

# **JULY/ AUGUST NEWSLETTER 2021**

## **Staff-Parish Relations Committee**

I am a terrible volunteer!! Why is that? If someone asks me to do something, I am generally happy to do it, but I'm hesitant to undertake a task, unless asked. I've been thinking about this recently since reading the following from Rev. Eugene Cho. "Dear Christian: Make a commitment to YOUR church. Be a host rather than a guest. Don't just consume. Serve. Engage. Give. Pray. Love." There are endless ways to "serve, engage, give, pray and love" in our church. We need prayers, a weekly liturgist and altar flowers, help with the Farmer's Market every week, more help with summertime VBS and Sunday school in the fall. Please let Pastor Marilyn or Amy know if you can help in any way!

Judy Hugaboom

## **Missions Committee Report**

In June, your Missions Committee scooped ice cream cones as a sweet treat for anyone during the Newfane Town Wide Yard Sale. We gave away ~30 cones, with a few "return customers" who were very happy! And, had some good conversation with Newfane neighbors.

We also provided a "lip stick" to each girl who found her perfect dress at the Newfane Alumni Association "prom dress" give away. Pastor Marilyn created a touching handout, reminding those girls how precious, and beautiful they truly are. Thank you, Pastor.

Moving forward, we will host an "Open Yard" at the parsonage, on July 11 (rain date 7/18) for the Corwin Ave neighbors and Pastor Marilyn & Ken to meet one another. This has been a long time in the coming, so, good-bye COVID-19, hello Corwin Ave neighbors!

There are lots of missional opportunities coming up this summer, so please, step up and do what you can to show the love of Christ within the walls of our church, and out in our community. Now is the time, say "YES"

YES to VBS

YES to Farmers Market (set up/break down, food prep, man the hot dog booth, provide a side, etc.)

YES to reading for "story time" on the lawn during Farmers Market

YES to helping with the new technology committee (if you are gifted in that area)

YES to be liturgist

You get the idea, YES!

Diane Schweigert

## **UMW**

We hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful days of summer. We are collecting the pull tabs from pop cans until September 15, which will then be donated to Ronald McDonald House. UMW will be starting to collect clothes for Save the Michael's July thru October. All sizes men, women, children are needed. A container will be in the Memorial Room

UMW will be bringing back Brownie Sundaes to farmers market starting July 7<sup>th</sup>, if anyone would like to make brownies or work our booth please contact Darlene 778-7413 or Phyllis 778-5859

## **FINANCE**

We started 2021 with a positive balance of \$13,520.32 in our Current Expense account and as of May 31, 2021 we have a positive balance of \$19,579.71, however, we have not paid our shared ministries for Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr. and May totaling \$10,585.00. Our year to date income has totaled \$61,616.17 and our year to date expenses have totaled \$55,556.78. Our income has been \$6,059.39 higher than the expenses that have been paid.

A large portion of our budget relies on income from Fundraisers. With that said we have many Fundraisers coming up over the next few months and we really need your help! We need people to work and donate items for Farmer's market. We also will be having another Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ on Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup> in conjunction with the Town Car Cruise and we will need workers for that as well.

The first PPP loan that we received has been forgiven and turned into a grant!

We will continue to count your tithes and offerings twice a month (around the 15<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of each month).

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.

Our next meeting will be in September.

Kevin Luckman, Chairperson

## **CHURCH COUNCIL**

Congratulations to Lyn Ende on being called to lead Clinton United Methodist Church in Lockport. Two from our congregation, Lyn Ende and Brian Scott(Olcott UMC) have been selected to minister outside of our parish. We wish both of them "God speed". They are still connected to our church, but in a different capacity. The Missions Committee had a successful Flower Sale that helps the church financially and more importantly to help beautify our town. The first PPP funds, that Neil Luckman secured for the church, have changed from a loan to a grant, that we will not have to pay back. We are waiting on the second monies to hopefully become a grant. These monies have greatly helped us through this Covid period. Covid restrictions have greatly eased at church although some parishioners have chosen to continue wearing a mask. The SPRC has interviewed a new organist and have offered him the job of Organist, Choir Director and Youth Choir Director, he is a very promising young man. The Council voted to approve the purchase of a new computer that will be able to input our Audio, Video and run the service with "Easy Worship" software. It will then output to monitors in the church and to FaceBook Live. If you would like to help run our A/V system, please let me know, we would appreciate the help. We will have Farmer's Market again this summer, please sign up for cooking, donations and set-up

and take-down. We are finally easing out of Covid restrictions and are looking forward to some great things here at Newfane Methodist.

