North Main Street United Methodist Church
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"Love Grows Here"
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NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

Dear North Main Congregation,

This November we will celebrate our commitment to God and His Church by offering our estimate of giving cards for 2027. These cards help our Church Council plan wisely for the ministries ahead. We renew our vows to support our church with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. And our gifts do much more than pay the bills or keep the lights on. They help us love our neighbors, feed the hungry, support people who are struggling, and share the grace and hope of Jesus. Our talents and time make us the hands and feet of Christ, offering care in good times and difficult ones. Our wisdom and willingness help our church hear God's call and build both our congregation and the Kingdom of God.

We are grateful that God has blessed us with enough to share and the opportunity to make our community better by sharing Christ. Giving is not simply about what leaves our wallets; it is about the love that reaches someone else. It is a privilege to offer what we have, remembering that the things we need most come from God.

Generosity can bring joy to both the giver and the receiver—and sometimes it brings a laugh, too. A church member once volunteered to fix a small leak in the church roof. When the rain began, a bucket appeared beneath the drip. Soon another bucket was added, then a coffee mug, and finally someone placed a sign beside them: "Please give generously—our collection has started early!" We laughed, but the lesson was serious: ministry takes many hands, and even small contributions help us meet real needs. We have much to do as we repair our church, preach the Word, feed the hungry, care for children and neighbors, support people recovering from hurricanes, help those who are disadvantaged, and welcome the new challenges God places before us.

When we reflect on our relationship with Christ, let us remember all our church does—not only inside these walls, but throughout our community and the wider world. Being part of a congregation means showing through our actions that we are Jesus' disciples wherever we go. Every prayer, kind word, hour of service and gift can become a way of sharing God's love.

See you in church or online this Sunday as we begin setting our ministry for 2027 in motion—all to God's glory.

Pastor Thaddeus

On Sunday, October 18th, North Main was honored to have a visit from Rev. Anna Blinn Cole, District Superintendent/Adirondack and Albany Districts, Before the service began Rev. Cole circulated through the congregation and warmly greeted everyone. She then assisted Pastor Thaddeus in the service and also told the congregation a little about her background and education. In appreciation of her visit, Pastor Thaddeus presented her with flowers and a gift bag.



An important reason for her visit was that she had the pleasure of presenting Pastor Thaddeus with a Certificate that confirmed his status as a Licensed Local Pastor. This means that he can now perform Baptisms and other sacraments in addition to his usual pastoral duties. Congratulations, Pastor Thad!

Following the service, a potluck luncheon was served in Fellowship Hall. This was the first one since Covid, so thank you to all the volunteers who brought food and to the members who set it up and cleaned up afterwards.

WICS

Many of our members recently attended the 77th annual Interfaith Tea. It was held at The Church of the Holy Spirit in Gloversville. We were entertained by Liberty ARC bell choir and our donations will be going to The Captain, an organization that helps homeless and run away teens in Fulton County. I must say that the Tea has not been as it used to be. Only about 40 attendees enjoyed the sandwiches and cookies provided. Just a few years ago 100 were attending. The participation of houses of worship has fallen drastically. Many don't attend or support the effort any more. Is it because of dropping numbers in the congregations or just a lack of interest? I'm curious to know. Those of us that did attend had a nice time of fellowship and friendship.

We are also winding up our annual Tastefully Simple fundraising campaign. If you need something from them, please let me know ASAP. We earn 10% of our sales and that money goes to our own fuel fund. Numbers are dropping off on this as well. We used to earn enough money from fundraising to help support other non-profits in the area, but alas, we won't be able to do that this year. Sorry to be such a downer but it saddens me that our congregation is not able to do all that we used to do. We are extremely grateful to those who work so diligently just to keep up with these couple of events. Thank you!

Nancy Marsh

Free Lunch

It's so hard for me to believe how far we have come in less than 15 years. Our first lunch served 3 men!!!! The next week we served 6 and the numbers have grown exponentially! Who would have believed it if we were told then that we would be doing the numbers that we're doing now. 100 lunches served is getting to be a routine thing! We do know that some of our customers eat in, get a second helping and then get one to go. It's very sad when they tell you that this may be all that they have to eat for a few days! So how can we say no? We still count each meal since that's what they are. We thank God for always providing us with just what we need through donations of food and money, grants and help in the kitchen.

Nancy Marsh

Food Pantry Report - September

Today's weather was chilly but nice day. We had a good turnout which was higher than last month. We had 76 families this month. The 12 new families seem to be a normal occurrence lately. We had a total of 82 adults, 34 children and 65 seniors. We had enough food for all with nothing left over.

This month we gave out very nice chicken breast tenders, cheese and eggs, which are always appreciated. The dry bags had the usual canned vegetables and fruit, along with peanut butter, macaroni and cheese, and instant potatoes. We had our usual choices of cold cereal, shelf stable milk, and juice. We had mayonnaise or oil for an extra choice. We had coffee this month which was appreciated along with some tea bags. Our "free shelf" had shampoo, body wash and deodorants, etc. We had packages of cookies which we added to the bags. We will be restocking before the next month's pantry.

Our pet ministry is still doing very well. We had requests for 65 cats and 33 dogs. We will need to purchase more for next month as we are out.

