



North Main Street United Methodist Church  
316 North Main Street, Gloversville, New York 12078  
"Love Grows Here"

Church Office 518-725-7323 E-mail nmumc1@frontiernet.net

## NOVEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

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Dear Congregation at North Main Street UMC

Jesus spoke in parables many times to try to get his message through to the people. Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come. In New Testament times, a [wedding](#) was a very sacred and joyous thing. Some even lasted up to more than a week. When Jesus told this parable, many people were able to understand the picture he was trying to create because we've all done this, declined invitations. Sometimes our ill health or injury gets in the way; other times we are in sorrow. There are a whole host of reasons we decline invitations. There are so many ways God invites us to celebrate and then to serve. But it is easy for us to get side-tracked. Needing to work on Sundays can be a block to attending the celebration; having family responsibilities, even if they are sports or other social events, can get in the way. What have we gained by accepting God's invitation to the banquet? What have we lost? Jesus is still speaking to us today to come to the feast that has been prepared for each of us. We may even say to ourselves that we do not need anything. No one has to pray for me! All my prayers are answered! I don't need anything. Maybe, just maybe, we might be wrong? We think we have it all. We don't need to have others pray for us. We still maintain that the demands of living in today's "day and age" determine our responses. That may be the reason but isn't it wonderful that God does not use excuses to exclude us from God's love and goodness. God never declines our prayers, even though our impatience tells us that we want an answer and we want it right now. God does answer – we just have to be ready to listen. We just have to come to the banquet of God's healing love. We need to stop and say, "I am in the need of prayer". When God hears us and answers us saying, "Prayer is a way of you talking to me; sharing everything on your heart, your joys and your fears." There will never be a time when we are alone when we are in tune with God.

Today, more than ever, we need to take the time to come to the banquet that God has prepared for us. The world that is created for each of us is there for us to enjoy. When we get the invitation to come to the banquet that has been prepared for us, we need to respond in a positive way. We need to drop everything that seems to be important and come to the sacred and joyous event that God has put on for all of us. Worship can be an opportunity to consider again what it is that is worth occupying our minds and our time.

The Lord has given to each of us gifts and abilities. We are blessed by God with these gifts that we may share them every day to help others. In God's love and healing powers we are strengthened to be of service to others. North Main Street UMC is a missional giving church. God goes with us in our ministries. We do not need to brag about what we do because **God is with us wherever we are and knows our good works. Praise be to God who is present and walks by our side daily even when we sometimes fail to listen.** Amen

Pastor Joyce

*JOYCE ROYAL*

## PLEASE NOTE:

**Church Conference will be on Zoom" November 14 from 3 - 5 .. A link and/or phone no. will be provided soon.. All Committee chairs and officers are expected to attend along with Certified Lay Servants. Annual reports can be offered at that time also. We will be voting on Officers and Lay Speakers/Lay Servants and CLM..**

## WICS

Even with having no meetings for the past few months, we've still been able to do some fundraising. Currently, we are having a Tastefully Simple catalog party. This party is open until October 30<sup>th</sup>, but orders can be taken any time since I am now a consultant. If you would like a catalog or to place an order, you can call me at 518-762-7022. Your order can be shipped directly to you, so no worries about that. WICS will receive 20% of the total sales and will also get some free items to resell. You can also continue to order Terrilynn nuts and candy. All of these items make excellent holiday gifts.

Due to the pandemic, we have decided not to have our annual Election Day bake sale. We would like to ask that if you would have baked for or bought something from the sale, that you might consider just donating the amount of money that you would have spent doing so. The money raised from these events will be donated at the end of the year to places like Haven of Hope, the animal shelters, senior centers and domestic violence prevention. Thank you to those who have already donated and/or ordered any items. The amount of money we raise, of course, affects the amount of money we're able to donate.

