



Keyhole

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by the First United Methodist Church,
603 Main Street, Port Jefferson, New York 11777
for the inspiration and information of its members and friends.



Celebrating 181 Years of Service in the name of Christ
~1835 - 2016~



First UMC of Port Jefferson Mission Statement

To love and serve Christ and others through praise, prayer,
preaching of the Word of God and to welcome all to join
us in our faith journey

The New York Annual Conference Vision Statement:

The New York Annual Conference, through the grace of God embodies a
beloved community of hope, building up a healthy Body of Christ, with
heart-warmed United Methodists in mission for the transformation of the
world.

Church Telephone: (24 hours) (631) 473-0517, FAX (631) 473-0738

Church Office Hours: Friday 9:00-4:30

Church Email Address: 1stumc@optonline.net (NEW EMAIL ADDRESS)

Church Web site: www.pjfumc.org

Look for us on Facebook: Port Jefferson First United Methodist Church

STAFF and OFFICERS:

Pastor:The Rev. David Mantz

Administrative Assistant:Pat Balcom

Organist/Choir Director:Rachel Schutz

Co-Lay Leaders:.....David and Trudy Clark

Administrative Council Chair;Kenny Bohler

President, Board of Trustees:.....Richard Cox

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Russell, Steve Schutter, Marlene and Eric Kadel, Shirley
Leonard, Mary Lou Stein, Janet McBride, Ashley Grills, Bob
and Laurel Libby, Lee Nichols,

Editor:.....Ellen Cheeseman

Contributing Writers: Pastor Dave, Ken Bohler, Jane Collins,
.....Shirley Leonard, Gail Tilton, Steve Schutter and Sandra Swenk

**The dead line for the May issue of
“The Keyhole” is Sunday April 10, 2016**

Articles submitted after the 10th will be included in the
May issue. Please email your articles and reports to:

EllenGCheeseman@optonline.net



Friends and Family,

I bring challenging news for all of us. It is the decision of our Bishop that Sandy and I will both move to new churches in Connecticut on July 1st. This was not my desire or that of our church, but is, none-the-less, God's will, as it is indeed happening.

Sandy will serve the church in Waterbury, directly off Route 84 and I will have a two point charge initially in Watertown and Thomaston, with the intent that Thomaston will merge in the next several years into Watertown. As of now, we think our oldest, Emily, will remain here with friends to finish her Senior year at Ward Melville and then head off to college in August of 2017. Wayne and Izzy will move with us and finish their High School years in Watertown.

It used to be that Methodist pastors all rotated every 3-5 years. It has been an honor

and a privilege to serve with you here at Port Jefferson for these past 5 years and we will miss every last one of you. You are a blessing to us and have become family. In moving, we are required to cut the cords to some extent to allow the new Pastor to properly take over. As such, we plan to return only for major events like the Summer Barbecue. My last day in the pulpit will be Sunday June 19th – Father's Day and we will be packing and moving like crazy those next two weeks in order to be formally moved in by July 1st. As Christians, we never need to say good-bye, only "until we meet again."

Love and blessings always!!!

Pastor Dave

Our New Pastor

Our Newly assigned Pastor is Sandra J. Moore from the North Canton Community United Methodist Church and Washington Hill United Methodist Church in Connecticut.

Pastor Moore will begin in July with vacation currently pending.

The SPR and Worship committees are looking forward to making her transition as smooth possible. Updates will be posted regarding Pastor Moore's relocation.

Yours in Christ
Steve Schutter, SPR Chair

A New Pastoral Assignment.

In light of some of our churches facing the changing of their pastoral leadership, I spoke a few words on the subject at our Lenten service on Wednesday, March 02. I was asked to put the essence of what was said to paper for an article in The Keyhole. The following is my effort to fulfill that request.

Frequently, when a change of pastor is announced, there is uneasiness in a congregation about what kind of pastor will be assigned to their church. I think it's safe to say that we've all experienced pastors that we had trouble being comfortable with or being ministered by, for one reason or another. I'd like, for some, to try and put the experience into a Christian context with the hope of creating an atmosphere that might ease

the transition for both we the congregation and for whomever will become our new pastor.

