



Pastor's
Page



"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 will start again in September after school is in session. We are looking forward to the opportunity to work on skills, cook and enjoy time together.

In the meantime – if you are interested in helping out with this program there are several ways you are able to. First, 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 aren't able or interested in working with children we can always use donations. Donations of juice boxes – the larger size and only 100% juice please, Pop Tarts – preferably Cinnamon and sugar, S'Mores, Strawberry with frosting; paper plates, cups, plastic knives, forks and spoons, tissues are helpful. We also need to purchase workbooks for the kids so donations for food or supplies are greatly appreciated and can be in the form of gift cards to Wegmans, Price Chopper, Walmart, Five Below, Dollar Tree or Ollie's or cash or check. Make sure your donations are clearly labeled for Druss Kususi so that they get to the correct place.

If you have any questions please contact 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



TREY PAUL MATOUSEK

The son of
Kelli Ororke & Josh Matousek
is being Baptized, Sunday, August 26th,
2018
At Faith Journey UMC

DATES TO REMEMBER:

August 7th: Blood Drive @ 3-7p.m., Clay

August 10th: FJUMC Serving at the Samaritan Center from 12:30-3:00. If you want to volunteer, contact Beth Jordan at 315-657-5701. They will meet in church parking lot @ noon and carpool or you can drive.

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

August 12th: Serving at Brown Memorial UMC @3p.m, leaving church at 2p.m., come join!

August 18th: Cradle & Beyond Special Sale from 10-2, Fellowship Hall area, back of church.

August 26th: Baptism - Trey Matousek



CRADLE & BEYOND "ONE-DAY SPECIAL SALE"

August 18th from 10-2

Fellowship Hall area in back of church

DO NOT MISS OUT! This is a One-day Special Sale that Cradle & Beyond is holding. Come and get some amazing items, such as: Beautiful furniture, Women's, Men's, Children's clothing items, shoes, books, décor, craft items, children's items, games, and the list goes on...

- * If you have any items that you would like to donate to the sale, please stop by the church with donation.
- * If you have any questions, please call church office @652-9186 or email fjoffice@fjumc.org

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 camp-sandretreats.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



Upcoming Blood Drive, Tuesday, August 7th that will be held 3:00-7:00 pm. We are always in need of baked items and volunteers, so, if you want to donate your time or a baked item, please contact Beth Jordan @315-657-5701 or fjoffice@fjumc.org



Praise, Smile, and Grow Where You Are Planted

Praise the LORD!

Praise God in his sanctuary;

praise him in his mighty heavens!

Praise him for his mighty deeds;

praise him according to his excellent greatness!

Praise him with trumpet sound;

praise him with lute and harp!

Praise him with tambourine and dance;

praise him with strings and pipe!

Praise him with sounding cymbals;

praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD!

- Psalm 150 ESV

It was time to plant a garden. My wife decided to dedicate a portion of her little garden to the children. They would pick out what they wanted to plant, care for it, and then reap the benefits of God's miracle of growing plants and vegetables.

When Benjamin was asked what he would like to plant in his vegetable garden, he quickly replied, "Mashed potatoes!" If it worked, I hoped he would generously share the harvest with his dad.

The boring, practical, no-fun adult in us would be tempted to quickly respond, "No, Benjamin, you can't do that. Pick something else."

Hey! Lighten up before squelching a fun and creative idea! Mashed potatoes? Why not! So what if the neighbors see us! Let's even make a little popsicle-stick marker that reads, "Mashed Potatoes." Let's praise the Lord with a fun garden complete with mashed potatoes and maybe some Toll House chocolate chip cookie plants while we're at it! Praise the Lord with chocolate! And all of God's chocoholics said, "Amen!"

Who knows how the Lord might surprise us as we get on our knees at the end of the summer to see what miracles popped out of the ground! We adults need to get in sync with our children's faith and sense of joy!

I love considering how joyful God must have been when he did some planting of his own. Who would have thought that something great could come out of that little town of Bethlehem (Luke 2:1–20)? Nathanael learned that something good could come out of Nazareth (John 1:43–51). Have you ever wondered how the people responded when Jesus decided to plant a Saul in his garden to bear fruit (Acts 9:1–19)? Ever wonder why he decided to plant you where you are planted? Don't underestimate God or his ability to work miracles. And don't underestimate your ability to praise him as he deserves to be praised. Praise him for growing your faith in what you thought was an unproductive garden.

I love reflecting on the Lord's great sense of humor in planting me in the middle of this wonderful family and saying to me, "Grow into a father, Tim! I'll water you with my grace, feed you with your Savior's forgiveness, and nurture you with a life-giving Word. I'll provide a great cloud of witnesses to surround you and be an example for you (Hebrews 12:1). And I will let my Son shine brightly upon you as you grow. God has even placed a piece of wood, in the shape of a cross, over the spot where he planted me. It reads, "Timothy, My Redeemed Child." And here I grow . . . blooming, by his grace alone, where he has planted me. Who would have guessed?

