

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

In June, we were blessed to host a Mission Team from First United Methodist Church of Greenwich, Ct. First UMC is also the church of Don and Leigh Lewandoski, who are also part of our community, as they have a weekend house in Stephentown. The team was housed with Don and Leigh, and provided repairs and building for several Stephentown residents.

It was a delight to meet and work with them. A true collaboration of ministry and fellowship which put our Christian beliefs into action. Prayer and spiritual support are the core of Christian community, and it is beautiful to experience a real, physical manifestation of these core values. Body of Christ. As I said to Pastor Ariel, I was inspired by the physical commitment, combined with the spiritual one, as a tangible witness to the Gospel.

We gathered on their last night here for a pot-luck supper, and really got to know one another. As we spoke of our aching muscles, all I could think was, "This is my body, given for you." Jesus not only made a spiritual commitment, he also gave his body, his very life, in spreading the Good News. In a very small way, we had the opportunity to do the same.

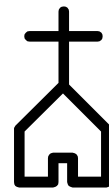
We are grateful for these opportunities to put our faith into action. Let us pray this month for all of those who go forth on mission, whether domestic or foreign, who put a human face on the Gospel and who bring the compassion of God into being.

Wishing all of you a beautiful, life-giving summer.

Loving Blessings!

Susan

*Working for God on earth doesn't pay much
but His retirement plan is out of this world.....*



Roof Project

The roofing project is on track for the church hall at the end of July or the first part of August.

At this time, we have acquired enough money in the CD for the roof project to cover the costs of doing the job.

The shingles being used are GAF architectural 30 year and will be Patriot Red in color which should go along with the Church's roof.

***Many thanks
to all who helped make this possible!***

Any left over money will be used to start a fund to make repairs on the steeple. So far, we have installed pigeon guards on the steeple to keep the birds from roosting over the front entryway.

Other additional repairs need to be made to keep water out of the steeple area. The cost of doing the repairs will be about \$16,000.00.

We hope to do the work next summer.

SonShiners

Do you buy Avon?

Carli Drake is offering 20%-30% donation to the roof fund from her Avon sales. This only applies to orders given to her via telephone or email (carli@fairpoint.net). Let her know you want monies donated to the roof fund.



Community Tag Sale (Gardner's field)

August 28th 9am-3pm

The SonShiners will have a booth selling fresh produce, jams & jellies, along with baked goods (finger foods – cookies, brownies, cup cakes, etc.). We will also be holding a silent auction of donated basket items or gift certificates. Contact Barb Terpening at (518)279-3746 or email babst3@verizon.net if you can help work the booth or have items/gift certificates to donate for the silent auction.



Save This Date!

Giffy's BBQ October 9th Along with the BBQ we will be selling pies (whole or by the slice). Pie donations would be greatly appreciated.

We will be having a breakfast meeting Sunday, July 18th at 8am. Since there will be little business to cover it was suggested we make this a social gathering. Besides your breakfast item, bring in a jewelry item precious to you and share the background importance of this item. Come and tell your story!

To God Be The Glory

It is with much gratitude and thanks to our choir members for their faithfulness during the past year. We had a pick up choir during the month of June and during July and August they will be taking a much needed break. It is my hope that we will have some special music for some of the Sundays. We will be starting back up on Sept 12th as a pick up choir for that Sunday and regular rehearsals begin the following Tuesday Sept 14 at 6:30 pm.

God bless
Bev

Technology and Worship Committee

We have finished our second complete year of monthly Contemporary services. This year we got the CD accompaniment version for all our hymns. I have uploaded all of them to the computer so we can have a playlist for the Sundays I am not available and/or do not have a someone to play. Special thanks go to Helen, Barb and Marge for agreeing to run this and actually doing it in my absence. We would however like to include some other folks that would like to either run the computer or the music various times. I normally always have it set up so that would not be an added responsibility-- only to run it on Sunday. If you are interested, please speak to me or Rev Susan.

It is our hope to add yet another piece to the technology. That being a video camera to video the services and upload them to our website. We have found there is a grant available through the Presbytery and the worship committee will meet to finalize that so we can get some money through the Rural Initiative Fund for our camera. We hope to have this in place by September 2010.

As always, we welcome any comments or suggestions from you the members of the congregation.

Many thanks to all
Bev Westfall

JULY/AUGUST/SEPTEMBER CALENDAR 2010

JULY

July 4	9:30 am Worship Service & Communion
July 7	6:30 pm Worship/Tech Comm. meeting
July 11	9:30 am Worship Service
July 18	8:00 am SonShiners Breakfast
	9:30 am Worship service
July 25	9:30 am Worship Service
July 26	7:00 pm General Committee meeting

AUGUST

August 1	9:30 am Worship Service
August 8	9:30 am Worship Service
August 15	9:30 am Worship Service
August 22	9:30 am Worship Service
August 23	7:00 pm General Committee
August 28	9 am to 3 pm Sonshiners Community Tag Sale at Gardners
August 29	rain date for Community Tag Sale
August 29	9:30 am Worship Service

SEPTEMBER

September 5	9:30 am Worship Service
September 8	6:30 pm Worship/ Tech committee
September 12	9:00 am <i>pick up choir</i>
	9:30 am Worship Service
September 14	6:30 pm Choir rehearsal
September 19	9:30 am Worship Service
September 21	6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
September 26	9:30 am Worship Service
September 27	7:00 pm General Committee

Everyone is invited to the coffee hour following our worship services on Sunday.