



Pastor's **Page**



The Stepping Stone

August 2022

Wisdom and age are beautiful things that God has given us. They enable us to look back and reflect on the decisions we have made that have ultimately shaped our lives. We can judge those decisions based on the information we have today. Still, if we had that information when we made those decisions, we may have chosen differently and changed the course of our life. Do not live with regrets, but with the knowledge that the path you are on is God ordained.



A couple of weeks ago, I sent a letter to the Chancellor of the Board of Regents for New York State. I asked them to award me my high-school regent's diploma based on my work following high school. I thought I was righteous in making this request. Unfortunately, they responded with a form letter and a lot of legal mumbo jumbo that I have yet to decipher. As a result, I am not getting my NYS Regents diploma. I was looking for an affirmation that I was not a failure but had become a success, having earned my Bachelor of Arts Degree, Masters of Divinity, and now on my way to a Doctoral Degree.

Chemistry may have kept me from getting my Regents Diploma, but it shaped my path. Instead of staying in the state for college, I went to Ashland University in Ashland, Ohio had amazing experiences, and made lifelong friends. If I had not gone to Ashland University, I would not have become a Camp Counselor or a Youth Director in my early years of ministry. Likewise, I would not have the friends I have today. These friends have carried me through the darkest parts of my life. Decisions matter, but when we make decisions, we must know that God's providence goes before us and provides a way where there seems to be no way.

The photo above is from the Grand Canyon of Yellowstone National Park. As you can see, the water from the Yellowstone River flows over the yellow rock and leads into a lush valley. Sometimes I imagine making a "BIG" decision, is like going over the waterfall in a canoe. Thank God I don't own a canoe, but I do own a pick-up truck named 'Gracie Belle.'

Gracie Bell abruptly halted on I-90 about 20 miles from Portage, Wisconsin. The transmission gave out, and we were going nowhere. This section of I-90 was three lanes of traffic, and it was moving at 80mph. I was terrified and wondering if we would make it out of the traffic alive. We called the Wisconsin State Police, and the officer stayed with us for over 2.5 hours while we waited for AAA, which never came. Then, the officer called a local towing company out of Portage, WI, and they got us off the road. They put Gracie Belle on the flatbed truck and towed our camper to a KOA campground in Wisconsin Dells, WI, about 30 miles away. We were safe for the night and could regroup over a hot meal. However, we knew we had to get home; the only way to do that was to rent a U-Haul truck to tow the camper and a rental car for Mary and Kiah. Within 24 hours, we were back on the road home. We arrived at the Camp at Findley, Findley Lake, NY, at 5:30 pm on Friday. The next day we returned the U-Haul, drove the rental car to North Syracuse, NY, and rested from our trip.

The thing that did the truck in was that it did not have a transmission oil cooler. I had never heard of such a thing. I was unaware of the damage that could be done to a transmission by not having one while towing a camper. Gracie Belle is in Portage, WI, at one of the most extensive repair facilities in Northern Wisconsin. I have an estimate of the cost, and we are waiting to see what the extended warranty company will cover. Either way, this trip has not been a cheap date!

Had I known that the transmission would die, I wonder, “would I have taken the trip of a lifetime?” Probably not. I believe I would have been paralyzed by fear, not knowing where or when it would happen. Thank God this happened on our way home instead of our way out to West Yellowstone, MT. We had three beautiful weeks experiencing God’s glory of creation. This was how the vacation was meant to be, beautiful, unexpected, and full of God’s grace. I am not sweating the small stuff; I know God had a reason for allowing us to experience the terrifying event of crossing three lanes of traffic to get to the shoulder of the road. I also know that these unsettling experiences will be used by God to teach me how to respond in the future. God brought us an amazing tow driver and a repair center that was more than able to help us with Gracie Belle.

Here’s what I know: my worth is not in a diploma, transmissions will fail, and life will go on while we are in the middle of a crisis. God’s grace is more than enough to get us through. Don’t make decisions on what you think you know, but on what you know; God is more than enough to meet your needs. Go in grace and celebrate your path; in God’s timing, it will all work out.

