

Spiritual Harvest

July/August 2016

Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors

Trumansburg UMC Location:

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Sunday Worship Services 10:15 a.m. 9:00 am Adult Sunday School



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Calendar

Pastor's Message An Unusual Message

I don't usually do this, but I'm going to talk about money, specifically about Apportionments (or "Shared Giving"). As you may know, for the first time since I have been pastor in Trumansburg we were unable to pay our full apportionments last year, paying only ½. Apportionments are the funds that local churches send to our Annual Conference to support the work done at that level. Our Annual Conference is the Upper New York Annual Conference. This is one of the largest Annual Conferences in the denomination with over 900 churches and 168,000 members.

Each year the Annual Conference meets to conduct business, celebrate, and ordain clergy. (Like our own Pam Cary who was ordained Elder on June 4th).

One item of business that comes before Annual Conference is our budget. Similar to a local church budget, there are different categories. There are the "must pay" items. These are things like rent, utilities, salaries, etc. You can imagine that our local church does not say, "Hmm. Money is tight. We'll wait 'til the end of the year and see if we have enough to pay the gas and electric bills." There are some things we all know just plain have to be paid and paid on time. The next category has some flexibility, but is guaranteed a minimum amount so they know what can be spent without having to have approval. These are things like the District budget to cover training and other expenses. The final category funds stuff we *really* want to do! This is where things like the funding of our Camps and ministries on College Campuses go. The sad fact is that these items **ONLY** get funded **IF** there is enough money.

SO...

Here's how it REALLY works: Historically, our Conference-wide giving to Apportionments has been (roughly) 75%. That means that the "must pay" items get covered, the 2nd category items end up having less money than was budgeted, and the last category gets (pardon my metaphor) the crumbs that are left over. Realize that *this* is the stuff you and I think of as the important stuff, the exciting stuff, where *real ministry* happens!

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Pastor's Message Continued...

That's the bad news. The GOOD news is that every dollar that comes in above the usual 75% goes almost totally to the *good stuff* - because the boring costs like heating and insurance has already been covered.

PART B

Because of this, the Bishop has placed a new emphasis on paying Apportionments at 100%. Our District Superintendent recently met with a group of church leaders from our congregation to discuss the importance of Apportionments and what we have as a plan to be able to return to paying 100%. 2015 was an anomaly with the unexpected expenses of the repair work on the tower. Unfortunately our present budget for 2016 also only includes paying ½ of our Apportionment, and projections for 2017 do not look better. We have lost too many of our dear and dedicated members in the past few years. The Bishop and Cabinet are asking for us to come up with a plan by Sept 1st of how we will return to paying 100% of our Apportionment within the next two to three years. The Finance Committee with the addition of a few other folks will be looking at possibilities and coming up with a plan to propose to Church Council.

For information: the biggest costs in our budget are support of our building and support of our pastor. The "Expanded Finance Committee" will be looking at ways to increase our revenue and possible ways of reducing our costs so that we can continue to serve Christ in all of this world for which he died and rose again.

Please bear with me for a couple of caveats:

1) Nothing drastic is going to happen right away. 2) We are not in this alone. All mainline denominations and the vast majority of local churches in the Northeast are facing similar challenges. 3) We are talking about adjusting HOW we do ministry, not WHETHER we do ministry. This church will be here after our grandchildren have raised their kids.











A note from the Trustees...

Submitted by Dick Peterson

The contractors working on the Verizon cellular antenna installation in our church are working hard. The standby generator has been installed next to the church garage. Conduits have been installed for the communications cables that will connect the antennas in the bell tower to the communications equipment in the secure room in the basement. The communications cables go down through the Fellowship Hall to the basement. Try to find the space the contractors created for the cables to go through the Fellowship Hall. A doorway has been cut into the choir loft to provide storage space for our bells. The communications room has been totally gutted and remodeled to accommodate the communications equipment. All of the work is high quality and the workers could not be more pleasant. A separate electric service will soon be installed and dedicated to the Verizon needs. The job has the second highest priority for Verizon New York.

