

Broad Street United Methodist Church

74 North Broad Street
Norwich, New York 13815
607-334-2895



NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER, 2011

Rev. Jeff Hale, Pastor
Rev. Nancy Hale, Associate Pastor

Our Mission Statement:

**We are a community of faithful disciples
of Jesus Christ, growing in faith, love and service
to God and all of God's creation
in Norwich and throughout the world.**

FIND US ONLINE!

Pastor Jeff e-mail: jeffh2@frontiernet.net
Pastor Nancy e-mail: nhale@frontiernet.net
Church e-mail: bsumc8@frontiernet.net

Web Site: www.BroadStUMC.com



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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Brothers and sisters in Christ, welcome to fall and a change of season. Today, I bring news of a change in my life that will affect you as well. During worship on Sunday, September 25, I announced that from January 1 to June 30, 2012, I will be on sabbatical leave. This has been approved by our Bishop, District Superintendent, and the Board of Ordained Ministry. At that time I will no longer be your pastor. Then, on July 1, 2012, I will start a new appointment at another church.

Why have I asked to do this? During my 27 years of pastoral ministry, I have tried to listen for God's call in my life. I believe God is calling me now to this leave as a time to listen and follow God's direction. Over the past year, I have felt a strong call to be involved in mission. During my leave, I will concentrate on researching, participating in, and offering myself to do mission work, hopefully in the Binghamton area, which has great need right now. I will also use this time to grow spiritually, help my parents, and take some time for myself.

As a congregation, you have been a big support and encouragement in my ministry here at Broad Street UMC. We have done a lot together to follow God's direction as the body of Christ. I am also thankful for Nancy's support as I begin this journey.

This can be a new and exciting time for all of us, even though change can sometimes be difficult. Please know my prayers are with you as I continue to ask God's blessings on your ministry.

This is not a final good-bye, because we still have three months before this sabbatical begins. I look forward to that time and all we can do as the body of Christ in Norwich.

Peace, Pastor Jeff

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE SPPRC

In the past couple of weeks, announcements were read in our worship services regarding Pastor Jeff's Sabbatical Leave and Pastor Nancy's appointment as Senior Pastor as of January 1, 2012. With the guidance of our District Superintendent, Jan Rowell, the Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee continues to meet on issues related to these changes, and we will keep you informed.

Feel free to discuss any questions or concerns you may have with any SPPRC Committee member: Kris Campbell, Mary Davis, Patti Giltner, Jim Ives, Al Kochersperger, Joyce Koterba, Mike McCollough, Seth Urie and Mary Webb.

Announcement read by Seth Urie and Mary W. Davis on September 25, 2011:

We are Co-Chairpersons for the SPPRC. As you know the Committee is like a Human Resource Dept. of the church and represents you (the congregation) in working with the Pastors and Staff. We would like to thank Jeff for his leadership within our church and our Community. There are a lot of questions, and the SPPRC will meet tomorrow night. The DS, Jan Rowell, will help with guidelines to use during this process. The SPPRC represents the church and has input on this process. May God bless Jeff and Nancy as they move in this direction – may God also bless the work of this committee and this church.

Announcement read by Jim Ives and Mike McCollough on October 2, 2011:

On behalf of our SPPRC, I would like to announce that Bishop Marcus Matthews has appointed Rev. Nancy

Hale as Senior Pastor of Broad Street United Methodist Church effective January 1, 2012. The SPPRC met this week and has been in consultation with District Superintendent Rev. Jan Rowell on behalf of Bishop Matthews. The Committee will be working on ways to help the congregation get to know Nancy in this new role, and best use of her particular gifts as Senior Pastor of Broad Street United Methodist Church.

THE CHURCH AT ITS BEST

For the past couple of weeks, people from our congregation have been busy working on behalf of victims of the recent catastrophic flooding. We have sent work teams to Sidney and other sites; we have provided bag lunches for 100 volunteer workers; we have assembled and delivered over 20 flood buckets and 30 health kits; and we delivered and served a complete hot meal to residents in Sidney. In addition, many of you have donated money for flood bucket supplies, and have prayed for our volunteers and for the flood victims.

All of these efforts are examples of God's grace at work in our faith community! But I want to lift up one specific event that touched me deeply:

On Sunday evening, September 18, we had planned to serve a hot meal to members of the Sidney United Methodist Church. Over half of the church's members suffered severe losses in the flood, and the church building and the parsonage were flooded with several feet of water. And all this was on top of the horrendous floods of just a few years ago. The people of Sidney are very disheartened, and we wanted to provide some moments filled with good food and loving care.

Because of a miscommunication, the people we expected to come to the meal did not show up. So our volunteers (some 15 of them!) decided to take it upon themselves to go **out into the neighborhood** and invite anyone they could find to this free meal!

This is the church at its very best: reaching out to people they don't know to invite them to a meal. This is the church demonstrating that it understands Jesus' parable about Kingdom of God being like a wedding banquet. When none of those who were invited showed up, the man who put on the banquet told his servants, "Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet."