“So then, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry itself.

Today has enough trouble of its own.” – Jesus

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rev. Daniel J. Bradley". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid.

Rev. Daniel J. Bradley

What's Happening

August:

July 2nd - August 14th - Sterling Renaissance Festival @ 15385 Farden Rd. Sterling, NY 13156
August 2nd - September 1st - C&B Back-to-School Blow out Extravaganza all month long, special discounts and offers each week of the month
August 7th - Communion
August 12th & 13th - Smithfield Bacon Festival, 12pm-10pm @ Clinton Square, Syracuse
August 13th - Chicken BBQ Drive-Thru, 11am-sold out @ FJUMC
August 24th - September 5th - The Great New York State Fair 2022
September 20th - American Red Cross Blood Drive, 11am-4pm @ Faith Journey UMC

CHICKEN BBQ DRIVE-THRU

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2022

11:00 am - sold out



\$7.00 - Chicken Only
(1/2 chicken)

\$9.00 - Chicken Dinner
(1/2 chicken, salt potatoes,
baked beans, and roll with butter)

Faith Journey United Methodist Church

8396 Morgan Road

Clay, NY 13041



The One Too Many NY 5K virtual run/walk will be held Friday, September 16th through Sunday, September 18th!

You can help make a difference and support a Child Advocacy Center in NY state as they work to end child abuse and provide children in crisis with free support, services and hope for the future.

When: Anytime/ Any day between Friday, September 16th through Sunday, September 18th

Where: It's a Virtual Event. Wherever you choose! Your neighborhood, your park, or hop on your treadmill

Who: Anyone! Anywhere! Grab the kids, grab the dog!

Cost: \$40 per runner/walker. Each runner will receive a race bib, race t-shirt, and instruction sheet.

Registrations deadline: Friday, August 12th, 2022, to be guaranteed a race t-shirt.

Visit eventbrite for more information and registration:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/one-too-many-ny-5k-registration-313780685477>



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 roadoutofhere@gmail.com for info.

MARY CIRCLE

Mary Circle is not going to be meeting for the month of August, stay tuned for future updates on Mary Circle Meetings



Cradle & Beyond 2.0

7778 Brewerton Road

Location:

7778 Brewerton Rd.
Syracuse, NY 13212
(Across from the Coppertop
and next to Dunkin Donuts)

Store hours:

Tuesday	4 pm - 7 pm
Wednesday	10 am - 4 pm
Thursday	10 am - 4 pm
Saturday	10 am - 2 pm

Contact Information:

Phone: (315) 980-8004
Email:
Cradleandbeyond2@gmail.com



So excited to share all the news this month! We have new volunteers that have joined the C&B crew, welcome Joanna, Lynn and Jack! Jack, one of our young volunteers is assisting us w selling some merchandise that is of a higher price-point than what we typically sell in the store but of things graciously donated to us. We're excited to see how this new venture fairs for visibility, donations and sales C&B! September will bring about the big switcheroo to fall clothing!

We are excited to be getting internet re-installed at C&B and the entire Mission Central campus in addition to getting a cellphone and unique phone number for C&B! This will allow our customers to have better access to us while allowing for technical advances for C&B and Mission Central.

A crew from Operation Northern Comfort revisited and are working with our work-crew on identifying and planning for a ramp to be installed in 'the house side' - this is so exciting as it's one step closer to getting our certificate of occupancy!

Hardwood floors have begun to be installed in the house-side. Took a bit to get in the groove but it's moving along now and will be completed soon!

The C&B store continues to blessed with fabulous donations that our dedicated volunteers enjoy sorting through and finding ways to display. We continue to meet new customers each day and have become friends with so many of our regular customers who by word-of-mouth have brought new people in to the store who then become 'regulars'. We appreciate everyone's intentionality on creating relationships and enhancing our shoppers shopping and donating experiences! We can't say 'Thank You' enough to our volunteers, who make a such an impact in the success of what we do to enhance the lives of others!

