

PASTOR'S PAGE

This newsletter will serve us for the months of June and July. We are saving some money, which always helps, but we really wanted to get summer news to you so you can plan your calendars around some of our fun events and worship. As your pastor, I wanted to remind you not to forget God while you are on "summer hours" whatever that means for you. God never, ever forgets us.



CASUAL SUNDAYS

In the summer we are a bit more informal, we sing hymns that you pick out, and I try to write some fun series of sermons to lift up our spirits. There is special music all summer long. We have Vacation Bible School with a whole bunch of neighborhood churches and over a hundred kids. We have pizza at the Parsonage every other week. Our Bible study continues through July. So, even if you take a break don't forget that your church family is waiting for you.

Pastors never like to talk about the next part, but Jesus spoke more about money than almost any other topic, so I'll give it a go. Most churches I have served suffer in the summer because when people go away they don't send in their offerings. There are also plenty of folks who can afford to give God a little bit more through the church. Please, if you do leave church for the summer, don't forget your commitment to return some of your blessings to God.



May each of you have a blessed and fun summer. Check out some of the fun we have planned to share!

Peace,

Pastor Joyce

JUNE 9 PENTECOST SUNDAY

Historically, Pentecost (Shavout) is a Jewish feast celebrating the giving of the Torah and the summer wheat harvest. Celebrated 50 days after Passover and was marked by pilgrims coming to Jerusalem from all over the world to celebrate the event.

The disciples of Jesus were there. *Acts 2: 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven... 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire ... and came to rest on each of them. 4 All... were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues.* Many Christians mark this date as the beginning of the Christian Church as we know it.



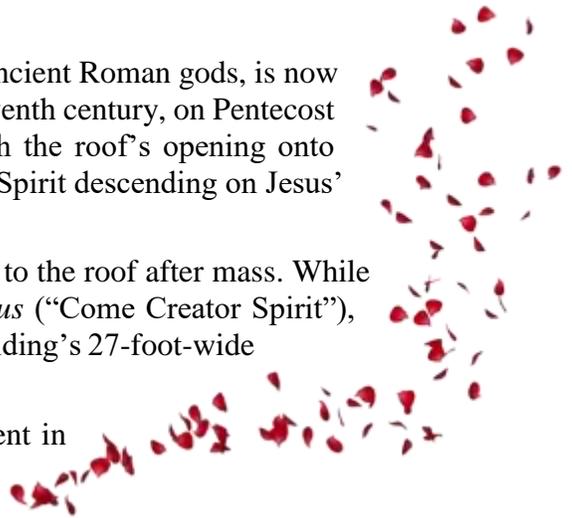
The Holy Spirit Descends on Pentecost

PENTECOST PETALS

The Pantheon, dedicated in 126 A.D. as the home of ancient Roman gods, is now a Catholic basilica. In a tradition dating back to the seventh century, on Pentecost Sunday thousands of rose petals are dropped through the roof's opening onto worshipers below. The red petals symbolize the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus' disciples, as well as the blood Jesus shed on the cross.

To accomplish this "rose rain," five firefighters climb to the roof after mass. While the choir sings the ancient hymn *Veni Creator Spiritus* ("Come Creator Spirit"), firefighters empty seven bags of petals through the building's 27-foot-wide oculus, or eye in the sky.

Only a fortunate few can witness this spectacular event in person each year, but videos are available online.



KID'S CLUB

Kids in Grade One through Six are invited to come to Kid's Club. This month will be our last meeting until fall, so if there's somebody in kindergarten, come join us this time to see what it's like. On June 9 we will meet at the church from 4pm until 5:30. If the weather is good, we will be playing some outdoor games, so dress accordingly. Each time we meet we have a lesson time, a snack, a craft and a game. We are having a good time together!

LAWN CARE

Well, here we are, at the beginning of another mowing season

Hillcrest Lawn and Bob Brown take care of our lawns, Bob does the "north forty" and, Hillcrest Lawn does the rest.. They both do a great job, our church lawns always look nice on Sundays.. Many of you make generous gifts to help cover this expense.



Will you help by making a donation to the Lawn Care Fund? The approximate cost per season is \$1400. Please make your check payable to Ogden Hillcrest UMC and write Lawn Care on the memo line. Cash donations should be placed in an envelope with Lawn Care written on the envelope. Thank You for your support!

