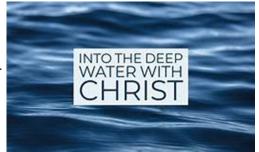


The Stepping Stone January 2022

There comes a time in our life when we have to learn how to swim, or we sink into the deep abyss. This year is one of those times for me. I have been writing about body image and eating disorders for the past couple of months because It is profoundly troubling and personal. Many of you have let me know that I am not alone. I wanted to share that the struggle with spirituality, food, faith, and body image is real. It is a constant pull from what we know to be true to what is true.



Faith is the evidence of things unseen; it is hoped for in this world of darkness.

A week before Christmas, I was scheduled to have bariatric surgery (weight loss). This procedure was unfortunately canceled due to hospitals shutting down from elective surgeries. I eagerly await a date for this procedure because I am at a place in my life where I have to learn how to 'spiritually' swim. I have to relearn faith all over again—faith in my family, friends, and God to carry me through this to the other side. You may even say that I need to learn to have faith in myself.

Jesus' disciples had walked with Jesus for the better part of three years, but they didn't know how to have faith. Peter was so confident that when Jesus called to him from the water, he got out of the boat and walked on water. That was, of course, until he noticed the wind and the waves and panicked. He sank like a rock. Jesus didn't leave him. He picked him up and helped him into the boat. Jesus says to Peter, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" Having faith is more than getting out of the boat. It is more than just staying away from fast food and controlling our needs, wants, and desires.

Having faith requires closing our eyes and free-falling into the hands of God.



I am at the edge of the cliff; I am ready to dive off that cliff and know that God is going to catch me or give me wings to fly on the way down. However, I have to trust God more than I trust myself because I will always fail when left to my own devices, whereas God never fails.

For the better part of my life, I have been stepping out of the boat and sinking like a rock. I have tried every fad diet and lifestyle change that I can think of out there. It's time to take the plunge and trust God. It's time my faith life kept my eyes forward on Jesus, the perfector of faith.

Perhaps 2022 is the right time to do this surgery. I know it will be a challenging new start, but I know I will come out stronger than I was before with God's blessing. Please be gentle with me and pray for me at this time. I will continue to keep you posted as I dive off of this cliff and into the hands of God. God knows I can't do this alone. It is God that will have to catch me on the way down. Now I just have to remember to take that deep breath...breathe, just breathe.

In Christ,

Rev. Daniel - 7 Gudlig

Rev. Daniel J. Bradley





DECLUTTER CHALLENGE 30 BAGS IN 30 DAYS

During the next 30 days, clean out your cupboards, closets, and drawers. Fill one bag a day to throw out, donate or sell.

- Kitchen Cupboard Day 1 -**Kitchen Pantry** 0 Day 2 -Dav 3 -**Kitchen Drawers** 0 Under Kitchen Day 4 -Sink Junk Drawer Day 5 -**Cleaning Supplies** 0 Day 6 -Day 7 -Fridge & Freezer Day 8 -Linen Closet 0 Bedroom Closets Day 9 -0 Day 10 - Nightstands & 0 Drawers o Day 11 - Shoes Day 12 - Master Bathroom o Day 13 - Guest Bathroom o Day 14 - Medicine Cabinet Day 15 - Makeup 0 Day 16 - Under the Beds
- o Day 17 Toy Box Day 18 - Desk Drawers 0 0 Day 19 - TV Cabinets Day 20 - Laundry Room 0 Day 21 - Old Magazines 0 & Newspapers o Day 22 - Paperwork 0 Day 23 - Art & Craft Supplies Day 24 - Holiday Decorations Day 25 - DVD's & CD's Day 26 - Car 0 Day 27 - Garage Shelves 0 & Storage Day 28 - Boardgames 0 Day 29 - Purse 0 Day 30 - Electronics

January:

January 1st - New Years Day January 4th - New Year Bucket Sale @ C&B 2.0, 4pm -7pm January 5th - New Year Bucket Sale @ C&B 2.0, 10am-4pm January 6th - New Year Bucket Sale @ C&B 2.0, 10am-4pm January 8th - New Year Bucket Sale @ C&B 2.0, 10am-2pm January 9th - Meal at Brown Memorial, 2 p.m. January 16th - United Methodist Special Sunday, Human Relations Day January 17th - Martin Luther King Jr. Day



HUMAN RELATIONS DAY Through your generous gift today, you strengthen community outreach and

empower at-risk youth

Human Relations Day Sunday Sunday, January 16, 2022

Human Relations Day Sunday celebration is January 16, 2022. This offering is collected the Sunday before the observance of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday and supports Community Developers, United Methodist Voluntary Service and Youth Offender Rehabilitation programs. In recognizing Human Relations Day, we are called to make an impact in communities where people struggle because they don't have the

tools or resources to reach their God-given potential. Our gifts are part of building beloved community through faith-based volunteer programs, community developers and programs that work with at-risk teens.



