



Spiritual Harvest

September 2019

Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors

Trumansburg UMC

Location:

Corner of Main and South Streets
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Message Ministry:
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Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jeff Losey
Office hrs: Tues. & Thurs.
Noon-3 PM

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



Inside this issue:

Pastor's message cont'd, Vet. breakfast	2
Dates, Altar guild, UMW	3
Bazaar	4
Finance update	5
Yard sale, Crop walk	6
Child photo contest	7
Trustees	8-9
Choir, Editor notes	9
Back Page	10

Pastor's Message

Thoughts on Retirement and Change

OK. I admit it. I'm getting old. I don't like it when Netflix removes a show that I have been watching. I don't like it when my Operating System or one of my "apps" decides that the user interface needs to be "updated" so I have to learn how the program works all over again. I don't like roads being closed/new buildings going up/old businesses closing. I don't like that the accusative of first person singular pronoun ("me") is disappearing from the English language.

I am officially "an Old Fogy"!

But no matter how much I wish things wouldn't change, they keep on changing. **Without my permission!**

One of the bigger changes in my life is looming up like a freight-train. As of January 1st I will be retired! I've never done that before. I'm not sure what it is going to be like. I'll be going from pastoring to puttering. From trying to squeeze into a week everything that needs to be done to setting my own agenda.

We will be leaving Trumansburg. I will no longer be your pastor. That is going to be weird!

After 13 ½ years you will be relating to someone else as your pastor. I can't tell you what your new pastor is going to be like. The one thing I can tell you is that they won't be me.

Whatever strengths and weaknesses you find in me will be different in the "new" pastor.

I can remind you that the United Methodist Church is an appointive process. You do not "hire" your pastor. The Bishop appoints the pastor with the advice of the District Superintendents and in consultation with the PPR/SPRC committee.

I can tell you what our conversations and ideas have been so far: It is very likely that an "interim" pastor will be appointed to serve T'burg, probably for a set period of 18 months. That will not be a "try it to buy it" pastor. If that is indeed what happens, at the conclusion of 18 months, the interim will leave and a "regular" pastor will be appointed.

As I have told the PPR committee, I believe this will be the best transition for this congregation. Receiving an appointment January 1st means that the Bishop and Cabinet will be giving their attention to the needs of T'burg, not trying to fill 50 vacancies at once.

Cont'd on page 2...

COLOR VERSION OF *Spiritual Harvest* IS AVAILABLE AT
WWW.TRUMANSBURGUMC.ORG

...Pastor's Message Cont'd from page 1

I have been here a long time. Some of you really like my style and appreciate my strengths and have come to accept my weaknesses. I am sure that some of you are driven up the proverbial wall by my weaknesses and may find my style downright annoying. I thank you for your patience!! :-)

The normal appointment cycle changes pastors July 1st. A six month interim would be too short to figure out together what you need in a pastor and what your new direction as a congregation is going to be.

It is inevitable that the pastor will be compared with me - at least for a while. Some will think he/she does not live up to what I have brought to this congregation. Others will be relieved that she/he is different from me. 18 months gives you an opportunity to move beyond comparisons to a fresh outlook and a clearer evaluation of what your needs are in your next pastor.

I'm not gone yet. This is the September newsletter. I will be among you for four more months.


January 1st is going to be new territory for me and this congregation. For that time we will prepare together for change. During that time I will continue to love you and serve you to the best of my ability.

Let's make the most of it!

Rev. Jeff

Our Annual Veteran's Breakfast...

Submitted by Meg Gaige

Sunday, November 10, 2019 is the date to mark your calendars with **Stars & Stripes** because we'll again be celebrating and honoring our military Veterans and active service personnel, as well as their loved ones. It's now an established tradition (this will be year #6!) for our TUMC family to provide a complimentary breakfast for these folks at the American Legion in T-burg. We welcome your support of this ministry by volunteering the day of the event, with your ongoing prayers, and your \$\$. 

So far, we have raised about 80% of the funds needed for the 2019 event with a couple of Noisy Offerings this spring and summer. We'll plan one more for Sunday, Sept. 8 (the 2nd Sunday in Sept.). Please give generously!

In the meantime, look for opportunities to invite more Veterans and active service members to join us. Let's keep growing!
More details to come--

Committee members: Bill Grove, Lanny Joyce, Mary Ochs, Meg Gaige



Special dates

- Labor Day, *September 2, 2019*
- National Grandparents Day, *September 8, 2019*
- Patriot Day, *September 11, 2019*
- Hispanic Heritage Month, *Sept. 15 – Oct. 15, 2019*
- First day of autumn, *September 23, 2019*

Position Opening....

The altar guild is in need of a representative for October. Please contact Suzanne Organ (suzanne.organ@gmail.com) if you are interested or you have questions about what the position entails.



UMW starts up meetings in September...

Submitted by Sylvia Mitchell

The next UMW meeting will be held on September 13 at noon at the church. A soup or dessert, coffee and tea will be provided. Please bring a sandwich for yourself. All women of the church are welcome. **Please join us.!** We have an enjoyable time of fellowship.