Bill Neidlinger Church Council Chairman

## **Lay Leader Ponderings - July/August 2021**

### **Reflections on Annual Conference**

This was my third Annual Conference. In 2019 all I had to prepare me was stories I had heard and I attended the Conference in Syracuse with great trepidation. It turned out to not be as bad as the stories had led me to believe, but it was a bit overwhelming, especially the amendment to the amendment to the petition process. 2020 was an abbreviated Conference held virtually. This year, although still virtual, more closely approximated “usual.” I had a much better grasp on procedures this time, and could see something in the petition process that I had not seen in 2019. People hold very strong opinions on the issues being discussed and see things from very different perspectives. The process of up to 3 speeches for and 3 speeches against the petitions and amendments allows people to state their opinions and the rationale for them, without interruption, allowing listeners to get a different perspective on the issue. One may still strongly disagree with the opinion expressed, but it is a much more reasoned disagreement. The amendment process can get tedious at times, but in many cases, it improves the wording and makes the intent of the petition more clear. And it made what could have become acrimonious arguments into civil discourse.

Pre-conference recommendations were to utilize a separate device for voting from the one used for viewing the webinar. I had downloaded the Conference Journal onto my Kindle, so I actually ended up using three devices. And I was grateful that I had up-graded to a smart phone: it made voting very easy.

Over the past 1 ½ years I have participated in several on-line Conference activities. I recognized several people’s faces and names, from many different districts. On-line communication has deepened the connectational nature of the UMC for me.

Various videos and reports recorded in different churches across Upper New York allowed a glimpse of these church buildings, something I always find interesting. Technology can be a blessing.

While the on-line format “worked,” and had certain advantages, the lack of face to face communication and connection were lamented, and many people expressed eagerness for the in-person gathering in 2022. One person during the laity session did comment “The lines for the restrooms were much shorter this year.”

Various Annual Conference documents and videos are available on the Conference website: [www.unyumc.org](http://www.unyumc.org). I encourage you to look at these, as a window into UMC polity. I continue to learn new things about how our Conference functions and continually deepen my appreciation for the connectational nature of the UMC.

# 2021 Annual Conference

## Lay Member Report

The 2021 Annual Conference of the Upper New York Annual Conference was held virtually June 17 – 19, 2021 via Zoom webinar.

Thursday morning began with opening worship. Bishop Webb spoke on the centrality of “Give me Jesus,” with a focus on Jesus as the only hope for the world. This was followed by separate clergy and laity sessions. The laity session consisted of various reports and several training videos on subjects including two spiritual practices, anti-racism, Sabbath, and Biblical justice.

Thursday afternoon began with organizational matters and various reports, all of which was accomplished more quickly than in previous years. Discussion then moved on to presentation and consideration of various petitions submitted for consideration and vote. This can be a very lengthy process. The author of the petition is first invited to talk about the rationale for the petition. Participants can then speak for or against the petition. Participants can also make suggestions for amendments to the original petition, and in some case, amendments to the proposed amendments. At each stage, 3 speakers for and against are allowed to speak. The body as a whole votes on each amendment and then finally on the petition as amended. Following the conclusion of discussion, a time for prayer was observed prior to each vote on a petition. Voting was conducted electronically through a secure voting site. Voting electronically actually has the advantage of providing fairly quick results and precise numbers and percentages. 8 petitions were presented over Thursday afternoon and Friday and all were accepted; some after considerable discussion and amendments.

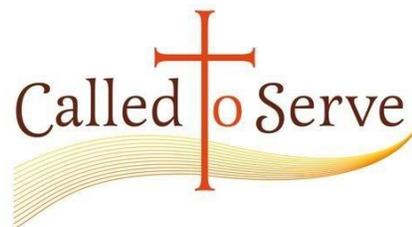
Friday began with a devotional service in Spanish with an English translator. The morning business section was one petition and reports from the Trustees. 15 churches were presented for closure, with a somber celebration of the combined years of service. Annual Conference members vote on the recommendation to close. In keeping with the solemnity of the occasion, there was no music played while waiting for the vote tally.

