



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE BELL

1 Gilligan Road, East Greenbush, New York 12061



VOLUME 25 ISSUE 3 MARCH 2023

At Church on Sundays:

- ♦ 8:30 am Early Informal Service - Fellowship Hall
- ♦ 9:30 am Regular Service is available live on Facebook and YouTube. The Church's website has the links.
- ♦ Sunday School & Youth Group—see inside for details

Visit us on the Web:

www.fumceg.org

www.facebook.com/FUMCEG

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

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Danyal Mohammadzadeh

Pastor

Gail Welkley

Administrative Assistant

FROM OUR PASTOR'S DESK



Lent is a time of self-reflection. We have different life experiences, but we all have a life that has been affected by our good choices, our poor choices, and the consequences of others' choices.

If I have a healthy diet, I won't suffer in my senior years because of high cholesterol, high blood sugar, or high blood pressure. It is obvious that a part of my physical and mental health depends on my personal choices, however, like genetic disorders, some illnesses are not caused by my personal choices. I have no control of them. Also, I see I have been affected by the consequences of others' choices. If my parents immigrated to the US, I would have had a better life. If I was not tortured physically for 35 days in a solitary confinement, I wouldn't have suffered from severe back pain. As we reflect on our lives, we see it's a package of our good choices, our poor choices, and the consequences of others' choices.

Well! We can't control other choices, nor can we go back and change our poor choices. The only option is repenting from our poor choices, our wrongdoings, or our sins in light of God's transformative forgiveness. Is God's forgiveness transformative?



When we look at Bible closely, we find that all of the Bible's heroes were fallible human beings, capable of making poor choices, yet God forgave them, walked with them, loved them, and used them. Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were each, in their own ways, a mess. Sarah was cruel to Hagar. Moses killed a man. King David may have composed or commissioned many of our psalms, but at his worst moment, he was an adulterer and had a man killed to cover up his sin. Joseph was ready to divorce Mary. Peter denied knowing Jesus. The rest of the apostles abandoned Jesus. Judas betrayed him. Paul participated in the stoning of Stephen before he came to faith. And right here God reveals His transformative forgiveness.

God chooses imperfect people, forgives them, befriends them, and uses them. That's the pattern of God's forgiveness that is transformative. Reading the life of Abraham, Moses, David, Paul, Peter, and other Bible's heroes gives me a strong hope as I reflect on my life in Lent. Reading their life journey in the Bible gives me a strong hope that if God forgave them,

(Continued on page 2)

A Reconciling Congregation

(Continued from page 1)

gave them peace instead of depression and anxiety, if God forgave them and gave them salvation, if God forgave them and used them, God will forgive me and use me too. God will heal my depression and my anxieties too. And God will lead me to the green pastures of happiness and still waters of peace too. Yes, God hates sin, but God does not hate sinners. The incarnate God talked to sinners. The incarnate God ate with sinners. The incarnate God opened His arms to them. The incarnate God forgave them. And God transformed their lives.

Lent is a time of self-examination and reflection in light of God's transformative forgiveness. We get 40 days for reviewing our lives and reflecting on them and entrusting ourselves to the merciful arms of our Father. May we feel God's transformative touch this year more than ever. Amen!

Blessings, *Danyal*

STORY TELLING NIGHT



The first story telling night featured Pastor Danyal. He talked of growing up in Iran and his past training as a lawyer and journalist. The evening was a huge success with some 85 people attending. Now see what's coming next.



Wednesday, March 1 our Storytelling Night will feature the Chief of Police of East Greenbush, Elaine Rudzinski.

She is the first female chief in East Greenbush. As a graduate of Columbia High School she is very familiar with the community and our school system. Please join Elaine Wednesday for her story and a snack at 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Do you know anyone who has a story to tell? About life, about circumstances, about joyful endeavors or accomplishments? We need speakers for June and July. Contact Pastor Danyal or Aleta or 150th Anniversary Celebration Team.



Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 12. Be sure to set you clock ahead one hour before you go to bed Saturday night so that you don't miss Worship on Sunday morning.