Stay amazing and Stay cool!

We are so excited for the Back-to-School Blow Out Extravaganza through the entire month of August!



BACK to SCHOOL



Week 1: 25% off purchases

Week 2: BOGO half-off purchases

Week 3: BOGO off summer clothing (same or lesser value)

Week 4/5 (8/23-9/1) Bucket Sale (7 days).

We will be closed Saturday 9/3 so that our volunteers can enjoy a long holiday weekend!

Mission Central/Cradle & Beyond 2.0
7778 Brewerton Rd. Syracuse, NY 13212



SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH - AUGUST - "LET GO AND LET GOD"

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." - Proverbs 3:5-6

Goodbye July... 
 **ALOHA** August!



August

I hope you all are finding ways to stay cool and enjoy the beautiful, but extremely hot and humid weather! The heatwave we have experienced has been quite intense, our air conditioner is working overtime to keep the house somewhat comfortable and cool. I've never felt more grateful that we got the air conditioner installed fall of 2020, it's been a life saver this summer for sure! Check out all of the local events happening in August, including the return of the New York State Fair. I'm not sure if I'm going to go this year or not, I might wait and see what's going on then make a decision. I try to at least go once to grab some fried dough, cotton candy and wine slushies, especially if I get my hands on free entry tickets or parking! Make sure to get outside, soak up the sun and enjoy the beautiful months we have left before we're onto the next season!



SMITHFIELD BACON FESTIVAL

Friday, August 12, 2022 - 12:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 13, 2022 - 12:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

FREE ADMISSION!

Clinton Square, Downtown Syracuse, NY



The Smithfield Bacon Festival will feature dozens of vendors serving bacon-inspired treats. These vendors will be required to have items that contain bacon on their menus, such as bacon burgers, bacon mac n' cheese, bacon-wrapped scallops, and bacon sundaes.

Other Smithfield Bacon Festival attractions will include the non-stop music played by local musicians, an activity zone, wine slushies, ice-cold beer, and even a photo booth.

YOU HAD ME AT BACON

BIBLE TRIVIA

Makers of Music

1. What stringed instruments did John hear in his vision of the heavenly throne?
2. Who is mentioned as the father of those who play the harp and organ?
3. What prophetess played a timbrel and led the women of Israel in a victory song after the Red Sea incident?
4. What caused Saul's "evil spirit" to leave him?
5. Who wrote over a thousand songs?
6. What is the only book of the Bible that contains numerous directions for musical accompaniment?
7. At the dedication of Solomon's temple, 120 priests played what instruments?
8. What king of Israel had 4,000 musicians who praised the Lord with instruments the king made?
9. What prophet prophesied while accompanied by a minstrel?
10. When the foundation for the second temple was laid, the priests played trumpets. What did the Levites play?
11. What king, who was also a poet and musician, embarrassed his wife by dancing in the streets?
12. What prophetic book of the Old Testament contains musical directions.

Artsy, Crafty Types

1. What notorious opponent of Paul was a silversmith in Ephesus?
2. What leader fashioned a brass snake?
3. Who was the first metal craftsman in the Bible?
4. What Israelite, a worker in gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, had responsibility for furnishing the tabernacle?
5. Who built a huge ship gopherwood?
6. What coppersmith had, according to Paul, done him great harm?
7. Who fashioned a golden calf?
8. What was the trade of Paul, Aquila, and Priscilla?
9. What craftsman from Tyre was put in charge of all the temple's bronze work?
10. What son of a goldsmith was involved in rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem?
11. What engraver and embroiderer helped construct materials for the tabernacle?

Rings on Their Fingers

1. What dreaming ruler gave Joseph his own ring?
2. In which of Jesus' parables does a ring play a part?
3. Who did King Ahasuerus of Persia give his ring to?
4. When Daniel was sealed up in the lions' den, who placed his signet ring on the stone?
5. For what did the Israelites give up their rings and other jewelry?
6. After the death of Haman, who received the Persian king's signet ring?