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 9:30 service. Practice is every Sunday

morning at 9:00am in the sanctuary. Please contact Jake Melnyk at <u>roadoutofhere@gmail.com</u> for info.



Mary Circle is on hiatus for the Winter Season.

Meetings will resume in a few months.

2



Cradle & Beyond 2.0 7778 Brewerton Road

Location:

7778 Brewerton Rd. Cicero, NY 13039 (Across from the Coppertop and next to Dunkin Donuts)





4 pm - 7 pm

10 am - 4 pm

10 am - 4 pm

10 am - 2 pm

Store hours:

Tuesday

Thursday

Saturday

Wednesday

Donation Drop-off:

Donations are accepted Tuesdays from 9 am - 11 am and any day/time the store is open!



Cradle & Beyond / Mission Central Year in Review - 2021

House:

Sheetrock finished and walls primed

New lighting, ceiling fans and beams installed

A dehumidifier was donated to use at Mission Central which helped immensely in decreasing humidity

New shelving in the basement

New shutters hung

C&B Store:

Our little store lives FJUMC's mission of Seek, Serve and Share God with others and is a true mission-to-mission ministry. We had an extremely successful year and are looking forward to even more success in 2022!





Cradle & Beyond 2.0 7778 Brewerton Road

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Thursday	10 am - 4 pm					

Donation Drop-off:

Donations are accepted Tuesdays from 9 am - 11 am and any day/time the store is open!

Cradle & Beyond / Mission Central Year in Review - 2021

10 am - 2 pm

We have partnered, shared with or provided for many things to the following organizations:

- Phoenix and Brewerton Libraries and Elmcrest Elementary: books
- Bread ministry: bread and bake goods are provided by our customers in store 1-2x per week

Saturday

- Blessing Box provides an opportunity for people to give or take food as needed and is replenished by congregants at Cicero UMC as well as C&B's volunteers and customers
- Brown Memorial
- Mrs. Bradley's handmade pillow cases are made with love and offered free of charge
- Dr. Hamilton's Clinic we provide bedding for migrants
- Restart we donate housewares for those starting over
- Rise Above The Streets jeans and coats are provided for them to hand out to persons on the south side of Syracuse
- Party Princesses C&B provides 'princess-style shirts' for this non-profit organization to use to create party dresses for girl's birthdays
- · Beautiful Mess winter coats to hand out to persons on the north-side of Syracuse
- Save the Storks cribs and bedding
- Liverpool Police Department stuffed animals are donated to them and are given to young children during traumatic times
- North Syracuse Christian Church: china cups and saucers delivered during a mission trip to the Ukraine and baby clothes for a newly started Pop-up Pregnancy Center
- Phoenix High School: Formalwear and suits to be used for prom and theatrical performances
- · Seven Valleys New Tech Academy and Cicero VFW: three-ring binders and school supplies
- Samaritan Center: toiletries
- Catholic Charities: furniture delivered to Utica
- My Place / Laundry Bag: clothes
- Ralph Rotella's Discount Shoe Repair Mission: 100 pairs of shoes
- Vera House: hats, mittens, socks
- New Hope Family Services: children's clothes
- Cicero Floral Garden: vases
- Humane Society: wicker baskets to use for their fundraisers
- Animal Alliance: scrap material
- A volunteer appreciation month
- Women's Opportunity Center: business clothing for interviews / job
- 4 Holiday-meal-in-a-bag giveaways which included everything for a holiday meal including a gift card for the protein, gift card for C&B and a Dunkin gift card

C&B grossed \$29,132 in 2021 and tithed \$2913 towards FJUMC shared giving responsibilities to the United Methodist Conference

<u>New Year Bucket Sale</u>

Tuesday, January 4th (4 p.m. - 7 p.m.), Wednesday, January 5th (10 a.m. - 4 p.m.), Thursday, January 6th (10 a.m. - 4 p.m.), and Saturday, January 8th (10 a.m. - 2 p.m.)

