

MofUs

Liverpool First United Methodist Church May - June 2016



Celebrate Pastor Alison's ministry at June 12 worship & brunch

Join us in celebrating Pastor Alison's ministry and visit with her as she prepares to transition to a new appointment as pastor of Lansing United Methodist Church. Pastor Alison will give the sermon at the 9:30 a.m. service on June 12 and a celebration brunch will follow. There will be no 11 a.m. service that day.

Watch the Sunday bulletins and online postings for menu and price. There will be a "Card Shower" beginning June 1 - bring in cards for Pastor Alison and leave them in the collection basket in Fellowship Hall. On Saturday, June 11, or Sunday, June 12, bring in cuttings from your plants or gardens for her to take to her new church as growing, living mementos from LFUMC. These and other activities will take place as we say "au revoir".



Plant Sale - May 7 in Johnson Park

A plant sale takes place May 7, the Saturday before Mother's Day, in Johnson Park (across from the church), from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Potted annuals for sale include fuchsias, geraniums, and other colorful mixtures, at a cost of \$20 each. Proceeds support the 2016 Red Bird mission trip and other church missions.

The Payback for Generosity!

Annual Stewardship Campaign takes place May 1 - 22

What is a stewardship campaign? It is a dedicated time when we focus on the meaning of stewardship in our teaching ministry. By stewardship we recognize that all that we have and are belongs to God. Our lives ultimately belong to God because they are God's gift to us. They are to be lived and the resources and opportunities of life are to be used and appreciated as God intended. Stewardship does not mean we cannot or do not enjoy life, but rather it is a recognition that our lives lived in companionship with God are enriched and a blessing to others.

In our human selfishness we often ask of any request upon us, "What's in it for me?" We will explore that question in our teaching series for May. Besides teaching on Biblical Stewardship we will be hearing weekly witnesses on ways we as a church family are practicing good stewardship of the resources and opportunities God has given us. We will also reflect upon the individual gifts God has given each of us and consider ways we can use our interests and abilities to serve and advance the purposes of Christ.

Yes, we will be asking ourselves to commit financially to the support of the ministries of the church. This year we celebrated having 171 financial commitments which amounted to \$264,505 pledged in support of our facilities and programs. **This year we are looking to raise and exceed 190 commitments and are shooting for \$272,000 in pledged dollars. This represents a 3% growth over this present year as we anticipate starting our fiscal year July 1.**

We recognize the financial uncertainties of life and so consider any designated pledge as a good faith estimate. Your estimate of giving helps the church's leadership plan for paying

the expenses of the ministry. An estimate of giving card will be available in May. We hope you will use them. We will also have information available for you to sign up for automatic Electric Fund Transfers to make your regular giving. An increasing number of families are taking advantage of this convenience.

While "What's in your wallet" is important, you are essential to the vitality of the church's ministry. You are a unique gift to the church family. God has instilled in you gifts, interests, and abilities unique to you that are needed and can be used in service to others. During

the month of May we will have available at a Welcome and Information table a Time, Talent and Interest Inventory we encourage you to take time to complete. These will help us prayerfully plan programs and local mission efforts.

Pastor B will be teaching on Spiritual Gifts and offer-

ing a spiritual gifts inventory during May on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. and Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. during our informal worship, prayer and study service called The Gathering.

Beyond meeting our projected budget for 2016/17 of \$380,000, we are encouraging a separate commitment to pay off our mortgage. At present we have 115 families pledging \$65,676 for the current year which we would love to raise to 126 commitments amounting to \$67,500 next year. The estimate of giving cards we will distribute in May will provide opportunity to designate giving to these separate areas.

We look forward to celebrating what God is doing through us and witnessing the provision of God as we seek together to "Love Jesus, Love others for Jesus and Love others to Jesus."

What 3% means to your wallet?

