



Liverpool First United Methodist Church
Spring 2019

Futures Team to study church ministries

In December, the church Administrative Council voted to study the needs of our community and the ministries of the church, to propose changes necessary to assure our impact for Christ. This process is done in conjunction with the Vital Congregations Team of the Annual Conference, led by Reverend Aaron Bouwens.

The Futures Task Force includes: Charles McChesney, Pat Toukatly, Karen Gloyd, Eric Holmes, Bill Patton, Pat Cupernall, Robin Folk, Sharon Hartman, and Miguel Patino.

They will review, discern and propose changes in ministry for our leaders to consider. Please pray for the team and their work.

SPRC aims to keep members informed of pastor appointment

As this goes to press, members of the Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) are vowing to keep you informed and share what we can share with you. After receiving the news of Pastor Brian's appointment, District Superintendent, Nola Anderson, called a meeting with SPRC.

She presented the usual process and protocol for change of pastors, explaining "itinerancy refers specifically to that elders in the Methodist tradition commit to go and serve wherever they are needed. Appointment is the action taken by bishops after reviewing church's yearly profile and conference wide inputs. The District Superintendent conveyed to SPRC that Pastor Brian accepted a position to another church, the appointment made by Bishop Mark Webb.

First the Bishop/District Superintendent notifies the pastor and the pastor notifies the SPRC, staff, and announces the appointment to the congregation. This is followed by a meeting with SPRC that the District superintendent calls. Our SPRC met with our DS Nola Anderson on February 14 to review and assess the church profile. This assessment includes updating the information about our community, it's assets, challenges, people not being reached. Also assessed are the church's strengths, challenges, opportunities, and theological stance. And finally the committee and lay leadership, ministries, and staff are reviewed.

The District Superintendent presents this information to the Cabinet and Bishop to help them discern the best recommendation for a church pastor for LFUMC. The final part of the process involves the opportunity for SPRC to have a conversation with the selected pastor. A decision is made and after the selected pastor announces the appointment to their church, the announcement will be made here.

SPRC pledges to keep you informed. Nola Anderson indicated information that is confidential and what is shareable. So hopefully by the time this is published we will have a new pastor to announce. We urge you to worship strong and be part of the farewell and welcoming transition.

SPRC committee members are: Pat Cupernall, Brian Crispin, Susan Conover, Jason Hoy, Dave Lamberson, Noah Loncosky, Elizabeth Patino, Darlene Patton, Kay Phillips, Pat Toukatly, Ginny Tilden, Chair

Lenten Communion Worship

Traditional music and prayer, Wednesdays at 7 pm

You are invited to Wednesday evening communion services during the season of Lent. The services are led by Rev. Candace Lawrence and organist Bill Young. This weekday service is a great way to give time back to God during

Lent, and to prepare ourselves for the celebration of Easter. Come to one service or to all of them. Share the blessing of worship together during Lent. Services are at 7 pm March 13, 20, & 27, April 3, 10, & 17.

Luncheon & Irish-themed movie

Saturday, March 16 at 11:30 am

Everyone is welcome. Meal served at 11:30 am; movie *Far & Away*, follows. Cost is \$2 per person. Sign up in Fellowship Hall or call the church at 315-457-5180 to register.

Learn how to support refugees

Sunday, March 10 at 2 pm

Join the Outreach Commission in welcoming Daryl Files to our church. Daryl works with the interfaith community and will explain how we can help refugees. She will share stories of families that have settled here and the new ones that are coming. There are many ways we can assist as a church community.

SCAVENGER HUNT & LUNCH

FREE FAMILY EVENT

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED - 315-457-5180

fun - food - treasures

Hunt begins
at 11:00am
lunch to follow



SATURDAY, MARCH 30th
11:00 am



Saturday, May 4
Spring Women's Retreat
Be All That You Can Be

Hosted by the United Methodist
Women of Liverpool First UMC

More information to follow

Spirit Singers
Children's Choir

Join us Sundays at 10:45am
Theater Room - Downstairs

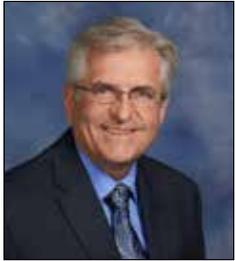
Choir Directors
Ezequiel Gonzalez
and Jamie Snyder



Call 315-457-5180 with any questions

Pastor's Pen

Rev. Dr. Brian Homan



It was a great sadness for me to announce this past Sunday from the pulpit my reappointment to the First United Methodist Church of Newark, New York, effective July 1. Kathy and I have come to love this church, its people and the community. We had hoped I would retire from Liverpool, keep our home here and make the church our church home in our retirement. Upon receiving the news from our District

Superintendent I immediately filed a formal request for reconsideration with the Bishop and Cabinet only to have my request declined.

As with most churches in our area, we have struggled with declining attendance and financial support for our ministries. This can be attributed to an aging population and the attrition of many long standing members through death or changes with where they choose to live in their retirement. Even though we have gained many new members, have enjoyed many new baptisms, the numbers are not sufficient to support the ministry as it has in the past.