Special thanks for all those who have signed up to mow the lawn. With the lack of rain, mowing isn't required quite so often. We have plenty of slots left for the last half of July, August and September. If you can spare some time, please consider signing up for a week that is convenient for you.

Chicken Barbecue!! The fall chicken barbecue and Pie Sale will be held on Saturday, September 17th. Mark your calendars and plan on enjoying some great chicken and a great Methodist pie! We appreciate all the support from our congregation.

Loads of Love/ Loads of Laundry

Submitted by Ronda Ketcham

Those with limited financial resources struggle with everyday choices- food vs. laundry, utilities vs. food, car repairs vs. laundry and more. The poor in our village need money and supplies for laundry. As a congregation, we desire to serve our community - Be the Church. We believe we have the financial resources (which God has provided) to help supply the need. Through a series of special offerings, we plan to provide the money and supplies for families to do their laundry at a local laundromat.



We begin on Sunday, July 3rd. When you come forward to receive communion, please take an empty quarter roll. Fill the roll with quarters as you feel led. When filled, please bring the rolls to church and place them into the designated container by the coffee in the fellowship hall. Members of Mission and Outreach will be available for questions.

Continue to ask God for His direction in your role in this outreach to the poor and needy in our community. Pray that we will show God's love to many.

Editor's Note: If you missed your opportunity to take a quarter roll on July 3, feel free to use your own roll and drop them off, the container will remain up for at least a few weeks.

Remainder of 2016 TAC Lakeside Services

Taughannock Falls State Park – North Point – Rt. 89

Sundays at 8:00 AM
Bring a lawn chair!
Sponsored by Trumansburg Area Churches (TAC)

July 17	Mecklenburg UMC	Pastor Kate Merriman
July 24	TUMC	Rev. Jeff Losey
July 31	First Baptist	Rev. Dennis Christensen
August 7	No Service — Cayuga Lake Triathlon	
August 14	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints	Anthony Vaughan
August 21	Jacksonville UMC	Pastor Geri Judd
August 28	Perry City Friends	Perry City Friends



Don't Take a Vacation from God

Submitted by Marge Lener

Don't take a vacation from God, Keep him foremost in your heart Wherever you go, wherever you are At the lake, or in your car— Don't take a vacation from God!

We all need a change, a rest, a break From the everyday worries we face But not a change or a break from God As he follows us everyplace So don't take a vacation from God!

Have fun, get a tan, take time to play Remember God wants to hear you pray every day! Don't take a vacation from God!

If you can't go (or don't go) to church in the summer Take God with you whatever you do
But – Don't take a vacation from God
God does not take a vacation from you!



Strawberry Soup

From the kitchens of Ellen Mitterer and Mary Jamison Served at UMW Meeting on May 13, 2016

Ingredients

2 Pints fresh berries
1 cup water
½ cup sugar
1 cup heavy cream
2 t. lemon juice
1 pint vanilla yogurt
½ pint plain yogurt

Directions

Make syrup by simmering water, sugar, lemon juice over med. Heat until sugar dissolves – then heat on high for 10 min. stirring constantly. Cool. Wash and hull berries (save a few for garnish). Puree in blender 2 cups at a time. Stir puree into cold syrup. Fold in yogurt and cream. Chill 4-6 hours. Garnish with berries and mint leaves. Makes 6 servings.

DING-DONG THE BELLS ARE GONNA CHIME!!

Submitted by Mary Jamison, Church Historian

Webster's dictionary describes a bell as a hollow, usually cup-shaped instrument, widening at the "lip", that rings when struck. It may be very small, or weigh many tons! The Latin word for bell is CAMPANA. Campanology is the study of bells, bell making and bell ringing; Campanile is the belfry or bell tower. OUR tower consists of a steeple (pointy part) and the belfry where the bell is hung. Bells have played a prominent role in the history of the world -- farm house bells calling for emergencies or meals, bells ringing out alarms, tower bells that have called us to worship and prayer, celebrating the end of wars, marking new beginnings (e.g. weddings), and tolling in sad remembrances. They are priceless heirlooms and a lifetime investment which deserve our attention and care. They used to call us to honor our past and to set the tone for our future, and to bring order and inspiration to life.