- If you gave \$20/week this year it would be a 60-cent increase
 - \$50/week a \$1.50 increase
 - \$75/week a 2.25 increase
 - \$100/week a \$3.00 increase
- Or you may choose to increase by more than 3%

Visit with snowbirds at May 17 reception

All snowbirds and friends are invited to a reception in the Memorial Lounge Tuesday, May 17 at 7 p.m. Whether you traveled to a warmer climate this winter for a week or for months, or if you stayed for the snow and just want to welcome friends home, come share dessert, coffee and conversation. Tell about your winter experiences and catch up with things happening here at Liverpool First UMC. R.S.V.P. to the church office at 457-5180 or lfumc@liverpoolfirstumc.org

20th Annual Chicken Barbecue, Saturday June 4

Please plan to help and / or attend. Sign-up sheets will be in Fellowship Hall. We need people to fill 90 work spaces. Set-up begins Thursday evening, then Friday prep, then all day on Saturday. The more who take a turn, the fewer have to double up. There is a spot for you. This is the largest fund-raiser of the year.

A planning meeting takes place Thursday, May 12, at 6 p.m. if you would like to join in.

From Pastor Brian

Rev. Dr. Brian Homan - Senior Pastor



Change seems to hit us when we least expect it and is not invited. Change is as inevitable as life, and so significant change has come to the purple doors of our church. In March, Pastor Alison announced her appointment as the pastor to the Lansing United Methodist Church, located north of Ithaca along Cayuga Lake. This was a shock to most of us and not anticipated. I have enjoyed serving with Pastor Alison, who

has been particularly valuable in providing more direct care to our family members, particularly to the elderly and shut in. Her presence has helped free me to work on program and preaching and teaching. She will be missed, though I know this new appointment is in her best interest as she prepares for the final process toward ordination. She leaves with our gratefulness and prayers.

Please keep Sunday, June 12, open in your calendars, to celebrate one service at 9:30 a.m. followed by a catered meal in Pastor Alison's honor. This will be her final time to preach at Liverpool before she embarks on her new journey. Watch our weekly news and social media for the opportunity to make reservations. The Staff Parish Relations Team is working to keep cost reasonable and family friendly. Surprises are planned to make the gathering special for Pastor Alison and our church family.

The question naturally comes up regarding what will happen after Pastor Alison's leave. We are working diligently to prepare for our new fiscal year that begins July 1. We have not requested of the Bishop an appointment of a new associate pastor to replace Pastor Alison. The Staff Parish Relations Team believes this unfortunate change has also opened the opportunity to focus and direct the church's ministry in areas we believe will strengthen our witness and effectiveness in ministry.

We have been blessed with the leadership of Karen Gloyd as Director of Christian Education, who has been in ministry with us only since this last July. Since then we have enjoyed her leadership, which has evidenced a growth of 48%. With program initiatives undertaken in concert with the Trustees and the newly formed Witness Team we have celebrated regularly the baptism of young children and the participation of new young families. Without a doubt I will need program assistance to continue this growing trend, and the SPRC is defining a new and expanded position for Karen that will be titled Director of Family Life Ministries. In her expanded role she will provide leadership to development of programs of specific interest to young families, coordinating childcare, and fellowship and service.

A program we are excited to offer this next fall will be a dinner, informal and contemporary worship followed by Christian education opportunities for adults, children and teens on Wednesday nights. We believe from our studies and evaluation that this offers us a great opportunity to provide for the spiritual needs for families who cannot take advantage of opportunities on the weekends. This is only one of several new initiatives being planned to reach out effectively to our community.

We rightfully need to consider the spiritual care for the existing and older segments of our church family. I will continue to provide pastoral care to hospitals and special needs as well as visitation to new and prospective families, however the ongoing care of persons will be beyond my capacity to handle on my own. A new Pastoral Caregiving Ministry is being developed to assist with providing care and also to invest in worship, teaching, administration and congregational care.

We are fortunate to have in our midst two pastors on extension ministry outside the local church, Reverend Candace Lawrence and Reverend Penny Hart, who shall return to our fellowship. They have agreed to work with Gayle Spaulding and myself to develop a Lay Caregiving Ministry where interested laypersons will be trained and deployed to provide targeted care with members of our church family. In addition, Pastor Penny will come on board to supplement the visitation to elderly and shut in members of the church family.

Details will be forthcoming, but we want to assure the church family that our future looks bright as we continue to care and expand our witness to the Liverpool Community.

From Pastor Alison

Rev. Alison Schmied - Associate Pastor



On July 1, I will move to Lansing NY, to serve as pastor of Lansing United Methodist Church. I am going to miss you!