In addition our culture has changed. Religious practice is deemed less important and theological struggles within the church itself have become a distraction from our primary mission of making disciples for Jesus Christ.

We have attempted to address the challenges our church faces on our own but have found that we are not able to stem the tide of decline. On December 10 of 2018 we decided to enlist the resources of the Annual Conference to assist us and have begun an intentional process of assessment and planning to revitalize our witness and ministry. I introduced this past Sunday the members who have been elected to serve on the new task force we are calling the Futures Team who will work with Reverend Aaron Bouwens of the Vital Congregations Team on this process. Members include Charles McChesney, Pat Toukatly, Eric Holmes, Karen Gloyd, Bill Patton, Sharon Hartman, Miguel Patino, Robin Folk, and Pat Cupernall. It was believed by the Annual Conference that a new pastoral appointment would best facilitate the church's process of revitalization.

Please be in prayer for your Futures Team as they work with your new pastor and the Reverend Aaron Bouwens to address the needs of our ministry. I wish to have been a partner in this process and will remain so from a distance through prayer. I look forward to hearing of the good things God will do here with my friends of Liverpool First.

Alexander Carl Bailey baptized

On November 25, 2018, Alexander Carl Bailey was baptized by Pastor Carl Getz at Sauquoit Valley United Methodist Church in Sauquoit, NY. Alexander is the second son of Sara and Marshall Bailey and brother of Zachary Bailey, all members of LFUMC.

This was a special event as Alexander was also baptized with his cousin, Jacob Meyer, surrounded by many wonderful family members from as far away as Colorado.

Pastor Carl is Sara's father and the grandfather of both boys. Proud grandparents of Alexander: Mark & JoAnn Bailey and Carl &



Nancy Getz. Alexander's Godparents are his Uncle Dustin Bailey and Aunt Gretta Miles.

Everyone is excited for Alex to meet Jesus and develop his faith at LFUMC!




**Join us on the 3rd Thursdays
at 6:30pm**

**Come for fellowship
and support in raising
Christian children
in a secular world!**

call Karen Gloyd with any questions 315-457-5180

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

Ministers.....	Every member of our congregation
Pastor.....	Brian Homan
Associate Pastors	Candace Lawrence, Penny Hart
Pastor Emeritus.....	Milton T. Jefferson
Director of Family Ministries.....	Karen Gloyd
Director of Youth Ministries	Courtney Donaldson
Director of Music Ministries	Nancy James
Organist.....	Bill Young
Administrative Assistant, <i>All of Us</i> Editor	Kate Smith
Office Operations Assistant	Elizabeth Mengel
Sexton.....	Michael Gloyd

View Bible Stories from Sight & Sound Movies

Sundays at 12:30 pm

On Sundays during Lent we will show Biblical-themed musical dramas produced by Sight & Sound Theatres:

- In the Beginning - The story of Creation - March 10
- Noah - March 17
- Joseph - March 24
- Moses - March 31
- Jonah - April 7
- Ruth - April 14

Special Offering Appeal for Vera House

On Sunday, March 24, we will have a special offering collection in support of Vera House. Vera House is a non-profit organization in central New York that provides services to victims of domestic and

sexual violence and abuse, and also conducts education within our community to help end these violent acts. Please be generous in support of these important social services.



Sophie Graze College Scholarship 2019 program opens on March 15

Applications are due May 15.
Awards are made in June.

Any active church member who is graduating from high school this June may apply.

Applications and guidelines are available from Kate Smith in the church office.

Call 315-457-5180 for information.

Questions can be answered by Karen Gloyd.

Sponsor Sunday Altar Flowers

Honor a loved one for a birthday, anniversary, or other event. Some dates fill early, so if there is a specific date that you would like to sponsor, call 315-457-5180, write to lfumc@liverpoolfirstumc.org, or return this form. The church florist will send an invoice to you after the flowers are delivered. You may take flowers home with you after worship.

Preferred date: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Given by: _____

Phone #: _____

Notes from Nancy

Nancy B. James, Director of Music Ministries

It's been a long, challenging winter here in Upstate NY, but nothing we're not built for. We are a hardy people and up to the challenges of this crazy weather. But here's the good news – what difficulties we share as a community, we also share the joys as a Family of Faith – the Good News of our Lord, Jesus Christ! One way to celebrate these joys is through music, and here at Liverpool First UMC we are certainly very blessed in that area. Every week our musical groups- Chancel Choir, Wesley Bell Ringers, Alleluia Choir and Spirit Singers (which will be returning soon), strive to bring us joyful and uplifting music in our services.



The Spirit Singers have been without a leader for some time now and many prayers have been said to rectify this situation. I am pleased to announce that our prayers have been answered. Two of our Youth, Jamie Snyder and Zeke Gonzalez, have generously offered to come forward and work with our youngest members, the Spirit Singers, to sing and praise God through their music. We thank Jamie and Zeke for their offer, their time and energy and their love and commitment to their faith and sharing that with our youngest members. We look forward to hearing them soon.

