



## Clifton Springs United Methodist Church

*A Loving Church for a Living Lord!*

**Rev. Brian Fellows - Pastor**

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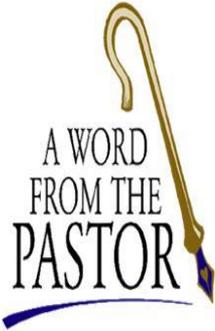
Sunday School Christmas Pageant

January Newsletter



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.  
The people of the United Methodist Church

## January 2019 Edition



When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Matthew 2:10,11

I approach faith as a journey and, like most journeys, you get out of it what you put into it. The last several weeks we have been searching for the Christ child. Christmas is done, the new year has come and Epiphany, the day that marks the arrival of the Maji to the Holy Family, is also in the books.

What did you find in your searching this season? The Sunday following Christmas, I asked people in the congregation what the best gift was that they received at Christmas. Overwhelmingly, people said being surrounded by family and friends was the best gift they had. In other words, the gift that is treasured is relationship.

The Maji invite us to follow the light of a star that leads to Christ. The story of Christmas reminds us that the light of Christ shines in darkness, and darkness has not overcome the light of Christ. These two lights still shine in our lives today. We, as followers of Christ, bear the light of Christ within us. The light of the star that led the Maji to the place where Christ was is still here, leading us to the places in our world where Christ is to be found.

The Maji showed up. They weren't Roman, they weren't Jewish. They were students of the world they lived in and the cultures known in the world at that time. They knew Jesus was significant and they showed up. They just wanted to know more and desired to be there to

celebrate with someone else. I don't think the Maji would be offended by "Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, Happy Kwanza" or any other cheerful greeting of the season. Their joy came in the relationship; even relationship with people different from who they were.

Jesus got involved. I know each of us is in a different place in our journey of faith and I know we are called to do different things. Sometimes we are called to end places of service, sometimes we are asked to rest and sometimes our next step is stepping up. Every year as far back as I can remember, the churches I have been a part of have had an Angel Tree. We pitch in and provide a bit of the love of Christ for people. Is that it, is that as far as Jesus is calling us to go? I don't know the answer. For some of us the answer is "this is all I have to give". Jesus did the work of relationship building and the Maji showed up. What's your next step? What will you do to find the place God dares you to go in following the star? What is your next step to be the light in a dark place?

Don't wait for God to show up where you are at. Actively pursue and participate in the relationships of life, trust and faith. They are not easy places to go but, the reward for the risk is high. Risk, act, and you will find what you have been searching for in your journey of faith.

Pastor Brian

## **Upcoming Important Dates**

**January 20 – Special Sunday Offering: Human Relations Day**

**January 20 – Mission Meeting at noon**

**January 21 – Martin Luther King Holiday**

**January 26 – Robert Taylor Eagle Scout Ceremony**

**January 27 – UMW Meeting at noon**

**February 3 – Scout Sunday**



**January 27, Noon**

**Meeting and Snacks**

**All women are invited to join us**

**Snacks, Fellowship and Information**

**Questions: Lorrie Spence 315-462-0335**



Thank you to all who

Generously donated to the Angel

Tree this year again. We were able to

Collect and distribute 63 gifts for children in need.

Bless you all!



Sanctity of Life Baby Bottles

Campaign to help Care Net

Bottles available from Lorrie Spence

Beginning on Jan 20<sup>th</sup>

315-462-0335.



## WHAT IS FAMILY PROMISE OF ONTARIO COUNTY

We are a faith-based network helping children and families facing homelessness in Ontario County.

FPOC combines the efforts of the faith communities, volunteer organizations, and existing social service agencies. It is more than providing a safe place to rest their heads, meals and support. It is about keeping entire families together while they work toward having a home to call their own.

To learn more, check out [www.familypromiseontariocounty.org](http://www.familypromiseontariocounty.org).

**FIRST FROST CAMPAIGN** – What would you do if you and your family had nowhere to spend tonight? Frightening thought as the frost begins and temperatures plummet. Financial viability is an ongoing goal for us. Contributions can be made through our website [www.FamilyPromiseOntarioCounty.org](http://www.FamilyPromiseOntarioCounty.org) or mail at FPOC, PO Box 416, Canandaigua, NY 14424. Thank you for your ongoing support.

