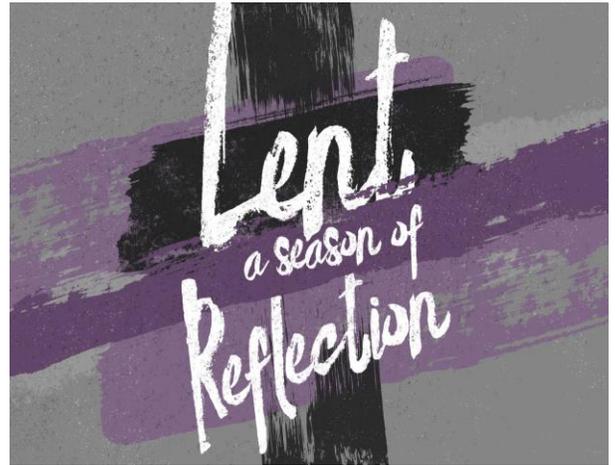


Friendship Connection

February 2021

A Monthly Publication of the Honeoye Falls United Methodist Church

Well, 2021 is moving right along, and we are already in February. Halfway through the month we will be entering into the season of Lent. The Lenten season is a powerful season, often we see it as a dark and dreary. This year I want us to look at it as a time of reflection, change and uplifting. This is the time when we can replicate the retreat which Jesus did for 40 days in the wilderness leading up to the death. During these 40 days, many will fast, some will commit to reading the scriptures, others will read to gain a deeper theological understanding of the Methodist Church.



As I mentioned in my note last month, I would like to take the time for us to explore our spiritual gifts. I will be preaching a series around spiritual gifts through the month of February. Throughout the month, I will be posting more information regarding spiritual gifts, including articles, and videos on the Honeoye Falls UMC Congregation Group Page on Facebook. I invite anyone who utilizes Facebook to join this group so that you will be able to receive all the information posted. **If you are not on Facebook and would prefer to receive things posted via Email, please email me at pastorchrismitchell.umc@gmail.com so I can email you the information. Please note that if you would like to only view the information you can do so by following this link (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1156167461466464>) without having a Facebook account.**

As we begin to look at ways to enhance our church, let us first begin with ourselves and exploring our spiritual gifts. For those of you who receive this newsletter electronically you can click on this link and begin your spiritual gift inventory today! <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/spiritual-gifts-inventory/en> **I would be excited to hear about your gifts**, once we know where we are gifted, then we are able to explore ways to use those gifts both inside and outside the church!

Let this Lenten season be a time of renewal for us personally and spiritually. In the coming weeks you will be receiving an envelope which will contain a few items. One of those will be a Lenten Devotional which I hope we will all read together, the Facebook page above is a great place to have conversations around the devotional each day. Anyone could post questions and invite others into discussion around that question or thought.

Peace & Joy - Pastor Chris

Youth Group

We are excited to announce meeting of youth at Honeoye Falls United Methodist Church. This is for all youth in 6th grade and up. We will meet every Sunday from 5-7PM and your youths' presence will help create an enriching environment for all that attend. It will be led by Peter Lagueras who is currently a leader of the District Committee on Youth Ministries and will be assisted by Kennedy Mitchell who is the daughter of Pastor Chris.

Currently we are in the start-up period which would be a wonderful time to become a part of the process and make your voice heard on where you would like to see the direction of the Youth Group. We are currently in works to come up with a name and a logo that will be used to help promote the youth group as well as building a foundation in Jesus Christ. Youth Group is intended to be fun and relevant as well as a safe environment for all youth that attend. If you have any questions you can email me Peter at Peterlagueras@gmail.com or Pastor Chris at PastorChrismitchell.umc@gmail.com.



**** Youth - Invite your friends! Youth Group on Super Bowl Sunday (Feb 7th) will be from 2-4pm! Pizza and wings will be served. Youth should bring their favorite tailgate snack.**

Two's Together Update

Twos Together Nursery School has been an important part of my life for 30 years. It started when my son attended Twos Together. My two daughters soon followed him. I was thrilled when Sharon Barnes hired me as a teacher at Twos Together where I had the great privilege to work with her for 22 years. After Sharon retired in 2016, Anita Forney stepped in as a teacher. In the 4 years Anita has been with the program, she has been a wonderful addition. For over 36 years, hundreds of children have benefited from their time at Twos Together Nursery School. It is truly a transformational year for students and parents alike.

