

# NEWFANE UMC NEWS

## JUNE 2021

### Church Council Report

The Church Council is considering purchasing a video camera and desktop computer for Live Streaming of our church services. During the pandemic many people have been watching our church service on Facebook Live and we have found that there are instances of former members now living out of town that appreciate this digital outreach. I believe that with the changing times that there will be many different delivery methods to get the word of Jesus beyond our walls. Also, the delivery of the church service itself can be enhanced using our new televisions, sound system and software on the computer. Presently we are using Pastor Marilyn and Ken's laptop and camera to run the church service and stream to Facebook. We also use the Laptop that is the churches and Tom Say takes video and edits it for YouTube. This new equipment will be a permanent addition to the church program, and could be used for other services in our sanctuary. A very important concern to the addition to this technology would be to get volunteers to operate the system. They would need to be trained and be willing to spend time on a scheduled Sunday morning. We do have a "Tech" committee that is willing to help and if you or someone you know would like to learn and use a system like this, then let us know. We expect to have an educational program in place. There is no need to purchase this technology if we can't get qualified persons to operate it. Memorials and Wills will be able to cover the cost of most of the system, but we could still use more donations specifically for this purpose.

Bill Neidlinger, Chairman Church Council

### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)

UMW will be having a brunch June 8, 2021 @ 9:30 AM in the dining room, all ladies are invited. We are having a guest speaker from Save The Michael's.

We do need to know how many ladies will be attending, RSVP: There is a sign-up sheet in the Memorial Room or call Phyllis Graham 778-5859 by June 6<sup>th</sup>.

### Staff-Parish Relations Committee

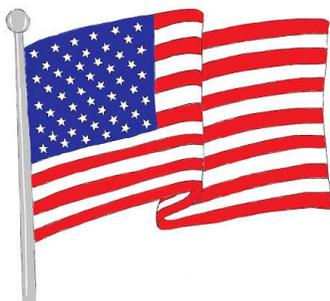
Thank you to everyone who ordered flowers from our SPRC flower sale in May! It was so nice to do this project together as a committee and to know that the proceeds will help support our continued ministry and outreach in Newfane and beyond.

Several weeks after Easter, all the Easter plants still at church were taken to the parsonage where Ken Kasperek will plant them this fall at the appropriate time. Next spring and for many years to come, all those lilies, hyacinths and tulips will beautify the parsonage landscape. Thank you Ken!

Don Hamman's last Sunday with us will be June 6 at the 10am service. Please join us as we thank Don for his many years of music ministry and celebrate his well-deserved retirement. God Bless you, Don.

Happy Father's Day to all the dads and Congratulations to all high school and college graduates!!

Judy Hugaboom



Notice the new flag on our church flag pole? Thanks to Jim Burnett for donating it and installing it!

## MISSIONS

Hello everyone! As I write this, it's a beautiful spring day, with a taste of the summer weather to come. Your Missions committee has kept active; last month we held a successful food drive for Newfane Community Food pantry. Judy Hugaboom delivered, and the pantry staff estimated the total donation around \$500 worth of food and goods. We can't do this without your help, and our neighbors help. THANK YOU!

We have wrapped up recording and posting of "Story Time", with plans to continue with in person stories at the Farmers Market. We are working out the details, anyone-everyone who would like to read, please let Diane Schweigert or Lyn Ende know. THANK YOU!

Coming up:

June 5<sup>th</sup>, Town Wide Yard Sale; we will provide ice cream cones and Church information to anyone who stops by.

June 12 and 13: Chalk Fest, lead by Jess Tomaino of WAHI Studio, and The Church is "sponsoring" via a banner

NCS Alumni Assoc is providing a "dress swap" for modified Prom this year. Missions will have a small gift for each girl, and a Biblical based handout reminding the girls that they are Daughters of The King.

Date TBD: "Open Yard" (versus open house) at The Parsonage for the neighbors on Corwin Ave. We had initially hoped to do this last year, then covid...

Pastor Marilyn and Ken are selecting a date, and rain back up date. Missions will invite the neighbors; provide hosting, light refreshments, allowing Pastor Marilyn and Ken time to meet the neighbors.

Thank you for your continued support!

## FINANCE

We started 2021 with a positive balance of \$13,520.32 in our Current Expense account and as of April 30, 2021 we have a positive balance of \$18,026.07, however, we have not paid our shared ministries for January, February, March and April totaling \$8,468.00. Our year to date income has totaled \$51,169.12 and our year to date expenses have totaled \$46,663.37. Our income has been \$4,505.75 higher than our expenses that have been paid.

We look forward to our upcoming Farmer's Market and Town Car Cruise Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ and other summer events!

Our first PPP Loan of \$15,641 has been forgiven!

Some ways you can help us financially:

- Tithes & Offerings
- Shopping on Amazon Smile ([www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.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](http://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.

Kevin Luckman, Chairperson

## Lay Leader Ponderings June 2021

I am participating in a 3 week study via Zoom entitled “Kingdom Dreams, Violent Realities,” presented by the Peace With Justice group of the Upper New York Conference Social Holiness team. The offering of this study is prompted by what seems to be an increase in the incidences of mass shootings, which is only one aspect of the larger issue of a rise in gun violence.

