

The Visitor

January 2021

Pastor

Rev. William Mudge 315-292-0850

Congregational Care & Family Ministries

Rev. Jeff Hodge 315-383-4384

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Gordon Knapp 315-303-4862

Music Director

Douglas McCall 315-313-0767

Secretary

Lisa Kane 315-635-6442

Treasurer

Stephanie Hines 860-917-3145

Custodian

Dan Mackin 315-635-6442

Housekeeper

Frank Harris 315-635-6442

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Church Office: 315-635-6442
Fax: 315-635-6963

**Normal Church Office Hours:
Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

E-mail: secretary@bvillefirstumc.org

Website: www.bvillefirstumc.org

PLEASE NOTE:

Articles for the **FEBRUARY**
must be submitted to the church office
by **January 15th**. Thank you.

[Church Calendar](#)



From the Pastors Desk

"A Shepdogs Tale"

“Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.” Colossians 3:1-4 NIV

As I sit to write this New Year’s message, we are just getting ready to say “Farewell!” to the year of our Lord 2020. I imagine as many read that first sentence, they are howling – “Farewell!!! Bah Humbug! Good riddance is more like it!” I understand that sentiment, but there have been some rich blessings in the year 2020, as well as some terrible struggles. In 2020, babies were born, new jobs were begun, marriages were joined, exciting steps in peoples personal and family lives occurred. I know that there have been hard times and brokenness as well, but as a people of faith, let us also speak up about God’s amazing grace and abundant provision.

Now we will turn the page and embark on a new year – 2021! What are your hopes and dreams for this new year? I am anticipating God’s amazing grace to continue to surprise us and provide for us as we live in the light of Christ – what are you planning?

To help us all live into the absolute best that God has in store for us, I am offering a whole church study for the first 40 days of the new year 2021. We will be reading together the book, “The Purpose Driven Life” by Rick Warren. I will read one chapter every day, beginning on Sunday December 27th, 2020. I will post these readings on Facebook under my personal page – Bill Mudge – and the Baldwinsville FUMC page. I encourage you to purchase a copy of the book for yourself. It is available on Audible and Kindle and can be purchased at most bookstores and Amazon and may be available through local library systems. If you would like a copy, and cannot afford one, please contact me at the church office at 17 West Genesee Street, Baldwinsville NY 13027 or call 315-635-6442, and I will get a book for you.

I believe that God is eager to have us turn to God early in this year and seek God’s will and plan before we venture off on our own initiative – we might be surprised how well life will work if we seek God’s direction first, instead of stumbling in later to ask for grace and mercy.

Will you plan to join us for this adventure together? I believe it may serve as an exciting launch pad for us as individuals and for Baldwinsville First United Methodist Church as a fellowship!

It is my intention to continue meeting together beginning January 3rd providing that the COVID 19 numbers allow us to. Please check our Facebook page or call the church office for more information as we begin the new year. Come and join us for church Sunday morning at 9AM for our Heritage worship service in the sanctuary, or at 11AM for our new Contemporary service featuring Nairobi Smith leading worship in the chapel. We’ll save you a socially distanced seat. (the 9AM and 11AM services will be live streamed and available on Facebook and YouTube)

Serving Christ with You,
Pastor Bill Mudge

CONGREGATIONAL CARE & FAMILY MINISTRIES

January 2021

In past years, I and others from BFUMC travel to Syracuse Home for a lively, celebratory Epiphany Service. While we are unable to do that this year, I invite each of us to pray for one another throughout this Christmas season and on the day of Epiphany for peace and healing. It has probably been hardest for those who have lost loved ones during this pandemic, and those who are in nursing homes, hospitals, and isolated at home, unable to welcome visitors. I offer this meaningful prayer from the late Ann Weems as a reminder of God's deep love for us:

Star-Giving by Ann Weems

What I'd really like to give you for Christmas is a star...

Brilliance in a package,

something you could keep in the pocket of your jeans
or in the pocket of your being.

Something to take out in times of darkness,

something that would never snuff out or tarnish,
something you could hold in your hand,
something for wonderment,

something for pondering,
something that would remind you of
what Christmas has always meant:

God's Advent Light into the darkness of this world.

But stars are only God's for giving,

and I must be content to give you words and wishes
and packages without stars.

But I can wish you life

as radiant as the Star

that announces the Christ Child's coming,

and as filled with awe as the shepherds who stood beneath its light.

And I can pass on to you the love

that has been given to me,

ignited countless times by others

who have knelt in Bethlehem's light.

Perhaps, if you ask, God will give you a star.



Blessings in the new year!