In the 26 years that I have worked at Twos Together many things have changed. After much thought and prayer, I came to the conclusion that it was time. The 2019-2020 school year would be the last for Twos Together; the school would close. Who knew that the pandemic would shorten the year by a quarter?

In 1994 the Honeoye Falls United Methodist Church Missions and Outreach committee recognized the value of Twos Together to the community and beyond. Thank you to HFUMC for allowing Twos Together to be at the church for these many years. Special thanks to you, Ken, for your great kindness and all of your unwavering support of Twos Together. As Twos Together closed and finalized things, we wanted to say thank you to the Missions and Outreach Committee for their support and kindness over the years. In December, 2020 we donated \$1200.00 to them in support of their good works. Special thanks as well to Sharon as the creator and director of Twos Together Nursery School, mentor and friend to me and then, after her retirement, liaison for the program.

Ellen Hallahan, Twos Together Nursery School

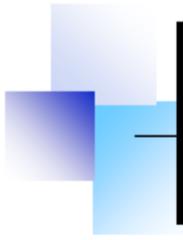
Ash Wednesday Service

This year, our Ash Wednesday service will be a virtual service on Zoom at 7pm on February 17th. Members will be receiving a letter in the mail with instructions for the Ash Wednesday Service as well as a Lenten Devotional. Zoom information:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86011323620?pwd=Ukk3QXhsbnREZEExOVtNZRjk1OWkvQT09>

Meeting ID: 860 1132 3620 | Passcode: 935786





FISH COMBINED COMMUNITIES FOOD CLOSET

SERVING HONEOYE FALLS, MENDON & WEST BLOOMFIELD



January 16, 2021

Dear Supporters of the Food Closet,

The Covid-19 pandemic has brought out the best in our community ! Numerous community members and groups volunteered their help to the food closet immediately after the start of the pandemic. The food closet staff will be eternally grateful to all of them ! There were volunteers to collect food, sort food, shelve food, pack food, deliver food, and that donated food, cash, and gift cards. There were volunteers who organized, stocked and ran a Grassroots group on Main Street, Honeoye Falls to give out fresh foods to Honeoye Falls and Lima residents until June 2020. Most of the food closet volunteers are senior citizens, and were restricted from volunteering during the first few months of the pandemic, so the Grassroots' efforts were a true blessing for everyone. Meeting the need for food during those first months of the pandemic would have been overwhelming to the food closet without their help. The HFL school's offering of free breakfast and lunch to any HFL student who needed it was another tremendous program that helped the local families who needed food.

In 2020 the food closet received the most donations in the history of the food closet ! Cash donations totaled \$22,610.29. That is more than double the usual total of donations for a year ! We received \$ 2670 in gift cards for food. Santa's elves (McIntee family and their friends) donated \$1020.00 in gift cards for Christmas presents for the children of the families served by the food closet. Our expenses for 2020 were \$ 6346.66. Our expenses were lower than normal because of the unusually large donations of cash, gift cards and food in 2020. As a result of this, the food closet is well stocked for the next few months.

In 2020, the volunteers filled 240 requests for food including gift cards for 22 Thanksgiving dinners and 32 Christmas dinners. The number of deliveries was down from previous years due to all the food given out by the Grassroots group, HFL Schools free breakfast and lunch program, increased food stamps and the stimulus payments. If we included all of the requests for food to these programs our total number would be significantly higher and would be very difficult for the food closet to have done alone. Thank you to these groups again !

The year 2020 was very challenging for the food closet volunteers and the families they serve ! The volunteers now have to work in the food closet individually or in a family unit instead of part of a group. All food has to be delivered to the families' doorsteps instead of into their homes or instead of being picked up by the families at the food closet. Gift cards were given out for holiday meals and children's gifts this year to facilitate our ability to handle the holidays with limited volunteers, time and space. It takes more time and organizing to fulfill requests for food when the volunteers work alone and have to space out their time in the food closet. Sanitizing surfaces has to be done by each volunteer before they leave too. We miss working as a group and we miss being able to interact with the families more. What keeps us going is all the wonderful people in our community who are so generous to and supportive of the food closet.

