

August/September 2018

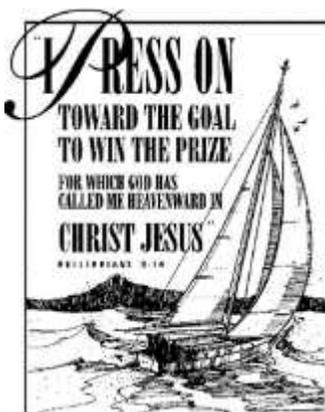
Beacon

Web Page Version

The Beacon **August/September 2018**

OGDEN-HILLCREST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1061 CHENANGO STREET, BINGHAMTON NY 13901
ogdenadmin@ogdenhillcrestumc.org (607) 723-2637

Joyce K. Allen, Pastor



A Thought for Labor Day

Come work for the Lord. The work is hard, the hours are long, and the pay is low. But the retirement benefits are out of this world.

—From the Internet



PASTOR'S PAGE

“Peter said, I really am learning that God doesn't show partiality to one group of people over another. Rather, in every nation, whoever worships him and does what is right is acceptable to him. This is the message of peace he sent to the Israelites by proclaiming the good news through Jesus Christ: He is Lord of all!” Acts 10:34-36

Peter, the Rock, the guy Jesus chose to run His church, is often called spontaneous or hot headed. We find him often in scripture, speaking first and thinking things through later. Sometimes we may think Jesus could have chosen better. This scripture from Acts shows us another side of Peter, a man who has grown in his faith and has opened his mind.

Peter was a faithful Jew, so he believed God only loved Jews. And yet, he says God has shown him a new and better way of looking at things. God is open to everyone who is open to God. We often hear stories of how a relationship with God is an ongoing, alive relationship. We must be learning and growing all the while, giving God the opportunity to open us to new ideas and new people. Peter's assumptions about others were changed by God.

At Ogden Hillcrest, we are going to begin a new process of reaching out to our neighbors in Jesus' name. Our friends at High Street UMC gave us the funding for an outreach ministry. Being Methodist and methodical about most things, the congregation began praying as soon as we heard the news. In September, all who want to be involved, are be invited take the next step and begin to study together. Times and places for the study are in this newsletter. Speak to the Pastor if you want to be involved. What assumptions do we have that will be changed? How will we be changed? There's only one way to find out! Come and learn together.



*Peace,
Pastor Joyce*



BIBLE STUDY

We meet on Tuesdays at 11am for study, fun, and fellowship. We are still in the Gospel of Matthew right now, but suggestion are always accepted for our next book. We've moved to the Pine Room where it's always cool and never humid. We'll move back upstairs in the fall, but either way, the lift can get you to the right place. Come join us. You won't believe how much fun Bible study can be!

PIZZA NIGHTS
Also known as
DINNER GROUP



Our next Pizza nights are on the 1st, the 15th and the 29th. Just show up behind the parsonage at 6pm with your chair and your beverage. If you want to bring something to share you can, but it isn't necessary. If you are able, you can want to sign up to help. We have three chances left for you to help, setting up tables, making a salad or working on clean-up. There are sign-up sheets in the sanctuary at church or you can speak to Pastor Joyce.

**AUGUST 9. CHURCH PICNIC AT PORT DICK PARK.
& POUND AUCTION TIME: 5:30 pm**



Come join us for a "Pound Auction". There will be a "pound auction on August 9 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. Returning as auctioneer will be our special guest, Sam Cohen. Proceeds will go towards apportionments. Last year's auction was great fun. We had several request to repeat it this year.

Direction for the Pound Auction

- 1. Donate an item that weights as close to a pound as you can get. (The items will be weighed and fillers added if needed)*
- 2. Place your donation in a gift bag.*
- 3. Write a clue for your item and attach it to the front of the bag.(if appropriate label "strictly for a man or woman")*
- 4. Place the donation in the labeled box in the church. (All donations must be turned in by August 5 unless it is a baked good or perishable item)*



Let's get ready for some great ministry this fall! We will meet **on August 15th right after the Pizza Party, or about 7pm.** We will work on our calendars for the fall into the New Year. Come to the Parish House at 7pm and we'll get organized for ministry this fall. Bring your calendar and your ideas!

