

The Nimmonsburg Witness

Nimmonsburg United Methodist Church

918 Upper Front Street, Binghamton, New York 13905

Rev. Jenni Piatt (607) 724-5421 Nimmonsburgumc.weebly.com

Sunday Worship at 10 am followed by Fellowship Time at 11 am

MARCH 2022

Stress! Do you have stress? I do too! Where does stress come from? Stress has many sources, but one thing is for certain - if you are worried about something, it causes stress.

The Bible tells us (in Matthew 6:25-34) that we should not worry. I cannot say it any better than Jesus did, *“Therefore, I say to you, don’t worry about your life, what you’ll eat or what you’ll drink, or about your body, what you’ll wear. Isn’t life more than food and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds in the sky. They don’t sow seed or harvest grain or gather crops into barns. Yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Aren’t you worth much more than they are? Who among you by worrying can add a single moment to your life? And why do you worry about clothes? Notice how the lilies in the field grow. They don’t wear themselves out with work, and they don’t spin cloth. But I say to you that even Solomon in all of his splendor wasn’t dressed like one of these. If God dresses grass in the field so beautifully, even though it’s alive today and tomorrow it’s thrown into the furnace, won’t God do much more for you, you people of weak faith? Therefore, don’t worry and say, ‘What are we going to eat?’ or ‘What are we going to drink?’ or ‘What are we going to wear?’ Gentiles long for all these things. Your heavenly Father knows that you need them. Instead, desire first and foremost God’s kingdom and God’s righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore, stop worrying about tomorrow, because tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”*

What are you worried about today? What has become a source of stress in your life? Over and over, in the Bible, we are told not to worry and do not be afraid. God, who made us, loves us, cares, and provides for us, is able to protect and guide us. There are many things in this world that we do not know, but one thing is for certain – God is able!



Pastor Jenni

Lectionary Readings and Sermons

March 2, 2022—ASH WEDNESDAY

Purple or Gray

- ◆ Joel 2:1-2; 12-17
- ◆ Psalm 51:1-17
- ◆ 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
- ◆ Matthew 6:1-6; 16-21

Sermon: “*Lenten Journey—Ready?*”

March 6, 2022—Communion

1st Sunday in Lent—Purple

- ◆ Deuteronomy 26:1-11
- ◆ Luke 4:1-13

Sermon: “*Lenten Journey—Remember*”

March 13, 2022

2nd Sunday in Lent—Purple

- ◆ Philippians 3:17-4:1

- ◆ Luke 13:31-35

Sermon: “*Lenten Journey—Resolve*”

March 20, 2022

3rd Sunday in Lent—Purple

- ◆ 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

- ◆ Luke 13:1-9

Sermon: “*Lenten Journey—Repent*”

March 27, 2022

4th Sunday in Lent—Purple

- ◆ 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

- ◆ Luke 15:1-3; 11b-32

Sermon: “*Lenten Journey—Reconcile*”

Lay Readers and Sunday School Teachers

Lay Readers:

| | |
|------------|------------------|
| March 6 - | Steve Randall |
| March 13 - | Phyllis Bartlett |
| March 20 - | Dennis Lockhart |
| March 27 - | Dan Morgan |
| April 3 - | Karen Holman |
| April 10 - | Mini Daub |
| April 17 - | Judy St. John |
| April 24 - | Cheryl Ryder |

Sunday School Teachers:

| | |
|------------|------------------|
| March 6 - | Cheryl Ryder |
| March 13 - | Justin Hagerman |
| March 20 - | Karen Holman |
| March 27 - | Brittany DeSario |
| April 3 - | Cheryl Ryder |
| April 10 - | Justin Hagerman |
| April 17 - | Karen Holman |
| April 24 - | Brittany DeSario |

Recalibration #3

At our third Recalibration Dinner, we had fourteen people, and we talked about how to engage people in the life of our church. How do we help people get involved in worship, community, spiritual practices, generosity and service, and Christ-likeness? How do we engage newcomers, as well as those who have been here “forever”?

This process is called Intentional Discipleship, and it is part of our Methodist heritage. John Wesley did this through societies, classes and bands.

The biggest quote of the night was: “*Intentional Discipleship begins when authentic leaders model what it means to be a growing maturing disciple.*” If the leaders of the church are not modeling healthy discipleship, we cannot expect anyone else to do it.



Apply Now for Endowment Funds



Requests for Church Endowment Funds are now being accepted through May 1, 2022. Requests should be submitted in writing to either Rex Decker, Chairman, Russ Sanaeko or Cheryl Weeks. Requests should include the date, committee or person requesting funds, amount requested, date needed, and a brief description as to how the funds will be used. These funds will be distributed in the following four categories: (1) Special Needs; (2) General Expense; (3) Building and Maintenance and (4) Missions.

This year we have \$1,057.93 available to spend on each of the four categories. In addition, we did not spend anything last year for Special Needs, General Expense, and Building and Maintenance. Therefore, the amounts available this year are:

- (1) *Special Needs—\$1,839.55* (2) *General Expense—\$1,839.55*
(3) *Building and Maintenance—\$1,839.55* (4) *Missions—\$1,057.93*

After the May 1st deadline, the Endowment Fund Committee will submit recommendations to the Administrative Board. The Administrative Board's decisions will be put into writing and sent to the person or committee which made the requests.

Adding Something for Lent

*As we did last year, we are asking you **NOT** to give up something for Lent, but to **ADD** something instead. We will be collecting personal care items from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday to donate to the Children's Home of Wyoming Conference. These much-needed items will make a big difference in the lives of children and families in need. Please **"ADD"** your donation to the bin located in the entryway beginning on March 6th. Thank you for your generous support!*

Items Needed:

- 1. Boys' and Girls' socks and underwear for ages 5-18*
- 2. Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash, Youth Toothpaste, Deodorant (male/female), Hair Brushes, Feminine Hygiene Products, Chap Stick, and Bath Towels*
- 3. Diapers, Baby Wipes, Pull-Ups, Baby Bedding, Bottles and Baby Formula*
- 4. MP3 Players for Residential Youth Units (Music is part of some of our residential youth treatment plans, and are one of the most requested items in the residential units on campus.)*
- 5. Restaurant or Craft Store Gift Cards (for families to do activities together; especially helpful in Foster Care emergency situations)*

**Children's
Home**



Lent Chowder Sale at NUMC



We are in need of people who would like to be ushers/greeters on Sunday mornings before worship begins.

Please sign up on the sheets in the Church entryway, or talk with Dick Oakley.



We are bringing back our famous Lent Clam Chowder Sale this year!! You will find sign-up sheets in the Church entryway and Fellowship Hall to place your orders by March 6th. Chowder will be take-out only, and available for pickup on Sunday, March 20th and Sunday, March 27th. **(NOTE DATE CHANGE)**

The cost will be \$5 for a pint and \$8 for a quart, with all proceeds being used to benefit the upcoming Henderson Mission Trip.

Lent Services at Ogden-Hillcrest UMC



Ogden-Hillcrest United Methodist Church will be holding services every Wednesday during Lent at 7:00 pm including worship and communion. Services will begin on Wednesday, March 9th, and end on Wednesday, April 6th. Everyone is invited and welcome to attend. They are located at 1061 Chenango Street in Binghamton. *Pastor Jenni will be speaking at their March 23rd Service.*

Recalibration #4

Our biggest turnout yet! We had 20 people at our fourth Recalibration Dinner. We considered *"Discipleship Pathways"* and how to help people move from seeking Christ to maturity in Christ. We determined that we need to have a *"big front porch"* and reach people early in their relationship with Jesus through hospitality and common interest. Once we build a relationship with folks, we are then in a position to help them grow in their relationship with the church and with God.

We came up with many good ideas: sign up for ushers/greeters and making sure we have two each Sunday, servant leaders, Lenten services with a meal, curbside helpers on Sunday and house groups.

Pastor Jenni passed out the questions from our Church Profile and we will each consider these questions. At our next gathering, we will discuss these questions in detail.



Easter Flowers



Since this worked out so well the last couple of years, we are again asking everyone to bring your own flowers for our Easter Altar. You can bring lilies, tulips, hyacinths, or anything you like to decorate the altar, and take them home after the Easter Services.

Please let Marge know in the Office if you would like to place the flowers in honor of someone special, or in memory of loved ones, so we can prepare a listing for Easter Sunday. Please contact the office with any questions. Thanks!



Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent

**Ash Wednesday Service
Nimmonsburg UMC
6:00 pm**

Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee

According to the Book of Discipline of the UMC, the SPPRC is responsible to encourage, strengthen, nurture and support the pastor and staff and their families, to promote unity in the church, to provide evaluations regarding on-going effective ministry and for identifying continuing educational needs and plans, to communicate and interpret to the congregation the nature and function of ministry in the United Methodist Church regarding open itinerancy, preparation for ordained ministry and Ministerial Education Fund, to develop and approve written job descriptions and titles for staff, to enlist, interview, evaluate, review and recommend annually to the Charge Conference lay preachers and persons for candidacy for ordained ministry, to confer with the pastor if it should become evident that the best interests of the charge and pastor will be served by a change of pastor, to recommend to the church council the professional and other staff positions needed to carry out the work of the church, to educate the church on the value of diversity of selection in clergy and staff and develop a commitment to same, to consult on matters pertaining to pulpit supply, proposals for compensation, travel expense, vacation, health, life insurance, pension, housing and other matters affecting the work and families of the pastor and staff, and to make recommendations annually regarding such.

If you have questions or concerns about the Pastor or staff of our Church, these are the people to talk to. The SPPRC of Nimmonsburg UMC would love to hear from you.

*Judy St. John, Nancy Oakley, Gail Byam
Shelly Schaffer (Lay Member) and Don Birtch (Lay Leader)*



SPPRC
Staff Pastor Parish
Relations Committee



Between a Rock and a Hard Place



Pastor Jenni will be leading a special Bible Study **beginning March 31st** and will go for six weeks. This will be the last Bible Study before summer, and we will meet in the Wesleyan Room at noon on Thursdays.

This in-person Bible Study is a requirement for Pastor Jenni's ordination, and she would appreciate as many participants as possible.

The study is based on Exodus 13 and 14. It is an opportunity to see how God worked in the story of Israel, and reflect on how God might be working in our own story. Please sign up in the Church entryway so we have enough materials for everyone.



Marge will be on vacation from March 16th through March 23rd. Please contact Pastor Jenni if you need any assistance during that time. Thank you.

Nimmonsburg Church Cookbooks



As soon as I saw this recipe, I wanted to make it. BUT, I decided to wait until I have some company to share it with. (*I might be tempted to eat more than I should!*) This recipe was submitted to our Church Cookbook by Corrine Abbey.

If you don't have a NUMC Cookbook yet, there are still plenty available. They cost \$10 each and are available from Jim Tregaskis or the Church Office.

Vegetable Pizza

Ingredients:

1 pkg. (dry) Hidden Valley Ranch Dressing Mix
8 oz. pkg. Cream Cheese
2 pkgs. Crescent Rolls
2 cups each of the following vegetables:

Broccoli, cauliflower, onions, carrots and tomatoes (*or use Verdelli fresh Salad mix which can be found in the Produce Dept. of your grocery store*)

1 cup Sour Cream
1/2 cup Mayonnaise

1. Spread crescent rolls on two cookie sheets
2. Bake 375° for 10 minutes.
3. Soften cream cheese; mix with mayonnaise, sour cream and dressing mix. Spread on rolls.
4. Chop up vegetables and sprinkle over coated rolls. Press down.
5. Refrigerate until cold, and cut into squares.

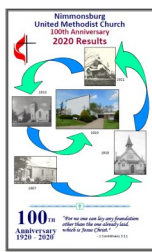
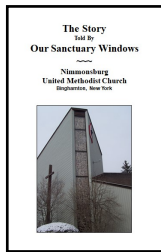


Church Booklets Available

Jim Tregaskis has prepared three new booklets that are being offered for sale as a fundraiser for the Henderson Mission trip:

- (1) **100th Anniversary 2020 Results;**
- (2) **Our Church Liturgical Banners;** and
- (3) **Story told by our Sanctuary Windows.**

If you are interested, sign-up sheets are in the Church entryway, along with sample books for you to see. The price is \$5 for each. Please sign up by April 10th.



Henderson Mission Trip

The Henderson Mission Trip team of nine people met on February 22nd to discuss the work projects we would do while in Kentucky in May. Although the project list is not final, we discussed working in the food pantry, thrift store and greenhouse, and doing any sewing projects available. We would also select projects such as painting and minor electrical and building projects.

Once finalized, we will send funds to Henderson to purchase supplies. When we arrive, everything will be ready for us to get to work! We would like to raise \$3-4,000 for supplies. If we raise more than needed, we will make a donation to Henderson.

What's Happening

March Happenings:

March 1st at 5:00 pm -
March 2nd at 6:00 pm -
March 4th at 10:00 am -
March 15th at 5:00 pm -
March 17th at 4:00 pm -
March 23rd at 7:00 pm -
March 29th at 5:00 pm -
March 31st at Noon -

Recalibration Meeting (Dinner Provided)
Ash Wednesday Service at NUMC
World Day of Prayer at Endwell UMC
Recalibration Meeting (Dinner Provided)
Administrative Board Meeting
Pastor Jenni to speak at Wednesday Lenten Service at Ogden-Hillcrest UMC
Recalibration Meeting (Dinner Provided)
"Between a Rock and a Hard Place" Bible Study Begins (Bring your lunch)

Upcoming Happenings:

April 4 & 5 at 9:30 am -
April 5th at 1:00 pm -
April 12th at 5:00 pm -
April 15th at 6:00 pm -
April 17th (time to be determined)

AARP Safe Driving Classes at NUMC
Henderson Mission Trip Orientation Meeting
Recalibration Meeting (Dinner Provided)
Good Friday Service at NUMC
Easter Sunrise Service at NUMC



**** Our March Celebrations ****

BIRTHDAYS:

3/1 - Marilyn Moyer
3/3 - Phyllis Churchill
3/5 - Tess Savage
3/6 - Lillie Schaffer
Eric St. John
3/10 - Dick Church
3/12 - Debbie Gibbs
3/13 - Lacey Lindsey
Alan Stockholm

3/15 - Abigail Hagerman
3/16 - Scott Hoyt
3/18 - Tyler Desario
Adrienne Hoyt
3/19 - Jim Ruth
3/20 - Marilyn Herrick
3/21 - Dave Piatt
3/26 - Gail Byam
Todd Vick

3/27 - Madeline Nemcek
3/28 - Cheryl Ryder
3/29 - Ellie Austin
Jennine Justice

ANNIVERSARIES:

None in March



Did we miss your special day? If so, please let us know so we can celebrate with you!

Dear Nimmonsburg Family,

So many of you have expressed concern and asked questions about my surgery. Because it was unusual and interesting, I thought some of you might be interested in what exactly it entailed. I was diagnosed with Avascular Necrosis. Simply put, my wrist bone was dying because it was not being fed the blood needed from the veins. Unless it was fixed, it would continue to progress and my bone would eventually die. It's an uncommon disease (Kienbocks Disease) and a rare surgery, and usually occurs because of a past injury or for no apparent reason. I'm assuming that is my case as I don't remember a past injury.

My orthopedic hand doctor never did the surgery and he did not know of another in Binghamton that could do it. He referred me to a hand surgeon in Syracuse. The surgery involved cutting out a 2mm section of the bone and putting it back together with a screw. Eventually it will heal back together as broken bones do. I need to wear a soft cast given to responsible adults only for 5 weeks. (I guess they assume I was one!)

It has been amazingly painless since surgery. My wrist will return to 100% usage after 5 weeks of casting and a couple of months of therapy to get back my range of motion. I wanted to share this information because I found the condition interesting and it's good to know as much as you can in case any of you should encounter the same thing.

Thank you all for your prayers, questions and concerns.

- Denise

What Has He Been Up To?



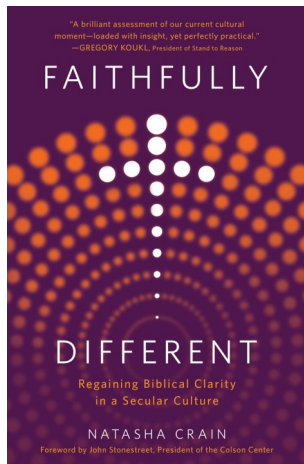
Have you noticed how nice the church kitchen is looking lately? Gene Abbey has been quietly painting the walls and the ceiling, and it looks great.

Then I found him fixing the entryway door, painting downstairs, and even shoveling ice off the front sidewalk.

Thanks for taking good care of us Gene!



Pastor's Reading Recommendation



I wish that everyone who calls themselves “*Christian*” would read this book. We all know we live in a world of conflict, and things we thought were simple and sound are now questioned and uncertain. We are afraid to say anything for fear of saying something wrong or offensive. In “*Faithfully Different*”, Natasha Crain speaks clearly and simply, providing language for today.

Treasurer's Position



We are currently developing a paid position of Treasurer for our church. We are looking for someone who has bookkeeping, Quick Books and payroll experience.

Responsibilities will include, but not be limited to: record incoming funds; make outgoing payments; document all financial transactions; create monthly reports; reconcile bank accounts, and preparation of our annual budget. If you are interested in this position, please contact Judy St. John, SPPRC Chair, or Rex Decker, Finance Chair.

First Day of Spring is March 20th!



What is Lent and Why Does it Last for 40 Days?

Lent is a season of (40) forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on [Ash Wednesday](#) and ends on Holy Saturday. [Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*](#), meaning “*lengthen*” and refers to the lengthening days of spring. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, [fasting](#) and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by new converts and then became a time of penance by all Christians. Today, Christians focus on relationship with God, growing as disciples and extending ourselves, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of ourselves for others.

Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a “*mini-Easter*.” This is why you will see the designation “*Sunday in Lent*” rather than “*Sunday of Lent*” in the naming of these Sundays. On each Lord's Day in Lent, while Lenten fasts continue, the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.





Nimmonsburg United Methodist Church
918 Upper Front Street
Binghamton, New York 13905



Nimmonsburg United Methodist Church

| | | E-Mail: | Phone: |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Bishop: | Rev. Mark J. Webb | BishopsOffice@unyumc.org | Ofc: (855) 424-7878 |
| Bing. District Super.: | Rev. Nancy Adams | BinghamtonDistrict@unyumc.org | Ofc: (607) 748-0662 |
| Pastor: | Rev. Jenni Piatt | ChurchPastornumc@gmail.com | (716) 560-4400 |
| Office Administrator: | Marjorie McCoy | ChurchOfficenumc@gmail.com | Ofc: (607) 724-5421 |
| Chair of Trustees: | Steve Randall | srandalloo2@stny.rr.com | (607) 242-9698 |
| Chair of Admin. Board | Shelly Schaffer | schafferrshelly@gmail.com | (607) 727-5009 |
| Chair of S/PPRC: | Judy St. John | estjohn@stny.rr.com | (607) 206-3827 |