Friday afternoon started with the vote on the petition presented in the morning. Conference staff required increased time to provide an accurate written final version of the petition after the multiple amendments which were made. Nominations presented their slate of officers for election, which was eventually accepted, although a declaratory decision was requested regarding whether nominations to the Board of Ordained Ministry could be accepted from the floor. This request will be reviewed by the Judiciary Council. Finance presented the Conference budget for 2022, which is lower than 2021. They are aware of the strain on local churches due to the pandemic and are doing all they can to reduce shared ministry apportionments. The budget was accepted. The final petition was then presented, amended and passed. Friday evening was the Memorial Service. Due to the shortened Annual Conference last year, this service honored Conference clergy, staff and family who had died between February 23, 2019 and April 23, 2021. 110 people were remembered and honored. During his message, Rev. Bill Gottschalk-Fielding told a personal story about Neil and Pat Arnold who welcomed Rev. Gottschalk-Fielding and his wife, whom they had not previously met, to their home during a snow storm, epitomizing hospitality.

Saturday morning began with a Juneteenth celebration which featured the Buffalo Metropolitan choir and a liturgical dance company from a church whose name I did not catch. The business session resumed after the worship service with presentation and acceptance of Advance Specials. This allows the named ministries to request support from churches. Niagara Frontier City Missions and Seneca Street UMC are among the ministries on this list. Mission of Peace presented a video on their immersion mission trip to India prior to the pandemic. Retirees from 2020 and 2021 were recognized, as were those individuals receiving licenses as Local Pastors, those completing Course of Study, and Certified Lay Ministers. Appointments were confirmed; the full list is available on the Upper New York Annual Conference website, as will be videos of the Memorial and Ordination services, and as are various reports and actions taken at the Conference session. This was the 11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Upper New York Conference. The 10-year anniversary celebration planned for last year was put on hold due to the pandemic. A video of highlights from the past 11 years was presented. This video will also be available on the Conference website. Several Conference staff were recognized and thanked for their service in planning and orchestrating the Conference session, with special recognition to Jeff Hodge, Conference Secretary who is retiring. A motion was made to adjourn the session of Annual Conference and a vote taken; 7 voted no, 350 voted yes. (Total votes for Thursday and Friday sessions ranged from 650's – 690's). The dates for the 2022 session of the Upper New York Annual Conference will be June 2-4. Events associated with 2021 Annual Conference concluded with the Ordination Service Saturday afternoon.

Respectfully submitted  
Lyn Ende

Lay Member to Annual Conference, Newfane UMC



## **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR JULY/AUGUST**

### **LITURGISTS:**

July. 4: Jeff Scott  
July 11: Cheryl Robinson  
July 18: Marie Poole  
July 25: Judy Hugaboom

August 1: Diane Steel  
August 8: \_\_\_\_\_  
August 15: \_\_\_\_\_  
August 22: \_\_\_\_\_  
August 29: Karen Hannah

### **ALTAR FLOWERS:**

July. 4: Sue Stolzenberg  
July 11: \_\_\_\_\_  
July 18: \_\_\_\_\_  
July 25: \_\_\_\_\_

August 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
August 8: \_\_\_\_\_  
August 15: \_\_\_\_\_  
August 22: \_\_\_\_\_  
August 29: \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to be a Liturgist on Sunday morning or provide altar flowers please let Amy know or sign up on the sheets in the Kitchenette area.

## JULY BIRTHDAY'S

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Della Jean Schweigert                         | 16. John Allen                                     |
| 2. Ron Rider<br>Julie Hugaboom                   | Ryan Keys  |
| 4. Kyle Phillips                                 | 17. Rebecca Huppi                                  |
| 5. Dawson Nerber<br>Samantha Bell<br>Paul Conrad | 18. Richard Miles                                  |
| 6. Nichole Schultz                               | 19. Debbie Wirth                                   |
| 7. Michele Rider<br>Melanie Hirschman            | 20. Jeffrey Hamm<br>Ashley Hannah                  |
| 8. Gerry Sweeney                                 | 22. Jennifer Mills                                 |
| 9. Mary Jane Gominiak<br>Katherine Monheim       | 24. Nicholas Nankey                                |
| 10. Matt Tomaino                                 | 25. Sarah Long                                     |
| 12. Russell Vincent Jr.                          | 26. John Vincent                                   |
| 14. Ethin Wedekind                               | 28. Pastor Karen Smith<br>Kimberly Schmitt         |
| 15. Debbie Yaple<br>Robert Stedman               | 29. Dan Mandaville<br>Jeremy Vail                  |
|  | 31. Linda Stevens<br>Greg Larson<br>Ken Kelkenberg |