## FREE LUNCH

Free Lunch continues giving out bag lunches. We've also made a donation to North Main to pay for the utilities that we use. We won't be offering a warming station this year on Halloween due to COVID. With colder weather coming, lunch will be a bit more challenging, but we'll figure it out. Thank you all for your support and donations.

*Nancy Marsh*

## PASTORAL CARE TEAM

September's prayer requests and cards sent out are starting to increase. For prayer requests, we had 13, and I sent out a total of 21 cards. Please call me if I missed a birthday or anniversary. Everyone enjoys receiving cards in the mail. I'd like you to also receive that good feeling.

*Carol B. Johnson*  
(518) 844-3354

## PRAYER CHAIN

As I have stated in "Pastoral Care Team," we had 13 prayer requests. Please call me if you have someone, even yourself, in need of prayers. These prayers can be for concerns, and even for prayers of thanksgiving for joys.

Do you pray? Why don't you join us and be a member on the Prayer Chain. It only takes a minute to add one or a few names in prayer. And, prayers work! Our Lord does take inspiration from our prayers and, the more prayers, the better. Of course, our Lord makes the final decision and when. So, add your name to our list of "prayer-ers."

*Carol B. Johnson*  
(518) 844-3354

## MEMBERSHIP TEAM

Nancy Marsh is our leader and I am working with her to get our paperwork up-to-date. We are collecting data on addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, birthdays and anniversaries. If you can help us out, it would be greatly appreciated. Just let one of us know any information needed to make our lists complete.

*Carol B. Johnson*

(518) 844-3354

*Nancy Marsh*

(518) 762-7022

## MISSIONS TEAM

Valerie Kevlin and I have done some wonderful deeds this year. As of this time, I'm waiting for a call back from Dell Puzzles. Earlier in the year, we had 5 boxes and some left over from last year. Pastor Joyce and James Medbury delivered them to nursing homes in Gloversville and Johnstown. Due to the COVID pandemic, they were greatly appreciated. Now I am waiting for new information. Because our church is non-profit and we give the puzzle books away to those in nursing homes, we can get a discount. This is the information I'm waiting to get a quote about.

I'd like to thank all those who knit and crochet the beautiful prayer shawls. Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, Valerie, Pastor Joyce and I blessed several prayer shawls which will be given out. Pastor Joyce told us that she has handed out over 35 and, every one of the prayer shawls that have been received, have been greatly appreciated.

Valerie Kevlin will share what she's been doing with Heifer International and the refunds from ink cartridges.

In our Lord's Service,

*Carol B. Johnson*



This month we made a purchase for the Heifer International. We purchased a pair of Mating Alpacas, a flock of Chickens, a flock of Ducks, a hive of Honeybees, and a gift of Clean Water. This all came to \$390.00. Thank you to all of you that continue to donate to our Second Sunday collection and the Heifer collection with your quarters.

Just a reminder, we are still collecting the HP ink cartridges and some Canon cartridges.

*Valerie Kevlin*

## Neighborhood Engagement Unit

The newly formed Neighborhood Engagement Unit, which is part of the Glove City Coalition, held its second neighborhood engagement in the Spring Street Park on Wednesday, October 21 from 2-4 PM. Pastor Joyce is the Clergy representative to this group and, together with Penna Smith and Judy Antonucci, 40 bags of food were handed out with notices in them as to our next Food Pantry. 10 other groups attended and bags were distributed throughout the neighborhood. The rain held off and it was a really great day with many people stopping by for food and training and to see what is available for services in Gloversville. Police Chief Clay and many other police officers were on hand to help with the house to house distribution.



**The beautiful new tablecloth was made by Karen Holly for special events.  
Thank you, Karen!**

## FOOD PANTRY REPORT

It was a chilly day for our pantry but we had a larger turnout than last month. We had 13 new families and 2 renewals for a total of 15 new families.

Pantry day we had 59 families attend with a total of 61 for the month thru 10/19. There were 100 adults, 43 children and 28 seniors. I noticed an increased number of young adults there this month,

The pet ministry had 49 families with 48 dogs and 97 cats.

