

The Messenger

First United Methodist Church of Mexico

June 2019

From the Pastor...

Dear Family and Friends of Mexico First United Methodist Church,

Grace and Peace to you in the name of our beloved Savior, Jesus who is the Christ.

We celebrate Pentecost this year on June 9th. This holy day is a remembrance of the day the Holy Spirit was unleashed on earth, changing and empowering the believers to travel throughout Europe and Asia. The Holy Spirit enabled people to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ and spread the Gospel of Jesus throughout the entire world. The dramatic events of the day of Pentecost are found in Acts 2. We read about “the sound of a rushing wind” and “divided tongues as of fire” appearing in the room. The Apostle Peter began preaching boldly and prophetically and over 3000 people were baptized into the Christian faith that day.

That’s power! The Holy Spirit is not a tamed-down being who quietly enters the room and leaves no impact. In fact, the Holy Spirit is awesome and changes the lives of all who encounter the Spirit. Filling our lives with grace is the role of the Holy Spirit – drawing us closer to Christ, bringing us salvation, and healing our souls so that we become the people God intends us to be. When we encounter and allow the Holy Spirit to continually work in our lives, we experience that power transforming us in amazing ways that can only come from God. Choosing to follow Christ is not merely a moment in time; it is an ongoing journey of faith.

The poem “Pentecost Villanellette” by Mark DeBolt captures the imagery of the day of Pentecost to remind us of the power of the Holy Spirit who we celebrate. (Villanellette is a type of poem.)

“Pentecost Villanellette” by Mark DeBolt

*Not as a dove the Holy Spirit came
to the disciples gathered in a room,
but as a violent wind and tongues of flame.*

*A cyclone roared the ineffable name
as fire on each blushing brow did bloom.
Not as a dove the Holy Spirit came*

*to give sight to the blind and heal the lame
and raise the dead and dispel error’s gloom,
but as a violent wind and tongues of flame.*

*The Breath of God is anything but tame.
Who dally with it dally with their doom.
Not as a dove the Holy Spirit came,
but as a violent wind and tongues of flame.*

Praying for the Holy Spirit to blow through our church in powerful ways!

In Christ’s Peace,

Pastor Grace

IMPORTANT DATES...

June 2 nd	Youth Group 5:00 – 7:00
June 3 rd	Simon Peter Bible Study 12:30
June 3 rd	Admin Council Meeting 6:30
June 5 th – 8 th	Upper NY Conference
June 8 th	Pastor Grace's Commissioning Service 2:00 OnCenter Syracuse
June 8 th	UMMen's Breakfast 8:30
June 8 th	Mexicalli Quilters 10:00 – 2:00
June 10 th	Simon Peter Bible Study 12:30
June 17 th	Simon Peter Bible Study 12:30
June 19 th	Blood Drive 10 – 3
June 24 th	Bone Density Screening 11-12:30
June 24 th	Trustees Meeting 6:30

THANK YOU, THANK YOU...

- to Joelle Hutson for the many hours of work to oversee the creation of our new church directory.
- to everyone who volunteered to help on the days the photographers were here to take photos.
- to Sue Morton and Barb Sullivan for finding a Music Director!
- to Muriel DeLong, Mary Beth Turo and Kathy Rose for hosting the coffee hour each week.



Vacation Bible School- 2019!!

Get Ready! Get Set! ROAR!

July 22-26, 2019 5:30 – 8:00 pm

Kids discover that when life is wild, God is good!

Red Cross Blood Drive

We are looking for volunteers to help at the blood drives that we are hosting. Volunteers would sign people in or offer snacks to people after. Let Diane in the office know if you are interested. The dates are as follows:

June 19th 10 am to 3 pm
August 24th 8 am to 1 pm
October 26th 8 am to 1 pm
December 28th 8 am to 1 pm

Simon Peter: Flawed by Faithful Disciple (Bible Study)

He left everything to follow his teacher and possessed a passion that would change the world. That's one way to describe Peter. Here's another: poor, uneducated, quick-tempered, and full of doubts and fears. Doesn't even sound like the same man. And that's the point of Simon Peter, a six-week adult Bible study by Adam Hamilton. Peter was just an ordinary guy who heard and followed God's extraordinary call. Discover how you, too, have special gifts, talents, and abilities that God can use to make a difference today. It's not too late to join in.

When: Monday's May 6 – June 17 (Not meeting Monday, May 27th)

Where: Mexico First UMC – upstairs in open area

Time: 12:30 PM **Facilitator:** Jeff Sherman



Mexico Youth Group had a great time at Lighthouse Lanes in Oswego sponsored by the Mexico UMMen's group.

Rosa Villa Roundup

Guess where Dawn LaFlamm went this past winter? She went to Ghana where she shared her book, "Faces of Rosa Villa Library." There are now 3000 children that have access to a book every day. The children were delighted to see themselves and read about the beginning of the Library Project. After partnering with one Government Library, they come to the Rosa Villa with Nooks for the children to use once a month. In exchange, the library loans them a fresh supply of 200 books from the library. Their library hadn't had any new books in 10 years!

