

The Visitor



Senior Pastor

Rev. William Mudge 315-292-0850

Congregational Care & Family Ministries

Rev. Jeff Hodge 315-383-4384

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Gordon Knapp 315-200-1250

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Music Director

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Rod Porter 315-247-7426

Treasurer

George Ramseyer 315-638-8177

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Church Office: 315-635-6442

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

[Church Calendar](#)



From the Pastor's Desk

“Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else. Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not treat prophecies with contempt but test them all; hold on to what is good, reject every kind of evil. May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it. Brothers and sisters, pray for us.”

1 Thessalonians 5:15-25 NRSV

I hope that you were able to join us for some of the wonderful weekend that we just enjoyed at the Baldwinsville First United Methodist Church! Last month I used this space to trumpet the joy and fellowship enjoyed at our (First Annual?) Fall Fete. The momentum continued this week with celebrations with Friday Night Pizza and Praise, SAMASAN, Trunk or Treat and Sunday morning worship.

Our SAMASAN family hosted the Baldwinsville Community Band-they were wonderful! The apple deserts shared with many guests launched what promises to be a grace-filled autumn. Our parking lot was invaded Saturday evening with all manner of critter and creature! Children of all ages were blessed with laughter and games and a safe comfortable place to mingle and trick-or-treat. It was a beautiful evening. Sunday found us in the beginning of our annual Stewardship Campaign. Our Finance and Stewardship Team will gather pledges for the next few weeks and produce a spending plan for the coming year. The Spirit of God rested on us as we sang and studied and laughed together, giving thanks for the saints who poured out into our lives and prayed that God would direct our paths as we pour into the present and future disciples here in Baldwinsville and around the world.

I can smile and say with our Psalmist – “My cup runneth over!” As we move into this season of Thanksgiving let me ask you – is your cup half empty or half full, or is it running over? The Apostle in chains encourages us in the text above from 1 Thessalonians to **“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances:”** I am convinced that our happiness depends on our willingness to be thankful **IN**, not necessarily **FOR**, all circumstances. Are we willing to rejoice in these “good old days” together? If we can, God’s Spirit will continue to lead us deeper! I am excited to see what God will do next in our growing church family!

Come and join us for worship this Sunday morning at 9:00 A.M. for our Heritage worship service featuring our choir and familiar hymns. Stop in for Praise and Contemporary worship at 6:00 P.M. on Friday nights. We have pizza and fellowship and a great time together! It has been exciting to have our church family returning and worshipping together, but both of these services will be available on-line through Facebook and YouTube. Come and join the fun. We’ll save you a seat!

Serving Christ with You, Pastor Bill Mudge

CONGREGATIONAL CARE & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Rev. Jeff Hodge, Congregational Care & Family Ministries

November 2022



As you gather around the table this thanksgiving – whether it be with friends or family --- 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 ideas:

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

Bless us, O Lord, and these thy gifts which we are about to receive, through Thy bounty through Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.



Not so traditional prayer ideas:

Superman Prayer (sung to the Theme from Superman)

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!

Addam's Family Prayer - Na na na nah (*snap fingers twice*) Na na na nah (*snap fingers twice*)
Na na na nah (*sing three times then snap fingers twice*)



We thank the Lord for giving the food we need for living
Because we really need it and we like it too!

We're thirsty and we're hungry, want something in our tummy
The food looks mighty yummy, and so we thank the Lord.

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Special Praise & Thanksgiving Service & Celebration **Friday, November 18 at 6:00 p.m.**

Our Pizza and Praise Service becomes “Turkey & Praise”
as we celebrate Thanksgiving together
with song, praise, food, and fellowship.



