



## *Inside This Issue*

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## *Our Mission Statement*

A family woven together  
in Christ's love  
to continue His mission  
in all we do.

## *About Us*

All who seek to serve  
with the love of Christ  
are ministers of Faith  
Church

Pastor Tina Bacon,  
Supply Pastor

Sherry Huntley, President

Judy Toone, Church  
Secretary

Colin Tucker, Organist



*Our Mission: A family woven together in Christ's love to  
continue his mission in all that we do.*



*Palm/Passion Sunday April 5, 2020*

*10:15am Worship with Palms*

*Maundy Thursday April 9, 2020*

*7:00pm Service with Communion*

*Good Friday April 10, 2020*

*The sanctuary will be open from 12:00 pm -3:00 pm. for  
prayer, meditation and a special prayer opportunity  
called The Tabernacle Prayer for individuals to walk  
through and experience. More information will be  
given on this in the church bulletins.*



*Easter Sunday April 12, 2020*

*Pot Luck Easter Breakfast 8:30am*

*Easter Worship with Communion 10:15am*

**CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS**

\*The slate of officers is as follows: President: Sherry Huntley  
 Vice President: Sue Wilson  
 Secretary: Sue Fitzery

Stan Martin will continue as Financial Secretary

Jackie Dahl will continue as Treasurer

Ellie Rickert will continue as chairperson of Building and Grounds

\*Tina Bacon has consented to be our Pulpit/Supply Pastor indefinitely.  
 She is also conducting our Confirmation Class.

\* On January 12th Elizabeth Stachura became a member, and is now acting as our Acolyte.

\* A change in the calendar May 16th we will hold our Chicken BBQ.

\* On June 5-6th The Annual meeting for the New York Conference will be held in Buffalo. Anyone interested in attending please let me know.

\* On June 14th our Young people will be confirmed and we will also be celebrating our 60th year. Suggestions on how to celebrate would be greatly appreciated.

***Music and Worship***

When you receive this newsletter we will have already begun the season of Lent with the February 26, Ash Wednesday Service. We hope that during this Lenten period you will take the time to reflect on your beliefs and faith journey. What are the ways God is calling you to change, improve, or serve?

March 1<sup>st</sup> will be pew communion. We are checking on the wafers to see if they are gluten free. We want all to be able to partake of communion.

March 6<sup>th</sup> is World Day of Prayer. You may want to check to see if any churches in our area are having services or prayer breakfasts.

On March 8<sup>th</sup> we will be celebrating Girl Scout Sunday. The troops that meet in our church will be participating in the service and providing food for the fellowship hour. Please extend a warm welcome to the girls and their parents.

**Daylight Savings Begins Today**

Pastor Tina will have a Sunday off and on March 15<sup>th</sup> Rev Linda Harle-Mould will be supplying the pulpit.

A reminder that on March 22, we will be collecting the offering for One Great Hour of Sharing. Envelopes will be in the bulletin.

**Holy Week Services**

April 5<sup>th</sup> is Palm Sunday. Palms will be distributed at the service.

April 9<sup>th</sup> is Maundy Thursday Service at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall.

April 10<sup>th</sup> is Good Friday. The Church Sanctuary will be open from 12pm to 3pm for prayer and meditation. We will also have a special prayer opportunity called The Tabernacle Prayer for individuals to walk through and experience. More information will be given on this in the church bulletins.

April 12<sup>th</sup> Easter Festival Celebration at 10:15 am  
Easter Breakfast at 8:30am.

Our confirmands will be taking part in some of our worship services as ushers, greeters, scripture readers, or acolytes.

There is a form in the bulletin for choosing some favorite hymns. These will be given to Pastor Tina and used if appropriate for the Sunday's liturgy.

Our Choir director is looking for some new music for choir to sing. Given Songs of Praise hymn books to check out for songs.

