

The Messenger

First United Methodist Church of Mexico
July 2018

From the Pastor...

Dear Mexico First Family and Friends,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ:

As I write this, my husband Ernie and I are still in Jamestown packing for our move to join you in Mexico. It seems like we have been preparing for a long time. Yet it also seems like only a few short weeks since my initial meeting with the SPPR Committee.

Transitions can be funny like that! We wait and wonder and prepare as best we can. We try to work out the details in an organized fashion, and always discover things we overlooked or did not know. And despite our planning, there usually is something that does not get finished. By ourselves it is difficult and frustrating until we remember that Jesus Christ is in the midst of this with us.

It might be tempting to think that the transition from Pastor Emily to me will be complete on July 1st. But in actuality, we will then begin the next stage as we get to know one another. Some of us have already started that at the church transition meetings in May and June. We had time to ask a few questions and tell a little bit about ourselves. It was great to see so many of you attending those meetings!

Once I arrive in Mexico on June 27th, we can find new ways to learn about each other – worship, fellowship events, and simple conversations. I am planning to keep regular office hours so people can drop in to see me. We can set up an appointment for other times if necessary. As we come to know each other, we will be able to find ways to work together to share the Gospel with the people around us.

Most likely, some things will change a little bit as we begin ministry together. They usually do when a new pastor arrives. But Hebrews 13:8 reassures us “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” Some things never change, and that definitely includes Jesus. His teachings and character that we see in the Bible are the same now as they were 2000 years ago. We can depend on his love strengthening us and leading us, even in the midst of transition.

“All shall be well and all shall be well and all manner of things shall be well.” (Julian of Norwich)

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Grace

IMPORTANT DATES...

July 4: USA Independence Day.
July 9: Administrative Council Meeting, 6:30pm
July 16: Church Growth, 6:30pm
July 17: LECM Meets, 6:30pm
July 17: UMMen's Night at the Ballgame.
(See information on page 3.)
July 23 – 27: Vacation Bible School, 9 – 11:30am
July 25: Outreach Meeting, 6:30pm
July 30: Monday's Meal, 11:30am-12:30am
July 30: Trustees Meeting, 6:30pm



Upcoming...

August 4: Unity Acres Picnic.
August 26: LECM Mystery Progressive Dinner.



RECOGNIZING...

Jeff Sherman
who...

Reaffirmed his faith on...
Sunday, June 23, 2018

WELCOME Pastor Grace Warren...

Mexico First United Methodist Church welcomes Pastor Grace on Sunday, July 1, as she begins leading our congregation with the morning worship service.

How to Contact Pastor Grace

E-Mail: pastorgrace16@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 716-490-3708 (yes, I text)

Office Hours:

Mondays: 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Wednesdays: 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Fridays: 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Or by appointment

My weekly Sabbath is on Tuesday, so I can spend time by God's still waters to refresh my soul.

Pastor Grace



TAKE ME OUT to the BALL GAME...

Save the Date: **Tuesday, July 17 @6:30pm**
The CHIEFS play the DURHAM BULLS at:
NBT Bank Stadium, Syracuse
A Family Fun Night sponsored by:
Crossroads District United Methodist Men
Contact: Jeremy Spencer **by July 7th** for tickets:
315-506-0543



OUR CHURCH

MISSION:

To make disciples
for Jesus Christ
for the
transformation of
the world.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2018

Shipwrecked, Rescued by Jesus!!!

Monday – Friday: July 23 – 27

9 – 11:30am

All Children Welcome!

GAMES!

FUN!

FOOD!



STORIES!

CRAFTS!

FAITH!

Unity Acres Picnic

On August 11th our congregation will be serving a picnic lunch for all the men residing at Unity Acres (Catholic Work Farm/ House of Hospitality), in Orwell, NY. The United Methodist Men's Club is helping out with the cost of the hamburgers and hot dogs.

The Outreach Committee will be coordinating donations of additional food and workers. A sign-up sheet requesting donations of certain food items and folks willing to grill and servers will be sent around church soon.

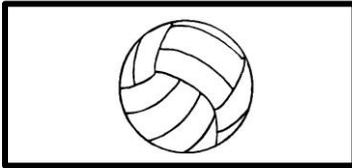
If you don't see the sign-up sheet but would like to help, please contact Rose Anne Myers or Lori Behling.
Thank you.

