



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE BELL

1 Gilligan Road, East Greenbush, New York 12061-1780

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 9

OCTOBER 2022

At Church on Sundays:

- ♦ **8:30 am** Early Informal Service - Outdoor Chapel weather permitting
- ♦ **9:30 am** Regular Service
Also streaming live on Facebook, available on YouTube same afternoon
- ♦ Sunday School & Youth Group—see inside for details,

Visit us on the Web:

www.fumceg.org

www.facebook.com/FUMCEG

Phone: (518) 477-9693

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Church Office Hours:

9:00 am to 2:30 pm M-F

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Youth Ministries Email:

youthleaderamber@gmail.com

Danyal Mohammadzadeh

Pastor

Gail Welkley

Administrative Assistant

FROM OUR PASTOR'S DESK

In October 2022, I invite our church to focus on the children's ministry. Not only our church but the universal church is longing to see more kids attending in the Sunday children's time, more youth participating in the ministry of church, and more young disciples following the Christ passionately. To love and honor children, our congregation is invited to participate in the children's ministry.

Jesus loved and honored children. "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven," Jesus told his disciples. ¹First, he publicly claimed children as models of pureness of heart and joy inherent in the kingdom of God. ²In addition, we see that the Christ blessed children through his messianic touch by the raising of Jairus' daughter from death. Finally, we learn that he was very serious about the spiritual journey of "little ones" that can be also all the people who just started to walk in the path of faith regardless of their age. "If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble," Jesus says, "it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea."

John Wesley was also committed to the education and formation of "the little ones"; and traditionally, the United Methodist Church has provided a space for children to learn, grow, and actively engage in the congregation.

On October 9, The First United Methodist Church of East Greenbush celebrates children's ministry through the Children's Sunday.

Children's Sunday is a day set aside to celebrate children as active participants in the life of the church. The focus for Children's Sunday is to look deeply at the needs of children, those local and worldwide, and pray for them. Children's Sunday allows us the opportunity to take a fresh look each year at the needs of children in the neighborhoods where we worship, work, and live; and then discover ways to address or meet those needs as people of God. Since this is a time for children to share their gifts with God and the congregation, not perform, our young disciples

(Continued on page 2)



Pastor Danyal in the pirate ship at FunPlex with the Youth Group

A Reconciling Congregation

(Continued from page 1)

were encouraged to prepare the October 9 Sunday worship based on their perceptions.

Please reach out to the young disciples by asking them how you can help them with their Children Sunday project.

¹Matthew 18:1-5.

²Children's Ministries Guidelines, Page 7.



Pastor Danyal & youth Group at FunPlex

Pastor Danyal,
pastordanyal@fumceg.org

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE WELCOMES NEW PASTOR

October is **Pastor Appreciation Month!** We will be “officially” welcoming Pastor Danyal Mohammadzadeh during the 9:30 am service on **October 16.** Our Lay Leader, Laura Clark will be leading us in worship that morning. SPRC will host a coffee hour in the Fellowship Hall following the service. Pastor Danyal began his service here in East Greenbush on July 1 this year. Join us to meet and extend a warm welcome to Danyal.



UPDATE ON ORGAN REPAIR FUND

The pipe organ is a work in progress. When repairs are finished, our organist, Jackie Krahforst is planning on playing some very awesome pieces for our worship services. *“The organ is a piece of art. One day at a time the flower will unfold and bring forth its beauty until the canvas is complete.”* The repairs are almost complete and when they are we will have our church's largest musical instrument, with all its stops, back in service.

When we started this spring, we had a goal of \$9,600 to be raised for *major* organ repairs to be made over the summer. The latest financial report shows that *we did it.* We raised \$10,047. Now we can go back to using the Organ Repair Fund (line 3.500.071) in the church budget for our *regular* organ repairs and service. Thanks to all who made this possible.