All in all, it was a good day and with the inclusion of the Nar-Can training and Planned Parenthood tables outside those waiting had something to do. Ginger Cato from HFM Prevention tabled with us and provided 10 people with Nar-can training. Again, God has blessed our ministry.

*Edna Bennett*





## **RED BIRD MISSION Christmas Shoe Boxes**

Red Bird Mission, located in Beverly, Kentucky, is the most comprehensive mission effort of the United Methodist Church. Started in 1921 they have been providing ministries that are spiritual, physical, social and economic. Last year, volunteers from Endwell UMC delivered over 3,000 shoeboxes, along with bedding, school supplies, books and cleaning supplies. This year, their goal is to deliver at least 3,600 boxes! Calvary United Methodist Church in Latham has volunteered to be the local collection center and then the boxes will be trucked to Kentucky for distribution.

Judy Antonucci from NMSUMC is our local liaison and she will be picking up donated items and delivering them to Latham on October 28<sup>th</sup>. All items should be FULL size and in their original containers, as purchased. To help items fit in the box, purchase flat bottles of shampoo, hand lotion, etc. and small round cans of shaving cream. Judy has purchased plastic shoe boxes which will be labeled for a man, woman or child.

### Items needed are:

Comb and/or Hair Brush  
Shampoo  
Hand Lotion  
Deodorant  
Toothbrush and Toothpaste  
Chap Stick  
Full size Bar of Soap  
Washcloth  
Disposable Razors  
Shaving Cream  
Nail Care Items  
Socks  
Work Gloves or Mittens  
Winter Stocking Hat or Scarf

### Children's Shoebox

Comb and/or Hair Brush  
Shampoo  
Hand Lotion  
Child's Toothbrush and Toothpaste  
Chapstick  
Full size Bar of Soap  
Washcloth  
Socks  
Mittens  
Winter Hat  
Small Flashlight  
2 or 3 Small Toys  
2 or 3 School Items  
Christian Bookmarks, Wristbands, and other  
Spiritual items are appreciated

