



Pastor's
Page



The Stepping Stone
October 2024

"The aroma of Christ...what do we smell like?"

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." - 2 Corinthians 5:17-20

The New International Version. 2011. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

Confession: Like a good preacher, I cribbed the title for this essay from another pastor. I am such a good pastor. I can not recall their name or where they were from, but I remember that the title made me think about what I smell like spiritually.

Do I smell like springtime flowers or the skunk that sprayed my dog a few years back?

Is my attitude and life focused on the things of God? Or am I just going through the motions of being a good church member?

At one time or another, we have walked with Christ and away from Christ.

We all have played the fool, and the messes that we made have had consequences, but do not damn us to a life without Christ. Jesus uses the same road we walked away from him to bring us back through the ministry of reconciliation. We need to share this ministry with our brothers and sisters who walk this road with us.

Although we may feel like it, we are never alone—the opportunity to be in sweet communion with Christ and our community is ever present.

The Apostle Paul experienced community in every city and town that would have him. He poured into those communities the power of Christ that he had experienced on the road to Damascus and his three years in the wilderness, pressing into the presence of Christ.

If we are not moving and growing in our relationship with Christ, we are walking away.

The key to staying on the path is a daily surrender to Christ in our word, action, deed, and character.

This summer, God has been speaking to me. The word that has come is pause. That is all I know, and that is enough for me. As I walk with you as your pastor, I would ask just one thing: pray that God and God's son, Jesus, is so present in my life and witness that I glow with grace, gratitude, and healing.

This season of faith's perfection is the time for us to practice the ministry of reconciliation; to do that, Christ must be real to us. We don't have to go very far to encounter Jesus—just keep putting one foot in front of the other, and if you can't trust one another just yet, trust Jesus to take your hand and walk with you.

God Bless,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rev. Daniel Bradley".

Rev. Daniel Bradley

What's Happening

OCTOBER:

October 4th & 5th—Tales by Candlelight, 7PM
October 6th—World Communion Sunday, Guest Preacher Todd Goddard
October 6th—Buffalo Bills Football Sunday, 1PM @ C&B, house side
October 12th—19th—'Fall' in love with Thrifting Sale @ C&B2.0
October 17th—Dream Team, Ministries Council & SPRC Meeting, 7PM
October 20th—Buffalo Bills Football Sunday, 1PM @ C&B, house side
October 25th—Rocky Horror Show, 7PM
October 26th—Rocky Horror Show, 4PM & 8PM
October 28th—Charge Conference, 7PM @ Cicero UMC
November 2nd—Roast Beef Dinner Drive-Thru & Dine-in, 4-6pm

Grandma's Old-Fashioned Roast Beef Dinner Drive-Thru and Limited Dine-In

Saturday, November 2, 2024
 4:00 PM—6:00 PM



**Limited Dine-In by Reservation ONLY*
\$16 per person



We are accepting reservations for two limited seatings, one at 4pm and one at 5pm. Please call (315) 263-1014 with your name and number of people in your group to reserve your dine-in spot.

\$15.00 / Adult Dinner—Includes roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, tossed salad, roll with butter, and homemade dessert

\$8.00 / Children's Dinner—Includes a half portion of roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, tossed salad, roll with butter, and homemade dessert

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

TALES BY CANDLELIGHT

Friday, October 4th—7:00 PM

Saturday, October 5th—7:00 PM



Get your tickets now at Ticketor.com/GNAC

\$15—Student/Senior

\$20—General Admission

THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW

The 50th Anniversary of the cult classic show



Friday, October 25th—7:00 PM

Saturday, October 26th—4:00 PM
 & 8:00 PM



Get your tickets now at Ticketor.com/GNAC

\$25—General Admission

(front row & participation bag)

Great Northern Artists Collaborative,
 8396 Morgan Rd. Clay, NY 13041

Mark your calendars to join us for
Football Sundays!