JOYFUL NOISES

MUSIC APPRECIATION SUNDAY

We give God the praise for music and how it makes us feel. Worship wouldn't be the same without it. On June 9th at the 10:45 service we will praise God for music and we will celebrate the wonderful music program that our church has. What a blessing to have an organ and a new piano and large set of hand bells. But, the real blessing is the people who play those instruments and those who lift their voices to sing their praise.



Let's honor those people that day. Let's tell them and show them how much our worship is enhanced by their gifts. The choir will be singing some of their "greatest hits" of this year. The bell ringers will be doing the same. It's going to be one of the best and spirit filled worship of the year! Don't miss it.

Cindy Feyler reports that the choir year is winding down. Summer music is coming.

June 9th will be Music Appreciation Sunday. There will be a full program of singing and bells.

The last day the choir will sing is June 16th, Special Summer music begins on June 23rd.

Special Music Schedule: (subject to change and additions)

June 23	Jess Feyler	August 4	Margaret Buhl
June 30	Dave Andrus	August 11	Brenna King
July 7	Norma Manning	August 18	Tony Vilecco
July 14	Donna Church	August 25	Dave Clark & Cindy Feyler
July 21	To be announced	September 1	Vivace Recorders
July 28	Mark Stanley		

PROVIDENCE AT WORK



In 1722, St. Thomas Lutheran Church in Leipzig, Germany, was searching for an organist/choir director. Composer Georg Philipp Telemann was offered the job. He accepted but soon decided he would remain in Hamburg. Another composer, Christoph Graupner, was then offered the job, but his powerful employer would not release him to take the position.

Finally, a man named Johann Sebastian Bach was chosen for the job.

Bach was extremely productive, often writing an anthem a week. He played the organ, directed the choir and taught music to students. He wrote monumental works such as St. Matthew's Passion, which is still sung by choirs today.

Bach died at 65, while still composing and serving the church. Bach's legendary service at St. Thomas Church reflects God's providential care at work in him and through him.



FATHER'S DAY

Our church family wants to celebrate fathers on their special day. At both services on June 16th we will remember and honor the men of our church family. In the church, even if you've never had your own children, you get to help raise the ones at church. It's a gift we all share, and we are reminded each time we baptize a child together. Come and join in worship on Father's Day.

GRADUATE RECOGNITION

It's graduation time! That means it's time to let our church office know about the VIP graduates in your life. On Sunday Jun 23, we will honor all of the high school and college graduates we know of, and there will be a gift for each High school graduate from our church who attends worship that day. Let's gather around our young folks and show them that we appreciate their hard work.



13th Annual United Methodist Night at the Ball Game

NYSEG Stadium

Wednesday, June 26th

6:30 pm

Tickets \$9.00

Rev. Jennie Piatt from Nimmonsburg UMC
will be singing our National Anthem

Rev. Dr. David Kofahl- Binghamton District Superintendent
will be throwing out the first pitch

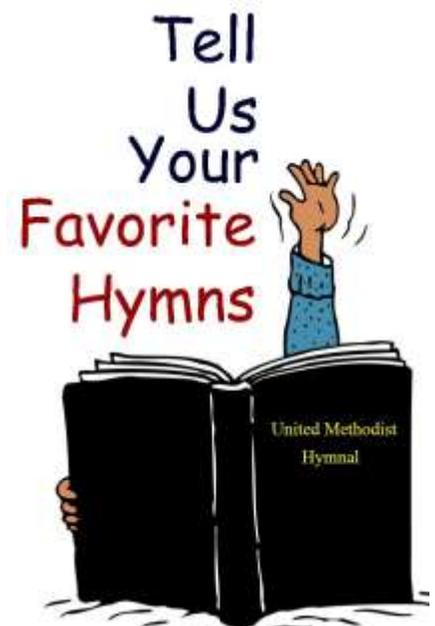
Donations will be going to:

- Feed My Starving Children
- Ramp It Up
- Kali's Klubhouse

Signup Sheet in church or call Jim for tickets. (607) 723-2637

PICK THEM NOW!