Writing to the church at Philippi, the Apostle Paul said that he was so grateful for the church that he thanked God for them in his prayers. I echo Paul's words, as a message from me to you:

I thank my God every time I mention you in my prayers. I'm thankful for all of you every time I pray, and it is always a prayer of joy. I'm glad because of the way you have been my partners in the ministry of the gospel.

-- *Philippians 1:3-4, CEB*

I thank God for you, Liverpool First United Methodist Church, and for the joy you have brought me.

I thank God for Pastor Brian. Every time he opens his mouth to sing we know that he loves Jesus with all his heart! He loves the church and will continue to serve as your Senior Pastor. I treasure memories of Pastor B's great joy in welcoming many new children to LFUMC. His love and trust of the Liverpool First congregation was especially evident in his baptizing of his granddaughter Lydia Grace Murphy, entrusting the LFUMC congregation with her spiritual nurture.

I will miss worshipping with LFUMC. You love to worship God. It is a joy to pray with you, and to see you lift your voices to praise our Lord, to affirm our faith, to commit to the living out of the redeeming love we claim. Although Pastor B and I have chosen unfamiliar hymns to expand your repertoire, whether you enjoyed it or not you have learned many new songs and you sing them beautifully!

The splendor and diversity of the music program under Nancy B. James reminds us that God's Kingdom is for all people. The Chancel Choir's anthems enhance and expand our experience of the scripture in worship each week. We are blessed by organist Bill Young's offerings of time tested sacred music. Bill's music and his liturgical sense are gifts that lead us in worshipping God in spirit and in truth. The Wesley Ringers Handbell Choir, with conductor Becky Dunstone, is a testament to how good and pleasant it is when sisters and brothers dwell together in unity and harmony. Seeing and hearing them play is a joy. The teenaged Alleluia Choir, guided by Kathy Nortman and accompanied by Dan Miller, brings their heartfelt expression of faith through Contemporary Christian music. The elementary school Spirit Singers, led by Alison Mapes and accompanied by Cathy Bovee, have learned songs by heart that they sing both in and out of worship.

LFUMC loves to serve. When Pastor B and I arrived, we were given the mistaken impression that LFUMC existed more for members than for the world beyond the purple doors. A reputation that LFUMC functioned only to benefit its members was quickly dispelled by the reality of your generosity as individuals and as a congregation, working together with Christ for the transformation of the world.

Perhaps Jesus' instruction to "not let your left hand know what the right hand is doing" (Matthew 6:3) had been taken too literally. Out of humility some LFUMC activities have not "advertised" their service in the name of Christ, failing to invite newcomers to participate. Recently, a display has been mounted in the main hallway, making it easier for anyone who passes by to learn of ongoing activities and opportunities to grow in faith and hands-on service.

The church exists to be Christ's hands and feet, bringing God's healing love to the world. Through gifts of time and talent and hands-on mission work, gifts of financial support of the worldwide mission of the United Methodist Church through our Ministry Shares, and financial support of other local missions, LFUMC is actively living out the faith we sing.

I pray that you will continue to grow as individuals and as a congregation that loves and serves the Lord. In closing I again borrow Paul's words:

This is my prayer: that your love might become even more and more rich with knowledge and all kinds of insight. I pray this so that you will be able to decide what really matters and so you will be sincere and blameless on the day of Christ.

--*Philippians 1:10, CEB*

Church Family News

Baptisms

These individuals were recently welcomed in baptism:

- Madelyn June Kaltaler, daughter of Timothy & Danica Kaltaler, Jan. 10
- Hazel Helena Kerr, daughter of Andrew & Sara Kerr, Feb. 14
- Marcus Antonio Quintano, son of Jessica Quintano, Feb. 21
- Beckett Randy Mattoon, son of Brian & Brittany Mattoon, Feb. 28
- Samantha Richardson, daughter of Ian & Caitlin Richardson, Feb. 28
- Michael Young Cavallaro, son of Salvatore & Mina Cavallaro, April 10
- Jacob Thomas Gallo, son of John Gallo, Jr. & Emiliagh Brown-Gallo, April 10

Marriage

Maryann Elizabeth Brown and Cameron Wade Keyes were married in the church on April 9. Maryann is the granddaughter of Bill Brown.

