



Pastor's
Page



The Stepping Stone
July 2018

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

Philippians 1:3-6

Dear Church Family,

Grace and Peace to you from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

As I write to you this morning, my house is being packed and prepared for our upcoming move this Thursday. We are filled with anticipation and excitement! I am excited to be a part of the Faith Journey family and look forward to meeting each of you and getting to know your story.

I want to thank each of you for your faith and love. The outpouring of thoughtful words and cards has been wonderful. In this time of transition I would ask for your continued prayer support for me and my family.

I will be keeping you in prayer as we journey together. God bless you and your family this day and always!

In Christ,

Rev. Daniel J. Bradley

Druss Kususi

A program that tutors our New World Ministries children

Druss Kususi met twice in June. The first week the older kids worked diligently preparing for the Math regents. The younger children worked on math and ELA skills. For many of them school doesn't come easily so it is important to continually work on skills throughout the year.

The second week we said good-bye. Again, the older kids worked on their math skills. The younger kids made a potato bake that we were all able to enjoy afterward. This was one of the cooking projects that we had many requests for seconds. At the end of this week we gave them their gift bags. Every bag contained a workbook, three reading books, drawing paper or construction paper, markers, a puzzle, a game, a craft, and an outdoor toy. It is very important to at least give them the opportunity to do something besides sit in front of the tv or computer all day. One young lady was super glad to get a jump rope as someone had taken hers that she received last year and she loved it. Little things can be so important for kids.

We are now taking a break for the summer with plans to start up again in September. If you have any interest in working with children to improve their academic skills think about joining us. You don't need to be there every week if you are unable. We follow the school schedule and cancel for the weeks that they are out of school. You can be assigned to work with one or a small group of kids. A teaching background isn't required and is unnecessary to work with the younger children. A background check is required and a sincere desire to help children is needed. If you have questions see Kathy LaDuca.



Where do those empty detergent bottles go?

We continue to collect the empty detergent bottles and take them to St. Rose Roman Catholic church in North Syracuse. They have a group of people that have an inexpensive formula for laundry detergent. They then fill the empty bottles, and offer them to the folks who frequent the food pantry every month.

Keep in mind that food stamps (SNAP) cannot be used for laundry detergent.

The picture below shows the filled bottles, ready to assist those in need. Thanks goes to the team at St. Rose!



Upcoming Events

DATES TO REMEMBER:

July 1st: Rev. Daniel Bradley 10:30 Service

July 4th: Independence Day! Office Closed

July 14th: Chicken BBQ @ 11a.m. till all gone

July 15th: Methodists from Around the World

@ Andy's Camp - 400 LeHigh Road, Pulaski



BENJAMIN BURNETT

The son of

Ben & Lisa Burnett

is being Baptized, Sunday, July 8th, 2018

At Faith Journey UMC

Camps & Retreats Ministries

The Upper New York Camp & Retreat Ministry Area is excited to share our 2018 summer camp and retreat programs with you! Discover five awesome sites with over 200 programs. Summer Camp provides endless laughter, meaningful worship, and important friendships. Retreats provide a unique experience in a beautiful setting. Registration for 2018 Summer Programs is now open! Visit campsandretreats.org/summer-camp-2018 to browse all of our 2018 summer programs and to register. Refer-A-Friend (\$40 for the referring friend) Discounts! We've got big things planned this summer and we want YOU to be part of it! Register today! If there are any questions, please contact us at (toll free) 855-414-6400 or info@campsandretreats.org

July 4th, 2018, Independence Day!!

"...I urge that petitions, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all those who are in authority." 1 Tim. 2:1-2a (HSCB)

The Continental Congress approved the final wording of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. They'd been working on it for a couple of days after the draft was submitted on July 2nd and finally agreed on all of the edits and changes.

July 4, 1776, became the date that was included on the Declaration of Independence, and the fancy handwritten copy that was signed in August (the copy now displayed at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.) It's also the date that was printed on the Dunlap Broadside, the original printed copies of the Declaration that were circulated throughout the new nation. So when people thought of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776 was the date they remembered.

In contrast, we celebrate Constitution Day on September 17th of each year, the anniversary of the date the Constitution was signed, not the anniversary of the date it was approved. If we'd followed this same approach for the Declaration of Independence we'd be celebrating Independence Day on August 2nd of each year, the day the Declaration of Independence was signed!