⇒ *Answers are located on the bottom of Page 10*



Calico Gals

A big thanks to Marcia Zogg for delivering our items to Calico Gals Quilt Shop. They posted to their Facebook page and gave us recognition!



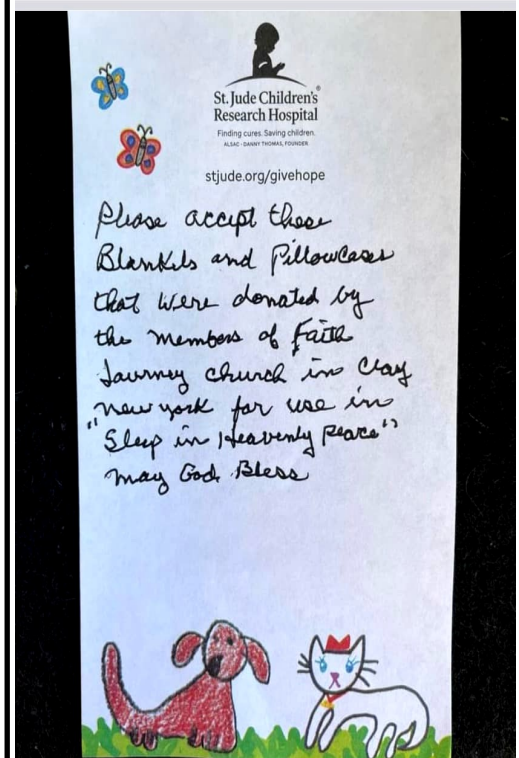
Picked up some AWESOME donations from our Sleep in Heavenly Peace bin today. The Christmas quilts that are beautifully hand quilted have a secret donor. A note accompanied the fleece blankets and pillowcases. Thank you so much to everyone that gives from their hearts to bring joy to the children! ❤️

👍❤️ You and 52 others

3 comments

❤️ Love

💬 Comment



AUGUST SCRIPTURE WRITING PLAN

August 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 - Phil. 1:3-7

Day 2 - Phil. 1:8-11

Day 3 - Phil. 1:12-18

Day 4 - Phil. 1:19-23

Day 5 - Phil. 1:24-30

Day 6 - Phil. 2:1-4

Day 7 - Phil. 2:5-11

Day 8 - Phil. 2:12-15

Day 9 - Phil. 2:16-18

Day 10 - Phil. 2:19-26

Day 11 - Phil. 2:27-30

Day 12 - Phil. 3:1-6

Day 13 - Phil. 3:7-11

Day 14 - Phil. 3:12-16

Day 15 - Phil. 3:17-21

Day 16 - Phil. 4:1-7

Day 17 - Phil. 4:8-13

Day 18 - Phil. 4:14-23

Day 19 - Col. 1:3-8

Day 20 - Col. 1:9-14

Day 21 - Col. 1:15-23

Day 22 - Col. 1:24-29

Day 23 - Col. 2:1-5

Day 24 - Col. 2:6-15

Day 25 - Col. 2:16-23

Day 26 - Col. 3:1-11

Day 27 - Col. 3:12-17

Day 28 - Col. 3:18-25

Day 29 - 1 Thess. 4:1-8

Day 30 - 1 Thess. 4:9-17

Day 31 - 1 Thess. 5:12-25

What are Scripture Writing Plans?

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 it 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.

THEME:

Encouragement from the Apostle Paul





BLOOD DRIVE



Give the gift of life.



1 PINT
OF BLOOD CAN

SAVE

3 lives

Join us on Tuesday,
September 20, 2022

FROM

1PM to 6PM



**FAITH JOURNEY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

8396 MORGAN RD. CLAY, NY 13041



Please contact 1-800-RedCross or visit www.redcrossblood.org
- use sponsor code - Faith - to schedule your appointment to donate.
Ask for Power Red Cells if you are O-, O+, A- or B-

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RecipeCorner

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



FRESH PEACH CRUMB BARS

"Everybody loves these delicious, easy to make fresh Peach Crumb Bars with an almond flavored icing. They're terrific for any occasion like cook-outs, pot-lucks and summer extravaganzas."

