



North Main Street United Methodist Church
316 North Main Street, Gloversville, New York 12078
"Love Grows Here"
Church Office 518-725-7323
nmsumc1@frontiernet.net

JULY/AUGUST NEWSLETTER



All Services are on Facebook as well as our Website, www.nmsumc.org.

Dear Congregation Members,

During the past two and a half years, I had had the privilege of being Pastor at North Main UMC. Before that at Bleecker UMC. My life has changed dramatically during that time and I pray I have changed some of your lives also during this time. One of the main things I have learned is to pray for each one of you as well as for myself. Praying with an attitude of humbleness and gratitude are certainly different than I was used to in the past. I have learned to be thankful for the many blessings I have had bestowed upon me by our Savior Jesus Christ as well as having been blessed to be your Pastor.

During my assignment at North Main many things have changed. We had to do a complete renovation of the Parsonage/Food Pantry building. This was a very long and stressful time for everyone while we were closed to this Ministry. We did major renovations to the drainage system at the Church building, both underground to the street and City drainage system as well as to the roof systems. In honor of our Lay Leader, Bill McDonald, we were finally able to install a handicap bathroom. In honor of Karen Holly we renovated the chapel, which has been a dream I have had for a long time. Finally, we did the renovations to Fellowship Hall which needed to be done due to the leaking of the drain system. Lastly, we have a new flat screen TV that we can use for classes and presentations that was donated in honor of Beatrice Cairo.

Lastly, we endured one of the worst years of most people's lives as we struggled with the shut down due to Covid 19. One of the good things is that we were able to come out of all of this slightly more resilient than we were before Covid, and due to everyone's continued support, we have able to maintain a financial balance and have paid all of our bills and even have some money set aside in reserve for any new emergencies that may occur.

I plan on being an active member of the congregation at North Main and volunteer on many of the committees that I worked on previous to becoming Pastor. I am still a Trustee and will continue to do whatever is necessary to maintain our beautiful church building and food pantry building. The Neighborhood Engagement program and Worship and Pastoral Care are both programs that I am compassionate about continuing, and I have been invited to re-convene the services at the Gloversville High Rise for the Sr Citizens there as they are now open.

Even though it is time that I step down from so many responsibilities, I will continue to help in whatever way I can to support North Main UMC, and I pray that we will continue for many years as the church we have become in our City reaching out to the Community with love and support. My continued prayers and grateful thanks are with each one of you.

Pastor Joyce

Joyce Royal



11TH ANNUAL UPPER NY CONFERENCE

On June 17, 18 and 19 I met with the Upper NY Conference for a 3 day Zoom meeting. Each day started with prayers and Devotions. Bishop Webb did a great job of having many people involved with this aspect of the Conference. On Thursday morning was the Laity and Clergy Session and that was a time to update everyone on the many missions and teams of the Conference. Because I had enrolled as an Equalization member, I was able to vote on many petitions.

We had several training times before the Conference, but it went off very easy with over 600 Pastors and Lay members on the Zoom meeting. A new commission was established to study the effects of the 2022 conference dealing with Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace Through Separation that will be dealt with at the 2022 Annual National Conference. Our Congregation will be asked to study where we are on this issue and report through a survey as to where we will be on this issue should there be a Post-Separation UMC.

As I am on the Building Location Committee it was sad to see the number of churches closed this year. Only 3 were in the Albany District and none in our immediate area. There were reports from all teams including United Methodist Women and UM Men and the Equitable compensation and board of pensions. Petitions were approved for Fair and Equitable compensation and treatment for Local Pastors. Budgets were approved in the afternoon and a memorial service was for deceased members. All CLMs and Local Pastors, including myself, were recognized as being re-certified for another year by the DCOM

Saturday was a Juneteenth Celebration and Anniversary of the 11th Conference and the naming of all appointments for the next year which runs July to July 30. The ordination of new clergy was held in the afternoon on Saturday on Livestream. I did get to watch some of it but did a Celebration of Life in the afternoon so I did not see all of it.

All updates are available at www.UppernyConference2021. All videos are live streamed so that you may watch them on the website also.

GUN VIOLENCE

North Main will be hosting a study on gun violence for three sessions on Wednesday evenings from 6 pm to 7:30 pm. The dates are June 30th, July 7th and July 14th. This was presented in May by the United Methodist Church and Society. We felt it was well worth bringing to others, Thanks to Pastor Joyce, a number of community members have also been invited to join us. Gloversville Police Chief Anthony Clay will be a guest speaker on July 14th and will address his area of expertise which is domestic violence and the role of guns. Because of his schedule constraints, we will be doing session 1 on June 30th, session 3 on July 7th and session 2 on July 14th. This study will be held in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend and if you would like an electronic copy to read prior to the start, please email Pastor Joyce ([jrroyalp@aol.com](mailto:jroyalp@aol.com)) or Sally Kwak (skwak@nycap.rr.com). Printed copies will be available the night of each session.

The Gloversville Neighborhood Engagement, as part of the Glove City Coalition, met the public at Littauer /Little Huskies Field, Union Street on Thursday June 24, 2021 from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM , targeting the city’s 6th ward. Since the last event in May, more organizations have been added with ‘I Can Breathe’ and ‘I Will Speak’ providing pizza to people who come to the field. North Main UMC will provide 60 snack bags of child ready snacks to the kids.

Rob Constantine Recovery Community and Outreach Center will again provide Narcan training at the field as well as go door-to-door. The Alliance for Positive Health will have opportunities for people to participate in STD testing anonymously and Fidelis Care will have representatives to assist people with health insurance. Door-to-door teams will have free Stewart’s Shops ice cream certificates for children and they will be available at the field also.