Peace and Joy to All! Hope to see you at church.  
**We want to let you know that we miss seeing some of you at worship.**

*The Music and Worship Team*

***Faith in Action***

**Christmas Project for Gateway-Longview Update**

We want to thank everyone for all of your donations to this most successful project. Jackie Dahl and I were able to buy 2 microwaves, 2 deep fryers, a 16 piece silverware set, 2 sets of pots and pans, 2 mattress covers and 2 sets of Corelle dishes for Gateway-Longview. We took them over along with all of your donations from the Mitten Tree and they were very appreciative.

**Valentine's Project for Plymouth Crossroads**

You did it again folks! As of this date we haven't delivered the gifts for the boys but we will be taking over all of the cleaning supplies and paper products that you saw displayed on the table in the hall plus \$225 worth of gift cards for Target, Tops and Walmart that were also purchased with your monetary donations and one quarter of the "Soup in a Jar" sale.

*Sharon Szczudlik*

**Faith's Prayer Chain Update**

This is the updated list of our prayer chain members and their phone numbers. You may call any of us to start a prayer and we will pass it on to the next person on the list so that we will all be praying for your loved one, friend or any other concern that you may have.

- Sharon Szczudlik 759-1313
- Lillian Glajach 984-0626
- Dottie Klein 568-9484
- Sue Wilson 689-8149
- Audrey Kolbe 689-9353
- Jan Wockasen 873-8931
- Marsha Guillaume 839-5570
- Ellie Rickert 741-2293

Ellie made a prayer box for the people coming to Friday lunches who are seeking prayers. We will also be adding their requests to our list. Anyone wishing to join our Prayer Team please give me a call.

*Sharon Szczudlik*

***Fellowship News***

**Nifty 50's**

Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, our St. Patrick's Day lunch will be at Sean Patrick's restaurant, 3480 Millersport Hwy. We will meet at noon. Please sign up and don't forget to wear green.

Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, we will have lunch at noon at Mr.D's Restaurant, 450 Beach Rd., Cheektowaga. Food is very good and reasonable. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall if you're able to join us.

Marilyn Tota will be collecting the Nifty 50's dues for 2020. It is only \$12.00 per year. As always, we welcome new members. Please join us for great fellowship and of course food.

*~Diane Goff 689-9625*

**Congregational News**

On February 2<sup>nd</sup>, Super Bowl Sunday, we had our Souper Bowl Lunch. We were entertained by very talented baton twirlers coached by Kelli Russell. They were amazing. Thanks to everyone who made the delicious soups and desserts and also helped to set up and clean up. Proceeds from the free will offering were donated to Sandy Hamann for the Friday Lenten lunches.

April 12<sup>th</sup>, Easter Sunday, at 8:30 AM, there will be a potluck breakfast before church. We would like breakfast casseroles, pastries, colored eggs, juice, etc. There will be a sign up sheet in the fellowship hall.

*~Diane Goff 689-9625*

**Women's Book Club**

The Women's Book Club will be meeting on Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> to discuss the bestseller, "The Testaments" by Margaret Atwood. "The Testaments" is the sequel to "The Handmaid's Tale". All women are welcome to attend at 11:30 at Canterbury Woods. Please respond to Mitzie Wang or Dottie Soong if you are able to attend.

**THE VOICE**

***Please note: The firm deadline to have articles in for the May/June issue of the Voice is April 15<sup>th</sup>. Please email articles to [secretary@faithuccwilliamsville.org](mailto:secretary@faithuccwilliamsville.org). Thank you in advance!***

## Page 4 The Voice

### *“Free Lunch on Friday’s”*

#### **All Are Welcome!**

We are excited to announce that Faith U.C.C. is continuing for the **9th** year, our community outreach program! Each Friday, beginning 2 weeks prior to Lent (Feb 14- April 3) we will welcome the Community to enjoy a “free lunch” comprised of: homemade soup, sandwiches, casseroles, desserts and drinks, served from: **11:30 A.M. – 1:00P.M.**

Each year our program continues to exceed the previous year. Last year’s attendance increased to: 657 and we were thrilled to have The Church of Latter Day Saints work with us. If we are to continue serving the needs of the Community we need more help! Your participation at any level can ensure **“Free Lunch Friday”** of becoming another annual success!

