



North Main Street United Methodist Church
316 North Main Street, Gloversville, New York 12078

"Love Grows Here"

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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



“All of our services are on Face Book weekly at 9:15 and on our Website every week. “

Jesus Sends Out the Twelve Disciples... Luke 9: 1-4 When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority over everything. He told them, “Take nothing with you for the journey-no staff, no bag, no bread, no money and no extra shirt”. For Jesus he told them to have faith. God would provide. I have been watching the program “The Chosen” and this is how the disciples maintained their days. Great was their faith that God would provide for their needs.

For many years, the Congregation of North Main has had the responsibility to provide for the disciples in our Church. The disciples are the ones who care for our building and the mission of our church along with the staff. It's that time of year again when we have to start thinking about how to maintain our beautiful, but very large church, paying the heating bills, keeping the snow removed and caring for our staff. In order to do this, we must start to think about Pledge Sunday. Pledge Sunday is when we all become disciples, except we need to bring things with us to care for our Church. Jesus is the difference and the reason that our church exists and serves others. We serve in response to God's love for each of us. We do not serve to earn God's love. Serving is the heart of all Christians. When you serve, you make a difference and you can change lives.

When you provide a backpack to a child, a bag of groceries to a family, work for a charity or a food pantry, provide food for a Code Blue Shelter, these are all things that change people's lives. A servant heart is grounded in humility because you are serving others and not yourself. A servant pitches in and helps no matter where they are needed. This all costs money and this is the difference between the 12 disciples and us today. Today we have a hard time paying for all the expenses of our Church, but it is necessary to continue to be and to grow as one of the main churches in our community. We need to ask ourselves, “Where would people go for help if we were not here”. Would you like to continue to make a difference in someone's life? Would you like continue to make a difference in North Main UMC? I am asking each one of you to think clearly and prayerfully about your contributions to our Church. We have been here 150 years.

Let your prayer be, “Lord let me serve you today by serving others”. Let me do whatever I can to make my church the best it can possibly be for the year and 150 more. With Jesus we can do anything we set our mind to do. Won't you be part of our future? Amen

Pastor Joyce

Joyce Royal

Food Pantry Report - July

It was another sunny and hot morning for our pantry this month. We had planned for 80 families and we were very surprised with the turnout. We were very busy from the time we started until closing at 1:00. We ended up with 99 families! There were 138 adults, 51 children and 68 seniors. There seem to be a lot of new visitors in the last couple months, we had 22 this month.

We had frozen pulled pork, hamburger, butter and cheese for the first 80 or so people. We had some hot dogs and fish sticks once we ran out of the pork. We were lucky that we had enough inventory to cover the last people. We will be restocking this week so that we will have enough for next month.

Our pet ministry is still doing well. We had food requests for 47 dogs and 79 cats. We have received monetary donations for pet food and now have a supply of both cat and dog food on hand. Our thanks to all those who have contributed.

Food Pantry Report - August

This month's pantry was another busy one. We had planned for 90 families since we had had so many last month. We were again surprised with the turnout. We were very busy from the time we started until closing at 1:00. We ended up with 103 families! There were 142 adults, 65 children and 71 seniors. There seems to be a growing need in the area. We had 18 new visitors this month.

We gave out whole chickens, hot dogs, ravioli, and cheese. When the chickens were gone we had hamburger to give out and some hot dogs and fish sticks once we ran out of the rest. We were lucky that we had enough inventory to cover the last people. We will be restocking before the next pantry day.

Our pet ministry is still doing well. We had food requests for 56 dogs and 90 cats. We have received monetary donations for pet food and will need to restock there also. Our thanks to all those who have contributed.

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. I am concentrating on keeping the costs down while getting enough food items for those in need.

The food bank is starting a new computerized accounting program which we will be looking into to allow for easier record keeping in the future. More information will follow.

Edna Bennett

Volunteers Packing Bags for the Food Pantry



Free Lunch

On Monday, August 21st, which was also Food Pantry Day, we gave out over 100 lunches so we were stretched pretty thin. It is also apparent that our service is vitally needed in the community. We're happy to have Sue Tyler back helping! Now we have four volunteers weekly. We each have our own responsibilities and work so well together. Ron prepares and fills the bags, Penna serves and cleans up and Sue and I make sandwiches or whatever else needs preparing. Thank you all.

Another blessing! We recently received almost \$1500 in monetary donations. It came at just the right time as our funds were getting dangerously low. We spend around \$200 a month at BJs and about \$50 a week at local stores just trying to keep up. Thank you to all who have made donations.

WICS

The women of North Main are planning on having their annual Election Day bake/mini craft sale in November and making gift bags to donate to Haven of Hope and the domestic violence safe house for Christmas. These bags contain personal necessities that a woman might need for a couple of nights. This is always a huge success as our congregants are very generous and enthusiastic about this mission. We will need bakers and contributors of Christmas and/ or craft items for the bake sale. For more info, see me or any member of WICS. Thank you.

Nancy Marsh

Neighborhood Engagement Event

On Tuesday, August 22, the Glove City Neighborhood Engagement Unit set up their monthly Unit at North Main UMC. 16 local services were present including Flame who played continuously for the Neighborhood for 2 hours. The Gloversville Police did student IDs, Catholic Charities provided pizza donated by Domino's Pizza. A high disguise room was available for parents to check out how teens react and Narcon Training was offered. North Main handed out snack bags and crafts to over 40 children. Stop DWI was present as well as all the other members. This is an opportunity for the community to see what services are available for them throughout the entire County.