Of Continued Concern:

Joyce Berube, Suzanne Ellis, Sally Graham,
Pam & Rob Hack, Dave Horan, Elijah Huling,
Pat Kline, Jim Larmondra, Janet McIntosh,
Shirley McMahon, Cheryl Metrick,
Justin Taylor, Robert Yeddo

Friends & Neighbors:

Peter Armstrong,
nephew of Barb Stowe & Sue Vanderveer

Francis Bliven, Julia Bliven's husband
Larry Disotell, friend of Pam Fallesen
Richard Greer, Dave Greer's brother
Marjorie Heck, Shari Mudge's mother
William Hobart, friend of the Kisselsteins
Dana Kaiser, Donna Foster's son
Jim Kelley, stepfather of Pastor Jeff
Richard Marks, friend of Joan Foster
Robert Metrick, Cheryl Metrick's nephew
Blakely Nowicki, Kisselstein family
Doris Picco, Andy Picco's mother
Zachary Thomas, grandson of Mary Thomas
Lisa Wilson & family, Judy Herbs' niece
Isobella Vecchio, friend of Ron Waterbury

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:

Gertrude Collins, Pat & Rudy Kline and families
on the passing of their son and brother,
Douglas Collins

Remember Those at Home and at Care Facilities:

Joan Foster, Mildred Long

Bill Barrett – Sedgwick Heights #124A

Charles Bordwell – Brookdale #53

Sharyn Brown – Sedgwick Heights #332B

Gertrude Collins – Loretto-Cunningham #936

Marjorie Dence – McHarrie Pointe #513

Mary Dow – Park Terrace

Jack Ferguson – Loretto-Cunningham #517

Barbara Johnston – Van Duyn #457

Ernestine Parry – Syracuse Home #107

Mary Eleanor Slye – McHarrie Pointe #401

Jim Tudman – Syracuse Home #204



SAMASAN: Book Party for Christmas Bureau

On Saturday, November 12 at 7:00 p.m., in the church dining room, there will be a Book Donation Benefit Party for the Baldwinsville Christmas Bureau.

Please bring one or more new books or books in excellent condition, for men, women, or children of any age, that has non-religious content.

There will be light refreshments, fellowship and a fun group activity using the book titles. You do not have to be a SAMASAN member; everyone is invited! We hope that you can attend.

If you would like to attend, please contact: Nancy Brotherton (315-399-0212), Ellen Jennings (315-638-1377), or Nancy Smith (315-635-7145).

Through Sunday, December 12, book donations can be placed in a drop-off box **INSIDE**, at either the Church Front door or the Church Office door. Thank you!

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**A Beading Workshop at the Baldwinsville Public Library Community Room
Sunday, November 13 at 1:00 p.m.**

Come and enjoy a fun afternoon with friends creating your own Protestant Prayer Beads, at the Baldwinsville Public Library’s Beading Workshop, with the Beading Buddies Group and the BFUMC Eureka! Book Club.

The BFUMC Eureka! Book Club is attending this Beading Workshop, so that we can make and bring our Protestant Prayer Beads to the BFUMC Eureka! Book Club meeting, on Tuesday, January 24, 2023, 6:30 pm, Book: “The Lord’s Prayer, The Meaning and Power of Prayer that Jesus Taught” by Adam Hamilton (2021).

All are welcome.

Please RSVP soon to Pastor Jeff (jhodge312@yahoo.com) and Nancy Smith (nsmit24@twcny.rr.com) if you would like to attend the 11/13/22 1:00 pm Beading Workshop at the Baldwinsville Library. Further details will be provided upon sign up, including a list of materials to bring and where to find them.

Hanging of the Greens



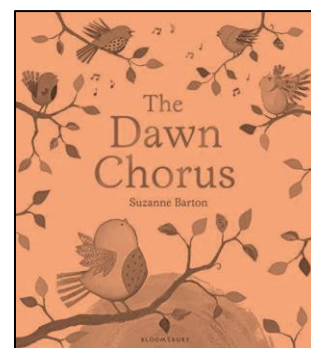
It's that time of year! While it may seem early, Sunday, November 27 is the first Sunday of Advent. We will be decorating the Sanctuary after the conclusion of the service on **Sunday, November 20**. This will be prior to Thanksgiving, which is on November 24.

