

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

191 Bridge Street
Corning, NY 14830-1997
607-936-6145
www.gumccorning.org
email: gracemethodist@stny.rr.com

Grace Notes January 2021



Nursery Open

Temporally Closed

Sunday Worship Service

10:00 AM

Sunday School

Children-Youth

Temporally Closed

Adult Sunday School

Temporally Closed

Fellowship Hour

Temporally Closed

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday

8:00- 1:00 PM

Closed Fridays

Grace UM Church Staff:

Rev. Mike Kelly, Pastor

Jean Tedrick, Organist

Anna Illig,
Administrative Assistant

Evelyn Einfeldt,
Financial Secretary

Terry Oakden, Custodian

Donna Kuhner,
Treasure



From the Desk of Pastor Mike Kelly

Friends it has been a most difficult year. We have struck by a worldwide pandemic, that has caused many deaths including some of our own friends and family. Regretfully our church has had to close twice, out of the abundance of caution and safety, and just today, we find a new high in cases of COVID 19, in Steuben County. I applaud all of you for following the procedures that we have developed based on the CDC and state guidelines. This has allowed us to stay open this time around.

I keep hearing that we hope that 2021 will be better and that we will return to normal. Unfortunately, I believe that what we will return to is a new normal. Things will not be the same. But many of you have been through a great deal of challenges in your lives. Some of you have lived through the Great Depression, World Wars and others conflicts and the devastating flood of 1972. In each case you all had to develop and live with a new normal.

I am sure that 2021 will continue to be challenging. I am distraught over the homelessness, the hunger, the loss of jobs and the closing of businesses, and at this point it appears that it will continue for the unforeseeable future. But I also have confidence that we will survive through this because of your tenacity and because of the fact that we have a God that is bigger than any of these issues. As I heard during one sermon from Bishop Webb and my own personal belief; GOD is enough! He will see us through.

I offer my blessings to all of you for the New Year,

With Peace,

Pastor Mike

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Watch your Email for notice of
ZOOM meeting in January.

2021 Theme
Knitted Together
for God's Good Work

The monthly programs explore how we as children of God are joined and linked together into the whole body of Christ. Even at times when social distancing or other obstacles may keep us physically apart, we are knit together in community to transform the world.

We will be encouraged and challenged as we explore biblical passages that emphasize the courageous, bold witness and work of a woman or a group of women who faithfully seek to be a part of God's handiwork.

About the Author

The Rev. Lisa Beth White is the founder of Sister of Hope Ministries, a pastor and scholar. Sister of Hope Ministries provides consultations, training and retreats for volunteers in short-term mission work. Having been raised in The United Methodist Church, her understanding of mission is grounded in the grace of Christ (John 1:16) and his commission to the disciples to be witnesses to God's grace (Acts 1:8). She believes people are called to live out this gift of grace in humility with respect for all people and creation.

PLEDGE TO MISSION

Knitted Together and Reaching Out

Objective:

To envision God's kin-dom and see how knotting our pledge dollars together can transform the world.

Knitted together by God's love and grace, United Methodist Women is a community of faithful, committed women. This year we will envision the possible. How is God calling us to love our neighbors? How are each of us called to knit our talents, skills and resources together to bring about a brighter tomorrow? May God provide new insights, abundant energy and increasing confidence that we are each called to be in mission for women, children and youth.

Opening Prayer

Lord, we gather here, away from our busy lives to focus on you. The world's chatter and our fears can distract us from your abundant love. Send your calming peace. Free us to hear your voice, to see your power and strengthen our faith today.

Holy Spirit, journey with us. Help us to trust you with our whole being. Grant us grace when we cling so tightly to what we have. Help us to tear down the barriers that separate us. Give us the courage to stand up, like the unnamed women of the Bible who refused to let oppressive systems prevent them from following your call. Inspire us to serve alongside our neighbors. Give us generous hearts

that we may be a blessing to the unnamed women, children and youth around the world. Amen.

Scripture
Matthew 22:36-39

“Teacher, what is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

He replied, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind.

This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: You must love your neighbor as you love yourself.”

