

October 2020

Beacon Online Copy

The Beacon – October 2020

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Aw-fall!

Share some laughs — or groans — with these autumn-themed jokes:



- What did the tree say to autumn? “Leaf me alone!”
- What did one autumn leaf say to another? “I’m falling for you.”
- How do you fix a broken pumpkin? With a pumpkin patch.
- Why are trees very forgiving? Because in the fall they “let it go” and in the spring they “turn over a new leaf.”
- How do leaves get from place to place? With autumn-mobiles.
- What’s the ratio of a pumpkin’s circumference to its diameter?
Pumpkin pi.



PASTOR'S PAGE

"Don't remember the prior things; don't ponder ancient history. Look! I'm doing a new thing; now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it? I'm making a way in the desert, paths in the wilderness".

Isaiah 43:18-19



We have a couple of ways we can view the world right now. We can spend our time wishing and praying that everything would go back to the way it was. Another option is to embrace our reality and find new ways to spend time with friends and family. We may choose to make the most of the time we're given and maybe even spend more time outdoors enjoying God's creation. Maybe things will return to the way they were, even so, we have to look at the new things springing up and ask ourselves how God wants us to be a part of some of that excitement.

*O Come O Come
Emmanuel*

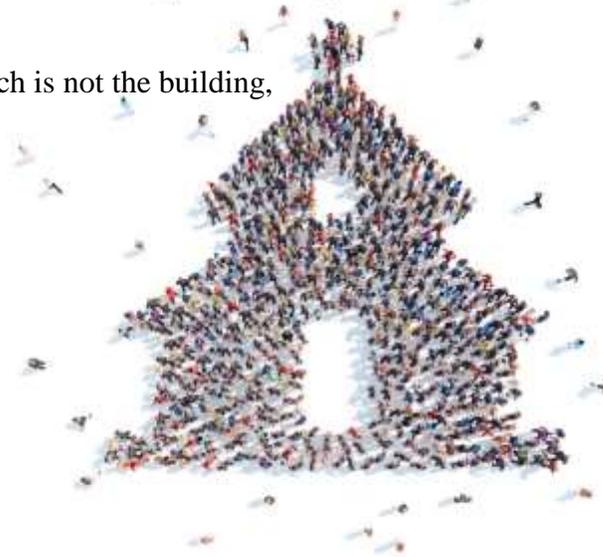


*Journey to Bethlehem
Bethany 2020*

Do you play a musical instrument that is not a wind instrument? Would you consider playing it at church? Are you an artistic type? Would you consider doing some Advent art for us to share in an Art Exhibit the Pine Room? Can you sing well enough to lead us? And by well, I mean loud. Can you lead us in a parking lot hymn sing? Do you have a keyboard someone (or you) could play to accompany hymns? Or guitar? Do you have some gift to share that I haven't even thought of yet? Is God giving you an idea to share with the rest of us?



Remember the church is not the building,



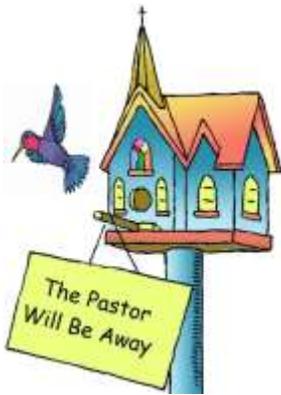
it is the people.

God will show us many ways we can be together apart. God will lead us in mission and ministry that we never envisioned. God did. God is always doing something new. And, God is always asking us if we will choose to jump in and be a part of that new thing. Will you?

Peace,

Pastor Joyce

PASTOR'S TIME OFF



October 12th

Pastor Joyce is going to take off ten days this month, but only miss one Sunday. She's off from the 12th through the 22nd. She will be available for the Rummage Sale! Our lay speaker and one of our lay leaders, will lead the worship on October 18th, which the UMC designates as Laity Sunday. If you need pastoral care during that time, you may call Pastor Jenni Piatt at Nimmonsburg UMC.



October 22nd



Dinner Group

We will meet again when it is safe.

hope to
SEE
YOU SOON!