"Many hands make light the work." We need some men to raise the greens, and anyone who could help, to arrange and fluff the stuff. Thank you for bringing the beauty of the Season to the Sanctuary.

ADVENT STUDY

"The Dawn Chorus"

An Advent Devotional on the Wonder of Birds
will be held on zoom, beginning on
Wednesday, November 30 at 6:30 p.m.



This a joint study for Baldwinsville First and Pennellville UMC. **There is no cost, but you must be registered to participate.** Please sign up with your name and e-mail address in the dining room or office by Wednesday, November 23.

Songbirds know a thing or two about singing into darkness: in the wee hours of the morning, before the sun appears over the horizon, they begin a great symphony that scientists call the "dawn chorus."

Advent is the church's dawn chorus. In this devotional designed for families of all shapes and sizes, we walk with scripture through the season's four weeks of hope, peace, joy, and love, singing into shadows and looking to the light.

A notice will be sent weekly with an agenda/study plan as well as some supplemental materials.

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|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Wednesday, November 30 at 6:30 p.m.: | Week One: HOPE |
| Tuesday, December 6 at 6:30 p.m.: | Week Two: PEACE |
| Wednesday, December 14 at 6:30 p.m.: | Week Three: JOY |
| Tuesday, December 20 at 6:30 p.m. | Week Four: LOVE |

When you sign up for the class, I will send you a digital file. Paper copies of the study are available in the office.



The Children's Christmas Bazaar
Saturday, December 10, 2022!
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Children's Bazaar

We welcome the following donations:

- Gift bags and tissue paper
- Gifts for men, women, and children of all ages

We also need the help of all available “elves”! Please let us know if you can help in any of the following ways:

- **Bake** for the parent's waiting room Coffee House (bring baked goods to the church by **Friday, Dec. 9**)
- **“Man”** the Coffee House table and keep the coffee pot full (**Saturday, December 10: 8:45am – noon**)
- Be a **gift wrapper** (**Saturday, Dec. 10: 9am-noon**)
- **Supervise** the entrance to the shopping area to let children in to shop.
- Help **set up** the multi-purpose and dining rooms on **Friday, December 9 (about 11:30 – after Nursery School)**
- Help **clean up** on **Saturday, December 10 after the bazaar**

And especially for youth, grades 6 and above:

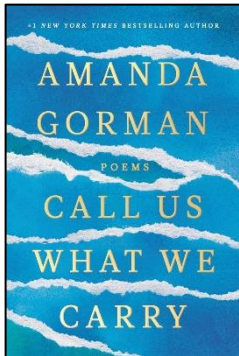
Be a shopping “elf” to help children choose appropriate gifts,
the children especially love to shop with the teens!

Please let Janet Brooks (JBrooks48@aol.com) or Jeff Hodge (JHodge312@yahoo.com) know how you can help with this fun activity. It has been on hold since the Pandemic and the children love to be able to shop in secret and surprise family and friends on Christmas.

Veterans Day

In celebration of Veterans Day, the altar guild would like to honor family members who have served in the Armed Forces. The congregation is encouraged to bring a small framed phot of their loved one(s) in uniform, to be placed on the altar rail for the November 13 Heritage service. We're hoping to represent all branches and eras of service.

Eureka! Book Club Poetry Reading AND a Poetry Book Discussion Meeting



On Tuesday, November 15 at 6:00 p.m. (note earlier start time), local poets Mary Coogan, Pastor Gordon Knapp, Pastor Bill Mudge, and Dana Rounds will read one of their original poems.

Following the Poetry Reading there will be a discussion of poet and activist Amanda Gorman's poetry book "Call Us What We Carry", focusing on her "The Hill We Climb" poem in the book. As the youngest poet to write and read a poem at an Inauguration, Amanda presented this poem at President Biden's Wed, January 20, 2021, Inauguration.