Questions to ponder

1. What would the world look like if we followed the call set forth in Matthew 22:39?
2. Who are our neighbors?
3. What causes suffering, pain or hardship for our neighbors?

Scripture
Matthew 25:35-36

I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.

Throughout our history, United Methodist Women members have heard the call to respond to Jesus’ commandment to love our neighbors. United Methodist Women has worked to change lives, one woman, one child,

one youth at a time, creating communities of love.

United Methodist Women are the hands and feet of God, bringing light into the world. We all have a vital role in addressing social issues of our time.

As individuals, we cannot do it all. However, when we knit together our resources and skills for others, we have the ability to bring about real and meaningful change in the world. When we work together, United Methodist Women can work toward God’s kin-dom here and now.

Individual pledge commitments fund the outstanding work we are able to do. Please take a moment to consider how

God is calling you to financially support United Methodist Women in the upcoming year through your pledge.

Closing Prayer

Lord, bless these women and their gifts. We are the unnamed women called to be your hands and feet. Each day, remind us to put Faith, Hope and Love into Action in our communities.

Knit us together with other United Methodist Women as you transform our lives as well as the lives of the unnamed women, children and youth around the world. Help us remember that you walk this journey with us and provide all that we need. Amen.

Early in January you will receive a pledge card in the mail. Please fill it out and mail it by January 15th to:

January 2021

Jackie Grinnell, Treasurer
23 Morningside Drive
Painted Post, NY 14870

If you choose to write a check for your pledge, make it payable to Grace UMW and put 2021 Pledge on the memo line.

IN THE HOSPITAL?

We care about our people and want to contact you, or your loved one, when you are at the hospital. With the HIPA laws, the church is not always contacted when someone is admitted. Please have the hospital or a family member let the church office know if you are in the hospital.

PAY PAL

The church is set up to accept secure donations through Pay Pal. You can access Pay Pal by going to the church's website (gumccorning.org). Please be aware that when using Pay Pal, 2.9% of the donation and \$.30 per transaction is taken from the contribution.



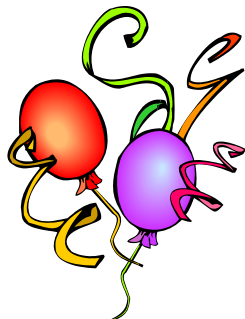
Don't have a will, or need to update your will?

You're not alone! Now is a great time to start planning, and please consider including a charitable bequest to Grace United Methodist Church in your estate plans. Contact the Church Office for the Grace Church tax ID for you to share with your attorney.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

3 - Keith Mortimer
4 - Jessica Warner
11 - Lorraine Smith
13 - Matt Blodgett
 Sarah Van Etten
15 - Scott Bempkins
17 - Jeff Smith
19 - Gary Dickerman
20 - Peter Kuhner
22 - Tina Richards
 Linda Sutton
28 - Alex Goforth



GRACE YOUTH

26 - Jacob Harpster

ANNIVERSARIES

13 - Don & Nell Mortimer
23 - Richard & Nancy Wood

Thank You Notes:

Jean Tedrick wishes to express her appreciation for the very considerate Christmas cash gift and the inspirational choir coffee mug (with quotes from many of her favorite "old" hymns!). She wishes all members and friends of Grace UMC a healthy and happy 2021!

To all my Grace Church friends:

Thank you so much for your continued kindness for including me in the Staff Appreciation gift at Christmas. I am very humbled and blessed by knowing all of you. Sending you all wishes for a safe, healthy and happy 2021. With much love, Kathy Scudder

Grace United Methodist Church Staff would like to thank it's members for the thoughtful Christmas gifts.

MITTEN TREE

Each year we decorate a Christmas tree outside of the church office with warm winter mittens, gloves, hats and scarves, which are then given to the children in the Head Start program after the first of the year.

Please bring in new or gently used items for the tree and help keep a child warm.