We wound up serving about 50 people. We served some teenagers that were hanging out on a nearby playground. We served 8 hazardous material workers who came from places such as Georgia and Florida to help with the clean-up. We served mothers and children who happened to be passing by. We served two Sidney police officers who needed a break from their constant vigils of their flood-battered village. And we served one young man who, when he humbly came back for seconds (and thirds), said, "I'm just so hungry."

We took all the leftover food to the Sidney Moose Lodge, which was still being used as a shelter for displaced residents. They accepted everything we offered with gratitude.

It is this sense of reaching out . . . making connections with people we don't know . . . and sharing God's love in tangible, meaningful ways . . . that guides our sense of who we are as the people of God, in Norwich and beyond. We will have many more opportunities to **be God's love to our neighbors**, including our second **Church Has Left the Building Day**, on October 15 (see article in this newsletter).

I am so proud of all the things this congregation has done and is doing. I am grateful for each and every way that you claim the grace God gives you and allow it to work through your life to reach others. Thank you!

Pastor Nancy

WORSHIP MATTERS

Oct. 16 Laity Sunday

We will celebrate our “The Church Has Left the Building” mission project from Saturday.

Oct. 23 Children’s Sunday

We will present Bibles to our 3rd & 4th graders

ATTENTION UMW

Our meeting will be **October 16, 2011**. We will meet right after church fellowship time at noon in the lounge.

Devotions: Chris Casadonte DuMond.

Hostess: Lois Van Wagner

FAMILY FUN NIGHT AT THE “Y”

Come one, come all to the family fun night at the YMCA, **October 23rd from 5 to 7 P.M.**, when we will have the YMCA all to ourselves. Come swim, walk, play basketball, or use the kids’ gyms. We will finish the night with an ice cream sundae bar. Everyone is welcome – and bring a friend!

The Church Has Left the Building, Part 2

Last May, over 80 of our church members and friends left the building on a Sunday morning after worship to participate in mission events all over Norwich. It was a wonderful and grace-filled experience! So we're going to do it again.

This time, we will leave our building on **Saturday, October 15**, from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M., to organize a community-wide food collection project. We will set up and work at collection in various locations around Norwich, including outside some local stores, outside the church, and in the park downtown. You can participate by:

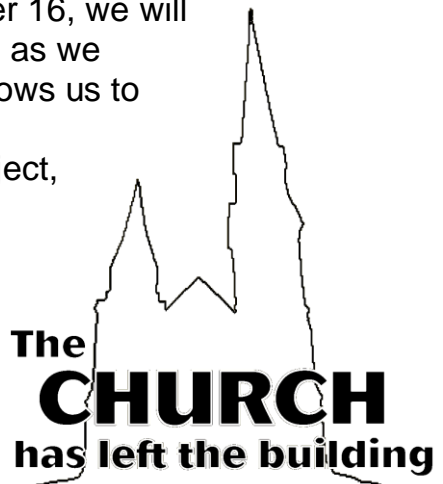
- Helping to set up a site
- Taking a shift at a site
- Helping to transport food from the sites to the local food banks

An important part of this mission project is the connections we will make with people in our community, to raise awareness about hunger in Chenango County, and to witness to the love and grace of God that enables and sustains our work in the community.

Another important part will take place the next day in worship. On Sunday, September 16, we will share stories of our experiences as we praise God for the grace that allows us to be God's love to our neighbors.

To sign-up for this special project, call the church office or use the sign-up sheet at the church.

If you participate, please wear your t-shirts! If you need one, we have a few left in the church office.



FLOOD RELIEF

The work to help communities in our area to recover after the flood will continue for months and years to come. We are still planning to form teams to help with the cleaning and rebuilding efforts. If you are interested in serving on a future work team, call the church office to put your name on the list of potential volunteers.

We also **still need to assemble flood buckets and health kits!** You can find a list of supplies for flood buckets and health kits on our church website, or you can pick up a list at the church.

FEMA ASSISTANCE

If you suffered any damage to your home, personal property or vehicle from the recent floods, or if you have lost wages because of the disaster, you may be eligible for FEMA assistance, including temporary housing, unemployment benefits, essential home repairs, and/or a low-interest loan for your home or business. To register, call 1-800-621-3362, or go online to: DisasterAssistance.gov. Please have your insurance information ready when you register.

MCC BOXES

We are preparing for our next round of MCC Boxes for the college students who were affiliated with us in one way or another and for those in the military who are serving for all of us. We need **complete addresses** for these people. Please send them to the church office or to Joyce Lawson at cjlaws5@gmail.com or 244-9433. Please get these addresses in right away. We don't plan on calling you for them this year. THANKS! Our next mail out dates are 11/6, 2/5 and 3/4!

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR THE FALL

October flowers are given by...

- 9th OPEN
- 16th Karen & Bob Kirkby
- 23rd Bob & Sue Blackman
- 30th Larry Becker

November flowers are given by...

- 6th Seth & Jeanne Urie
- 13th OPEN
- 20th Craig & Joyce Lawson
- 27th OPEN

December the whole month is OPEN

Please call the church office at 334-2895 if you are interested in any of the open dates.