Our Chancel Choir is hard at work on the spring cantata, which will be presented on Palm Sunday, April 14, at both the 9:30 & 11 am services. The cantata is "It Is Finished" A Tenebrae Service, by Mary McDonald. This 30-minute work is full of glorious music, new and familiar, and will be accompanied by a small instrumental chamber ensemble of talented local musicians. Make sure to put this on your calendars, folks! This is one cantata NOT to be missed.

Lenten devotional books available

Seasons of Joy and Gladness - a 2019 Lenten devotional book produced by the Society of St. Andrew (a ministry to feed the hungry) is available at the Information Center in the church corridor. Pick up a free copy to read meditations and scriptures for each day of Lent.

Thanks for bottle and can donations

Thanks to all of you who return your cans and bottles to MSK Returns and donate the 5 cents to the church. Our latest check for Christian Education camperships totaled \$141.50!

Lenten Fish Dinner - March 29

Haddock dinners with fish fresh from Boston, homemade 3-cheese macaroni & cheese, cole slaw, Italian bread, dessert. Eat in or take out. Meals cost \$11, or for ages 6-12 \$5, ages 5 & under FREE. Pre-order and pre-pay on Sundays in Fellowship Hall or return form below, with payment, by March 25.

Fish Dinner Order for March 29

Name _____

Phone Number _____

	Dine In	Take Out
Adult	_____	_____
Child age 6-12	_____	_____
Child 5 & under FREE	_____	_____
Total \$	_____	

Decadent desserts served at pre-Lenten meal



Members of the Hospitality & Fellowship Committee worked with the Christian Education team to serve lunch and an assortment of decadent desserts on March 3, as the movie, *Pay It Forward* was presented. Sunday School families will practice paying forward acts of kindness during Lent. Pictured are, from left, Lorrie LaDuke, Donna Auyer, Cathy Temple and Lori Tobias

Outreach & Missions News
by Eric Holmes, Commission Chair

Outreach continues to do God’s work from Lights on the Lake bus trips, helping needy families with Christmas gifts, supporting the Brown Memorial “Christmas Store”, preparing and serving Sunday dinner at Brown Memorial UMC, preparing cookies for the Rescue Mission, putting together “Flood Buckets” and collecting Super Bowl Soup for the St. Joseph’s food Pantry and Blessings in a Backpack. All are welcome to join in our mission.

In January, the Outreach Committee met at the Mission Central HUB for a talk by Mike Block (Director of Mission Engagement). The HUB gives us the opportunity to get together and be the hands and feet of God right here in Upper New York and around the world. It is located at the United Methodist Center on Henry Clay Blvd. We became aware of multiple volunteer opportunities that we expect to take advantage of.

This Spring we are planning on serving at the Samaritan Center, serving a Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner and holding a Mother’s Day Plant sale to raise money for the Mission Possible fund that supports Red Bird and other mission efforts.

Finally, Outreach brings to mind a favorite Christian singer-songwriter, Jason Gray, with these lyrics from his song “With Every Act of Love”. Outreach efforts are essentially acts of love.

With every act of love
Jesus, help us carry You
Alive in us, Your light shines through
With every act of love
We bring the kingdom come

Check out our bulletin board or contact one of the Outreach Committee members. There are opportunities for you to participate. Outreach is not just for committee members. Please do not hesitate to contact me at ebholmes.cuse@gmail.com or 315-546-3515.

Senior Ministry News
by Sarah Bieling, Director

1950’s-themed dinner - Friday, April 26 at 6 pm

We begin 2019 with our popular 1950’s-themed dinner catered by the LFUMC Men’s Club in Fellowship Hall. The meal will be served family style and includes Hoffman hot dogs and coneys, salt potatoes, beans, macaroni salad, potato chips, iced tea, lemonade and ice cream floats or dishes of ice cream. The program, *The Story of the Schubert Brothers*, will be presented by Gregg Tripoli, Onondaga Historical Association’s executive director.

There will be reserved seating by tables. Reservations are due March 31. Your check received (payable to LFUMC Senior Ministries) is your reservation. Include your phone number on your check and note who you would like to sit with. Checks may be brought to church or mailed to Sarah Bieling 2 Cty Rte 10, Pennellville NY 13132.

Lunch & Movie at Spaghetti Warehouse - Wednesday, May 15

Reservations are being accepted for the May 15 lunch and movie at Spaghetti Warehouse: \$20 per person - Arrive at Spaghetti Warehouse at 11:30 am for lunch at noon.

Meal orders will be taken at the table (choice of spaghetti & meatballs, 15-layer lasagna, fettuccini alfredo, grilled chicken caesar salad, or four-cheese manicotti). The movie, *The Fuller Brush Man*, will be shown at 1 pm.

The Church Bus is available for the first 12 people who need it most. Contact Sara for information.

Keto Konnect
a LFUMC food & fellowship group!
Meets the 4th Thursdays at 6:00pm

Living a Keto lifestyle?
Join us as we share our favorite keto friendly dishes and recipes

**New to Keto?
Curious about Keto?**
No need to bring anything but an appetite!

Food - Fellowship - Fun

CONTACT KAREN GLOYD AT 315-457-5180 FOR DETAILS

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