It's time to choose the hymns we sing in July and August. In the back of our church you will find a sheet for you to list your choice or choices. You may choose from any of our three hymn books or find something new and share it with us. Is there a hymn your grandparents loved and it's not in our current hymnal? We have access to older books and might be able to find it. So sign up now and sing what you'd like to sing for the summer.



WHAT'S COOKING PAGE

DINNER GROUP

Do you like going out to dinner? Do you like getting to know people and making friends from church? If so, we have a deal for you. You get to go out and buy your own dinner, but you get to eat it with some friends from church. Pastor Joyce says, "There are times I have come home from dinner group with my stomach aching from laughing so much". Don't you need a night out like that? Come join us on Friday night, June 21 at 6pm at Coppertop Restaurant in the Vestal Plaza. You can just show up there or meet in the church parking lot at 5:30 to carpool.

In July and August we go to the Pizza parties which are held every other Wednesday night all summer. In September our group will go out again on Fridays once a month.



PIZZA AT THE PARSONAGE

The weather is finally changing and it's time for us to get outside and enjoy God's creation. We like to have Pizza nights out on the parsonage lawn during the warmer months. Everybody is welcome to come. Pizza, salad, plates and napkins are provided. Sometimes people bring their fresh tomatoes or baked goods or chips, sometimes there's a watermelon or ice cream sundaes. If you have something to share, bring it along, if you don't it just doesn't matter. What matters is that we have some time and conversation and food that is life-giving. We do ask that you bring your own non-alcoholic beverage with you. This year's pizza party dates: June 26, July 17, July 31, August 14, and August 28.

For each week we will need two (or more) people for set up and the same for clean-up. We have new light tables that will make things much easier. You can check with friends and find a date which will work for you. At church you'll find a sheet to sign up and let our office know which weeks are covered. A little help from each of us helps our church with this wonderful welcoming ministry, and the pizza is great.

ELIZABETH CHURCH MANOR WORSHIP SERVICE

Join Pastor Joyce at Elizabeth Church Manor July 21. We will meet in the lobby at 1:45. There will be a short sermon, singing and praying. You are encouraged to share a song, story or a smile with a resident. Can you turn pages in a hymnal? Some people will need your help. Perhaps you would like to read scripture or a poem. Would you like to say a few words or hold someone's hand? God has given you some wonderful gifts to share with others. It means so much to them.



MISSION NEWS



On May 19, during a special coffee hour, members of Ogden Church assembled 60 Hygiene Kits for UMCOR. These kits will go to disaster victims who are in great need this year due to all the flooding throughout the country. Pastor Joyce and Bill Judd will take these kits to annual conference. The kits will be stored in the Syracuse Central Warehouse until they are distributed. Thank you to all the church members who donated items, money, and time to help with this mission. As always, it is greatly appreciated.

For our summer mission we will be collecting non-food items for Catherine's Cupboard. (St. Francis Church) Suggested items: soap, deodorant, tissues, toilet paper, dish soap, laundry soap, dryer sheets, shampoo, adult diapers. We will drop off collected items throughout the summer. Items may be placed in the labeled boxes in the front and back of the church. The deadline for this mission is September 30.

We will also accept donations of old, gently used suitcases and purses for RISE, the women's shelter in Endicott. Suitcases can be dropped off in the church. The deadline for this collection September 30.

By popular demand, we will also have our Pound Auction on August 15. Look for information in the next newsletter.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 8-12

Are you ready to roar?

Roar VBS is an African adventure for the entire crew. Students will learn that "God is good" and will stay with them forever.

Sing & Play

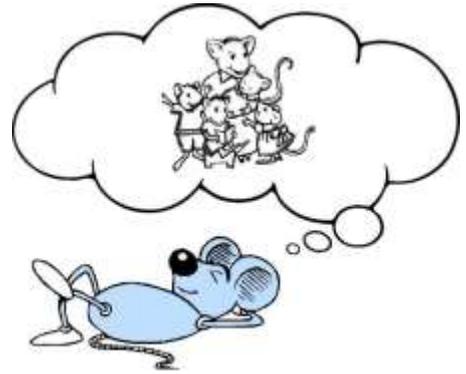
Wild Bible Adventures – Jaw dropping Discovery