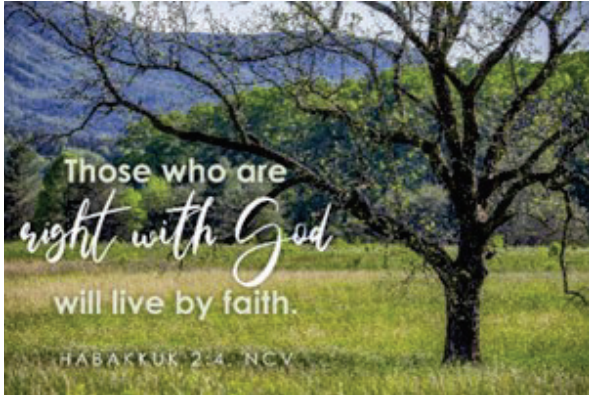


Our Annual Church Conference meeting will be held here at our church on Wednesday, November 9 beginning at 6:30 pm. This being a Church Conference, all church members of our church may vote at the meeting. (This is a meeting of our local church, not our Albany District nor Upper New York Conference)

THE BELL is published monthly (with the exception of August) by the First United Methodist Church, 1 Gilligan Road, East Greenbush, New York 12061-1780. October 2022, Volume 24, Issue 9. **George Herrick**, Editor **Danyal Mohammadzadeh**, **Gail Welkley**, Editing Team; **Kathy Van Buren**, Production Leader, **Dave Caneen**, Photographer; The Church Staff: **Danyal Mohammadzadeh**, Pastor; **Gail Welkley**, Administrative Assistant; **Amanda Trainor**, Director of Children's Christian Education; **Amber Telford**, Youth Leader; **Jacqueline Krahforst**, Organist; **Robert Thomsen**, Choir Director; **Cynthia McLaughlin**, Director of Bell Choirs; **Christopher Chartrand**, Custodian; **Kevin Clark**, Part-time Custodian; **Laura Clark**, Lay Leader; **Rhoda Demanya**, Peer Minister, Cornerstone Protestant Campus Ministry, The University at Albany; **Helen de Leon Camarce**, Missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, Treasurer of the agency's Cambodia and Southeast Asia Missions and part of the Cambodia Women's Livelihood Projects.

SOME NOTES ABOUT WORSHIP FOR OCTOBER

What does the month of October mean to you? In an article entitled, **Seeing our blind United Methodists in October--and beyond**, Rev. Leo Yates, Jr. writes:



“Observances in October are plentiful: Down Syndrome Awareness Month, Lupus Awareness Month, Global Diversity Awareness Month, and Hallowe’en are just a few. But often overlooked is that October is Blind Awareness Month. . .the **National Federation of the Blind** recommends this month-long recognition be one that remembers history, advances equality, and celebrates accomplishments and supports persons who are blind or have vision loss.

“As United Methodists, we are called to value all people as being of sacred worth. The Bible has many passages relating to or specifically about persons who are blind, particularly in the gospels. At least one of the Apostles had a visual impairment. -Matthew explicitly states Jesus had compassion toward blind

persons (Matthew 20:30) --likely because of the isolation and loneliness they faced due to bad theology and neglect. A starting place for biblical application is for Christians to share Jesus’ compassion too, which can begin with learning about persons who are blind or have vision loss. . .

“It only takes a glance around the sanctuary or virtual space to see the many people with some sort of visual impairment (they’re wearing glasses). . . Recalling John Wesley’s concern for medical self-care, a part of this monthly observance can be to raise public awareness about vision and eye health.”

October 2: 17th Sunday after Pentecost, World Communion Sunday

October 9: 18th Sunday after Pentecost. This will be a very busy Sunday. **Blessing of the Animals** – at the 8:30 am service in the Chapel-in-the-Woods, weather permitting. Bring your pet to this very special service. The 9:30 am service will have a focus on **Children’s Sunday**.

Also this Sunday, come and meet our Peer Minister Rhoda Demanya. Pastor Danyal will be introducing her and she will be taking part in the morning service.

October 16: 19th Sunday after Pentecost, **Pastor Appreciation Sunday, Laity Sunday**. Our Lay Leader Laura Clark will be preaching this Sunday. Laity will lead all other portions of the service. A special coffee hour will follow the service.

October 23: 20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 30: 21st Sunday after Pentecost, Reformation Sunday

Pastor Danyal will be preaching all Sundays except October 16.

Our 9:30 am Sunday worship service is live streamed on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FUMCEG/ It is also available on YouTube later that same Sunday afternoon at [Worship Service FUMCEG-YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...).