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. March 2023, Volume 25, Issue 3. **George Herrick**, Editor; **Shawna Lambert**, **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; **Steven Green**, 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 MARCH

Bookends for the month of March -- Ash Wednesday in February and Easter in April. That puts us in the middle of Lent. The four Sundays of March are mentioned specifically below. Lent – a time of prayer. What do we pray about, when do we pray, what’s special about Lenten prayer? Fasting. When do we fast, how do we fast? Serving. Is serving during Lent any different than other times? Where, how do we serve? Worship during this month can help us answer these questions.



This month of March is **Women’s History Month**. The theme for this special month this year is, “Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories.” Do the names, Minerva Garza Carcaño, Fanny J. Crosby, Lois Glory-Neal or Georgia Harkness have any meaning for you? If you do a search on the web for “Women in UMC History”, you will find some answers. Hint, use this link: <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/partners/gcsrw/home/about-us-and-news/our-history/women-in-umc-history>. Here’s a start. **Georgia Harkness**. Well educated, prominent theologian, a “local girl” raised in the town named after her great-grandfather, Harkness, New York, up near Plattsburgh. Please take the time to watch the short video about her at <https://www.umc.org/en/content/georgia-harkness-methodist-trailblazer-in-theology>. (Look for the red shoes. You’ll understand when you watch the video.) She was an activist for inclusiveness, espoused ecumenism, a skillful interpreter of applied theology and authored inspirational poems, prayers and hymns.

One more, **Fanny Crosby**. Another New Yorker. Fanny was born and raised in Brewster NY, down in Putnam County. She went to school in New York City and, at one time, was a member of John Street UMC in New York. She was married to a famous New York organist named Alexander van Alstyne Jr. Fanny was “a poet, teacher and dedicated mission worker, but she was best known as a prolific hymn writer, composing an estimated 5,000 to 9,000 hymns, some under as many as 200 different pseudonyms.” Her name appears a number of times in our UM Hymnal. One hymn, To God Be the Glory (#98) was written before 1875 but became a “forgotten hymn”. That is, until Cliff Barrows reintroduced it at a Billy Graham Crusade in 1954. Now it appears on many Sunday morning song lists. Check out this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-15v9iworAU> where it was sung at Royal Albert Hall in London. One more thing, did I mention that both Fanny and her husband were blind, she since infancy?

Here is more on the individual Sundays and more of the month:

- March 3** Friday, World Day of Prayer
- March 5** Second Sunday in Lent -- Holy Communion will be part of both Sunday services.
Pastor Danyal will explore the role of women in the ministry of Jesus
- March 12** Third Sunday in Lent
Pastor Danyal will explore some of the unique parables we find in Luke's Gospel
- March 19** Fourth Sunday in Lent, UMCOR Sunday
Pastor Danyal will explore Luke’s introduction of Jesus's journey to Jerusalem,
- March 26** Fifth Sunday in Lent
Pastor Danyal will explore the final week of Jesus's life

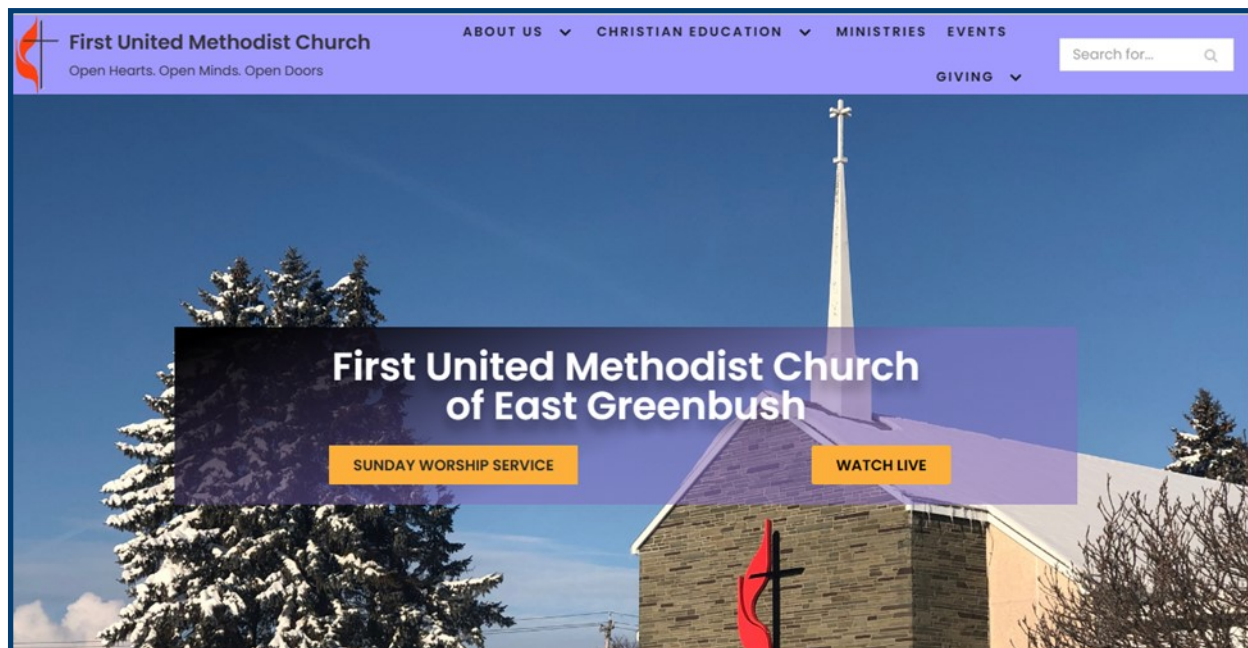
Pastor Danyal will be preaching each Sunday in March. Our 9:30 am Sunday worship service is live streamed on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FUMCEG and on [YouTube](#).

