

NEWFANE UMC NEWS

MAY 2021

Church Council Report

How is our church doing with respect to Earth Day? We are stewards of the Earth, how are we treating God's awesome creation? What can we do as a congregation to help? Most all of our lighting at church and the parsonage are energy efficient LED's. Light sensor switches have been installed where appropriate, saving energy costs and church members no longer have to go into church to turn off unused lights. We pay the town a garbage collection fee that includes a recycling bin, and when we recycle that helps keep the town's fee lower and reduces the garbage stream to the landfill. We have a pop can tote outside behind the church so everyone can bring their aluminum beverage cans in for recycling and provides income for the church. New windows and doors were installed at church and the parsonage several years ago replacing old leaky ones. Efficient air conditioning systems were put into the sanctuary to help make the services more comfortable. It is very expensive to insulate an older building like our church building, but we have done a good job of tightening up leaky areas. The Parsonage has the appropriate insulation in the attic, that was installed years ago. We have planted several carbon reducing trees and taken care of the ones we have. I think that we have done all that we can to keep our energy bills low and do our part with regards to climate change. Can we do more? Probably. But, there is only so much we can afford to do. The Trustees over many years have taken very good care of our buildings. I think our church is doing very well, for our part in taking care of God's wonderful creation.

Bill Neidlinger, Chairman Church Council

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)

The next meal we are providing for Lockport Cares is May 17. If you know of anyone who needs meals Kathy Perry will arrange for Martha's Helpers to provide meals. Call Kathy Perry @ 778-5057.

There is yarn available in the UMW room if anyone would like to knit/crochet Afghans, baby hats/booties.

If you have any saved pop can tabs we would like to get them donated. I checked with Ronald McDonald house and they are accepting the donations. Can you please bring them to the church by June 1st and there is a container in memorial room for collections.

An industrial freezer was donated to our kitchen in memory of Rayola Kinney (grandmother) by Brian and Jackie Duchscherer

Our next meeting will be May 8 @ 9:30 in the dining room, all ladies are invited.

Staff-Parish Relations Committee

As we begin to head towards our new normal and hopefully put the pandemic behind us, it's been good to see so many at church working on committee projects, fundraisers and "in person" at meetings. We are also so thankful to have Amy back in the office, healthy and busy as always!

Sadly, Don Hamman will be retiring in June after many years of sharing his beautiful organ music with us. We will certainly miss Don and all that he brings to our worship service each week. Thank you, Don! We wish you all the best!!

Pastor Marilyn is planning to host some dinners at the parsonage for small groups. This has been something that she has wanted to do for a long time, and is now able to safely do. We look forward to these get-togethers with our church family, in our beautiful parsonage.

The SPRC is planning a spring flower sale in May. There will be an order form on the table in the memorial room at church, or see any SPRC member. The tentative delivery date for the plants is May 22. If you can't pick up your order, we'll be happy to deliver it to you.

Judy Hugaboom

Walking Together

Devotions with the Church Council this month focused on John 4:3-7, 28-29

He [Jesus] left Judea and started back to Galilee. But he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water...

*[missionally engaged,
relationship-driven conversation]*

Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?"

Last month we were invited to:

Pray with your heart and mind open to the movement of the Holy Spirit

Prayerfully imagine what it would mean to tag along with Jesus in your context.

Where will Jesus go? With whom would he fellowship? What would he do?

And to ask ourselves the question, "Jesus, where do you hang out in this church? In this community? Pay attention to what comes to mind. What qualities of fellowship stand out for you in those places? Record your thoughts.

What is one thing Jesus might do if he were hanging out with you, how is he calling us to be in fellowship with him (with you individually, with the congregation, with the community).

What came to mind?

Where are we and can we initiate and build relationships. Engagement seeks to ensure that outreach and evangelism efforts become a vital part of

an intentional system of discipleship. Discipleship begins with relationship. The church does not

undertake outreach to provide ministry *for people* but rather to be in ministry and relationship *with people*.¹

"Pray First, Walk Together and Transform Lives for Christ."

