

The Church Mouse

February 2014



Pastor's Corner

This month we are gearing up for our Consultation Weekend! I am getting excited about what God is doing through this process. Some of you have been willing to share your concerns and questions with me over the past few weeks. I invite and encourage you to not hesitate to approach me or other HUMC leaders with your own questions and concerns.

Our congregation as in any faith community is not a stranger to God's wonderful provision. There have also been times when our faith has been tested. At some point the pews have been completely full and additional worship services have been discussed and even tried. There have also been times when the pews have been lacking in the sound of children. Other times the pews have been so full of children that the worship service has been "interrupted." Some years the building has only been used on Sunday and very few events have taken place throughout the week. Other years the building has been used most every day of the week. There have been months when discussions needed to be held on how to make payroll, let alone pay the other bills that month. There have also been times when we have been able to use entire Christmas offerings to help benefit the Hilton Food Shelf.

No matter the season our God has always been faithful and guided this congregation to faithful ministry to our neighbors and community in order to make disciples for Jesus Christ. I view the *Hand to Plow Consultation Process* as a way for our current body of Christ to continue the work of the saints and to be faithful to God's call on our lives as a congregation.

Unlike other programs the Conference has offered, the entire congregation has a say in the direction we will go. On Sunday March 9th immediately following worship, the consultation team will present the congregation with five recommendations. These recommendations will come with time lines and be linked together. For 30 days following the consultation we will pray over them and hold Town meetings that helps us voice concern, excitement, and questions. On Sunday April 27, immediately following worship District Superintendent, The Rev. Ted Anderson, will lead us in a Church Conference to vote on our acceptance or rejection of the recommendations.

These recommendations are not given in isolation of who we are as a Body of Christ. For the month of January, several people have been embarking on a study of who we are, where we have been, and the needs of our community. We have had several conversations with local community leaders, our neighbors, and even looked at the basic statistics of such things as how many people can fit in the sanctuary and how many parking places we have. **YOU** are also invited to a focus group with the consultants on **Friday March 7th** (evening time to be announced) in which the consultants will be listening to your hopes, dreams, and concerns. In the coming weeks we will be asking you for your commitment to the focus group and also the time of learning **Saturday March 8th 10:00 – 2:30**. It is our hope that everyone who is physically able attends at least the Saturday session and Sunday morning worship that week. Please also note the newsletter cover with the "Important Hand to Plow Consultation Dates" in order to guide us through the events involved in the process.

Please continue to join us in prayer for our congregation and this process. Let us give thanks to God for God's steadfastness! Our God is faithful!

See **YOU** in Worship, *Pastor Jennifer*

Technology Update



I thought I'd take a few minutes (words) to bring you up to date on some of the things we're doing regarding technology in the church.

As we've shown videos and used some of the remote microphones during worship services, you may have noticed some buzzing coming from the speakers.

It seems that there are quite a few old cables in that little cubby in the coat room which we call the sound booth. I met with the Trustees early last year to discuss the issue, along with remodeling the sound booth in an effort to make it more 'user-friendly.' It's a very small space with a lot of equipment.

One of the issues is that no one can effectively operate the equipment in that room during a worship service – there's very limited space to sit, and the person inside the booth cannot hear the sound from outside the booth.

Quite a few options were discussed, including enlarging the existing room, which would most likely involve either dividing the coat room to two smaller ones, or removal of some of the rack space.

We concluded that a desk/counter should be built on the East (Library) side of the rear of the Sanctuary to place the sound board and other equipment that are used during the Worship service. Plans have been drawn and a contractor has been selected. The new 'sound booth' will be located there, and constructed of the same material (oak wainscoting) as the front of the Choir loft. This will enable the operator of the sound equipment to be close to the lighting controls as well.

Construction is scheduled to begin during the end of January, and is projected to be completed during a single week, so no interruption will be experienced. As part of this process, the existing cabling will be 'tweaked' – grounded, reconnected, etc., and replaced where necessary.

We'll also be putting together an ad-hoc team to discuss how we can leverage multi-media and other technologies in our worship experience. If you're interested in participating in these discussions, please contact either Pastor Jennifer or me.

In His Service,
Bob Comstock

'All In' by Mark Batterson

Beginning February 9th

4 Weeks Book/Bible Study

During Worship Pastor Jennifer will be presenting a sermon series that goes along with the *All In* book, but it is not a retelling of the book or information discussed in the Study Time.

Study Time Options

- During Sunday School 11:30am-12:30 pm
Both Adult SS classes will meet together to watch the video portion and then will separate into the usual two classes for study and discussion; or
- Monday evening at 7:00 pm (2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24) in the multipurpose room, led by Pastor Jennifer; or
- Thursday afternoons at 1:00pm (2/6, 2/13, 2/20, 2/27) in the church library, led by Pastor Jennifer

Sharing Supper

Friday February 21st is the next Sharing Supper. We will be serving Chicken Pot Pie, all are welcome this is a free meal however donations are accepted. Reservations are not required but helpful. If you would like to volunteer your time please contact Linda Livermore at 366-4091 or 967-3759 also there is a signup sheet in the Narthex.



News from Nurture

- **Lenten Suppers** will be March 14, 21, 28, and April 4. Anyone who can help fix soup, sandwiches, or help serve, please sign up at Church or contact Jim Lee.
- We are planning a **Progressive Dinner** for May 3. We need four locations. If you would like to provide one, please contact Jim Lee.