Enjoy the 6 minutes video link: [Amanda Gorman reads "The Hill We Climb" at Biden's inauguration - CBS News](#)

Books are available to borrow for free at the Baldwinsville Public Library's Circulation Desk, just ask for the Eureka! Book Club's November Book Selection, "Call Us What We Carry" book by Amanda Gorman.

Please bring your thoughts on "The Hill We Climb" poem and/or your favorite passage/poem from Amanda Gorman's poetry book.

Kindly RSVP to Pastor Jeff jhodge312@yahoo.com, meeting hosts: Mary Coogan marycoogan76@gmail.com, Nancy Smith nsmit24@twcny.rr.com.

*"Books of Poetry and Wisdom" in the Bible:
Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon.*

The Longest Night - A Service of Remembrance and Hope

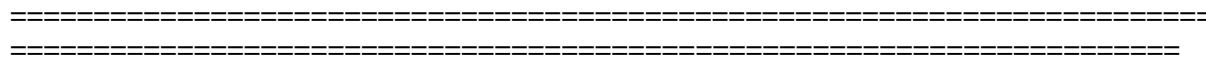
This candle lighting service is extended to all people in the Baldwinsville Community. On Sunday, December 4 at 2:00 p.m., the Hands of Hope Group will once again host a remembrance service in the church Sanctuary.



If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, the holidays can be a difficult time and we need the space and time to acknowledge our sadness and concern and to know that we are not alone. This is a special time to remember that person and light a candle in their memory.

If you would like, come early so you may print your loved one's name on paper and set a framed picture on the altar table before the service begins. Fellowship in the dining room after the service with light refreshments.

If you would like to make memorial donations for flowers, candles, cookies, or expenses, please contact Karen Picco (652-2917) or Lisa (635-6442).



Thanks and Praise

All our Fall Rummage Sale volunteers worked so hard and we had lots of laughs and told great stories. On behalf of the UMM and UMW thank you so much for volunteering and bringing your "treasures" to the sale. Special shout out to co-chairs Wayne Gilbert and Dave Horan. I'm very proud to announce a new sales record of \$4171.40!

From my heart to yours, God Bless, Mickie Lorenz, Co-Chair

Thank you, folks, for your outpouring of support after Oscar left us last May. Your cards and calls have been much appreciated! I thank Marianne, Carrie, and Susan Lison for getting me out of the house for special events. Bless you all, Rebecca Jensen

SAVE THE DATE!

LIVE NATIVITY – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

This year's Live Nativity is going to have a special angle.
Save the date to help or attend – and stay tuned for details!



11/01 Barbara Ruel
 Pam Yeddo
 Robby Eastman
 11/02 Steve Ranous
 11/03 Alicia Baldwin
 Stephanie Smith
 Holly Abbott

11/05 Sally Graham
 Douglas Smith
 11/06 Pat Kline
 Bryan Reynolds
 11/08 Davion Frank
 11/11 Marv Joslyn
 Robert DiRenzo
 11/12 David Marsell, Jr.
 11/13 Bonnie Kisselstein
 11/14 Rocky Maxwell
 11/16 Kara Johnson
 Lorelei Abdella

11/20 Andrew Turner
 Anne Simonds
 Alan Lindsey, Jr.
 11/21 Bill Barrett
 11/22 Mary Joncas
 11/23 Madelyn Ransiear
 11/24 Ava Metrick
 Martha DuBois
 11/27 Jake Falconer
 Cayden Hines



POINSETTIAS

If you wish to order a plant to be in honor of or in memory of someone, please use this form or call the church office ***no later than December 2***. You may also place your order in the offering plate on Sunday mornings. Any questions, call the church office (635-6442).

POINSETTIAS: (\$8.50 per plant) No. of plants: _____ Total: _____

(PLEASE print neatly)

Name: _____ Telephone No. _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

You can bring your money to the church office or mail it. Make your check payable to: *First United Methodist Church, 17 W. Genesee St., Baldwinsville, NY 13027*