SAVE THE DATE

On November 3rd, 2018 the outreach committee will be hosting the annual Shoebox packing party. Please join us. There will be refreshments and this makes for a great family activity and teaching moment for children.

We are in need of many items. If you happen to see flip flops, ball caps, balls, and other summer items on sale, it would be appreciated. When school supplies come out on sale, we are in desperate need of those as well.

Thank you for your continued support of this mission. The Outreach Committee



THANK YOU...

- *The Friendship Circle thanks all who donated to the baby bottle collection this spring. Proceeds will go to: Blessings in a Backpack, Dawn LaFlamm's Library in Ghana, Africa, and our church Vacation Bible School: July 23-27, 2018. Pictured: Quinn Sherman, left, and Ethan Russel.*

NEW ADDRESS:

Jewell Fultz is now living at:

Bishop's Commons
Apt 110
4 Burkle Street
Oswego, N.Y.
13126

Phone:
315-349-0760

“She'd love visitors!” says her daughter, Connie Day.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- July 1 - Jean Irwin
2- Joanne Barnes, Mildred Murray
3- Chase Parker
4- Paul Vautrin
5- Patricia Smith
7- Doug Irwin.
 A: Earl & Muriel DeLong
9- Bill Lindovski
10- Linda Robinson, Sarah Huyge
11- Joan Rouse, A. Mike and Kelly Freihofer
13- Terry Grimshaw, Wayne Weber
14- Doanne Hurlbut
16- A: Skip & Christy Hall
19- Jonita Greenhouse, Karen Grimshaw,
 Jeannette Spicer
20- Robert Halstead, Barbara Lighthall,
 David Coonrod
 A: Chuck & Jessica Parker
21- Alyssa and Andrea Ross, Joe Wallace
22- Don Field
 A: Jeremy & Lisa Spencer
23- Bill Herrington, Madelyn Schmidt, Jim Smith
24- Pastor Emily Huyge
25- David Hurlbut
 A: for Rich & Jeanne Revette
28- A: James & Carol Watros
29- Kaitlyn Linerode
30- A: Jeff & Carol DeLong
31- Skip Hall



SERVING IN JULY...

GREETERS

- July 1: Earl DeLong
July 8: Hope Lenhart / Grace Shetler
July 15: Sparky Rector / Mary Beth Turo
July 22: _____
July 29: _____

LITURGISTS

- July 1: Mary Grants
July 8: Andy Ross
July 15: Jim Sokolowski
July 22: Christy Hall
July 29: Rick Sherman

USHERS

Team #2: Joan Rouse, Bill Butman, Lori Behling, Earl DeLong. (Team #2 serves all month long.)

AUDIO-VIDEO TEAM

Team #2: Mary Grants and Chuck Parker
(Team #2 serves all month.)

COFFEE HOUR

Ongoing thanks to the team who continues to provide coffee hour week after week, and to all who happily bring in food donations to be served.

COUNTERS

Rita DeLong and Cindy Ross

MONDAY'S MEAL

Monday, July 30: Take note at left...

TRASH DUTY

Terry Grimshaw

Monday's Meal Summer Respite...

A note from the church kitchen:
The cooks and servers who keep Monday's Meal going week after week will soon have a summer respite. For July and August, the ministry will serve on the last Monday of each month:
July 30th & August 27th, beginning at 11:30am.
Many thanks to all who have cooked, served, and attended the meals. See you soon!

Need to Contact our Church??

The phone is: 315-963-3066.

The email address is: fumcmexico@gmail.com

**PLEASE VISIT OUR CHURCH
WEBSITE:**

www.mex1umc.com

Please Join Us For:

Worship at: 10am.



*He has made everything
beautiful in its time.
Ecclesiastes 3:11*



FAREWELL to the Huyge Family: Pictured on June 17, from left to right: Pastor Emily, Jacob, Sarah, and Dana. May God bless them as they go.

Lake Effect Cooperative Ministry (LECM) Update

By: Marcia Albrecht, Mexico First UMC Representative

A big thank you to all who donated salads for our trip to Brown Memorial United Methodist Church in Syracuse. We had a big turnout and actually ran out of some food. A quick trip to the grocery store fixed that.

Anyone interested in decorating small stones for our Harborfest theme is welcome to come to our next meeting on Tuesday, July 17, at 6:30pm, which will be held in our church fellowship hall.