Here is the lectionary for March:

- March 5** Genesis 12:1-4; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17
- March 12** Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42
- March 19** 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41
- March 26** Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

WORSHIP SERVICES LIVE STREAM AVAILABLE ON OUR HOME PAGE

The Tech Team has now made our Sunday Worship Services available from the Church's website Home page. You no longer need to hunt through **Facebook** or **YouTube** to locate our services. Just go to the Church's website, and on the home page at <https://fumceg.org.>, and click on either **Watch Live**, for the Live Stream Broadcasts, or if you are looking for previous services, click on **Sunday Worship Service** and view a multi-page gallery of our past services that you can look through to find a particular date.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Hello Families --

It is hard to believe that Spring is right around the corner. I hope everyone had a fantastic and healthy winter. Please see the dates for March listed below.



Sunday, **March 5**, John 3:1-17.

Sunday, **March 12** is Pretzel Sunday! Please come in clothes that can get messy.

Sunday, **March 19** is John 9:1-41. I will be on vacation, there will be a substitute for children ages PreK-3rd grade. Fourth grade and up will meet in the kitchen with Amber Telford.

Sunday, **March 29** is John 11: 1-45.

If anyone is interested in going through the First Communion Class this year, please contact me for the full details & to be added to the class list.

Thank you and blessings!

Amanda Trainor,
EGChristanEDFUMC@gmail.com

UNITED METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

March is a very busy month for the youth group and we are looking forward to all the activities especially the art show. We welcome all to youth, friends of youth and everyone else from grades 5th - 12th.

March 5 - We will have a Junior High Group from 11:00 am -12:30 pm We will be creating art together to help the art show and we will be talking about the lent season and upcoming youth group items.

March 12 -Youth Group Outing. The Youth Group will be going to A.I.R (Albany Indoor Rock Gym). A.I.R is a rock gym with tunnels to climb through. We will leave the church around 11:30 am and get back around 2:30 pm. We will need a parent with the child, if they are under10 years of age. The cost per child will be \$10.00. We will also be ordering pizza when we are there. The waiver must be filled out prior to the event (linked below).

[Updated 2020 A.I.R. Liability Waiver \(smartwaiver.com\)](https://www.smartwaiver.com)

March 18 - (all youth) 2:00 pm -3:30 pm . We will be prepping for a community lunch on **March 19**. I will need a parent to help as well.

March 19 - We will be hosting a coffee hour with a Community Lunch for the Congregation. We will be making Tea sandwiches, veggie platters, some fruit and of course some kind of dessert. Youth 5th grade and up will be helping to make the sandwiches during Sunday School. After Clean up there will be a SR Youth Meeting until 1:30 pm We will be collecting the art from the community, help organize it and prep for the art show. We will also be filling eggs for the easter egg hunt for Palm Sunday which is April 5th. If you have any questions please email Amber at Youthleaderamber@gmail.com

Blessings,
Amber Telford



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN—UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



On February 12 Fran Berger presented our annual Blanket Sunday appeal sponsored by Church World Service. Donations are still coming in. So in the April Church Bell we will have a total to announce. Thank you all for your generous support in the very worthy mission.