Ministry

Last month I talked about saying good-bye to Brad. For many of us who have been a part of Faith Journey's predecessor congregations and now Faith Journey that was a difficult thing to do. In the midst of saying good-bye we are also saying hello to Rev. Daniel Bradley and Rev. Bill Mudge. We need to welcome them and Rev. Bradley's family and help them to get to know us and the ministry and mission of Faith Journey.

This process that the Methodist church undertakes when changing pastors is not an easy one for me. It is the second time I have been through it, as the pastor at the previous Methodist church I served also retired. As a Lutheran I find the process a little disconcerting and uncomfortable as there is not even time to get through the 'grief' process before you start all over again with someone new.

I am, however, reminded that the church is bigger than all of this. The ministry we are about, the missions we labor at so diligently are much bigger than any one person. We are members of Faith Journey. When we became this congregation not so long ago we came up with a mission statement and 10 ways we agreed to live out or into this statement. This is who we are and what we are about.

God is here. God has a purpose and plan in mind for us. And in the midst of changes in pastors, despite changes in members of the congregation, and perhaps changes in the way we do things, this plan is one we thought about, prayed about, and put into words as a way of defining what God is calling us to do here at Faith Journey. It's important that we are focused and continue to live out our mission and ministry as people of God at Faith Journey. When we are tempted to say, "This is the way we have always done it," we need to remember that we have only been a congregation for two years – so there isn't an "always done it" – well at least not a very long one. When we are tempted to want to continue to do worship or programs or ministry or mission the way we have become used to, or comfortable with, we need to remind ourselves that God has called us to a journey - a faith journey which we have agreed to be on with each other and with God. And that journey involves change and risk. Mission and ministry in North Syracuse and Clay can only grow as we grow in faith and choose to change and risk.

So, we have said our good-byes to Brad and welcomed Rev. Bradley and Rev. Mudge through the Service of Transition. And now, through the coming weeks and months we continue to serve God as God calls us to do as part of Faith Journey. There will be change, at times we may not like it, at times it may be uncomfortable, at times we may be angry or scared and at times we may embrace it. It is all part of the faith journey we have embarked on.

For all that has been, all that is and all that is to come, thanks be to God!

- Kathy LaDuca

CELEBRATION

On June 16th 2018, FJUMC celebrated Rev. Brad Hunt's 46 years in ministry. What a great night it was. Many people from Brad's past appointed churches and FJUMC shared stories, music and gifts. His family was present to share in his special day. Brad has been part of our lives for many years being our minister at Andrews Memorial UMC, Trinity UMC and Faith Journey UMC. We have shared his passion for God and for the ministry of FJUMC and he will be missed.

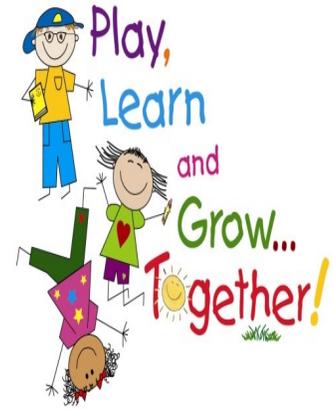
On June 24th, FJUMC shared in an amazing transitional worship in which Rev. Hunt began the worship and introduced Rev. Daniel Bradley, his wife Mary and daughter, Kiah and Rev. Bill Mudge. Rev. Bradley has been appointed to serve at FJUMC, full-time, effective July 1st. He and his family will live in the parsonage in North Syracuse. Rev. Bill Mudge is appointed to Baldwinsville UMC and Little Utica UMC and will be a

mentor to Rev. Bradley and to FJUMC. Rev. Mudge will reside in the Clay parsonage.

In Rev. Bradley's first sermon, he shared about his call into ministry and his passion for leading FJUMC into the future. We all continue to be on a **Faith Journey** and with Rev. Bradley and Rev. Mudge working with the leaders, staff and congregation of FJUMC, we are sure to grow in our faith and in our mission.

Please stop in to introduce yourself to Rev. Daniel Bradley





Registration is Open!

Do you have a little one? Do you know a little one?

Faith Journey's Little Steps Preschool is now taking registrations for enrollment in the 2018-2019 school year. We have openings for three and four year olds. There is a \$30 registration fee and the monthly cost is \$120/month to attend 3 mornings/week or \$80/month to attend for 2 mornings/week. At this time we will be open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. If you know of a little person who would love to join their peers for some fun, crafts, stories, and learning in a great place, have their parents contact the church office at (315) 598-0890 or stop in to pick up a registration form. You can always email little steps at FJlittlesteps@gmail.com

A NOTE FROM THE MEMORIAL COMMITTEE:

Faith Journey has an active Memorial Committee whose responsibility is to receive and keep an account of those moneys donated to the church in memory of a deceased member. The Committee also maintains a Wish List of items for which memory moneys may be designated. On that list are such items as new cupboards for the kitchen, air conditioning for the sanctuary, and upgrades to the sound system. For more information about the Memorial Committee, speak to our chair, Kathy Snyder, or to Rev. Bradley.



