

The Bell Ringer

of the
United Methodist Church of Cooperstown
66 Chestnut Street, Cooperstown NY 13326

Telephone: (607) 547-9540 NOVEMBER 2011 Email: ctownumc@gmail.com
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Harvest Dinner

Turkey, all trimmings, and homemade pie will be served at the annual Harvest Dinner on Saturday, November 12 from 4:30-7 p.m. Come and enjoy a bountiful meal and good fellowship with the church family and friends in the community. Or consider purchasing a ticket if you are unable to join us – it will help support our fundraising for Ministry Shares.

As always, your help is needed – distributing posters, adopt or roast a turkey, prepare food, donate ingredients, serve and clean up. Sign-up sheets will be in the Fellowship Room. Linda Smirk is chair, 547-2532. Please let her know what you would like to do to help.



Operation Christmas Child

Shoebboxes filled with gifts are a project of Samaritan's Purse. Each year UMCC participates in this ministry, coordinated by Mary Beekman. Pre-decorated shoebboxes and brochures may be picked up in the Sanctuary or Fellowship Room. Please bring your filled shoebboxes to church by Sunday, November 13th. The shoebboxes are taken to the area collection center at Main Street Baptist Church, Oneonta. Last year, we contributed 56 shoebboxes.



Hanging of the Greens

Come and decorate the church for Advent on Sunday, November 27th after worship. Soup and bread will be served in the Fellowship Room. The tree will be set up on Friday and ready for all our special ornaments. Also tables will need to be set up in the Chapel so that the UMW can prepare for the Christmas Tea & Bazaar on Saturday, December 3rd. Call Judy Green to help with decorating or lunch, 293-7527. Call Sandy Chase to help with table set up, 547-6242.



Reception of Confirmands

On Sunday, November 27th, confirmands Amanda Gelatt and Janelle Harter will be received into membership in the United Methodist Church of Cooperstown. They have been studying with Pastor Sundar and Deb Samuel. Special projects have included visits to area churches, volunteering at Saturday's Bread, and serving as greeters and ushers. We give them a warm welcome.



About Our Church Family

Winter Addresses: When do you leave your summer address and return???? Please let Brenda know by emailing stdx06@gmail.com or dropping a note in Brenda's box.

Happy Birthday

Kathryn Mollach	01 st
Lona Smith	03 rd
Lucile Gilchrist	09 th
Zaidee Powers	10 th
Carl Banner	10 th
Colin Bliss	12 th
Randy Gelatt	14 th
Mary Beekman	14 th
Helen Smith	15 th
Eliana Shelnutt	15 th
Sundar Samuel	16 th
Kate Casler	18 th
Willis Monie, Sr.	21 st
Virginia Sherwood	24 th
Sarah Key	25 th
Jeanine Harter	27 th
Christine Becker	27 th
Rena Lull, Jr.	30 th

Happy Anniversary

Willis & Dina Monie 26th



Food Bank

The Food Bank continues its appeal for non-perishable food to keep the shelves stocked and meet a growing need for food. Cash donations are also appreciated. Checks may be made payable to Cooperstown Food Bank and mailed to 25 Church Street, Cooperstown, NY 13326. There is always a collection box in the back of the UMCC sanctuary -- please double bag. To volunteer, call Ellen St. John at 547-9653.



Flowers

For October are in Memory of Rod Davis' birthday from Michael and Nancy Davis.

Roses on the Altar were in Honor of Bodhi Kai Yao Gill born on October 22, 2011, to Marvin Gill & Melissa Yao, proud grandmother is Nancy Davis.



Stewardship Report

2011 General Fund Budget	\$ 135,000
Budget through September	\$ 101,250
Offerings through September	\$ 79,343
Below Budget	(\$ 21,907)

Ministry Shares

2011 Apportionment	\$ 14,669
Paid through September	\$ 3,802

Capital Fund Report

2011 Capital Fund Goal	\$ 30,000
Goal through September	\$ 22,500
Offerings through September	\$ 24,180
Below Goal	(\$ 1,680)



Thanksgiving Offering envelopes are in this newsletter. The Thanksgiving offering will go toward mission work this year. Remember to take a moment on Thanksgiving to thank God for all that you have received. Have a blessed holiday!

Special Giving Envelopes

During the year special giving envelopes are sent to members and friends of the congregation for *Lent, Easter, Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas*. Unless designated otherwise, the money from these envelopes goes into the general fund of the church to be used for the operation of the church.