Fill a 4 gallon bucket for just \$5.00 (jewelry & other merchandise excluded)





FJUMC Year in Review - 2021

What a year of mission and fellowship... FJUMC members and friends participated and / or supported:

- 5 chicken BBQ's
- Fourth of July at Syracuse Mets
- 2 Roast beef drive thru dinners
 - Employee appreciation
- 5 days of gift wrapping at church
- + 12 months of food pantry / mission ministries
- 3 months of outdoor worships hotdogs following
 - 90's birthday celebration
- Two dehumidifiers and chest freezer were donated to FJUMC
- + Lighting updates and painting completed in kitchen and Fellowship hall
 - New beautiful double refrigerator in kitchen
 - Thanksgiving Bags given to three area food pantries
- In My Father's Kitchen, Rise Above The Streets and Teen Challenge were provided with socks and personal toilet-

ries

- Cans for Sudan helped us surpass the goal of raising \$3,000 for SSHP
- Olivia Osburn with the help of family and friends filled and delivered water bottle blessing bags to Brown Memorial as well as were handed out to persons on the streets
- + The Sunday school group filled bags of donated supplies, hats and mittens that were delivered to Brown Memorial





SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH - JANUARY - "A HEART OF LOVE"

"I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power... to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge - that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God." - Ephesians 3:17-19



January - HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Happy New Year! I hope everybody had a great time celebrating with family and friends. I know a lot of people were sick or had their holiday plans cancelled, but this year the holidays seemed less important and keeping family safe and healthy was on the forefront of concern. This year has been difficult for everybody, there's been so much loss and the world is still coming to terms with our new normal. This year, I pray that hope, love and kindness spreads faster than fear or even the COVID virus, the sense of community cannot be lost and we have done a great job within our power to keep hope, love and kindness alive and active. May God Bless you and your family this holiday season and upcoming year!



We started a Food Pantry Calendar last year where members would pick a food pantry of their choice and contact them to figure out what items they are requesting. We are currently organizing the calendar for this year and have a few blank spots left. If you are interested in signing up, contact the office at (315) 652-9186 or Beth Jordan (315)

657-5701 to sign up for a specific month and suggestions for a food pantry/mission to support. Thank you for helping us and food pantry's support those in need within the community.

January	February	March	April Organizer:	
Organizer: Linda Raulli Mission: Brown Memorial Lunch 1/9/22	Organizer: Bill Clement	Organizer:		
Organizer: Steve Pierce Pantry: Loaves and Fishes, Tulip St. Liverpool	Pantry: Elizabeth Ann Seton Pantry, Baldwinsville	Mission / Pantry:	Mission / Pantry:	
Мау	y June		August	
Organizers: Gail Wentworth and Marcia Zogo		Organizer:	Organizer:	
Mission: Sleep in Heavenly Peace (collect \$ for children's seds)		Mission: School Supplies for North Syracuse Christian Church	Mission / Pantry:	
September	October	November	December	
Organizer: Beth Schnipp Organizer:		Organizer: Linda Raulli / Beth Jordan	Organizer: Linda Raulli	
Mission / Pantry: Mission / Pantry:		Mission: Thanksgiving Bags	Mission / Pantry: Hat and mitten tree	

Monthly Food Pantry / Missions Sign-Up 2022

BIBLE TRIVIA

The Last Word

(Name the persons who said the following as their last words)

1. "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. Lord, lay not this sin to their charge."

2. "There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife; there they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife; and there I buried Leah."

3. "Thou shouldest have smitten five or six times; then hadst thou smitten Syria till thou hadst consumed it; whereas now thou shalt smite Syria but thrice."

4. "Draw thy sword, and thrust me through therewith; lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and abuse me."

5. "Mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people: a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of thy people Israel."

6. "God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence."

7. "Happy art thou, O Israel, who is like unto thee, O people saved by the Lord, the shield of thy help, and who is the sword of thy excellency! And thine enemies shall be found liars unto thee; and thou shalt tread upon their high places."

8. "Behold, this stone shall be a witness unto us; for it hath heard all the words of the Lord which he spake unto us: it shall be therefore a witness unto you, lest ye deny your God."

9. "O Lord, remember me, I pray thee, and strengthen me, I pray thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes."

