

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Grace Notes September 2020



Nursery Open

Temporarily Closed

Sunday Worship Service

10:00 AM

Sunday School Children-Youth

Hopefully will resume shortly

Youth Group

TBA

Adult Sunday School

TBA

Fellowship Hour

Hopefully will resume shortly

Temporary Office Hours

Monday and Thursday
9:30 AM- 12 PM

Grace UM Church Staff:

Rev. Mike Kelly,
Pastor

Kathy Scudder,
Treasurer

Anna Illig
Administrative Assistant

Evelyn Einfeldt,
Financial Secretary

Jean Tedrick,
Organist

Terry Oakden,
Custodian

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Good Morning All:

Sadly, I believe that our nation is more divided than it ever has been, even within our own churches. As Christians we ignore Scriptures like: Mark 12:31 and Matthew 22:39 which says, "Love your neighbor as yourself." and Galatians 5:22 - But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And maybe we should look at: 1 Corinthians 1:10

Divisions in the Church 10 I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.

Recently I found a note in the church that had some very disparaging remarks about me, it saddened me that someone would write such things. Of course, it was unsigned, but I believe that I know who wrote it. It worried me that we very well may not be any better off as a church than we were two years ago when I arrived, maybe I expected more!

The bottom line, as I see it, we cannot help to unify God's people, something that needs to happen, if God's church can't get along. I know that I have probably made decisions that not all of the members agreed with, and that's ok, and I probably will continue to make decisions that all members won't agree with, but please try to understand I will always make decisions that I truly and lovingly believe are the best decisions for Grace United Methodist and its people.

I found this recently online and wanted to include it in this edition of our newsletter. I think it is what we need and the world needs:

1. Speak to people. There is nothing as nice as a cheerful word of greeting.
2. Smile at people. It takes seventy-two muscles to frown and only fourteen to smile.
3. Call people by name. The sweetest music to anyone's ears is the sound of his or her name.
4. Be friendly and helpful. If you would have friends, be friendly.
5. Be cordial. Speak and act as if everything you do is a genuine pleasure [make sure that it is].
6. Be genuinely interested in people. You can find something interesting about every person.
7. Be generous with praise ... and cautious with criticism.

8. Be considerate of the feelings of others. It will be appreciated.

9. Be thoughtful of the opinion of others. There are three sides to a conversation/argument: yours, the other person's, and the right one!

10. Be alert to give service. What you do for others is important.²

I want nothing more than to see this church grow in its love for community, love for its people and ultimately the love for God. Hopefully, we will all stand together to reach that goal and put a rest to the constant underlying issues.

With Peace and Love,

Pastor Mike



COMMITTEE NEWS

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

There is no meeting in September.

Fall Annual Meeting
and Luncheon
at Watson Homestead-
September 19 at noon

Program: Full of Hope
"Bright Hope for Tomorrow"

- Lunch- chicken and biscuit OR stuffed pepper with rice AND beverage and dessert
- Short business meeting: 2019 minutes/ financial report- budget and approval of 2021 budget/ 2021 pledge to mission / slate of officers/ nominating report
- Offering
- Memorial service
- Closing communion

There will be 2019 books
President packets with Reading
certificates will be at tables

If you would like to attend, please let Vida know by September 10. (962-0788)

GOING GREEN

Did you know that Going Green is a social justice issue? "All creation is the Lord's, and we are responsible for the ways in which we use and abuse it. Water, air, soil, minerals, energy resources, plants, animal life, and space are to be valued and conserved because they are God's creation and not solely because they are useful to human beings. God has granted us stewardship of creation. We should meet these stewardship duties through acts of loving care and respect." (Social Principles, ¶ 160)

This is the perfect time to begin planning how to live out our stewardship to God's creation by "going green". In our homes and in our local churches and organizations we can take actions that have a far-reaching impact not only on the environment but our health as well. These simple actions will bring increased health and wellness of our homes, our bodies and God's beautiful creation.

1. In your home- Begin to reduce your use of pre-packaged processed foods changing to eat more whole food. Summer is a great time for stocking up on fresh veggies. Consider canning or freezing for winter consumption. Switch to non-toxic cleaning such as fragrance-free dye free laundry soaps and personal products. Use white vinegar and baking soda for great all-purpose scrubbing cleaner for your kitchen. A hydrogen peroxide-based cleaner is a great disinfectant. Research the use of organic pesticides in your gardens. A great alternative is a teaspoon of castile soap in a quart spray bottle. There are lots of ideas online.

2. At your workplace – Use your own take-along coffee mug instead of Styrofoam or paper products. When making copies utilize both sides of the paper.

3. When we are back to hosting events – The United Methodist Women have a wonderful Guide for Sustainable meetings that covers many aspects we usually don't think about . Download and save this for when we are allowed to gather together again. <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/sustainability/guidelines>
Prayers for our healing and return to health as we do our part to move toward a sustainable future.