Southern Sudan Health Project

The retirement gathering proved to be successful for Southern Sudan Health Project as we raised \$3750. Now we have a total of \$6463. Thank you to all who contributed and who came to support Rev. Hunt on his 46 years of Serving God Together!

Methodists From Around the World



SAVE THE DATE: JULY 15th ANDY'S CAMP! ←

Methodists From Around the World July 15!

United Methodists from Around the World will gather at Andy's camp for this annual gathering.

Soccer and Volleyball games will start sometime in the morning. More games will begin at about 3:00.

Supper will be at 5:00! This supper will be a pot luck, with Sudanese, and Burmese and Nepali and Lao and American food. We hope to have more congregations join with us in this celebration.

Worship will begin at 7:00, where scripture and music will be shared in many different languages.

The evening will end with some special effects.

To see what it is like, check out the highly acclaimed video from last year (yes, it almost won an award).

Link to video: <https://vimeo.com/230657995>



To get to Andy's Camp:

400 Lehigh Road, Pulaski, NY 13142

- Take 81 North to Exit 35 - Tinker Tavern Road.
- Go across Tinker Tavern Road, then take your next right onto Lehigh Road (Route 2A)
- Go 2 miles and Andy's Camp is on the right. (Look for the sign!)



Do **YOU** want to be on the FJUMC email list? Please contact the church office at fjoffice@fjumc.org. If you know of someone else who like to be added, please have them contact Mechele Wright at church office 315-652-9186 or email.

Our "**Stepping Stone**" newsletter will be sent to everyone on the email list, rather than through the post office. If you would rather receive the newsletter in the mail, please contact church office.

WINDOWS AND DOORS FOR NEW BUILDING, In memory of Marilyn Knoop



Gifts have been given in memory of Marilyn Knoop for the windows and doors for the new building. Marilyn was a key leader over the many years of ministry of the Cradle and Beyond. It is estimated that the cost of the doors and windows is \$5900. About \$5710 has been given so far, with about \$180 left to go. These gifts will be recognized when the building opens for Cradle and Beyond and worship.

July 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:30 AM - One Worship service with Rev. Daniel Bradley	2	3	4 Independence Day - Office Closed	5 9 AM - 12 PM - Work- day @ New Bldg.	6 7 PM - Gambler's Anonymous @ Clay Campus	7 9 AM - 12 PM - Work- day @ New Building
8 Baptism - Benjamin Burnett 6:30 PM - Worship & Planning Meeting @ Clay	9 6 PM - Little Steps Meeting @ Clay	10 Drum Circle - Bring food donation	11 10 AM - Cradle & Beyond Board Meeting @ New Bldg.	12 9 AM - 12 PM - Work- day @ New Bldg. 1 PM - Mary Circle @ Ethel Hamlin's house.	13 7 PM - Gambler's Anonymous @ Clay Campus	14 9 AM - 12 PM - Work- day @ New Building 11 AM - Chicken BBQ
15**Methodists from Around the World at Andy's Camp, games starting @1 PM, Dinner @ 5PM, Worship @ 7 PM	16 11 AM - SSHP Meeting @ Gino & Joes	17	18	19 9 AM - 12 PM - Workday @ New Bldg. 6:30 PM - Trustees mtg. at C&B Bldg.	20 7 PM - Gambler's Anonymous @ Clay Campus	21 9 AM - 12 PM - Work- day @ New Building
22 6:30 PM - Worship & Planning Meeting @ Clay	23	24	25	26 9 AM - 12 PM - Work- day @ New Bldg.	27 7 PM - Gambler's Anonymous @ Clay Campus	28 9 AM - 12 PM - Work- day @ New Building
29	30	31				

Sunday Services Schedule

9:30 AM - Contemporary Worship @ Clay

11 AM - Traditional Worship @ Clay

12:30 PM - Traditional Worship @ Pitcher Hill Community Church at 605 Bailey Rd. in N
 Syracuse

