

The Stepping Stone October 2023

"Faith in action..."

*If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "you shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. 'But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. "For whoever keeps the whole law but fails at one point has become guilty of all of it. "For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy.

Mercy triumphs over judgment.

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving

them the things needed for the body, what good² is that? ¹⁷So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. James 2:8-17

If ever there was a piece of scripture that convicts me of my sin, this is it. It reminds me daily that I am to be in ministry to my brothers and sisters in Christ before myself. Taking this into account on a daily basis is of the utmost importance. It's not enough to give 'lip' service to my faith. My faith must be combined with actions.

Actions speak louder than words. When we put our faith into action, it reminds us that God works through our more than-capable words to meet the needs of those who need it the most. The most important work that is done through Faith Journey United Methodist Church is not done on Sunday morning but throughout the week through the mission arm of our Cradle and Beyond Ministry. Lives are being changed by the generous faith, giving, and prayer support of this mission arm of the Church. It's not about us or the merchandise we sell, but it is all about the people who come in and are greeted in grace by the volunteers at the store.

One of my favorite stories of faith to tell is of a couple that came in to donate their daughter's clothing and items. Their daughter had died unexpectedly, and they were cleaning out her house. The couple, visibly shaken, were crying as they brought in their daughter's belongings. The volunteers in the store stopped what they were doing and spent time in prayer and hugs to this couple. It was a testament to the power of God at that moment. There are times when God stops us dead in our tracks and gives us the opportunity to open up to others through prayer and hugs; that makes all the difference. Cradle and Beyond is more than clothes and goods. It's about putting faith into action.

Not only does Cradle and Beyond meet the needs of those in need, but it also provides a small food pantry and partners with thirty-two other Syracuse missions. This year, through our back-pack mission, we were able to give away 105 backpacks filled with school supplies. The children who came through the store were blessed and beyond ecstatic to receive these gifts. In addition to expanding the use of the building, we have also opened up our 'clubhouse space' for an organization called "Circle of Friends," which ministers to individuals with special needs. Coming this October, there will be a bible study group using the 'clubhouse' space on Sunday afternoons, as it is being used for our book study on Wednesday afternoons.

It is good to remember where we have been as a church on the move, but more importantly, to consistently focus on where we are going. The next steps for Cradle and Beyond have yet to be written, but I believe that James says it best when he reminds us: "What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also, faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."

As Christians, we have a choice to make; "we can get busy living or get busy dying." It's up to us to chart our future or to pick out our headstone. This is what is before us today. The choice is yours.



Cradle and Beyond is a "thrifty boutique" located at 7778 Brewerton Rd. Cicero, NY across from Dunkin Donuts.

In Christ,

Lev. Daniel . Thudlig

Rev. Daniel J. Bradley





October:

October 1st - Special Sunday: World Communion October 1st - Buffalo Bills Football Sundays @ C&B, 1PM (Food theme: animal themed appetizers) October 6th - Elvis Concert Fundraiser for SSHP, 6PM - 8PM @ FJUMC, Sanctuary October 13th & 14th - Rocky Horror Picture Show, 7 PM & 10PM October 20th & 21st - Rocky Horror Picture Show, 7PM & 10PM October 22nd - Buffalo Bills Football Sundays @ C&B, 1PM (Food theme: Halloween themed foods) October 24th - 31st - Bucket Sale @ C&B October 24th - Charge Conference, 7pm October 28th - Grandma's Old-Fashioned Roast Beef Dinner Drive-Thru, 4 PM- 6PM @ FJUMC October 31st - Halloween November 5th - All Saints' Day



<u>A NIGHT WITH ELVIS</u> featuring Tom Gilbo

Friday, October 6, 2023 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.

Tickets: \$7 each Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance at Faith Journey (Tues-Fri, 8am-1pm)

Join us for live music, light refreshments and tons of fun!