UMW News

THANKS! THANKS! to everyone who helped with the rummage sale. Proceeds were around \$1,200. Donations were made of dishes, pots and pans, kitchen utensils, etc through the kindness of Bob Weidman. All clothing, shoes, boots, stuffed animals, belts and bags were put in the Drop-box at the Baptist Church for the St. Pauly Mission which serves the needy in the US and developing countries. The books went to the Village Library. Some clothing went to Headstart and Jail Ministry. The rest went to Salvation Army for use where needed.

THANKSGIVING BASKET donations may be placed in the box in the back of the sanctuary until November 20th. Any money donations should be clearly marked **THANKSGIVING BASKETS** and given to Nancy Davis 547-6137, or Linda Smirk 547-2532. If you would like to suggest a recipient of a basket, please contact Nancy, Linda, or Pastor Sundar.

UMW Regular Meeting will be held, Monday, November 14th at 11:30 AM at the home of Linda Smirk, 88 Chestnut Street. The World Thank Offering Service will be led by Linda. Bring a non-Thanksgiving dish to pass for lunch.

CHRISTMAS TEA AND BAZAAR: It's time to think about the Christmas Tea and Bazaar, a major fund raiser to be held on Saturday afternoon, December 3rd from 1-4 PM. Invite your friends, family, children, grandchildren to have a cup of tea and cookies with you and then go upstairs to do a little Christmas shopping.

We will meet November 28th-December 2nd to set up for the tea and bazaar. You may call Sandy Chase, 547-6242 in Ingrid's absence to volunteer your time and a sign up sheet will be in the

Fellowship Room as we will need lots of help setting up. We would like to have as many as possible of your bazaar items here at the church by Friday, November 25th, so we can get a head start on pricing. Chairpersons for this year are

Advertising: Merrilyn O'Connell & Joan Ackerman

Telephone Committee: Bernice Key

Baked Goods: Bernice Key

Kitchen: Ingrid Graham, Linda Smirk, Heather Hubbard & Hope Mofield

Tea Room Hostesses: Sandra Chase

Treasurer: Nancy Davis

Craft Tables: Gladys Howe, Alice Stiles & Mary Beekman.

Anyone wishing to help Sandy decorate down-stairs may contact her at 547-6242.

HATS AND MITTENS PROJECT: Hat and mitten sets in sizes to fit infants through teenagers are being collected again this year. PLEASE DO NOT BOX OR WRAP THE SETS; mark the size, and hand to Ingrid Graham by DECEMBER 11th.



EVERYONE IS INVITED to a potluck lunch after Worship, Sunday, November 6th. We will have a vision statement from the Retreat. Come and join us.

Jesus died over 2000 years ago.

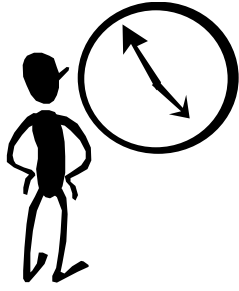
Nobody has ever referred to him as the late Jesus,

Not even the heathens.

Nowhere in history.

Nowhere has He EVER been referred to in the past tense!

He is the LIVING GOD!



*EASTERN STANDARD
TIME BEGINS ON NOVEMBER 6th*

Pastor's Page

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Tithing: A Leap of Faith!

Tithing Challenge

Dear Members and Friends,

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord and Savior Jesus!

This is the time of the year when you are asked to make a commitment to share your God-given gifts with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We all will be examining our hearts to determine the response that God wants each of us to make.

Our stewardship program is titled “**Tithing: A Leap of Faith!**” It begins the week of 10/30/2011. **Tithing: A Leap of Faith!** Will encourage you to grow in the grace of giving and to make tithing...ten percent of your income...a guide for your giving for ten weeks. At this time, it may not be possible for you to tithe, but you may be able to increase your percentage giving. Because of God's love, grace and mercy, I encourage you out of gratitude to give a predetermined portion of your income to God through our church. I also want to encourage you to consider opening the door of your heart to tithing.

As we grow in our relationship with the Lord, we will be empowered to grow in our giving. My prayers include the request that the Lord would continue in me a strong commitment to you, the people of our Cooperstown United Methodist church, to preach the Word of God in all its truth and purity. Knowing the power of God's Word to mature people in faith and even to transform them, I ask for you to continue praying that the Lord would challenge the giving patterns of everyone in our church.

Giving is an important way to express our gratitude to God for the gifts and blessings we have received. Giving reflects faith and trust in Christ. The tithe is a meaningful benchmark and a biblically-based guide for our giving; a goal to attain and surpass. Giving with loving, generous, and cheerful hearts gives joy to all who give faithfully.

Please consider joining us for worship during our **Tithing: A Leap of Faith!** stewardship program. May God bless our program and may God help you to be a faithful steward of all that he entrusts to you.

Your fellow steward,

Pastor Sundar