### FPOC EVENTS HAPPENING IN THE NEW YEAR

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Coldest Path</b> March 2<sup>nd</sup></p> <p>A walk/5k run in Canandaigua prior to the Comfort Food Kick off. We walk in the cold to support all those in our community who are being crushed by the struggle of homelessness. To them - and to the community that witnesses our trek - we declare together that everyone deserves a safe place to rest their heads at night.</p> <p>Save the date!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Comfort Food Cook Off</b> March 2<sup>nd</sup> 3-5pm</p> <p>Save the date! We'll have three locations again this year: <u>Clifton Springs United Methodist Church</u>, Geneva and Canandaigua. More details to come</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Volunteer Training</b></p> <p>Hobart William Smith College in Trinity Hall (Room 305) 660 S. Main St. Geneva, NY Monday, January 21, 2019 (Martin Luther King Jr Day) 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Family Promise Meeting</b></p> <p>January 22, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m. Wellspring Church</p> <p>Please come if you are interested in learning more about Family Promise and the work we do.</p>

## BACK TO BASICS

A number of years ago I learned about an unusual baker named Lionel Poilane. His business bakes the most famous bread in Paris – large, heavy, round loaves that people line up to buy. His bread is extraordinarily good because, even in this age of technology, he uses old-fashioned ways. He bakes his bread in brick ovens over oak fires using only the finest stone-ground wheat he can buy. He employs several bakers who mix and work the dough one loaf at a time. Each baker’s workstation is equipped with tools that look like they are right out of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Next to each wooden kneading trough hangs a bucket of water instead of the automated faucets most bakeries use today.

“I intentionally installed a medieval system,” he explains. “In bakery school, students learn to push a button that delivers 60 liters of water at precisely 40 degrees centigrade into a huge mixing vat. We tried that, but discovered that the push button idea keeps our bakers from thinking about what they are doing. It disengages man from his work.” With buckets, the baker has to think about the quality and temperature and quantity for each batch of dough. In baking, everything is a question of variables – the temperature that day, the humidity, the flour quality, the oven temperature and so on. There are no absolute rules. A good baker has to be intuitive and adjust.

From the wicker baskets where lumps of warm dough lie in seductive repose, rising as the living yeast swells their volume, to the long handled wooden spatulas on overhead racks, to the brick and wrought iron ovens that contain raging hardwood fires, everything in his bakery reflects Lionel Poilane’s loathing for pointless automation and modern trappings. According to this master baker, technology cannot improve on the baking of fine bread – the staple of life.

### **Neither can technology or new ideas improve on spirituality.**

Like the water buckets, long handled wooden spatulas, wooden kneading boards and wicker baskets of this bakery, the spiritual disciplines are ancient but effective. They rely on the basics to open us to a deeper connection with God. They cause us to be sensitive to God’s presence in our everyday existence.

For 2019 I encourage each of you to honestly answer these 2 questions:

***What spiritual disciplines have you found most helpful in your faith journey?***

***Which one(s) do you need to focus anew on in this coming year to become more firmly “in touch” with God?***

*Examples: Prayer, reading scripture, attending worship, doing daily devotional reading, meditation, study, simplicity, accountability, retreats, fasting, confession, spiritual direction, solitude,*

## CSUMC FOOD MINISTRY

**Volunteers are needed for the month of February Food Distribution.** It will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs of the month (February 21<sup>st</sup>). If you think you could help for a few hours that day, please let Dan or Sandy know.

Contact:

Dan – 315-521-3373

Sandy – 315-521-2201



**Don't Touch the Pies!**

**Girl Scout Troop 40722 sharing food and having a tour of the Kid's Pantry.**



## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



The measurements for the prayer shawls and lap robes are as follows:

**Prayer Shawls:** Can vary anywhere from 22x48 to 26x60. They recommend the length be measured from your wrist around your shoulders to

your other wrist. Being a little longer allows for perhaps cuddling with a child or more secure wrapping around. You be the judge.

**Lap Robes:** Small:36x36 good size for wheel chair users. Larger if you see fit.

Too much fringe can be bothersome for wheelchairs. Your own favorite pattern is usually perfect. Simple patterns work best. Size 9- 11 knitting needle / crochet hook size I-L and worsted or bulky yarn works great.

When you have a finished product, please bring to Lorrie or Shirley. Talk to Lorrie or Shirley if you need yarn.