10. "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

11. "Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom."
12. "Now therefore hold him not guiltless; for thou art a wise man, and knowest what thou oughtest to do unto him; but his hoar head bring thou down to the grave with blood."

13. "What is there done, my son."

14. "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me, both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

15. "Thou hast asked a hard thing; nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so."

16. "Had Zimri peace, who slew his master."

17. "Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air and to the beasts of the field."

18. "Turn thine hand, and carry me out of the host; for I am wounded."

19. "They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."

 \Rightarrow Answers are located on the bottom of **Page 10**



We are excited to announce Faith Journey UMC has successfully launched an APP and it's available to download now!

The application features information like monthly newsletters, food pantry support, worship schedule, calendar of events, quick access to social media pages, online giving and other pages for C&B 2.0 and SSHP.

There are two ways to get the app, 1. Scan the QR code with your smart phone or 2. submit your email address to receive a download link.

The link and QR code to download the Faith Journey UMC Application are below:

Website Link: <u>https://</u> <u>cms.instantapps.com/promo/</u> <u>u002232</u>

QR Code:



JANUARY SCRIPTURE WRITING PLAN

January

Scripture Writing Plan



Each of the scriptures below takes ten minutes or less to copy out. Commit to spending ten minutes each day listening to God's voice and Connect with the word!

Day 1 - Luke 9:60-62 Day 2 - Philippians 3:12-14 Day 3 - Isaiah 43:18-19 Day 4 - Proverbs 4:18 Day 5 - Romans 8:26-28 Day 6 - Proverbs 3:5-7 Day 7 - Psalm 32:7-8 Day 8 - Isaiah 58:8-11 Day 9 - Psalm 1:1-14 Day 10 - Matthew 6:25-29 Day 11 - Matthew 6:30-34 Day 12 - Exodus 14:13-14 Day 13 - Psalm 23:1-6 Day 14 - Proverbs 17:22 Day 15 - 1 Corinthians 16:13-14

Day 16 - Philippians 4:8 Day 17 - Philippians 4:4-7 Day 18 - 2 Timothy 4:6-8 Day 19 - 2 Peter 1:5-8 Day 20 - Hebrews 12:1-2 Day 21 - Hebrews 12:11-14 Day 22 - James 1:2-5 Day 23 - 1 Peter 5:6-11 Day 24 - James 1:12 Day 25 - Luke 11:5-8 Day 26 - Galatians 6:9-10 Day 27 - 2 Chronicles 15:7 Day 28 - Joshua 1:8-9 Day 29 - 1 Corinthians 13:4-10 Day 30 - James 4:8-10 Day 31 - 2 Corinthians 4:15-18

<u>What are Scripture</u> <u>Writing Plans?</u>

Scripture Writing plans are something you can do every day and it will help you in your journey with God. Get your bible out and write out the scripture for that day. It is a proven fact that when you write something down is resonates more fully than just reading it. So, write it out and speak those words into reality, this will also help with memorization of the word of God and your daily walk with Him.





Do you have any recipes to share? I would love to feature your recipes in the monthly newsletter! Leave a recipe on my desk, in the offering plate or email the office at fjoffice@fjumc.org



<u>Winter Fruit Pie</u>

"A delicious pie that uses up winter fruit, a decadent taste to enjoy during the cold weather months" https://thekitchenmagpie.com/winter-fruit-pie-my-last-pie-day-recipe

Recipe by: Karlynn Johnston



INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup raisins
- 6 cups of sliced apples and pears sliced about 1/2 inch thick
- 1 cup of cranberries
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 tablespoon cinnamon
- 1/3 teaspoon vanilla
- Pinch of nutmeg, pinch of cloves
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 2 1/2 tablespoons of cornstarch
- Pie crust for a 9 inch pie top and bottom

DIRECTIONS

- **1.** Prepare your pie crust and set aside.
- **2.** Preheat your oven to 425 degrees.

Peel and slice the pears and apples. When using pears it is best to have ones that are firm, they will retain their shape in the pie and not turn to mush.
 In the large bowl, combine the raisins, cranberries and sliced fruit, sprinkle the vanilla over and stir.
 Mix together the dry ingredients.

6. Toss the dry ingredients with the fruit, coating the fruit mixture completely. Scoop into the prepared bottom pie crust, mounding the fruit in the middle slightly.
7. Take the tablespoon of butter and dot over the top of the fruit.