Here is the Lectionary for October

- October 2 Lamentations 1:1-16; Psalm 137; 2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10
- October 9 Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7; 2 Timothy 2:8-15; Psalm 66:1-12; Luke 17:11-19
- October 16 Jeremiah 31:27-34; Psalm 119:97-104, or Psalm 19; 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5; Luke 18:1-8
- October 23 Joel 2:23-32; Psalm 65; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14
- October 30 Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; Psalm 119:137-144; 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12; Luke 19:1-10



From American Bible Society

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Hello Families,

It is hard to believe that Fall is already here! It has been a fantastic start to the new school year. Rally Day and the Sunday School waffle breakfast were a huge success. Thank you to everyone who participated. For the first month children and youth have been working on a project for the Children's Sunday which they will present during the 9:30 am service and coffee hour on **October 9**.



Confirmation classes will start on **October 2**. We will usually meet for three Sundays a month from 8:30 am to 9:15 am. The schedule will be provided at our first meeting. It is not too late to sign up, if you have a child who is in eighth grade or up that would like to be part of the Confirmation Class please contact me!

Sunday School classes for children ages 4 and up will meet every Sunday during the 9:30 am hour.

Last but not least, Youth Group will be hosting the annual Trunk-or-Treat on Sunday, **October 30**. We will be looking for candy donations to donate to the Youth Group for the event. This is a community event so all are welcome to attend.

Blessings,

Amanda

EGChristanEdFUMC@gmail.com

UNITED METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

We had so much fun at Funplex. Thank you to everyone who participated in the event. See our picture on Page. 2. October Youth Events are going to be even better.

Calling all youth going into 6th Grade - 12th Grade & Parents. We will be having a **Youth 2023** information meeting on **October 2** from 10:45 am -11:15 am. If you're interested in learning more please join us in the Original Youth Lounge. Youth 2023 will be held in Daytona Beach, Florida

October 9 will be our Junior High (5th-7th grade) from 11:00 am -12:30 pm . We will be creating decorations for Trunk or Treat, eating snacks and playing some get to know you games.

October 14 From 6:30 pm -8:30 pm We will be having an all youth (5th - 12th grade) event at the church. We will be roasting hot dogs, creating different s'more recipes (Yes there will be your typical s'more and also more interesting s'more ingredients.) playing four square and having worship around the fire. Parents are welcome to stay (I will need some volunteers to help). Please let me know if your child can make it. If its raining, we will do an all youth events inside with modifications.

October 23 from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm Senior High meeting (8th -12th grade). We will be finishing Trunk or Treat final plans, having fellowship and eating some kind of food.

October 30 - Trunk or Treat - We will be hosting Trunk or Treat in the parking lot set up will start right after church and with cleanup we should be done around 3:30 pm or sooner depending how it goes. The event will take place from 12:00 noon - 2:00 pm. Pizza will be provided for the volunteers.



Amber Telford

youthleaderamber@gmail.com

PREPARING FOR TRUNK OR TREAT



The youth will be collecting candy for Trunk or Treat. Last year we had around 300 kids from all over East Greenbush come to Trunk or Treat. We are looking for anyone who would like to donate candy to help support the Trunk or Treaters.

Last year we had a successful Trunk or Treat community event all because the adults and older youth who came and decorated their trunks for the community to Trunk or Treat out of. We are looking for volunteers to decorate their trunks again to help with this year's event. Please see the sign-up board in the lobby. (If it's raining, we will decorate classroom doors and do trick or treat alley). Trunk or Treat will be 12:00 noon—2:00 pm on Sunday, **October 30**, set up will start at 11:00 am. If you have any questions about Trunk or Treat, please contact Amber at youthleaderamber@gmail.com

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Our next meeting is **October 3**. This month is our World Thank offering meeting. The donations collected go toward world missions. We will also be finalizing our plans for the **Brook's Barbeque** which is on **October 8**. The barbeque is our only major fund raiser. Please call the church office for reservations. Come and join the fun.



BROWNIE BAKERS NEEDED



We are in need of brownie bakers for our chicken barbeque. There is a signup sheet on the table in the foyer. Please wrap or place your individual brownies in a plastic bag. They should be cut into 3 inch squares. You can leave the brownies in the kitchen on Friday, **October 7** or on the morning of the event.