The UMW will hold its monthly meeting on **March 6** at 7:00 pm in the Choir Room. All women of the church are invited to attend. With new people new ideas are generated. Won't you please join us?

March 25 - COMMUNITY WIDE ART SHOW DAY!!

The Art Show will be held from 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm. We will be looking at art, watching musicians play. We will also have a bake sale. There are many ways that we will be looking for volunteers.

First: If your youth plays an instrument and would like to play during the art show, we will have a sign up sheet that has 15 minute blocks of time to perform.

Second: Profits from donated bake goods from the bake sale will support the Youth 2023 trip

Third: Assistance is needed to set up or clean up and/or both for the Art Show.

Fourth: We will be looking for help to man the art tables - We have a rock painting table. The painted rocks will become a rock garden in the courtyard, also we will have card making for veterans, and we will be having a beading table where bracelets can be made to bring home. All who want to volunteer, please reach out to Amber at Youthleaderamber@gmail.com .



HOSPITALITY

The Youth Group will be hosting a Community Lunch on **March 19** during coffee hour following morning worship. We will be serving Tea Sandwiches, fruit, veggies and of course dessert. There will be donation baskets out during the lunch to collect money to be able to host more community lunches as the hospitality group or if other groups will want to do it. The Hospitality goal is to have one Community lunch/meal per month during coffee hour.



We are still looking for individuals, groups, best friends, and families to host coffee hour. For coffee hour all you need to bring is a delicious treat (they even can be store bought). The coffee, creamer and juice are provided. If you have any questions or if you would like to have a walk through on what needs to be done please see Amber Telford.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY AHEAD!

Spring is almost here, and that means volunteers are needed as we begin our **eleventh year of caring for a two-mile section of Routes 9 & 20**. Helmets, bags, vests and trash grabbers will be provided to those who show up on **April 1 at 8:00 am at the church**. (Rain/Snow date: **April 8**). If you can spare an hour, we would appreciate your help collecting any accumulated trash left over from the winter along the highway. Clean-Ups will also be held on **June 3, August 5 and October 7**. See John Schmidt with any questions. Thanks!



YOUTH 2023—DAYTONA BEACH



YOUTH 2023 is the national gathering for United Methodist youth in the United States and all are welcome. **YOUTH 2023** will take place in Daytona Beach, Florida, from **July 25-28 of 2023**. **YOUTH 2023** will be open to youth entering sixth grade through those graduating twelfth grade in 2023 and adult leaders of youth ministry. **YOUTH 2023** is open to global participants. That includes ecumenical participants from denominations in the Methodist family tree. The **YOUTH 2023** Design Team will continue to monitor and plan for extenuating circumstances related to General Conference and COVID-

related delays or restrictions. **YOUTH 2023** will happen as responsibly and as safely as possible.

Here is what The Design Team can promise us so far:

- Three amazing evenings of big room worship on **July 25, 26, and 27**.
- Three incredible mornings of big room worship on **July 26, 27, and 28**.
- Our stage will showcase diverse voices, including different ages. Some of our speakers will also lead workshops during the event.

They are busy researching and contacting the best speakers from across our connection. Stay tuned for the latest updates.

BISHOP HÉCTOR A. BURGOS NÚÑEZ'S INSTALLATION SERVICE TO BE HELD MARCH 11

The Upper New York (UNY) Committee on Episcopacy invites all United Methodists in UNY to join us **Saturday, March 11, at 2:00 pm.** to celebrate the assignment of Bishop Héctor A. Burgos Núñez as our new episcopal leader. At this installation service, we will thank God for the life, ministry, and leadership of Bishop Héctor, offer him and his family our gracious hospitality, and hear our new bishop share his vision for how God intends to lead us into the future together.



This service of installation and celebration is intended for the whole Conference. You may participate in one of two ways:

1. **In-person** at the Liverpool First United Methodist Church in Liverpool, NY. A limited number of seats are available. Please RSVP for in-person participation no later than **March 4** by registering [here](#). An onsite reception will follow this service.
2. **Via Livestream** from anywhere in the Conference and beyond. To connect, please [click here](#) on the Conference website on the day of the service. For Livestream participation, no RSVP is necessary.