In July, the food closet obtained a new Google Voice phone number and answering service : 585-484-7103. The calls now come directly to a volunteer's phone and records the calls in voicemail and text if the volunteer isn't able to answer the call right away. It is a free service and has been working well. Please share the new phone number with your group(s) or give it to anyone who needs food in our community.

Our community is very generous and thoughtful. Some of our supporters are : all the churches of Honeoye Falls, West Bloomfield and Mendon, St. Paul of the Cross Rosary Society, Boy Scout Troop 56 of West Bloomfield, Boy and Girl Scouts of Honeoye Falls, Pittsford Credit Union, Mendon Kiwanis Club, HFMP, HF Post Office, individual businesses, local families, Falls Post 664 Legion, the Honeoye Falls and Mendon Fire departments, Sons of the American Legion Squadron 282, Union Star Lodge #320, the Kade Project, the McIntee family and friends (Santa's elves), employees of local businesses, HFL school classes and groups, senior citizen groups, local community groups and individuals.

The volunteers of the food closet are deeply grateful to the St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church for providing housing and support for the food closet for the last 18 years ! Their hospitality and eagerness to help has been outstanding and the core of our ability to help local families obtain needed food !

Our list of donors is so long this year that we are overwhelmed with joy and gratitude! The generosity and support of the community overpowered the effects of the pandemic on the food closet's ability to distribute food to local families who need it !

THANK YOU !!!!

Sincerely,
Volunteers of the Friends In Service Here Combined Communities Food Closet

Mailing Address: 153 East Street, Honeoye Falls, New York 14472

EIN : 80-0660941

Phone to Volunteer or for Food : **585-484-7103**

Please like us on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/hffoodcupboard/> or

for mobile phones: <https://m.facebook.com/hffoodcupboard/>





Snow Removal Help Needed

We are in need of families or individuals to sign-up to clear the sidewalks at the church on the weekends during the winter months. If you are able and willing to help, please contact the church office to sign-up for a weekend!

Are you on Facebook?



If you are on Facebook, please share the Sunday Service to your personal Facebook pages. It is a great way to evangelize from the comfort of your own home!

Flower City Work Camp

(June 28th – July 2nd)

Links to registrations will be on our website and Facebook page. The Volunteer application opens January 1st and is due March 19th. The Student application opens January 1st and is due March 5th. Grades 9-12th get priority through January 31st. Grades 7-8th can sign up beginning February 1st if space is available. For more information, please contact Peter Lagueras, Youth Leader at peterlagueras@gmail.com or Kennedy Mitchell, Youth Assistant



Valentine's Connections



Donations are needed by 10:30am on February 7th for Valentine's Care Packages. Contact Jess McMakin (831-2326), Anita Forney (582-1134) or the church office (624-3387) if you have any questions or need to make arrangements to get your donations to the church. Items can be left in the church library.

NEW THIS YEAR: We want to bring back the spirit of Valentine's Day with the small Valentine's that we passed out at school as kids. The ones that come in a box of 32. Anyone who would like to participate can drop off 15 Valentine's at the church (you just need to fill out the "from" section of the card).

To sign-up for an item, please go to our Sign-Up Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D49ACAA29A6FAC52-hfumc1>



Mid-Week Moment

Beginning in February Pastor Chris will be posting a mid-week moment video on the HFUMC Facebook Page as a way to deliver pastoral care to the congregation during a time when we are still avoiding meeting in the homes of our members. She hopes this will help you feel connected to the church and give you the pick me up we sometimes need in the middle of the week. So, if you have not already "like" our Church Facebook Page as well as Join the Honeoye Falls UMC Congregation Group.