How can you help? How about:

- Making soup/ chili / casseroles
- Making/donating cookies/desserts
- Donating: bread, rolls ,fruit, yogurt
- Help: serve, set- up, clean up (Feb 14– April 3)
- Donate ingredients for soup/casseroles such as: cans of green beans, kidney beans, tomatoes, bags of noodles, fresh carrots, celery, onions, 5 lbs. potatoes
- Donate \$\$ to purchase supplies
- Bring a friend and enjoy!
- Now collecting plastic containers/lids – cool whip size or larger

For our planning purposes, there will be a “signup sheet” in the Fellowship Hall for: volunteers, donations, and cooks. If you have any questions or suggestions please contact:

~Sandy Hamann @ 741-3851

#### ***Reflection from Your Associate Conference Minister for Search and Call***

My thoughts have recently been about the color purple. Not the book by Alice Walker, but the color of the paraments in Advent and Lent.

I’ve been thinking about the color that we get when we mix red and blue. Purple.

For a while, our culture has been describing individuals that vote conservatively as red voters,

and those that vote progressively as blue. States that vote on the conservative side are red, and states that vote on the progressive side are blue. And places where conservative and progressive voters can gather intentionally, free from conflict, are few and far between: purple places.

Church is a purple place. At least, it can be. A place where it doesn’t matter how you voted, or what your politics are. A place where you can sing ‘O Come, All Ye Faithful’ or ‘Christ The Lord Is Risen Today’ with someone sitting next to you, and it doesn’t matter whether you identify as blue or red. A place where we can receive Holy Communion, together, without worrying about a neighbor’s politics.

In practicing our faith, we become united in our worship, or in our mission, or in our prayers, and no one will ask us how we voted in the last election (we hope). Because in those moments, it really doesn’t matter.

For many communities, up until the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, for whom you voted was a private matter. You were entitled to vote for whom you felt was the best candidate, and that was your business. Recent times have seen a more deeply partisan approach to elections, with many of our neighbors disparaging those with whom they disagree.

My thoughts are centering on how, as churches, as faith communities, as the Body of Christ, we can stop pointing fingers at each other. How we can gather in unity around the teachings of Jesus, and act on our faith, without worrying about politics or partisan issues.

Is that naïve? Probably. Many of us believe that our political behavior stems directly from our beliefs: many of us vote for those whom we believe most fits our belief systems.

But the worst-case scenario is when we question or judge another person’s faith based on their political behavior. This needs to end.

What can we do about it? We can strive to suspend our worries about red or blue voters, and concentrate on our work together as the church.

We can aim to accept others without reference to their political behavior, and love them as children of God.

Jesus never once asked for a person's voter registration card... and neither should we!

If, as churches and faithful followers of Jesus, we were to work together to create a purple climate, one where our fellowship and participation are based on encouraging *all* to join, regardless of politics, we might be moving in the right direction.

Those are my thoughts, and that is my prayer.

**Gary Ferner**

Associate Conference Minister for Search and Call  
[gferner@uccny.org](mailto:gferner@uccny.org)

***Prayer Concerns & Joys***

**Our college students:** Anna Grace Reilly (UMass, Amherst), Bailee Russell (Temple Univ.), Rachel Szafarczyk (Buff State)

**Holding in prayer:**

- Ken Kolbe
- Audrey Kolbe
- Marsha Guillaume
- Bonnie Zimmerman
- Simona Calder
- Deborah Sunshine (Bonnie Zimmerman's daughter)
- Ed and Ruth Heintz

***Birthdays /Anniversaries***

If we don't know your birthday or anniversary, we want to! Or if we have made a mistake, please call or email the church office.