150 YEAR CELEBRATION CHALLENGE

As our church continues to celebrate our 150 years – we are always looking for ways to include the community in our celebration. After some thought and because our church has for many years been a big supporter of the CoNSERNS-U food pantry, we decided to include them in our celebration by asking what one item do they always need and never have. The answer, without hesitation, was laundry soap, laundry soap, laundry soap. As many of you know, the pantry is a vital source for many Southern Rensselaer County families in need and the numbers served continues to grow.



SO OUR CHALLENGE IS.....150 BOTTLES OF LAUNDRY SOAP BY **MAY 1st**.
Make a difference the next time you shop! **PICK UP A BOTTLE.** Help us celebrate by helping others.

THE CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND

The Church Endowment Fund generates approximately \$8,000 of dividends and interest each year. When Church receipts equal or exceed the Church budget Endowment dividends and interest are used to begin new or expand existing ministries. Since the onset of the pandemic the Church budget has been under stress and Endowment monies have been critical to the maintenance of our existing activities.



Donations to the Endowment Funds can be made in a variety of ways. They can be gifts for no particular reason, they can be gifts in memory of someone, they can be part of your will. Whatever the motivation these gifts support the current and future ministries of this Church.

If you would like to explore giving to the Endowment talk with a member of the Endowment Committee or Pastor Danyal.

Committee members: Carl Eno; Kirsten Downer; John Peterson; Peter Larson, Chair

Q & A WITH REV. DR. BECCA EHRLICH, NEW PROTESTANT CAMPUS MINISTER, CORNERSTONE CAMPUS MINISTRY AT UALBANY

Hi everyone! I'm Pastor Becca, and I'm thrilled to have started my new call as Protestant Campus Minister for UAlbany students. Both of my parents and my husband attended UAlbany, so being with the students at UAlbany feels natural to me.



I was asked to answer a few questions for you all at FUMCEG, so here we go!

WHAT IS ONE THING YOU ARE MOST EXCITED ABOUT AS YOU START YOUR NEW JOB?

Working with students is a passion of mine, so I'm really excited to work with the students at UAlbany. We also have a lot of diversity in Cornerstone; our students come from many different backgrounds, denominations, countries, majors, and degree programs—which makes for fantastic worship and conversations!

HOW CAN LOCAL CHURCHES BE MOST HELPFUL TO THE CORNERSTONE MINISTRY?

Three major things:

- 1) Prayer. Please pray for the students at UAlbany and Cornerstone Campus Ministry.
- 2) Continue to participate in Food and Faith. Every Tuesday from 6:00 pm -7:15pm when class is in session, we hold Food and Faith, a program for students to eat, get to know one another, and do some faith learning. Local congregations sign up to “host” by providing food and a faith-based program. We depend on congregations to host and feed the students on Tuesdays-- when we don't have a congregation signed up, we have to pay for the food that day out of our own budget, often using the food service on campus, which can get pricey. Thank you for your previous hosting, and I look forward to your continued hosting in the years to come!
- 3) Donations. A portion of our budget is specifically given through congregational support. More monetary resources mean more programs and events we can do with students, and a greater ability to reach more students in the name of Jesus. With donations, we can also continue to train and have peer ministers run multiple programs—thank you for your support in sponsoring a peer minister over the years!

DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE LINE OF SCRIPTURE OR A SCRIPTURE STORY THAT YOU FIND IMPORTANT/RELATED TO YOUR NEW JOB?

I do! In Jeremiah 1:4-9, Jeremiah receives his call from God to be a prophet for God's people. His first reaction is hesitation. He says “Alas, Sovereign LORD, I do not know how to speak; I am too young.” God responds: “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you.” Then God touches Jeremiah's mouth and says: “I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.”

In this story of Jeremiah's call, we see that God calls people from all ages to God's work here on earth—God can give anyone the words to say, and God's work to do. Young adults are often underestimated because of their age, but God uses all of us! It's a blessing to be able to empower young adults to heed God's call and do God's work in the world!

PLEASE TALK A LITTLE ABOUT WHAT CAMPUS MINISTRY BRINGS TO THE UNIVERSITY.