MADE BY HAND WITH LOVE OUTREACH MISSIONS

We will be meeting every other Tuesday at 10:00 am on **October 4, and 18 , November 1, 15, and 29 and December 6, and 20.**

Everyone is invited to join us for creating and/or conversation. We have new projects coming for those who do not knit or crochet. For the fall we will be focusing on soft hats of any size, color, or shape for hatsgiving.org. and Red Scarves (5-8 inches by 60 inches long) for foster care kids in college fc2success.org. These 2 efforts need to be delivered by **Thanksgiving time**. Afghans 48"X 48" are ongoing projects for various organizations locally. If you need supplies or would like to meet evenings, contact the group. Thanks.



Aleta

aleta.schweigert@gmail.com

FALL SENIOR LUNCH



Wednesday, October 19, 2022- at 12:00 Noon, the Senior Lunch will celebrate fall in Fellowship Hall.

We are all looking forward to sharing time together. We will be calling some of you, but please call the office 518-477-9693 if you don't hear from us. And, invite anyone you wish. The more the merrier! We do need an approximate number of attendees for planning. Our menu will be soup and sandwich and more. See you all soon.

COFFEE HOUSE

The Coffee House experience has a long history in our church dating back to the 1960's. Most recently, in 2004, they started up again and between 2004 and March of 2020, 5 Coffee Houses ran yearly with a roster of up to 36 performers. A freewill entrance fee collected a little under \$20,000 over these years which was distributed to local charities including our Family Assistance Ministries.



SAVE THE FOLLOWING DATES: Our Coffee House events **are returning** so please save the following dates: Friday, **November 18**; Sunday afternoon, **January 8** and **Friday, March 17**. (The Sunday afternoon event is our traditional Cookies and Carols celebration which will feature a combination of Choir and Coffee House performers.)

Friday evening Coffee Houses will run from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. All performers are eager to return, delicious snacks are planned and woe, the Mistress of Chatter will continue her attempts of humor. We, Coffee House performers, are looking forward to sharing a Friday night with you and seeing you at the Cookies and Carols event!

“WHAT ARE YOU THANKFUL FOR?”

That's the theme for this year's Prisons Week 2022 program. Over twenty-five churches and church related organization in the United Kingdom, The Methodist Church is one of them, come together to sponsor the Prisons Week program in the UK each year on the second full week of October, **October 9-15, 2022** this year.



“For nearly 50 years, Prisons Week has encouraged Christians to pray for all those affected by crime and imprisonment. The Samaritan leper in Luke 17, inspires us all to seek what he was amazed to find when returning to thank Jesus for his healing ... a new beginning.

“Our recent campaigns have moved us, like him, from loneliness and despair to hope. And now, like him, we also return with gratitude. So, what are you thankful for?”...

“Prisons Week raises awareness and generates prayer. It motivates volunteers to step forward and give their time and gifts, in prisons and in their own communities. It provides an annual focus and reason for Christians to work together, building capacity and motivation to make a difference for people who are out of sight and often out of mind.”

A well-done video presents this year's theme, “What Are You Thankful For?” It takes less than four minutes. Take a look at: <https://www.prisonsworld.org/2022-campaign/>. At that same site you can link up with and learn about earlier campaigns.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE TO MEET

The Worship Committee has planned a meeting for **October 16**, after church.

This year, Laity Sunday and Pastor Appreciation Sunday are concurrent. Our Wesleyan Tradition includes strong lay leadership and willing hands. Calling not only members of Worship ministries, but our friends and fellow members for a discussion of our committee structure and next steps into 2023! The pandemic changed our pattern and occasions of our worship and we ask your help as we move into our future. If there are questions or suggestions you have please join us. There are some areas we can use your assistance with as we are inspired by Pastor Danyal to not only be disciples but make them as well. We pray you'll consider pitching in, whether you have in the past, or have wished to.



With Appreciation,

Worship Committee

FLOOD BUCKETS

Once again this year, the Missions Committee will be filling 15 UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) Flood Buckets, and so we are asking for your help. If your budgets allow you to help, we are asking for contributions of the following items for each bucket; the items are needed by October 16.