-- Rev. Jeff Hodge, Congregational Care & Family Ministries



Friends & Neighbors:

*Kathy Thomas,
Mary Thomas' granddaughter-in-law
a local nurse volunteering to help in NYC*

Peter Allen, Diane Allen's husband
Don Child, Stephanie Smith's uncle
Barbara Church, Harlow Kisselstein's sister
Tom Disinger,
brother of Barb Stowe & Sue Vanderveer
Brent Ellsworth, Candy Johnson's nephew
Joseph Disotell, friend of Pam Fallesen
Richard Greer, Dave Greer's brother
Marjorie Heck, Shari Mudge's mother
Evelyn Maihofer,
Walter Maihofer's daughter-in-law
Nola Marotta, friend of Diane Nolan
Scott Maxwell, Rocky Maxwell's brother
Linda Munson, Marsha Plucinik's sister-in-law
Blakely Nowicki (infant), Kisselstein family
Melissa Sullivan Ricotta,
Bonnie & Millard Sullivan's daughter
Judy Scott, friend of the Benton's
Zachary Thomas, Mary Thomas' grandson
Isobella Vecchio, friend of Ron Waterbury
Leona Vallier, cousin of Pam Fallesen

Pray for our Service Men & Women:

Holly Abbott, Jeff Coover,
Brian Cunningham, James Scott Gibbs,
Casey Hargrave, Jeffrey Lucy,
Dr. Kristen Lucy, Jeffrey Meany,
Brandon Merle, Benjamin Nordmark,
Tyler Reynolds, Peter Slye, Richard Slye

Sympathy to:

Beverly Archer & family on the
passing of her husband,
Rev. Voigt Archer
Judy Sugar-Giordano & family on the passing
of her niece, Kristin Hebblethwaite Walter
Family & friends of Betty Morrow
Janet & Rev. Knapp on the passing of
her sister, Arleene Koerner

Of Continued Concern:

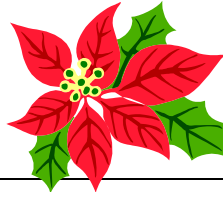
Harold Crandon, Helen Falge, Gerry Foster, Sally
Graham, Oscar Jensen, Rebecca Jensen, Patty
Maxwell, Justin Taylor, Norma Widmann, Robert
Yeddo

Remember Those at Home and at Care Facilities:

*Patricia Berry, Joan Foster,
Mildred Long, Shirley McMahon*

Diane Allen – Central Park #118 PT
Bill Barrett – Sedgwick Heights #124A
Charles Bordwell – Brookdale Liverpool #53
Sharyn Brown – Sedgwick Heights #306B
Gertrude Collins – Loretto-Cunningham #936
Marjorie Dence – McHarrie Pointe #513
Jack Ferguson – Loretto-Cunningham #517
Barbara Johnston – Van Duyn #455
Lois Minnoe – Syracuse Home #304
Ernestine Parry – Syracuse Home #107
Jim Tudman – McHarrie Pointe #317
Patricia Tudman – Syracuse Home #223

**The Christmas Poinsettias
December 2020**



Given by...

In Memory of...

- ✦ David Alexander, Jeffrey Rice
- ✦ Eldred & Jean Disinger
- ✦ Charles & Mildred King, Walter & Janis Richmond
- ✦ Larry Dreher, Doreen Dreher, Callie Dreher
- ✦ Parents: Jane & Edwin Dean
- ✦ Loved Ones
- ✦ John Gagnon
- ✦ Lysbet Galey, Ruth & Gary Wells
- ✦ Martha & Wesley Gridley
- ✦ Martha & Wesley Gridley

- ✦ Fred Herbs and Scott Herbs
- ✦ Harry & Martha Crowell, Margaret Shulz,
Earnest & Grace Schelling, Minnie Bossert,
Paul & Ethlene Schelling, Ruth Morgan,
Nanny Hayes, Mark Johnson,
Margaret Rossow, George Crowell
- ✦ Helen Hurley
- ✦ Parents: Mr. & Mrs. Bud Maxwell and
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Sanders
- ✦ Rev. Voigt Archer
- ✦ Husband, Irwin and son, Alan Jay
- ✦ Alice, Don, Donna & Chuck Ward, Mildred Beebe
- ✦ Willard Olin, Rev. Voigt Archer
- ✦ Betty Morrow
- ✦ Jeffrey Rice, son
Afton & Ferris Elhage, Eileen's parents
- ✦ James & Elaine Schmidt
- ✦ Bob & Jean Disinger, Don & Naomi Stowe,
Gary & Ruth Wells, Lysbet Galey
- ✦ Loved Ones
- ✦ Joe Wilkinson
- ✦ Fred & Dorothy Ward, Carol Ward Smith