***March Birthdays***

- March 6 Eleanor Rickert
- March 9 Reed Ackerman, Ava Bystrak
- March 11 David Iversen
- March 12 Dottie Soong
- March 15 Jim Pettis
- March 25 Liam Kelly
- March 26 Bernie George
- March 28 Cassandra Schwab
- March 29 Marie Robillard
- March 31 Marilyn Wetter

***April Birthdays***

- April 4 Caleb Kruzicki
- April 6 Joyce Surage, Lisa Reilly
- April 8 Ed Heintz, Joel Sprague, Pam Szafarczyk
- April 25 Diane Walser
- April 26 Laurie George

***April Anniversaries***

- April 11 Kent and Diane Walser
- April 28 Bill and Pam Szafarczyk

***Faith UCC Cabinet Members 2019***

Committee/Organization	Leader
Altar Angels	Judy Boyle
Buildings and Grounds	Ellie Rickert
Christian Education	Drew Reilly
Faith in Action	Sharon Szczudlik
Finance	
Music and Worship	Sue Wilson
Nifty Fifties	Diane Goff
Pastoral Relations	Sandra Hamann
Personnel	Marilyn Tota
Stewardship	Gale Eberhardt
Ushers/Communion Servers	Kathy & Karen Hall
Consistory Members	Position/Committee Liaison
Sherry Huntley	President
Sue Wilson	Vice President
Laurie George	Secretary
Jackie Dahl	Treasurer
Stan Martin	Financial Secretary
Ellie Rickert	
Sue Fitzery	
Transition Committee	
Sherry Huntley	
Sandra Hamann	
Jim Pettis	
Keith Russell	
Marilyn Tota	

## *Faith United Church of Christ*

### MARCH USHERS

March 1 Bernie George, Laurie George,  
Bill and Pam Szafarczyk  
March 8 Karen Hall, Kathy Hall,  
Joyce Surage, Marilyn Tota  
March 15 Alan and Colleen Kruzicki,  
Sherry Huntley, David Post  
March 22 Dottie and Larry Soong,  
Mitzie Wang, Sue Wilson  
March 29 Reed Ackerman, Judy Boyle,  
Jackie Dahl, Gale Eberhardt

### MARCH GREETER(S)

March 1 TBD  
March 8 Dave Post  
March 15 Sue and John Fitzery  
March 22 Elizabeth Stachura  
March 29 TBD

### MARCH SCRIPTURE READERS

March 1 Laurie George  
March 8 Ava Bystrak  
March 15 Sue Fitzery  
March 22 Colleen Kruzicki  
March 29 TBD

### MARCH COMMUNION SERVERS

March 1 Pew: Bill and Pam Szafarczyk,  
Karen Muldoon, Keith Russell,  
Choir: Dave Szczudlik

### APRIL USHERS

April 5 John and Susan Fitzery  
Cheryl Hanson, Elizabeth Stachura  
April 12 Bernie George, Laurie George,  
Bill and Pam Szafarczyk  
April 19 Karen Hall, Kathy Hall,  
Joyce Surage, Marilyn Tota  
April 26 Alan and Colleen Kruzicki,  
Sherry Huntley, David Post

### APRIL GREETER(S)

April 5 Bonnie Zimmerman  
April 12 TBD  
April 19 Sue and John Fitzery  
April 26 Elizabeth Stachura

### APRIL SCRIPTURE READERS

April 5 Sue Wilson  
April 12 Sharon Szczudlik  
April 19 Sue Fitzery  
April 26 Laurie George

### APRIL COMMUNION SERVERS

April 5 Pew: Bernie George, Laurie George,  
Marilyn Tota, Sharon Szczudlik,  
Choir: Dave Szczudlik

*Please note: The deadline to have articles in for the May/June issue of the Voice is  
April 15<sup>th</sup>.*

**Please email articles to [secretary@faithuccwilliamsville.org](mailto:secretary@faithuccwilliamsville.org). Thank you!**