CONFIRMATION AND KID'S CLUB



PARKING LOT HYMN SING

It's true that we can't sing in church right now. But no virus can keep us from singing in our own cars! So drive on over to the church parking lot on Sunday afternoon, November 1, at 4pm. We'll have leaders ready to sing. You come and sing along in your car. Tell your family and friends to come along in their cars too. We can each make a joyful noise in our own car as we praise God together.



REOPENING PLAN

We have been doing well with our in person worship. Folks are cooperating and wearing their masks and socially distancing. We have helpers at the front door who can show you to your seat, give you a bulletin, and sign you in our log book. We have a helper outside the elevator door to help you in. Anyone who wants to may worship in person now. Some folks simply aren't ready and that's fine too. Hopefully you can watch the live service on Facebook until you are ready. For now, we have one service, at 10:45am. We'll ask you to enter through the front door and exit out the back to the parking lot. We will ask you to wear a mask while you are in the building and to make sure the usher has your name and contact information each time you come into the building. Even if you come in alone to work on something else, you need to sign in. We have extra masks if you need one.

In September we lengthened the service a tiny bit, adding one scripture. This month we will add communion, served in individual little cups. You'll get a cup with a piece of bread in, and one with juice. Pastor and her helper will wear gloves while they hand out the elements to you, in your seat. Folks who watch at home should be ready with something to eat and something to drink for home communion. This is not something we would normally do, but our bishop has given permission for this online communion. Don't worry if you don't have grape juice. Any beverage will do. Yes, you hear that right. Any beverage. We will all eat and drink together on that World Communion Sunday.



Next month, we'll add a second hymn to ponder. We'll continue to grow our service as long as the COVID numbers in our area stay low. Please pray that we are able to fully worship soon.

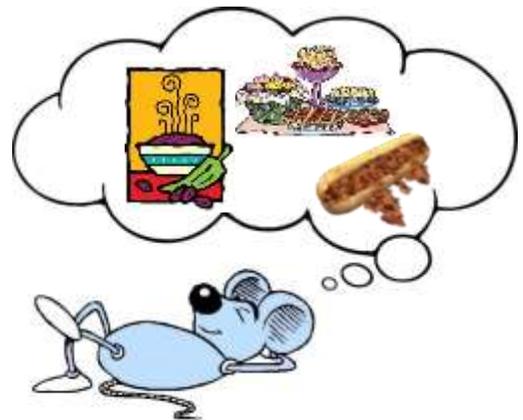
THE CHURCH MOUSE

Finally there are people around on Sundays! I am so happy. And I have seen a baby and a couple of kids. Mice love kids, you know, because kids have little puffy things to eat, or goldfish, or some other snack they bring to church. I love it when they aim for their mouth but it ends up on the floor for me. Yes, I do love kids. Little Clara saw me on Sunday and smiled at me. She told me the gender of the new baby “in her mom’s belly”, but I don’t think I was supposed know or to tell you. Shhhh.

Our friends at nursing home keep hanging in. I know it is difficult for them not to see their families and friends. Please keep praying for them. Pastor Joyce is hoping to get in to see them, or maybe have an outside visit soon.

Wait till you see all of the wonderful items that humans can buy in the Rummage Sale. It’s fascinating to mice how you set out all the “stuff” you don’t want, and other people come in and buy it. I understand you sell garages that way too. I like how there are people coming in now to set things up. I promise that I won’t run all over everything. I already know that there is no food up there. What I am most interested in, besides people watching is, what will be in the kitchen that day. I know you church folks well enough to know there will be food involved.

Halloween is coming too! A night dedicated to kids and candy. Now what could be wrong with that? I plan to be out front that night. I like to sit on the church steps and watch all of the costumes and all of the people going by. You people are already wearing masks these days. I wonder how kids will work that into their costumes. Have you thought about what you are going to be this Halloween? I have a little green hat and cane that belonged to my grandmother that I’ll be sporting that evening. Make sure you watch for me. Maybe even throw a candy bar my way. Anything but a Kit Kat. The name alone scares me. Meow!





