



The Messenger

First United Methodist Church of Mexico

August 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.

How's your discipleship walk going these days? Are you on a smooth, easy section of the journey? Or is the road a bit rocky right now? No matter what our walk with Jesus feels like, he is always with us (Matthew 28:20). What a reassuring promise!

We are learning more about discipleship this summer. I started a sermon series in July on "Living as Disciples." This series looks at the basic questions of discipleship, including who, how, what, and why. I don't want to be the only one learning and talking about discipleship, so during the month of August Grace Shetler and I will be hosting weekly conversations based on a training we both took about discipleship. This will give you an opportunity to ask your questions and share your thoughts following Jesus.

Our church mission statement says that we are "making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." It helps to know what a disciple is to effectively make more disciples. I like Junius Dotson's definition: **"A disciple is one who knows Christ, is growing in Christ, serving Christ, and sharing Christ."**

So, I'd like to challenge you today to think about your own spiritual life in light of Junius Dotson's definition. Are you a disciple of Jesus Christ?

- Do you know Christ yourself? Or is he someone you have only heard about from others?
- Are you growing in your relationship with Christ? Is it getting stronger and closer each year? Or does he remain like an acquaintance whom you occasionally run into at the Post Office?
- How are you serving Christ? What do you do to help meet people's needs so they know what it feels like to be loved? And how do you let them know that you serve on behalf of Christ?
- What are you doing to share Christ? We often will talk to people about our family or best friends. Is Jesus important enough to enter into your conversations with others?

Are you a disciple of Jesus Christ? He is calling us all to follow and we can begin the journey any time.

I'm looking forward to our conversations in August.

In Christ's Peace,

Pastor Grace

IMPORTANT DATES...

August 1 st	Discipleship Group 6:30 pm
August 4 th	Picnic at Community Park Noon
August 5 th	Admin Council Meeting 6:30 pm
August 7 th	Bible Study @ Parsonage 6:30 pm
August 8 th	Discipleship Group 6:30 pm
August 12 th	Pastor Grace Preaching Dempster Grove 7:30 pm
August 14 th	Bible Study @ Parsonage 6:30 pm
August 15 th	Discipleship Group 6:30 pm
August 17 th	Unity Acres Picnic Leave at 9:45 am
August 19 th	Nomination Team 6:30 pm
August 21 st	Bible Study @ Parsonage 6:30 pm
August 22 nd	Discipleship Group 6:30 pm
August 23 rd	Food Sense Noon
August 24 th	Blood Drive 8:00 am to 1:00 pm
August 24 th	Community Pig Roast 4:00 – 6:00 pm
August 26 th	Trustee's meeting 6:30 pm
August 28 th	Growth Meeting 1:00 pm
August 28 th	Bible Study @ Parsonage 6:30 pm
August 29 th	Finance Meeting 6:30 pm

THANK YOU, THANK YOU...

- to the Men's Club for buying flowers and to the Shermans for planting them in front of the church.
- to Connie Day, Grace Shetler and Al Smithers for volunteering to help at the Blood Drives.
- Everyone who helped with VBS; working with the kids, helping in the kitchen, marching in the parade, building the set, donating items, or any other activity.
- A big thank you to the crew who worked late on Friday night to tear down the VBS set and prepare the sanctuary for a memorial service the next day.
- Everyone who donated food or helped with the luncheon following Had Hinman's memorial service on July 27th.

August Christmas Shoebox Items...

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

Flip Flops and T-shirts

The donation box is in the church narthex.
Thank you to all who contribute to this ministry.

Disciple-Making Conversations

Thursdays from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

August 1, 8, 15, 22

Come for some Grace-filled evenings of talking about making disciples. Pastor Grace and Grace "of the pews" Shetler will be leading conversations that explore the who, what, why, and how of being a disciple. Together we will identify what each of us, as well as Mexico First UMC, is already doing to make disciples. Then we'll dream a bit about what God may have for our future as we draft a plan for the church. Everyone's voice is important in our conversation.

Blood Drive

August 24th

8:00 am to 1:00 pm

Our church will be hosting another blood drive. What a great way to help your community, by donating. Volunteers to help are welcome.

