

The Visitor



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Normal Church Office Hours:
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PLEASE NOTE:

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

[Church Calendar](#)



From the Pastors Desk

"A Sheepdogs Tale"

“The Lord said to Moses, “Send some men to explore the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the Israelites. From each ancestral tribe send one of its leaders.”

So at the Lord’s command Moses sent them out from the Desert of Paran.

Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, “We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it.”

But the men who had gone up with him said, “We can’t attack those people; they are stronger than we are.” And they spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored. They said, “The land we explored devours those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size. We saw the Nephilim there (the descendants of Anak come from the Nephilim). We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them.” Numbers 13:1-2, 30-33

It is November, and that means Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving is one of the many things that COVID-19, elections and their regulations cannot stop! Yes, COVID-19 and government regulations may change the way we celebrate, they may limit some of our traditions, but NOTHING can keep God’s people from giving thanks. That is nothing accept our attitude and point of view.

Attitude and point of view can make all the difference in our life journey. In the story above the Lord instructs Moses to send spies into the Promised Land to scout out their next move. Leaders are selected from every tribe – you would do well to read the entire 13th chapter of Numbers again as a refresher.

Twelve leaders go in to spy out the land and its inhabitants. All Twelve see the same things, but their attitudes and point of view are VASTLY different! Two of them, Joshua and Caleb see the same obstacles as the other 10, but they see them from God’s perspective. They remember that God has done great things for them in the past, and they believe that God can and will do great things again! The decision to go with fear instead of faith costs the entire people of Israel a generation as they wander and die in the wilderness.

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CONGREGATIONAL CARE & FAMILY MINISTRIES



As you gather around the table this thanksgiving – whether it be with friends or family – in a small gathering or virtually -- or if you find yourself helping and serving others – be sure to include everyone in the table grace!

It can be as simple as taking turns around the table to “give thanks”. Here are some prayers – traditional and not-so-traditional to guide you this Thanksgiving.

Traditional Prayer

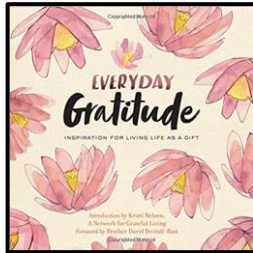
For each new morning with its light; for rest and shelter of the night; for health and food; for love and friends; for everything thy goodness sends, we give you thanks
– Ralph Waldo Emerson

Superman Prayer

Thank you Lord for giving us food! Thank you Lord for giving us food! For the food that we eat here! and the friends that we meet here! Thank you Lord for giving us food!



Eureka! Book Club will meet via ZOOM on Tuesday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m.



In November, we will meet via ZOOM on **Tuesday, November 17** to discuss Everyday Gratitude. I am giving each participant a **free copy** as a small gesture of my gratitude for all that you do to make this book club successful. Please come in the office for the book or make arrangements for it to be delivered to you. While we have been on a Pandemic-induced hiatus, I expect us to get back to some form of normal this month. You will receive a ZOOM invitation in advance of the meeting.

Our December meeting will be **Tuesday, December 15** at 6:30 p.m. We will discuss The Boy, the Mole, the Fox, and the Horse by Charlie Mackey

I will give thanks to the Lord because of his righteousness; I will sing the praises of the name of the Lord Most High. Psalm 7:17

- Pastor Jeff



Of Continued Concern:

Rev. Voigt Archer, Harold Crandon
Suzanne Ellis, Helen Falge, Gerry Foster,
Sally Graham, Oscar Jensen, Robert Yeddo

Remember Those at Home and at Care Facilities:

*Patricia Berry, Joan Foster, Mildred Long,
Shirley McMahon, Bob & Lois Minnoe*

Diane Allen – Central Park #118 PT
Charles Bordwell – Brookdale Liverpool #53
Sharyn Brown – Sedgwick Heights #306B
Gertrude Collins – Loretto-Cunningham #936
Marjorie Dence – McHarrie Pointe #513
Jack Ferguson – Loretto-Cunningham #334
Barbara Johnston – Van Duyn #455
Lois Minnoe – Syracuse Home #304
Betty Morrow – Loretto-Cunningham #1015
Ernestine Parry – Syracuse Home #107
Jim Tudman – McHarrie Pointe #317
Patricia Tudman – Syracuse Home #323

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 Frank & family on the
passing of her sister, Carol Smith
Clarabelle (Wayne) Parker on the
passing of their daughter, Emily Parker
Dave & Ann Horan and family on the
passing of his brother, Robert Horan
Janet Wojnovich & family on the passing
of her son, Michael Wojnovich

Friends & Neighbors:

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

Peter Allen, Diane Allen's husband
Tony Castelluzzo, friend of Alice Nykaza
Don Child, Stephanie Smith's uncle
Barbara Church, Harlow Kisselstein's sister
Brent Ellsworth, Candy Johnson's nephew
Joseph Disotell, friend of Pam Fallesen
Richard Greer, Dave Greer's brother
Marjorie Heck, Shari Mudge's mother
Scott Kent, Diane Eastman's brother
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
Colyn Thompson, Alice Nykaza's nephew
Isobella Vecchio, friend of Ron Waterbury
Kristin Hebblethwaite Walter,
Judy Sugar-Giordano's niece
Leona Vallier, cousin of Pam Fallesen

UNYC DIRECTOR OF STEWARDSHIP

Rev. Susan M. Ranous, Deacon of Stewardship

WebMD has this to say about food insecurity: “Most people can go to the grocery store and buy the food they need, but not everyone can get enough healthy food easily. This is called food insecurity, and it can look different for different people. . . **Low food security** is when the food you eat is lower-quality or isn’t very appealing, and you don’t have many choices. But you typically get enough food. **Very low food security** is when you can’t get food when you need to or you have to eat less because you don’t have money or other ways to get it.” It goes on to say that food insecurity can lead to lifelong illness such as heart disease, diabetes and cancer. It also affects children’s health.

