

July 2021

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

191 Bridge Street

Corning, NY 14830-1997

607-936-6145

www.gumccorning.org

email: gracemethodist@stny.rr.com

Grace Notes
July 2021



Sunday Worship Service

10:00 AM

***Nursery Temporarily
Closed***

Sunday School for Children

10 AM

Adult Sunday School

Fellowship Hour

11 AM

Office Hours

Currently Monday- Thursday

8:00-1:00 PM

Grace UM Church Staff:

Rev. Kevin Austin, Pastor

Kajla Temple
Treasurer

Evelyn Einfeldt,
Financial Secretary

Jean Tedrick, Organist

Terry Oakden, Custodian

Anna Illig
Administrative Assistant

July 2021

*open hearts
open minds
open doors*



Grace United Methodist Church

July 2021

Rev. Kevin Austin, Pastor 607-936-6145

gracemethodist@stny.rr.com

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

My name is Kevin Austin and I am pleased to have been appointed to serve Grace United Methodist beginning July 1. First, a little background – My wife Betsy and I live in Odessa along with our daughter Shania, when she is not at college. We also have 3 grown children – Paul, Katie and Brian who live in Seneca Falls, Ithaca, and Elmira, respectively.

My ministry journey began as leader of the Odessa UMC Youth Group in 1992, a ministry that Betsy and I still lead. I was asked to fill in for our pastor a few times and really enjoyed that opportunity. This is when I began to feel God's first nudges into pastoral ministry. I took the steps to become a Lay Speaker, then an Advanced Lay Speaker. In 2013 I was asked to fill in regularly at the Searsburg Community Church as well as at the Cayuta Free Church. These experiences further intensified my desire to pursue a path toward pastoral ministry in the United Methodist Church. Early in 2014 I approached our District Superintendent, Cathy Stengel, to begin the process. I was enrolled in Licensing School that June and began my first appointments, to Erin and Sullivanville United Methodist Churches on July 1, 2014 where I have served until now.

As a preacher, I feel called to make the Gospel accessible and relevant, to help people incorporate faith into their everyday lives. I will always strive to give you things to think about and ponder in my messages, and I invite further discussion. I hope that at times you will be encouraged, at other times you will be inspired, and at yet other times you will be challenged. Most of all, I hope to bring you closer to Christ.

I look forward to worshipping with you, learning with you and rolling up my sleeves and serving with you.

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Kevin

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Circles do not meet in July and August.
See you in September.

2021 Theme
Knitted Together
for God's Good Work

Knit Together with the Earth

Objective: To learn about the role of women in creation care in scripture, and to examine our commitment to take action for Just Energy for All.

Opening Prayer

O Word of life, present in our midst yet beyond our imagination, recreate us by your grace. By your light we are able to see. We behold the world You created. We behold our sisters You have given us to be the community of faith. By your mercy, fill our hearts with your vision for wholeness and flourishing. Amen.

Scripture

Genesis 1:26-31; 7:1-16; 8:1-5, 13-22
Matthew 6:10

Questions to ponder after reading the scriptures

- Did you imagine how much work was required in caring for the cargo of creatures?
- Could you picture the women working together to share the load?

Could you picture how they worked to care for the people, to make sure they had a warm place to sleep, clean clothes, food to eat?

We Are God's Kin-dom

On the sixth day, the triune God creates humankind. Humanity is created in relationship with all that has been created—birds, cattle, sheep, fish, butterflies, snails, earthworms, tomatoes, zucchini, sunflowers, sequoias, aspens, mesquite trees—humanity is made to be in relationship with all of creation!

God creates humanity in the midst of the abundant life that God has just created, and gives humanity a nurturing, caregiving responsibility for creation. God makes humanity for the purpose of caring for the world that God has just created, a deep trust in humanity to care for the beautiful and wild earth.

Artist Jan Richardson describes the relationship between humanity and creation as God's kin-dom: "Kin-dom' denotes a world in which we recognize that we are related, that we are 'kin' in God, and work to build relationships of love, peace, and justice with all of creation." Understanding humanity as kin to each other and all creation means that we are called to live into the trust that God has given us to care for the earth, to build a relationship of justice with the earth.