NURSING HOME SERVICE

Would you like a simple but meaningful ministry? Come to Elizabeth Church Manor on **Sunday August 19th at 1:45** and help Pastor Joyce with the 2pm service. If you want to sing, read, pray or preach, you sure can, but most people will help residents find their page in the hymn book, or simply share God's love. Any gift you want to share will be used by God!



SEPTEMBER COMES, SUMMER ACTIVITIES END FALL FINDS US RETURNING TO OUR NORMS

Thursday, September 6th

Choir Practice
Resumes



Choir Season Begins

Sunday, September 9th

Sunday, September 9th
Youth Group Returns from
Summer Vacation



YOUTH GROUP



It's time! It's time for youth group to begin again! We will meet on **Sunday September 9th at 6pm** for a PIZZA PARTY. You can expect games and prizes too. Everyone in middle or high school is invited to come. Bring a friend or two or three!

Pastor Joyce asks you to bring your calendar so we can plan the kind of fall that you will enjoy, with activities and opportunities for our faith to grow. See you on September 9th, in the Pine Room!

Pastor Joyce and Bill Judd took 55 Health Kits to Annual Conference. These kits will be stored at the UMCOR warehouse in Syracuse for disaster victims in New York State. The congregation had fun collecting and assembling the kits during a special coffee hour in May. Thank you to all the people who donated items and/or assembled the kits.



MISSIONS REPORT

Currently we are working on our summer missions. We are collecting items to take to the Veteran's Home in Oxford in late September. We are also collecting clean, gently used suitcases for RISE. Information for both of these missions will be included in the Sunday Bulletins. Both of these collections will end on **September 16**.



Come and join us for the picnic and Pound Auction at Port Dick Park on **August 9**.

DINNER GROUP

In September, we're going to back to a group favorite, the Red Oak Diner. We'll meet there at 6pm on Friday night, September 21st. You can also let Pastor Joyce if you need a ride. The Dinner Group meets monthly during the school year, simply for good food and fellowship. You are always invited!

CATCHING UP AFTER UNY ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2018

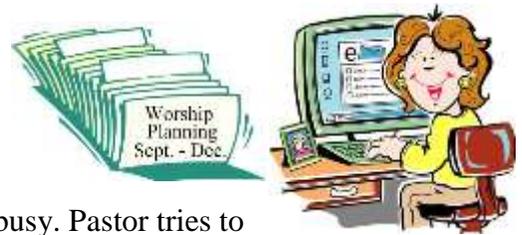
In addition to new appointments being made; celebrating retirees, ordinands, and commissioners; and active voting on recommendations, resolutions, and petitions, the 2018 session of Annual Conference was filled with amazing fellowship, excellent learning experiences, and spirit-filled worship.

Get all your 2018 Upper New York Annual Conference news in one place. Reading this online? Click here for daily notes and wrap-up videos as well as full-length worship and study-session videos. <http://www.unyumc.org/events/2018-annual-conference-wrap-up>

THE CHURCH MOUSE



Every year I hear Pastor Joyce and Jim say they are going to slow down for the summer. And, every year they just think up new projects and things to keep them busy. Pastor tries to get all the worship planning done from now until Christmas, and start working on the Charge Conference paperwork. Jim catches up on paperwork and makes the Parish house look a little nicer each year he's been with us. I go over once in a while to look things over, but since the Tuesday Bible study is over at the church these days, I find plenty of cookies and crumbs right near my house.



I get outside for the pizza parties but I don't like being out in the open much. There are few hiding places in the parsonage yard and it really isn't you I'm afraid of, it's the hawks who are plentiful around here. I mean, I like pizza as much as the next person but is it worth getting picked up and flown off to be someone else's meal? Hmm. Maybe.