- One 32-64 oz. bottle liquid laundry detergent
- One 16-40 oz. bottle liquid concentrate household cleaner (No spray cleaners)
- One 16-34 oz. bottle dish soap
- One 4-8 oz. pump spray air freshener (three solid, or three gel fresheners also acceptable)
- One 6-14 oz. pump spray insect repellent (pack of 10-20 wipes also acceptable; Pump spray bottles must have protective covers)
- One scrub brush (With or without handle)
- 18 re-useable cleaning wipes— No terrycloth, microfiber or paper towels (Remove from packaging)
- Five scouring pad sponges— No stainless-steel pads with soap in them— Remove packaging
- 36-50 clothespins
- One 50-100 ft. clothesline (cotton or plastic line)
- a roll of 24 heavy-duty trash bags (33-45-gallon sizes; remove from packaging)
- Five N95 particulate respirator dust masks (1-3 mm thickness; no surgical masks)
- Two pairs kitchen gloves (Durable for multiple uses)
- One pair work gloves (Cotton with leather palm or all leather)

If you are able to contribute, please leave the item(s) in the bin marked UMCOR (under the big table in the church foyer). Your help is much appreciated.

WORSHIP, WORKSHOPS AND LUNCH– OCTOBER 22

The Adirondack and Albany District Day will be held from 8:45 am to 3:00 pm **Saturday, October 22** at the Saratoga Springs UMC, 175 Fifth Ave., Saratoga Springs. Doors opens at 8:15 am. The theme, "Informed to Transform". A good variety of workshops will be offered. Here are two examples:



Walking the Prayer Labyrinth; This became a widely used form of contemplative prayer in the Christian church in the Middle Ages. Join us for an opportunity to experience walking a labyrinth, learn a bit about its history, how it is used in contemporary times and how one can meet and hear God in the rhythm of walking and meditation.

Harmony from Division; The church has not been impervious to the divisiveness that we experience in our nation and our world, and even close to home. Get some experience with methods to break through what divides us, and bring blessed harmony.

Other workshop titles include: Christian Yoga, Science of Addiction, and Breathing Life into Your Church. There are a total of 18 different workshops scheduled.

Participants will begin the day with an opening worship service and then will attend three different workshops from the eighteen that are scheduled. Lunch will be tucked in between the second and third workshop.

Both laity and clergy are invited to attend. Go to <https://www.unyumc.org/district/albany> and scroll down to **District and Conference news September 22**. There you will find a full listing of the workshops and the updated schedule and the registration form. The cost for the day is ten dollars, includes lunch. Five dollars without lunch. **Please register by October 8.**

SOME SHORT NOTES OF IMPORTANCE



- Please consider joining other members of our church family for our final **Adopt-a-Highway** clean-up on Saturday morning, **October 1**. We will plan on meeting at church at 8:00 am to pick up trash bags, helmets, vests, and trash grabbers. Thank you from the Eco-Team.

- If you are a regular Blood Donor, this is a note for your calendar. The next scheduled dates for a Red Cross Blood Drive here at our church --- Wednesday, **November 15, 2022** and Friday, **January 20, 2023**

- Retired UMC Bishop William H. Willimon has an article titled, “The United Methodist divorce is a mistake” in the October issue of THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY magazine. He closes his article with the line, “Old Daddy Wesley, we’ve messed up again.” The magazine is in our Church Library.
- The SPRC (Staff Parish Relations Committee) has announced that Kevin Clark has been added to our custodial staff. He will now be one of the team that helps keep our church facilities clean and shipshape. Welcome Aboard, Kevin!
- The Thirteenth Session of Upper New York Annual Conference will be held remotely on **October 6—8, 2022**. “The theme this year is *It is Well – Keeping Hope Alive*. We acknowledge all that we have faced in the last two years, and through it all, we are well, and God’s hope is alive”. Our East Greenbush Church has a resolution that is being presented to the session for its approval. It is entitled, “Encouragement of Voting by All Citizens”. To read the full resolution, go to: https://issuu.com/uppernewyork/docs/2022_vol_i and turn to page 37. Or ask in our church office to see the copy of Volume 1 of the 2022 Annual Conference Journal, page 37.



CORNERSTONE CAMPUS MINISTRY DINNER

On Wednesday, September 21, Cornerstone Campus Ministry held their annual fundraising dinner at the First Lutheran Church in Albany. This year’s dinner celebrated Campus Minister Sandy Damhof’s upcoming December 31 retirement. She will then, for the Spring semester, continue to work with our new, yet to be named, Campus Minister. For the evening, former UAlbany Cornerstone Ministry alum submitted video thanks to Sandy for the memorable time they had with her. In the picture on the left you will see those who attended from our church plus our Peer Minister, Rhoda Demanya. George Herrick, like most of the other Campus Ministry Board Members, was a waiter for the evening.