10/6—Bills vs. Texans
 10/20—Bills vs. Titans
 11/10—Bills vs. Colts



All football games will be at 1:00 PM at Cradle & Beyond, 7778 Brewerton Rd. Syracuse, NY 13212 (house side)



To Reverend Dan and all of the staff and musicians of Faith Journey,

Thank you all very much for having me and my fellow musicians and all that you did to help provide a safe and loving environment for remembering the victims of 9/11 on 9/8. I appreciate all of the support very much. I hope you all have a blessed fall ahead.

Thank you again! Sincerely, John Harnois



Cradle & Beyond 2.0

7778 Brewerton Road

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
7778 Brewerton Rd. Syracuse, NY 13212



You all Rock!!! 2024 has been an amazing year AND August and September have been record months! You all managed to graciously welcome all customers (new and regulars), accept, sort, mark and display a record amount of donations and turn over merchandise - all while short-staffed. Cradle and Beyond has the best team to work with!

In just two months we have sold over \$11,000 worth of merchandise but more importantly, we have made connections that exceed that amount. I hear it every day - as you do too - everyone loves to shop at our store - they can 'thrift' anywhere but choose to come to C&B because of the ministry we do, the organizations we support, our prices and merchandise and YOU.

Last month, we were optimistic that we would be breaking ground for a new (much needed) addition to store / sort the donations we receive. We are still awaiting the final plans and in talking with those that can prepare the space to be built upon, they are 'booked up' for the year - if we have a mild November / December, maybe we can begin the process but if not, we will break ground in the spring.



We are in the planning stages of our annual Christmas Party - we plan to announce the date in the November newsletter.

The greatest news that we have to share at this point - is the next sale will be Saturday 10/12 - Saturday 10/19. The theme of the sale is *“Fall’ in love with thrifting”*

More details will be forthcoming. Keep doing what you're doing :)



SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH - OCTOBER - "NEW EVERY MORNING"

"Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

- Lamentations 3:22-23



OCTOBER

September was super busy! My mother's hip replacement surgery went great! She is still in the recovery stage and I've been helping her with assorted tasks and taking her to Physical Therapy. We see the surgeon this week and should have an update and what to expect moving forward. My mom is anxious to get out of the house more and start driving herself places again! I should be able to return to my normal schedule soon once she gets her independence back! I'm glad the recovery has been successful so far and hope that my mom is able to be as active and healthy as she was before! Thank you for all of the support, well-wishes and patience during this process!



World Communion Sunday is a denomination-wide celebration emphasizing the value of education and training. We commemorate this day by giving generously to support young adults and make a global impact for Christ. Half of the offering benefits World Communion scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students from the U.S. and other countries. The remainder provides grants to support training for worldwide inclusion, diversity, equity, and access.

Supporting United Methodist students offers both financial and spiritual encouragement, demonstrating the church's confidence in their potential. On World Communion Sunday, we join ecumenically in acknowledging our unity in Christ as we gather around His table.

Last year, your generosity raised **\$443 thousand**, enabling undergraduate and graduate studies for those who could not afford an education, helping to shape the future leaders of the United Methodist Church. Together, we can achieve much more than we could alone. Your generosity reflects God's glory through young leaders, equipping them to pursue God's call in their lives.

Guest Speaker: Reverend Todd Goddard, is a retired elder, trusted friend and colleague of Pastor Bradley who will be preaching on World Communion Sunday, October 6th.



Guest Speaker: Alice Bowman is a lay speaker that shares her time between Liverpool, United Methodist Church and Faith Journey. She is a writer and author and soon to be published again. She will be preaching on All Saints Sunday, November 3rd.

***Want to include your loved one in the All Saints Sunday PowerPoint Presentation?** Please send photos of your loved ones to FJOFFICE@FJUMC.ORG. Please include their full name, birth and death date along with the pictures to be featured during the All Saints' Sunday Worship Service. We want to honor and remember all the saints, so send your photos by Sunday, 10/27/24 via email.