*All proceeds benefit Southern Sudan Health Projects

Faith Journey United Methodist Church 8396 Morgan Rd. Clay, NY 13041



Cradle & Beyond 2.0 7778 Brewerton Road

Store hours:Tuesday4 pm - 7 pmWednesday10 am - 4 pmThursday10 am - 4 pm

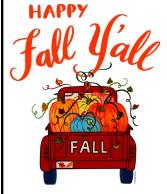
Saturday

10 am - 2 pm

Contact Information:

Phone: (315) 980-8004 Email:Cradleandbeyond2@gmail.com 7778 Brewerton Rd. Syracuse, NY 13212

Holiday times are upon us



We are so blessed! As you have seen, donations are plentiful as are the customers coming through our doors. September brought two large sales, a week-long \$5 bucket sale in the beginning of the month and a week-long spin-the-wheel-sale to close the month out. Our amazing volunteers are pulling out all the stops to ensure merchandise is sorted, organized, turned over, displayed, sold and packaged and our store is looking beautiful. Holiday merchandise is selling well and more will be put out and displayed soon.

September also brought a new sales record - we exceeded \$4,000 in sales for the month! This is HUGE! We continue to provide both monetary and merchandise support to many organizations including FJUMC.

Next time you're at the store, be sure to check out the new trees that have been planted. Our work crew have managed to wrap up loose ends required for us to receive the final paperwork from the town of Cicero. We hope soon to secure a building permit so that an addition can be built which will house bins of donations as we store merchandise between seasons / holidays.

C&B continues to host a book study with Pastor Dan Bradley. This study takes place on Wednesdays, 4:00-6:00 pm September through October. Stop in, grab the book and enjoy some enlightenment and friendly vibes. We also continue to host Circle of Friends and a new bible study group on Sunday afternoons.

As mentioned in September, we are entering the busiest selling time of the year for C&B. Please consider signing up for an extra shift - this ensures that we can continue to greet our customers and form relationships while also cashing them out in a timely manner and putting out new merchandise. Our next sale is a \$5 bucket sale running 10/24 - 10/31... we'll be ready :)





Join us for Black Friday specials at C&B on Friday, November 24th (10am-4pm) and Saturday, November 25th (10am-2pm).

Please note that we will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, 11/23.

We will also be closed for Christmas from 12/23/23 to 12/31/23 and will reopen to the public on 1/2/24.



SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH - OCTOBER - "EMBRACING OBSTACLES"

"Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance." - James 1:2-3



<u>October</u>

Happy Halloween! September was over in a blink of an eye! I have been so preoccupied with weddings, bridal showers, birthday celebrations and now renovating of our bathroom shower! I don't think I've been this busy and jam-packed with activities since 2019 or pre-covid! We are still re-modeling the shower in our bathroom, it has been an extremely busy week and it all ends with my cousin's wedding on Sunday, Oct. 1st. We are hoping to get the shower done by this weekend, or next week at the latest. I hope you all have been staying just as busy and are enjoying the more seasonable weather! Have a spooktacular October!!



*We are looking for ushers to assist with parking cars for the 7pm shows - we have light sabers and vests for ushers to wear! Contact Beth Jordan at (315) 657-5701 if you are available to help!





Friday, 10/13 at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, 10/14 at 7:00 & 10:00 p.m. Friday, 10/20 at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, 10/21 at 7:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.

GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY AT TICKETOR.COM/GNAC

Faith Journey United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 8396 Morgan Rd. Clay, NY 13041 DR. SCOTI

BIBLE TRIVIA

Encounters with Angels

1. The angel of the Lord appeared to the banished Hagar and told her what to name her child. What was the child's name?

2. How many angels rescued Lot and his family from the doomed city of Sodom?

3. What apostle was released from prison by an angel who opened the prison's iron gate?

4. The prophet Balaam could not see the Lord's angel, but his talking donkey could. What was it about the angel that made the donkey turn away?

5. Joshua encountered an angel who was captain of the host of the Lord. What was the angel's purpose in appearing to Joshua?

6. The angel of the Lord instructed Philip to go to Gaza. What person did Philip encounter afterward?

7. What was the name of the angel who appeared to Mary and to Zacharias?

8. This man's mother was visited by the angel of the Lord, who told her she would have a son who would be dedicated as a Nazarite. Who was he?

9. Elijah was nurtured by an angel after his flight from Israel's evil queen. Who was the queen?

10. Jacob is the only person known to have wrestled with an angel. What kindly act did the angel perform after the wrestling match?

