extend grace to one another in this wilderness time of our lives.



Pastor Marilyn

“Let’s give it a try” Fall 2020

Worship/Sunday School plan

We have a unique opportunity to address the safety protocols for our congregation while creating new ways for others to connect with our worship and spiritual growth opportunities during this time in the wilderness.

An initial plan follows. It is a fluid plan, subject to change as we live into new ways to be the faith community known as United Methodists in Newfane NY. Your suggestions and questions are welcome along the way.

Sundays

9:45 a.m. Early Worship

(families with young children to teens planning to participate in Sunday School would have priority seating for this service)

ENVIRONMENT:

Casual

Seating by reserved family unit or (bubble, group that has been in close contact on a regular basis)

Masks and social distancing necessary

WORSHIP STYLE:

Casual with elements of traditional worship

Music Videos

Opening focused on children – music, scripture, Children’s Moment (recorded for insertion in online/in person worship later that morning)

Children/Youth excused to go to Class for follow up activities related to morning message approximately 10:05 a.m.

Adults stay in sanctuary for message and time for Q&A

Children/Youth return to sanctuary 10:35 a.m.

Closing includes prayer, music video, benediction (out by 10:50 a.m.)



11:15 a.m. In-person/Online/ by Phone worship

(all welcome)

ENVIRONMENT:

In sanctuary seating by family unit or bubble, (group that has been in close contact on a regular basis)

In sanctuary masks, social distancing, and one-way travel required.

WORSHIP STYLE: Primarily traditional worship elements

Organist, vocalists, instrumentalists

Traditional format

Concludes between noon and 12:15 p.m.

ANYTIME – not necessarily Sunday

(small groups/watch parties)

ENVIRONMENT:

Home of someone in your “Bubble”

Level of pre-cautions based on who is present and/or number present

WORSHIP STYLE: Use written copies of Sunday’s message and/or recording of Sunday’s 11:15 a.m. Service as basis of worship. Discussion points/children’s activities available. Live interaction with pastor on phone/online possible depending on the time set for the gathering, response to any questions, comments shared with entire group in communication style (note, email, phone call, etc.) before the group comes together again when meeting at a time pastor not available..

LAY LEADER PONDERINGS

October 2020

Last month I asked for input on the idea of a mural for the east side of the Sunday School wing. I heard back from several people who liked the idea of a mural. I did not hear from anyone who said they disapproved.

I heard a few suggestions for the content of the mural: a cross, positioned as though semi reclined; scripture verses; something like the Last Supper; something with kids looking in the windows. Any other ideas? Please talk to me about them: 778-8089 home, 946-0412 cell, rld13@verizon.net email.

We are approaching another time of focus on stewardship. For many people, this seems to be received as a request for money. Yes, Newfane United Methodist Church does need money. Money to pay salaries and bills, to maintain and support our facilities in which some of our ministries occur, to fund ministry and mission outside our building walls. Ultimately, all of it is part of funding the ministries of our church: ministries of worship, education, outreach. Ministries of service to God, for the furthering of His kingdom, out of love for Him and thanksgiving for all He has done for us.

Stewardship is recognizing that we have NOTHING that was not given to us by God. Everything is His, we are stewards of His gifts, gifts He has given us for service to the world – *His* world. Gifts of money/financial resources, but also gifts of time, talents, presence. Are we being faithful, *good* stewards of what He has given us?

The parable in Matthew 25:14-30 tells of three stewards entrusted with differing gifts. Upon the return of the master, the two stewards who invested the gifts they were entrusted with had increased their gifts and were commended. The one steward who hid his gift, who only maintained his gift at the given level, was condemned.

The east wall of our Sunday School wing needs a coat of paint. That is maintenance stewardship. Thinking of a mural or some other way to use the space is creative stewardship, an investive stewardship, that has the potential to be a facet of our ministry, our outreach.

What new ways do you hear God calling you to be a faithful steward? What new things could we do to further His kingdom? What ministries can you be part of?