Kidvid Cinema – meet amazing kids who live in Africa



THE CHURCH MOUSE

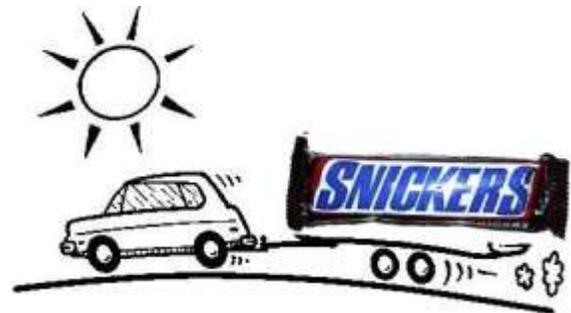
This is the month when things wind down and the weather starts to warm up. Sunday school and youth groups end for the summer. That means a lot less food around for those of us who reside in the building. There is still coffee hour though, and if it rains the pizza parties come indoors, so I am hoping for a summer full of food and fun. And, who knows, I may find Miss Right over the summer and raise a family in your church. If so, you had better move those traps out of the kitchen. Child safety, you know.



We've Lost a Friend

I am sure you heard there was a memorial service for Lucy Tew. She had moved to Arizona, so many of you didn't know her, but she sang in our choir and had a lovely voice.

I am still waiting for a couple of Florida people to come home for the summer, actually there may be four people from Florida all named Judd, by the time Bill and Linda and Dick and Carol get home here for the summer. You must know how much I love Bill Judd. Any mouse would, because he brings cookies and candy and pastries to most events at church. If it's not that, it's pizza. I love Bill.



I love Dan St. John too, and I am glad to hear he is feeling better after a jaunt to Mount Sinai hospital for a valve repair. Diane Weber is somebody I love too, and I hear she is feeling lots better these days. I'm hoping to see her soon. Keep Barbara Button in your prayers please, as she heals from a bout of pneumonia that put her in the hospital. See, it's not all about food for me. I have people I care about who are kind to me and to other animals; they're almost as important as food.

#God's
Healing
touch



Music is important to me too, and I love the summertime when we have someone different providing the music each week. I'm looking forward to music appreciation Sunday too. I can hardly wait to hear the "greatest hits" of the year from our choir and our bell choir. This is going to be good, so don't miss it. Remember when you come to church, look around for me. I may be in the dining room, I may be sitting at the end of your pew. I love God, so I love to come to worship too. Come and look for me this summer!

Methodius Mouse

Have something for publication? Submit to Office:

Information for **Bulletin** submitted no later than **Tuesday 1:00 pm** each week.

Articles for **Beacon** submitted no later than 9:00 am on the **second Monday of the month.**

Ogden Hillcrest UMC

1061 Chenango St. Binghamton

CHICKEN BBQ & JUNE FEST

(CARRY OUT ONLY)

SAT., JUNE 15, 11 A.M. – 3 P.M.

(OR UNTIL CHICKEN IS GONE)

\$ 8.00 half chicken



&



Bake Sale

ALSO AVAILABLE

Baked Beans & Macaroni Salad

& HOME BAKED GOODS

If you have any questions regarding the BBQ, contact
Church Ofc. 723-2637, Mark Stanley 722-0657

A Summer Listing of Dates to Mark on Your Calendar

June 5 – 8	UNYAC Annual Conference
June 9	Music Appreciation Sunday 4:00 – 5:30 pm Kid's Klub
June 10	7:00 pm Ad Board
June 15	June Fest
June 16	Father's Day
June 17	7:00 pm Trustees
June 21	Dinner Group – Coppertop Restaurant
June 23	Graduate Recognition Day Summer Music Begins
June 26	United Methodist Night at the ball game
June 30	Pastor appreciation day
July 3	Pizza at the Parsonage*
July 8-12	Vacation Bible School
July 17	Pizza at the Parsonage
July 21	Elizabeth Church Manor Service
July 31	Southern Tier MobilPack night at the ballgame

*Due to conflicts with the ball games we have revised the **Pizza at the Parsonage schedule**. Please disregard the dates in the article elsewhere in this issue.

Revised Schedule: July 3, July 17, Aug. 7 & Aug. 21.