- Karen L. Cook
Grandchildren
Carolyn Dreher
Carolyn Dreher
Lori Driscoll
Martha DuBois
Kristin, Ashley & Cara Gagnon
Nieces & Nephews
Daughters: Dawn, Sharon, Susan
Grandchildren: Brian, Elaina, Corinne,
Taylor, Tyler, Kayla, Robert
The Herbs Family
Candace L. Johnson

- Susan Lison
Patty & Rocky Maxwell

- Patty & Rocky Maxell
Janet E. McIntosh
Norma Newman
Jessie Olin
Jessie Olin
Ray & Eileen Rice

- Children & Grandchildren
Barb & Dave Stowe

- Don & Sue Vanderveer
Joyce Wilkinson
Joan Wolcik & Family

Given by...

In Honor of...

- ✦ Grandchildren: Molly & Madelyn Giufre,
Wesley & Lila Johnson
- ✦ Don & Sue Vanderveer
- ✦ Children & Grandchildren

- Candace L. Johnson
- Children & Grandchildren
Joyce Wilkinson



January Eureka! Book Club on Tuesday, January 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Join us via zoom for our discussion. We will have more information on the book after our December 29 meeting. If you would like to join us online, please contact us at secretary@bvillefirstumc.org

2020 Committee Chairpersons

If you were a committee chairperson in 2020, your annual report for the year is due into the church office by January 22, 2021. Thank you!!

2020 Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2021 are now available. Those who normally use the boxed sets may pick them up in the church office (M-F, 9 am to 2 pm). There are many boxes still unassigned. Please keep in mind that these boxes are already paid for by the church so don't be shy if you would like to have a box even if just for the special Sunday offerings throughout the year. Just leave your name on the sheet provided or email (secretary@bvillefirstumc.org) to let us know. Please remember the 'Initial Offering' helps to offset the cost of the envelopes.



Thanks and Praise

Many thanks to all of my church family for your kind thoughts and prayers during this difficult time, the loss of my best friend and husband of fifteen years, Frederick W. Fuess, III (Terry). He was the kindest and most loving person who made friends easily, especially with children. He will be sorely missed by everyone who knew him.

Sincerely, Mary Eleanor Slye

Thank you to all my wonderful friends at BFUMC for prayers, calls, cards, and many other deeds of kindness during Voigt's illness and following his passing. Your love has been a blessing. Fondly, Beverly Archer



A Poem for the New Year

*Heed the elegant phrase that comes from above,
“Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.”
How tempting to focus on settling scores,
On morbidly picking at yesterday’s sores.
How easy to fret about what lies ahead,
Proper actions to take and right words to be said.
But who knows the future? It may never come.
And to live in the past is both futile and glum.
Heed the elegant phrase that comes from above!
“Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.”*

G.W. Knapp



01/01 Brian DeLola
01/03 Susan Lison
01/04 Karen Burke
Brett Pickett
01/05 Melba Lindsey
01/07 Virginia Johnson
01/08 Clara Trew
01/09 Lauren Witter

01/10 Carolyn Dreher
Joe Kenney
01/11 Jackie Anderson
Allison Jennings
01/13 Bill Brotherton
01/14 Nancy Brotherton
Judy Herbs
01/15 Kate Rinn
Chris Wooldridge
01/17 Emerson Derby
Dan DiRenzo
Lisa Schultz
01/19 Janet Ramseyer
01/20 Mary Eleanor Slye
David Smith

01/21 Jennie Hewitt
Donald Metrick
01/22 Jill Evans
01/23 Brianna Stewart
01/24 Olivia Oyer-Halen
Ray Rice
01/28 Stephen Brooks
Tom DiRenzo
01/29 Mildred Long
01/30 Cooper Cieslesz
Janet Hawley
01/31 Allie Derby



Read the Bible in a Year

Dedicated to Tom McMahon who started this wonderful way of staying connected every day through the year.

“RENEW A GOOD HABIT ... Daily Bible Reading. Sometimes it’s hard to get into the habit of reading the Bible. Here is an easy way to get started. Just pick up a copy of the 2021 Daily Reading Guide. They are in the back of the sanctuary, in the Chapel, outside the church office and inside the church office. You should be able to find one. The guide will lead you through reading the whole Bible in a year. Now that’s a GOOD HABIT.”

Please Note Change of Address:

If you have a copy of the church directory that is older than 10/28/20, please note that Beverly Frank’s address is incorrect. Her correct address is: 24870 Magnolia Circle, Millsboro, DE 19966.

