



# NEWFANE UMC NEWS

## April 2022



### MISSIONS

This month we will focus on prayers and fund raising for Ukraine, with 100% of donations going to UMCOR. When you are at Church, you may drop donations in the kettle provided in the over-flow room. From home, you may send in donations, please remember to clearly mark they are for “Ukraine” relief. On Saturday, 4/30/22, we will wrap up our fundraising with a community drive through fundraiser, of soup and bread, for free will offerings.

We are also planning activity “Easter Kits” for our families with small children. These will be available Palm Sunday.

Olcott UMC is hosting a fundraiser on 4/21/22 for a local child fighting cancer, and is requesting our help. If you are able, please consider donations of home-made cookies for dessert. Sandy Smalley will be leading this, and will provide details as we get closer to this event.

Prayers for our world, our country, community, and the Church

### LAY LEADER PONDERINGS

Language is an ever changing, evolving thing. Words get added or fall into disuse, or meanings and usage change over time. Sometimes these changes are useful, enabling people to communicate more clearly. Other times they are confusing and may actually obscure what is being said, or make it elitist, meaningful only to a select group. Some “new” usages of words really annoy me. One such word is “unpack,” as in “Let’s unpack this story / book /scripture.”

What does that even mean? I had to look it up. Used in this context, it means to examine a text, to explicate. Why can’t they just say “explicate?” Explicate makes sense to me; unpack does not.

“Unpack” is what one does to a suitcase or some such container used to transport items from one place to another. The items which are unpacked are then put somewhere – a cupboard, shelf, drawer, closet – until they are needed again.

I don’t want Scripture to be “unpacked” and put away somewhere. If anything, I want it packed into my heart and mind, instantly and continually accessible.

Lyn Ende, co-lay leader

### STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The following is the first verse of one of my favorite hymns. It always moves me, especially in times of war. “This is my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine. This is my home, the country where my heart is; here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine. But other hearts in other lands are beating, with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine”. I pray that by the time this newsletter is read, the Russian invasion of Ukraine will be over. In an attempt to help the people of Ukraine, our parish will be collecting and raising money for the next few weeks. Funds will be sent to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), who are already at work in the war torn area. 100% of your donation goes directly to those in need. Thank you for anything that you can do to help the people of Ukraine.

Our monthly after-church luncheon will be held on April 24. It is always such a nice time of fellowship with a wide variety of delicious food.

The 2022 SPRC members are Pam Poole, Jill Keys, Kathy Perry, Ron Steel, Neil Luckman, Michael Schultz and I.

We would like to wish each of you a very Happy Easter!

Judy Hugaboom

## FINANCE

We hope you are having a wonderful Easter season! Ahead of the holiday, we're getting in touch to thank you for the support you've given the church. We hope we can continue to depend on your generous gifts this Easter and beyond.

It's through your contributions that we're able to carry on important work both spiritually and in our community. For your convenience, we offer electronic giving options that allow you to contribute when and how you prefer.

Show your support this Easter and try one of our eGiving options. You'll find that online giving at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z57P/home> or giving through the Vanco Mobile app are secure, fast and easy to use. Thank you for all you do to support our mission during Easter and throughout the year.

We started 2022 with a positive balance of \$16,185.73 in our Current Expense account and as of February 28, 2022 we have a positive balance of \$17,982.23, however, we have not paid our shared ministries this year totaling \$3,490. Our year-to-date income has totaled \$23,123.94 and our year-to-date expenses have totaled \$21,327.44. Our income has been \$1,796.50 higher than the expenses that have been paid.

Our investment account through the United Methodist Frontier Foundation has been opened. If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to ask Kevin Luckman, Sr., Ken Hannah or Neil Luckman.

Thank you for the amazing support we received for our Turkey Dinner that was held on Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. We will be having our drive-thru Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ on Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 4:00pm. To pre-reserve your dinners please call Amy at 778-5274

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 tithes and offerings in our address is P.O. Box 69, Newfane, NY or you could give electronically now on our website: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z57P/home> or donate through the Vanco Mobile app.