When our first church was sold to build a bigger one across the street the Building Committee decided that they would keep the bell and move it to the new building. There are 2 articles from the <u>Trumansburg Free Press and Sentinal</u>, with the following stories.

First article - "I well remember, when in 1857, about the time of the [building] of the present Methodist Church, the bell was removed from the [now] St. James to be hung in the new brick Methodist Church. The bell was lowered from the belfry from the outside of the church, and when started on its way to the earth, the ropes broke and fell with a clang as if protesting against being disturbed. It struck the front platform crashing through the steps to the ground. The bell still does excellent service and there is none better or whose sound is more welcome."

That was written on Nov. 30, 1895. On Dec. 7th of the same year, the newspaper received the following rebuttal.

Second article - "Editor Free Press and Sentinel: Dear Sir: I noticed in your last issue an account of the transfer of the bell in the M.E. Church, from the old church, which is NOT correct, and as I had a hand in moving the bell, I propose to give you the truth of the matter. On or about the first of December, 1856, the Building Committee of the new church, namely, J.H. Jerome, Luther Mosher and Russell Atwater, came to me and asked what I would charge to send the bell down and send it up to the new one. I told them five dollars, and they said they could do it cheaper themselves. I told them to go ahead and they did. They worked nearly all day, with Smith Durling and one of his boys to help them. About 4 p.m., they had the bell hanging out of one of the belfry windows when a hook broke and the bell went to the ground, but NOT doing any harm. The Committee then came to me and told me to take that bell over to the new church and hoist it up (where it is today) and I could have the five dollars. My brother and Luther Dockstader helped me. We took it across the road on a stone boat and in just one hour we had it where it now hangs. When I got the old bell up and my gear all moved, they wanted me to hang it, but I did not see it in that way, and after some quibbling I got my five dollars. So much for the old bell, and here's hoping she may ring many a sinner to repentance.

Most respectfully yours, J.E. Hall"

...Continued on next page

Bell Story Continued...

That was quite a nice transaction for Mr. Hall, as he did less than half the job for the same amount of money he might have gotten for doing it all.

Thanks to Carl Benham, who as a favor to me, went up into the belfry and took photos of the bell and measured it. We learned it was 36 inches in diameter, and the foundry who cast it, imprinted on it, was "From the Meneely's Foundry West, Troy, N.Y. 1848". In researching that foundry, I found the Duffy family in Connecticut (still there) was associated with the Meneely foundry. I called the Duffy Foundry, and talked to Joseph Duffy who said, when I described what Carl had found, that we had a "treasure". He said chances are its "tone" or "voice" is of the musical note "A" or "A flat", being a very pleasant sound. Being cast in 1848, he said the bell would be mounted with a patented "rotary yoke" by use of "U" bolts, etc., and that at 36 inches in diameter, the bell probably weighs 1000 lbs. To replace a bell of that size would cost



more than \$25,000. We need to take good care of our "treasure" that we have had in our possession for about 185 years. Let's not forget that we have that gem and keep it ringing!

Summer Coffee Hour Signups are Needed...

We need people to sign up for summer coffee hour. It can be very simple, you don't have to bake if you don't want to, just pick up some cookies and/ or fruit, crackers, etc. at the grocery store, make a pot of coffee and put them out. There are open spots on the signup sheet near the kitchen.



DIVINITY SCHOOL

Rev. Pam Carey – Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School Pam was ordained on June 4, at the Upper New York Annual Conference in Syracuse, NY. She is the pastor at Arkport United Methodist Church and Bishopville United Methodist Church.

Class of 2016 COLLEGE Graduates

Emily Reynolds – Arnot Ogden Medical Center, School of Nursing, in Elmira, NY

Emily will be working at Unity Hospital in Greece, NY.

Parents, Tammy and Michael Reynolds, Grandparents, Sandi and Jerry Reynolds

Meghan Woods – Hunter CUNY in Manhattan, NY.