College is often a time when young adults are figuring out their place in the world and their purpose in life. Through Cornerstone's ministry, we help students from a Christian perspective find their God-given purpose, as well as their joy in following Jesus. We also help students grow in their relationship with God and with each other. Spiritual growth is just as important as academic growth!

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2023

“I Have Heard About Your Faith”

Ephesians 1:15-19

This is all about **The World Day of Prayer**. That’s the theme for this year – up at the top. As noted, the source is Ephesians. A poster for this year is at the left, the logo for this worldwide movement of Christian women is at the right. The theme and poster for this year came from women of Taiwan. The words below are from a website of the World Day of Prayer International Committee.



“The World Day of Prayer is a worldwide movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year, and who, in many countries, have a continuing relationship in prayer and service.

-It is a movement initiated and carried out by women in more than 170 countries and regions.

-It is a movement symbolized by an annual day of celebration – the first Friday of March – to which all people are welcome.

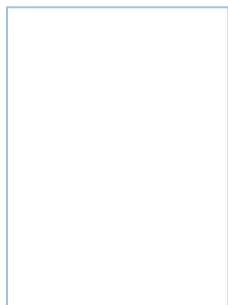


-It is a movement which brings together women of various races, cultures, and traditions in closer fellowship, understanding, and action throughout the year.”

There is much more information about this special day on the web at World Day of Prayer International Committee. Now, in 2023, share in this special day. On **March 3**, take a few moments, and bow in prayer.

UMCOR SUNDAY IS IN MARCH

“When 9-year-old Senoia UMC member Smith heard about the crisis in Ukraine he wanted to do something to help. [Early last year], with a kitchen (and family) covered in flour, he’s sold nearly 50 pound cakes to raise funds to support the humanitarian work of [United Methodist Committee on Relief \(UMCOR\)](#).



"Smith is the youngest of our four sons," said Smith's mom, Emily Wilson. "We have had many dinner discussions about the horror that is taking place in Ukraine. Our pastor [Rev. Ashley Jenkins] has talked about UMCOR in church and how they are helping feed and clothe people who have lost everything. ..Smith felt the need to do something to help. His first thought was a lemonade and cookie stand, but then he had the idea to sell his Mimi’s pound cakes."

Smith said, "Mom, who can resist Mimi’s cake? It is the best pound cake in the world!" So he called his grandparents and shared his idea with them. "Poundcakes for Peace" was born! [Selling his cakes and cookies] Smith raised more than \$3,500!

"We are proud of Smith," said Emily. "As Smith’s Grandpa likes to say, 'Smith weighs 80 lbs and 70 lbs of it is his heart.'" “

One of six churchwide Special Sundays with offerings of The United Methodist Church, [UMCOR Sunday](#) calls United Methodists to share the goodness of life with those who hurt. Your gifts to UMCOR Sunday lay the foundation for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to share God’s love with communities everywhere. The special offering underwrites UMCOR’s “costs of doing business.” This helps UMCOR to keep the promise that 100 percent of any gift to a specific UMCOR project will go toward that project, not administrative costs.

Remember, **UMCOR Sunday is March 19.**

SOME SHORT NOTES OF IMPORTANCE



- ♦ The Upper New York Conference's March 2023 Special Session of Annual Conference to consider disaffiliation requests will take place virtually on **March 25** from 9:00 am - 12:00 noon. Registration will close on **March 10**, 2023. A livestream will be available for non-voting members.
- ♦ We have been invited to serve one more Tuesday **Food and Faith Program** this semester for Cornerstone Campus Ministry. Mary McIntosh, Kathy VanBuren or Karen Terwilliger might have some suggestions to share about what to prepare for the students. If you, man or woman, are willing to help on a Food and Faith program or if you have questions about the program, please speak to George Herrick. We would really like to help make the first semester for our new Campus Chaplain a big success.
- ♦ Keep informed about our church.. **For the world-wide church**, The **UM News Daily Digest** provides features, commentaries, and photos highlighting the work of the church in every corner of the globe. To sign up for this free publication, go to: <https://www.umnews.org/en/subscription-pages/umnews-daily-digest-subscribe>. **For our conference**, To stay connected with what is happening in the Upper New York Conference, go to <https://www.unyumc.org/news/connect> and sign-up for the Weekly Digest. **For Albany District**, email the district office at: albanydistrict@unyumc.org and ask to be put on the newsletter list.
- ♦ You must know something about Kairos, the Christian Prison Ministry program. There is also a program for youth that is part of the Kairos Prison Ministry. Have questions? Interested in being a part of the program? Want to serve on a weekend? See George Herrick for more information.