Mary McIntosh, Kathy Van Buren and Karen Terwilliger, with Rhoda’s prodding, agreed to sign-up for another Food and Faith slot in the Spring semester. Would you be interested and willing to help prepare a Tuesday evening meal for a bunch of college students? Speak to one of our three veterans if you have any questions and/or to volunteer.

Stewardship Campaign

The Finance Committee will shortly be sending out the 2023 Stewardship Campaign letter and pledge card. We ask that you return the pledge card by Sunday, **October 30, 2022**. You may mail the pledge card in the enclosed envelope or drop it in the collection plate on Sunday morning. The 2023 campaign is entitled “**Spiritual Giving**”. Thank you for your continued support of our church.



Last month, we began our series highlighting the various Caring Ministries within our church. This month we feature Family Assistance and Kairos. Please consider becoming involved.

Before COVID-19 challenged us and changed our lives, members of our church family experienced life-changing crises and the inability to pay



bills. The types of crises impacting families who participated still impact families in addition to the stress of COVID. Our Church has always reached out to others with a “helping hand.”

In 2014, Zarina, Roman and Reema Khan became actively involved in our church as both refugees and asylum seekers from Pakistan. We started the Zarina Fund to help raise money to assist the family in accessing basic survival needs...a home, food,

medicine, health care, etc.

The Zarina Fund was renamed The Long Term Family Assistance Fund as we recognized that other church families experienced more extended life crises requiring support that could not be met with the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund, and was recently renamed the Family Assistance Ministries. Since 2014, 19 people (6 families) have participated in the Family Assistance Program. Four of the six families now are financially independent and thriving. Two families currently participate in this ministry and there may be more in our church who need a little help from FAM and don’t know yet about the program. All who have participated comment that the Church community literally saved their lives.

Each of us could be a family in crisis and not know where to turn. FAM participants can meet to brainstorm solutions to ongoing crises, learn of community resources and get support when under stress. All is confidential.

Please contact either Carrie Larson or John Schmidt if you or someone you know needs help and please consider making a contribution to the Family Assistance Ministry.

Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc. (Kairos) is a lay-led, interdenominational Christian ministry in which men and women volunteers bring Christ’s love and forgiveness to prisoners and their families. The Kairos programs take the participants on a journey that demonstrates the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ. Kairos Prison Ministry is Christian in nature, although no religious affiliation is necessary to be a participant. The programs involve a structured model that includes the weekend experience, followed by guests or, as our Cossackie Kairos team refers to them, “residents”, gathering regularly for accountability, support and prayer. A good view of the weekend experience is available on the video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pkyGRSZ4sXM>, if you haven’t already seen it. Volunteers in our area serve mainly at Cossackie Correctional Facility, a maximum level prison or at Greene CF, a medium level facility. George Herrick is our team leader and has many years of experience with Kairos. Please see George with any questions about this valuable ministry and/or to volunteer to serve in this ministry.



THE BUECHNER NARRATIVE WRITING PROJECT

We have people in our church family who love to write. If you are one of them, this is something especially for you. It is a project that honors the life and legacy of writer and theologian Frederick Buechner and its aim is to nurture the art of spiritual writing and reflection. More information is in the current issue of The CHRISTIAN CENTURY magazine, page 54. Our church subscribes to this magazine, and you can find a copy in our Church Library (see Patty Chartrand if you need help). Submit a first-person narrative (under 1,000 words) on the topic “**Hunt**”



by **November 1, 2022**. Selected essays will be published in the print or web magazine. Authors of the selected essays will receive \$100 and a free one-year subscription to the CHRISTIAN CENTURY. Six essays published in this month’s issue are all on the topic, “**Eye**”. Past topics have included: Scrap, Disguise and Hinge. See the magazine for more information, including a future topic for **February 2023**.

CROP WALK 2022

The war in Ukraine and the impact of severe weather events such as extreme heat, drought and flooding has dramatically increased the number of hungry people in the world. The United Nations World Food Program estimates that as many as 50 million people in 43 countries are nearing famine. The funds we raise this year ensure Church World Service (CWS) can continue responding to the growing needs around the world. CWS is already responding in drought-stricken areas of Kenya providing emergency food rations to 3,000 families, coupling that aid by working with community leaders to implement disaster risk reduction projects. Your generosity allows CWS to support communities during the times in which they need it most.