First we should recognize that whomever they are, they are a person who has given their life for the service of Christ, praise God. Who among a congregation can boast that? The point being that we are a congregation because we have chosen to be closer to our savior, to worship Him and serve Him, understanding what He has done for us and because of the new life we have in Him. We need to be rightfully humbled when we are in the presence of a brother or sister that has gone the extra mile of dedicating not just an hour, or maybe a little more by serving on some committee, but has given up all other material and worldly pursuits so that they may minister and serve, not just Christ, but his people. Us.

Second, Let us remember that the pastor probably won't be Jesus. They will probably only be another human. You know, like us. And like us, they will not be perfect. Like us, they will require assistance. Like us, they will not always be easy to get along with. For like us they will not likely be without a weak spot. Maybe they won't be a great sermonizer or maybe not a

great organizer or communicator. Maybe they will be of foreign birth, perhaps with a strong accent. Maybe they will ascribe to an opposite political or social philosophy than some of us. They might even have bad breath!

Some scripture to keep in mind:

Hebrews 13:17 Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves.

1 Timothy 5:17 Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching.

Also remember God's words. When Jesus was asked what the greatest commandment was. He answered:

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”^[a] 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’^[b] 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

Love your new pastor as you love yourself.

For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you. A scary scripture to be sure!

For Disciples of Christ that trust the Lord, change is synonymous to opportunity. As Christians we trust God's provident control.

“And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28

This is our opportunity to please God and grow in the Word by being partners with our new ministers as stewards of Christ's church. It is not the time to be judgmental of a pastor's shortcomings thereby undermining the church and exposing ourselves as ambassadors of the world, and not God's Kingdom. Let us not be the stench of rotting fruit in God's nostrils lest he cut us from

the vine. Instead lets us be "...an aroma pleasing to the Lord."

Those in the congregation who are secure in Christ need to assist their brethren less secure by counseling them to exercise patience and love if gossip or complaints should begin to arise. A fire needs to be quenched immediately lest it consume the whole church.

I did not have our congregation, at this time, particularly in mind when I wrote this. I believe at this time our congregation in Port Jefferson has grown in the Word and I'm confident the new assignment will be a blessing for our new pastor as well as for us. But remember because of our enemy we are admonished; "...to be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil. Prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.".....we need to be vigilant.

**These words are offered in the spirit of peace and love.
Your brother in Christ,
Ken Bohler.**



We had a very busy fall, with collecting feathers for Tom Turkey and getting the food to the food pantry, then on to the wonderful Christmas Pageant and those who participated! We all enjoyed ourselves and a big thank you to Juliet Filimon who directed and Ryan Pfister who recorded the pageant. Copies are available if you wish. Quite the team!

The Sunday School recently participated in a modified Youth Sunday due to the cancelling of Sunday School and Church. I wanted to thank those who volunteered anyway. Theodore Granger and Ethan Farrell for reading; Max Amundsen for sharing his musical talent; Ryan Pfister for acolyting ; Brianna Smith, Sean Smith, Patrick Pfister and Ryan Pfister for ushering ; Mia Amundsen, Hermione Granger, Emma Farrell Hamilton Granger, Patrick Pfister for greeting! And last but not least those helping with the Joyful Noise collection.

“Wisdom is oftentimes nearer when we stoop than when we soar.” ~William Wordsworth~

We are very grateful for the Youth Sermon and Alyssa Heitz for her sermon. We are truly blessed to have such devoted members in our congregation.

Thank you all and we look forward to an eventful Spring!
Yours in Christ,
Gail Tilton
Linda Altebrando
Co- Superintendents



**Richard E. Shea
Memorial Soup Kitchen**

Come serve with us at **Trinity United Methodist Church in Coram** preparing and serving meals for those in need, Tuesdays from 4pm to 6pm. (once a month)

See Judy Spencer on Sunday or call her at 631-473-6667 to sign up!

“The greatest gift we can give back to our great God is to let his love make us glad.”
~Ann Voskamp, *The Greatest Gift*~

Special Giving

**Restoration Fund/Special
Envelopes**

Kent and Barbara Edwards
Ken Bohler
Bob and Lillian Spears
Sandra Swenk
Monty Granger
Ken and Elizabeth Combs
Lee Nichols
Tom and Mare Tivenan
Ellen Cheeseman and Martin
White

Endowment Fund

Eric and Marlene Kadel



All the women of the church are invited to join us for a morning of fellowship and friendship.