New Members

The following new members were recently welcomed:

- Danica Kaltaler, Jan. 10
- Andrew & Sara Kerr, Feb. 14
- Jessica Quintano, Feb. 21
- Ian & Caitlin Richardson, Feb. 28
- Salvatore & Mina Cavallaro, April 10

Births

Abigail Josephine Elliott, daughter of SarahJo & Shawn Elliott, was born Feb. 21.

Sympathy

Our sympathy is extended to the family of James Nielsen, who passed away Feb. 18, and to the family of Joan Bury, who passed away Feb. 28.

Thank you from the Men's Group



The Liverpool United Methodist Men's Group thanks you for your generosity in supporting two recent charitable efforts; funds donated to the Vera House White Ribbon campaign and shoes donated to help offset the costs of providing a service dog for Logen, the autistic child of one of our members. The White Ribbon campaign for Vera House raised \$906 from our church to help provide services in Central NY for victims of domestic violence or sexual abuse. That's a significant increase over last year's campaign, and you should take pride in our church's efforts to support this organization. We were also very successful in collecting used shoes to be sold and shipped to third world countries where they will be repaired and reused through the 4 Paws for Mobility program. Liverpool First and other Central NY United Methodist churches combined to collect and process more than 6,000 pairs of shoes. This will be a big boost to the efforts to raise sufficient funds for Logen's dog. Pictured helping with Logen's Shoes are, from left, Ken Blechl, Rich Ertinger, Pastor Brian Homan, Pat Toukatly, Bill Mann, and Neal Schantz. Would you like to get involved in the United Methodist Men's Group? Call the church at 457-5180.



To help Pastor Alison remember her Liverpool First church family, let's create a scrapbook. Please share your name and favorite Bible verse or hymn, or a favorite way to serve God through mission, and a short note about why that verse, hymn, or mission is your favorite. If you have a photo that you prefer to the one in the church directory, please include that too. She will collect these at the church-wide celebration on Sunday, June 12, at the brunch following the 9:30 a.m. worship service.



Pancakes are coming - Sunday, May 22

On Sunday, May 22, the Liverpool United Methodist Men will serve a pancake breakfast from 8:30 - 11 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. A free-will offering will be collected to help fund the UMM's tuition assistance for "Maxo" Lucserne, a Hatian student they support. Menu includes pancakes, sausages, apple sauce and beverages.

Olivebranch Women's Group May 23 Program features WWII history Safe Haven - A Shelter for Holocaust Refugees

All women are invited to attend

This shelter for Holocaust refugees of WWII was located at Fort Ontario in Oswego.

Presented by Safe Haven Museum President George Demass, the talk includes stories of triumph and suffering by refugees who came as guests of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Appetizers at 5:30 p.m., Dinner at 6 p.m., Program at 7 p.m.
Cost for the light catered dinner is \$5. Call Pat Cupernall at 457-6730 by May 20 to make a dinner reservation.

Liverpool First United Methodist Church
604 Oswego Street, Liverpool NY 13088 315-457-5180

Ministers..... Every member of our congregation
 Pastors..... Brian Homan and Alison Schmied
 Pastor Emeritus.....Milton T. Jefferson
 Director of Christian Education Karen Gloyd
 Director of Music Ministries Nancy James
 Organist..... Bill Young
 Administrative Assistant, *All of Us* Editor Kate Smith
 Publications & Membership Secretary Cathy Temple

Senior Ministry News

The purpose of the Liverpool First UMC Senior Ministries is to provide wholesome and affordable opportunities for recreation and fellowship for persons age 55 and better in the Liverpool area.



Upcoming Events

Saturday, May 21 Lunch at the Sherwood Inn and Boat Cruise on Skaneateles Lake

Begins at 11:45 a.m. Provide your own transportation to Skaneateles. Choose either Yankee pot roast or chicken marsala - \$30 per person.

Wednesday, June 1 Bus trip to Watkins Glen, includes "Flirty 30's & 40's" luncheon cruise

Meet at church at 8:30 a.m.; depart at 9:30 a.m., return at 4:30 p.m. Choose either stuffed chicken breast, hot roast beef, scallop & crab stuffed filet of sole, or baked polenta - \$40 per person (limited to 55 on the bus).