These unnamed women on the ark were a critical part of the work in caring for creation through the flood. All the living things on the ark needed the care so that they would be prepared to thrive once back on dry land. Women today are also a critical part of the work of caring for creation. We do this because we are called by Christ to the work of mission.

The Book of Resolutions, paragraph 1001, outlines our denomination's energy policy statement. United Methodist Women is working to transition our country's reliance on fossil fuels and other energy sources that

July 2021

harm God's creation and the health of women and children, especially in the energy sector.

Just Energy for All Quiz

Answer A if you use oil, gas, coal, and/or nuclear fuel to:

Answer B if you use wind, solar, geothermal or small-scale hydro fuel to:

1. Heat your home?
2. Cool your home?
3. Cook your food?
4. Charge your appliances?
5. Get around?

Answer yes or no:

Have you installed energy efficiency measures?

Have you used a disposable plastic straw, fork, or water bottle this week?

Do you eat meat at every meal?

Questions

What is the goal of Just Energy for All?

Why should we care?

What is the problem?

What opportunities are available?

Closing Prayer

We thank you, Lord, for the gift of water.

Creator God, we praise you for firelight and candlelight, for stars at night and the sun during the day.

We thank you, Lord, for the gift of plants.

We praise you for the shade of trees, for moss and grass under our feet, for the beauty of flowers, for the multitude of food and grain as fuel for our bodies.

We thank you, Lord, for the gift of living creatures.

Creator God, we praise you for the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, for cattle and horses, for sheep and goats, for cats and dogs, for earthworms and fireflies.

We thank you, Lord, for the gift of humanity.

Creator God, we praise you for people in all the amazing diversity you have created them.

We thank you, Lord, for the gift of stewardship.

Give us wisdom and courage, Creator God, to take bold action to care for your creation. Fill us with the power of your Spirit, make us agents of healing and hope for the earth as we go forth, trusting in your guidance. Amen.

The following is a quote from the book, *Fully Awake and Truly Alive: Spiritual Practices to Nurture Your Soul*, by Rev. Jane E. Vennard. It is very appropriate for this month's program.

Responding to the Needs of Mother Earth

No one needs the loving service by the whole human community more than our Mother Earth. The apostle Paul wrote in his letter to the Christian community in Rome, "We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth" (Romans 8:23). Although this was written almost two thousand years ago, the earth and all her creatures continue to groan and cry out in need. Temperatures are rising, poisons pollute the waters, forests are being decimated, and whole species are disappearing. Creation needs our help.

The devastation occurring on the planet can seem so overwhelming that we turn away in hopelessness, wondering what an individual or a small group can do. We tend to want governments or large corporations to tackle the problem and make things right. Although it will surely take the world community to heal the planet, we must not ignore our own responsibility.

Joining an environmental action group, riding our bike instead of driving,

July 2021

planting trees, turning off the lights when we leave home, recycling our trash, and conserving water are all small acts that we can attend to on a daily basis. These

actions may seem small, but “almost anything you do will seem insignificant,” wrote Mahatma Gandhi, “but it is very important you do it.”

2021 Annual Conference Report Vida Johnson, Lay Member

The 2021 Annual Conference was held via ZOOM on June 17-19. The theme for this year’s conference was Together in Prayer: Courageously Sharing GOD’s Story.

In preparation for the Conference, I read Volume 1 of the Conference Journal which contains the agenda, the Recommendations from Boards and Committees, the Resolutions and Petitions to be voted on and all the reports from Conference teams and connected organizations.

The session opened at 9:00 AM with Bishop Mark Webb leading us in worship. His theme was “Give Me Jesus.” Through use of scripture, he urged us to “Go into all the world and preach the gospel.”

On Thursday there were morning, afternoon and evening sessions (beginning at 9:00 AM and ending at 9:30 PM with breaks for meals) and on Friday the business sessions began at 8:45 AM and concluded at 5:30 PM.

The business of the conference covered reports presented by the Equitable Compensation Committee, Board of Pensions and Board of Global Ministries /UMCOR. Following the reports, there were votes to accept the closure of sixteen (16) churches in the Conference.

The body voted to accept or reject eight petitions dealing with such subjects as fair process for local pastors, policing policies, spit hood ban and chemical irritants ban and Daniel’s Law.