The GPD Canine Unit was on the scene and the kids played ball with several of the police officers. We handed out the 60 bags in record time as the weather was spectacular yet hot. Over 20 different organizations were present. A big shout out to Pastor Joyce and Food Pantry EC Edna for organizing all that is required for this event. We also established the dates for our other events:

Boulevard School - 7/15 - rain date 7/22

Darling Field - 8/5 - rain date 8/12

Park Terrace school - 9/9 - rain date 9/23

Rail Station Park - 10/14 - rain date 10/21





It is with excitement and sadness that we see Pastor Joyce return to the congregation from the pulpit at the end of June. It is excitement for her that she may, again, have a little free time, and sadness that we will miss her leadership from the front. There is no way to thank her enough for the skills she demonstrated in the last two and a half years to help us regain a stable financial footing, keep our doors open and maintain the many missions that are provided by this church. And then there was COVID! The Staff Parish Relations Committee would like to thank Pastor Joyce for all of her dedication to North Main and hope that she can now enjoy a little quality time with the most important people in her life.

Sally Kwak

When I was asked to collect a few thoughts about Joyce Royal on behalf of the congregation, the word that kept popping into my head was commitment.

During the tenure of Pastor Chris, I first became aware of Joyce's talent as a certified Lay Leader. Public speaking was part of my career and I can attest that it is no easy task. Joyce was able to imbue her readings and services with sincerity and emotion. Karen and I grew to look forward to the occasions when Joyce would step in.

I also became aware of the breadth of commitment that Joyce (and Werner) exhibited towards the North Main community. From the time I first became a parishioner until now Joyce always filled multiple volunteer roles and missions. She truly gave of her time, talent, and treasure.

The last year and a half have tested all of us but new Pastor Joyce rose to the challenge of the pandemic with virtual sermons that kept the thread of faith alive for a struggling congregation. During this time, Karen and I drew strength from her streamed services. Pastor Joyce devoted countless hours and was instrumental in reopening North Main as Covid related restrictions finally eased.

I pray that Joyce leave her active role as Pastor with her head high. The church is a better place for her efforts and I look forward to welcoming her back to the congregation.

Ron Holly

We should also mention Werner Paul who helped Pastor Joyce in so many ways, particularly with all the technology involved in being able to stream her services. He also quietly performed other services that enabled the Church to function during the pandemic. Thank you, Werner, and we hope you enjoy a well earned rest too.

Free Lunch

We have decided to stick with bag lunches through the summer. It really has been working out well. We're hoping that by sometime in September, we'll feel comfortable enough to have indoor seating and get back to normal. We would rather err on the side of caution than take a chance with peoples' health. Thank you ALL for your support and patience as we figure this out.

WICS

The ladies have all somehow managed to hold safe fundraisers and have done well, and we've worked hard. Now it's time for a break. Our annual church picnic is scheduled for July 24th, weather permitting, at the Marsh's camp in Wells. If the weather is bad, then we'll pick another day. This is open to ALL, not just the women. If you like to fish, we have poles, lures, etc. We have a boat for rides. Please join us for a relaxing day in the beautiful Adirondacks. All we ask is that you bring something to share, a side dish or dessert would be great. We supply the meat, beverages and eating utensils.

If you would like to share a ride, please let us know. We will find someone to drive you, or a companion to keep you company as you drive. If you need directions, just call Nancy at 518-762-7022. We always have great food, interesting conversations and stories to tell. Hope to see you all there!

HAPPY 4th of JULY!

Nancy Marsh

North Main St. UMC Food Pantry Monthly Report June 2021

It was another sunny warm day for our June pantry. The turnout was good and we had 43 families attend which included 11 new visitors. The totals were 77 adults, 45 children and 24 seniors. We were pleased that the weather was nice because we had set up a table outside to have all attendees make out new registration sheets as required yearly by the Food Bank.

We were able to offer a choice of a variety of meats this month that included frozen boneless chicken breasts, sweet sausages, hamburg patties, pork chops and hot dogs. We gave a choice of two meats along with frozen eggs, butter and cheese. The premade sundry bags included the canned vegetables, fruits, pasta, along with cereals, rice and tuna fish and other misc. items.

I was excited to have received a quantity of bread, hamburg and hot dog rolls, and donuts that were donated by Friehofer's outlet. I also received a donation of plastic bags from Price Choppers. Additionally, our new colossal re-useable bags arrived and they were not as we had ordered. Therefore we have a replacement order coming which gives us the opportunity to give out the incorrect ones as well as the new ones when they arrive. This is really good for the pantry as many people arrive with no bags and we have no plastic bags at this time.

Our pet ministry is going strong. We had food requests for 30 dogs and 41 cats. We now have an assortment of dog food and cat food on hand.

We will be again participating in the Gloversville Outreach on the 24th. We have 60 small bags of snacks to give out along with pantry schedules.

Thanks to all those who work so hard to make our pantry a success.

Edna Bennet

July Birthdays

Sharon Rogers – July 7
Trisha Byrnes – July 14
Jean Hart – July 15

Aaron Scribner – July 15
Ron Holly – July 16
Joanne Marshall – July 17

July Anniversaries

Shirley and Art Mormile – July 12, 1952
Nancy and John Marsh – July 21 - 1973

CHAPEL DEDICATION

Please join the members of the congregation on Wednesday, June 30, at 5 p.m. for a dedication service for the chapel renovation in honor of Karen Holly.



Have a Safe and Happy 4th

of July

*The newsletter may be accessed on-line at NMSUMC.org/newsletter