Friday, June 17 Dixie Land Dinner Cruise

Meet at Dutchman's Landing in Baldwinsville at 5:15 p.m. (provide your own transportation) for departure at 6 p.m. Choose either prime rib, roasted chicken, baked salmon or vegetarian ravioli - \$35 per person - limited to 60.

Wednesday, July 13 Bus trip to Geneva for lunch at Belhurst Castle and a dessert cruise

Meet at church at 9 a.m.; leave church at 10 a.m. & return at 5 p.m. Buffet lunch at Edgar's (Belhurst Castle) - dessert cruise on "Rose Lummis" - stop at Lake Street Station Winery for shopping - \$40 per person.

Wednesday, August 10 Bus trip to Alexandria Bay for luncheon cruise

Depart at 10 a.m. return at 5:30 p.m. - Buffet luncheon cruise on "Uncle Sam" - shopping on your own before heading home - \$35 per person.

Thursday, September 8 Bus trip to Cortland Repertory Theater

Depart at 11:45 a.m., return at 6 p.m. Begin with a light lunch at church at 11 a.m., then board a bus to Cortland Repertory Theater's production of "Marvelous Wonderetts" - \$30 per person.

Wednesday, October 12 Bus trip to Letchworth State Park

Meet at church at 8:30 am - depart at 9:15 and returns at 6:30 - bus trip to Letchworth State Park - lunch at Glen Iris Inn - choose either Lemon Pepper Chicken or Roast Turkey - Vegetarian entree on request. - guided bus tour of the park - \$35 per person.

Saturday, November 5 - meet at church at 10 a.m. for bus trip to Auburn - lunch at Oak & Vine at Springside Inn - choose Roast Loin of Pork, Chicken French or Baked Haddock - Vegetarian entree on request - Merry Go Round Playhouse's production of "Smokey Joe's Cafe" - \$50 per person.

Wednesday, December 14 - Christmas luncheon at church

To reserve a place, make checks payable to LFUMC Senior Ministries, and place them in the Senior Ministries mailbox. For information, call Sarah at 695-6696.

What's Up Downstairs?

by Karen Gloyd, Director of Christian Education



I have enjoyed my first year as the Education Director at Liverpool First United Methodist Church and I thank the parents, grandparents and friends who bring their children to Sunday School, giving us the opportunity to share the love of Christ with each of them. I may be biased, but I think we have the greatest group of children in our Sunday School and I am enjoying getting to know each of them!

We are growing!

We are in our third quarter in Sunday School and I am so excited to share that we have experienced a 48% growth in our average student attendance! That's a 48% growth in the number of hearts we have to share the love of Christ with! Due to this exciting growth, we will add classes next fall which means we will need more teachers and assistants. I ask you to prayerfully consider if God is calling you to work with our children. No experience needed, just a desire to see children grow in their faith. This is an opportunity to impact a child's faith journey! Our new *Deep Blue* curriculum makes teaching a class simple with little time or preparation needed on a teacher's part. If you are not ready to teach, maybe you are ready to assist in a class. As in keeping with our Safe Sanctuary's policy, a background check is completed for everyone who works with the church youth.

Memorial Day Parade - Monday, May 30

Our Sunday school classes and their families (and anyone else who would like to join us) will represent the Liverpool First UMC in the Memorial Day Parade! We will hand out candy to children as we walk along...nothing says love to children who line a parade route like candy! Look for flyers to come home from Sunday School with details.

Summer Camp

Summer Camp can be another fun opportunity for a child to grow in knowledge and faith! LFUMC's Campership program offers camp scholarships to children who attend Liverpool First UMC. We also offer a limited number of need-based scholarships. If your child is not ready to attend camp on his/her own, consider Casawasco's family camp, Aug. 14-17, which offers children a first experience of camp with their family. For information regarding scholarships contact me at 457-5180. Applications and catalogs can be found at the information center or in the Christian Education office on our lower level.

Summer Sunday School

On June 26, our Summer Sunday School session will begin, running through Aug. 28. We will teach the 9 attributes of a Christian life, known as the Fruits of the Spirit, as taught by Paul in Galatians 5:22-23. Please sign children in downstairs in the gathering cafe' area during the summer session.

