



## THE MESSENGER

Vol. 68, Issue 4

May 2024

### FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR:

Remember the scene in Mary Poppins of the woman who sat on the steps of the cathedral feeding the birds? Jane and Micheal walked with their father to the bank as an outing because Mr. Banks thought the bank would be a good way to teach his children about life. The suggestion was placed in his head by Mary Poppins, the children's nanny. Michael observed the woman and wanted to spend his coins on bird seed. But his father thought it would be better to invest his money in the bank and receive interest payments in the future. There is a dilemma, what do we teach our children? Clearly, we must plan toward the future to save some amount of money because there are times when we experience unexpected expenses. The house needs a roof, a quiet furnace, or a new washer and dryer. Life can deal us many obstacles we have to work through. Michael, in his innocence, is not looking toward the future. He is witnessing a smaller vision of hungry birds needing to be fed. Jesus tells his disciple about the man whose barn was so full that he could not store any more grain in it. So, he built more barns to store his grain even while his neighbors were hungry. Then the man died not being able to use the grain he stored away. Micheal could have split the difference and used one coin to feed the birds and the other coin to invest. This reminds me that Christian life requires us to balance our lives between what we require and what we can give away. One person's donation might not seem to make a large difference in the

world, although that one small sharing can change one person's life. When a church works together the impact is multiplied several times over. I pray we continue to work together and make a change in the world.

*~ Pastor Jeff*

*Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" ~ Isaiah 6:8*



United  
Women  
in Faith

*~ Nancy Schwab*

**Saturday, May 4th** - Niagara Frontier District Gift Day will be held from 9:30 to noon at Hamburg UMC. Donations to the various organizations will be distributed from 9:30-10:30 in the parking lot, and this is an opportunity to talk with the groups' volunteers. Coffee and baked goods will be available in the church. At 10:30 there will be a worship service and a speaker, Reverend Becky Naber, from Kenmore UMC.

Please leave your donated items (labeled for each organization) in the narthex by Thursday, May 2nd. If you would like to attend this event, please contact Nancy Schwab at (716) 941-3645 by Friday, April 26th. There is no charge for this program. Lists of items needed are on the narthex table.

**Sunday, May 12th** - This is United Women in Faith Sunday and we'll be celebrating the women of Churchill Memorial.

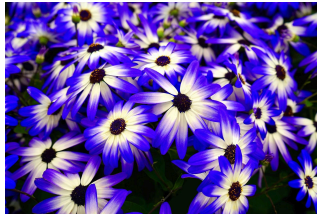
**Monday, May 13th** - Our May meeting will be held at the 3 Girls Restaurant at 6:00 pm where we will have a delicious turkey dinner: salad, turkey and dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, veggie, cranberry sauce, and drinks. Dessert will be brownie sundaes. The cost is \$24 and can be paid that night before dinner. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex by Sunday, May 5th. Join us for dinner and fellowship.

**On Saturday, June 1st** Churchill is presenting a Hymn Fest and the History of Hymns, Part II. Mark Vona is leading the music program which will include a variety of performers and sign-alongs of traditional hymns, gospel and spiritual songs. Also, a group of our women have made a new quilt to be won as a door prize by some lucky person.

There will be breakfast served from 9 to 10:15 am, followed by the Hymn Fest at 10:30. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased by sending the registration form [included here](#) to the church office by Friday, May 24th.

We hope you will join us for a very special music event. Invite your friends, family, and neighbors to come, too. All proceeds will be given to the Boiler Fund.

### IN SYMPATHY



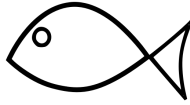
Sympathy extended to Donna Gilman with the March 31st death of her husband David.

Sympathy is extended to Terri Koester, Scott Koester, Kim & Shawn Cassidy and family with the April 12th death of Jim Koester.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all who have lost loved ones.

## **FISH DINNERS**

~ Mike and Joanne Campbell



The spring fish dinners were a big success! We raised over \$4,000 for the first time since before covid. The second dinner, in particular, was well attended with 236 dinners sold. For the two dinners we sold 422 dinners and profited \$4,080. Our goal before covid was to make at least \$4,000 per season. During and since covid we dropped to \$2-3,000 per season so getting back to \$4,000 was a pleasant surprise. We, again, got tremendous support from the congregation .... Thanks Much!! See you in the fall!

## **ANNOUNCING “HYMN FEST” The Amazing History of Hymns Part II Through Scripture, Stories, & Hymns**



**Saturday, June 1, 2024  
9 AM – 12 PM**

A Hearty Breakfast is included.  
Registration fee \$15.

Registration due by May 25th. [Click here](#) to access the form.

Door Prizes!



## AD BOARD MEETING

~ Mike Campbell

The Ad Board meeting was held on Thursday, April 18th at 6pm in the parlor. Attending the meeting were Gail Proctor, Sandy Wittmeyer, Nancy Schwab, Pastor Jeff, Doug Miller, Mark Vona, and Mike Campbell. Pastor Jeff opened the meeting with a prayer and noted that Ken Prawel was having heart tests at Gates and that Roberta Gard from the Colden church is not doing well.