11. What Roman official was visited by an angel who told him God had heard his prayers?

12. Who was commissioned by an angel to save Israel from the Midianites?

13. What kind of angelic beings guarded the entrance to Eden?

14. Who had his lips touched by a live coal held by a seraph?

15. What foreign army had 185,000 men killed by the angel of the Lord?

16. What person did an angel prevent from the act of child sacrifice?

17. What two guides did the angel of the Lord provide for the Israelites in the wilderness?

18. What ungodly ruler in New Testament times was struck down by an angel?

19. Who was carried by angels to Abraham's bosom?

20. What angel helped Daniel understand the future?

 \Rightarrow Answers are located on the bottom of **Page 9**

14TH ANNUAL



Helping Hounds Dog Rescue 14th Annual Pumpkin & Pooches

Saturday, October 14, 2023 11 AM - 3PM

Join us for a costume contest, raffles, bake sale, vendors, food trucks and adorable adoptable dogs looking for loving homes!



Helping Hounds Dog Rescue 7268 Caswell Ave North Syracuse, NY



50th Annual Lafayette Apple Festival

October 7th (9AM-6PM) October 8th (9AM-5PM)

Free Parking Admission: \$6 per person, 12 & under are free!

Join us for 7AM Apple Pancake Breakfast on both days, free entertainment, family fun, carnival rides, crafters, food vendors, exhibitors, unique products, delicious pies and so much more!

> 2444 Tully Farms Rd. Lafayette, NY 13084

OCTOBER SCRIPTURE WRITING PLAN

October

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 - Daniel 2:20 Day 2 - John 4:24 Day 3 - Psalm 22:27 Day 4 - Psalm 29:2 Day 5 - Psalm 66:4 Day 6 - Psalm 95:6 Day 7 - Psalm 96:9 Day 8 - Psalm 99:5 Day 9 - Psalm 138:2 Day 10 - Jeremiah 7:2 Day 11 - Psalm 34:3 Day 12 - Psalm 69:30 Day 13 - Luke 1:46 Day 14 - Psalm 22:22 Day 15 - Psalm 27:6 Day 16 - Psalm 33:2

Day 17 - Psalm 34:1 Day 18 - Psalm 35:8 Day 19 - Psalm 40:3 Day 20 - Psalm 42:5 Day 21 - Psalm 44:8 Day 22 - Psalm 47:6 Day 23 - Acts 16:25 Day 24 - Romans 15:11 Day 25 - Ephesians 1:6 Day 26 - Hebrew 2:12 Day 27 - Hebrews 13:15 Day 28 - 1 Peter 2:9 Day 29 - Psalm 68:4 Day 30 - Psalm 69:34 Day 31 - Psalm 71:8

<u>What are Scrípture</u>

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 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.

THEME:

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DIRECTIONS



Scarecrow Cheeseball Appetizer

"A molded cheeseball shaped like a scarecrow makes the perfect appetizer to bring to any Fall, Halloween or Thanksgiving event. It's guaranteed to wow and impress your guests!" Recipe by: Irish American Mom

INGREDIENTS

FOR THE CHEESEBALL

- 16 ounces cream cheese (2 packages full fat cream cheese)
- 2 cups cheddar cheese (extra sharp and shredded)
- 16 ounces Velveeta cheese
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/2 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

TO DECORATE

- 9 wholewheat crackers (*Triscuit*)
- 1/4 cup carrot matchsticks
- 1 slice red pepper
- 2 black olives
- 1 grape tomato
- 1 sprig parsley

1. Add the cream cheese, Velveeta, garlic powder, paprika, and Worcestershire sauce to a large mixing bowl. Beat all of these ingredients together until completely blended.

2. Line a deep dish platter with plastic wrap. Fill with the cheese mixture and shape into a round disc. Refrigerate at least one hour prior to decorating.

3. When ready to serve, turn out the cheeseball onto a serving plate, and remove the plastic wrap.

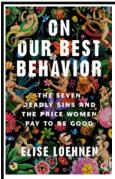
4. Designate one side of the circle as the top, and place a row of five Triscuit crackers below the top, and gently press the crackers into the cheese. Next place a row of four crackers over the first row, indenting them by half a cracker to form the scarecrow's hat. Add a small piece of parsley as a flower.

5. Arrange the matchstick carrots as hair beneath the lower row of crackers.

6. Slice the black olives and place two slices as eyes. Press the grape tomato into the cheeseball as the nose. Then, press the red bell pepper slice into the cheeseball as a mouth.

7. Serve with additional crackers or vegetable dippers. Enjoy!

Prep Time: 15 mins Resting Time: 1 hr. Total Time: 1 hr. 15 mins Servings: 8 Calories: 457



Fall Book Study at Cradle & Beyond

This will be a discussion class lasting approximately 2 hours from 4-6pm on Wednesdays beginning September 6th through the end of November. Led by Pastor Daniel Bradley.