What's next? In response to God's creativity and power, the Bible tells us that his people did some radical things! They praised their Lord in the sanctuary with trumpets and harps, with tambourines and dancing, with the clash of cymbals, with resounding cymbals (Psalm 150)! Some people are uncomfortable. Imagine what they would do if you started a church cymbal choir! They might grow into the kind of radical people God had in mind when he created them. They might just praise the Lord in a way that they have never experienced before.



August was named in honor of Augustus Caesar. It has 31 days because Augustus wanted as many days as Julius Caesar's month of July had*. Previously names Sextilis in Latin, it was the sixth month of the Roman calendar.

*They took that extra day from February!

"August, the eighth month of the current Gregorian calendar and the third month of Summers rule, derives its name from Augustus (Augustus Caesar). The traditional birthstone amulets of August are the peridot and the sardonyx; and the gladiolus and the poppy are the months traditional flowers.



August is...



Admit You Are Happy Month
American Adventures Month
Audio Appreciation Month
Black Business Month
Cataract Awareness Month
Catfish Month
Children's Eye Health and Safety Month
Children's Vision and Learning Month
National Eye Exam Month
Family Fun Month
Get Ready for Kindergarten Month
Goat Cheese Month
Happiness Happens Month
Immunization Awareness Month
National Back to School Month
Panini Month
Peach Month
National Picnic Month
Psoriasis Awareness Month
Romance Awareness Month
Sandwich Month
Water Quality Month
What Will Be Your Legacy Month

August Quotes

"Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?"

- William Shakespeare

"If the first week in August is unusually warm, the coming Winter will be snowy and long."

- unknown

"In August, the large masses of berries, which, when in flower, had attracted many wild bees, gradually assumed their bright velvety crimson hue, and by their weight again bent down and broke their tender limbs."

- Henry David Thoreau

"I celebrate myself, and what I assume you shall assume, For every atom belonging to me as good belongs to you. I loafe and invite my soul, I lean and loafe at my ease ... observing a spear of summer grass."

- Walt Whitman

"Nobody ever drowned in his own sweat."

- Ann Landers



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

Southern Sudan Health Project has raised over \$6463. Thank you to all who contributed and who continue to support. If you want to contribute, please pick up an envelope in the church lobby or contact church office email fjoffice@fjumc.org or 315-652-9186.

SUMMER CAMBERSHIP



MEMORIAL COMMITTEE CAMBERSHIPS:

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.



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.

Do you want to sing or play an instrument?

We are welcoming anyone interested in singing or playing an instrument to join the worship team during the 9:30 service. Practice is every Sunday morning at 9:00am in the sanctuary. Please contact Jake Melnyk at roadoutohere@gmail.com for more information.



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

We have met our goal of \$5900, but donations are always welcome to complete the building's renovation. Thank you to all who donated. May God Bless you in all things.



August 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 9 AM - 12 PM - Workday @ New Building	3 7 PM - Gambler's Anonymous @ Clay Campus	4 9 AM - 12 PM - Workday @ New Building
5 6:30 PM - Worship & Planning Meeting @ Clay	6	7 2 PM - Memorial Committee Mtg. @ Clay 3 PM - Cradle & Beyond Board Meeting @ New Bldg. 3-7 PM - Blood Drive, Clay	8	9 9 AM - 12 PM - Workday @ New Building 12 PM - Marcy Circle Potluck Picnic @ Clay 6:30 PM - Finance Comm. Mtg. @ Clay	10 12:30-3 PM - Samaritan Center Volunteering 7 PM - Gambler's Anonymous @ Clay Campus	11 9 AM - 12 PM - Workday @ New Building 11 AM - Chicken BBQ
12 Brown Memorial UMC volunteering @3p.m., but leaving church @ 2p.m., so, come join us!	13	14 Drum Circle - Bring food donation	15 6:30 PM - Little Steps Meeting @ Clay	16 9 AM - 12 PM - Workday @ New Building	17 7 PM - Gambler's Anonymous @ Clay Campus	18 9 AM - 12 PM - Workday @ New Building
19	20	21	22	23 9 AM - 12 PM - Workday @ New Building	24 7 PM - Gambler's Anonymous @ Clay Campus	25 9 AM - 12 PM - Workday @ New Building
26 Baptism - Trey Matousek	27	28	29	30 9 AM - 12 PM - Workday @ New Building	31 7 PM - Gambler's Anonymous @ Clay Campus	

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

HIGHLIGHTS!



NORTH SYRACUSE PARSONAGE RENOVATIONS!

What a project!

