

THE NEWSLETTER

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, HONEOYE, NY 14471

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

The Church Council will meet on Monday of month, February 7th at 7 pm in the church conference room.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU DINNER

Do you wish you could get to know other members of the congregation better? We are going to try another *Getting To Know You Dinner* and you can choose if you want to be involved. When you or your family sign up, your names will go into a hat. On February 17 groups of 8-10 people will be randomly selected to have a shared dinner between 5-7:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 27 at a host's home. Everyone will bring something for the meal.

On Sunday, February 6 and 13, you will find a sign-up sheet in the bulletin to fill out and put into the collection plate. The information needed: your name, number of people coming, phone number, and if you are willing and can host 8-10 people in your home. The Hosts chosen will get a phone call with a letter to follow indicating with whom your dinner will be. Those going will receive a letter in the mail letting them know where the inner will be. The host will coordinate the dinner. Call the office if you have any questions (229-5302).

MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

On Thursday mornings at the church from 10 to 11:15 am or so, an informal men's group will gather for coffee and discussion in the Church Library. The discussion will be around current events, editorials, internet articles and other interests generated by participants in the group. Come and see. The coffee will be ready. Questions, see Brian.



BLOOD DRIVE FEBRUARY 24 AT UCC


1:45 – 7:00 PM

February 2 from 5-7pm



Spaghetti Dinner

Profits to be donated for Salem Bus
Tokens & the Western Ontario
Red Cross



A Message From Brian

I finished up in January with physical therapy for the injury from my broken pelvis. I reflect back on the very first day I went to PT. I walked with the walker and could hardly move or tolerate much weight on my left leg. It was weak and uncoordinated from eight weeks of not using it. The physical therapist gave me the exercises that at first seemed impossible. They were simple ones, like squeezing a soccer ball between my legs, flexing the muscles in my leg, and using surgical tubing exercises to strengthen my hamstring. I did them most every day, visiting the therapist twice a week for a while then once a week. Walking without aid and riding a bicycle again seem a long way away. But each Sunday you and I could measure the progress I made by what I could do at church as far as walking and stairs were concerned. It was a slow process. I was determined to walk and to ride my bicycle again and now, as you can see, I am almost there.

Physical therapy is about taking small incremental steps by using exercises over a period of time to strengthen a part of the body to achieve a desired result. The very same reasoning applies to ST, "spiritual therapy." As Christians, spiritual therapy is even more important than physical therapy because it can help us have a healthier relationship with God and our own souls. What kind of spiritual therapy exercises do we need in our lives? They will be different for different people depending on what our souls need.

There are some basic exercises. One exercise of spiritual therapy is attending worship on Sunday mornings. Such an exercise reminds us that there is a God and that God is at work in our world and in our lives. In a culture that wants us to be busy all the time, tries to convince us that the only things that matter — have to be bought and/or that having "more" is the only worthwhile pursuit of life, this spiritual therapy exercise is necessary.

Another spiritual therapy practice is prayer. Have a hard time praying now? Try praying for just a minute every day, after a few days, add a minute more. In a few weeks time, prayer could become part of your daily life, if it is not all ready. Daily prayer makes us more aware of who we are and

whose we are. It helps us to hear God speaking through the people and events that are around us.

A third spiritual exercise is reading the Bible. The Bible is a big book and often hard to understand. Large doses tend to weight heavy and frustrate the reader. Pick one book, like the Gospel According to Matthew; read it daily, a few paragraphs at a time. Keep a small notebook and jot down what you don't understand, what leaps out at you, what comforts you or challenges you and in what ways. Do it a little every day and before long you will have read one book of the Bible. When you are ready, join the Tuesday Morning Bible Study or talk to another person or me about what you are reading.

A fourth spiritual exercise is reflecting on and discovering what you can do to make a difference in the world. Or to put it another way, what is God calling you to be and do? Or still another way, how are you using the gifts God has given you? Spiritual growth may be personal but it means moving out and risking yourself in the world. Like in PT only those who push themselves get results.

A fifth spiritual exercise is community. We need other people to help us grow spiritually. Those other people may come in the form of a book read that broadens us. Most often it comes in a small group within the life of a community of faith where we can safely ask questions and learn from one another. God has given us one another. We need to nurture relationships in community. There are really no Lone Ranger Christians.

A sixth spiritual exercise is generosity — the sharing of your gifts, time, money but most of all yourself in ways that make a difference. It is about investing. A trip to Salem Soup Kitchen, a Saturday in the food pantry, driving a neighbor to a doctor's appointment, being an advocate for another or visiting a shut-in refreshes the soul in ways that cannot be known until it is done on a regular basis.

Spiritual therapy is what being a Christian is all about. In the end, it is God's Spirit who works the wonders in our lives. Spiritual therapy helps us to be ready and receptive to the Spirit's moving.