Have you thought of working with the children, but just not sure it is your calling? Volunteer to assist during the summer session, try it for one week, a few weeks or the whole session! The summer session is a great opportunity to get your feet wet and experience the joy of working with our amazing children!

Vacation Bible School

It's just around the corner...SUMMER! With summer comes Vacation Bible School! Attendance is free for all children in Kindergarten through 5th grade. We will offer an evening program. Stay tuned for our exciting theme announcement and information about registration.

Save these dates: July 11 - July 15

We are looking for adult and teen volunteers who enjoy sharing the excitement of getting to know Jesus with children. We are especially calling out to the men in our church family to volunteer, taking this opportunity to become a mentor to children during our week-long program. Our VBS program offers us an opportunity to reach children in our community, and as a volunteer you may have the opportunity to touch the life of a child who has never heard of Jesus or the love He has for them.

Family Fun outreach events

Families in the Christian Education program recently partnered with the LFUMC Men's Group and held two fun and successful family fun events this year.

In February we held a Game Day, where families from our church and community gathered and fellowshiped while playing board games together. Everything from Checkers and Cribbage to Bean Boozled and Monopoly were played. To no one's surprise, the Monopoly game ran 45 minutes longer than the event was scheduled, talk about fun competition! Food was plentiful

and laughter was shared!

In March we ran a church-wide indoor scavenger hunt for our church family and the community. It was great fun watching adults and children working together to find the treasures using the given clues, especially fun was watching the search for the elusive white polka dots! Once again the Men's group hosted a wonderful dinner! No one left hungry. A visiting family won our door prize.

Stay tuned for upcoming events...don't be shy, people of ALL ages are welcome to these events!



Teen book study encouraged confidence



Robin Folk and Jen Holmes led a group of Senior High-age girls in a six-week book study entitled *Confident*. During the six weeks together, participants explored, shared, and asked the questions...What makes you feel confident? What is it to be God Confident? They talked about being broken, experiencing the every day battle, and daring to be confident. Participant Musika Miller said, "This book study was the perfect way for me to have confidence in myself and God in everything I do." Fellow group member Cheyenne Nelson stated, "The Confident group was a time for us to laugh, learn, and grow confidence in ourselves through God." Participants, pictured above, ended their time each week in prayer and open themselves to what God can do when we allow Him to be present in our lives.



Some of the participants in this winter's Family Fun outreach events are pictured here: children at the February game day (top), and scene from the March Scavenger Hunt (bottom and at right), including the winners of the prize bucket of movies and snacks.

Members visit with Carol Minsker



Many of you will remember Carol Minsker, our former Administrative Assistant. Carol moved in November, 2014, from New Jersey back to Buffalo and is thriving in a new senior apartment complex. Recently Pat Cupernall and Sue Slenker visited her. She would love to hear from you: 716-508-8680. Carol shared the news that Rick Minsker's mother, Miriam Minsker, will be 108-years-old on Aug. 16!

All women invited to district UMW meeting – May 21 at Liverpool First

The Liverpool First United Methodist Women will host the annual Crossroads District United Methodist Women Spring Meeting on Saturday, May 21. Our guest speaker will be Andrea Moran from the Gateway-Longview Child and Family service organization. Each year, this organization

serves more than 3,000 children and families in Western and Central New York through programs focusing on educational, residential and community needs. Come just for the program or choose to stay for the day. For information, contact Loretta Knobel at 451-1168

Prayer and Holy Communion in the Chapel Sundays at 8:15 a.m.

Pastor Alison leads a quiet service of prayer, scripture, and Holy Communion every Sunday from 8:15 to 9 a.m. in the Chapel.

Participants read liturgy and prayers, listen to God's Word through the scripture reading using a form of prayer called lectio divina, and share in the presence

of Christ among us through the sacrament of Holy Communion.

The Chapel, located downstairs just to the left of the stairs from the back parking lot entrance, is accessible by elevator.

Come experience this alternative form of worship.

Invitation to pray

Prayer Partners invite you to be a part of the group that meets Mondays at the church, from 3 to 4 p.m. Learning how to call on God in prayer is one way that we develop our relationship with God. We receive requests from many different sources and for many different needs, such as healing, comfort, strength, wisdom, protection, etc. If you are interested, please call Pamela Phillips at 451-1087 or Barb Halstead at 622-0752.

