



Pastor's **Page**



The Stepping Stone

OCTOBER 2018

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."
Malachi 3:10

Dear Church Family,

Grace and peace to you from God the Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

This has been a beautiful September! God has blessed us with fresh vision for Faith Journey United Methodist Church. It is important to know that your Ministries Council is working hard to carry out the mission of the church which is to "Seek, Serve, and Share God with others." We look forward to growing from our time of transition and living into this calling as a people of God.

For today's newsletter article I wanted to share my heart with you. In my private study time I turned to the prophet Malachi for some guidance on tithes and offerings. I chose this passage as a reminder of the faithfulness of God. This is the only area where the Lord tells us that we are allowed to test him. Friends you cannot out give God and generosity is good for the heart. I want to thank you for all your faithfulness over the years to the Faith Journey United Methodist Church. Without your giving of financial resources, the church would not exist.

A couple of weeks ago during Sunday Morning worship the church leadership reported to the congregation on the state of the church. This was a concerning report because it highlighted the financial struggles that the Faith Journey Church is having at this time. Our income is less than our expenses and that means that every month decisions have to be made as to what to pay and what not to pay. Lately this has been coming too close for comfort. Weeks have come and gone where the question of paying staff or utilities comes first. Staff has and always will come first as we are obligated for their services rendered.

One of the most vital areas that has not been paid are the ***pastor's pension, health insurance, disability, and shared ministry costs***. This is a problem and it cannot go on as the status quo. The next few months will be critical as the Ministry Council makes decisions as how to meet these needs. I urge you to be praying and asking God how you can be part of the solution.

I realize that this might come as a shock, believe me it was for me. I have only been serving as your pastor since July and trying to navigate these financial issues has been a challenge. However, I am confident that the best days of this church are out ahead of us. God has not brought us this far to leave us. We are facing an extraordinary financial situation that can easily make or break this ministry. I need your faith and your support in this time to right this financial ship and to move forward with the ministry plans that are already under way. We need to lean on God and trust He will provide for our needs.

I am hopeful that by working together we can solve these financial issues and be poised for greatness. There has never been a more critical moment in life of the church which needs your active involvement to provide for a solution. Please consider your response prayerfully. If you have questions about the finances of the church please contact me at pastordanielbradley@yahoo.com or call me at the office 315-652-9186 or at the parsonage 315-314-6595 in the evening. I am looking for partners who together will invest in the future of this great church. Please consider becoming a partner in faith. I am counting on God to come through in our time of need.

In Christ,

Rev. Daniel T. Bradley

Druss Kususi

A program that tutors our New World Ministries children

Druss Kususi started September 22nd. We had 12 children attending. Because it was a special day at Path of Life we shortened the time for tutoring a little. We asked the children to come up with goals for the coming school year. In addition, we asked them to tell us what they are working on right now in every subject and what they think they need to work on. Of course, we had snack and lunch. We weren't able to do any cooking due to time constraints and not being sure whether we would have access to the kitchen or not.

With 12 children in the group we really need some more tutors. If you have any interest in working with children to improve their academic skills please consider 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. We provide a simple morning snack and lunch during the program. Most of the time the children don't wake up in time for breakfast at home and come in hungry. They also really appreciate having a meal before they leave. 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 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.



upcoming EVENTS

DATES TO REMEMBER:

13th - Chicken BBQ 11a.m.

13th - Church Sale 9-2

14th - Brown Memorial Dinner @ 3p.m.

18th - Shawn McDonald with Tim Ehrhart Concert
@ 7:00, \$5 admission with a canned food item.

27th - Roast Beef Dinner @ 4p.m.

October 31st: Halloween or Reformation Day!

63rd Annual Grandma's Old-Fashioned Roast Beef Dinner Saturday, October 27th, 2018



We NEED Your Help with the Roast Beef Dinner

You can help in many ways...there will be a fill-out form on the table in lobby, please fill out and hand-in, contact Linda Raulli or email me with what you want to do.

Here's how you can help:

- Donate Cash/Check to buy supplies
 - Sign up to bring a Dessert, Pie, Loaves of bread or other supplies.
 - Or, you can help work the Kitchen, Dining Room or help clean up.
- ⇒ Saturday, 9-12 (Kitchen)
- ⇒ Saturday, 3-6:30 (Kitchen)
- ⇒ Saturday, 3:30-6:30 (Dining Room)
- ⇒ Saturday, 6:30 + (Cleaning)
- ⇒ Saturday, Wherever needed

Chicken BBQ Oct. 13th

11 a.m. till is gone

Half Chicken, Salt potatoes, baked beans, roll \$8.50 or \$6.50 for half chicken.