<https://savingdessert.com/fresh-peach-crumb-bars/>

Recipe by: Tricia



INGREDIENTS

Crust & Crumble Topping:

- ◆ 1 cup granulated sugar
- ◆ 3 cups all-purpose flour
- ◆ 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ◆ 1/2 teaspoon salt
- ◆ 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ◆ 1 cup unsalted butter (*cold, cut into cubes*)
- ◆ 1 large egg (*lightly beaten*)

For the Peach Layer:

- ◆ 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- ◆ 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- ◆ 1/4 teaspoon ground Cinnamon
- ◆ 5 large peaches, peeled and diced
- ◆ 1 teaspoon fresh lemon juice

For the Icing (*optional*):

- ◆ 1 cup powdered sugar
- ◆ 1/4 teaspoon almond extract
- ◆ 1 tablespoon milk (*more or less for desired consistency*)

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350 if using a glass pan, or 375 for a metal pan. Lightly grease or spray a 13x9-inch pan and set aside.

For the crust:

1. In a medium bowl whisk together 1 cup of sugar, 3 cups flour, baking powder, salt and cinnamon. Using a pastry cutter, blend in the butter until the mixture resembles coarse sand. Add the lightly beaten egg and mix until the dough starts to hold together, but is still crumbly. Gently press a little more than half the dough into the prepared pan.

2. **OPTIONAL:** you can also process the sugar, flour, baking powder, salt and cinnamon in the bowl of a food processor. Add the butter and process until the mixture resembles coarse sand. Add the egg and pulse until the dough starts to hold together.

For the peach mixture:

1. In a large mixing bowl whisk together the sugar, cornstarch and cinnamon. Add the diced peaches and toss to combine. Drizzle the lemon juice over the peaches and toss to coat. Pour the peach mixture over the crust and spread evenly.

2. Using your hands, press together handfuls of the remaining crumb topping to create clumps. Scatter the clumps and remaining crumbled topping over the fruit layer leaving some peaches showing through.

3. If using a glass pan, bake at 350 F degrees for 50-55 minutes or until lightly browned. If using a metal pan, bake at 375 F degrees for 40-45 minutes. Cool completely then chill before cutting and icing.

Tips for picking the best peaches for our Fresh Peach Crumb Bars:

- Select peaches that are firm with no shriveled skin;
- Peaches should be very fragrant, take a whiff;
- The fruit should be slightly soft when gently squeezed;
- Check for bruises and avoid damaged fruit;
- Color is a good indicator of great fruit, pick those with deep, rich hues
- Large peaches have the most sugar, select medium to large peaches;
- Buy local if you can, local peaches spend less time traveling and more time on the tree to ripen!

Prep: 20 mins.

Cook: 45 mins.

Total: 1 hr. 5 mins.

Yield: 20

RECIPE





This picture was posted in the Sleep in Heavenly Peace newsletter and the child is lying on a pillow sewn by one of our own FJUMC sewers



Everyone needs help sometimes.

Erin's Angels ensures that children who rely on subsidized lunches continue to receive food vital to their growth and development through our Backpack Program and Food Pantry.

Dear Beth Jordan,

Thank you for your generous donation on 5/31/22 of \$51.25. Every act of your generosity helps us further our mission. In fact, your gift has helped many families feed their kids already! Thanks to you, kids in need in the Phoenix Central School District will continue to receive bags filled with food every Friday throughout the Coronavirus crisis. Your willingness to help children with food insecurity in CNY makes a huge difference to show them they are cared for!

Also, for the first time we were able to help families in the Syracuse City School District. Grant middle school has a 98% poverty rate. The 6th grade team organized a food drive and we were able to donate 24 BOXES full of food! We are also partnering with "Rise Above Poverty" in Syracuse to provide after school meals for their 3rd grade reading program. This is all in part due to donations like yours. You are making a difference and we appreciate you!