Committee Reports - Mike gave an update on the Child Center, Nancy on the Worship Committee & United Women in Faith, and Doug on the Trustees. Doug reported that he and Shane have been meeting with boiler suppliers to finalize plans to replace the Child Center and Narthex boiler. The plan is to install a set of boilers like the ones installed last year on the south end of the building along with other required air and water handling equipment. There was no finance report this month. Jeff noted under Lay Leader that the Annual Conference would be May 30-June 1st. Jeff and one church member usually go. The meetings typically include reports by the various committees. Mark reported that we will host the second annual "Hymn Fest" on Saturday, June 1st. The plan is to showcase the myriad of diverse hymns throughout our land. The first Hymn Fest was a great success so we very much look forward to another music-filled, inspiring day.

Jeff recently announced that he would be retiring at the end of 2024. In Jeff's pastor report we discussed the process and items to consider as we select our next pastor. He said that the District will consider candidates this summer and would then offer a suggested candidate. The candidate and the church would meet, with each side required to agree with the selection. The church committee that will lead the selection process is the Pastor Parish Relations (PPR) committee. Anyone interested in participating in the process should contact Jeff. Jeff reviewed his current compensation compared to District recommendations. There is a possibility that costs for an incoming pastor will be higher. Considering the number of people attending church at Churchill and Colden, there is a possibility that we will get a part-time pastor. This would decrease the pastor cost, but also decrease the pastor coverage.



Jeff noted that we need to present our needs/expectations for the incoming pastor. Some questions we need to consider in this process are: How do we identify the church? What do we want from our pastor? What is Outreach to us? Jeff has recently updated our Church Profile which answers some of these questions. Some churches have profiles, some do not. This information is referenced by prospective pastors to better understand the church they are considering joining. It was agreed by the board that the various committee chairpersons would solicit feedback from church members on these questions with the intent to further update our profile. This is an opportune time for the church to reflect on what we want to be going forward..... goals, mission, etc. Please don't hesitate to contact any board member/committee chair with any questions or input.

The meeting was closed with a prayer by Pastor Jeff.

### 2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Pastor Snyder will attend the 2024 Annual Conference in Syracuse from May 30 - June 1. "With more than 100,000 members, United Methodists of Upper New York comprises more than 675 local churches and New Faith Communities in 12 districts, covering 48,000 square miles in 49 of the 62 counties in New York state. Our vision is to 'live the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to be God's love with our neighbors in all places.'" [For more information](#), please see Pastor Snyder.

### MESSENGER ARTICLES

~ Sandy Wittmeyer



Articles are due by **May 16th** to [churchillmessenger@gmail.com](mailto:churchillmessenger@gmail.com) for the June Messenger.



### CHURCHILL CHILD CENTER

~ Mike Campbell

Operations at the CCC continue to go well. There are currently 55 children from 46 families attending. The staff has been running a candy sale to raise money to buy more toys for the kids. We are lucky to have such a loving, caring staff! The CCC is also running a flower sale with baskets and various vegetables and annual flowers available.

The Center is donating \$15,000 to the boiler fund in lieu of having a 15% rent increase over the next three and a half years. The Finance Committee/Trustees were considering a 15% rent increase, but opted to get the one-time donation instead. It will be a big help toward our \$50,000 boiler fund goal.

### DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please note the following updates to the directory:

Marion Blomquist's  
%Atria Senior Living  
44 Pine St. Apt. 335  
Tinton Falls, NJ 07753

Charles (Skip) Endress  
1406 7 th Avenue SE  
Olympia, WA 98501


Joni & Byron Roth 716-982-8502

*God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.*

~ Hebrews 6:10



### MAY 2024

| Sun.                                                                                         | Mon.                                                                                                                    | Tues.                                   | Wed.                    | Thurs.                                                                           | Fri.      | Sat.                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                              |                                                                                                                         |                                         | <b>1</b><br>7 pm Choir  | <b>2</b><br>1 pm Bible Study                                                     | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b><br>9:30 - noon<br>District Gift Day<br>- Hamburg UMC        |
| <b>5</b><br>10:45 Service<br><i>Communion</i><br><br>1-5 pm Fellowship<br><i>Hall in use</i> | <b>6</b>                                                                                                                | <b>7</b><br>9:30 am<br>Spiritual Class  | <b>8</b><br>7 pm Choir  | <b>9</b><br>1 pm Bible Study<br>6 pm Worship Committee<br>7 pm Trustees          | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b>                                                            |
| <b>12</b><br>10:45 Service<br>UWF Sunday<br><i>Happy Mother's Day!</i>                       | <b>13</b><br>6 pm UWF<br>Dinner Meeting<br>at 3 Girls Cafe                                                              | <b>14</b><br>9:30 am<br>Spiritual Class | <b>15</b><br>7 pm Choir | <b>16</b><br>1 pm Bible Study<br>6:30 pm Scouts<br><i>Messenger Articles due</i> | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b>                                                            |
| <b>19</b><br>10:45 Service                                                                   | <b>20</b>                                                                                                               | <b>21</b><br>9:30 am<br>Spiritual Class | <b>22</b><br>7 pm Choir | <b>23</b><br>1 pm Bible Study<br>7 pm CCC Board                                  | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b>                                                            |
| <b>26</b><br>10:45 Service                                                                   | <b>27</b><br><i>Memorial Day</i><br> | <b>28</b><br>9:30 am<br>Spiritual Class | <b>29</b><br>7 pm Choir | <b>30</b><br>1 pm Bible Study                                                    | <b>31</b> | <b>June 1</b><br>History of Hymns Program (and quilt) Part 2, 9-noon |

*Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ~ Hebrews 11:1*