Sunday, August 4th

Our Annual Church Picnic

The UMMen's club will provide hamburgers and hot dogs and beverages. Bring a dish to pass. This will be at noon at the Mexico Community Park, Route 104, East of the village.



FRIEND ME

Want to grow closer to God? Want to make new friends or grow closer to existing friends? Then join our 6-week study. You are invited to this friendly and informal study beginning Tuesday, July 30th at 10:00 am. There will be Bible sharing, discussion, prayer and food.

Please let me know if you are interested so I can provide enough materials.

Hosted by Carol Aldrich, 125 Spring St. 315-963-8802

Call Carol if you will attend.

Please consider yourself personally invited.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

August 1 st	Niles Greenhouse Mary Mack
August 4 th	George Monson
August 6 th	Jessica Parker
August 7 th	Noah Spencer
August 11 th	Gary Hurlbut
August 14 th	Elyse Skiles
August 17 th	David Munger
August 20 th	Gail Hurlbut Ernie Warren
August 23 rd	Katelynn Spaulding
August 24 th	Missy Gorton
August 26 th	Cathy Stock
August 27 th	Duane Griffin
August 28 th	Eric Behling Muriel DeLong
August 29 th	Nancy Albrecht
Augusts 30 th	Ryan Jackson



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

August 3 rd	Everett & Linda Robinson
August 6 th	Chuck & Dotty Parker
August 7 th	Jim & Diane Barbur
August 11 th	Jeff & Marcia Albrecht
August 12 th	Eric & Lori Behling
August 21 st	Duane & Sue Morton
August 24 th	Ed & Barbara Lighthall
August 26 th	Bill & Carolyn Hiler



100 for 100

Last year we did a fundraiser campaign called the 100 for 100. We met our goal and happily added a substantial amount of money to our general fund.

At the July Finance meeting, the committee made the decision to do the campaign again this year.

To explain; 100 for 100 means that we are asking members of our congregation to give an extra \$100. If you can't give this in a lump sum, perhaps you can give as a family or group. If \$100 is not possible and we know for some people it may not be; please give what is in your heart.

Please make your checks out to the First United Methodist church and note that it is for the "100 for 100"; or if sending cash, note that it is for "100 for 100.:

The Finance committee would like to thank you in advance for supporting this project and for everything you do for our church. We are grateful to have such a supportive congregation.

If you have any questions, contact Connie D. or Elaine D. You can also call the church office at 315-963-3066. Also, a check can be mailed to First U.M. Church, PO Box 255, Mexico, NY 13114. Thank you.

BBQ Pig Roast

Our church is hosting a **FREE Community Pig Roast Dinner**. The menu will consist of: Fresh BBQ Pork, salt potatoes, baked beans, coleslaw and cornbread

Saturday, August 24th

4:00 – 6:00 pm

First United Methodist Church

4372 Church Street

Mexico, NY



Sympathies

Our sympathies and prayers are with the friends and family of Hadwen "Had" Hinman who passed away June 18, 2019.

Bible Word Scramble

1. EBLIB _____
2. TTAEEMSNT _____
3. ERUSPCITR _____
4. SAPMLS _____
5. MJUAESERL _____
6. ESMSO _____
7. MTAETW _____
8. SSJEU _____
9. EILRSA _____
10. OHLY IRSPIT _____

11. BVROBERS _____
12. RAIGEBL _____
13. LISIDCPES _____
14. MNGKDIO _____
15. VLIING AWTRES _____
16. AHTCIRSIN _____

HAVE FUN UNSCRAMBLING THE WORDS!

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

Outreach

Unity Acres Annual Food and Fellowship/August 17th -

The Outreach Committee is planning our annual trip to Unity Acres (unityacres.org), a home and farm for men in Orwell on Saturday, August 17th. As we have done in the past, we will bring food to prepare a meal and engage in fellowship with our neighbors to the north. Cooks, bakers, shoppers, grillers and servers are needed to ensure this cookout continues to be a special summer memory for the 50 men living at Unity Acres. We will be leaving the church at 9:45 and we are departing Unity Acres between 1:30 and 2 pm. We would love to have as many people from the congregation join us. This is an extra special year for Unity Acres given the fact they are celebrating their 50th anniversary. The number of lives touched by a vision, mission and years of discipleship truly reflects God working in our community.