Sincerely, Sheila Dion (Founder)

#SYRFoodTrucks FALL FEST

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH

11 AM - 10 PM

NEW YORK STATE FAIRGROUNDS



The #SYRFoodTrucks are BACK at The Great New York State Fair for our annual Fall Festival!

Join us on Saturday, September 24th from 11-10pm.

Featuring 50+ food trucks, 100+ artisan vendors, live local music in TWO locations, low-cost food samples from each truck, kids zone, games, craft beer, wine slushies and so much more!

Buy your \$5 pre-sale tix and save! Tickets will be \$10 the week of the event. Free parking with entrances at the main gate and back corner of Chevy Court.

100+ locally curated artists, vendors, and local live acoustic music all day long in the Center of Progress building! Kids Zone inside the COP!

Bible Trivia Answers: 1. Harps, 2. Jubal, 3. Miriam, 4. David's harp playing, 5. Solomon, 6. Psalms, 7. Trumpets, 8. David, 9. Elisha, 10. Cymbals, 11. David, 12. Habakkuk

1. Demetrius, 2. Moses, 3. Tubal-cain, 4. Bezaleel, 5. Noah, 6. Alexander, 7. Aaron, 8. Tentmaking, 9. Hiram, 10. Uzziel, 11. Aholiab,

1. The Pharaoh, The parable of the prodigal son (since the son was given a ring by his father upon returning home), 3. Haman, 4. The king, 5. As a freewill offering for the tabernacle, 6. Mordecai

AUGUST 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 <i>C&B sale (25% off)</i>	3 <i>C&B sale (25% off)</i> 9:30 AM - Prayer & Holy communion in sanctuary	4 <i>C&B sale (25% off)</i> 9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building	5	6 <i>C&B sale (25% off)</i> 9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building.
7 <i>*Communion</i>	8	9 <i>C&B sale (BOGO half-off)</i>	10 <i>C&B sale (BOGO half-off)</i> 9:30 AM - Prayer & Holy	11 <i>C&B sale (BOGO half-off)</i> 9AM-12PM - Workday @ New Build-	12	13 <i>Chicken BBQ, 11am-until sold out @ FJUMC</i> <i>C&B sale (BOGO half-off)</i>
14	15	16 <i>C&B sale (BOGO summer clothing)</i>	17 <i>C&B sale (BOGO summer clothing)</i> 9:30 AM - Prayer & Holy communion in sanctu-	18 <i>C&B sale (BOGO summer clothing)</i> 9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building	19	20 <i>C&B sale (BOGO summer clothing)</i> 9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building
21	22	23 <i>C&B sale (Bucket Sale)</i>	24 <i>C&B sale (Bucket Sale)</i> 9:30 AM - Prayer & Holy communion in sanctu-	25 <i>C&B sale (Bucket Sale)</i> 9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building	26	27 <i>C&B sale (Bucket Sale)</i> 9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building
28	29	30 <i>C&B sale (Bucket Sale)</i>	31 <i>C&B sale (Bucket Sale)</i> 9:30 AM - Prayer & Holy communion in sanctu-ary	1 <i>C&B sale (Bucket Sale)</i>		
<p align="center"><u>In-Person and Online Worship Service:</u> Join us in-person or watch us live every Sunday at 10 am on Facebook www.facebook.com/faithjourneyumccclaynorthsyracuse <u>Sermons also available on:</u> Faithjourneyumc.libsyn.com or https://www.vimeo.com/channels/fjumc</p>						



For the month of **AUGUST**, we will be collecting *canned soup, crackers, juice and fun foods* like pudding, cake mix and frosting* for **Phoenix Food Pantry**. Thank you for your support!



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 mission, 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

Maryna Mazhukhova - Musician

Daniel Williams - Musician

Jake Melnyk - Musician

Sara Mertz - Office Manager

Sean Townsend - Custodian