As you sit and knit or crochet, pray for the person who will be receiving your gift of love.

Thank you for your support for this worthy endeavor. So many people are in need of this loving outreach ministry.

Shirley Reed

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

January 1	Morgan Cowan
January 3	Cathie Chabrier
January 5	Gary Vogel, Jennifer Mattoon
January 8	Rhianna Yates
January 9	Devin Hicks
January 11	Nancy Ellis
January 13	Eileen Welker
January 14	Scott Mattoon, Steve Strub, Alex Smith
January 16	Chance Rivera
January 18	Pat Gordner, Lucas Garver, Dave Forshay
January 19	Amy Maslyn, Janelle Yates
January 22	Josh Smith, Aubrey King
January 23	Audra Linsner
January 25	Ben Kauder
January 26	Barb Maslyn
January 26	Karen Madera
January 27	Tammy Charlette
January 28	Andrew Mullard
January 29	Aliene Payne, Donna Strub
January 31	Emma Smith, Joseph Maslyn, Ella Fagner



## JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

NO JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES  
ON RECORD

*Are we missing your special day?*

Let John know by email to:  
[csumcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:csumcsecretary@gmail.com)  
or call the church office

## **Have a Question? Here's who to contact!**

### **Pastor**

Brain Fellows  
Church Phone (315) 462-2274

### **Parish Administrator**

John Bouwens  
Church Phone (315) 462-2274  
e-mail [csumcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:csumcsecretary@gmail.com)

### **Christian Education and Youth Group**

Sharon Ranger  
Home (315) 462-9221  
e-mail [christianedcsumc@gmail.com](mailto:christianedcsumc@gmail.com)

### **Lay Leaders**

Cathie Chabrier  
Cell (315) 515-8155  
e-mail [mrschabrier@hotmail.com](mailto:mrschabrier@hotmail.com)

Ann Chatfield.  
Home 331-7285  
Cell (315) 573-5367

Roger Cullen  
(585) 398-1282  
e-mail [cullenroger@gmail.com](mailto:cullenroger@gmail.com)

### **Finance**

Laura DeCracker  
Home 315-945-0799  
e-mail [ldecracker@outlook.com](mailto:ldecracker@outlook.com)

### **Treasurer**

Roger Cullen  
(585) 398-1282  
e-mail [cullenroger@gmail.com](mailto:cullenroger@gmail.com)

### **Trustees**

John Mueller  
(315) 462-6194  
e-mail [johnmuellerwbf@gmail.com](mailto:johnmuellerwbf@gmail.com)

### **Staff Parish Relations**

Cathie Chabrier  
Cell (315) 515-8155  
e-mail [mrschabrier@hotmail.com](mailto:mrschabrier@hotmail.com)

### **Council on Ministries**

Dan McIntyre  
Cell (315) 521-3373  
e-mail [danandsandy@hotmail.com](mailto:danandsandy@hotmail.com)

### **Missions**

Sandy McIntyre  
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**Worship Team**

Melissa Lenhart  
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**UMW**

Lorrie Spence  
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**Choir**

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**Ushers**

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Steve Strub  
Home (315) 462-3683  
e-mail [strubpumpkinpatch222@yahoo.com](mailto:strubpumpkinpatch222@yahoo.com)

**Funeral Receptions**

Cherry McIntyre  
Cell (585) 526-5811  
e-mail [prmac3@aol.com](mailto:prmac3@aol.com)

Sharon Ranger  
Home (315) 462-9221  
e-mail [cookin1231@gmail.com](mailto:cookin1231@gmail.com)

**Organist/pianist**

Coco Ke'er Wang  
e-mail [cocokeerwang@gmail.com](mailto:cocokeerwang@gmail.com)

**Prayer Chain**

On line: Ann Chatfield  
e-mail [achatfie@rochester.rr.com](mailto:achatfie@rochester.rr.com)

Phone: Lynda Schwab  
(315) 548-0548

**Historian**

Jim Conners  
Home (315) 462-9237  
e-mail [jconners@rochester.rr.com](mailto:jconners@rochester.rr.com)

**Food Ministry**

Dan and Sandy McIntyre  
Dan (315) 521-3373  
Sandy (315) 521-2201  
email [danandsandy@hotmail.com](mailto:danandsandy@hotmail.com)

**Food Cupboard**

Held each 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month

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