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

When a natural disaster strikes outside of the U.S., such as the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey, the United Methodist Committee on Relief International Disaster Response program provides support in the form of food, water, hygiene and other essential nonfood supplies and temporary shelter. If you would like to donate for earthquake relief efforts, please either write a check to the church and enter **Advance #982450** in the memo field or select *International Disaster* in the online giving app on our website.



UPCOMING LENTEN LUNCHESES ON WEDNESDAYS MARCH 1 THROUGH MARCH 29

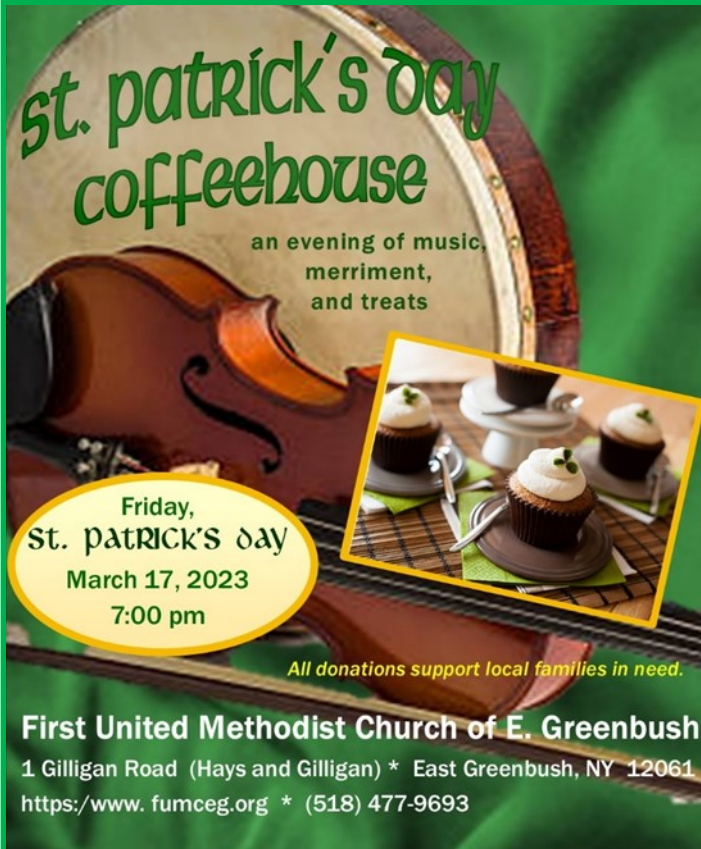


The Ecumenical Lenten Worship and Lunch series resumes this year! **FUMC is responsible for providing the lunch on both March 1 and March 22.** We are looking for people willing to donate money towards the purchase of soup ingredients and bread. We would also appreciate donations of desserts. Volunteers are needed to help in the kitchen preparing, serving, and cleaning up after the meal. Please contact Kathy Van Buren for more information. We hope you can help us make this lunch an enjoyable ecumenical community gathering. Thank you.

TIME TO ORDER EASTER LILIES!

The order sheet is on the long table in the lobby. 6" Easter Lilies cost \$11.00 each; Please make checks payable to the "United Methodist Women." Orders must be received in the church office by **Wednesday, March 22, 2023**. Please call the church office at 518-477-9693 with any questions.





st. patrick's day
coffeehouse

an evening of music,
merriment,
and treats

Friday,
St. Patrick's day
March 17, 2023
7:00 pm

All donations support local families in need.

First United Methodist Church of E. Greenbush
1 Gilligan Road (Hays and Gilligan) * East Greenbush, NY 12061
<https://www.fumceg.org> * (518) 477-9693

The poster features a green background with a large violin and a shamrock. An inset photo shows three chocolate cupcakes with white frosting and green decorations. The text is in various fonts and colors, including green, black, and yellow.