People begin asking “What can be done?” There are calls for stricter gun control legislation. But legislation alone never seems to solve the problem. It seems to me that legislation is a secular response to a symptom of a much larger and more pervasive problem: a self-centered, egotistical society instead of a God-centered, servant mentality focused on love for one another.

The discussion in the first session of the study identified the increase in gun violence as part of a pattern of a rise in general violence – with guns, knives, fists, and words. “Civil discourse” seems to be close to extinction. We live in a society that divides: us/them, right/left, republican/democrat. We don’t listen to each other or try to understand another’s experience or perspective. We actively avoid people we perceive as different from us, or as having different views on things. And our vocabulary reflects this, with words related to war and conflict: beat, crush, oppose, win, lose.

What can we do?

Faith communities can get involved with ministries and programs which promote connection, awareness, community – relationship with others. We can have the difficult discussions that we tend to avoid about the issues that divide us and focus on the things that unite us. On the Person Who unites us: Jesus Christ. We can be better role models of Christ-like spirit and behavior through the way we talk to and about each other.

What can I do?

Pray. Pray for guidance and strength. And then listen to that guidance and use the strength the Spirit gives us. I can choose my words with greater care. I can choose to support ministries and programs that foster connection, build relationships, and promote unity and justice. I can avoid or actively boycott businesses and organizations that do not align with Christian values and principles.

John Wesley said that there is no holiness but social holiness. The depth of your love for God is revealed by the way you love whom God loves. Scripture and experience tell us that God loves everyone. In the words of Dorothy Day: “I really only love God as much as I love the person I love the least.”

Lyn Ende, Lay Leader NUMC



**Don Hamman our organist is retiring!** His last Sunday with us will be June 6<sup>th</sup> at the 10am service. Please join us as we thank Don for his many years of music ministry and celebrate his well-deserved retirement. There will be light refreshments served after the service



# Pastor's Ponderings

## *Powered by a Post Pandemic Pentecost wind*

We are entering a Post Pandemic time of ministry. As I shared with the Church Council at their May meeting, as we begin this new season, we are in many ways a new community. A community with many gifts, some that recently surfaced, some we purposed hid, others which we felt had no purpose.

Those gifts equip us to embrace what God is calling us into, where God already is working. Together we have an opportunity to be a new creation in Christ Jesus, individually and as a faith community. It is an exciting time, a time when the past informs, but does not dictate the future.

In addition to our faith community, the broader community has changed - schedules, priorities, foundational values emerging. We are equipped to reach out and make a difference, to help others find a community where they find meaning, purpose, opportunities to connect and to serve, but only if we open ourselves to the possibilities, look for the connection points, tap into the power of Pentecost, learn new languages.

The church is the place where new fellowship can begin to take shape as the gifts of the Spirit in, and for, all people are recognized.

This month let us consider in what ways God's Spirit is working in the life of this congregation? And What new thing God's Spirit is calling forth?

Questions to help you in that exploration include:

1. What does the church offer that has helped me grow in my faith?
2. In what ways does the church encourage me to own my own growth as a disciple?
3. What could I do differently to take more responsibility for my growth?
4. Is our church doing everything it can to offer opportunities for disciples to grow and mature? Are we being intentional?

***“Pray First, Walk Together and Transform Lives for Christ.”*** “Why” do we gather as the Newfane UMC, How are we, how can we, walk together?

## Schedule Changes

We will move to a summer schedule beginning June 6. One worship service, in the sanctuary, will begin at 10 a.m. each Sunday morning June, July, and August.

Plans for the Fall are still developing. Comments received in emails and at this month's worship meeting are being considered in that planning.



# Annual Conference

Each year United Methodist churches in each region (Annual Conference) of the world gather to worship, pray, set policies, cast visions, elect leadership, and ordain spiritual leaders. Usually that is an in-person gathering with an equal number of clergy and lay members attending.

In 2020 and in 2021 it is a virtual meeting for an equal number of clergy and lay members in the Upper New York Annual Conference (the connection of United Methodist faith communities who are in all of New York State north of the Catskills).

We will gather for worship, discernment, information, and setting budget and policy for the coming year on June 17, 18, and 19. Lyn Ende is your Lay Member to Annual Conference with both voice and vote. She has attended Pre-Conference training, is reading through the Pre-Conference book, and is holding this upcoming gathering in prayer. Brian Scott is an Equalization Member, also with voice and vote, and is also preparing for AC. Pastor Marilyn is also attending with voice and vote. You are welcome to ask any of us questions about this annual time of Holy Conferencing, and to visit [unyumc.org](http://unyumc.org) for updates. The Memorial Service will be livestreamed at 7 p.m. on Friday and the Ordination Service will be livestreamed at 3 p.m. on Saturday.

Reports from Boards and Agencies supported by your Shared Ministry giving, are available on the Conference website and in the pre-conference Journal (Journal I) which is also linked to the website.

## Recognition of Graduates

We would like to recognize all those graduating from high school and college who are connected to the Newfane UMC family. Please share the names, from where they are graduating, and future plans. Thank you in advance for sharing this information by June 15.