Brown Memorial Community Meal / September 8th:

Brown Memorial: Wow! It seems like we were just writing this for the April newsletter in March and here we are four months later with our slated serving date Sunday, September 8 ... this is our opportunity to make, bake and take a meal to our 'southern' Syracuse neighbors. As described in previous newsletters, Brown Memorial United Methodist Church (<http://www.umc.org/find-a-church/church/19344>) offers a free meal each Sunday prior to a 4 pm praise and worship service. The meals are provided and served by various churches and groups, with our church being one of many assisting a ministry which feeds food and provides fellowship to upwards of 150 community members. More details in September's newsletter but please save the date to help assist with providing food and/or serving. Thank you to everyone who help with our efforts to reach out to others.

Admin Council Notes

Our church continues to remain active with numerous projects and our gratitude is extended to everyone who makes 'church happen' in and outside of the building's walls. Here are a few highlights from June's meeting, and as a reminder to all, our next meeting is **Monday, August 5th at 6:30**. 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.

- The committee reviewed the church calendar outlining events and activities that typically occur throughout the year. This is a fluid document serving as a planning guide which can be revised as needed.
- UMMen's Club in collaboration with the Church Growth Group will be offering a free pig roast dinner to the community August 24th from 4 to 6 pm and is grateful for the generosity of a fellow church member's donation of the pig.
- Many groups reported activities that are being planned for the fall and beyond. Look for updates in forthcoming newsletters!

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.

VBS WENT WILD!

LYCOMING United Methodist Church and our church combined forces in July for a week of fun at VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL. Our sanctuary looked like a virtual jungle with cutouts of lions, tigers, giraffes and even a rhino. All week there were games, super fun snacks, incredible music and lots of FUN for youngsters 4 years old through 8th grade. We started with 18 kids and at the end we had 32.

Thank you to all who helped by decorating our church, donating items, or working the week as crew leaders or teachers. A special thanks to those who worked on the parade float and passed out fliers during the parade to attract youth to attend our VBS.

For the kid-to-kid missions, canned food items were brought in by the children for our local food pantry and books were collected for Dawn LaFlamm's children's library in Africa.

The theme "When Life is Wild...God is Good" will long be remembered by the youth, teens and adults who attended.



VBS IN PARADE

Thank you to the many spirited people who helped on the Vacation Bible School Float for the Mexico Firemen's Field Day Parade on July 18th.

Eric Behling of Behling's Orchards supplied the trailer, Duane Morton drove the pull vehicle, Abby Winheld, Mary Grants, Nancy O. Smith, Grace Shetler, Rose Ann Myers, and Sue Morton decorated the float with VBS decorations borrowed from the Oswego Alliance Church.

Pictured around the float are riders: Sue Morton, Ethan Russell, Mary Grants, Alexis Jackson, Grace Shetler, Quinn Sherman, Jackson Kelly, and Jeff Sherman.

Standing in front of the float were those people who handed out informational fliers on VBS : Pastor Brandin Greco, Kaylee Greco, Jennifer Jackson, and Denise Kelly.

Wayne Green set up the sound system. It was truly wonderful to see the crowd's response to our bouncy music as we sang the theme song all along the parade route up Main Street: Wherever you lead me, I'm gonna follow. I'm trusting you, God. You are Good!



Here is what the Kids said about VBS:

Alexia, Ozell, Ryan and Kayden, said the snacks were the best.

Ben, Angela, Noah, Addy, Alexis, said the games were their favorite.

Trey, Ben, and Olivia said they loved the water games played on Friday.

Sam, Thomas, Taylor, Madalynn loved everything about VBS.

Kara and Payton loved playing outdoors.

Maddie liked Kid Vid and Imagination Station.

Quinn loved when his dad was the Pharaoh.

Ethan said he liked having fun with friends.

Aaliyah enjoyed snacks with her sister.

Ayana like spending time with God.

Jackson loved hearing stories about children in Africa.

Mia and Isabel loved seeing everyone and getting to know them.

Emma was happy she met a new friend.

Tonaya liked seeing kids learn and grow.

Katie learned that when life is sad, God is good!

Dempster Grove Camp Meeting

145th Annual Session

August 8th – 18th

New Haven, NY

“Cast Your Nets on the Other Side of the Boat”

Participate in a spiritual enrichment experience for the entire family.