OUR HOLIDAY BAZAAR IS DECEMBER 2 & 3

We hope you are all putting your creative talents to use with the Bazaar in mind. Be thinking of what you are able to contribute: time, craft items and/or baked and holiday goodies. If you have an idea, but need help, remember it takes many hands. Working together, we can look forward to a very successful bazaar! The Bazaar is the largest fundraiser for the UMW - so let's work together and make it happen! Call Jane Clement (336-9127) or Karen Kamsoke (334-7961) or the church office at 334-2895 and get involved.

THE RUMMAGE SALE

The UMW Rummage and Bake Sale on September 23rd and 24th was the best we've ever had. This semiannual event was once again a huge success for the United Methodist Women. The project provides a valuable service to our church and community by serving as a means for people to donate usable clothing and household items they no longer need and make them available for sale at nominal prices to people who can use them.

A great deal of planning, organization, and hard work goes into this event over the course of more than 5 days. For a few days, the fellowship hall was completely filled with a record amount of donated "stuff", and the kitchen area filled with an array of donated baked goods and salads. By Saturday afternoon, all was cleaned up and the room was once again available for normal use. UMW members, and all others that helped, enjoyed the camaraderie and fellowship of accomplishing this huge undertaking together. It does indeed take many hands. The conversation over a coffee or a lunch break, shopping for "bargains", chatting with customers or helping them with their newfound treasures just added to the enjoyment and satisfaction of putting this event together.

We will use proceeds toward support of our mission projects for the church, as well as various other district and community projects. Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way including donations, setting up, sorting, organizing, baking, selling, buying, making food for the workers, carrying heavy bags out to cars, cleaning up,..... **THANK YOU!**

MEN & BOYS OF BSUMC

As planned last spring, we'll be meeting on October 22nd at Denny's for breakfast. Plan to attend, and bring a friend. Order what you want and you pay. We'll meet in the small dining room beyond the large room. 8 A.M. meeting time. We're working on a short program. Come and enjoy a meal together, share some summertime experiences and hopefully have some laughs. Hope to see you there.



Gladys Trythall; Harley Hall; Ruth Wright; Charles Frayer; Alice Van Wagner; Amy Brillinger Pole; Corinna & Brian Fleming's son Sean; Ginny Clarke; Justin Narriott; Paul & Lana Roske; Matt Nelson; Lorraine Lawson; Pete Casadonte; Leslie; Kathleen;

Lawrence Mitchell; Ginny Hall; Jon; Appollonia; Amanda; Alice Dreyer; Mike Lapenta; Edwin Dunn; Joe Hurlburt & Family; Seia Ceiahoben; Claire Elizabeth Hanson; Marion Barnes; Catherine Hodgson; Tracy Brown; The Beasock Family; Myrna DuMond, Robert Casadonte; Beverly Ray; Earl Barnes; Mary Ward; Sue Carter; Caregivers; our shut-ins; world leaders; peace in Uganda; People of Iraq, People of Haiti.

Military Personnel: Joseph Harrison; Eric McNeisch; Jeremy McNeil; Chris Curnalia; Ricky Kozlowski; Cody Christophersen; Brian Bosworth.

Please look over the prayer list. If you listed a name that now can be taken off, please call the church office at 334-2895 to let us know.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 01 Margaret Davis
- 02 Mike Ford
- 05 Mable Dilworth
- 06 John Hunt
- 10 Evelyn Barnhart, Tom Holmes
- 11 Steve Runion
- 12 Earl Barnes, Jonathan Stockton, Karen Austin
- 14 Wanda Degear, Sharon Sandburg
- 16 Tim Burgher
- 17 Bruce Cramer, George Harrington
- 20 Pauline Hopson
- 21 Al Austin
- 24 Michele Van Gulp
- 25 Lanny McAveigh, Deb Johnson
- 26 Vicki Cummings
- 27 Laura Holmes, Gregory Rifanburg

Please call the office (334-2895) if you wish to add your birthday to the list!

THANKSGIVING BOXES

Again this year the UCC church will be giving out food boxes for Thanksgiving. If you are in need of a food basket please call our church office at 334-2895 to become registered. The deadline to register is Wednesday October 17th

USE OF CHURCH FACILITIES

We are very fortunate to have a large, versatile church building, and we are fortunate to have a hard – working Board of Trustees who care for the property. Our facilities are available for use by non-profits organizations and individuals, according to the following fee schedule:

Use of the fellowship hall or kitchen

for church members: \$25

for non members: \$100

Use of chairs

for church members: no charge

for non- members: 50 cents/ chair

Use of brown wooden tables

for church members: no charge

for non church members: \$1.00/ table

Note: Everyone using or renting chairs and/or tables must sign a form in the office. Pick-up and returns must be made during office hours only.

Information regarding the use of church facilities for weddings and funerals is available in the church office.

CHURCH BATHROOMS

Thanks to a generous donation from the United Methodist Women (UMW) improvements are being made in the church bathrooms.

Thank you to Mike McCollough for coordinating paint colors and selecting curtain fabric. Thank you to Gary Thorne for the hours of painting the bathroom. And thank you Laurie Johnson for all of her time making the beautiful new curtains.

We are so fortunate have such skilled and dedicated members in our church.