"Why" do we gather as the UMC, How are we, how can we walk together?

These are questions we all need to contemplate as we begin to prepare for the Post-Pandemic reality of our congregation, our community, and our world.

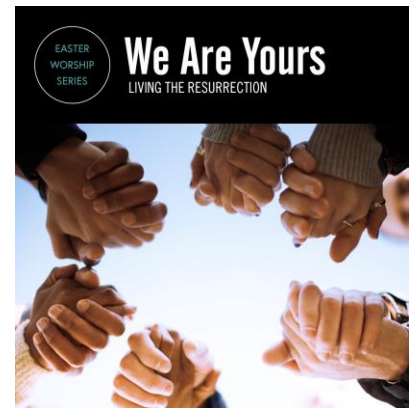
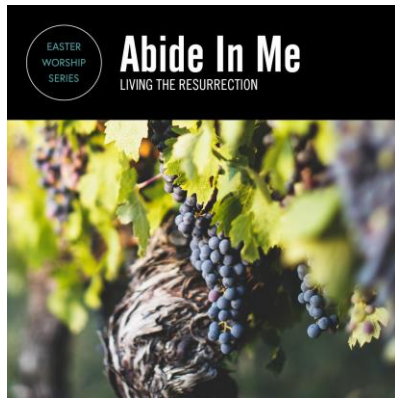
As answers come into your mind as you prayerfully consider them, please write them down. You can email or jot a note and leave it in my mailbox at church. You can identify yourself, and not identify yourself. It is up to you. You can even schedule some time to talk to me about your ideas, hopes, and fears if you would like, or drop in during open office hours.

To meet the challenges of the days, months, and years ahead, we all need to pray together, walk together and live transformed lives that the lives of others may be transformed and to share our visions. I suspect what comes of those ideas may not look exactly as they were inputted, but together they will become the next thing(s) God is calling us to.

We are moving toward Pentecost. Your prayers, presence, gifts, and service will continue to help develop us into the faith community through whom the Holy Spirit changes lives.

*Claiming God's Promises
Pastor Marilyn*

¹ Engaging Community #SeeAllThePeople p22



Our Living The Resurrection Series Continues

All are welcome to join us in person, online, or by email as we continue to celebrate Eastertide and look at what it means to live the resurrection.

Pentecost and Beyond



We will celebrate Pentecost on May 23 this year, looking at Acts 2:1-21.

Many believe the time in which we live is similar to the time in which the early church began to form. Those who followed Christ were a minority in a world of Greek philosophy emerging consumerism, many distractions., and many relying on self or on political rhetoric to guide them.

To whatever extent that is true, returning to the origin of the church following the resurrection and ascension of Christ is always a way to refresh and rethink where we are individually and as a faith community in light of those first days, weeks, and years.

Pentecost Sunday will be the first in a series called “When the Spirit Moves.” Each week stands alone, however, will be connected with the others through the movement of the Spirit.

Spirit Poured Out

Acts 2:1-21
May 23, 2021

Born of the Spirit

John 3:1-17
May 30, 2021

Being Renewed

Mark 3:20-35
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1
June 6, 2021

Growing into the New Creation

Mark 4:26-34
2 Corinthians 5:6-17
June 13, 2021

Enduring the Storms

Mark 4:35-41
2 Corinthians 6:1-13
June 20, 2021

Giving What You Have

Mark 5:21-43
2 Corinthians 8:7-15
June 27, 2021

FINANCE

We started 2021 with a positive balance of \$13,520.32 in our Current Expense account and as of March 31, 2021 we have a positive balance of \$14,131.44, however, we have not paid our shared ministries for January, February and March totaling \$6,351.00. Our year to date income has totaled \$33,206.38 and our year to date expenses have totaled \$32,595.26. Our income has been \$611.12 higher than our expenses.

Thank you to all who attended our Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ!