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



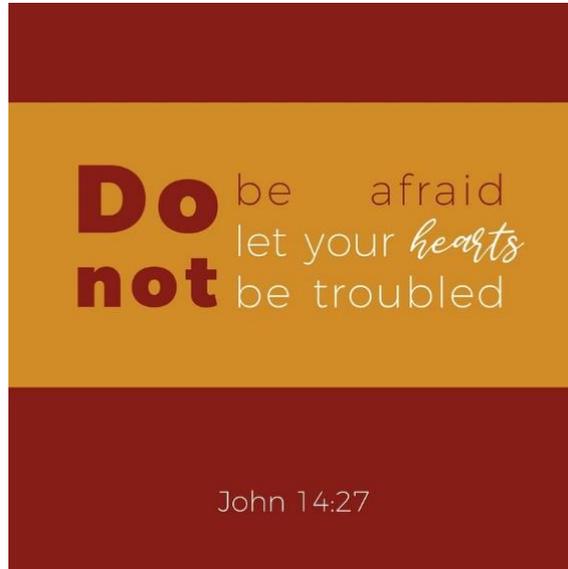
## *Pastor Marilyn's Musings*

# Living out our faith without fear

“Do not be afraid” are words we hear throughout scripture. Jesus encourages us many times to not be afraid, including as he sits with the disciples preparing them for what was to come as he moved toward his trial, death, and resurrection.

“Do not let your hearts be troubled,” He tells us. “Truly, truly, I tell you, whoever believes in Me will also do the works that I am doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in My name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask Me for anything in My name, I will do it. (John 14)”

There are many circumstances and situations surrounding us that make “fear” our first impulse. Health, family problems, financial conditions, the 24-7 news cycle, and more, yet we keep hearing Jesus calling us to live with faith, to trust it will all work out. Maybe



not in the way we hope, or in the timing we desire, but because we are not alone, we can endure and preserve, continuing to witness the power of God in our lives, and sharing that witness with others, so they too can come to know the peace available in trusting God's promises.

We will always face challenges and circumstances that make us wonder if there is any way forward. As we continue to walk this season of Lent may we hear the reassuring words of Jesus reminds us there is a way, He lives it, and we have the power to live it

because He lives it with us.

Prayers that our reflections this season of Lent draw us closer to God and to one another.

*Pastor Marilyn*

## Conversations planned on the future of The UMC

Church Council Chair Bill Neidlinger, Co-Lay Leaders Lyn Ende and Ken Hannah, and Pastor Marilyn are pulling information together so our Church Council, and the congregation as a whole, can be informed about expected changes in our denomination.

General Conference has been postponed until 2024 delaying conversations and decisions planned for this year.

On May 1, 2022 the Global Methodist Church will incorporate and begin accepting congregations into this new denomination.

There are United Methodist Church congregations which are already preparing to disaffiliate from the UMC to join the GMC, some congregations gathering

information to make that decision, and still others already committed to remaining part of the UMC.

Upper New York Annual Conference Trustees, working with Bishop Webb, are developing a plan by which those congregations wishing to disaffiliate prior to General Conference, may do so. It is expected to be available in the near future.

While conversations around these developments are being planned here later this year, it is important to note that our mission "To Pray First, Walk Together, and Transform Lives for Christ" remains the same and will continue to drive our witness in this community.

If you have questions please talk to Pastor Marilyn or Church Council Chair Bill Neidlinger.



*From the desk of Bishop Mark J. Webb*

## Bishops share thoughts in uncertain times

**Bishop Mark J. Webb and the rest of the Northeastern Jurisdiction College of Bishops have issued a ten-minute video sharing their vision of recommitment and hope even in these times of fear, illness, division, grief, greed, and unbridled abuses of power. It can be accessed at [unyumc.org](http://unyumc.org). The transcript follows.**

O, for a heart to praise my God, a heart from sin set free, a heart that always feels thy blood so freely shed for me. A heart in every thought renewed and full of love divine, perfect and right and pure and good, a copy, Lord, of thine.

-- from "O For a Heart to Praise My God," United Methodist Hymnal

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age. -- Matthew 28: 18-20

As the College of Bishops of the Northeastern Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church, we greet you in the matchless name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ.

All of creation stands in the immutable goodness of God joined together by God's unconditional love and sustained by God's grace. Yet we live in a world that ebbs and flows in its expressions of justice, equality and compassion. Whether in the northeast, the borders of the United States or around the globe we see escalating tensions arising from fear, illness, division, grief, greed and unbridled abuses of power. We do not always have control to completely prevent the difficulties of life,

but we do have the opportunity to choose a more excellent way: to walk with one another, to support one another through the hardships and devastation, and to seek to be salt and light in the name of Jesus Christ.