Lyn Ende, Lay Leader, CLM

CHURCH COUNCIL

As we begin our new Sunday schedule in October, we have provided a service to fit the needs of our congregation. At 9:45am, we will have church with Sunday School. At 11:15am we will have the traditional service. Both of these services will have the common safe practices for all of our protection. If you are not comfortable coming into the building yet, then you can choose to watch on FaceBook or listen to the service on the “new” phone-in method. All of these new rules for Covid are hopefully not going to last forever, although some maybe become part of our culture.

I have always been impressed by the intelligent and caring church community that we have here at Newfane United Methodist Church, and I know that we each will make every effort to follow the guidelines and do what is right for ourselves and church family.

UMW

The next UMW meeting will be held Tuesday, October 13 in the church dining room @ 9:30. Masks and social distancing will be observed. All women are invited.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY'S

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Dan Dy, Sr. | 10. Jess Smith | 20. Janet Ward |
| 2. Ian Larson
Kaycee Long | 11. Blake Davey
Jack Stickney | 21. Peyton Hirschman |
| 3. Sharon Tomaino
Diane Flack | 12. L. James Major
Kennedy Sears | 25. Darbe Corser
Peter Kagels
Matt Finn |
| 4. Tom Say
Juanita O'Harrow | 13. Kenny Say
Abby Boyer | 26. Elaine Long |
| 5. Karen DeVoe
Dan Boyer | 14. Carol Miles | 27. Bob Collins |
| 7. Thomas Schultz
Kaleb Say
Dominic Makuch | 15. William Scott
Mark Hamm | 29. Neil Luckman
Tim Lauve |
| 9. Bailey Boyer
Ian Durgan
Eliza Finn | 17. Mikeal Bell | |
| | 18. Michele Nerber
Geraldine Owen | |
| | 19. Mason Gominiak
Stephen Schrader | |

MISSIONS

The Missions Committee met "together, yet apart", and boy, that felt good to be with each other again.

I just finished watching a short clip from Max Lucado, where he was discussing "Surviving Disaster Fatigue", and I admit that I am in the group who is tired of 2020 and everything that is coming at me. Max reminds us that God is on His Throne, and in control. In this crazy season, we need to turn to Him, rather than culture or the world.

With that in mind, Missions invites you to participate in our upcoming activities and outreach.

"TRUNK OR TREAT" - October 24, 2020 2pm to 4pm, weather permitting. We will call it off by 12 noon should the weather be of concern. If you are so inclined, join us by decorating your car, creating a safe, socially distanced activity or game for the kids, and let's figure out how to get them their treats safely. "Pinterest" has clever and Christian based ideas that may help you plan.

NUMC Hosting Lunch for Habitat for Humanity Build Site - October 31, 2020. You may have seen the construction on Lake Ave, just north of the Fairgrounds.

"FOOD DRIVE" to benefit Newfane Community Food Pantry - November 7, 2020 12 pm to 2pm.
In conjunction with a drive through Chili Dinner free of charge. The Pantry will be looking for meals in a can, i.e., stew, spaghetti, etc, and products for Thanksgiving; canned vegetables, canned cranberries, gravy, stuffing mix, etc. They also specifically asked for PAPER PRODUCTS, toilet paper, napkins, paper towels, paper plates, etc.

Christmas Family - Entire month of December As in years past, we are partnering with Newfane Central School to "adopt" a family for Christmas. The way we do it may change this year, but the heart of it will be the same. Share Jesus Christ and his love with our neighbors.

Thank you sisters and brothers. Diane Schweigert

FINANCE NEWS

With the Coronavirus it has been difficult on everyone in the church family. A special thank you to all who have continued to both pledge and support our fundraising activities. Shortly we'll be approaching a new pledging season. Like many events and activities this year we will not have the opportunity to have our normal in church pledge card process. In the weeks ahead as we prepare to send out pledge cards, we hope you will pray and consider the commitment you can make to your church for 2021. How is God leading you to support your Church? We hope you will consider what your church and church family mean to you now and in the future.

We will be holding a Drive-Thru Pulled Pork Dinner on Wednesday, October 7th from 4:30 until Sold Out. For \$10 you will receive a pulled pork sandwich, baked beans, scalloped potatoes and coleslaw. Cash and Credit Cards are accepted. We hope you will join us!

