



# Spiritual Harvest

June 2018

Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors

## Trumansburg UMC

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Noon-3 PM

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



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## Pastor's Message Invisible Faith

There are some aspects of our faith that should be shouted from the rooftops. God's glory and mercy. Our thankfulness to God for all God calls us to be. God's love for all: especially the least, the last, and the lost.

But there are other aspects that most often are kept quiet.

From Matthew chapter 6:

"So, when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

"When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

I have been amazed in my nearly 12 years as pastor of the Trumansburg UMC to continue to learn of acts of mercy, kindness, and mission that so many of you have done and still do without anyone knowing about it. We face the challenge and the opportunity to exercise more of "invisible faith" in the coming months and the next two to three years.

You have heard about the brick repair and windows of the building. (Yes, I know! We've heard TOO much! But please read on.)

We are planning a Capital Campaign - details still to be worked out. I spoke with our own Scott Sutcliff about how to proceed with that. He put it in a very succinct way: "Brick repair is not 'sexy'".

Building an addition is exciting. Getting or restoring an organ is exciting. Repointing the brickwork is not exciting.

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COLOR VERSION OF *Spiritual Harvest* IS AVAILABLE AT  
[WWW.TRUMANSBURGUMC.ORG](http://WWW.TRUMANSBURGUMC.ORG)

### **Pastor's Message Continued...**

Most often, faithfulness is not “sexy”. The reward of faithfulness is usually not acclaim and praise, but the deep, quiet satisfaction of serving God and Christ’s Church. So, it will be with the work that looms before us. When the brickwork (and even the stained-glass window repair) is done, nobody is going to drive past the building and say, “Wow! Look at what those Methodists have done!” But WE will know that we have been faithful in preserving a building that is a tool for ministry, not a shrine to the past, for those who will worship and minister from this building for a hundred years to come.

As to the “whys” and the “what ifs”:

Your Trustees are the most faithful and diligent Trustees I have ever had the privilege of working with! Early in my ministry I served a church that was housed in another large brick building. That building served largely as a shrine to the glory days of the past. The Trustees knew that the bricks were in bad shape, but they kept putting off maintenance and repair because “We don’t have the money”. Funds went into keeping up the sanctuary and repairs to the organ. (It really was a fantastic organ!)

The day came when the organist was practicing in the sanctuary and heard what sounded like cellophane crinkling. Eventually, she looked up to see the arch above her widening with each crinkly sound. Wisely, she left the building. We had consulting structural engineers come in. The building was IMMEDIATELY closed to all access except for removal of the most significant pieces. Soon a vacant lot was to be seen where once a beautiful pre-Civil War building had stood.

Water had been getting into the bricks for years. (Probably decades.) The freeze/thaw cycles had destroyed the bricks beyond reclamation.

We are NOT in that situation!!! ..... Yet.

We have deferred repair of the walls until it could be deferred no longer. But NOT until it is too late.

Here is some detailed information about what to expect: [I may not have time to confirm all the numbers, so forgive me if they are “ballpark” accurate.]

I must confirm with the District/Conference regarding listing on the Historical Registry. There are some who have the mistaken belief that being listed restricts what we can do with the building. That is NOT the case. But assuming we can gain assent from the Conference/District, we will pursue being listed. That will open the possibility of receiving matching grants for repairs and restoration. Note that these grants DO have restrictions associated with them. So, we will need to be VERY careful before we apply for or accept a grant.

Now comes the complicated part!

Grants will only match donations given AFTER the grant is secured. This will be early 2019 at the very earliest.

**...Continued on Page 3**

## Pastor's Message Continued...

However, there is one wall of the building that must be done this year. That will have to be fully funded from the generosity of this congregation and this community. This first phase will cost in the neighborhood of approximately \$39,000. Even before we have asked, generous donors have already pledged about \$7,000 toward this work! (I have shared before how much I continue to be amazed at this congregation! Thank you!) We do have funds on hand that will be able to pay for this first phase, but it will deplete our accounts to some extent. The completion of the other walls will be scheduled for 2019, at a cost of about \$75,000.

As details of the Capital Campaign become clear, you may hear that we will request that some financial commitments be deferred until grants are received so that they can take advantage of matching funds.