In the midst of all that swirls around us, we remember our foundation, which is God's love for us and our love for one another. In his farewell discourse, Jesus offered a seminal lesson for his disciples when he taught, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13: 34-35) The world and the organization of the church will continue to change, but our mission – our very reason for being – will not and must not change because Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. The call of God for us to be the Church, offering the love and good news of Jesus Christ to all the world remains the only hope for transformed lives, transformed churches, transformed systems, and a transformed world.

The unprecedented upheaval of our times requires committed servants of God, prepared to lean into the discomfort, bridge deep divisions, and reconcile broken relationships. Therefore, as your servant leaders, we will work together with convicted humility to empower and equip the people of God for the work of ministry, recommit ourselves to the discipline of fasting and prayer, and deep listening to God, one another and the people in our communities to lead the church through these most challenging times. As your bishops, we have established Mondays as our day to fast, pray and intentionally seek God's face for our own renewal and to inspire our covenantal leadership as a

college. We invite you to join us in this spiritual discipline.

Even as we wrestle with postponements in holy conferencing, unknown outcomes and delayed jurisdictional and denominational elections, we will keep the main thing the main thing, to love God and one another and to lead the church forward in its mission. There is no circumstance, period or season where the mission of God's church is not to be our central focus and lived reality. Our purpose is mission. In its statement regarding the Theology of Mission, The United Methodist Church Board of Global Ministries says it well:

*God's holy spirit calls the Church into being for mission. The Church is the sign of God's presence in the world and of God's intention for creation. In response to God's call and the leading of the Holy Spirit, women and men, young and old of all nations, stations, and races, and in all times and places, unite as the living Body of Christ to join God's presence in the world. This community of faith aspires to live out the potential of new life in Christ among all human beings now, while envisioning the fulfillment of God's reign and the completion of God's mission. The Church experiences and engages in God's mission as it pours itself out for others, ready to cross every boundary to call for true human dignity among all peoples, especially among those regarded as the least of God's children, all the while making disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world.*

By living into this vision as disciples pouring ourselves out for the sake of others, we are God's instruments of peace and love. By joining God in this mission, the community of faith is assured of a future filled with hope. That hope is not sentimental, situational or simply an eschatological phenomenon. That hope is a discipline developed and evidenced in our consistent willingness to practice repentance, forgiveness and reconciliation. Our future will also require that we learn from the past but not be imprisoned by it. It is imperative that

we lead, serve and function differently. We are not served by attempting to place new wine into old wineskins. This is a time for bold vision and even bolder innovation. We will sometimes fail, and in the words of Brené Brown, when we do, may we fail extravagantly, rise with resilience, learning and changing in the midst of our failings so that we continue to bear fruit, fruit that will last.

As your servant leaders looking toward the future, full of possibility and promise, we boldly and unequivocally declare who we intend to be:

- We will be a leadership team rooted in faith, formed and guided by love and committed to transformative ministry in every community we are privileged to serve.
- We will lead collaboratively.
- We will empower and invest in committed lay and clergy leaders, assisting them with grace to step into God's call and future for their ministry.
- We will create and encourage opportunities for shared ministry initiatives.
- We will leverage resources, both human and financial, to support innovation and creativity in missions.
- We will tirelessly work to end systemic racism and other forms of discrimination and division.
- We will facilitate opportunities for healing and reconciliation.
- We will be ambassadors of hope.

Won't you join us? It is our deep prayer that you will. It matters – it matters for the mission and for our life together as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Your servants in Christ

LaTrelle Easterling, Baltimore-Washington & Peninsula-Delaware

Sandra Steiner Ball, West Virginia and Susquehanna

Thomas J. Bickerton, New York

Sudarshana Devadhar, New England

Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, Western Pennsylvania and Susquehanna

John R. Schol, Greater New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania

Mark Webb, Upper New York



# Gathered Up in Jesus

LENT & HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERIES

The season of Lent continues into April. Essential for those who truly seek to be disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, this time of self-examination allows us to see what might be most in need of transformation.

We might find that what needs to grow in faith and discipleship is the church and that the transformation of the world begins with building bridges and gathering up rather than with condemnation. We join in with churches around the world this Lenten Season as we seek to be gathered up in Jesus.