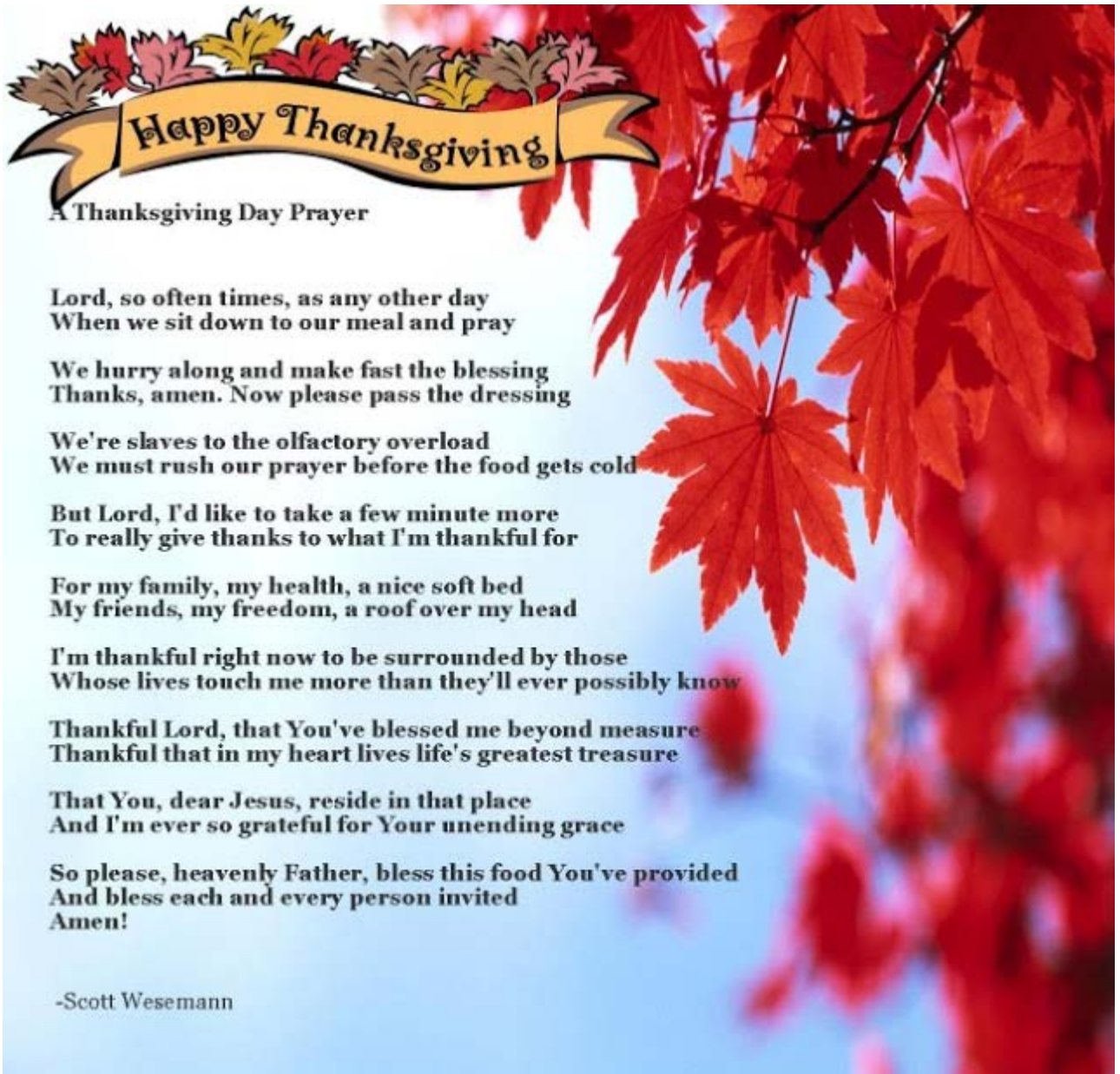
School supplies are also needed such as: scissors (safety, child's or student), pencil box, washable markers, colored pencils, crayons (24 pk), highlighters, #2 lead pencils, erasers (pencil top or large), pencil sharpener, ball point pens (blue or black), 3-ring 1" binder, loose leaf paper (wide ruled or college ruled), spiral notebook (wide ruled or college ruled), construction paper (assorted colors), 2-pocket folder, facial tissues (personal pack), hand sanitizer, glue sticks, ruler, dictionary, basic calculator, index cards.

The Red Bird Mission thanks everyone for their generosity.

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

*Sue Tyler* – November 1  
*Elaine Schrum* – November 16  
*Eric Davis* – November 16  
*Ann Boles* – November 29

No November Anniversaries



### A Thanksgiving Day Prayer

Lord, so often times, as any other day  
When we sit down to our meal and pray

We hurry along and make fast the blessing  
Thanks, amen. Now please pass the dressing

We're slaves to the olfactory overload  
We must rush our prayer before the food gets cold

But Lord, I'd like to take a few minute more  
To really give thanks to what I'm thankful for

For my family, my health, a nice soft bed  
My friends, my freedom, a roof over my head

I'm thankful right now to be surrounded by those  
Whose lives touch me more than they'll ever possibly know

Thankful Lord, that You've blessed me beyond measure  
Thankful that in my heart lives life's greatest treasure

That You, dear Jesus, reside in that place  
And I'm ever so grateful for Your unending grace

So please, heavenly Father, bless this food You've provided  
And bless each and every person invited  
Amen!

-Scott Wesemann

\*The newsletter may be accessed on line at [NMSUMC.org/newsletter](http://NMSUMC.org/newsletter)