

The Beacon

Summer 2017

OGDEN-HILLCREST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1061 CHENANGO STREET, BINGHAMTON NY 13901

Joyce K. Allen, Pastor

Some Summer Fun:

The water's fine?

While a tourist vacationed on the Florida coast, his boat capsized. Although he could swim, his fear of alligators kept him clinging to the overturned craft and praying aloud. Spotting an old beachcomber on shore, the tourist shouted, "Are there any gators around here?"

"No," the man hollered. "They haven't been around for years!"

Relieved, the tourist began swimming leisurely toward the shore. About halfway there, he asked, "How'd you get rid of the gators?"

"We didn't do anything," the beachcomber replied. "The sharks got 'em."



PASTOR'S PAGE

Proverbs 4:4-5 *“Let your heart hold on to my words: Keep my commands and live. Get wisdom; get understanding. Don't forget and don't turn away from my words”.*

It seems to me that we finished every school year with metrics when I was a kid. And by the fall, when we began again, we had forgotten everything we had learned and we began with metrics again. That may not be the way my teachers remember it, but it sure felt that way to me. Whatever the subject, if we don't keep up with our studies, we lose what we had once learned. How much of your high school language do you remember?

The same thing is true with our journey in faith. We are supposed to keep moving forward and growing in God's grace. Every day we are supposed to take another step forward in our faith, in our trust of God. These verses from Proverbs remind us to keep growing and to not take breaks that lead us to turning away altogether. Each of us should be involved in some small group within the church, to keep us growing, to keep us accountable and to hold one another in love.

Our church has lots of small groups folks can join. Every group is open to all. Some are musically inclined, some are grouped together by age. Some of our groups are all about eating together and others study the Bible or a book together. This summer, it's as easy as popping over to church and eating pizza on the lawn, or heading off to Sky Lake to find God in new ways. Take the time you need this summer to refresh your spirit and to be ready for fall, but don't neglect God along the way. Don't start the fall with the same faith you had in May. Come grow together at Ogden.

Peace,

Pastor Joyce





The church trustees invite you to Chore Day 2017! Isn't that exciting? Actually it is. We want our buildings and grounds to be inviting and appealing and your help is needed.

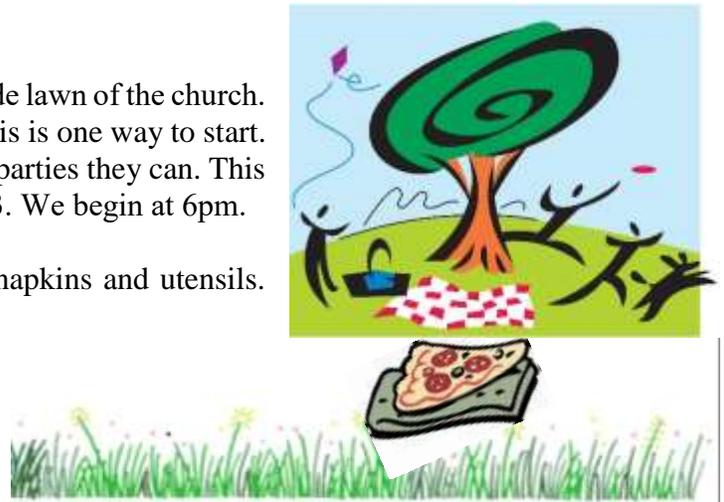
Saturday July 8th, we'll meet at the church at 9am to tackle a few odd jobs together. If you can rake, weed, shovel dirt, paint, or throw grass seed around, you are needed. If you don't do outside work but enjoy the kitchen, you are invited to bake for the workers. There are lots of little jobs to be done, and together we will make God's house beautiful.

SUMMER – PIZZA on the LAWN

This summer we're moving our pizza nights to the side lawn of the church. We want to be more visible in the community and this is one way to start. Everyone and another is invited to attend any of the parties they can. This year's dates are: July 12 and 26 and August 9 and 23. We begin at 6pm.

Each time you can expect pizza and salad, plates, napkins and utensils. The idea is that folks can simply show up and dine together.

However, if you are inclined to bring something to share, please do. Everyone enjoyed fresh tomatoes one week last time and another week we had wonderful cookie bars.



Pastor Joyce is looking for a few set up and tear down helpers for each party. Let her know if you can help.



Summer Meetings – all at 7pm

July 10 – Trustees

July 31 – Planning Session

August 7 – Trustees

August 14 – Lay Leadership

August 21 - SPPR

Binghamton Walk to Defeat ALS:

Sunday, August 20, 2017

En-Joie Golf Course

At the conclusion of the Dick's Sporting Goods Open

Registration is at 4:00 pm

Walk begins at 5:00 pm

Team Case will be walking in memory of John Case. Your team captains are: Kathy Case and Joan Wilbur. You may make a donation at: alsaupstate.org. Click on the "Raise Awareness" section of the home page. Then click on the Binghamton Walk "Here". Follow appropriate links in red to the right to your desired destination. Thank you for your support



JOIN THE MOVEMENT TO CURE ALS.

Dateline June 14, 2017, Upper New York Conference of the UMC:

Charles & Grace Bulson Memorial - STUDENT LOAN

Applications are now being accepted for the Bulson Memorial Loan Program, which provides loans of up to \$4,000 per academic year per student. The amount of the award will depend not only on the applicant's need, but also upon the number of applications and the amount of money available to make awards each year. Funds for these loans are made available from a trust for this purpose administered by the Board of Trustees.