Peace, Brian



TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

On Tuesday mornings from 10 to 11:30 a.m. you are invited to participate in reviewing the scripture texts for the next Sunday's worship service. The discussion is free and flowing, no prior Biblical knowledge required, only the freedom to ask questions, make comments, laugh and deepen your understanding of the Bible. Come each Tuesday, or as you can. **Please note**, if Honeoye Central School is closed for snow day, there will be no Bible Study.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR FEBRUARY

February 6

Isa 58:1-9a (9b-12)
Psalm 112:1-9 (10)
1 Cor 2:1-12, (13-16)
Matt 5:13-20

February 13

Deut. 30:15-20
Psalm 119:1-8
1 Cor 3:1-9
Matt 5:21-37

February 20

Levi 19:1-2, 9-18
Psalm 119:33-40
1 Cor 3:10-11, 16-23
Matt 5:38-48

February 27

Isa 49:8-16a
Psalm 131
1 Cor 4:1-5
Matt: 6:24-34

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Meet Sunday after worship, February 6 11:15am -1:00pm after worship in the downstairs theater.

WINTER PARKING

Winter always provides a challenge in the parking lot. If you are steady of balance and sure of foot consider parking farther away from the church building so those who have more trouble walking can park closer. Also, be on the lookout for those who might need a steadying arm as you enter and leave the church building.

INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

Sunday, February 6 during the Sunday Worship. All reelected and newly elected people are asked to be present.

MARDI GRAS PARTY

To begin the Lenten Season – the Board of Community Life is hosting a Mardi Gras party on Sunday, March 6th after worship. The celebration will include party favors, masks, beads and decorations. For luncheon – there will be a New Orleans' style Chicken Gumbo Creole with a special King's Cake. Then join us for an exciting game of Bunko for prizes.
The Board of Community Life

SERVING AT SALEM

On Monday, February 7, and on the first Monday of the each month you are invited to participate in the Salem Nutrition Center (Soup Kitchen) noon lunch ministry. We will car pool on February 7, leave at 9 am from the church and return no later than 2:30pm. Please contact Brian (229-5302) if you have questions.

DUNKIRK CONFERENCE CENTER CAMPS 2011

Want to learn how to ride a horse? We have a weekend camp for you. Itching for family camp in the spring and just can't wait till July? Try our mini-camp over Memorial Day weekend – you will explore every inch of our 110 acres.

Like to play soccer, swim, bike or scrapbook? We have all new week-long camps just for you. Our traditional youth and family camps offer you fund, fellowship and friendships. All new week-long campers get 50% off full fees. Discounts are also available.

If you are interested in obtaining more information, please see Lizz in the office or go on line: dunkirkcc.com.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Are you interested in formally becoming a member of the congregation? On Sunday, February 13th, new members will be received during the Sunday worship service. If you are interested in joining the congregation, please contact the pastor as soon as possible so he can meet with you and answer questions you may have and receive further information about the congregation.



**DINNER AND A MOVIE:
THE AFRICAN QUEEN**

Come for this evening of good food, good company and a good movie Saturday evening February 5 at church. All are welcome for dinner and a movie. Dinner will at 6 p.m. and be simple and designed potluck: please bring prepared soup, salad, bread or dessert to share. At 7 p.m. we will move to the church movie theater with a large screen, theater seating and surround sound.

The African Queen is a 1951 adventure drama film adapted from the 1935 novel of the same name by C. S. Forester. The film was directed by John Huston. The film stars Humphrey Bogart (who won the Academy Award for Best Actor – his only Oscar), and Katharine Hepburn. Samuel and Rose Sayer, brother and sister are British Methodist missionaries in the village of Kungdu in German East Africa in 1914 during World War I. Their mail and supplies are delivered by the rough-and-ready Canadian boat captain Charlie Allnut of the African Queen, whose coarse behavior they tolerate in a rather stiff manner. When Charlie warns them that war has broken out between Germany and Britain, the Sayers choose to stay on, only to witness the Germans burning down the mission village and herding the villagers away. When Samuel protests, he is beaten by a German soldier. After the Germans leave, Samuel becomes delirious with fever and soon dies. Charlie returns shortly afterward. He helps Rose bury her brother, and they set off in the African Queen. During the first part of their journey down the river Rose comes up with a plan to sink a German gunboat, the Louisa which patrols a large lake downriver, effectively blocking any British counter-attacks. The plan is to convert the African Queen into a torpedo boat, and sink the Louisa. Charlie points out that navigating the river would be suicidal: to reach the lake they would have to pass a German fort and negotiate several dangerous rapids. But Rose is insistent and eventually persuades him to go along with the plan. It is a

beautiful film, full of adventure, starring two very gifted actors.

March 5 will be our next dinner and a movie. If you have any suggestions for a movie to watch, the pastor is always interested. The movies chosen are not necessarily “religious” movies but will deal with social, interpersonal, spiritual or personal struggle, or just for fun.



February BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Kelsey Fox,
- 5 Cathy Keyes, Grace Blackmer
- 6 Elaine Linnehan, Karen Yax
- 7 Scott Wohlschlegel
- 11 George Wood
- 12 Kathleen Stevens
- 16 Ethan Pellittiere, Emily Yax
- 18 Paul & Matthew Walter,
Tom Thornton
- 21 Grace Mastin
- 23 Beth Stowe
- 25 Brian Krause, Don Pease,
Todd Geartz
- 26 Andrea Pellittiere
- 28 Judy Tallon
- 29 Sue Evans

Meals on Wheels

- | | | |
|-----------------|----|--------------|
| February | 7 | Ned & Louise |
| | 14 | Kerry |
| | 21 | NO MEALS |
| | 28 | Andrea |

Meals in the dining room run Monday — Thursday serving at 12:00noon. 24 Hour advance reservation required call Karen Patterson 683-4221 Mon & Tuesday. Call Dawn DiPilato 944-2836 Wed & Thur. Kitchen phone is 229-2201. All meals are provided through the Office for the Aging of Ontario County.

NAME TAGS AND WELCOMING STRANGERS

"When I was on sabbatical in 2010 I visited different churches to worship. Within the first several minutes I could tell how welcoming a congregation was or was not. In the ones that were welcoming, people smiled at me, said hello and acknowledged my presence. The people next to me introduced themselves and generally invited me to coffee hour or whatever else was happening after worship. As a stranger, nametags were extremely important (like everyone else I have trouble remembering people's names when first introduced). Name tags allowed me to associate names with faces and helped me get to know people."

So.....Are we a welcoming congregation? I would hope that we are. It is far better to err on the side of being overly welcoming than not welcoming at all. Wear your name tags as a sign of welcome and as a sign that you are a part of this congregation. If you need one, contact the church office.

E MAIL AND STREET ADDRESSES

We would like to keep our e mail list and street addresses up to date. If you have made changes this year in either, please contact the church office. We have a congregation wide e-mail contact list to be used as needed for quick communications. If the church office does not have your e-mail address or you have changed it recently please contact Lizz in the Church Office at 229-5302 or ucchone@frontiernet.net

BELL CHOIR NEWS

Kudos to the bell choir! They performed at St. John's Meadows, in Brighton, on Tuesday, January 18. Thank you to everyone who helped move equipment and instruments! The bells sounded GREAT!

NAME TAG ORDERING AGAIN

If you are new to the congregation or missed ordering one last year, we will be ordering more name tags again until the end of February. The name tags will be plastic engraved with simply your name on it. There are several ways of attaching to you. Your options are:

- Pin
- Magnet
- Pocket Clip

You can call the church office, 229-5302, or fill out a sheet from the Sunday bulletins and place it in the offering basket. Lizz

TELEPHONE MINISTRY

The Board of Christian Stewardship is seeking pledges to fund a project that has been approved by the Church Council. This is one of the projects identified by the "Casting Your Nets" initiative as highly desirable by those who participated in two retreats. Callers can dial a telephone number and listen to any functions in the sanctuary using the sound system, IE: Sunday worship, weddings, funerals, etc. The equipment operates automatically anytime the sanctuary sound system is used. Per the Church Council, the memorial fund paid for the one time expense of the equipment installation, \$2,900; this includes the installation of the telephone lines. The initial installation provides the potential of up to five simultaneous callers. The Council approved that the on-going monthly telephone service costs be funded by sponsors who pledge to cover the cost of a month; approx \$120. If you are interested in sponsoring a month or part of a month, please contact the church office or any of the Board of Christian Stewardship members. A pledge can remain anonymous. If you would like any additional information on the benefits or the technology of this ministry, please contact Charlie Johnstone.

The number to call to listen is

585-229-2022.

HELP WANTED!

The trustees would like to say THANK YOU to the many individuals who have completed a project on our list. There are many more opportunities for your participation as the Board identifies more projects needing attention in and around our church building! We are blessed to have many capable individuals in our congregation who we hope will choose a project and take responsibility for its completion. The chosen project would be done at your own pace, the supplies provided by the church. Please see the proposed list of projects below and on the bulletin board in the dining room. If you are interested simply sign your name next to a project. See Linda Johnstone or Bob Stowe for further details:

- ◆ Paint entry hall- 2 or 3 dedicated experienced painters could coordinate this project to fit their own schedules!
- ◆ Education wing men's room toilet paper holder repair
- ◆ Replace entry door to outside storage room
- ◆ Install flooring in education wing janitor's closet
- ◆ Music room shelf
- ◆ Paint exterior ceiling of main entry area
- ◆ Education wing bathroom facelift – if you can paint or install a sink please consider volunteering for a portion of this project
- ◆ Electronic documentation of church property and contents

Thank you, Board of Trustees

February 2



Groundhog Day