If you have a prayer request, complete one of the cards in a pew pocket from the sanctuary, and place it in the offering place during worship.

Name tags being updated

Member Care created name tags for each church member of record several years ago. They are posted around the main floor of the church. The project is being updated to match today's members, and racks to hold the tags will be

rearranged soon. We need your help! If your name tag is home, please drop off at the Church Office to be recorded. If you lost your tag, or never had one, please leave your name with Cathy Temple in the Church Office (457-5180).

Joan Cobb honored for volunteer work



At the annual Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast of Elderwood at Liverpool on April 16, Joan Cobb was presented the District Volunteer of the Year award by the New York State Health Facilities Association. Leslie Lamb, Activities Director, presented Joan the award, citing her for her volunteering work with residents of the facility that ran into the thousands of hours. A number of other members of the Liverpool First United Methodist Church also volunteer at the facility on Bear Road and anyone interested in this opportunity to serve the community can contact Leslie Lamb at 457-9946, Ext. 233.

All of Us Publication Dates

This newsletter is published five times per year.

Upcoming issues are:

Summer (July & August) **News Deadline: June 6, 9 a.m.**

Autumn (September - November) **News Deadline: Aug. 8, 9 a.m.**

We also plan to enhance electronic communication options. If you wish to receive this newsletter by email, send your email address to lfumc@liverpoolfirstumc.org Visit the church web site at liverpoolfirstumc.org, and like us on Facebook.

Church Vinyl Clings

Our Church has its own vinyl cling for your car or storm door.

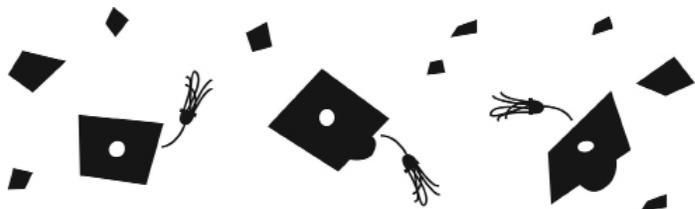
If you can't find yours or never got one, see the Dinner/Fundraising table in Fellowship Hall.

Please let others know your faith commitment!

Find news at the Information Center



Notice our beautiful new information center in the main corridor. Please check there for details about the events taking place throughout the church. Administrative Council Chair Kathy Kulba reminds everyone that Fire Code requires that door windows must be free of signs. Paper is highly combustible and hinders using that door to safely exit the building. Also, covering the window obstructs the view for emergency personnel entering the building. Thank you for your co-operation.



Sophie Graze Scholarship recipient Andrew VanMarter shares his thoughts



Sophie Graze left the members of LFUMC a great scholarship to offer financial support to pursue an advanced degree. I have received the scholarship for the past four years. I am a student at Albany College of Pharmacy in the fourth year of a six-year doctorate program. The scholarship helps to purchase the expensive books and tuition. With the rising cost for college, I am grateful to receive the scholarship. Thank you to Sophie Graze for the generous gift. She has not only helped me financially, but also many other members of our church.

Applications for 2016 scholarships due May 11 at 3 p.m.

Sophie Graze Scholarship applications and supporting documentation are due to the church office by 3 p.m. on May 11 to be considered this year. If you have questions, please call the church office at 457-5180 or contact Karen Gloyd, Director of Christian Education.

New Kitchen rules posted

Please be aware that Administrative Council has approved and posted updated rules for using the Kitchen. If your group is planning an event, please go over them BEFORE the event, so compliance is easy. Thanks!

Notes from Nancy

Nancy B. James, Director of Music Ministries



I want so much to say "Happy Spring" everyone, but it is 35 degrees as I write this and all of my poor daffodils were crushed by snow! This is crazy! Only in Central New York, huh? Well, if there is one thing I know, we must be flexible and adapt to each situation, whether that is with the weather, music or even in relationships. We must remain open to all the possibilities of life.

Here at Liverpool First UMC, the musical possibilities are endless. There are so many wonderful opportunities to praise the Lord our God through music. Please don't just sit in the pews and listen. COME! Participate in one of our talented groups, such as the Spirit Singers, led by Alison Mapes (meets Sundays at 9 a.m.); the Alleluia Choir, led by Kathy Nortman (meets Sundays at 1 p.m.); the Wesley Bell Ringers, led by Becky Dunstone (meets Thursdays at 6 p.m.) and the Chancel Choir, led by yours truly, (meets Thursdays at 7 p.m.). The more the merrier I always say, and remember:

"God respects us when we work, but loves us when we sing!!"

