



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE BELL

1 Gilligan Road, East Greenbush, New York 12061

We Are A Reconciling Congregation

VOLUME 27 ISSUE 9 - OCTOBER 2025



OCTOBER SERMON SCHEDULE

♦ **9:30 am** Regular Service and
Sunday School

This service is also available live
on YouTube using the links on the
Church's website.

Visit us on the Web:

www.fumceg.org

www.facebook.com/FUMCEG

Phone: (518) 477-9693

Fax: (518) 477-4336

Church Office Hours:

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

Email: office@fumceg.org

BELL (only) Email:

editor@fumceg.org

Announcements Email:

office@fumceg.org

Pastor

Rev. Marybeth Blinn

Pastormarybeth@fumceg.org

Rev. Jennifer Williamson

Pastorjen@fumceg.org

Gail Welkley,

Administrative Assistant

Lauren Lehmann,

Sunday School Coordinator

LLehmann@fumceg.org

Martha Deyo, Organist

Robert Thomsen, Choir Director

October 5: "Rekindling the Flame:

Through Relationships" With Holy Communion

Scripture: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Preacher: Rev. Mary Beth Blinn

Liturgist: Rev. Jennifer Williamson

Stewardship Spotlight

October 12: "Rekindling the Flame: With the Bible

Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:14- 4:5

Preacher: Rev. Mary Beth Blinn

Stewardship Spotlight

October 19: Rekindling the Flame: Through Generosity

Scripture: Mark 14:3-9

Preacher: Rev. Mary Beth Blinn

Stewardship Spotlight

October 26: "Rekindling the Flame: Through Humility"

Scripture: Luke 18:9-14

Preacher: Rev. Jennifer Williamson

Consecration Sunday



MEET OUR PASTOR: REV. JEN WILLIAMSON



Beginning October 1 Pastor Jen is working quarter time as part of our interim pastoral team with Pastor Mary Beth Blinn. You can meet her on October 5 during our worship! She is a lifelong United Methodist. She was born and raised in Girard, Ohio. After Seminary at Drew Theological School in New Jersey, Pastor Jen and her husband moved back to the Youngstown area and she served as an associate pastor of a large suburban church. She was then appointed as pastor of Woodville United Methodist in Woodville, Ohio. After that, her husband became rector of Grace and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Colorado Springs; Pastor Jen served part time there as pastor of visitation and youth. In 2024, her husband, Jeremiah, became the 10th Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Albany. Pastor Jen has spent her Sundays either preaching at area churches or joining her husband on his church visits across the Diocese. She is a chaplain at St. Peter's Hospital and is currently completing her third unit of Clinical Pastoral Education through Emory University. She enjoys spending time outdoors with her

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



The United Women In Faith would like to thank everyone who helped, participated in, and attended the events we have sponsored this past September; The Albany District Meeting, Brook's Barbecue. Without your help our events could not have been a success. Our next meeting is **October 6** at 2:00 pm. All are welcome.

MADE BY HAND WITH LOVE OUTREACH MISSIONS OCTOBER 2025

Our group made this basket of items for the East Greenbush Library, Night at the Library Fundraiser. October will be a busy month for us. This month we meet Tuesdays **October 14 and 28** at 10:00 am to 11:30 am in Rooms 5/6. We will continue to make Soft Hats for kids with cancer for hatsgiving.org. Hats can be any size, shape, color. They will be delivered locally the week before Thanksgiving.

October 28 we will be making pillowcases for children and adults, as part of our donations to St. Paul's Center for Women and Children in Rensselaer. If you would like to help, bring 1 yard of colorful cotton fabric, if you can. Don't sew? We need people to cut the fabric and someone else will do the sewing.

We will also be doing fleece cut and knot blankets. We will have all the supplies needed.

If you would like to learn to knit/crochet please contact us and we will arrange a time to meet. For more info contact: aschweigert@fumceg.org or rwheeler@fumceg.org



-----MISSIONS-----

The CROP Hunger Walk enables Church World Service (CWS) to provide just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster. Please plan to join the Castleton CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, **October 19**. One-quarter of all funds will be directed to the Anchor Food Pantry.



Three-quarters of the funds support the work of CWS and its partners. Walkers may register at www.crophungerwalk.org/castletonny. The 1 mile walk and 3.3 mile walk each follow the same route for the first mile. If you cannot join the walk yourself, please support a walker. Donations may be made on-line at the above address or by check payable to "CWS/CROP" given to a walker or in the offertory collection. For more information, contact Kevin Conley (kconley@fumceg.org).

FLOOD BUCKETS

Once again this year, the Missions Committee will be filling 15 UMCOR 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 **November 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-usable cleaning wipes— No terrycloth, microfiber or paper towels

Remove from packaging

- Five scouring pads sponges— No stainless-steel pads with soap in them
- Remove from packaging
- 36-50 clothespins
- One 50-100 ft. clothesline (cotton or plastic line)
- 24 roll of 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 for the prescription bottles (near the front of the Church). Your help is much appreciated.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee has begun work on our Fall Stewardship Campaign. Our giving is a spiritual discipline, and an important part of our personal relationship with God. We are called to be faithful stewards of the blessings we have received.

Last year we tried a new approach for our Stewardship Campaign. It was so successful in the increase of givers and giving amounts, that we will use the same format this year.



A letter will go out to the congregation with a 3x5 card and small envelope. After prayerfully considering your giving amount which could be weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annually, you write your commitment on the card and seal it with your name on the back. These are not opened by the financial secretary, so no checks or cash should be put in the envelope. All envelopes will be given to us on Consecration Sunday, October 26. Our process will be shared again closer to the beginning of the Campaign.