Megan is co-owner of a farm-to-table business; working to help lessen the impact of food deserts. Parents, Jody McCoy-Woods and Rodney Woods

Class of 2016 HIGH SCHOOL Graduates

Ryan R. Gell - C.W. Baker High School, Baldwinsville, NY

Ryan will be studying International Relations at Tufts University in Medford, MA.

Parents, Richard and Karen Gell; Grandparents, Ethel and Tom Gell.

Jessica Kuntz – Ithaca High School

Jessica will be attending the College of Environmental Sciences & Forestry (ESF) in Syracuse, NY.

Parents, Suzanne and Bruce Kuntz

Neile Messenger – Charles O. Dickerson High School

Neile will be studying Radiologic Technology at Alfred State in Alfred, NY.

Parents, Julie and Brian Messenger

Taylor Murphy – Charles O. Dickerson High School

Taylor will be studying nursing at Alfred State in Alfred, NY.

Parents, Tammy Murphy and David Murphy

Tyler Reynolds – South Seneca High School, Ovid, NY

Parents, Tammy and Mike Reynolds, Grandparents, Sandi and Jerry Reynolds

Kara Van Valen – Charles O. Dickerson High School

Kara will be attending Ithaca College, majoring in exercise science; and she is on the IC track team.

Parents, John and Gretchen Van Valen; Grandmother, Chloe Van Valen

Kassadi Woods – Charles O. Dickerson High School

Kassadi will be attending Keystone College in Keystone, PA.

Parents, Jody McCoy-Woods and Rodney Woods

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Graduate | Moving up to Middle School, Class of 2024

Tristan Russo – Trumansburg Elementary School to Russell I. Doig Middle School Mother, Susan Lodinsky; Grandfather, Bob Lodinsky

Entering KINDERGARTEN - Class of 2029

Muriel Losey: Parents, Bronwyn Losey and Jeff Turney; Grandparents, Rev. Jeff and Sue Losey **Lindsey Leigh Siekmann:** Parents, Kristin and Steve Siekmann; Grandparents, Carol and Bill Grove







VETS' BREAKFAST SUN., NOV. 6, 2016

Submitted by Meg Gaige

As a church family, we are looking forward with great excitement to the Third Annual Veterans' Breakfast! This year we will again hold it at the T-burg American Legion on Sunday morning, November 6, 2016.

This complimentary buffet breakfast for all past and current military service personnel will be followed by a brief time of worship. Through these acts of service and praise, we express our respect and appreciation for their sacrifice and dedication to America and her people.

Please save the date on your calendar, spread the word, and plan to attend! There are numerous ways to assist us in this activity. More on that soon ...

This "Be The Church" event allows the TUMC family members to put our faith into action out in the community at a time when we are usually inside the walls of our sanctuary.

Please direct questions to any of the committee members: Bill Grove, Nancy Irish, Tara Hallman, Monica Pritchard, Mary Ochs, Lanny Joyce, Meg Gaige

Notes from the Editor

Hope this finds everyone having a great summer. I would certainly welcome any vacation stories for our next issue.

My husband and I recently went to Topsail Island, NC and met up with our daughter, her husband and their two sons (our grandsons!). We had a great time and I have to tell you that I had a really special "God Wink" while on this vacation. I walked the beach every morning early and this one morning, I decided to walk a bit out into the ocean and I turned and looked to the side where there was the most incredible sunrise with rays falling down to the ocean floor and I stood in that very moment with tears coming down from my eyes as I felt God was telling me that he had saved me the past year just for moments like this one. I took that opportunity to thank him for that moment and all the moments I hope I have left. It was a special moment for myself and God. That's my vacation story.

Remember to save the date of December 3 for our 31st Christmas Bazaar and Luncheon. More to come on that in our September issue and watch our web page for news on all upcoming events! Remember to visit www.trumansburgumc.org from time to time to keep up with all the latest and also to help us rise in the search rankings! Feel free to let me know things that you think should be up there and are not, it is and will continue to be a work in progress.

JULY/AUGUST 2016

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Trumansburg United Methodist Church

Please check the calendars for July and August at www.trumansburgumc.org or check with your committee chair for meeting dates/times

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