OF OCTOBER

October 4: Philippians 3:4-14 & Psalm 19

October 11: Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 & Philippians 4:1-9

October 18: Psalm 99 & 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

October 25: Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17 & 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8



Through the ecumenical effort of local churches and coordinated by Catholic Charities, our church can provide holiday food for the needy at Thanksgiving. Last year, Ogden donated 55 bags of food and \$1274 for turkey vouchers.

The Mission Committee has reusable grocery bags, along with a list of grocery items. The bags will be located in the front and back of the church if you are attending church. If you have not returned to church yet, you may pick up bags in the covered area, at the front doors of the church. The bags will be in a tote labeled "Thanksgiving". Please mail or drop off your donation for turkey vouchers during worship service or at the office.

There are three options for participation:

- Furnish a complete basket of food, including a turkey voucher**
- Furnish food items only**
- Donate money for turkey vouchers (\$10 each)**

On Sunday, October 6, the Thanksgiving bags will be distributed. Envelopes marked "Turkey Donation" will also be available at that time. If paying by check, make the check payable to "Ogden Hillcrest UMC" and write "turkey" on the memo line. Drop the envelope in the offering plate by November 15.

All donations of food and money are due by November 15.



OCTOBER MEETINGS:

Trustees on the 5th at 7pm in the Eveready Room.

Ad Board on the 26th at 7pm in the Eveready Room

Please remember to wear a mask.



VIRTUAL CHOW WALK 2020

Due to the Covid-19, this year's CHOW Hunger Walk will be on an individualized basis. From October 1st – 9th, you can participate by walking $\frac{1}{4}$ mile each day. The $\frac{1}{4}$ signifies that 1 out of 4 children in Broome County do not know where their next meal is coming from. If you would like to participate or make a donation go to:

<https://justgiving.com/campaign/virtualchowwalk2020>

Jim has put a direct link on the home page of our website.

If you would like to donate through Ogden Hillcrest UMC, you can place your donation in the plate, mail it to the church office or give it to Bill Judd. On the memo line of your check write CHOW Walk. Giving through the church gives Ogden some recognition.

In the past, we've always collected more than \$500. Let's see if we can keep it going with a good turnout this Fall!

Thank You – *Bill Judd*





RUMMAGE SALE Q&A (BAKE SALE TOO!)

When is the sale?

The Rummage sale is Fri., Oct. 23rd & Sat. Oct. 24th,
8:00 am until 2:00 pm in the Pine Room.

Who is in charge? Who do I ask when I have a question?
Judy Clark, (607) 768-7301 and Donna Church (919) 279-3624

How can I help? Donate stuff you don't want any more. Sign up to set up, to work the sale or to help in the kitchen, the cash register, or the Bake Sale. Bake for the Bake Sale. Come and shop. Come to eat your lunch. Come to shop at the Bake Sale.

When can I bring my stuff to the church? Any Monday through Thursday from 9am until 1:45pm. Any Sunday when the church is open. Saturday October 17th the church will be open from 9am until 2pm.

What can I donate? Any good clean items that are NOT clothes or old TV's or computers. We will take books and records and anything else, including furniture, bicycles, hobby decorative items, dishes,...

What if I can't carry the items I want to donate? Call Judy Clark, 768-7301, to arrange help or Bill Judd, 723-2991.

When will we set up? There will be times for set up the week before. Please sign up to help then and on the day of the sale.

How do things get priced? Please price your items if you are able, but don't let that be a factor in donating. We will put prices on the items you don't.

Can I bake? Yes please! There will be a bake sale both days, Friday, October 23rd and Saturday October 24th. You can bring baked goods in Thursday evening or any time after 8am on Friday and Saturday. Jodie Manning is our Bake Sale Leader.

Can we have lunch at the sale? Get it to go! Norma Manning will be making her famous Chili and you can have it on its own or on a Chili dog. You can have a hot dog, chips, coffee, and water. And you can get dessert from the bake sale! Joan Wilbur is our Kitchen Leader

What about COVID-19? We will be following NYS guidelines regarding COVID-19 occupancy and distancing rules.

Face masks will be required to shop or help.