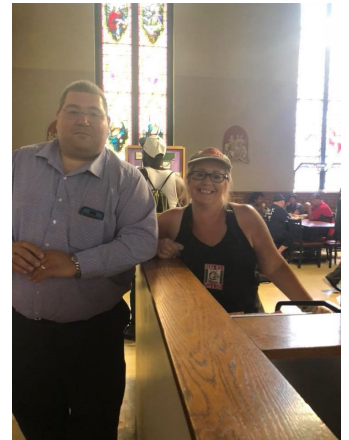
The North Syracuse Parsonage was cleaned, renovated, painted, etc. so that the new Pastor and his family could move in. Thank you to all who volunteered with the transformation! We couldn't have done it without you!



SAMARITAN CENTER VOLUNTEERING!

What a blessing to have all of these volunteers helping with the Samaritan Center. Check them out in action. They will be doing it again, information below.

August 10th: FJUMC Serving at the Samaritan Center from 12:30-3:00. If you want to volunteer, contact Beth Jordan at 315-657-5701. They will meet in church parking lot @ noon and carpool or you can drive.





For the month of August 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.

- May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him. So that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. -- Romans 15:13



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!

Grilled Teriyaki Chicken

- 4 to 6 Boneless chicken breasts, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 3/4 cup Teriyaki Sauce, divided
- 5 scallions, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 tsp. sesame seeds

Directions:

1. Take a Ziploc bag and put chicken & 1/2 cup Teriyaki sauce. Refrigerate for 4 hours or overnight.
2. Thread chicken & scallions onto skewers. You can also add pineapple chunks (canned, not fresh) onto skewers as well, or fresh veggies. Brush with remaining teriyaki sauce.
3. Grill until done and tender.

⇒ Serve this amazing Skewer with Fried Rice or on a bed of white rice with soy sauce. Enjoy!



LATEST NEWS!

MARY CIRCLE

Mary Circle Potluck Picnic will be held at Faith Journey UMC @ 12:00p.m.

Chicken BBQ

At Faith Journey United Methodist Church

August 11th, 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 are collecting School Supplies for the Nepali, Sudanese and Karenni children, all donations to be put on donation table July 29th-Aug. 19th. - Kathy LaDuca



School Supplies

For Nepali, Sudanese and Karenni Children

Collection Dates: July 29 - August 19

We Need:

- * Pencils (regular or mechanical)
- * Pens
- * Erasers
- * Loose leaf notebook paper - wide rule and college ruled
- * Composition books
- * Binders
- * 1 subject notebooks
- * Crayons
- * Backpacks - if they are generic in color and theme we can use them for anyone
- * Calculator - regular or scientific
- * Pencil holder
- * Pocket Folder



Thank You!



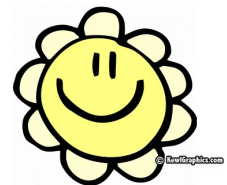
SMILES!

SMILES: Jesus' Style: A man entered a restaurant bathroom and found someone had written the question, "What Would Jesus Do?" on the wall. Another person wrote directly underneath that, "Wash his hands." The man took out a pen and added, "... and your feet."

Simply fun observations to ponder that will hopefully bring a smile or two to your face.

- Have you noticed that a dog gets mad at you when you blow in his face, but when you take him in a car he sticks his head out the window?
- Quicksand works slowly.
- Boxing rings are square.
- I always wanted to be somebody, but I should have been more specific.
- Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?
- Should vegetarians eat animal crackers?
- How come *abbreviated* is such a long word?
- Why do we wait until a pig is dead to cure it?
- Do Roman paramedics refer to IVs as "45"?
- It seems odd that *apartments* are known by that name, when they're all stuck together.

Smile It Looks



Good On You!

Sunday Schools

July we studied 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. During August we will be studying The People Jesus Met – The Man in the Synagogue, Mary and Martha, The Woman at the Well and the Many by the Pool.

Sunday School continues throughout the summer – although typical congregations in the United States see a drop in attendance if they do summer Sunday School the refugee congregations typically maintain their attendance as they do not do as much vacationing. So we are very busy.

All of the refugee congregations took a break from regular Sunday worship and Sunday School when we celebrated Methodists Around the World At Andy's Camp! What a great day and fun way for everyone to spend time together. The kids love the games and outdoor toys and the chance to explore the outdoors more than they typically can at home.

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 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.

Clay Sunday School

The Clay Sunday School has had as many as three participants two Sundays in July. In addition, there are usually younger ones for 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. During July we made a humility rock, a mustard seed cross necklace and some other fun crafts.

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

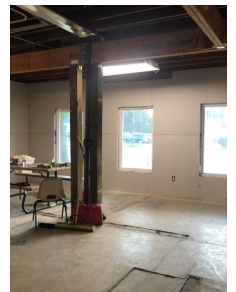
Plumbing – applied for permit

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 AUGUST Faith Journey will be collecting CEREAL for Anna's Food Pantry. @ Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church.

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