To be eligible, applicants must be a member of a UM Church within the bounds of the UNY Annual Conference, or be a worthy student sponsored by a UM Church within the Conference; have enrolled as **an undergraduate degree program** from an accredited college or university; and have maintained a grade average of at least "C" or equivalent or better during the academic year prior to receiving the loan. To learn more and/or to fill out an application. <http://www.unyumc.org/ministries/bulson-loan-2017> The deadline is August 1, 2017.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Mark your calendars for the first Youth Group meeting of the fall! We'll meet at the church from 5:30-7pm on September 10th. We'll play some games, do a craft and a Bible study and we'll make plans for our fall and winter activities. Please come and join us if you are in middle school or high school.

THE CHURCH MOUSE

Our youth group finished their year with a party in the Pine room. I enjoyed the pizza while they enjoyed the crazy game Pastor Joyce brought. She put a tennis ball in the foot of some pantyhose and had the kids put them on their heads and try to knock down water bottles. It was pretty funny. The group is losing one to graduation and they hope some younger kids will join in the fall.

I rode up to Sky Lake one day with the Tuesday Bible study folks. What a gorgeous location but it was a rainy day. I really enjoyed sitting by the fire and warming my little mousy bones. I wonder if the trustees have ever considered a fire place in the Pine room?

Jim asked me for a note for this newsletter that covers July and August. Now, how am I going to know who to ask you to pray for in August? I guess I am just going to have to trust God that the Spirit will let you know who to pray for when the time comes. In the meantime, keep praying for Dick McKane and Kathy Case. Pray for our ninety somethings too, like Francis Sandwick, Grete Dodson, Doris Slater and Jean Saam. Each of them is getting by but could always use a card, call or visit, along with your prayers.

Pastor Joyce came home from Conference all excited about some free resources she found there that we can use this fall. She wants us to be more intentional about making disciples here at Ogden. Sounds like work to me, but if it help our church grow, I am all for it. When she starts the fall class, I'll be there. In the meantime, watch for me at church picnics, parties and worship. There are lots of chances for me to eat well this summer. Yippee!

Methodius Mouse



Sky Lake Retreat

Who was Fanny Crosby? Fanny Crosby was known as America's "Hymn Queen." One of her most famous hymns was "Blessed Assurance" (369). She wrote over 8000 hymns and gospel songs.

Growing Church



Hebrews 13:1-2

Summer Calendar:



- July 2, Summer Music – Mark Stanley
- July 8, 9:00 am Chore Day
- July 10, 7:00 pm, Trustees Meeting (PH)
- July 12, 6:00 pm Pizza on the Lawn
- July 16, Summer Music – Jessica Feyler
- July 23, Summer Music – Brenna King
- July 26, 6:00 pm Pizza on the Lawn
- July 30, Summer Music – Jessica Feyler
- July 31, 7:00 pm Administrative Board – Planning meeting



- August 6, Summer Music – Kelly Thompson
- August 7, 7:00 pm Trustees Meeting (PH)
- August 9, 6:00 pm Pizza on the Lawn
- August 14, 7:00 pm Lay Leadership meeting (PH)
- August 20, Summer Music – Tony Villecco & Jessica Feyler
- August 21, 7:00 pm PPR meeting (PH)
- August 23, 6:00 pm Pizza on the Lawn
- August 27, Summer Music – The Recorders



Summer Mission



Mission Committee will be collecting men's and women's toiletries for Robby's Pantry this summer. Robby's Pantry is sponsored by STAP, supporting AIDS victims and the homeless.

Paper Towels

Detergent

Shampoo & Conditioner

Bath Soap & Body Wash

Shaving Cream & Razors

Skin Lotion

Toothbrushes & Toothpaste

Mouthwash

Feminine Hygiene Products

Razors & Shaving Cream

Toilet Paper

Q-Tips

Church Picnic



Pass -a -Dish



Come join us for a Picnic and a "Pound Auction". There will be a "pound auction" on August 10 during the church picnic at Port Dick Park . What is a "pound auction"? Bring a wrapped pound of something to auction off and disguise it so that no one can tell what it is. Attach a note to your pound to give a hint of what it might be. For example, if you bring a pound of bird seed you can label it – for the birds. Have fun coming up with your own ideas. We will auction off your donations during the picnic. Proceeds will go towards apporportionments. A percent of apporportionments is used to fund missions.

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

On vacation during the month of August.



Puzzle!

Read the Old Testament book of Ruth, which is a great love story. Then search for the words below, which are all from that book.

B A W O N N I W S L S Z D R V
 D E B O T B A O M H X Q A I R
 X W T Q Y R L M C X G G V O P
 N A A H A R V E S T E B I Z B
 P O V M L S L A D N A S D N B
 O G V N Z E R F I R I L S B F
 N A N O M U H V L M M K S E J
 L G O I M D L E O C F G H I J
 C L L H L Y A M B H L O Y A
 E E H I F S N A E T F R B O D
 S A A K F B E G U G P W E P S
 N N M W X E V R R A A R M M J
 E I G D J U D A H J E E W S G
 A N X P E M Z I S T W K V H O
 W G L H V I Z N U C I T V H K

Barley, Bethlehem, Boaz, David, Elimelech, Gleaning, Grain, Harvest, Jesse, Judah, Kilion, Kinsman, Mahlon, Mara, Moab, Naomi, Obed, Orpah, Ruth, Sandals, Threshing, Vinegar, Winnow



"If you look closely, you can spot the signs that tell you they are not accepting the changes in the music."



"Was it okay to make deviled ham?"