KETTLE RINGING

Thank you to all of you who rang the bell for the Salvation Army on Dec. 18. The Red Kettle Christmas Campaign enables the Army to provide food, toys and clothing to over 6 million people during the Christmas season. Those ringing the bell this year were: Pastor Mike, Pam Kelly Denny O'Connell, John O'Connell, Rick Bostwick, Betty Lou Taynton, Mark and Lisa H.

LIVING FAITH ENDOWMENT FUND

The Living Faith Endowment Fund offers an important alternative form of giving to Grace United Methodist Church. Money given to that fund is invested and the interest, when favorable, makes a significant contribution to the church. As such, it is a fund that works for us and keeps on giving. A gift in memory or in honor of a loved one is a gift that will continue to give and support the mission and ministry of Grace Church. Those giving to the Living Faith Endowment for the month of December are: Michael Hudson, Andrew Henninger, Lia McCabe and Marisa Cretard in memory of Jim & Bonnie Hudson and Henninger.

Thank you to those who donated Poinsettias for our Christmas Eve Service: Andrew Henninger, Lia McCabe, Marisa Cretard and Michael Hudson in memory of Bonnie & Jim Hudson and Lisa Henninger. Sharon Wheaton in memory of Norvil (Stoney) and Jean Burnside. Maureen in memory Harry Jule and Greg Peter

January 2021

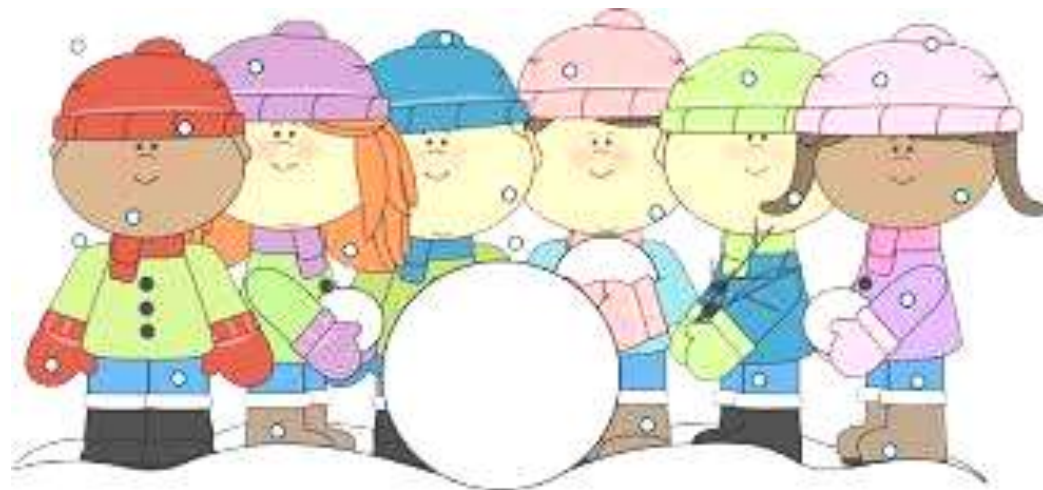
VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE JANUARY 2021

*Please note that there are many areas in need of volunteers - especially Fellowship Hour.
Let the church office know if you would like to help out in any of these areas.*



Thank you to all who volunteer their time for these ministries and to those who
donate flowers or bulletins.
Your time and help are very much appreciated!

Date	Greeters - 3
1/3	1. Pat Edger 2. 3.
1/10	1. Pat Edger 2. 3.
1/17	1. Pat Edger 2. 3.
1/24	1. Pat Edger 2. 3.
1/31	1. 2. Pat Edger 3.



January 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ABBREVIATIONS K = Kitchen L = Lounge S = Sanctuary BC = Bethany Chapel DR = Dining Room RH = Reed Hall					1 New Year's Day Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus	2
3 Epiphany Sunday 10:00 Worship, S	4	5	6 Epiphany of the Lord	7	8	9
10 Baptism of the Lord 10:00 Worship, S	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 2nd Sunday After the Epiphany 10:00 Worship, S	18 Newsletter Deadline Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18-25	19	20	21	22	23
24 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany 10:00 Worship, S ----- 31 4th Sunday after Epiphany	25	26	27	28	29	30