Church Sale Oct. 13th

9-2 fellowship hall area

Come and get some really good deals on clothes, household items, furniture and more.

Concert



Our Christian Pumpkin

Our pumpkin lies on the dirty ground
With other pumpkins all around.
We pick it for its special role
Wash and polish, then a hole
We cut, to take the the seeds away
Seeds of doubt, greed and dismay.
A smiling mouth carefully carves
And all at once, our pumpkin laughs!
Two eyes we carve to give it sight
Then last of all, we add a light
And it's pumpkiny glory shines so bright
To chase off the shadows of night.

www.emajain.com.au

MINISTRIES

Path of life News:

Many of you have met at least some of the Sudanese, Karennis, and Nepalis who make up the congregations at Path of Life Ministries in Mattydale. They have attended worship here at Clay and used space in the former Andrews Memorial. They have been at Andy's Camp and have come to some special events here. Some of you have been to Mattydale to help with tutoring or Sunday School. The first Sudanese were actually members of Andrews Memorial.

There have been some new, exciting developments that I would like to make you aware of. The Karenni church now owns the Mattydale building. On Saturday, September 22 all of the congregations using the space held a worship service there together – symbolizing working together as refugee congregations in Mattydale. They then held a cleaning day and shared a meal. Everyone, from the oldest members to some of the youngest children participated. It was an exciting day!

The Rev. Sean Chanthasone continues to work with the Karenni and Nepalis in order to help them build their congregations and learn what it means to be United Methodist. He spent time explaining to me the hopes they have for building renovation and new programming. He has obtained some money from one of the national church boards to help fund some of the things they are hoping to do.

We are very excited about the possibilities that exist now that they have access to the building as needed which will allow them to have space for new programs and ministries.

- Kathy LaDuca





October shares a root with *octopus* and *octothorpe*—the Latin *octo-*, meaning "eight." In the Roman calendar, which had only ten months, October was month eight, as January and February hadn't been added to the calendar yet! The numerical name of ten stuck; even after Julius Caesar expanded the calendar year from ten months to twelve. *October* entered Old English via Old French, replacing the English vernacular term *Winterfylleð*.

October Flower:
Marigold



October Gemstone:
Opal or Tourmaline



October is...

- Adopt a Shelter Dog Month
- American Pharmacist Month
- Apple Jack Month
- Awareness Month
- Breast Cancer Awareness Month
- Clergy Appreciation Month
- Computer Learning Month
- Cookie Month
- Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- Eat Country Ham Month
- International Drum Month
- National Diabetes Month
- National Pizza Month
- National Vegetarian Month
- National Popcorn Popping Month
- Sarcastic Month
- Seafood Month

OCTOBER Quotes

October is the month for painted leaves.... As fruits and leaves and the day itself acquire a bright tint just before they fall, so the year near its setting. October is its sunset sky; November the later twilight. ~Henry David Thoreau, "Autumnal Tints"

October was a beautiful month at *Green Gables*, when the birches in the hollow turned as golden as sunshine and the maples behind the orchard were royal crimson and the wild cherry trees along the lane put on the loveliest shades of dark red and bronzy green, while the fields sunned themselves in the after-maths. Anne reveled in the world of color about her.... "I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers. It would be terrible if we just skipped from September to November, wouldn't it?..." ~Lucy Maud Montgomery (1874-1942), *Anne of Green Gables*, 1908

Listen! the wind is rising,
and the air is wild with leaves.
We have had our summer evenings,
now for October eves.
~Humbert Wolfe, *P.L.M.: Peoples, Landfalls, Mountains*, 1936



DROP-IN DAYS!!

Need something for your child to do on these **NO SCHOOL** days?

Dates: Oct. 8th, Nov. 6th & Nov. 12th

Hours: 8a.m - 12p.m., 1p.m. - 5p.m. or 8a.m - 5p.m.

Pre-K to sixth graders are welcome to spend some or all their day at Faith Journey United Methodist Church. We have supervised games, crafts, outdoor play and seasonal themed activities planned.

The cost is \$25/half day or \$50/whole day. Family rates are available.

Registration is required. Contact us 315-652-9186/fjoffice@fjunc.org

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 roadoutofhere@gmail.com for more information.



Southern Sudan Health Project

Southern Sudan Health Project "ELVIS" Fundraiser

We had a lot of ELVIS fans at the fundraiser as we raised a total of \$1040.25 for the SSHP!

Thank you to all who came and donated!

Recipes



I WANT YOUR RECIPES

Do you have a favorite recipe that you love to share with others, your favorite grandma's pie, aunt's cake, or your own creation that is absolutely amazing? Then I would love to have that recipe. You can email me with information at fjoffice@fjumc.org or call me with information @315-652-9186. Don't miss out on sharing...and if we get enough recipes then we can make a FJUMC Recipe Book. Can't wait to see all the delicious items! Thank you!

