



**North Main Street United Methodist Church**  
**316 North Main Street, Gloversville, New York 12078**  
**"Love Grows Here"**  
**Church Office 518-725-7323**  
[nmainstumc@gmail.com](mailto:nmainstumc@gmail.com)

**MARCH/APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER**

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*All Services are on Facebook as well as our Website, [www.nmsumc.org](http://www.nmsumc.org).*

I wanted to talk about New Year's Resolutions...you know that thing we do, listing the things that we'll accomplish in the New Year. I don't know about you, but, for me, these are usually things I wasn't able to accomplish in the prior year, so with the coming of a new year, everything would change, and I'd be able to do it. Most of us quit within the first week, some make it a month and perhaps 10% of us actually keep their resolutions.

Should we be surprised? I don't think so. I started wondering if I'm unsuccessful because my New Year's Resolutions are often all about me: what I need, what I want, what I think I should do, and all the I, I, Is. And that leads me to The Wesley Covenant Prayer. The first lines of that prayer say: "I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee." This is a completely different slant. No longer all about me, me, me, but about God (thine, thou, thee).

An article on this prayer in UMC Discipleship by Steve Manskar says that this prayer "informed (Wesley's) theology and preaching." He expected the people called "Methodists" to pray this prayer at the beginning of each new year as a way of remembering and renewing their baptismal covenant. This is something we did at North Main Street UMC on January 12, 2025, Baptism of the Lord day. Baptism isn't something that is done and then forgotten; baptism leads us into a life of faith. This Covenant Prayer also isn't something we just say at the beginning of a new year and then forget. "It tells us that being a Christian is more a way of life than a system of beliefs." The Covenant Prayer describes the Jesus way of self-giving and self-emptying love. This way of living and loving is possible only in a community centered in the life and mission of the crucified and risen Jesus Christ. Whereas a New Year's Resolution is all about me, the Covenant Prayer is all about Jesus and how we fit in.

When we think of our New Year's resolutions, maybe we would be more successful if we took one of them at a time instead of trying to do all of them at once. Once we concentrate on one resolution at a time, we then have to rely on God to help us accomplish this and then move on to the next one. Only God can do everything at once. I pray that this message will serve as encouragement for each member of our congregation to be involved in their neighborhoods and to reach out to others. "What work does the Lord call on me to do today? What gifts can I share?"

Pastor Joyce

*Joyce Royal*

### **Food Pantry Report - January**

It was a very cold day for our pantry and I was glad that people did not come very early and wait in the cold. The turnout was again less than we had expected and less than last month. Our new computer entry system is working out great with little slowdown with entries. We were prepared for 85 families but we only had 54. We had 51 adults, 14 children and 52 seniors.

This month we gave out mixed meats which included chicken, hamburger, pork chops or fish sticks. We also had cheese, butter, and eggs. We gave out the dry bags that had the usual canned vegetables and fruit, along with peanut butter, rice mix, soup, boxes of graham crackers and fruit and nut mix. There were also some bags of almonds. There were the choices of cold cereal, juice, and shelf stable milk. As usual we will be restocking before the next month's pantry.

Our pet ministry is still doing very well. We had requests for 41 cats and 15 dogs. We have food in stock for next month also. We still have a small supply of diapers in assorted sizes for those requests.

Again, thanks to all those who donate to the funding of our pantry and those who work so hard to make our pantry a success. We thank God that we have the chance to help those in our community who are in need. Trying to keep the costs down while getting enough food items for those in need is ongoing. We are thankful for the grant money we have received and those who put the work into applying for them.

### **Food Pantry Report - February**

This was a strange month for our pantry. The weather was so bad on our usual pantry day that we tried to cancel that day and have it the next week. Pastor Joyce and I were there to cover for anyone who came on the 17<sup>th</sup>. I stayed until 1 and we had 17 families visit. We then had the regular pantry on the 24<sup>th</sup> and we had 32 visit that day. The total turnout was again less than we had expected and less than last month. We had a total of 49 families for the month with 45 adults, 12 children and 45 seniors.

This month we gave out Italian sausage patties, deli turkey, frozen ravioli, shredded cheese, and butter in the cold bags. We also had eggs which were very much appreciated. We gave out the dry bags that had the usual canned vegetables and fruit, along with peanut butter, pouches of beef stew, and noodles. There were the choices of cold cereal, juice, and shelf stable milk. As usual we will be restocking before the next month's pantry.

Our pet ministry is still doing very well. We had requests for only 16 cats and 6 dogs. We have food in stock for next month also. We still have a small supply of diapers in assorted sizes for those requests.

Again, thanks to all those who donate to the funding of our pantry and those who work so hard to make our pantry a success. We thank God that we have the chance to help those in our community who are in need. Trying to keep the costs down while getting enough food items for those in need is ongoing. We are thankful for the grant money we have received and those who put the work into applying for them.

Thank you,

*Edna Bennett*

## Free Lunch

This year (our 13th ) has started out very well. We have been ordering from the Regional Foodbank using our grant money. Our biggest problem is not having enough freezer and storage space! I'm still getting used to what the actual size of 20 lbs. of sliced deli turkey might be! We still do eat in or take out. They get a better meal if they eat in simply because some things are just too difficult to package to send out. We would love for more customers to eat in and we're grateful for the ones who do. They all sit and visit with those who might be lonely and wait on those who may have an issue with carrying their tray. As always, thank you to our monthly contributors and thank you to our fill- in help when we need it. Also, Thanks to the volunteers from North Bush/ Northville for taking charge on the fourth Monday of every month and filling in when needed. We thank God for always making sure we have enough no matter how many show up.