As a United Methodist Deacon ordained to justice, I was very interested in a recent article reporting a decision made by New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, extending SNAP benefits to college students, older persons and others. This decision involves, in part, the ability to apply, the length of the application, etc.

We are fortunate in the community of Baldwinsville to have a Food Pantry that is housed and run by our very own church, ably led by a multitude of volunteers that assure that persons who are in need in our community are able to receive healthy foods. Not everyone is as fortunate!

There are college students who, because of the tuition, books and other costs don’t have enough money to pay for healthy meals, which leaves them either (1) hungry; or (2) eating unhealthy foods. Their studies may suffer. This food insecurity could easily lead not only to hunger or ill health, but an inability to learn and study, which could lead to more time spent to accomplish the necessary classes, lower grades, and the inability to get a well-paying job.

Food insecurity is an issue that I believe really shouldn’t be part of our country. US News says that the United States is a “North American nation that is the world’s most dominant economic and military power.” How are children going without food, families living with unhealthy eating habits and scores of people, from babies to the elder, unable to obtain good food?

The founder of Methodism, John Wesley, had the viewpoint that plant-based eating was the healthiest form of eating; and some of that was due to his belief in creation care and the ultimate care for animals, but it was also strongly based on his belief that people who eat healthily and have healthy eating habits would be practicing a strong spiritual practice and have good health and a connection with God.

I believe that we, as United Methodists and as Christians, must work toward an eradication of food insecurity, both low and very low food insecurity, to assure that all persons, of all ages, of all socio-economic backgrounds have sufficient healthy food on a regular, recurring basis. May it be so!

- Rev. Susan M. Ranous

Think on These Things

Philippians 4:8

*Think on the true... God's gifts to us untarnished
by ignorance, cruel malice or slick guile.*

*Think on the honorable that in our living
banishes the crude and tawdry with a smile.*

*Think on the just, which does not take advantage
of others' flaws or weaknesses in life.*

*Think on the pure, the heart and mind unblemished
by yearnings that engender moral strife.*

*Think on the lovely, those things bathed in beauty,
Enriching any place or any time.*

*Think on the gracious, touch of God's own essence,
transforming the mundane to the sublime.*

*Think on the excellence that our God sets before us,
a challenge for enlightened wills to meet.*

*Think long upon a human life praiseworthy...
a life that fears no final judgment seat.*

G.W. Knapp

(from page 1)

We have just completed a glorious celebration of our 150 years in the sanctuary at 17 West Genesee Street in Baldwinsville. Yes, we face giants in our day! COVID-19, national elections and unrest, recession and an economy that seems tenuous. BUT brothers and sisters, we serve a Mighty God who is able to do exceedingly abundantly more than all we can ask or imagine! The question for me this Thanksgiving season is, “Am I going to see things from the perspective of my limitations, or will I see things from the vantage point of our awesome God and all that God has done, and is ready to do among us?” As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord – let us lean in and see what God will do with us.

Come and join us online or in person for worship this Sunday morning at 9:00 A.M. for our Heritage worship service featuring our choir and familiar hymns, or at 11:00 A.M. for our new Contemporary worship featuring Nairobi Smith leading worship. We will save you a seat (even if it is on your couch).

Serving Christ with You, Pastor Bill Mudge

WOW! – Did you know . . . ?

Sophia Cavalieri, B’ville Cross Country –
finished 3rd against Fayetteville-Manlius;
finished 14th against Cicero-North Syracuse

(If we have overlooked someone, please let us know)



11/01 Barbara Ruel	11/05 Sally Graham	11/19 India Dancil
Pam Yeddo	Douglas Smith	11/20 Anne Simonds
Robby Eastman	Fred Fuess	Andrew Turner
11/02 Steve Ranous	11/06 Bryan Reynolds	Alan Lindsey, Jr.
11/03 Alicia Baldwin	Pat Kline	11/21 Bill Barrett
Stephanie Smith	11/08 Davion Frank	Eric Hildreth
Holly Abbott	11/11 Marv Joslyn	11/22 Mary Joncas
	Robert DiRenzo	11/23 Madelyn Ransiear
	11/12 David Marsell, Jr.	11/24 Ava Metrick
	11/13 Rev. Voigt Archer	Martha DuBois
	Bonnie Kisselstein	11/26 Rachel Brown
	11/14 Rocky Maxwell	11/27 Jake Falconer
	11/16 Kara Johnson	Cayden Hines

Thanks and Praise

Many thanks to all who gifted the Baldwinsville Community Food Pantry in memory of Eric Sevak. Blessings to all! Carole & Bob Sevak

United Methodist Women

A big thank you to all the women who mailed me their U.M.W. pledge this year. I really appreciate your cooperation in supporting our mission projects. You're the best! Blessings, Martha DuBois, U.M.W. Treasurer