One resolution was a proposal to form a study commission on the readiness of Upper New York Conference for Implementation of the Protocol of

Reconciliation and Grace through Separation. The commission will study and report on the readiness of the Conference to deal with any action of the upcoming General Conference as far as division of the United Methodist Church is concerned.

The Nominations Committee presented the proposed slate of officers and committees for 2022. The Committee on Finance and Administration presented of the budget for 2022. The total of the proposed budget is \$9,250,000. This is a reduction of \$725,000 from the 2021 budget. Through use of a Payroll Protection Plan loan, the Conference was able to pay all salaries during 2021 and pay 100% of all General Conference apportionments.

A video presentation on The Mission Hub was viewed. The Hub receives Cleaning Buckets, hygiene kits and other kits for distribution to disaster areas where they are needed. It was noted that The Hub is supported only by donations.

A video report produced by the clergy from the Order of Elders, Order of Deacons, Associate Members and Local Licensed Pastors was viewed. This concluded the Friday session. In the evening the annual Memorial Service was lived streamed on the Conference website.

The Saturday morning session began with a Juneteenth Celebration. That was followed by a celebration of the 11th Anniversary of the Upper New York Conference.

July 2021

Videos of pastors who retired during 2020 and 2021 were viewed. Pastors from the Mountain View District who retired were Rev. Bill Vallet, Rev. Sheila Price and Rev. Ruth Reppert. Rev. Eileen Sue Wenner also is retiring this year. Others recognized were Licensed Local Pastors, Certified Lay Ministers and pastors who had completed the Course of Study.

Bishop Webb read the setting of appointments for 2021-2022, recognizing

churches that are receiving a new pastor as of July 1, 2021.

The Conference concluded with thanks for people who served to make it possible and the motion to adjourn until the next Annual Conference on June 2-4, 2022.

On Saturday afternoon the Ordination Service was live-streamed on the Conference website.



FATHER'S DAY ENDOWMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you to those who gave to the Living Faith Endowment Fund for Father's Day. Below is a list of those remembered or honored.

From: Pat Edger
In Memory of: Ben Kies (Father), Richard Kies (Brother)
In Honor of: Brandon Parsons (Son-in-law),
David Walker (Brother-in-law)

TRANSPORTATION

Want to attend Sunday worship, but don't have the transportation? Grace Church's Membership Care Committee offers a transportation service. Contact the church by Thursday morning and we will arrange to have Vet Taxi service pick you up and take you back home. Contact the church office (936-6145) for more information.

IN THE HOSPITAL?

Due to the HIPAA privacy rules, the church doesn't always receive notification from the local hospitals when someone is admitted. Please call the church office, or have a family member call, if you are in the hospital and would like to receive a visit. Also, if you are at home recuperating and would like a visit, just give the office a call (936-6145).

Corning Ballroom and Latin Dance

Has started holding dance lessons here at Grace United Methodist Church. Please check out [Corning Ballroom](#) or call Tracy Wigley at 607-368-4136 for more information.

The Jewish Center and Federation in Elmira

Is hosting a monthly food festival show casing different Jewish Specialties. A Portion of the profits will be donated to the Elmira Community Kitchen and the Food Bank of the Southern Tier. They ask that you preorder the following items by calling 607-734-8122 or online at <http://jcf-01.square.site>.

PAY PAL

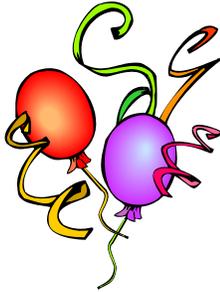
The church is set up to accept secure donations through Pay Pal. You can access Pay Pal by going to the church's website (gumccorning.org). Please be aware that when using Pay Pal, 2.9% of the donation and \$.30 per transaction is taken from the contribution.