Celebration of *Life*



JEAN CUNNINGHAM

1923-2018

Remember, Lord, those who have died and have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, especially those for whom we now pray. May these, and all who sleep in Christ, find in Your presence light, happiness and peace.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Jean Cunningham, 94, of **Baldwinsville**, NY, passed away peacefully on June 23, 2018. She was born on October 17, 1923 to the late Russell and Marjorie Austin in Canastota, NY. Jean was a cherished, devoted mother and grandmother; her greatest joy was being surrounded by her loving family. She had a special gift of unconditional love that was felt by all who knew her. Jean was a homemaker taking great pride in her home enjoying cooking and baking for family and friends and was known for her delicious Lemon Meringue Pies and much more. She golfed, bowled, and volunteered at Meals on Wheels until she was 93 years old. Jean's church family was an important part of her life and was a member of the ladies Mary Circle. In her younger years she enjoyed square dancing and singing at weddings with her late husband, Laurence, as well as the treasured 10 winters spent in a retirement community in Tucson, AZ. Jean was predeceased by her husband of 61 years, Laurence Cunningham; daughter, Judith Kenyon; brother, James Austin and granddaughter, Roxane Cunningham.

Surviving are her children, Dennis Cunningham (Cathy), Pamela Cassidy (John), Donna Klopfer (Fred), Harland Cunningham (Joanne), Jolene Peterson (Karl), Brenda Price and Theresa Dattmore; sister, Carol Gardner (Charles); sister-in-law, Lois Rathburn, 19 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Calling hours will be held on Sunday, July 1, 2018 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. followed by a celebration of Jean's life at New Comer Cremations & Funerals, 705 N. Main St., North Syracuse, NY.

Donations may be made to Meals on Wheels, 76 Canton St., Baldwinsville, NY 13027.

****SPECIAL DINNER AT FAITH JOURNEY UMC following funeral**



For the month of July I wanted to start a Scripture of the month. Something to help you on a daily basis, to remind you of God, to help you in every day life.

Keep me safe, O God, for in you I take refuge. I said to the LORD, "You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing."

-- Psalm 16:1-2 NIV



SUMMERTIME GRILLING!

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR...BBQ TIME!

With the weather getting warmer here in Syracuse and surrounding areas, and being outside more, I can smell the grills firing up. I love using my grill throughout the summer to save time on cooking and from getting my kitchen so hot. Be sure to try one of these delicious **grilling recipes** the next time you want something off the grill!



Italian Grilled Chicken Recipe:

- 4 to 6 Boneless chicken breasts
- 1 to 2 cups of Italian dressing mix

Directions:

1. Take a Ziploc bag and put dressing mix in and chicken, let marinade overnight for 6 -8 hours.
2. Grill chicken over med. Heat, turn over and slather more marinade on other side of chicken to grill. Cook till done.

Italian Dressing Dry Mix Recipe:

- 1 tbsp garlic salt
- 1 tbsp onion powder
- 1 tbsp white sugar
- 2 tbsp dried oregano
- 1 tsp ground black pepper
- 1/4 tsp dried thyme
- 1 tsp dried basil
- 1 tbsp dried parsley
- 1/4 tsp celery salt
- 2 tbsp salt

Directions:

Mix all ingredients together and store in a tight lid container.

Dressing:

- 1/4 cup white vinegar
- 2/3 cup canola oil
- 2 tbsp water

Directions:

1. In a small bowl, mix together the dry ingredients.
2. Store in a tightly sealed container.
3. To prepare dressing, whisk together ingredient and 2 tbsp of dry mix. Shake together and serve over salad or chicken.



SUMMER CAMPERSHIP



MEMORIAL COMMITTEE CAMPERSHIPS:

The Faith Journey Memorial Committee has money in the Memorial Fund designated for camperships. The committee has voted to offer camperships for the 2018 camp season in the amount of 20% of the Tier 1 cost for one of the Upper New York Conference United Methodist Church camps or Faith Journey Andy's Camp if a program becomes available. (Tier 1 is the true cost of camp and is explained in the Summer Camp 2018 booklet).

Applicants must attend Faith Journey Church, and the Memorial Committee would help accepted campers raise money toward their expenses. Anyone who does attend a camp and receives a scholarship would be asked to tell their camp story either in person at the Church services or write a written report.

There will be an application available from the Church office for anyone interested.

As a reminder, contributions are always welcome to the Memorial Committee campership fund. Thank you for your consideration.

LATEST NEWS!

MARY CIRCLE

Mary Circle luncheon will be at Ethel Hamlin's house on July 12th at 1:00 pm.

Cicero United Methodist Church Trip

September 19 - 21, 2018

Lancaster, PA, Amish Country to see "Jesus" at Sight & Sound Theatre, American Theatre Show, chalk artist, chocolate factory, guided tour of Amish country with stops & more.