Blessings ,
Deaconess Susan Silhan RN

September 2020

MISSION u

From Karen Peterson

Mission u has been cancelled for this year.
I had planned to take the study, Finding
Peace in an Anxious World!

"God, grant me the Serenity

To accept the things, I cannot change

Courage to change the things I can

And the Wisdom to know the difference!!"

The book begins with this prayer that does
not deny that anxiety exists, nor does it
suggest it is not powerful—quite the
opposite! It equips humans to manage the
very real forces of anxiety and fear by placing
their trust in God's power to work towards
good!

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Volunteers are needed to help
out on Sunday mornings for
such ministries as ushering,
liturgists, greeters. If you would
like to help usher, please
contact Rusty Dye. Individuals
or families are encouraged for this ministry. If
you would like to be a liturgist, contact Anna
Illig in the church office. If greeting people at
the beginning of worship is more to your
liking, you can sign up on the signup sheet
that can be found in the church.

Special Message:

To my Grace Church family:

Words can't express how touched I am by
your generosity and kind words this past
Sunday. Thank you, Cathy Patterson, for
your lovely presentation. I thank you all for
the beautiful necklace, the lovely flowers on
the altar and the generous gift card. I am so
very humbled. I should have said all this on
Sunday, but I was a bit too emotional to get
any words out!

Grace Church is my home and you all are
my family. I have met so many wonderful
people over the past 27 years – too many to
mention, but each and every one has a
special place in my heart. I'm not going to
say good-bye, as I will still be at worship
and will see you all then.

Take care and thank you again.

With much love, Kathy Scudder

MEN'S GROUP

The next meeting will be held on Monday,
September 14, at 6:00 pm. All men of the
church are welcome to stop in and share in
some wonderful fellowship and pizza.

ANNUAL REPORTS

2020 Annual Reports are due to the office by
November 4. All committee chairs are asked
to put together a year-to-date report on their
committee's accomplishments.

FINACIAL REPORT - JULY 2020

	<u>July</u>
Operations Income:	10,039.00
SBA PPP Loan	<u>5,316.00</u>
	15,355.00
Operations Expense:	<u>8,966.00</u>
Net Gain / (Loss)	6,389.00

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 - Floyd Marley
Ian Loomis
Kristyn Sorber
- 3 - Donald Mortimer
- 4 - Joyce Hallenbeck Mitchell
- 7 - Peter Johnson
Natosha White
- 9 - Kathy Vine Marcucci
- 13 - Gary Fisher
Matthew Stevens
- 15 - Alan Sorber
- 16 - Tom Taylor
Lisa Stevens Edminster
- 17 - Matthew Kuhner
- 29 - David Vine
Gene Smith
Trish Harriger
- 30 - Melody Smith Altamura



OUR CHURCH SCHOOLERS

- 6 - Isaac Kram
- 7 - Will Sorber

ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 - Bob & Michelle Harpster
Graham & Jacqueline Barnes
- 10 - Charles & Jackie Grinnell
- 12 - Dennis & Marilyn O'Connell
- 14 - Chris & Cathy Fortier
- 21 - Michael & Ginny Smith
- 29 - Peter & Donna Kuhner

THANK YOU

We thank you for your generous donations toward the 20 Birthing Kits. Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated. These Birthing Kits will help greatly mothers and babies.

ALTAR FLOWERS AND BULLETINS

Donating the Sunday altar flowers or Sunday bulletins is a wonderful way to remember a loved one or to celebrate a special occasion. Below are the dates that are open. If you would like to donate either the flowers or the bulletins (or both!) let Anna in the church office know.

Flowers

Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27
Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25
Nov. 8, 15, 22, 29
Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

The church newsletter isn't just for committee news - it's for news about you!! If you would like to share information with the rest of the Grace Church family - be it a special birthday, anniversary, a promotion or retirement, a birth or a wedding, a homerun or being in the school play - let Anna in the church office know. Deadlines for articles is the Monday before the last Sunday of the month. We want to share in your joy!!

FAITH IN ACTION

UMW FOOD COLLECTION

The UMW has committed to aiding those in need by collecting items for the local food pantry. We encourage you to give canned goods and other non-perishable items each month. A great way to give items is to take advantage of the stores Buy One Get One Free sales. Your gifts may be placed in the cabinet located in the sanctuary. ***In September we will highlight tuna fish.***

BACK PACK PROGRAM

Again this year, Grace Church will participate in the Back Pack Program through the Southern Tier Food Pantry. Food is packed into a back pack and given to children throughout the area who do not have other means for lunches, etc. during the summer. Please make a monetary donation, the amount of food that can be purchased by The Food Bank of the Southern Tier increases dramatically. Please make your checks out to Grace UMC, with "back pack program" on the memo line. Last year Grace was very generous in donating to this program.

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).

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 UMC in your estate plans. Contact the Church Office for the Grace Church tax ID for you to share with your attorney.

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 August are: John O'Connell in memory of **John & Eloise O'Connell**.

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.