Prayer and Share

February is the month UMW holds a **Prayer and Share Shower** for our Monday morning prayer group.

Please bring money, stamps, cards (Be sure the card is blank inside for the group to write in their own message).

We will put out the baskets on Sunday February 9th and 16.

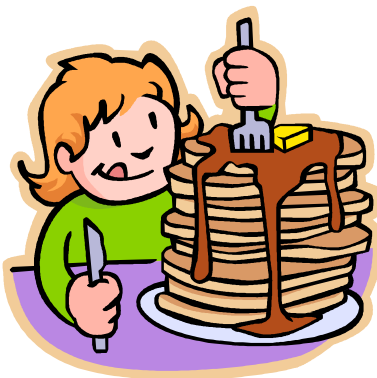
Pastor Jennifer will be offering **Church Membership and Baptism** on Sunday, February 23rd during Worship. If you would like to be baptized or join the church, please contact Pastor Jennifer 392-8761 or pastorjennifer@rochester.rr.com.



Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, February 16th
8:30 – 9:30 am

Come Support the Youth Group!
Yum!



NOAH'S PRESCHOOL

Happy New Year to everyone! We hope everyone had a Very Merry Christmas!

December ...

The Preschoolers were very excited to decorate for Christmas. The children learned about Baby Jesus and the true meaning of Christmas.

Noah's had their annual Family Christmas Party. The children sang songs, Pastor Jennifer read "The Christmas Story", Santa visited, and everyone had cookies and punch.

January ...

The Staff loves it when there is snow on the ground and it is cold! It makes teaching about Winter a lot easier! Penguins and snowmen have invaded the Preschool.



Thank You!

- ♥ The Green Family would like to thank our Hilton UMC family for the very generous Christmas gift. It has truly been an honor and privilege to serve Jesus Christ alongside you this past year. We look forward to 2014 and God's abundant grace and blessings to make themselves evident. May you experience the peace of Christ in this New Year.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Jennifer, Troy, Will, Trent, Nick and Kate

- ♥ To our church family, thank you for the cards and condolences on the loss of our Father, Grandfather and Great Grandfather, Olof Carlson. He was a truly wonderful man who will be missed terribly.

The Vetter Family



United Marriage Encounter

Fall in love all over again!

Give yourselves the gift of a United Marriage Encounter weekend. United Marriage is an international non-profit organization, dedicated to strengthening Christ centered marriages. Learn practical, ongoing communication tools over the course of a 48 hour weekend.

The next weekend is April 25-27, 2014 in Batavia.
Contact Jim♥Judy Oubre 716-777-4500 for information.
Register on-line at www.unitedmarriage.org
Registration fee \$40

For more info see: Dan & Pat Van Vleck; Jim & Sally Lee; Bob & Debby Comstock



Volunteers For February 2014

<u>Greeters</u>		<u>Lay Liturgists</u>	
2	Chuck & Lori Cole	2	Linda Barnard
9	Jack & Sue Trembly	9	Mike Postilli
16	Girl Scout Sunday!	16	Katie Paxton Johnson
23	Janet LaBorie	23	Mark Swanson
<u>Ushers</u>		<u>Acolytes</u>	
2	# 1 - Ed Holenbeck	2	Maya & Sophie Johnson
9	# 2 - Jim Lee	9	Ian Schuler
16	# 3 - Will Rickman	16	Katelyn Lessar, Riley Vohs
23	# 4 - Ernie McKenzie	23	
<u>Coffee Hour</u>		<u>Communion Servers</u>	
2	Steve Clark	2	Jack & Sue Trembley
9	Sharon Kron		Dennis & Dianne Sneddon
16	Liz Gliszczynski		Ken & Nancy Manning
23			

February Anniversaries

Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Hungerford
Mr. & Mrs. J.P. St. Jacques

February 15, 1964
February 17, 2001

Years Married: 50
Years Married: 13



February Birthdays

3 Ann Hurlimann
Mike Zambito
4 Marcia Adams
Pat Van Vleck
5 Bill List
7 Don Merriam
10 Katie Wroblewski
11 Amy Quartieri
13 Scott Campbell
14 Natalie Turner
15 Mike Postilli
16 Bill Hess
17 Kate Green

19 Julie Earnhart
Randy Livermore
20 Valerie Campbell
Tea Merrill
25 Al Blossom
Sharon Kron
27 Julie Sylvester



The Hilton United Methodist Church
21 West Avenue
Hilton, NY 14468

Address Service Requested

February 2014

Come Grow with us.
Meeting Christ &
Nurturing One Another

Rev. Jennifer Green - Pastor
Patricia Van Vleck - Office Manager
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(585) 392-3460

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pastorjennifer@rochester.rr.com
Website: humcny.org

Important Hand to Plow Consultation Dates

All Invited to Each Session, Childcare Provided

Pre-Consultation Workshop

Thursday February 13th

7:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Come find out what this whole Consultation thing is all about!

Friday Night Focus Group

Friday, March 7th

7:00 pm

First Session of the Consultation Weekend

Saturday Consultation Day

Saturday, March 8th

10:00 am – 2:30 pm

This is the teaching day of the process