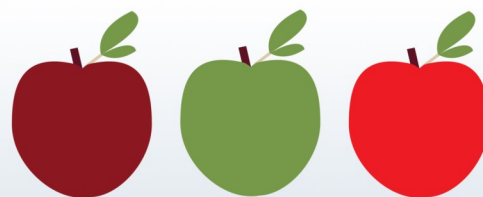
Recipe by: Linda Smith - Jell-O Pudding Salad

INGREDIENTS

1 8oz. Cool whip
1 lg. pkg. vanilla Cook-to-serve pudding.
1 pkg. Jell-O, choose your flavor

DIRECTIONS

1. Cook pudding according to directions but using water instead of milk. Bring to boil over med. heat. Take off burner and add dry Jell-O to cooked pudding.
2. Dissolve Jell-O, then refrigerate overnight. Beat the set mixture till smooth. Add cool whip, mix till well blended. Then fold in fresh fruit (strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, peaches, etc. are good) the more fruit, the better it is.



E-mail!

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.

October 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 3:30 PM - Connections Mtg. @ Gertrude St. Parsonage	4 9 AM - 12 PM - Work- day @ New Building 7 PM - Ministries Council Mtg. @ Clay	5 7 PM - Gambler's Anonymous @ Clay Campus	6 9 AM - 12 PM - Work- day @ New Building
7 World Communion Sunday	8	9 6 PM - Drum Circle @ Clay, bring food dona- tion	10	11 9 AM - 12 PM - Workday @ New bldg 1 PM - Marcy Circle @ Clay 7 PM - Trustees Mtg. @ New Bldg.	12 7 PM - Gambler's Anonymous @ Clay Campus	13 9 AM - 12 PM - Workday @ New Building. 11 AM - Chicken BBQ 9 AM - 2 PM - Church Sale, Fellowship Hall
14 3 PM - Brown Memorial Dinner	15	16	17 11 AM - SSHP Meeting @ Gino & Joes	18 9 AM - 12 PM - Workday @ New bldg. 7 PM - Shawn McDon- ald with Tim Ehrhart concert. \$5 ticket and bring canned food item.	19 7 PM - Gam- bler's Anonymous @ Clay Campus 7 PM - Big Daddy Weave @ The Gather- ing Place, North Syra- cuse	20 9 AM - 12 PM - Work- day @ New Building
21	22	23 Bishop Retreat - Pastor out	24 Bishop Retreat - Pastor out	25 Bishop Retreat - Pastor out 9 AM - 12 PM - Work- day @ New Building	26 7 PM - Gambler's Anonymous @ Clay Campus	27 9 AM - 12 PM - Workday @ New Building 4 PM - Roast Beef Dinner
28 Pastor out - Kathy LaDuca speaking	29 10 AM - Cradle & Beyond Board Meet- ing @ Clay	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



Fun Stuff!

SMILES: Jesus' Style:

An atheist scientist came to God and said, "We've figured out how to make a man without you." God said, "OK, let me see you do it."

So the atheist bent down to the ground and scooped up a handful. But God stopped him and said, "Oh, no you don't. Get your own dirt!"

Fun Stuff!

Q. How do you make Holy Water?

A. Get regular water and boil the devil out of it.

Q. Who was the greatest female businessperson in the Bible?

A. Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet. (profit)

Q. Who is the shortest person in the Bible?

A. Bildad the Shuhite (shoe-height). Nehemiah (Knee-high-miah) was a close second.

Q. When was meat first mentioned in the Bible?

A. When Noah took Ham into the ark.

Q. How long did Cain hate his brother?

A. As long as he was Abel.

Q. At what time of day was Adam created?

A. A little before Eve.

Q. Why did God create man before woman?

A. Because He didn't want any advice on how to do it.

Q. Where is the first math homework problem mentioned in the Bible?

A. When God told Adam and Eve to go forth and multiply.

Q: Where is medicine first mentioned in the Bible?

A: When God gave Moses two tablets.

Q: How do we know that cars are in the New Testament?

A: Because Jesus was a car-painter (carpenter)!

Q: What's the best way to study the Bible?

A: You Luke into it.

Q: How do we know that a lot of people in the Bible used fertilizer?

5 Verses to Breathe Life into your Dry Bones

Be still. Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth. (Psalm 46:10)

Trust Him. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. (Psalm 23:2-3)

Take a load off. Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will give rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light. (Matthew 11:28-30)

"A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones." Proverbs 17:22

Discover shalom. I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world. (John 16:33)





SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH - OCTOBER

Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight! Yes, what joy for those whose record the LORD has cleared of guilt, whose lives are lived in complete honesty!