UMW meets the second Friday of every month, September through June. If you have any ideas for programs you would like to see presented at these meetings, please let Sylvia Mitchell know.



34th Annual
Christmas Bazaar & Luncheon
Saturday, December 7

Christmas Bazaar
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Homemade Soup, Salad & Bread Luncheon
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

It's time to mark your calendars to save the date for the annual TUMC Christmas Bazaar & Homemade Soup, Salad & Bread Luncheon, one of our best fundraisers of the year. As always, we look forward to your baked goods, your handiwork, and your fellowship on this super-fun day! This year, we'll have our extraordinary Sugar Plums & Such baked goods tables, crafts and handiwork made by our congregation, a Christmas table with inexpensive holiday goodies for those last-minute gifts, plus our popular RADA cutlery sold by the United Methodist Women. Meg Gaige will chair the now community-wide famous homemade soup, salad and bread luncheon that's oh, so good!

Our goal this year is to continue our community outreach while raising funds for our church budget, all the while trying not to overload anyone during the Holidays. To accomplish that, we've decided to eliminate Sunday sales, except for leftover baked goods and luncheon foods. With Grandma's Attic moving to September as a yard sale, we should be able to quickly pack up the bazaar after 3 PM, freeing up Sunday for our workers, the Second Sunday of Advent.

Before the holiday rush, September is a great time to think about making a few things to sell at the bazaar, to look up a few new recipes for the bake sale, or to try some new soups that could be used at the luncheon. Let's get the ball rolling. Your enthusiasm is making this day happen, and we thank you for your support!

Merry Christmas from this year's coordinators!

Carol Grove, grove@ottcmail.com, 607-387-6128
Ronda Ketcham, rondaketcham@gmail.com, 607-387-4369



Finance/Giving Update (01/01/19 to 07/28/19)...

Submitted by Eileen Collins, Financial Secretary on behalf of the Finance Committee

Pledges	\$53,280.88
Donations	\$10,886.34
Undesignated Cash	<u>\$ 1,518.03</u>
Total Receipts	\$65,686.15



The chart above summarizes all monies received as of July 28, 2019. To date we have received approximately 59% of our pledged amount and about 90% of what we estimated from our undesignated cash donations. Donations (giving that is not pledged) is on the low side for now. Several reasons might explain the dip in donations. First, several of our giving units from previous years switched from donators to pledgers (which is a very good thing), and we have not had as many visitors as in past summers. Because of our extensive renovations, it's possible visitors may have the impression that the church is closed, thus the addition of the sign on the front lawn.

It's important to remember that this is only a report on our Sunday collection. There are resources, including fundraisers, Verizon rent, interest from our annuity, hall rental, Capital Campaign, etc. Revenues from Sunday collections are usually about 40% of our projected budget by this time. This year, it is at about 28% of our budget. Summer is always a time of lower revenues and as shepherds of your finances, the finance committee becomes a bit concerned, however, Pastor Jeff always reminds us that this is a community of faith and we always seem to manage to pay our bills.

Please continue to contribute as your conscience dictates. Pray for the completion of our extensive renovations and for no more "emergencies". Your financial report, if you have not already taken it, can be found at the back of the sanctuary, please check it to see if you are up-to-date. There were a few glitches with printing the Capital Campaign statements, mainly because it is a 3 year campaign and thus prints differently than our quarterly reports. If you have any questions on your capital campaign pledge, please feel free to contact Judi Eastburn, she has her own database for that and can give you up to date information at any time if you need it. The finance committee has faith God will sort this whole finance thing out and we will be just fine.



Come one, come all to the first ever TUMC yard sale!

Submitted by Kay Cooke

In lieu of the Christmas bazaar "Grandma's Attic" sale, we have decided to have a fall yard sale on **Saturday, September 14th from 9:00 to 2:00**. There will be items on the lawn, but also things for sale on tables inside the church. From the looks of the present supply of donations we think there will be lots of interesting things to choose from!



A little sneak peak
(photos by Carol Grove)



Crop Walk 2019 is Sunday. October 13, 2019.

Submitted by Pat Love

Church World Service, striving to end hunger and food insecurity around the world, again sponsors another chance for each of us to make a difference in this world.

"Hunger is one of the greatest injustices facing our world today". Using CWS's motto "one step at a time", we all can be a part of helping those around the globe gain "access to nutritious, sustainable food sources". Multiple methods are used to help. Agricultural training, stocking food shelves, drilling for water and more, are used internationally and on a local basis in an anti-hunger campaign.

So, mark the date on your calendars, join up with friends, compete with other teams, spend time with loved ones, all while marching from the T'Burg Presbyterian Church (starting at 2 pm). around our community, for a goal that has no political flavor!!

See Pat Love or Julie Messenger, your TUMC coordinators, to sign up to walk and/or donate.



TUMC First child photo contest...

For this first contest, I have chosen 3 random photos from those I have received. Who are they?