We thank all of you for your generous support throughout the year.

Membership Committee Senior Lunch

Our Fall Senior Lunch will be on Wednesday, **October 8**. Plan on joining our friends at 12:00 noon for lunch of Chili, Fruit Salad and Dessert. Invite a guest to share the fellowship of our congregation. Being a "Senior" is not required! If you do not get a call and wish to attend, contact the office 518-477-9693 to let us know you will be there so that we can prepare sufficiently. See you Soon

VRH, SUPPLY CLOSET DONATIONS: The Mission's and Social Responsibility Committee will be collecting items for Van Rensselaer Heights, a HUD subsidized senior apartment complex in Rensselaer NY. They have 107 apartments and to qualify people must be low income and over the age of 62 or disabled. From **October 1** till **October 31**, we will be collecting not candy but cleaning supplies. The year-round supply closet provides residents with household cleaning supplies such as:., dish soap (small bottles), paper towels, toilet paper, hand soap (small bottles), Lysol wipes, and all-purpose cleaners, free of charge. If you'd like to donate any of those items, there will be a labeled bin in the church foyer.

Thank you, Lorraine Beals

FAMILY ASSISTANCE MINISTRIES (FAM)

In 2014, we established the Family Assistance Ministry to address the financial needs of families in our church in crises related to unexpected medical, employment, housing and family events. To qualify for assistance, families access all community services first and often there are unmet critical needs. In the past



ASSISTANCE

11 years we have helped 16 families, first with funds to help pay for food, rent, gas, or medicine. We have expanded assistance to include transportation, referrals, meals, supportive meetings, long term financial needs and an Adaptive Equipment Lending Closet. All FAM meetings are confidential. How can you can help: volunteer to drive people to needed destinations, sign up to provide meals, and donate needed items (adaptive equipment and sometimes window air conditioners). Funding for FAM comes from you through contributions from Coffee Houses and other

Church sponsored programs and the Church Budget. Contact Carrie Larson or John Schmidt for more information.

SPOTLIGHT ON STAFF

Meet our Sunday School Coordinator!

LAUREN LEHMANN

Tell us about your family and pets.

I live with my husband, Bob. We have been married for 13 years. I have two daughters, Gracie (11) and Emma(8). We have two King Charles Spaniels, Lady and Remi.

Do you have any other jobs in addition to your job at FUMCEG?

I am a hair stylist and have owned my own salon since 2009. I also work for Disney as a Disney Travel Agent.

Other than Disney, where in the world would you like to visit?

I'd love to travel to Hawaii and explore the United States.

Do you have any hobbies?

I enjoy hanging out with my family, traveling (especially to Palm Coast, Florida). I love warm weather, sunshine, and beaches. I love the summer!

Favorite foods?

I'm a foodie! My favorite is authentic Italian.

What do you enjoy most at FUMCEG?

The kids! I especially love it when they take the lessons they have learned in class and put them into action in the church or out in the community.

Favorite hymn? "In the Garden"

Fun Fact: I am an artist. I have a degree in Elementary Art Education.

The next Spotlight on Staff is coming in November. Who will it be?



Pastor Mary Beth would like to draw your attention to the Adirondack/Albany District Day on October 25, 2025. She encourages all of the church community to look at the listing of workshops available, and suggests that you register soon for the workshop(s) that seem interesting or helpful. This is especially true for those who hold a leadership position in the church. Thank you.

**Adirondack/Albany District Day, Saturday, Oct. 25,
Saratoga Springs UMC:
See list of workshops**

Please join us for the 2025 District Day on Saturday, **October 25!** It will once again be held at the Saratoga Springs UMC, 175 Fifth Ave., Saratoga Springs. Approximately 18 workshops will be offered during 3 timeslots.

The day will begin with worship at 8:45 AM and will conclude at 3:00 PM. There is no charge. Morning snacks and lunch are provided. There will be facilitators from our Conference Missional Excellence Team, as well as our District Superintendent, some district pastors, our Adirondack District Lay Leader and the Albany District Lay Servant Director.



Click [here](#) for descriptions of the workshops we have lined up so far. We may be adding another two or three. Registration form [here](#).

If you've never participated, please come! It's a wonderful time of loving, learning and leading!

All are invited! This is not limited to the Adirondack and Albany Districts, and you don't have to be a member of the United Methodist Church to participate!

If you have questions, please contact Carrie Boyer, District Day coordinator @ her home number (518) 383-4873 or her personal email: jboyerart@aol.com





**Drive Thru
Saturday, October 4
4:15-6:15 p.m.
Treat your family to an easy, hearty meal
to celebrate Fall!**

Dinners include ½ chicken, baked potato, coleslaw,
dinner roll, and butter

Chicken Dinner for \$16*

Cash Only Please

Where:

**First United Methodist Church
1 Gilligan Road
East Greenbush**

Why:

To Benefit the United Women in Faith Mission Projects.

OUR STORYTELLING CONTINUES

ARE YOU PREPARED?

*Protecting People,
Property &
Environment*



WELCOME STORYTELLING SPEAKER
Jay Wilson, Director,
Rensselaer County Bureau of
Public Safety

LEARN ABOUT:

- HAZARD MITIGATION
- COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM
- EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
- EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER



- **OCTOBER 1 7 PM**
- **FIRST UNITED**
- **METHODIST CHURCH**
- **1 GILLIGAN ROAD**
- **EAST GREENBUSH**



REFRESHMENTS



ALL ARE
WELCOME