I was in the back of the church wiping my eyes when Natalie St. John got baptized. I love the children, and when one makes a decision to have Jesus and the church in her life, I get a little emotional. I was sorry to hear Carole Phillips had died. She was someone who loved kids too, and dedicated her life to education. Carol Harrison is still recuperating at Absolute, but I heard Pastor Joyce says she's looking and feeling better. Let's pray that she gets home soon. My friends Rick Hatch and Janet Rinker have been in the hospital but are home now. A little prayer still wouldn't hurt!



Sunday School

I'm sure you'll go through this whole newsletter to find all the things going on at church. There are lots! I'll be looking forward to youth group and Sunday school starting up again, and any other opportunity you give me to eat well in your church. Thanks!

Methodius Mouse

FALL OUTREACH STUDY

Every fall our church offers a study which helps us grow our faith. This year, Pastor Joyce will lead a study which will do that and help us begin planning some outreach to our community. You may know that High St UMC gave us some money for outreach when they closed. We started praying right away and that continues. Please pray.

On September 5th, we will begin studying what outreach is, studying our own neighborhood and we'll begin building a foundation for our new ministry, whatever that may be.

You are invited to join the group. Our book is: Engaging Your Community: A Guide to Seeing All the People" by Junius B. Dodson. The book is a free gift from Discipleship Ministries. We'll download it for you and print you out a copy if you want us to. Just let the church office know you want a book. The class will meet at 6:30pm, and together we'll decide how many weeks to meet.

UNYC EVENTS:

UPPER NEW YORK UNITED METHODIST MEN:

Dear Rev. Joyce Allen,

Greetings to you in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

We the United Methodist Men of the Upper NY Conference are very excited to be part of a dynamic retreat which we are hosting on September 7th & 8th, 2018 at Skylake Camp & Retreat Center in Windsor, NY.

We are having a dynamic guest speaker, Bishop Swanson of the Mississippi area as well as our own Bishop Webb will be there to facilitate the event.

This retreat is being done with the thought process of being more inclusive with not only the United Methodist Men of the Upper NY Conference in attendance, but also to their families and friends. We are also inviting people from other denominations and communities. The thought process is that churches of other denominations are also involved in UMC missions. An example would be Baptists churches being involved in Red Bird Mission.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you in advance for your support. We, the UMM are there to support your ministry in every way possible. Just reach out to us and we will be there to support your church in every way possible.

God bless you as you continue to do the Lord's ministry.

In Christ,
Sanjay Solomon
Communications Manager

UPPER NEW YORK CONFERENCE - SAFE SANCTUARIES® TEAM



SAFE SANCTUARIES® TRAINING

WHERE: Nimmonsburg UMC
918 Upper Front Street, Binghamton, NY 13905

WHEN: Sunday, September 23rd, 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm

PRE-REGISTER by Sunday, September 16. Please register for the Nimmonsburg training by contacting Carol Barnes at carolb@htva.net (607) 687-4793. A link to handouts will be e-mailed prior to training for participants to print and bring.

If unable to use on-line form, please register by contacting Carol Barnes, carolb@htva.net or (607) 687-4793. A link to handouts will be emailed prior to training for participants to print and bring.

QUESTIONS: Questions about the course should be directed to Carol Barnes at carolb@htva.net or (607) 687-4793.

There is no charge as Ministry Shares benevolences from local churches cover the expenses.



Bible Wordsearch

Creatures of the Bible

Fit the words in the list into the diagram below reading forward, backward, up, down, diagonally, always in a straight line.

Puzzle #10



- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| ADDER | HIND |
| ANTELOPE | HORSE |
| APE | JACKAL |
| ASP | LEECH |
| BADGER | LION |
| BULL | LOCUST |
| CALF | MAGGOT |
| CAMEL | MOLE |
| CHAMELEON | MOUSE |
| CRICKET | MULE |
| CROCODILE | PORCUPINE |
| DEER | RAM |
| DONKEY | RAT |
| DRAGON | SCORPION |
| FLEA | SHEEP |
| FOX | SNAIL |
| FROG | SNAKE |
| GAZELLE | STAG |
| GECKO | SWINE |
| GNAT | VIPER |
| GOAT | WASP |
| HART | WHALE |
| HEDGEHOG | WORM |
| HEIFER | |

MORE PUZZLES AT:
<http://biblewordgames.com>