Food Pantry Report - October

Today's weather was quite chilly to start but the sun was shining and it turned out to be a nice day. We were busy from the time we opened until we closed at one. We were pretty surprised with the turnout as it was our highest this year. We were ready for up to 84 families but ended with 97. We had 22 new families which seems to be an increasing lately. We had a total of 121 adults, 47 children and 69 seniors. We had enough food for all with nothing left over.

This month we gave out Italian meatballs, hamburg, and cheese and eggs. The dry bags had the usual canned vegetables and fruit, along with peanut butter, macaroni and muffin mix. We had our usual choices of cold cereal, shelf stable milk, and juice. We had mayonnaise or oil for an extra choice. We did not have any coffee this month which was disappointing to some but we did have some tea bags. Our "free shelf" had mustard, ketchup, salad dressing etc. We had boxes of saltine crackers which we added to the bags. We will be restocking before the next month's pantry.

Our pet ministry is still doing very well. We had requests for 76 cats and 29 dogs. We will need to purchase more for next month as we are out.

On October 15th Joyce, Ron H and I went to Saratoga for a Food Bank food drop. We were there at 8am for the start and helped give out the pallets of misc. items. We were able to get mayonnaise, canned chicken, tuna, peanut butter and other items. We filled Ron's SUV totally. The items will save the pantry money since they were all items we have to purchase.

Thank you to all those who work so hard to make our pantry a success. Thanks to Stacey (Tim B's granddaughter) who is joining us to work pantry days. She is a great addition to the team. We could never succeed without all of your support.

Edna Bennett

FUNDRAISING

The Fundraising Committee sold mums this fall and made a profit of $710. Our Annual Spaghetti Dinner at Plaza's Italian Bistro netted us $545 plus an anonymous donation of $100. Coming up on November 19th will be our McDonald's fundraiser. Drive thru or inside orders all count!

Thank you all for your support! ***James Medbury***





Church members picking up the mums at an Amish Nursery in Fort Plain







North Main's Booth at the Glove City Coalition Fall Fest October 7 at Elm St. Pavilion

Mission Report

The Mission Team has sent $100 to Heifer as part of a matching program. The good news is that they will now have $200 to help those who need help.

We still have volunteers making the beautiful Prayer Shawls. If you know of anyone who could use the extra prayers and comfort of a Shawl, please take one for them. Also, if you know of anyone or any worthy cause that we can help with the Second Sunday Funds, please let me know. There isn't a great deal of money in the Fund so I'm trying to make it go as far as possible .

Val Kevlin

Birthdays

Sue Tyler – November 1
Molly Towne – November 1
Shawn Seeley – November 14
Elaine Schrum – November 16
Eric Davis – November 16
Ann Boles – November 29
Sandra Mosconi – December 1
Judy Antonucci – December 1
Jack Sanford – December 2
Justin Boles – December 5
James Thomson – December 11
Zachary Nikolov – December 13

North Main Street United Methodist Church

COMMITMENT OF TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE

2027 PLEDGE

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 each day

I have the following skills I can share with the church:

_____

$_____ ___Weekly ____ Monthly Other Frequency (specify)_____

_____ I am interested in electronic giving.

Signature_____Date _____



Things to be Thankful For
(from Annie's Column)

Be thankful for the clothes that fit a little too snug, because it means you have enough to eat

Be thankful for the mess you clean up after a party because it means you have been surrounded by friends

Be thankful for the taxes you pay, because it means that you're employed

Be thankful that your lawn needs mowing and your windows need fixing, because it means you have a home

Be thankful for your heating bill, because it means you are warm

Be thankful for the laundry, because it means you have clothes to wear

Be thankful for the space you find at the far end of the parking lot, because it means you can walk

Be thankful for the lady who sings off-key behind you in church, because it means you can hear

Be thankful people complain about the government, because it means we have freedom of speech

Be thankful for the alarm that goes off in the early morning hours, because it means you're alive

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:30 Service in Sanctuary **Communion** **All Saints Day**	2 11:00 – 12:30 Free Lunch 1:15 Bible Study	3	4 Captain's Meal	5	6 Food Pick up	7
8 10:30 Service in Sanctuary	9 11:00 – 12:30 Free Lunch 1:15 Bible	10	11 **Veteran's Day**	12	13	14
15 10:30 Service in Sanctuary	16 11:00 – 12:30 Free Lunch 10:00 – 1:00 Food Pantry	17 10:00 Lay Servants at Wells House	18	19 **McDonald's Fundraiser**	20 Food Pick up	21
22 10:30 Service in Sanctuary	23 11:00 – 12:30 Free Lunch 1:15 Bible	24	25	26 **Thanksgiving**	27	28
29 10:30 Service in Sanctuary First Sunday in Advent	30 11:00 – 12:30 Free Lunch 1:15 Bible Study					

December 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Captain's Meal	3	4 Food Pick up	5
6 10:30 Service in Sanctuary **Communion**	7 11:00 – 12:30 Free Lunch 1:15 Bible Study	8	9	10	11	12
13 10:30 Service in Sanctuary	14 11:00 – 12:30 Free Lunch 1:15 Bible Study	15 10:00 Lay Servants at Wells House	16	17	18 Food Pick up	19
20 10:30 Service in Sanctuary	21 11:00 – 12:30 Free Lunch 10:00 – 1:00 Food Pantry	22	23	24 **Christmas Eve**	25 **Christmas Day**	26
27 10:30 Service in Sanctuary	28 11:00 – 12:30 Free Lunch 1:15 Bible Study	29	30	31		