Hotel, transportation, 2 breakfasts, 1 dinner all included for \$512 with gratuities added.

Call Mary Alice Scheel or church office 315-652-9186 for booking information.

Chicken BBQ

At Faith Journey United Methodist Church

July 14th, 2018

Opens at 11:00am till gone

Prices: \$8.50 for dinner / \$6.50 for just half chicken

Dinner includes: 1/2 chicken, salt potatoes, baked beans and dinner roll

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!!

***We regretfully share that due to the increase in chicken prices, we are in need of off-setting the price by increasing our chicken halves effective immediately. Thanks for your patronage and understanding.*



Sunday Schools

June's unit was Jesus Teachings – including the Lord's Prayer, The Birds of the Air, The Golden Rule and the Widow's Coins. July we will be studying The Stories Jesus Told – The Two Houses, The Two Debtors, the Mustard Seed and the Yeast, The Pharisee and the Tax Collector, and the Ten Talents.

Some lessons have more worksheets and coloring pages available than others. We are providing two levels of the worksheets most weeks, one for the younger kids and one for the older. This allows the younger children to work on more than just coloring.

[Nepali Sunday School](#)

Connie Clark works with the children during the earliest service at Mattydale for the Nepali congregation. There are approximately 15 children in that group. Some of the Nepali women and older children come down to help. This group has a lot of younger children, so they need extra help getting their work done.

[Karenni Sunday School](#)

The Karenni class meets at about 11:15 and can have up to 16 children in the group, although last Sunday we had 21. Children from age 2 through elementary school come to class. The class hears the lesson works on the booklets and enjoys the craft. The two and three year olds spend much of their time playing with toys available in the room and sometimes color a picture from the lesson. The work booklets continue to be a fun way the children enjoy challenging each other.

[New World Ministry Sunday School](#)

The Sudanese group has between 5 and 10 children. They enjoy the workbooks and the younger ones also spend time working on the craft. We are also singing with this group at their request. We sing typical Sunday School songs like Jesus Loves Me and the B-I-B-L-E, but also some songs about the Bible story written to tunes of popular little kids songs like Mary had a Little Lamb – so that they learn the story through song and are able to sing along.

[Clay Sunday School](#)

The Clay Sunday School has more consistently had one child attending sometimes others show up and there are usually younger ones in the nursery. We enjoy spending time working on the worksheets together and doing the craft. All school age children participate and preschoolers who are interested sometimes listen to the story or color a worksheet.

Cradle & Beyond New Building

900 N. Main St.

VOLUNTEER



Much progress has been made to the new Cradle and Beyond building. We continue to be blessed with dedicated workers and volunteers. Here is a list of the latest progress:

Electrical Inspection – complete

Plumbing – applied for permit

Windows – installed

Furnace and AC being installed

Siding being applied – ongoing

Insulation ready to be hung – ongoing

Do you have some extra time this summer? Work days continue on Thursday and Saturdays 9:00 - noon with a few other days mixed in during the week. We have a tentative goal of being ready to open for the Back-to-School season, but we need more help. All talents and abilities are welcome to help out.

Free on-the-job training is available.

Please contact the office 315-652-9186 or Mike Jordan 315-657-4199 if you have time to offer.





For the Month of JULY Faith Journey will be collecting canned tuna and Peanut Butter/Jelly for Brown Memorial UMC Food Pantry.

Empty Laundry Detergent Bottles



We are Collecting Empty laundry detergent bottles for St. Rose of Lima food pantry. They will refill the bottles with homemade detergent and give them out in their food pantry.

Seek

We *seek* God's presence in our lives, to help others in their relationship with God, and to strive to see God's work through all people.

Serve

We *serve* God through missions, encourage everyone on their spiritual journey, and follow the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Share

We create opportunities for all to share their gifts and talents, and demonstrate openness, acceptance, and hospitality.

God With Others

Office Location:

8396 Morgan Road
Clay NY 13041

Contact Information:

Phone: (315) 652-9186 or

(315) 458-0890

E-Mail: fjoffice@fjumc.org

Website: www.fjumc.org

Faith Journey UMC Staff:

Pastor Rev. Daniel J. Bradley

Kathy LaDuca - Christian Education

Kristy Lee Hochenberger - Preschool Teacher

Maryna Mazhukhova - Musician

Daniel Williams - Musician

Jake Melnyk - Musician

Mechele Wright - Administrative Assistant

Custodian— Sean Townsend