8. Top pie with the remaining crust, crimp the edges to seal and cut pie vents on the top.

9. Bake at 425 degrees for 10 minutes on the bottom rack of your oven, making sure to cover the edges of your pie with a cover or tinfoil. (This pie has to bake a long time and the edges will get too brown).

10. Turn the oven down to 350 degrees and bake the pie for another 50-60 minutes, removing the tinfoil for the last 20 minutes or so, and bake until the top is nicely browned and the filling is bubbling. Remove from oven and cool on rack.

Prep Time: 10 mins. Cook Time: 1 hr. & 10 mins. Calories: 272 Servings: 6



"For the Glory of God, we will strive to enable the development of Community Based Systems for the health and holistic quality of life in Southern Sudan."

December 17, 2021

Dear Faith Journey United Methodist Church,

Dana Vinch has informed us of the gift from Faith Journey of \$605.37 for the Southern Sudan Health Project. As you may know, sometimes it can be challenging to get the funds to South Sudan to pay the eight Home Health Promoters. This Fall has been particularly challenging. UMCOR has worked diligently on this issue.

Meanwhile, the Home Health Promoters continue to work every day to improve the health of their communities. We are happy that issues have been resolved, and the Home Health Promoters have received their pay. Of course, they may be happier than us!

Have a Merry Christmas, and may you continue to proclaim God's love throughout the community and the world.

In God's Love, Rev. Bradford Hunt

According to Faith Journey records, we have raised \$3567.37 for SSHP in 2021 and submitted our last check this week, so the full amount has been paid out!



🖊 November 30, 2021

Faith Journey UMC,

Thank you for your generous donation to the Brown Memorial food pantry. It helped to provide Thanksgiving dinner for the neighbors we serve. God bless you and have a wonder-ful holiday season!

Brown Memorial, Jean Whitmore

<u>Bible Trivia Answers</u>: **1**. Stephen (Acts 7:59-60), **2**. Jacob (Genesis 49:31), **3**. Elisha (2 Kings 13:19), **4**. Saul (1 Samuel 31:4), **5**. Simeon (Luke 2:30-32), **6**. Joseph (Genesis 50:25), **7**. Moses (Deuteronomy 33:29), **8**. Joshua (Joshua 24:27), **9**. Samson (Judges 16:28), **10**. Jesus (Matthew 28:19-20), **11**. The repentant thief on the cross (Luke 23:42), **12**. David (1 Kings 2:9), **13**. Eli (1 Samuel 4:16), **14**. Jesus (Acts 1:8), **15**. Elijah (2 Kings 2:10), **16**. Jezebel (2 Kings 9:31), **17**. Goliath (1 Samuel 17:44), **18**. Ahab (1 Kings 22:34), **19**. Jesus (Mark 16:18)

JANUARY 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
						1	
						New Years Day	
						9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building.	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
*Communion		New Year Bucket Sale @ C&B 2.0, 4pm-7pm	New Year Bucket Sale @ C&B 2.0, 10am-4pm	New Year Bucket Sale @ C&B 2.0, 10am-4pm		New Year Bucket Sale @ C&B 2.0, 10am-2pm	
			9:30 AM - Prayer & Holy	9AM-12PM - Workday @ New Build-		9AM - 12 PM - Workday @ New Building	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
			9:30 AM - Prayer & Holy communion in sanctu- ary.	9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building		9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
United Methodist Special Sunday,	Martin Luther King Jr. Day						
Human Relations Day			9:30 AM - Prayer & Holy communion in sanctuary.	9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building		9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
			9:30 AM - Prayer & Holy communion in sanctu- ary	9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building			
30	31	In-Person and Online Worship Service:					
		Join us in-person or watch us live every Sunday at 10 am on Facebook www.facebook.com/faithjourneyumcclaynorthsyracuse					
		<u>Sermons also available on:</u>					
		Faithjourneyumc.libsyn.com or https://www.vimeo.com/channels/fjumc					





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.



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

With Others



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

Office Location:

8396 Morgan Road

Clay NY 13041

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(315) 458-0890

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Website: www.fjumc.org

Faith Journey UMC Staff:

Pastor Rev. Daniel J. Bradley

Maryna Mazhukhova - Musician

Daniel Williams - Musician

Jake Melnyk - Musician

Sara Mertz - Office Manager

Sean Townsend - Custodian