Rules: You will place on a piece of paper, Number 1., 2., and 3 with your guess on who the person in the photo is. You will then either place your guesses in the newsletter mailbox (with your contact information and the date/time you are putting your submission in my box) or email to jae2@cornell.edu (those will be sorted by date/time of emails). You may also call me on my cell at 607-279-4280. All will be either current members of TUMC or current regular attendees to TUMC. The first person to submit and get all 3 correct will be the winner and will be announced as such in the next issue and will perhaps be given a prize (I'm still thinking that over as to type of prize). If no one gets all three correct, the first 3 will be printed again in the next issue with a hint next to each and the contest will continue with hopefully a winning guess. If there is not a winner by the second time, I will publish the winning names and we will go on with the next set of photos.



PHOTO NUMBER 1



PHOTO NUMBER 2



PHOTO NUMBER 3

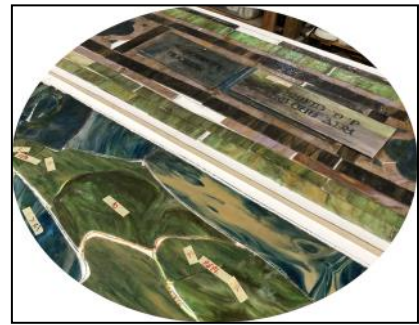
Think you have them figured out? Send me your responses and I'll let you know. I am looking for more photos. I have enough for at least a couple more issues but once you see how much fun this is, don't you want to join in? Send those photos of any age from birth to teenage to me by email or put in my newsletter box and I will scan and be sure you get your photo right back. Let's have some fun!

A note from the Trustees....

Submitted by Dick Peterson

The restoration work is coming along well. The exterior brick work is completed (and paid for!). The interior brick repairs in the bell tower will be completed in September. John Hackett is recuperating from surgery, but he is coming along well, and he plans to start bell tower work after Labor Day. The bell tower work requires close cooperation with Verizon. As they reach the antenna level, Verizon will reduce power on the system, and some work will be done at night so that cell subscribers don't lose service at peak times of the day. Verizon is very cooperative and John works closely with them. In a few weeks, the brick restoration will be complete, and we won't have to think about it for a long time!

Tony Serviente is working steadily on window restoration. The Garden of Gethsemane window is completed and the other windows are nearly half done. The Gethsemane window required a tremendous amount of work. It had been hit and damaged in numerous places over the years before the protective exterior covering was installed. There is some woodwork that must be done before the windows are re-installed. Installation of the repaired windows will be done all at once, just as they were removed. Hopefully, the job will be done by late Fall. Tony stresses that anyone can stop by and see the work in progress any time. His studio is located at 201 E. Tompkins Street in the Fall Creek area of Ithaca. He enjoys showing the process of restoration.



Above photos taken by Sue Brower when she and Kelly paid a visit to Tony's studio. You can find more photos from their visit on the **photo tab** on our web site at www.trumansburgumc.org.

I'm sure you have noticed that our church lawn has been well taken care of this summer. If you see Jack and/or Alex Mitchell, be sure to thank them for this wonderful service they are providing.

Cont'd on page 9...

...Trustees cont'd from Page 8

Now, it's time to mark your calendars for **October 5th**. We will be having a chicken barbecue and pie sale. We are working with the Presbyterian Church as they hold their big craft sale that weekend. They will be advertising our barbecue along with the publicity they put out for the sale. We will do our usual 250 halves, so we hope for a quick sell-out. We will keep the price the same – chicken halves will be \$6 and pies will be \$10. The Trustees always welcome volunteers to help with the barbecue and to be a part of the sales staff. It's always a fun time.

Notes from the Choir Loft...

Submitted by Francine and Jack

We hope you all had a wonderful summer full of fun, food, swimming, golfing and whatever floats your boat.

Looking into early September and into the fall, we are always hopeful for returning members, and maybe some new members for our choir. We are planning on several things this fall, the closest being a music gala Sunday on the 8th of September featuring a piano solo, flute and piano duet with Beth Organ, and more. Following the service Jack and Francine Darling will be presenting a small vocal and piano offering in the fellowship hall, using the piano generously donated by the Jameson family. We may also sneak a little sing-along if we see some interest.

Choir rehearsals will begin **Sunday morning, September 15 at 9:00 am**. We have many thoughts on new repertoire, as well as some of our old favorites. We hope to see many of you there.



Notes from the Editor...

I can't believe as I write this it will be the first of September or close to it when you read this. Lots of activities happening in our church this fall and beyond. Lots of opportunities to volunteer your time, your talents or to make something. Our beautiful building is going to be in it's last stages of beautification. The brickwork will be done and our beautiful stained glass windows should be reappearing, I can't wait to see them back and glistening.

You will see on page 7 the new photo contest. If you have internet access, you may wish to view this page and some others on-line. Photos are always better in full color. I hope you have fun trying to guess who the 3 child photos are.

As always, I am open to any new suggestions of things we might put in the newsletter. I'm always trying to make it interesting for all.

For now, may you have a wonderful summer (what is left of it).

Until next time.....

Judi

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Please check the calendar for September on our web site or
check with your committee chair for meeting dates/times

Altar Guild Rep for September: Suzanne Organ
Alt. Needed

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

ROMANS 10:15, ESV