## WICS

We ended 2024 by donating bags to the women's shelter and to Haven of Hope along with a small cash donation to each. The bags contain personal items that a woman might need for a couple of nights when she leaves a difficult situation, sometimes with only the clothes on for back. We have also recently realized that a small number of men may also be in need of items so we make sure that we include bags for men and even children. We're hoping to have representatives from both places visit us when the weather gets better to explain what exactly their needs are.

We have also been discussing having a CLOTHING ONLY rummage sale in the Spring. We feel that clothing, bedding, towels and such are very easy to pack up and get rid of after the sale. We'll announce when we are ready to start accepting donations. Now might be a perfect time to sort through your closets!

We still have a number of pound cake and beer bread mixes, as well as a couple jars of seasoning from our Tastefully Simple party. Most all are \$10 each and you don't have to pay ANY shipping fees! Let me know if you're interested in purchasing anything. Thank you.

*Nancy Marsh*



Pastor Joyce and Nancy Marsh delivered nine bags of personal care items to Haven of Hope's director Pat Brookins. The bags are greatly appreciated as Haven of Hope assisted 21 women and 22 children last year which was an increase from the previous year.

**Glove City Coalition Annual Winterfest  
Gloversville Public Library – February 19th**

Tom Kevlin, our Trustee Chair, joined in his first Annual Winterfest by working with the children to make 30 tool boxes to take home



Sally Kwak and Jackie Capasso of North Main  
Showing how to make spinners and bookmarks

Here's Abra at the Winterfest enjoying  
the company of the Fulton County Sheriff's Office



**Mission Report**

This month we donated our Red Stocking Collection to Rise Against Hunger. Rise Against Hunger is a Nationwide Organization that helps fight hunger in Third World countries. Sam Jackling from the Broadalbin Presbyterian Church, with the help from the Broadalbin – Perth School District, collected money to purchase food to help this group. Tom and Val Kevlin, through the Broadalbin -Perth Lions Club, worked with about 150 other volunteers packaging roughly 42,000 meals to be used. We had a lot of fun and felt great after. Our Church donated \$104 from the Red Stocking Collection.

Valerie Kevin, Co-chair

## Birthdays

Ethel Lorenc – March 7  
Gay Brady – March 8  
Zachary Byrnes – March 12  
Sharon Rodrigue – March 19  
Beverly Bartlett – March 22  
Peter Schoonmaker – March 26  
Matthew Towne – March 30  
Teresia Davis – March 31

Carole Salvione April 2  
Dakota Rulison – April 11  
Don Williams – April 18  
Cheryl Bielli – April 19  
Joan Allen – April 24  
Sim Morey – April 28

## Popcorn Fundraiser \$3.00 a Bag



Available for purchase during coffee hour after church service

*\*White Cheddar*

*\*Buttery Caramel*

*\*Movie Theater Butter*



**Ash Wednesday**  
— Lent Begins

*March 5 at 4:00 Ash Wednesday Service in the chapel*

*April 17 at 4:00 Maundy Thursday Service in chapel*

*April 18 at 4:00 Good Friday Service in chapel with changing of outdoor cross*







# Friday Lenten Fish Fry

## TAKE OUT ONLY

Each Dinner only \$16

Tickets Available Pre-Sale Only



Fresh Fried or Baked Fish  
Served with a Baked Potato  
Cole Slaw and a Roll

North Main Street United Methodist Church  
316 N. Main Street, Gloversville, NY 12078

**April 11, 2025      3:00 – 6:00**

Questions or to Purchase Tickets

Call the Church Office at (518) 725-7323

# March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 10:30 Service in Sanctuary Communion	3 11:30 - 12:30 Free Lunch 1:15 Bible Study	4	5 Ash Wednesday 4:00 Service in Chapel with Ashes	6	7	8
9 10:30 Service in Sanctuary	10 11:30 - 12:30 Free Lunch 1:15 Bible Study	11	12	13	14 Food Pick up	15
16 10:30 Service in Sanctuary	17 11:30 - 12:30 Free Lunch 10: - 1:00 Food Pantry	18	19	20	21	22
23 10:30 Service in Sanctuary	24 11:30 - 12:30 Free Lunch 1:15 Bible Study	25	26	27	28 Food Pick up	29
30 10:30 Service in Sanctuary	31					

# April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 10:30 Service in Sanctuary Communion	7 11:30 - 12:30 Free Lunch 1:15 Bible Study	8	9 Captain's Meal	10	11 Food Pick up	12
13 Palm Sunday 10:30 Service in Sanctuary	14 11:30 - 12:30 Free Lunch 1:15 Bible Study	15	16	17 Maundy Thursday 4:00 Service in Chapel	18 Good Friday 4:00 Service in Chapel with changing of outdoor cross	19
20 Easter Sunday 10:30 Service in Sanctuary	21 11:30 - 12:30 Free Lunch 10 - 1:00 Food Pantry	22	23	24	25 Food Pick up	26
27 10:30 Service in Sanctuary	28 11:30 - 12:30 Free Lunch 1:15 Bible Study	29	30			