We started 2020 with a positive balance of \$4,120.28 in our Current Expense account and as of August 31, 2020 we have a positive balance of \$8,009.53, however, we have not paid our shared ministries for February, March, April, May, June and July totaling \$13,134.00. Our year to date income as of August 31, 2020 was \$96,178.48 and our year to date expenses equaled \$92,289.23. Our income has been \$3,889.25 higher than our expenses. If the previous payments were made our year to date expenses would have been \$9,244.75 more than our income. We were able to pay our August and September apportionments in full!

Thank you to all who have been attending our weekly Farmer's Market every Wednesday from 4:30 – 7pm. The market will run through September 30, 2020.

If you shop on Amazon we ask that you use Amazon Smile (www.amazon.com) and set the Newfane United Methodist Church as the charitable organization that you would like to support, 0.5% of your purchase will be donated to the church automatically. The prices and products are the exact same as you would find on the regular Amazon website. If you already have an Amazon account you can still use that to log in on Amazon Smile and still enjoy your Prime Benefits.

Just a reminder you can always mail your pledge to P.O. Box 69, Newfane, NY or you could visit our website (www.newfanemethodist.org) and click on the "donate" tab to make a donation electronically. You could download the GivePlusMobile app on your smartphone and give that way or you can scan the QR code below with your smartphones camera and it will redirect you to our secure online giving page. If you have any questions please contact the church office for assistance. Thank you to all of those continuing your tithes and offerings during this time.



If you have any questions, concerns or ideas please feel free to share them.

Next Finance meeting will be held on Thursday, October 15th at 7:00 PM.

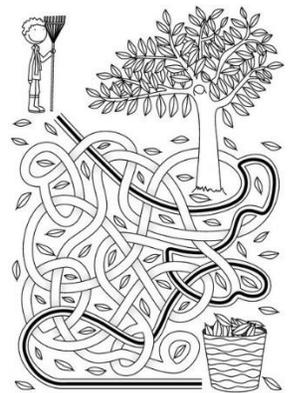
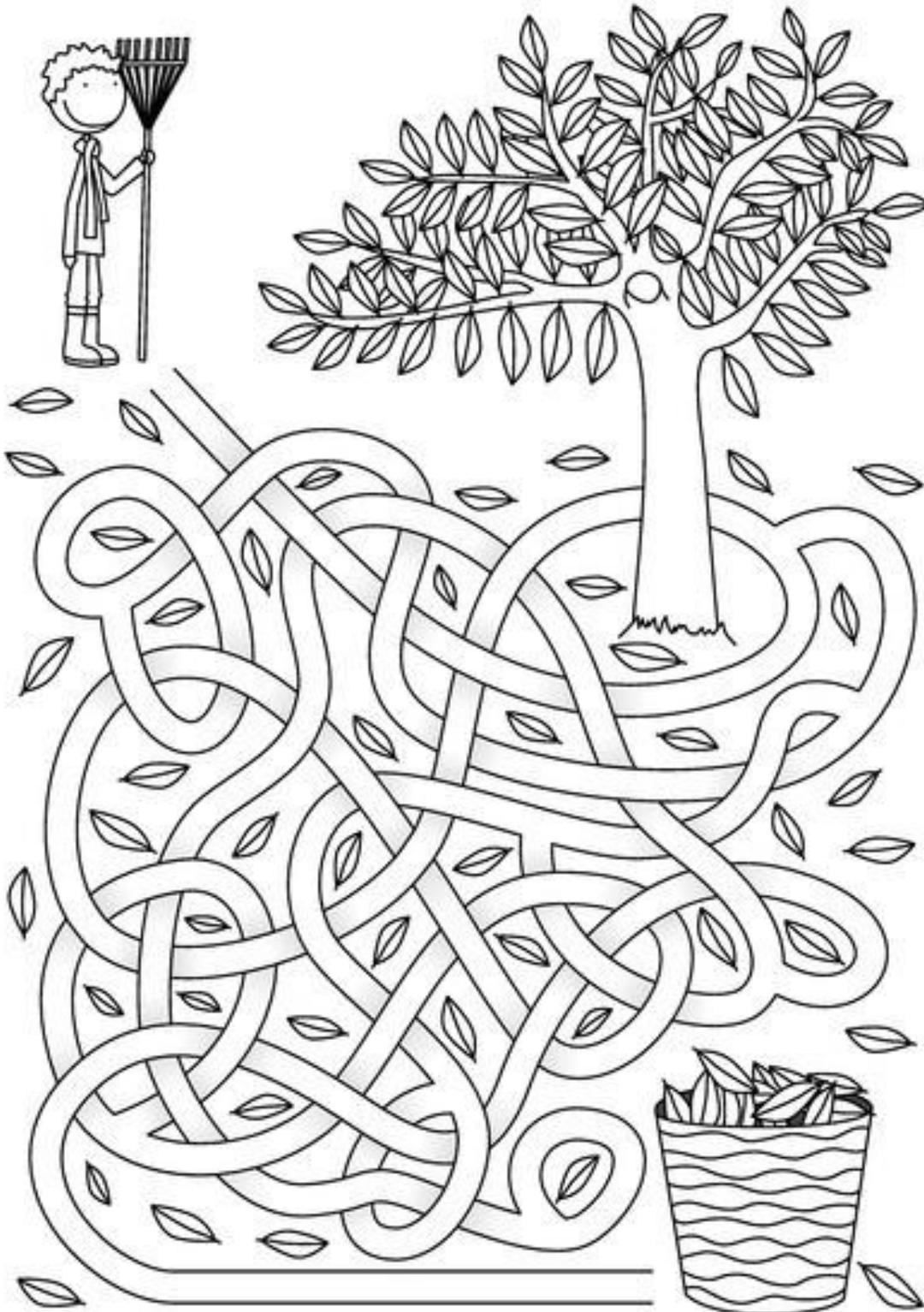
Kevin Luckman, Chairperson