OCTOBER SCRIPTURE WRITING PLAN



Dealing with the Enemy

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 - Isaiah 14:12-14
Day 2 - Ezekiel 28:12-13
Day 3 - Ezekiel 28:14-15
Day 4 - Ezekiel 28:16-17
Day 5 - Ezekiel 28:18-19
Day 6 - Genesis 3:1
Day 7 - Genesis 3:4-5
Day 8 - Genesis 3:15
Day 9 - Job 1:6-7
Day 10 - 1 Peter 5:8-9
Day 11 - Matthew 4:1-2
Day 12 - Matthew 4:3-4
Day 13 - Matthew 4:5-7
Day 14 - Matthew 4:8-10
Day 15 - Ephesians 6:12
Day 16 - Ephesians 6:13-14

Day 17 - Ephesians 6:15-16
Day 18 - Ephesians 6:17-18
Day 19 - 2 Thessalonians 3:3
Day 20 - Hebrews 4:14-16
Day 21 - James 1:12-13
Day 22 - Matthew 26:41
Day 23 - James 4:7
Day 24 - Galatians 5:16-17
Day 25 - 2 Corinthians 10:3
Day 26 - 2 Corinthians 10:4-5
Day 27 - Psalm 119:11
Day 28 - Psalm 97:10
Day 29 - Hebrews 2:14-15
Day 30 - Hebrews 2:16-18
Day 31 - Your Choice!

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.





Double Chocolate Zucchini Bread

"The moist and fudgy double chocolate zucchini bread that will have you wondering how 2 cups of grated vegetables are hidden inside!"

Recipe submitted by: Dawn Bradley

Author: Nicole Hunn

INGREDIENTS

- 2 ounces dark chocolate, *chopped*
- 1 1/2 cups all purpose gluten-free flour blend
- 1/2 cup unsweetened natural cocoa powder
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 cup granulated sugar or 4 cups stevia
- 4 ounces semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 2 cups grated fresh zucchini
- 2 eggs at room temperature, *beaten*
- 6 tablespoons neutral oil, *(canola, vegetable, grapeseed, or peanut oil all work)*
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat your oven to 325 F.
2. Grease and line a standard 9-inch x 5-inch loaf pan and set it aside.
3. In a safe microwave-safe bowl, place the chopped chocolate and microwave in 30-second bursts at 60% power, stirring in between, until smooth.
4. Set aside chocolate to cool briefly.
5. In a large bowl, place flour, xanthan gum, cocoa powder, salt, baking soda, baking powder, and granulated sugar, and whisk to combine.
6. Place the chocolate chips in a separate small bowl, add 1 teaspoon of the dry ingredients to the chips and toss to combine. Set the chips aside.
7. Add 1 cup of grated zucchini to the dry ingredients and stir to combine, breaking up any clumps of grated zucchini.
8. In a blender or food processor, place the remaining 1 cup of grated zucchini, eggs, oil and vanilla, and blend or process until smooth.
9. Add the melted chocolate, and blend once more to combine.
10. Create a well in the center of the bowl of dry ingredients, pour in the wet ingredients and mix to combine. The batter will be soft.
11. Add all but a few of the chocolate chips and reserved dry ingredients to the batter, and stir until the chips are evenly distributed throughout.
12. Scrape the batter into the prepared loaf pan and smooth the top with a wet spatula. Set bread aside to let cool, then proceed to cut and enjoy!

Prep Time: 15 mins.

Cook Time: 40-45 mins.

Servings: 10 slices quick bread

RECIPE



"Lyman, Our Little Country Town"



Sometimes I think of the little quiet town where I was born and lived as a child. On a warm summer night, we would sit on the front porch and hear the train whistle from a nearby town and bears growling in the wild. In the morning, it was so great to see the sun shining through the fog on the mountain side.

We were glad to be on the Summer vacation and didn't have to wait for a school bus ride. We attended a two-room schoolhouse with only one teacher for the first through sixth grade. I remember celebrating all the Holidays at school and taking home the cute things we made. We rode to school in the Driver's personal vehicle, whether it was a Suburban van or a Station wagon, as there was no need for a Big Bus.

The school janitor took care of the coal furnace and made sure the school was warm for us. Our school was located in the part of town called "Tinkerville" and so was the Country store. Yes, we had a little country store where you could buy groceries and so much more. Once a week, customers could phone their grocery order and the store owner would bring them to their house for free. Of course, we would get excited because the store owner always brought us candy when he made the delivery.