In addition, we continue to anticipate a bequest. That bequest is said to come "very soon" (as we have heard for about a year now). We have no solid idea of the amount that we will receive from that person's generous remembrance of the church in their will. It could be significant; it could help pay for postage. 🙏

A Capital Campaign typically requests commitments over a three-year period. You will hear more as we do the legwork and planning.

So - please continue to be patient as your Trustees, Finance Committee, and Capital Drive group work through all the details and legwork that needs to be done so that we don't jump off "half-cocked". We will keep you informed as clarity comes.

In the meantime - rejoice with me that we have not had to have the experience that another congregation had that literally faced the prospect of their building "falling down around their ears", thanks to the faithfulness of previous generations of Trustees and faithful saints who have preceded us.

And know that God is with us. We may be entrusted with the building, but it is Christ's Church. He who has been faithful thus far will continue to be with us.

It's not going to be "sexy". But faithfulness seldom is.

"Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you." (Matt 6:4)

Blessings!

*Rev. Jeff*





### Special dates

- Flag Day, *June 14, 2018*
- Father's Day, *June 17, 2018*
- First day of summer, *June 21, 2018*

### ***2018 TAC Summer Lakeside Services***

8 AM, Taughannock Falls State Park, North Point

Remember to bring your lawn chairs.

All are welcome!

Sponsored by the Trumansburg Area Churches (TAC)

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| July 01 | <b>To be determined ...</b>   |
| July 08 | <b>Perry City Friends Meeting</b><br>Perry City Friends                   |
| July 15 | <b>First Presbyterian Church of Ulysses</b><br>Rev. Cheryl Peoples        |
| July 22 | <b>First Baptist Church of Trumansburg</b><br>Rev. Dennis Christiansen    |
| July 29 | <b>Jacksonville Community United Methodist Church</b><br>Pastor Geri Judd |
| Aug 05  | <b>NO SERVICE ... due to the Cayuga Lake Triathlon</b>                    |
| Aug 12  | <b>Mecklenburg United Methodist Church</b><br>Pastor Kate Merriman        |
| Aug 19  | <b>Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints</b><br>Anthony Vaughan     |
| Aug 26  | <b>Trumansburg United Methodist Church</b><br>Rev. Dr. Jeff Losey         |



## Trumansburg Food Pantry Volunteers Needed!

June and July 2019

Submitted by Peg Benham

Volunteers from our church are needed for **June** and **July** to work at the free food distributions which are held at TUMC every other Monday. The dates assigned to our church are **June 11<sup>th</sup>**, **June 25<sup>th</sup>**, **July 9<sup>th</sup>**, and **July 23<sup>rd</sup>**.



Volunteers are needed from 9:00 am to 2:15 pm to help set up tables, carry food from the basement, repackage food, work behind the tables during the actual distribution (12:45 – 2:15) and help carry client boxes. We also need someone with a truck to pick up groceries and milk from the Shur-Save (contact Dot Manheim for details), deliver boxes to Juniper Manor (June 25<sup>th</sup> and July 23<sup>rd</sup> only) and to take cardboard, bread flats and milk crates back to the Shur-Save after the distribution. **We also need 2 people for the evening distribution 5:00 – 6:15 pm (great opportunity for a family to help).** We are currently serving 20-25 families at the evening distribution.

Our church must also be responsible for the Emergency Kitchen Cupboard for both June and July. We need 3 or 4 people to check the Hot Line phone number daily for calls from clients needing emergency food assistance (usually only one or two families per month). Instructions are provided with the Hot Line log book.

There will be a sign-up sheet next to the coffee hour calendar, listing the various jobs that need to be filled. The Food Pantry is currently serving 75-85 families per distribution and your help is greatly needed. Please open your hearts and sign up for this worthwhile ministry. If you are unable to volunteer to work, remember your donations of canned food items or \$\$\$ are truly appreciated. If you are unable to get to church to sign up or have any questions, please call Peg Benham (387-6980) or Dot Manheim (387-6028). So, mark your calendars for **June 11<sup>th</sup>**, **June 25<sup>th</sup>**, **July 9<sup>th</sup>** and **July 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Thank you and God bless you for lending a helping hand!

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### Finance Committee Update...

Submitted by David Irish

The Finance Committee discussed and approved the concept of a three year Capital Fund Drive with a dollar figure TBD. The funds will be used to address the long term maintenance requirements of the church which include the masonry wall repairs and the stain glass window repairs. A Capital Fund Drive committee will be forming, stay tuned. The support of the congregation is amazing and what sustains our church, thank you. See the Pastor's Message on pages 1-3 for more details.