**Fifth Sunday in Lent – Filled with the Fragrance April 3, 2022 – John 12:1-8**

**Palm/Passion Sunday – The Lord Needs It April 10, 2022 – Luke 19:28-40 & Luke 22:14-23:56**

**Maundy Thursday – Do You Know What I Have Done? April 14, 2022 – John 13:1-17, 31b-35**

**Good Friday – Are You the King? April 15, 2022 – John 18:1-19:42**



# We Are Witnesses

EASTER SEASON WORSHIP SERIES

## Our Easter Season series

**Resurrection of the Lord – God Raised Him April 17, 2022 – John 20:1-18**

**Second Sunday of Easter – We Are Witnesses April 24, 2022 – Acts 5:27-32**

**Third Sunday of Easter – Who Are You Lord? May 1, 2022 – Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter – Get Up! May 8, 2022 – Acts 9:36-43**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter – What God Called Clean May 15, 2022 – Acts 11:1-18**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter – Opened the Heart May 22, 2022 – Acts 16:9-15**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter – Disturbing the City May 29, 2022 – Acts 16:16-34**

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 2. Alan Rosenbaum
- 3. Bethany Smith  
Judith Pettit
- 5. Bryce Hirschman

- 7. Phyllis Stickney
- 10. Kathy Dillabough.
- 11. Kate Gominiak

- 12. Lyn Ende  
Carol Miller-Landis  
Brandon Witkop  
Eric Wright
- 13. Stephanie Rosenbaum  
Devin Gilson
- 14. Pat Fitch
- 16. Patricia Fralick  
Gregory Stephens
- 19. Carrie (Gow) Rutkowski

- 22. Sharon Molisani
- 24. Patricia Schultz
- 25. Andrea Adinolfi
- 26. Dave Ende  
Bob Sweeney
- 28. Lindsay Stickney
- 29. JoAnne Huntington  
Pam Poole
- 30. Kevin Luckman, Jr.  
Brian Scott



## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR APRIL

**USHERS:** *(Note: Ushers should be at the church by 10:00 a.m.)*

- Apr. 3: Jim Burnett, Neil Luckman
- Apr. 10: Keith Robinson, Jeff Neidlinger
- Apr. 17: Kevin Luckman, Kevin Luckman, Jr.
- Apr. 24: Dennis Schultz, Ron Steel

### **LITURGISTS:**

- Apr. 3: Sarah McClintick
- Apr. 10: Judy Hugaboom
- Apr. 17: Pam Poole
- Apr. 24: \_\_\_\_\_

### **ALTAR FLOWERS:**

- Apr. 3: \_\_\_\_\_
- Apr. 10: \_\_\_\_\_
- Apr. 17: Easter flowers
- Apr. 24: \_\_\_\_\_



# KID'S PAGE

Unscramble the letters to find the words in our

## Easter Anagram

Hidden Word (circled letters):

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a d e i l n

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a e l o p s s t

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a i o r s v

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a m n o r s

\_\_\_\_\_

c c f i i n o r u x

\_\_\_\_\_

c e i n o r r r s t u

\_\_\_\_\_

e j s s u

\_\_\_\_\_

h n o r s t

\_\_\_\_\_

i c h t s r

\_\_\_\_\_

s c o r s

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Answers: nailed, apostles, savior, Romans, crucifixion, resurrection, Jesus, thorns, Christ, cross  
Hidden word: redemption

# April 2022

◀ March

May ▶

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				March 31 Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ – 4:00 pm-?	1	2 AA – 3:00 pm
3 Worship:10:30am	4 Exercise–6:00 pm	5	6 Exercise–6:00 pm	7	8	9 AA – 3:00 pm
10 Worship:10:30am	11 Exercise–6:00 pm	12 UMW–9:30am	13 Exercise–6:00pm	14 6:00 PM Service with a meal – reservations appreciated	15 12:00 noon service in front of church  5:00 pm Good Friday service at Clinton Street UMC	16 AA – 3:00 pm
17 Sunrise Service in Krull Park – 6:30 am  Easter Service at Newfane UMC– 10:30 am  Easter	18 Exercise–6:00 pm	19	20 Exercise–6:00 pm	21 Holy Thursday	22 Good Friday	23 AA – 3:00 pm
24 Worship:10:30am	25 Exercise–6:00 pm	26	27 Exercise–6:00 pm	28	29	30 AA – 3:00 pm

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)

UMW will be meeting will be April 12, 2022 at 9:30 in the dining room. All ladies are invited. Yarn is available in the UMW room to knit or crochet afghans for donation. If you know of anyone in need of meals, please contact Kathy Perry (716 778-5057). We will be providing meals for Lockport Cares April 18<sup>th</sup> and May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Phyllis Graham, President

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TO:

# APRIL 2022



**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 Service – 10:30 am with Sunday School breakout