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

## AUGUST BIRTHDAY'S

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Jeremy Tomaino<br>Rev. Jean White<br>Jodie Vincent | 14. Sue Scott                                      |
| 4. Travis Vincent                                     | 15. Jake Yaple                                     |
| 6. Bob Gominiak                                       | 16. Jim Scott                                      |
| 7. Jane Brown   | 17. Nancy Beakman<br>Daniel Schultz                |
| 8. Olivia Scott                                       | 18. Colleen Schultz<br>Pat Darrow<br>Sandy Smalley |
| 9. Jessica Smith<br>Phyllis Graham                    | 19. Michael Mills                                  |
| 10. Ruth Naylor                                       | 21. Candy Burnett<br>Alan Finn                     |
| 11. Mark Yaple  | 24. Jennifer Say<br>Adam Huntington<br>Eric Miller |
| 12. Dennis Schultz<br>Lance Babcock                   | 30. Nickolas Bell                                  |
| 13. Cindy Liddell<br>Tom Wright<br>Sherry Larson      | 31. Diane Magoon<br>Michelle Wedekind              |

| July 2021               |     |     |                                     |     |     |                          |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|--------------------------|
| <a href="#">◀ June</a>  |     |     |                                     |     |     | <a href="#">August ▶</a> |
| Sun                     | Mon | Tue | Wed                                 | Thu | Fri | Sat                      |
|                         |     |     |                                     | 1   | 2   | 3<br>AA -3:00 pm         |
| 4<br>Worship –10:00 am  | 5   | 6   | 7<br>Farmer's Market -4:30-7:00 pm  | 8   | 9   | 10<br>AA -3:00 pm        |
| 11<br>Worship –10:00 am | 12  | 13  | 14<br>Farmer's Market -4:30-7:00 pm | 15  | 16  | 17<br>AA -3:00 pm        |
| 18<br>Worship –10:00 am | 19  | 20  | 21<br>Farmer's Market -4:30-7:00 pm | 22  | 23  | 24<br>AA -3:00 pm        |
| 25<br>Worship –10:00 am | 26  | 27  | 28<br>Farmer's Market -4:30-7:00 pm | 29  | 30  | 31<br>AA -3:00 pm        |

| August 2021             |     |     |                                     |     |     |                             |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----------------------------|
| <a href="#">◀ July</a>  |     |     |                                     |     |     | <a href="#">September ▶</a> |
| Sun                     | Mon | Tue | Wed                                 | Thu | Fri | Sat                         |
| 1<br>Worship –10:00 am  | 2   | 3   | 4<br>Farmer's Market -4:30-7:00 pm  | 5   | 6   | 7<br>AA -3:00 pm            |
| 8<br>Worship –10:00 am  | 9   | 10  | 11<br>Farmer's Market -4:30-7:00 pm | 12  | 13  | 14<br>AA -3:00 pm           |
| 15<br>Worship –10:00 am | 16  | 17  | 18<br>Farmer's Market -4:30-7:00 pm | 19  | 20  | 21<br>AA -3:00 pm           |
| 22<br>Worship –10:00 am | 23  | 24  | 25<br>Farmer's Market -4:30-7:00 pm | 26  | 27  | 28<br>AA -3:00 pm           |
| 29<br>Worship –10:00 am | 30  | 31  |                                     |     |     |                             |

## KID'S PAGE

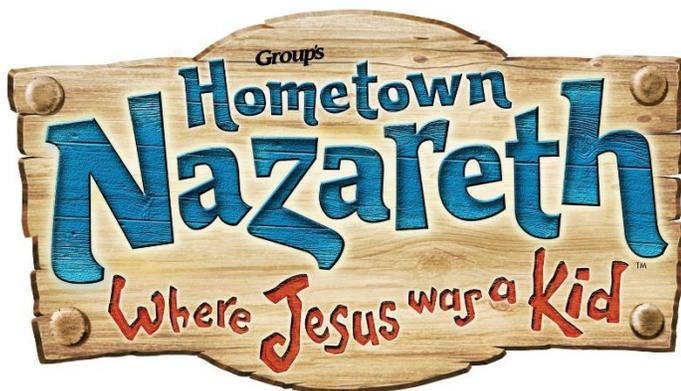


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# ***Faith, Family, and Fun***

**Sunday Mornings 10 a.m.**

**(during regular worship service)**



**July 25, Aug. 1, Aug. 8, Aug. 15**  
**For ALL Ages**  
**and ALL family sizes – 1 to ????**

Children focused, Adult friendly  
Worship Service  
with Music, Bible Stories, and visits to  
Nazareth where Jesus was a kid  
Followed by optional activities and games

***ALL ARE WELCOME – One Sunday or all four***

# Meandering with the Pastor

## Trying new ways to connect with one another and our neighbor

We look forward to summer each year, but after a year of staying home, this one is especially special, as we reconnect with others and the activities, we missed last year.