The Town Hall was used for Meetings and when there were official elections, that is where people went. In the basement was a garage that store all the equipment for the road agent.

Across the road was the Grange Hall where Grange meetings were held and other entertainment, such as parties and our school plays. It has a kitchen and during the Summer, women in the town would plan the baked bean suppers and decide on who was going to bake the beans, dried peas, pies, rolls, and whatever else was needed for the meal on those days. The charge for the supper was always a very low price and people came from all the nearby towns to enjoy the meal and always complimented the food was very nice.



There was a little Church near our house that we attended on Sunday night. Our Family didn't have very much money, but we were given two pennies for the offering and this seemed like a lot of money to our delight. We didn't have a television or electronic games to play. However, in the summer we enjoyed playing hide n' seek, hopscotch, marbles, softball, tag and other games outside during the day.



For entertainment on a Saturday night during the Summer, people would drive to the nearby town and wait in their cars to visit with someone they knew or a good Friend. We enjoyed going into the stores to buy penny candy with the nickel each of us was given to spend. As I look back, things seemed very simple, but to us enjoyable and good. So as you read my poem, I hope you can reflect on your childhood too!

Poem written by Linda Clifford



OCTOBER 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 <small>9:30 AM - Prayer & Holy communion in Pastor's Office</small>	3 <small>9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building</small>	4 GNAC, Tales by Candlelight, 7PM PSC Group, 1:30-4	5 GNAC, Tales by Candlelight, 7PM <small>9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building.</small>
6 World Communion Sunday Buffalo Bills Football Sunday @ C&B 1PM	7 PSC Group, 10-2	8	9 <small>9:30 AM - Prayer & Holy communion in Pastor's Office</small>	10 <small>9AM-12PM - Workday @ New Building</small>	11 PSC Group, 1:30-4	12 'Fall' in love with Thrifting Sale, 10 -2pm @ C&B <small>9AM - 12 PM - Workday</small>
13	14 PSC Group, 10-2	15 'Fall' in love with Thrifting Sale, 4-7pm @ C&B	16 'Fall' in love with Thrifting Sale, 10-4pm @ C&B <small>9:30 AM - Prayer & Holy</small>	17 'Fall' in love with Thrifting Sale, 10-4pm @ C&B Dream Team, Ministries Council, SPRC Meeting, 7PM	18 PSC Group, 1:30-4	19 'Fall' in love with Thrifting Sale, 10 -2pm @ C&B <small>9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building.</small>
20 Buffalo Bills Football Sunday @ C&B 1PM	21 PSC Group, 10-2	22	23 <small>9:30 AM - Prayer & Holy communion in Pastor's</small>	24 <small>9AM - 12PM - Workday @ New Building</small>	25 PSC Group, 1:30-4 GNAC, Rocky Horror Show, 7PM	26 GNAC, Rocky Horror Show, 4PM & 8PM <small>9AM - 12PM - Workday</small>
27	28 PSC Group, 10-2 Charge Conference, 7PM @ Cicero UMC	29	30	31 <i>Halloween Day</i>		

Bible Trivia Answers: 1. The Gadarene demoniac, 2. Esau, 3. Elijah, 4. Philip, 5. John, 6. Samuel, 7. Rachel, 8. David, 9. Gehazi, 10. Zacchaeus, 11. Abraham, 12. Joab, 13. They that wait upon the Lord, 14. Elisha, 15. Adonijah, 16. The priest Eli, 17. Samson', 18. Rebekah, 19. A sponge, 20. Aaron, 21. Zechariah, 22. Mary and Mary Magdalene, 23. Laban

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE



For the month of **OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER**, we will be collecting **boxed potatoes, stuffing mix and gravy, canned vegetables and fruits, dessert mix, juice and \$10 meat donation for Thanksgiving Bags** to distribute to local families in need before Thanksgiving Day.

We are collecting Thanksgiving items on tables in the sanctuary from now until Nov. 17th, then we will put them together after worship service.

Thanks so much 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