August- Knishes pastry filled with potatoes- \$8 order by July 23 for pick up August 15
September- Kugel \$10 order by August 20 for pick up September 19
October- Chocolate Babka- \$8 order by September 24 for pick up October 17
November- Rugelach pastry rolled with pecans and chocolate- \$8 order by October 22 for pick up November 21

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 6 - Benjamin Richards
Debra Wood
- 7 - Gil Mitchell
- 9 - Peter Fratarcangelo
- 10- Marcia Resue
- 11 - Stephanie Kolpien
- 12 – Cathy Sortore
- 13 - Michael Smith
- 16 - Robert Sutton
- 20 - Michael Hudson
- Bryce Kolpien
- 26 - Donna Kuhner
JoAnn Fratarcangelo
- 27 - John O'Connell
- 31 – Lynn Sortore



ANNIVERSARIES

- 30 - Reed & Carol Walrath

Member Notes

Pat Edger would like to thank Doris Bempkins and Rick Bostwick for their assistance with Fellowship Hour.

Hannah Lewek, granddaughter of Pat Edger, recently received her Associate in Applied Science Degree in Veterinary Science Technology Cum Laude from SUNY Canton. Hannah is also niece of Gail McIntyre and Dan Towns.

Community Programs

Cooling Assistance

The 2020-2021 Cooling Assistance benefit is open. Eligible individuals may receive one Cooling Assistance benefit per applicant household for the purchase and installation of an air conditioner or a fan.

Household eligibility requirements include filing an application with your local department of social services, providing all necessary documentation, and the household must reside in an eligible living situation. Customers can apply for the HEAP Cooling Assistance with their HEAP Local District Contact.

July 2021

Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Eviction notice? Not sure how you'll pay rent next month? Behind on utility bills? The Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) may be able to help! Find out if you or someone you know may be eligible for help. Contact Sarah with Pro Action Emergency Services at thillmans@proactioninc.org, or phone 1-800-618-7882 ext. 6309.

The Steuben County office of the Aging

has a program called Easy Rider Senior Group Transportation option. Our driver will come and pick you up, take you to Aldi, Painted Post Walmart and Wegman's every Thursday until the end of April. To qualify you must be age 60 or older and able to shop without assistance. Riders are first come, first served, and you must call 607-664-2296 to reserve your seat. We'll work with you to match you with a route. Due to limited space, we are unable to accommodate wheelchairs or large walkers, however we will work with you to find alternative transportation options.

The office of the Aging asked they I also pass on that they can help get you connected with many other services like rides to medical appointments or health insurance needs. Please call their office to find out more information.

Grace's Membership Care Committee recently assembled Blessing Jars to give to our members who are not able to attend services. Thanks to an idea from member Mary Molewski, each Committee member compiled a list of inspirational scripture/favorite hymn lines/or other uplifting phrases, which were condensed and typed up by Vida Johnson. With help from Anna in the church office, these were copied off, separated, and placed in decorated jars made more festive with cheery fabric from Betty Lou Taynton Bostwick and Vida. Members of the Committee delivered these creations during late June to Church members who can pull out an inspirational thought every day of the month and hopefully, be reminded that our Grace congregation is thinking of them. New members of the Committee are always welcomed with our next meeting to be in August. Stay tuned for the date and time and plan to join us in this ministry!





VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE JULY 2021

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

Date	Greeters - 3	Liturgist	Fellowship	Ushers - 3
7/4	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. Rusty Dye 3.
7/11	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3. Rusty Dye
7/18	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3. Rusty Dye
7/25	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.	1. Rusty Dye 2. 3.

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



July 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	2	3
4 10:00 Worship, S 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Fellowship, DR	5 4- 8:45 Corning Ballroom & Latin Dance	6	7 6-7:30 Corning Ballroom & Latin Dance	8	9 12- 3 WIC Drive Thru Event	10
11 10:00 Worship, S 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Fellowship	12 4- 8:45 Corning Ballroom & Latin Dance	13	14 6-7:30 Corning Ballroom & Latin Dance	15	16	17
18 10:00 Worship, S 11:00 Fellowship, DR 10:00 Children's Sunday School	19 4- 8:45 Corning Ballroom & Latin Dance Newsletter Deadline	20	21 6-7:30 Corning Ballroom & Latin Dance	22	23	24
25 11:00 Fellowship 10:00 Worship, S 10:00 Children's Sunday School	26 4- 8:45 Corning Ballroom & Latin Dance	27	28 6-7:30 Corning Ballroom & Latin Dance	29	30	31

July 2021