Gun Safety Program

The education team from the Pine Tree Rifle Club will be coming Thursday, September 14th, 2023 to give a presentation on Gun Safety and steps we can all take to prevent accidental gun injuries and deaths. There will also be information about suicides involving firearms. This is the final presentation in our series addressing gun violence. The program will be from 6-9 pm in Fellowship Hall. There will be pizza and refreshments. Free cable style gun locks will be available. There will be information on additional programs that the Pine Tree Rifle Club can provide. Even if you don't own a firearm, you can learn valuable information and we encourage anyone concerned about gun safety to attend.

Fall Bible Study

Bible Study returns 9/11/23 at 1pm in Fellowship Hall. This series is "The Jesus In Me" authored by Anne Graham Lotts. This is a book written by the daughter of Bill Graham, the renowned evangelist, and focuses on our personal relationship with the Holy Spirit. Please read chapters 1-3 for the first class. If you would like to participate and do not yet have a book, please see Sally Kwak. Copies are gently used and are \$7.

CAPTAIN Meals

We have again been asked by the CAPTAIN program to provide a meal once a month for their after school program. This would be for the first Wednesday of each month. Currently there are 3 to 5 youth attending. This year we are asked to make the meal in their certified kitchen on premises behind the Congregational Church on Fulton Street. We will bring our ingredients. They have pans, utensils, stove, oven and refrigerator there. The goal is to have a meal ready to serve at 3. Anyone interested in participating in the planning, preparation or willing to donate to this effort, please see Sally Kwak. CAPTAIN serves youth at risk from ages 14 - 26 years. In the past we have seen a number of single teen aged moms and expectant moms attending. The first meal will be Wednesday, September 6.

2nd Annual Backpack Giveaway

North Main Street United Methodist and North Bush United Methodist held their 2nd Annual Backpack giveaway event on Saturday, August 19th from 10 a.m. until Noon. We gave away free backpacks and other school supplies and Sharon Rogers organized craft projects for the children. Maggie Talbott gave out ice cream and Ron Talbott served hot dogs donated by Stewarts. Nancy Cairo Estes brought Abra, her therapy dog, to join in the fun! Due to the weather the event was held inside in Fellowship Hall. The giveaway was open to all students K-12. Together we were able to give away 52 backpacks to children of the community! We would love to thank our wonderful sponsor Stewarts Shops for making this event become an annual one with the Holiday Match Grant and food donations. We'd also like to thank the members of the congregation for donating extra school supplies needed to fill the bags. Thank you to Pastor Joyce, Werner Paul, Penna Smith, Nancy Cairo Estes & Abra, Sharon Rogers, Ron & Maggie Talbott, Sara Butler and James Medbury for their participation in this event.



Certified Lay Servants

One of the main things that Pastor Joyce has concentrated on is equipping new Certified Lay Servants at North Main. So far this year we have done a Basic Training, a Lead in Worship and the last "Call to Preach": Pastor Joyce and Pastor Ron Tallbott from North Bush taught the class to North Main Certified Lay Servants..James Medbury, Sally Kwak, Judy Antonucci and Penna Smith. All received high marks for their delivery of a 15 minute sermon at the end of the class. Also graduating were Luanne Baird, Maggie Talbott and Audie Miller.



Birthdays

Linda Sammons – September 6
Bill Rogers – September 7
Sally Kwak – September 8
Sara Butler – September 11
Marilyn Cornell – September 22
Dave Sammons – September 23
Landon Rajter – September 24
Barb Croston – September 29

Marlene Thomson – October 1
Carol Johnson – October 3
Kasey Frederick – October 5
Mavis Baldwin – October 7
Penna Smith – October 12
Joyce Royal-Paul – October 23
Joanne Brown – October 24
Stephen Wood – October 27

Anniversaries

Sharon and Bill Rogers – September 2
Cheryl and Tom Bielli – September 4
Nancy and Sim Morey – September 10
Teresia and Eric Davis – September 19
Elaine and Art Schrum – September 30

Sandy and Roger Trevett – October 9
Valerie and Tom Kevlin – October 14
DiAnne and Jack Sanford – October 27

Fall and Winter Fund Raiser...

Custom made Bird Feeders \$70.00 and custom made Bird Houses \$25. Made by Tom Kevlin just in time for Holiday Gift Giving and Fall - the return of the Birds before Winter.

See Office or James Medbury for details.



MUMS ORDER FORM

If you would like to order mums for this fall please return the slip below with payment, no later than **SEPTEMBER 7th, 2023**. Checks should be made out to **North Main U.M.C.** Pick up will be the weekend after the 7th.

1 for \$15

3 for \$30

White

Assorted Colors

Assorted Colors

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Quantity & Color preference (not guaranteed)

Amount Enclosed: _____

2024
North Main Street United Methodist Church
COMMITMENT OF TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE

During the coming year I make the following commitments:

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Pray 15 minutes each day for the church

_____ Attend weekly worship services

_____ Contribute _____ hours each month to church programs

_____ Read the Bible, devotional or religious books each day

I have the following skills I can share with the church

I pledge

\$_____ weekly \$_____ monthly \$_____ yearly

other frequency _____ specify

Signature _____ Date _____