

# North Main Street United Methodist Church 316 North Main Street, Gloversville, New York 12078 "Love Grows Here" Church Office 518-725-7323

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## **MAY/JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER**

John 20:19-31

19 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!

Jesus arrives among a group of disciples who are scared for their lives; they have every right to be. They saw their leader crucified and are concerned that they might be next. It is perfectly understandable for them to feel scared, anxious, and nervous—anything but peaceful. The disciples respond by rejoicing in seeing the Lord, just as Jesus had told them that they would. Again, Jesus speaks a blessing of peace and tells them, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you. They were present during many of Jesus's miracles and they had seen what Jesus did, and now Jesus continues to further specify what it means to be sent, to make known the love of God. Like the disciples, We are creatures who crave certainty. We search for order to make sense of things, to understand the world, to organize all the data that comes to our awareness. We want a logical explanation to solve the problems that we encounter.

Faith defies that process. Faith is a mystery of the heart that the mind wants to solve. Still, we want faith to be shored up by certain evidences so that the leap of faith is a manageable one. In Easter season we celebrate the biggest mystery of faith: that Jesus died for the sins of the world and that he rose from the grave. This is the hardest one for us to grasp even compared with all the other stories we know about Jesus' healing miracles. We couldn't be there in the room when the risen Jesus appeared to the disciples. Followers of Jesus are resurrection people. We are people of Faith. And this is the story that is still a mystery to us, and yet we have faith that it is true. May fearless, joyous resurrection today be every bit as real and compelling for each of us as it was for the disciples that evening long ago. Amen

JOYCEROGAL



# **Palm Sunday**

Palm Sunday was even more special this year with the baptism of 9 month old Jehlani Boyer by Pastor David Smith. Church member Joan Allen was also baptized and Jehlani's parents, David and Aiden Boyer, along with Rebecca St. Louis, were welcomed into the church as new members.



Pastor Joyce holding Jehlani Boyer



Cake served at reception to welcome the new members

Easter Basket presented to Domestic Violence Program at Family Counseling Center



Mother's Day Gift Bags for Domestic Violence

# Lay Ministry at Wells House

The Certified Lay Servants of North Main St. UMC, James Medbury, Sally Kwak and Penna Smith, continue our ministry outreach at the Wells House Nursing Home. On April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 we saw the most residents in attendance. There were 19!! We did a little of Palm Sunday and ended with a resounding "Christ the Lord has Risen Today". The services are as much of a blessing to us as it is to them. We look forward to our services and seeing the residents on the third Tuesday every month.

#### Penna Smith

## **Fund Raising Team**

Results of the Lenten Fish Fry on April 11<sup>th</sup>: We raised \$2,058.00 including \$25.00 from an anonymous donation. The committee would like to especially thank all those who donated the food and supplies: to Tom and Pop our fish fryers: to Sally who prepared

food and supplies; to Tom and Ron our fish fryers; to Sally who prepared the potatoes; Jackie and Marilyn for helping with the cole slaw; Werner Paul for taking in and keeping track of the tickets; and to everyone else who sold and bought tickets. You all did a great job. Thank you all very much. It couldn't have happened without you.

The popcorn sales are off to a great start. I'm trying to contact McDonalds to see if we can have a fund raiser using their drive thru.

Yours in Service, *James Medbury* 

#### Free Lunch

Thanks to all of our financial and other support we are feeding about 50 people every Monday! Our freezers and cabinets are full with so many choices to offer. It's a great feeling to be able to help people as Jesus did. He wants us to continue the work as He taught us. It's very rewarding when we hear someone say "God bless you and the work you are doing. Thank you for being here"!

#### WICS

Our rummage sale has come and gone. I thank everyone who helped set up, sell, pack up and/or donated items. Having clothing only made it so much easier to handle. We made \$160 and then donated the remains to Northville Methodist Church for their thrift shop. I am currently taking orders from the Tastefully Simple Spring catalog. If you are interested in placing an order, please let me know by May 18. Every little bit helps as we raise money to help support women and children in our area. As usual, thank you all for your support.

Nancy Marsh

## **Food Pantry Report - March**

The weather was cold and damp for our pantry day. We had about 52 come through the pantry with 7 new. The turnout was again close to the totals we have been having lately. We had 52 families which Included 49 adults, 11 children and 52 seniors.

This month we gave out hot dogs, hamburger, deli turkey, frozen ravioli, shredded cheese, and butter in the cold bags. We also had eggs along with mini bagels which were very appreciated. We gave out the dry bags that had the usual canned vegetables and fruit, along with peanut butter, pork and beans, and elbow macaroni. 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 13 cats and 7 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 missed Anne this month as she had a fall and could not help. We thank God that we have the chance to help those in our community who are in need. We are thankful for the grant money we have received and those who put the work into applying for them.

## **Food Pantry Report - April**

The weather was very nice for our pantry day. We had 60 come through the pantry with 8 new. The turnout was a few more than the totals we have been having lately. Of the 60 families there were 55 adults, 25 children and 61 seniors.

This month we gave out boneless pork chops, breaded chicken fingers, frozen peaches, and butter in the cold bags. We did not have eggs this month. We gave out the dry bags that had the usual canned vegetables and fruit, along with peanut butter, jelly, pasta sauce mix, instant milk, and muffin mixes. 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 14 cats and 13 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 were glad that Anne was again able to help as we missed her last month. We thank God that we have the chance to help those in our community who are in need. We are thankful for the grant money we have received and those who put the work into applying for them.

Thank you,

Edna Bennett

### **Mission Team Report for March**

The Mission Team has been rather quiet for the most part. But we did just get a mailer from Heifer that said they would double our donations. With that in mind I purchased a Pig, Flock of Chicks and some Honeybees. This came to \$170 and everything will be doubled.

We want to continue to thank those who make our Prayer Shawls. They are beautiful and loved by all that have gotten them. I thank everyone who is donating to both Heifer and Second Sunday and ask that you keep doing it. If you know of anyone that can use any help, please let me know as we have our Second Fund. Also don't forget to help make Mother's Day Gift Bags for the Domestic Violence Women's shelter if you can.

Valerie Kevlin Mission Team Co-Chair

### **Bible Study**

Bible Study continues on Monday afternoons. Meeting is in the parlor starting at 1:15 Mondays except for the third Monday of the month which is Food Pantry day and makes it too long a day for those who are involved in both missions. Currently we are deeply into the study of Near Death Experiences based on the work of author John Burke. The study has evolved to both of Burke's books, Imagine Heaven and Imagine the God of Heaven. The study is open to anyone at any time. We use a combination of DVD, book reading and discussions. This is a topic that has impact on everyone who has ever wondered what happens to us when we die. It is interesting and inspiring, hope filled.

Sally Kwak

### **Birthdays**

Valerie Wilson – May 2

James Medbury – May 7

Nancy Marsh – May 16

Tom Kevlin – May 20

Joanne Robbins – May 21

Sandy Maceyka – May 21

June Parker – May 24

Jackie Capasso – May 27

Roger Trevett – June 5

Ron Parker – June 8

Nancy Follett – June 8

Bob Faville – June 28

## Anniversaries

Anne and Justin Boles – May 17 Joyce Royal and Werner Paul – May 19 Elaine and John Pickard – May 24 Trisha and Todd Byrnes – June 13



J	30	29	28	27	26 Memorial Day	25 20:30 Service in Sanctuary
	23 Food Pick-up	22	21	20 10:30 Lay Servants Service at Wells House	19 11:30 – 12:30 Free Lunch 10:00 – 1:00 Food Pantry	18 10:30 Service in Sanctuary
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