— Psalm 32:1-2



FALL COOKING!

It's that time of year y'all!

Don't you just love it when the leaves start to fall, it's getting cooler, windows are open in the house and you smell the apple pie in the oven. I love going to the apple orchard and pick the apples straight from the tree, what a gift from God. So, take some time, sit on the front porch, drink a cup of coffee and let the whisper of God's voice speak to you...it's in the falling leaves and wind.

Apple-Cinnamon Monkey Bread

- PAM® Grilling Spray
- 2 cans Pillsbury Grands Flaky cinnamon rolls
- 1 medium tart apple, peeled & chopped
- 1/2 sugar
- 1 1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1/4 cup butter, melted



Directions:

1. Heat oven to 350. Grease or spray a fluted tube cake pan.
2. Separate each can of dough into 5 rolls, cut into quarters.
3. Place apple in a small bowl. In another bowl, mix sugar and cinnamon. add 1/4 cup sugar mixture to apple; toss to coat. Sprinkle half of apple pieces in pan. Roll half of dough pieces in sugar mix; place on apples in pan.
4. Sprinkle with remaining apple pieces. Roll remaining dough in sugar mixture; place on apples. Pour melted butter on top.
5. Bake for 40-50 min. or until golden brown across top. Cool 10 min.; run knife around edge of pan to loosen. Place a serving plate over pan and turn over; remove pan. Cool for another 10 min.
6. Drizzle reserved icing over top of bread, allowing to drizzle on side. Pull apart to serve!



One in six Americans face hunger. The Samaritan Center feed people who are hungry and do it well..

<http://www.samcenter.org/about-us>

Come help with FJUMC!

Statistics	Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only about 17% of people eating with us are currently homeless or living at a shelter. - - - • However, 51% have experienced homelessness in the last year. • About 13% of our guests are part of a household with children. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 67% have their high school diploma or GED - 49% have gone on to pursue higher education. - 12% of our guests are currently employed - At least 11% of our guests are seniors. - 22% of those who eat with us have no income at all and a total of 54.5% have resources that total less than \$500 in a month. • One third of those people have limited resources that force them to make difficult decisions between purchasing food or providing for other necessities, such as rent, utilities or medical needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FJUMC can collect YOUR change in order to make a CHANGE. When we reach \$500, we can sponsor a meal and volunteer to actually serve and feed guests on a day that we determine • Volunteer to go alone or bring a friend and serve during one of the daily meal times. • FJUMC can make bag lunches to bring to Samaritan Center for them to hand out to their guests on a Sunday as only one hot meal is served on Sundays. • Samaritan center also assists people as they find a home by providing them with essentials. Click this link to find out more: http://files.constantcontact.com/ae87b4ec301/41d05e0e-0039-466f-9d36-48982a88c321.pdf?ver=1519313757000

SAMARITAN CENTER



In September we started a new curriculum called Deep Blue Connects At Home With God. The first unit was about Jesus' Family. It seemed a little strange to the children to be talking about Jesus birth at the beginning of the school year but when all the sessions for the unit are put together it's a great starting place to learn about who Jesus might have considered his family. The sessions included Jesus birth, Jesus in the temple at 12, Jesus baptism (God's Family), Jesus choosing the disciples and Jesus and the children.

In October we will be studying a unit entitled, "We Are Family". Lessons will include Family Blessings, Joseph and His Brothers, Moses and His Sister and Sisters. The theme is, "Look at how good and pleasing it is when families live together as one!" Psalm 133:1

[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 is next. Children from age 2 through elementary school come to class. The class hears the lesson works on the booklets and enjoys the craft. The children often have to split their time between watching their younger siblings and doing class work. They have taken a couple of Sundays off as they have picnics or visit Sean Chanthasone and the Binghamton church.

[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 continues to have a number of children each week. 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. If you are interested in helping with any of the Sunday Schools or are available to sub when one of the teachers is away please contact Kathy LaDuca.

Cradle & Beyond New Building

7778 Brewerton Road

Update on the C&B building

Work continues, thanks to all the dedicated volunteers who give their time to help this vision come to fruition. We now have a working bathroom and a donor has come forward to pay to have the sheetrock finished (thanks so much). We have three bids for the driveway and are moving forward with identifying ways to get this installed. Please keep this important ministry in your prayers as we work to envision how to finish and utilize this space. Here is a list of the latest progress.



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

Working bathroom



Front wall facing Rt. 11



A/C & Furnace installed



Lights on outside building





For the month of **OCTOBER** we will be collecting paper products for St. Rose of Lima Roman Catholic Church, North Syracuse 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