## One of the many hearts that beat in TUMC...

Submitted by Judi Eastburn

Ever wonder what the **Mission & Outreach** group does and how they were formed? Perhaps you have been a recipient of some of their efforts, so you do know what I'm talking about. I, on the other hand, did not really know what they did outside of visits to shut-ins, etc. This reporter (I've always wanted to call myself that!) sat down at their recent meeting to find out just what they are all about.



I was quite surprised to learn of the many wonderful things they do for people both in our church and our community. To back up just a bit, the Mission & Outreach committee is one of the things that came about through the Hand-to-Plow process our church went through just a few short years ago.

So, what do they do you ask? One of their recent projects is to help a program called "Second Wind". This is a program established by a man named Carmen Guidi. The program now has 12 mini cottages, located on Route 13 near Newfield, which have a bedroom, kitchen and a bath. These are for homeless men so that they have a place to stay while they get their lives in order. The goal of Second Wind is to walk with people towards restored lives. Part of this restoration does include a code of conduct which is agreed upon when a resident moves into a cottage. No drugs or alcohol are permitted on the premises. This group is not affiliated with a church but is faith based. Second Wind is now in the process of building 3 more cottages this summer and Mission & Outreach has planned to supply lunch for the volunteers on Saturday, June 16. You can read more about this project at [www.secondwindcottages.org](http://www.secondwindcottages.org).

Other things that Mission & Outreach have been providing are visits, cards, meals to shut-ins, helping with laundry tasks (Loads of Love, quarters have been donated by the congregation), once a month they make coffee and serve it to the Food Pantry participants, provide gift bags for someone new to church, read to those who perhaps have lost their sight, and any other things they hear about that people may need.

I certainly applaud this wonderful group for their efforts to help others and if you feel the nudge to help, feel free to contact one of the following people who make up the Mission & Outreach group: Rich Flaville, Mary Louise Gallagher, Steve Huber, Ronda Ketcham, Sue McCormick, and Joe Sibley.

I left this group feeling very good about all they do and with a renewed spirit to try and do more myself!

## From the Back Pew..

Submitted by Chris Kimball-Peterson

When I was the editor of the Spiritual Harvest nearly 18 years ago, I started a column called "From the Back Pew". I asked Judi if I could bring this back to use as a "filler". Well, here it is.



First of all, Mother's Day was great! Thanks to my co-host Judi E, the Mother's Day reception went well. In fact, since we "know the ropes" we decided to sign up for Father's Day and Grads Sunday. Now, that doesn't mean we don't need help! If anyone wants to help out please let us know.

It was good to see Deb Pfautsch back in church. Mother Mary, aka Mary Jamison, also came, and it was her and Al's wedding anniversary too! The flowers up on the altar were beautiful. Visiting organist, Sondra Wayman (Alice Ploss's niece), did a great job filling in for Francine. Charlie Dyke was back from California and said that it was a wonderful trip visiting his family. Spoke with Jan Fergus, she looked great. I know she has aches and pain just like we all do. It's tough getting old! Everyday, I thank God when I get up, stand without falling and can move forward and backward!

While, standing at the back, waiting for my cue to light the altar candles, I couldn't help but wonder what it would feel like to be in a different place and not be among our church family. When I was watching the news that morning, I listened and watched what is happening in Hawaii. The volcano that is destroying homes, roads, air quality etc. Here we are in, the sort of dull Finger Lakes region, at church, and all of us thank God that we are in Trumansburg where many of us may complain about the rain and cool weather but I think we can say that we are lucky!

I did phone Anessa to wish her Happy Mother's Day. She is done with classes and is scheduled to teach a new course in the Spring to Grad students. So she will be working on that during the summer. She is also looking forward to the Grassroots Festival. It was a balmy 65 degrees in Quebec with blue sky and lots of sunshine! That was a surprise, as I looked out my office window and saw a dreary grey sky.

Talk with all of you soon!



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### Call for Grads...

**Do you know of anyone graduating this year?** Please let the TUMC office know. We want to recognize them on Dads and Grads Sunday (June 17). Call 387-9024 or e-mail [tumc@fltg.net](mailto:tumc@fltg.net).