Thursday, August 8th

4:00 pm Chicken & Biscuit Dinner
7:00 pm Musical Worship
7:30 pm Evening Worship Rev. Steven Eddy

Friday, August 9th

7:00 pm Musical Worship
7:30 pm Evening Worship Pastor Dan Groh

Saturday, August 10th

10:00 am to 9 pm GODSTOCK Christian Musical Festival

Sunday, August 11th

11:00 am Morning Worship – Holy Communion
Rev. Nola Anderson
12:30 pm Ham Dinner
7:00 pm Musical Worship
7:30 pm Evening Worship Rev. Bill Mudge

Monday, August 12th

7:00 pm Musical Worship
7:30 pm Evening Worship Rev. Grace Warren

Tuesday, August 13th

7:00 pm Musical Worship
7:30 pm Evening Worship Rev. Tammi Chawgo-Nipper

Wednesday, August 14th

5:30 pm Potluck Dinner
7:00 pm Evening Worship Pastor Gary & Carolyn Walker &
Desir Josue – Touch Ministries, Inc. Saint Marc, Haiti

Thursday, August 15th

7:00 pm Musical Worship
7:30 pm Evening Worship Rev. Dave Daley

Friday, August 16th

11:00 am VBS Program
12:00 pm Luncheon for Family & Friends at dining hall
4:00 pm Campground Talent Show
7:00 pm Evening Worship Presented by the young people
of Dempster Grove with Rev. Jodi Haier

Saturday, August 17th

8:00 am Galilean Service at the Pond –
Paul & Aimee Murphy – Breakfast to follow
10:30 am Annual Association Meeting
followed by Trustees Meeting

Saturday, August 17th Cont'd

7:00 pm Evening Service – The Master's Touch
Chorale led by Warren Ottey. Service
ends with a “Living Cross”

Sunday, August 18th

11:00 am Morning Worship Holy Communion
Rev. Lisa Taylor
12:30 pm Roast Pork Dinner

General Schedule

9:00 am – 12:00 pm Vacation Bible School
1:00 pm Adult Bible Study in Cabin 19
1:00 pm The Laurie Knapp Memorial Young
People's choir rehearsal
2:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal
3:00 pm Swim Time in the pond
4:00 pm Youth Crafts and Games

Women's Improvement Society Mtg. 3:00 pm
August 12th and August 16th

Social Hour – will follow each evening service in
the Dining Hall. Proceeds from the sale of items
go to the VBS program.

A campfire will be held each evening after Social
hour (around 9:15 pm) weather permitting.
Listen to the Announcements for updates on
these each night.

Dinner prices: Adults \$9.00

Children ages 5 to 12 yrs. \$5.00

Children under age 5 – free

Take outs available

email: dempstergrove@yahoo.com

SERVING in August

GREETERS

August 4th Jeff & Carol DeLong
August 11th Amy McCann Jones &
Sue Morton
August 18th Ernie Warren & Earl DeLong
August 25th Mary Mack,
Jeff and Quinn Sherman

LITURGISTS

August 4th Rita DeLong
August 11th Connie Day
August 18th Cindy Ross
August 25th Alicia Weber

USHERS

Thank you to all ushers who serve during
worship.

COUNTERS

Connie Day & Mary Grants

TRASH REMOVAL

Had Fravor

Fun Summer Recipe for Kids

Icebox Sandwich

Ingredients

- 1 package (3.4 ounces) instant vanilla pudding mix
- 2 cups cold milk
- 2 cups whipped topping
- 1 cup miniature semisweet chocolate chips
- 24 whole graham crackers, halved

Directions

- Mix pudding and milk according to package directions; refrigerate until set. Fold in whipped topping and chocolate chips.
- Place 24 graham cracker halves on a baking sheet; top each with about 3 tablespoons filling. Place another graham cracker half on top. Wrap individually in plastic wrap; freeze until firm, about 1 hour. Serve sandwiches frozen.



Try it with other pudding flavors like chocolate, pistachio, butterscotch or Oreo. You could add mini M&M's, marshmallows, or chopped Oreo cookies, or whatever your favorite is.

John 13:35

**By this all will know
that you are My disciples,
if you have love for
one another.**