Some ways you can help us financially:

- Tithes & Offerings
- Shopping on Amazon Smile (www.amazonsmile.com) and setting the Newfane United Methodist Church as the charity you would like to support and 0.5% of your purchase will be donated to the church
- "Talents for Church" – donating an amount set by you for each time you do a specific activity or talent.
- Bringing your cans and bottles with a 5 cent return and placing them in the recycling bin located by the back door near the kitchen.
- Heading up a fundraiser or brainstorming ideas for new ones
- Working or donating to a Fundraiser

If you would like to mail your pledge in our address is 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.

We thank you for your support. It is only through your contributions that we're able to deliver services and carry out the important spiritual work within the church and beyond. We hope we can continue to count on your generous support. Because of you, we're able to make the impact we do.

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

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 19, 2021.

Kevin Luckman, Chairperson

Lay Leader Ponderings May 2021

As we enter the merry Month of May we are still in the church season of Easter. The season of Easter lasts 50 days – from Easter Sunday until Pentecost. Pentecost Sunday 2021 is May 23, so most of the month is still part of Easter. In church history, Easter is the first holiday – holy day – celebrated weekly, on "The Lord's Day" – Sunday. A weekly celebration of the resurrection. Easter is our Reason for Being. It is our Proof. It is our Hope. If any day is a cause for celebration, Easter is it.

And yet, for years I have noticed a tendency to make Palm Sunday a "bigger deal" than Easter.

Palm Sunday has lots and lots of music. Often by multiple ensembles. Palm Sunday is Lively. Lots of laughter. Lots of chatter. Lots of noise. Lots of happy, excited people. It is almost as if people are unaware of What is to Come during the week we call Holy.

Very much like the first Palm Sunday.

Only Jesus knew and understood what was really going on.

Resurrection Day, by contrast, was a much quieter and more subdued event. No boisterous crowds, no fan-fare. An empty tomb. Terrified and awestruck followers. A blossoming, burgeoning Joy. Joy that is deep and eternal, not temporary and ephemeral. Joy like the sunrise itself, growing brighter and brighter, minute by minute.

Maybe it is fitting that our Easter celebration seems less extravagant than Palm Sunday. Happiness, like parades, is temporary. Easter Joy is eternal.

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

Lyn Ende, CLM, Lay Leader

Children's Page



Jesus had promised his followers a special helper - the Holy Spirit! The Holy Spirit came at Pentecost. Acts 2:1-4



May 2021						
◀ April						June ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 AA-3:00 pm
2 Worship Services – 9:45 am and 11:15 am	3 Exercise – 6:00 pm	4	5 Exercise – 6:00 pm	6 Painting Class – 5:00 pm	7	8 AA-3:00 pm
9 Worship Services – 9:45 am and 11:15 am Mother's Day	10 Exercise – 6:00 pm	11	12 Flower Sale Order due today Exercise – 6:00 pm Missions meeting-7 pm	13 Painting Class – 5:00 pm	14	15 AA-3:00 pm
16 Trustees – 9:00 am Worship Services – 9:45 am and 11:15 am	17 Church Council-6:00 pm Exercise – 6:00 pm	18	19 Exercise – 6:00 pm	20 Painting Class – 5:00 pm	21	22 Flower Sale pick up-9am-11am AA-3:00 pm
23 Worship Services – 9:45 am and 11:15 am	24 Exercise – 6:00 pm	25	26 Exercise – 6:00 pm	27 Painting Class – 5:00 pm	28	29 AA-3:00 pm
30 Worship Services – 9:45 am and 11:15 am	31 Memorial Day					

Calendars with Holidays - USA [June](#), [July](#), [August](#)

Order forms for the flower sale are available on the table in the Memorial Room and are also attached to this Newsletter.

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

MAY 2021

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TO:



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United Methodist Church of Newfane

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

Church Mission Statement:
**“Pray First, Walk Together
and Transform Lives for Christ”**

Rev. Marilyn Kasperek, Pastor

e-mail: newfanemethodist@verizon.net

website: www.newfanemethodist.org

Worship Hours:

Family Friendly Worship with Sunday School break-out 9:45 a.m.
Traditional Worship 11:15 a.m.