An analysis of society's behavioral expectations for women.



Drawing largely on her own experiences, Loehnen, the host of the *Pulling the Thread* podcast and former editorial projects director of *Condé Nast Traveler*, contends that women have been unwittingly programmed to behave in a certain manner in order to be accepted. "Where did this beast come from," she asks, "how did it get its power, and why was I so willing to submit? I began to trawl through history to locate the early murmurs of when good-ness and acceptability were conjoined for women." Loehnen shows that the framework for this programming arose via the Seven Deadly Sins found in Christian teachings.

The author explores the origin of the sins and examines each in relation to the modern life of women. While the concepts referenced in the book do have strong religious underpinnings, the author's language and writing style are more secular in nature and will appeal to a wide audience.

"Even if you consider yourself an atheist, or agnostic, or opposed to organized religion, the moral codes directed by the Seven Deadly Sins have influenced you," she writes. "They are not solely the prove-nance of the church; the sins have permeated culture." An engaging work that offers an opportunity for pause and reflection regarding our daily choices. We hope you will join us on Wednesdays!



Buffalo Bills FOOTBALL SUNDAYS AT



BUFFALO VS. RAIDERS BUFFALO THEMED FOODS (WINGS, CHIPS & DIPS) | 1:00 PM



BUFFALO VS. WASHINGTON TACOS & NACHOS I 1:00 PM

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BUFFALO VS. MIAMI DOLPHINS ANIMAL THEME APPETIZERS I 1:00 PM



BUFFALO VS. PATRIOTS HALLOWEEN THEME FOODS 1 1:00 PM



CRADLE & BEYOND 7778 BREWERTON RD. SYRACUSE, NY 13212



All Saints' Sunday is on November 5, 2023.

Please e-mail fjoffice@fjumc.org with any

photos of family members, friends and loved ones who have passed away that you want to honor this year. Also, please include their full name, and dates of birth and death. Thank you!

<u>Bible Trivia Answers</u>: 1. Ishmael, 2. Two, 3. Peter, 4. He was holding a drawn sword, 5. To give him instructions on conquering Jericho, 6. The Ethiopian eunuch, 7. Gabriel, 8. Samson, 9. Jezebel, 10. He blessed Jacob, 11. Cornelius, 12. Gideon, 13. Cherubim, 14. Isaiah, 15. The Assyrians, 16. Abraham, 17. A pillar of fire and a pillar of clouds, 18. Herod, 19. Lazarus, 20. Gabriel

OCTOBER 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Special Sunday: World Commun- ion Buffalo Bills @ C&B, 1pm	2	3	4 Fall Book Study, 4-6pm @ C&B 9:30 AM - Prayer &	5 9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building.	6 Elvis Concert Fundraiser, 6PM- 8PM @ FJUMC, Sanctuary	7 9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building.
8	9 Columbus Day	10	11 Fall Book Study, 4-6pm @ C&B 9:30 AM - Prayer & Holy communion in	9AM-12PM - Workday @ New Build- ing	13 GNAC Presents: Rocky Horror Picture Show, 7PM @ FJUMC	14 GNAC Presents: Rocky Horror Picture Show, 7PM & 10PM @ FJUMC
15	16	17	18 Fall Book Study, 4-6pm @ C&B 9:30 AM - Prayer &	9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building	20 GNAC Presents: Rocky Horror Picture Show, 7PM @ FJUMC	21 GNAC Presents: Rocky Horror Picture Show, 7PM & 10PM @ FJUMC
22 Buffalo Bills @ C&B, 1pm	23	24 Bucket sale @ C&B, 4pm-7pm	25 Fall Book Study, 4-6pm @ C&B Bucket Sale @ C&B, 10am-4pm	26 Bucket Sale @ C&B, 10am-4pm	27	28 Grandma's Old- Fashioned Roast Beef Dinner Drive-Thru, 4pm- 6pm @ FJUMC
29	30	31 Halloween Bucket sale @ C&B, 4-7pm				
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.

od With Others



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



8396 Morgan Road

Clay NY 13041

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Faith Journey UMC Staff:

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Maryna Mazhukhova - Musician

Daniel Williams - Musician

Jake Melnyk - Musician

Sara Mertz - Office Manager

Sean Townsend - Custodian