## **A note from the Trustees.....**

Submitted by Dick Peterson

We had a soggy barbecue day on May 12<sup>th</sup>, but the chicken survived and it turned out to be a successful day. The wonderful Methodist pies really draw people to our barbecue. There were at least three competing barbecues that day, but we heard several customers say they come to our barbecue because of the pies. And the pies were numerous and delicious. Thank you all who provided pies that day. You are a blessing.

The fierce competition we experience on Mother's Day weekend is causing us to think about holding a Spring barbecue on another date. We will be discussing that in the coming weeks. Thanks to Sunday sales after church, we did sell out. The total profit for the barbecue and pie sale is \$989.58. We cut back to 200 chicken halves this time, because of the competition. That worked out for us, but also limited our profit.

The barbecue workers were Carl Benham, Jerry Reynolds, Joe Sibley, Steve Huber, Pete Jager and Phil Soyring, They kept the fire at the perfect temperature and basted faithfully to produce fully cooked chicken that was perfectly browned and not burned. Carl and Peg Benham made the sauce and Carl set up the barbecue pit. Joe Sibley made sure all of our jugs and coolers and gloves were clean and disinfected for the next barbecue. Peg Benham, Judi Eastburn and Steve Huber took care of sales. It was a great day of fellowship and tall tales. Thank you all who helped and all who bought the chicken and pies.

The church lawn looks great as spring makes the grass grow quickly. Carl Benham has been mowing the lawn on a very frequent basis. We thank Carl and we don't want him to be burdened with this task in the weeks to come. We will talk about solutions for lawn mowing at our May Trustee meeting.

Thank you all for supporting the trustees as they watch over our church properties.



**Chickens cooking in the rain**



**Dick Peterson calling a higher authority, asking for the rain to stop**

## Who are those “Yard Guardians” ...

Submitted by Judi Eastburn

Ever drive by our church and notice how wonderful the lawn looks and how nice the plants are around our church? I did just that the other day and as I was driving by there was Peg Benham on her hands and knees weeding along the sidewalk and then just today as I went to take some photos for our web site, there was Carl Benham mowing the lawn. I stopped Carl to thank him and he told me he and Peg were planning to do some more weeding around the church soon. If you have a green thumb (which I seem to be lacking) I'm sure they would welcome some help. I know there are others who come out and help with mowing, etc .during the summer and I want to go on record now to say a big thanks to all who help out and also to all those in the past who planted a lot of the things around our church (maybe this could be a great history article sometime, Mary J?). As a result, our church lawn looks great! **News Update:** Alex and Ryan Mitchell have agreed to keep our lawn mowed! A big thanks to them!

If you take a look in the back, you will see how nice Mary's Garden looks also, thanks to the hard work of Pat Love and Paula Austic.

If you get a chance, take time and thank these people and others for their hard work. You might want to check out our web site as I will be putting some photos I took this morning on the front page, either in the main slide show or at the bottom of the front page.



## From the Editor's Desk...

Although as I write this it is rainy and cold out today, there is hope of some upcoming warmer and sunnier weather. We are now mowing our lawns, planting plants, the leaves are blossoming, therefore spring has arrived. Let's keep our farmers in our prayers that they have a good growing season!

If, as you are spring/summer cleaning, you find items that are new/gently used and could be donated to the bazaar, we have designated the old Sunday school room the farthest on your right as a collecting place if you would like to leave things there. Remember us when you are making those jams and jellies also!

You will find some new articles in this issue and I hope you will enjoy reading them. I would like to perhaps highlight more committees and/or volunteer groups that put so much effort into keeping our church going. I think it's nice every now and then to give a head's up to our brothers and sisters of faith. Let me know if there are areas/committees you would like to know more about. This congregation is so giving, I know all of you do your part when you can and I thank you from the bottom of my heart!

This will be your last issue for a while. I'm not just sure when the "summer issue" will come out at this point. I know I will be traveling a bit over the summer as will others who help with this newsletter. Speaking of summer, if you have any interesting travel stories/places of travel, please send them! Any God moments along your way, send them! Until next time..... *Judi*

**Trumansburg United Methodist Church**  
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Please check the calendar for June on our web site  
([www.trumansburgumc.org](http://www.trumansburgumc.org)) or check with your committee  
chair for meeting dates/times.

**Altar Guild rep for June: Ellen Mitterer**

*How beautiful*  
are the feet of those who  
preach the good news!"

ROMANS 10:15, ESV