Currently, they are trying to raise money for a car so more schools can be part of the mobile book project. They have raised over \$1,000 already with a goal of \$5000.

Dawn wants to thank everyone for their donations, whether books, school supplies, bread tabs, or monetary donations. We had over 2000 books boxed and ready to be sent to Rosa Villa Library in Ghana!

June Christmas Shoebox Items...

The June items sought for the Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes that our church will fill next November are:

baseball caps and beach balls

The donation box is in the church narthex.

Thank you to all who contribute to this ministry.

Calling all cooks and bakers.

Do you have a favorite recipe that you would like to share with us, and have it printed in an upcoming newsletter?

You can give a copy to Diane or email it to the church. We look forward to trying some delicious recipes.

If you have a change of address, please let Diane in the office know so we can update our records.

Thank you!

Bible Word Search Puzzle

Y N N J D R E H P E H S K S T
N J E E M M C E S K A L B A V
T G V S R L N I D B Z E S L Q
K X A U K E E F O R G B I V U
B T E S D D L M E E A E N A E
O R H E O I I T L Z B Z S T T
N A E G F N T P B E R E C I N
S F H V A N S K A N I J P O E
L F A T O K E U R E E W R N M
E X I B O R P W A B L M I C H
G O B O E U P T P E X A E E C
N O B F S L Y H E M V D S X R
A Y H P O S O L I H P A T W A
Q G A N G E L M H O A R A H P
E L E I K E Z E P R O P H E T

ABEL
ABOMINATION
ADAM
ANGEL
ANGELS
BOOKS
EBENEZER
EDEN
EZEKIEL
GABRIEL
GOD
HEAVEN
JESUS
JEZEBEL
PARABLE
PARCHMENT
PESTILENCE
PHARAOH
PHILOSOPHY
PRIEST
PROPHET
PROVERB
SALVATION
SHEPHERD
SINS

MISSION OUTREACH NEWS...

Filling the Arks

Thank you for supporting this project. It's not too late to turn in your arks if you still have one. More information on Heifer International can be found at <https://www.heifer.org/>.

Attic Treasure Sale

Thank you for supporting the Outreach Committee's annual Attic Treasure Sale on May 4th. Over \$1,500 was raised. After the committee donates their tithe to our church, money will be used to help support some or all of the following missions:

Heifer International, Operation Christmas Child, Operation Reindeer, Unity Acres and Brown Memorial

Stained-Glass Window Project

Thank you to Tom Farr and Had Fravor for giving countless hours of time to research and convey information about maintaining and fixing our stained-glass windows. At our May Admin Council meeting, they presented the culmination of two years' worth of research regarding options to address needed repairs for the stained-glass windows. After the presentation, the Administrative Council approved hiring the Brennan Company to manufacture and install protective glass coverings over our stained-glass windows. We anticipate the project will begin during the summer and are grateful for the many hours all the trustees have devoted to this project. Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraisers to help defray the cost of protecting our windows.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June 2 nd	David Martin
June 3 rd	Olivia Linerode
June 9 th	Earl DeLong
June 11 th	Anna Mae Bateman Susan Linerode
June 14 th	Sue Madge
June 17 th	Gary Weber Leona Coleman
June 19 th	Alexia Russell
June 23 rd	Grant DeLong
June 24 th	James Watros
June 28 th	Andrew Munger Alicia Weber

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

June 1 st	Steve & Annette Hulbert
June 3 rd	George & Mary Grants
June 11 th	Hadwin & Marion Hinman
June 16 th	Charles & Anna Mae Bateman
June 18 th	Bill & Sally Herrington
June 24 th	Bill & Barb Lindovski
June 25 th	David & Susie Martin
June 26 th	Clinton & Patricia Smith

OUR CHURCH MISSION:

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

Need to Contact our Church?

The phone is: 315-963-3066. The email address is: fumcmexico@gmail.com

The mailing address is: First United Methodist Church, PO Box 255, Mexico, NY 13114

PLEASE VISIT OUR CHURCH WEBSITE: www.mex1umc.com

Our FACEBOOK is: www.facebook.com/fumcmexico

Please Join Us For Worship at 10:00 am.

Children's Church at: 10:15 am



We Have a Music Director

After a search that was approaching nearly a one-year time span we now have a New Music Director. His name is Brad Zell. He is a 2018 Graduate of the West Hill School system, a current pre engineering student at OCC and he resides with his family in Fulton. He has been playing music for over 13 years and has been an accompanist for various choruses, ensembles, and music productions for over 6 years. He was first brought to the attention of the SPPRC Committee by Sue Morton and Barb Sullivan who heard him play at a recent event at the Mexico Library. The process of Brad's hiring resulted in 2 interviews, an audition and playing as a guest piano player for the congregation. Brad and the choir have quickly developed a positive working relationship. All along the way those that have come in contact with Brad have stated that, "You are going to try to hire Brad," and thankfully SPPRC has been able to do so. Brad's pursuit of an engineering degree will most likely require him to attend a college more distant from our area than Onondaga Community College in the future. But for now we have a solid Music Director for the Church that we can all look forward to listening to both him and the influences he brings to our Choir. As of this Newsletter being printed Brad will have played at our church services for three weeks. I think all will agree that Brad brings a positive and welcoming presence to our church.