The inability to connect with family and friends was a reoccurring source of lament over the past fifteen months, and for some in our community, reconnecting is still a concern.

I expect there will be an increase in connections as we get back into our Farmer's Market schedule. Volunteering to help in any way that works for you, is a way to reconnect with our faith community and the community at large while helping sustain ministry at NUMC and building relationships with our neighbors.

I encourage you to check in with Amy to see how you can help. It is easier than you think.

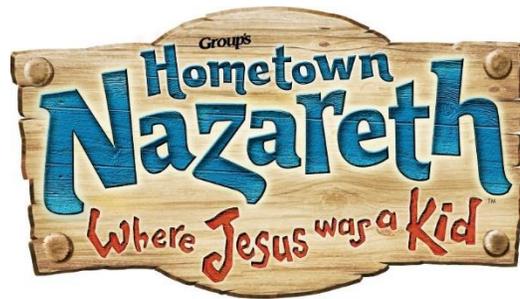
We are trying something new with Vacation Bible School and you are all invited to enjoy learning about the town Jesus grew up in, as well as having an opportunity to explore spiritual truths through the eyes of our children.

VBS will be woven into our traditional worship service with an interactive "message" in which the children will have an opportunity to participate. It should be fun and a great opportunity to invite a family (any size, and any age) to join us for this more relaxed experience.

Your presence and participation will help make it a meaningful and memorable experience for all of the children (young and older) who attend.

If you would like to help in ways other than participation here is a list:

**2021 VBS**  
Volunteer opportunities



### Pre- VBS series

Volunteer to help Diane Steel as she develops the "set" for our sanctuary  
(Houses, animals, well, etc.)

Develop "shop" for after service/Farmer's Market  
(1 or 2 per week, so 4 to 8 shops)

Develop "game" for after service/Farmer's Market  
(1 or 2 per week, so 4 to 8 games)

Create posters  
Social Media posts  
Press releases  
Invitations

### Sunday mornings

Help pastor  
with singing – elements of worship  
*as your interests nudge you*

Staff "shop" for after service  
(vol. # per shop depends on need of that shop)

Staff "game" for after service  
(vol. # per game depends on need of that game)

### Farmer's Market

Staff "shop" for during Farmer's Market  
(vol. # per shop depends on need of that shop)

Staff "game" for during Farmer's Market  
(vol. # per game depends on need of that game)

### Post- VBS series

Help take down and store "sets" and "shops"

Our response to trying a new way to connect with one another and our neighbors will reflect in the success of trying this thing "we have never done before." Let's work together to see how God works by making all things new. Use the Kid's page to invite families to join us. A Sign-up sheet is available in the Memorial Room.

Claiming God's Promises  
Pastor Marilyn



# Geared Up for Life

WORSHIP SERIES



## Summer Series

On the Sundays we are not all participating in VBS, we will walk through Ephesians. This letter divides neatly into two halves, both of which are covered in this series.

The first half, chapters 1-3, provides a theological foundation for the faith in some of the most beautiful language in the Epistles.

The second half, chapters 4-6, focuses on the

ethical dimensions of the faith: How do we live it out? This second half reminds us that faith isn't simply about believing, but about living.

Each week in the series stands alone so you can jump in and out as your vacation and family plans take you elsewhere, or you can stand connected to the entire series in person or online as your schedule allows.



## Your Bone & Flesh

WORSHIP SERIES

## Fourth of July

What do we love about home?

What do we hope to make better?

Is home a place?

Is home found in relationships?

Blake Shelton's recent song includes these lyrics:

"You're always my destination  
You're the the only thing that I'm chained to  
I could be happy anywhere  
I could be happy anywhere with you

You are invited to join us on the Fourth of July to explore how that reflects Independence Day



## **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**

**We offer a variety of vendors each week at our market**

**The church will have a food booth each week**

**Service organizations welcome**

**For a space, please contact the church at 778-7011**

**Follow us on Facebook: Newfane Methodist Farmer's Market**

**United Methodist Church of Newfane**

**2699 Main Street**

**P. O. Box 69**

**Newfane, NY 14108**

**TO:**



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**JULY 2021**  
**AUGUST 2021**



**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](mailto:newfanemethodist@verizon.net)

**Worship Hours: 10:00am**