February



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 6:00pm Mission & Outreach Meeting	4	5	6
7 10:30am–Worship Service at the Church, on Zoom, or Facebook Live Communion Sunday - bring your own bread & juice if you are joining us from home! Valentines Connections items due! 2:00 pm Youth Group 	8 7:00pm Pub Theology	9 7:00pm Operations Meeting	10	11	12	13
14  10:30am–Worship Service at the Church, on Zoom, or Facebook Live 5:00 pm Youth Group	15  7:00pm SPRC Meeting	16 7:00pm Bell Choir	17  7:00pm Virtual Service on Zoom Meeting ID: 860 1132 3620 Passcode: 935786	18 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	19	20
21 10:30am–Worship Service at the Church, on Zoom, or Facebook Live 5:00 pm Youth Group	22 7:00pm Leadership Meeting	23 7:00pm Bell Choir	24	25	26	27
28 10:30am–Worship Service at the Church, on Zoom, or Facebook Live 5:00 pm Youth Group	Worship on Zoom with us! https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81742027997?pwd=WmZWTVdkak05ZnVDbUoxTW5sM WxZUT09 Meeting ID: 817 4202 7997 Passcode: 722620 Like us on Facebook! @HoneyfeFallsUMC Share our Worship Services to your personal page!					
Sunday Volunteers						
February 7	February 14	February 21		February 28		
Lector: Carole Eckhardt Greeter:	Lector: Carl Vullo Greeter:	Lector: Terri Fischetti Greeter:		Lector: Jan Connor Greeter:		

Prayer Closet



The "Prayer Mail" email address is hfumcprayer@gmail.com.

If you would like to be added to our prayer chain, please contact the church office.

Strength, Healing and Guidance:

Pastor Samuel and Community UMC
(Uganda),
Upper NY Annual Conference & our church
leaders,

Debbie Bastow,
Joyce Connor (Bill Connor's mother),
Rhett Parham (Carole Eckhardt's son)
Evelyn Medici

Sympathy

The Family of Nicki DiBella,
The Family of Carolyn Burt,

The Family of Zachary Zwetsch

Women and Men Serving Our Country:

Stephen Battle USA,
Dennis Bonavilla,
Joseph Bonavilla,
Curtis Clark,
Greg Dewey USN
Michael Fanton USN,

Scott Flood USA,
Jeffrey Krulick,
Peter J. Lang USMC,
Douglas Ninkovick,
Airman Poffard,
Michael Pullen USA,

John Rider USAF,
Tim Rowlinson USA,
Mike & Charniah Smrekar USN, S
Steven Tschiderer USA

College Students:

Dom Abraham,
Anna Cole,
Henry Cole,
Acadia Fairchild,
Ellie Fairchild,
Clayton Firster,

Megan Forney,
Sarah Forney,
Cassie Lyle,
Liam Lyle,
Sophie Lyle,
Gwen Peters,

Madison Sellman,
Emma Vullo,
Mary Vullo,
Lawton Watts



-- Mother Teresa

**HONEOYE FALLS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
31 East Street, Honeoye Falls NY, 14472**

Address Service Requested

“Choose This Day Whom You Will Serve”



- ✦ Pastor's Note
- ✦ Youth Group / Two's Together
- ✦ FISH Report
- ✦ Events & Updates / Celebrations
- ✦ Calender of Events & Sunday Servers
- ✦ Prayer Closet

If you no longer wish to receive the Newsletter please contact the church office at 624-3387 or office.hfumc@gmail.com.

Thank you!

WEEKLY SERVICES

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10:30 AM
IN-PERSON, FACEBOOK LIVE AND ON ZOOM**

ZOOM INFO: [HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/810121574](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/810121574)

MEETING ID: 810 121 574

TO JOIN BY PHONE: 646-876-9923

MEETING ID: 810 121 574

PASTOR: Christine Mitchell

pastorchristmitchell.umc@gmail.com | 585-704-5587

CHURCH OFFICE: Secretary: Jillian Lloyd

585-624-3387 | office.hfumc@gmail.com

Website: www.honeoyefallsumc.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Joe Blackburn

585-244-3538

YOUTH LEADER: Peter Lagueras

Peterlagueras@gmail.com

MINISTERS: EVERY MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION

LEADERSHIP TEAM: Duane Thompson

585-739-5427