MUSICAL HOUSEKEEPING NOTES: Please, if you use the Sanctuary grand piano, make sure to cover it, lock it back up AND most important, make sure the PLUG for the climate control system is plugged back in. This is SO important for the health and longevity of this marvelous instrument. Also, if you bring something into the choir room, please take it back out with you, and if you move something in the choir room, please put it back. The choir room can sometimes become a dumping ground. Let's maintain respect for our spaces!

PRAISE GOD for another wonderful year of meaningful worship and music here at Liverpool First! Happy Spring everyone!

Congregation and friends invited to opera at LFUMC - June 11 at 7:30 p.m.

"An Evening of Italian Opera" concert given by the Syracuse Opera Chorus will be on Saturday, June 11, at 7:30 p.m. This concert is given to thank the congregation of Liverpool First UMC for their generous use of the sanctuary for re-

hearsals. There will be a free-will offering taken to benefit the Red Bird Mission and the Oxford Inn (a homeless shelter in Syracuse).

Nancy B. James is Chorus Master of the Syracuse Opera.

Spring Thank You from the Dinner/Fundraising Committee

The Dinner/Fundraising Committee raises money for church programming. It has been a busy winter. Thanks to all who have helped with events.

The free Advent Family Breakfast was well-attended. The Christmas Bake-Sale raised nearly \$580. January's Chicken 'n Biscuit Dinner brought in \$816.

Lenten Fish Dinners continue to be popular, with Fish #1 bringing in \$610 and Fish #2 profit was \$762.

Delta Sonic car wash coupons are offered twice a year: December

and June. The Winter campaign profit was \$160. Mainesaver grocery cards continue to return 5% of your total grocery order back to the church. The July-December check was \$112, (making the 2015 total profit \$226).

Grand total for December-March = \$3040. The Committee has openings for new members who are willing to plan and prepare events, as well as encourages Congregation members who are able to sign up to help with individual events. Thank you!



Coming Events at Liverpool First UMC

DATE	TIME	TITLE	Page No.
May 1-22		"The Payback for Generosity" Sermon series begins	p. 1
May 7	9 a.m.-3 p.m.	Plant Sale in Johnson Park	p. 1
May 11	3:00 p.m.	Sophie Graze College Scholarship Applications Due	p. 1
May 17	7:00 p.m.	Welcome Home Snowbirds Reception	p. 1
May 21	9:00 a.m.	Crossroads District United Methodist Women Meeting	p. 6
May 21	11:45 a.m.	Senior Ministries lunch at Sherwood Inn & Cruise	p. 4
May 22	8:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.	Sunday Morning Pancake Breakfast	p. 3
May 23	5:30 p.m.	Olivebranch Women's Group Dinner & Program	p. 1
May 30	9:00 a.m.	Memorial Day Parade	
		Children & families marching, coffee & donuts at LFUMC	p. 4
June 1	8:30 a.m.	Senior Ministries Bus Trip to Watkins Glen & Cruise	p. 4
June 4	11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.	Chicken Barbeque	p.1
June 6	9:00 a.m.	<i>All of Us</i> Summer Issue (July-August) News Deadline	p.7
June 11	7:30 p.m.	An Evening of Italian Opera, Syracuse Opera	p. 7
June 12	9:30 a.m.	One Worship Service, followed by Congregational	
		Brunch to Say Goodbye to Pastor Alison	p.1
June 17	5:15 p.m.	Senior Ministries Dixie Land Dinner Cruise	p.4
June 26	9:15 a.m.	Summer Session Sunday School Begins	p. 4
July 11-15	Evenings	Vacation Bible School	p. 4

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Watch the Memorial Day Parade at Liverpool First

Our church is right on the parade route, and our children's ministry is participating this year!
The Outreach Committee will serve coffee and donuts from the church parking lot on the Oswego Street side.
Bring a lawn chair and watch the parade with others from your church family.

Liverpool First United Methodist Church
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 ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED