



The Messenger

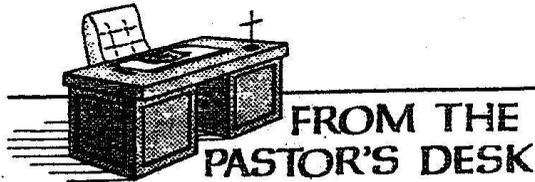
Grace United Methodist Church

16 Hillcrest Drive

Ravena, NY 12143-1409

Rev. Judith Johnson-Siebold, Ph.D.
Pastor

Rev. William F. Rogers, S.T.M.
Pastor Emeritus



June 2013

Dear Friends,

We have so many wonderful things to celebrate as a church, it's hard to know where to start. Do we want to begin with the fact that the church is growing, the fact that we already have a full slate of Sunday School teachers for the Fall, or the fact we have several major projects underway? Let's begin with the growth of the church.

We recently filled out our Conference reports and were gratified to see that we received ten new members in 2012. Few churches of our size can make that claim. We are already enjoying the fellowship and work of several of these members on committees and the Administrative Council.

The Education Committee is happy to report that the 2013-2014 Sunday School teachers are in place. Preschool – 1st Grade will be taught by Gabriella Selby and Dashanna Siebold; 2nd – 4th Grade by James June, Stephanie Canham, and Amy Young; 5th – 7th Grade by Mike Mattick and David Christ; and 8th – 12th Grade by Barbara Coryrell and Phyllis Shook. We are grateful for the dedication of these volunteers.

Several boards, committees, and individuals are working on major projects: (1) The Trustees are making exterior improvements, including replacing outdoor lights, removing old shrubs that are undermining the foundation, and replacing a handrail. They will be installing a drainage system on July 20th and will need help with the project. (2) The

Robertsons are spearheading the replacement of the fifty-year-old pew cushions, and have already installed new foam and upholstery on the pew just inside the narthex. (3) The Pastor-Parish Relations Committee is planning a congregational Spiritual Gifts Assessment in October with follow-up at the beginning of November. (4) A committee from the Administrative Council is working on the catered dinner for the Capital Area Council of Churches Spring Assembly on June 4th here at Grace. (5) The Sunday School is getting ready for Children's Day on June 9th, (6) The Choir is rehearsing their music for Choir Sunday on Father's Day, June 16th, and the Church is getting ready for the RCS Baccalaureate Service at 7pm on Thursday night, June 20th. Our own Seniors include Katie Beswick, Trey Coryell, James June, and Victoria Youmans.

As we can see, Grace UMC is very much alive and growing. We are making a difference in the lives of people, and with our lives we are pointing to the God whom we worship.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Judi



BARGAIN SHED NEWS

Since opening in April the Bargain Shed has received many generous donations. We are so thankful and hope they keep coming in.

On Saturday, June 1st, Ravena will be having its annual Yard Sale Day. For this event, the Shed will be open from 9am to 3pm and there will be several "spot" sales. Also, the Book Nook will be open for those extended hours and will have a \$2.50/bag sale of all books.

We are still in need of a Saturday morning worker at the Bargain Shed. Please pray on it and contact Edna Rominger at 966-8740 if you can join us.

YTD sales for the Bargain Shed are at **\$1,726**.

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC

The annual Church Picnic will be held on Sunday, June 9th. Festivities will start immediately following the Sunday School Children's Day program at 10:30am. There will be food, fellowship, games, music and fun.

There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall on the coffee hour table. Hot dogs, hamburgers, rolls and beverages will

be provided. We ask that you sign up so we can estimate the meat that will be needed.

Under number of guests, please include the members of your family and those you plan to invite. Invited guests need not bring a pot luck dish but are most welcome to come and enjoy the day with us!

We encourage everyone to attend and share a wonderful afternoon.

JUNE IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

As Sunday School comes to a close this year, we have one last project for the children to participate in this summer. Each child will be given several postcards saying "You've experienced a random act of kindness by a member of the Grace United Methodist Church". We'd like the children and their families, if they're interested, to do a random act of kindness for a member of the community and hand them (or leave it for them if they're doing the act anonymously) the postcard which is stamped and addressed to the church. The postcard asks the recipient to write us a quick note about what the random act of kindness was. Hopefully, come September we will have a few

postcards hanging on the bulletin board that the children can read to see how their kind actions affected others.

We're also hoping this will spur someone to come visit our wonderful church! Additional postcards will be left on the table outside the office if anyone else in the congregation would like to participate in this project.

We'd like to thank the congregation again for all their support this year: helping with our outreach projects and assisting with the craft rotations and the Christmas pageant. A special thanks to Barbara Coryell, Phyllis Shook, Mike Mattick, Trey Coryell and James June for teaching classes this year. We are grateful for the time and energy they put into their classes each week.

CHOIR SUNDAY

If you like music, you won't want to miss Church on June 16th for plenty of great Christian music!

CHICKEN BBQ SUCCESS

It appears the location change to the church parking lot for our chicken BBQs hasn't hurt sales at all. For the first sale this season, we were conservative and 75 dinners were

prepared. They were sold out in 35 minutes!

On June 20th, the plan is to prepare 150 dinners but remember to get there early as no pre-sales will be taken and once they're gone, they're gone.

Thanks to church volunteers who stepped up to help package up the dinners. As the weather gets hotter, it would be helpful to have two "shifts" so those volunteers working in the heat can get some relief. If you can help out, please let Ginny Pearson know.

BOOK NOOK YTD UPDATE

Sales for the Book Nook through May 19th were **\$4,679!** Great job!

JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthday & anniversary greetings go out to those who will be celebrating in June:

- 2 Erin Haslett
- 5 Pam Ginder
- 6 Jim & Peggy Sherman
- 15 Jay & Sue Ruso
- 16 Edna Kniffen
- 17 Janet & Ron Mantynen
- 20 Kristina Mantynen Gish
- 22 Beth Spoor

CALLING ALL MEN

On Saturday, July 20th, the Trustees will oversee the Drainage Project that is designed to solve the problem of leaking under the Sanctuary front doors. The plan includes renting a Ditch-witch, removing sod and dirt from the ditches that are created, laying drainage hoses, and covering them. It is anticipated that this will be an all-day project, and men with strong backs are asked to volunteer some time to Trustee Chair, Ken Bliss, at 756-3663. Thank you for your willingness to help keep our church building in good shape.

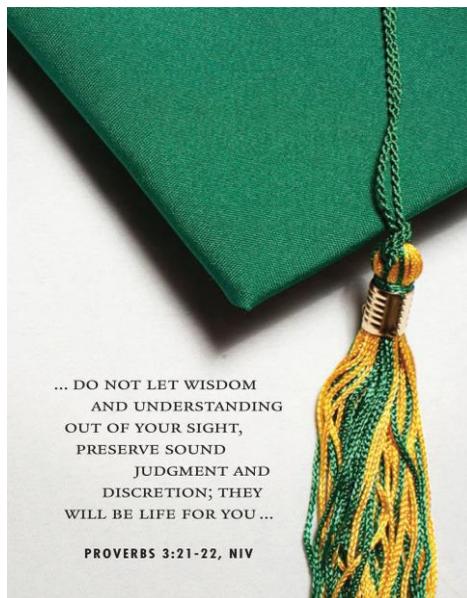
BAPTISM

Congratulations and welcome to Ryder Alexander Sorell who was baptized on May 19th. Ryder is the son of Sabrina and Jeffrey Sorell, Jr. May Ryder and his parents be showered with God's blessings.

DON'T FORGET OUR DEBT

Many of you pledged to make a monthly contribution to the Parking Lot Fund earlier this year. It's easy to forget that pledge as we get busy with our day-to-day lives, so this is just a gentle reminder. Even if you didn't

pledge to give each month, contributions are welcome to help us pay this debt off sooner. There is still more work to be done on the parking lot, so if you can, please consider helping out with this.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!

Katie Beswick
Trey Coryell
James June
Victoria Youmans

Best wishes to all of you as you make the transition to this next phase of your life. May you always know that you are

loved by your church family and we will always be here for you.

A reminder that the Baccalaureate Service will be held on June 20th at 7pm with a reception to follow in the Fellowship Hall. (Please note that the Book Nook will be closed that night.)



Only a dad, but he gives his all
To smooth the way for his children
small,
Doing, with courage stern and grim,
The deeds that his father did for him.
This is the line that for him I pen,
Only a dad, *but the best of men.*
—Edgar A. Guest

DEEPEST SYMPATHIES

Our prayers go out to Wayne and Ginny Pearson as they mourn the loss of Wayne's brother and also to Sue and Wally Eccleston on the loss of Wally's brother. May you all find comfort in God's love for you.



“If you don't learn contentment,
you'll never be happy. You'll always
want more.”

—Rick Warren

REMEMBER THE GIVER

God wants us to enjoy the good gifts
that he gives to us, provided that we
don't so focus on the gift that we forget
the Giver. When the gift becomes more
important than the Giver, you have
idolatry; when the Giver is seen
through the gift, you have worship.

—Warren Wiersbe



PUZZLE

The ants go marching...



God created amazing insects and says we can learn lessons from their hard work.



Directions: Use the word bank below to fill in the tablecloth grid for ant-based wisdom from Proverbs 30:25, NIV.

- | | | | | | |
|---------|--------------|------------|----------|-----------|---------|
| 4. of | 6. strength | 15. summer | 12. food | 9. store | 2. are |
| 8. they | 3. creatures | 5. little | 7. yet | 10. up | 14. the |
| 1. Ants | 16. Proverbs | 17. 30:25 | 13. in | 11. their | |

	1		2		3		
4		5		6		7	
	8		9		10		
11		12		13		14	
	15		16		17		

Answer: "Ants are creatures of little strength, yet they store up their food in the summer." Proverbs 30:25, NIV

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JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

If you are on Facebook, please join the church page by *liking us* at Grace United Methodist Church, Ravena, NY. Find out what's happening each week from Sunday's Service sermon title and hymns to meetings and special events.

OR VISIT US ON THE WEB:

www.graceumcravena.org



Deadline for articles for the **July** issue of *The Messenger* is **June 23rd**. Please e-mail or fax articles to Barb Bullock at:

bbullock812@gmail.com

or

fax to: **731-8994**