KID'S PAGE

Proverbs 3:5,6

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight

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October 2020

◀ September

November ▶

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Painting class -5 pm	2	3 AA-3:00 pm
4 9:45 – Worship Contemporary Service includes Sunday School 11:15 – Worship Traditional Service	5 Exercise-6-7 pm	6	7 Drive Thru Pulled Pork dinner – 4:30- sold out Exercise-6-7 pm	8 Painting class -5 pm	9	10 Baby Shower in dining room – 2 pm AA-3:00 pm
11 9:45 – Worship Contemporary Service includes Sunday School 11:15 – Worship Traditional Service	12 Exercise-6-7 pm Columbus Day	13 UMW meeting – 9:30	14 Exercise-6-7 pm	15 Painting class -5 pm Finance meeting – 7:00 pm	16	17 AA-3:00 pm
18 9:45 – Worship Contemporary Service includes Sunday School 11:15 – Worship Traditional Service	19 Exercise-6-7 pm	20	21 Exercise-6-7 pm	22 Painting class -5 pm	23	24 AA-3:00 pm
25 9:45 – Worship Contemporary Service includes Sunday School 11:15 – Worship Traditional Service	26 Exercise-6-7 pm	27	28 Exercise-6-7 pm	29 Painting class -5 pm	30	31 AA-3:00 pm Halloween

PULLED PORK DINNER

Wednesday, October 7th

4:30pm –?

at the

Newfane United Methodist Church

2699 Main Street, Newfane, NY 14108

Donation: \$10.00 per dinner

Drive thru style Take-outs Only

Menu:

BBQ Pulled Pork on roll

Scalloped potatoes

Baked Beans

Cole Slaw

Dessert

United Methodist Church of Newfane
2699 Main Street
P. O. Box 69
Newfane, NY 14108

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

October 2020

Church Mission Statement:

“Pray First, Walk Together

TO:



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United Methodist Church of Newfane

P.O. Box 69, 2699 Main Street, Newfane, NY 14108
(716) 778-7011

Rev. Marilyn J. Kasperek, Pastor
e-mail: newfanemethodist@verizon.net

Worship Hours/Sunday School

October

9:45 a.m. in-sanctuary service with Sunday School classes leaving after opening
11:15 a.m. in-sanctuary/online service (Live-streamed on our Facebook page)