Admin Council Notes

We want to keep you all informed about conversations and decisions Ad Council is making. Each month a few highlights from our meeting will be included in the newsletter.

- Approved hiring the Brennan Company to manufacture and install protective glass coverings over our stained-glass windows.
- Chose a photograph taken by Andrea Ross to use as the cover on our new church directory.

Everyone is welcome to attend Ad Council meetings, although only elected members of the Council may vote. Meetings are at 6:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month.

Meeting Minutes are available for review in the church office.

Diane's Office Hours: Tuesdays 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; Fridays 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Pastor Grace's Office Hours: Mondays 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.; Wednesdays 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.; Fridays 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Hours may fluctuate due to off-site meetings.



Photo taken by Andrea Ross that will be used for the new Directory cover.

LECM Update

Discussion of our mission/vision as our attendance at meetings has dropped significantly as well as some church's participation. We are discussing the possibility of changing our monthly meeting schedule to perhaps quarterly with that being a Potluck dinner for any church members to attend to share/exchange ideas regarding mission and worship resources. We will have more information on this after our June meeting.

We do 3 mission events per year: Brown Memorial twice a year and Blizzard Bags for OCO in the fall. We also have done health kits in the past for the District's Mission Hub. We may look into adding at least one day of service at the Mission Hub.

Worship activities include the annual Worship Service at Harborfest. We have not done a pulpit/pastor and Lay Servant exchange for several years. Will see if any churches are interested in doing this.

Harborfest Update: July 28th, 9:30 at the Children's Tent. The theme is "What Is Your Story"? We tentatively have 2 speakers lined up to share their testimonials; Dawn LaFlamm and Denise Hall. Both women have overcome hardships/obstacles in their lives. We will be giving out bookmarks at the service so anyone interested in making some it would be greatly appreciated. They can be paper, cloth, knitted, crocheted or cross-stitch, etc.

Brown Memorial Dates: September 29th and March 29th.

OCO Blizzard Bag Packing Party will be November 16th at our church.

Thank you,

Marcia

RECIPES FROM CHURCH MEMBERS...

Ernie Warren

Sea Salt Caramel Chocolate Chips

½ Cup	Butter (Softened)
¾ Cup	Light Brown Sugar
½ Cup	Sugar
2	Eggs
1 tsp.	Vanilla
1 ½ Cup	Flour
½ Cup	Hershey's Cocoa
½ tsp.	Baking Soda
¼ tsp.	Salt
1 2/3 cup	Hershey's Sea Salt Caramel baking chips

1. Heat oven to 350. Line cookie sheet with parchment paper
2. Beat butter, brown sugar, sugar, and vanilla in a large bowl until well blended. Add eggs, beat well. Stir together flour, cocoa, baking soda and salt. Gradually blend into butter mixture, blending well. Stir in caramel chips. Drop by rounded teaspoons onto prepared cookie sheet.
3. Bake 7 to 9 minutes or until cookie is set. Do not overbake. Cool slightly. Remove from cookie sheet to wire rack. Cool completely. Makes 2 to 3 dozen depending on cookie size.

SERVING in June...

GREETERS

June 2 nd	Sparky Rector & Mary Beth Turo
June 9 th	Sunday School Children
June 16 th	Had & Linda Fravor
June 23 rd	Jim & Diane Sokolowski
June 30 th	Bill & Judy Butman

LITURGISTS

June 2 nd	Bill Butman
June 9 th	Children
June 16 th	Mary Mack
June 23 rd	Rita Delong
June 30 th	Grace Shetler

MONDAY'S MEAL

June 3 rd	Connie Day
June 10 th	Rose Ann & Wayne Myers
June 17 th	Cathy Stock
June 24 th	Jane Backus & Nancy Evale

USHERS

Thank you to all ushers who serve during worship.

AUDIO-VIDEO TEAM

Thank you to those who make our audio-video possible.

COUNTERS

Kathy Rose & Diane Tupper

TRASH REMOVAL

Jeremy Spencer

Pastor Grace's Commissioning Service

Saturday, June 8th at 2:00 p.m.

**Oncenter Convention Center, 800 S State St,
Syracuse, NY**

Commissioning is a significant event in the life of a pastor who is working towards full Ordination. The ceremony is a public affirmation that our Conference recognizes an individual has the gifts and graces to be a Provisional Elder in the United Methodist Church. During the ceremony, the Bishop prays for those being commissioned, asking God to empower them with the Holy Spirit as they are sent out to perform ministry.

The commissioning ceremony is open to everyone to attend.

Save the Date – August 4th

The UMMen's Club Picnic.

What delicious dish will you be bringing to share? The Men's club provides hamburgers and hot dogs and beverages.

This will be at noon at the Mexico Community Park.

Discipleship Training

We are called by God to make disciples of Jesus Christ and sometimes find that a bit confusing. What is a disciple? How do we "make" one?

Pastor Grace will be leading a training on discipleship at our church in August. This is the same training that was held during May in a few places around the district. If you missed that one, please consider attending this training.

More information, including the dates and time, will follow.