Please plan to join the Castleton Crop Walk on **Sunday, October 16**. One-quarter of all funds will be directed to the Anchor Food Pantry and Thrift Store in Castleton. Three-quarters of the funds help support the work of CWS and its partners for hunger relief and development projects in the U.S. and around the world. Walkers may register at www.crophungerwalk.org/castletonny. Walkers ask friends and families to support them either with an on-line contribution or check payable to "CWS/CROP." On the day of the walk, we will meet at Emmanuel Reformed Church at 12:00 noon for a light lunch, a blessing, some pictures and then we will set out for the parking lot on Boltwood Avenue, behind the Anchor Food Pantry. From there, we will set out on a 3.2 mile walk. There is a 1 mile walk for those needing a shorter route. If you cannot join the walk yourself, please support a walker. Every contribution helps bring some relief to those in need. For more information about the walk, go to the website <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/event/castletonny>. Contact Kevin Conley (e.kevin.conley@gmail.com, 518-253-4907) if you have questions.

CREATION CARE SERIES

The Eco-Team continues with their biweekly video and discussion series. In each session, participants view a TED Talk video and follow with discussion. The sessions are held in the choir room and will run from 11:00 am-12:00 Noon. **If you would like to participate via ZOOM, please send a request to e.kevin.conley@gmail.com and he will send you a link.** This series is intended to inform, but just as importantly, encourage us to talk to one another about the climate emergency that we are in and learn what actions we can take to protect and heal the earth. Topics for the series are shown below. Participants can attend one or all of the series.

October 9 - *What to do when climate change feels unstoppable* by Clover Hogan

October 23 - *Why humans are so bad at thinking about climate change* by Dr. M. Sanjayan

November 6 - *Why renewables can't save the planet* by Michael Shellenberger

JUST ITCHIN' TO SERVE?

These people already have. That's Patty Chartrand, Susie Calyer, John Peterson, Carrie and Peter Larson, folks who have gotten down and dirty to make our inner courtyard look respectable. Thanks to them for all the time they have already given. Care to join them to finish the job?



We have a variety of tasks in and around the church that need doing. Here are some more suggestions:

-We are still looking for volunteers to host coffee hour. Please see the yellow sign-up sheet in the lobby to host a coffee hour. Without any host, coffee hour will not go on.

-You are invited to participate in the liturgy of Sunday services, including leading the Opening Prayer, the Prayer for Illumination and reading the Scriptures. This is an open invitation for all regardless of age or experience. If you would like to participate, please let Pastor Danyal know which date(s) from now through January 2023 you would be available. You can speak to him after Sunday services, text him at 518-618-7265 or email him at pastordanyal@fumceg.org.

Are you a party planner? Interested in history? Creative? Wanting to publicize our church to our community? All these skills and more can be put to good use as our church approaches its 150th anniversary in 2023! We need your help to figure out the best ways to mark this great achievement. Contact the church office to volunteer for the task force: office@fumceg.org, 518-477-9693.

A SPECIAL SERVICE – FOR THE ANIMALS

On **October 9**, at the early service, we will have a Blessing of the Animals. Like many other special services, this one is important in the United Methodist Church. It must be, an outline for such a service is included in our **The United Methodist Book of Worship**. The background material for this service includes the line, “Make allowances for the arrival of larger animals such as horses and other livestock.” The days of large animal farms in our area are almost all gone. But the response to our invitation to “bring you pets” could see us having a goat or a little lamb at our service. That would be just great. Come join us with or without an animal. 8:30 am service at the Chapel in the Woods on **October 9**, weather permitting. Come, bring your pet !



THANK YOU GARDNERS, MOWERS AND STEWARDS OF THE FUMCEG

Thank you to the following tireless workers
whose stewardship brought beauty to our church grounds
and flowers to the altar:

Susie Calyer, Patty Chartrand, Peter Larson, Kate and Fred Henson,
John and Karen Peterson, Pat Frament, Paul Deming, Neal Calvin.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Names are keep on the prayer list for one month. If you would like a name continued longer than this, or if there are any additions or deletions to the list, please inform the church office. Please help us keep our prayer list up to date

BAPTISM

Adelee Jean Telford and Levi Joseph Telford,, September 18, 2022
Daughter and Son of Amber and Donald Telford, III