**Our program will be
presented by Janet McBride**

**Friday April 8th
10:00am in Fellowship Hall**



March 6th

In memory of Cynthia Pfister by
the Pfister Family

March 13th

In memory of Wanda Kunz by
the Kunz Family

March 20th

In memory of Mike and Jerry
Libby by Laurel and Bob Libby

March 27th

Easter Flowers



March 6th

The Whites and Schutters

March 13th

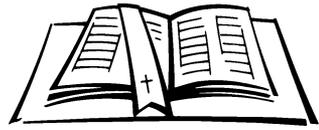
The Whites and Schutters

March 20th

The Grills Family

March 27th

“The Easter Bunnies”



Lectionary Readings

April 3rd

Acts 5:27-32

Psalm 150

Revelations 1:4-8

John 20:19-31

April 10

Acts 9:1-6

Psalm 30

Revelations 5:11-14

John 21:1-19

April 17th

Acts 9:36-43

Psalm 23

Revelations 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

April 24th

Acts 11:1-18

Psalm 148

Revelations 21:1-6

John 13:31-35

Revered and Read

In many churches, an ornate Bible lies open on the worship table near the entrance to the sanctuary. Someone once commented that this is an appropriate symbol for some Christians — a Bible that is revered but never read. Let us prove that observer wrong.

April 2016

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1: Sandra Granger
- 3: Michael Loper
- 4: Shannon Kelly
- 5: Matthew Gallo
Frederick Eichenauer
- 6: John Knight
- 7: Hannorah Townsend
- 8: Craig Edwards
John Steiner
- 10: Heather West
- 11: Joann Jantzen
Peyton Prato
- 15: Austin Marlowe
- 16: Thomas Farrell
Cassandra Love
Brian Fletcher
- 18: Jennifer Combs
Brielle Knight
- 20: Peter Scalicione II
- 21: Megan Wood Francoeur
- 23: Julie Godwin
- 24: Pastor Sandy Mantz
- 25: Tyler Joseph Iaccarino
- 26: Teva Blazejewski
- 28: Craig G. Godwin
Dawn Okst
Laura Passarelle
- 30: Patricia Diaz

- 4: Angela & Ken Bohler
- 9: Beth & Sean Cardineau
- 15: Pat & Paul Diaz
- 15: Janet & Henry Steiger
- 18: Sandra & James Zahn
- 27: Tracy & Robert Darling



UMCOR

Thanks to the generosity of this congregation, \$1259 will be sent on to the United Methodist Committee on Relief as part of the 2016 One Great Hour of Sharing Offering.



Long Term Church Calendar

Tuesday April 5th, 6pm Worship
Committee in the Board Room
7pm Outreach Committee in the
Parsonage Dining Rm

Friday April 8th, 10am,
Women's Group

Saturday April 9th, 11-1pm
Stop Hunger Now Meal
Packing Extravaganza!

Thursday April 14th, 6:30pm
Finance Committee in the Board
Room

Friday April 15th, noon, Disciple
Bible Study Chapter 28

Tuesday April 19th, 6:30pm
Trustees in Fellowship Hall

No Church Council in April



You are cordially
invited to join us for

**Harbor View Nursery
School's
LADIES NIGHT OUT**

Thursday, April 14th, 2016
6:30-10:30 in the evening
\$45 per ticket

THE MEADOW CLUB
1147 NY-112, Port Jefferson
Station, NY 11766

Your evening will include wine
& beer, cash bar for cocktails,
buffet dinner, ice cream bar &
cookies, silent basket auction &
50/50 raffle.

**Please call Kristina at
631-375-1811 to reserve your
seats!**



April Showers

The sky shed tears of joy today.
They huddle in puddles. So
little feet can jump and splash.

~Carolyn Kenworthy ~



PUZZLE

A SPECIAL GIFT

Give thanks to God for this amazing planet, which he filled with people, animals and plants.

Directions: Following the code below, fill in the blanks to complete the Bible verse. Then color the earth.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z



The _____ is _____, and
 _____, the
 _____, and
 _____ 24:1, NIV

Answer: The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it, Psalm 24:1, NIV

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