The Mystery Progressive Dinner will be held on Sunday, August 26, with four stops. Each church will provide a course which will be a mystery until we get there.....so we may have dessert first. In addition, we can choose to have it somewhere else than at church. Lastly, we will share a Bible story that contains a bit of mystery. Please let me know as soon as possible if you wish to participate. I would love to have some help coming up with ideas and to plan.

RECIPE CORNER: *Hot German pasta salad takes a fun spin on hot German potato salad. Chuck Parker Sr. shares this recipe from "NYS Conservation Officer's Cookbook."*

Hot German Pasta Salad

2 cups (8oz.) shell or elbow macaroni, uncooked
6 slices bacon
1/3 cup chopped onion
1 Tablespoon flour
1 Tablespoon sugar

1 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon celery seed
1/8 teaspoon pepper
1/8 cup apple cider vinegar
1/4 cup water

Cook pasta; drain well. While pasta is cooking, fry bacon until crisp; drain. Cook and stir onion in bacon fat until tender, but not browned. Stir in flour, sugar, salt, celery seed and pepper. Cook over low heat until mixture begins to boil. Remove from heat. Stir in vinegar and water. Return to medium heat; stir constantly, until mixture comes to a boil. Boil and stir for 1 minute; remove from heat. Crumble bacon, and add with warm, drained pasta to hot dressing. Cook, stirring gently, until pasta is coated and heated through. Serve hot.

"NYS Conservation Officer's Cookbook"

PAUL'S Challenge to Christian Duty

1Thessalonians 5:12-22

12: Now we ask you, brothers, to give recognition to those who labor among you and lead you in the Lord and admonish you,

13: and to regard them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves.

14: And we exhort you, brothers: warn those who are irresponsible, comfort the discouraged, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

15: See to it that no one repays evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good for one another and for all.

16: Rejoice always!

17: Pray constantly.

18: Give thanks in everything for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

19: Don't stifle the Spirit.

20: Don't despise prophecies,

21: but test all things. Hold on to what is good.

22: Stay away from every kind of evil.

THANK YOU TO...

~ all who assisted in preparing the parsonage, inside and out, for Pastor Grace and Ernie's arrival. Special thanks to Mexico Boy Scout Troop #825 for the hours they contributed to the parsonage yard work on Saturday, June 24.

~ all of the Outreach Committee members who served/sold ice cream during the Mexico Community Garage Sales on June 16.

~ all who contribute to the refreshments provided during the coffee hours following Sunday worship services.

~ all who have signed up for the new opportunities to serve during our worship services. If you are interested in serving in the future please see Mary Grants.

Transition Update

By: **Chuck Parker Sr., Staff-Pastor-Parish Relations Committee Chairperson**

As I write this article, Pastor Emily is establishing her family and herself in Geneva. As Pastor Emily's move to the new parsonage and the family unpacking nears completion, Pastor Grace has made her move to Mexico. Pastor Grace has keys to the parsonage, she watched the moving trucks leave, and the unpacking is underway.

As an observation, the Trustees and many volunteers did a great job in facilitating both moves and readying the parsonage for Pastor Grace and her husband, Ernie. The people of our church continue to show themselves to be good and caring people. The Staff-Pastor-Relations Committee (SPPRC) members did their job well in seeing that the "TRANSITION" went as smoothly as possible.

Currently it is safe to say that the Transition Process for our church continues. There is the continued settling in at the parsonage for Pastor Grace and Ernie. Getting to know our new pastor, and Grace getting to know us, will continue. It will be hard to tell when the Transition Process ends as it will morph itself into a period of growth, learning, and a new establishment of what some might consider the day-to-day routine of Pastor Grace and our church. The word routine may not be the best word to use in this case as there is always the unexpected popping up when least expected. Questions will arise and be answered as we move forward.

'Open Minds and Open Hearts' is a phrase often used in all Methodist Churches. As we move into the next chapter for our church, I see good things for all of us. We have a good minister who looks toward, and will present, a positive future. We have a membership that has a similar expectation. With participation and positive involvement, good things will be happening. Thanks to all and may God bless.

Prayer for Overcoming Adversity United Methodist Hymnal #531

Lord, we pray not for tranquility,
nor that our tribulations may cease;
we pray for thy spirit and thy love,
that thou grant us strength and grace
to overcome adversity;
through Jesus Christ.
Amen

DAILY THANKS...

"Start and end every day, and in
between times too, by thanking God
for everything."

Norman Vincent Peale



On a CHURCH SIGN...

OUR
CHURCH
IS
PRAYER
CONDITIONED...