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The following five offerings will be collected at this year's Annual Conference. If you would like to know more feel free to talk to Pastor Marilyn. Gifts can be made through the church, please note which offering to which you are donating, and it will be forwarded to the Annual Conference.

Mission of Peace  
Mission Central HUB  
New Faith Communities  
The Clergy Care Fund  
The Helping Hands Fund

A full report of this year's session will be included in the July newsletter





## WHEN THE SPIRIT MOVES

Worship Series

When the Spirit moves, amazing things happen. But they happen through the people who allow that Spirit to motivate them, to guide and direct them, to empower them for the work of making disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. This isn't a small thing, not just a personal, in-house thing. This is a transforming the world thing. And all would agree that this needs transformation.

Our series through June is about what can happen when a people submit to the Spirit. It is a journey through the lectionary

texts that will help us see and understand how to increasingly be a Spirit-filled people of God; equipping us to be communities of faith who are ready to go when the Spirit moves.

### Trinity Sunday

Born of the Spirit

May 30

John 3:1-17

### Being Renewed

June 6

Mark 3:20-35

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

### Growing into the New Creation

June 13

Mark 4:26-34

2 Corinthians 5:6-10

### Enduring the Storms

June 20

Mark 4:35-41

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

### Giving What You Have

June 27

Mark 5:21-43

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

## To Mask or not to Mask

CDC and New York State guidance indicates indoor gatherings where some are vaccinated and some are not, still need some precautions taken to maximize safety of all. In light of available guidance on May 21, 2021 the following was implemented on Sunday, May 23.

Assigned seats are eliminated.

Seating in the front of the church is every other pew.

Seating in the back half is every third pew to allow those needing additional space that opportunity. Six feet is still recommended between "bubbles" which is why there are alternating pews.

Your pastor will wear a mask when moving around the sanctuary, as while guidance indicates that a fully vaccinated person (which your pastor is) is unlikely to

infect an unvaccinated person (which includes children), she is unwilling to take that risk and she believes, as the Ecumenical guidance states, that we are one body in Christ no more protected than the least protected among us.

CDC guidelines are in place. Mask wearing is no longer mandated for vaccinated persons, but is encouraged upon entering and exiting the building and when moving around the sanctuary for the protection of the unvaccinated.

CDC guidelines still call for those who are not vaccinated to wear a mask.

Fully vaccinated persons may sing under the CDC guidelines, although the ecumenical guidance recommends against it. It is suggested that masks be worn if you choose to sing, to maximize safety for all. Pamela, Kristin, and Dan continue to be more than the distance required between vocalists away from the congregation.

# Children's Page



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for behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone.  
<sup>12</sup> The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come,  
Song of Solomon 2:11-12a



**JUNE**

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 2. Janice Mitton<br>Dave Stevens   | 21. Jim Burnett<br>Frank Gilson<br>Kenneth Smith   |
| 5. Emallie Magoon                  | 24. Bethany Denardo<br>Ronni Agee                  |
| 6. Pastor Kim<br>James Kramer, Jr. | 25. April Agee                                     |
| 7. Sue Stolzenberg<br>Stacy Erck   | 27. Jamie Poole<br>Melissa Naylor<br>Jeffrey Coons |
| 10. Sylvia Major                   | 28. Marion Mills                                   |
| 11. Evan Mathewson                 | 29. Connor Smith                                   |
| 12. Nancy Say                      | 30. Kallan Babcock                                 |
| 13. Evelina Bell                   |  |
| 16. Rodney Greisser                |  |

## **FARMER'S MARKET**

Newfane United Methodist Church  
2699 Main Street  
Newfane, NY 14108

**Open every Wednesday**  
**July 7<sup>th</sup> – September 29<sup>th</sup>**

**4:30pm – 7:00pm**

Service organizations welcome

For a space, please contact the church at 778-7011  
If you would like to help any Wednesday please let Amy know.

June 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Painting Class – 5:00 pm	4	5 AA-3:00 pm
6 Worship Service – 10:00 am	7	8 UMW June Brunch – 9:30 am	9	10 Painting Class – 5:00 pm	11	12 Prom dress give away in dining room - 12:00 noon- 4:00 pm  AA-3:00 pm
13 Worship Service – 10:00 am	14  Flag Day	15	16 Missions – 7:00 pm	17 Painting Class – 5:00 pm	18	19 AA-3:00 pm
20 Trustees – 9:00 am  Worship Service – 10:00 am  Father's Day	21 Church Council- 6:00 pm	22	23	24	25	26 AA-3:00 pm
27 Worship Service – 10:00 am	28	29	30			

Up Coming Event: Saturday, **August 21<sup>st</sup>** the Fire Company is having a Car Cruise down Main Street. Our church will be serving a Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ that day beginning at 11:00 am. We will also have hot dogs and water/pop for sale

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

**JUNE 2021**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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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](mailto:newfanemethodist@verizon.net)  
website: [www.newfanemethodist.org](http://www.newfanemethodist.org)

**Worship Hours:**  
Worship 10:00 a.m.