



# Grace United Church

## Lectionary Scriptures

**May 2** 5th Sunday of  
Easter, Acts 8: 26-40  
Psalm 22: 25-31  
1 John 4: 7-21  
John 15: 1-8

**May 9** 6th Sunday of  
Easter, Acts 10: 44-48  
Psalm 98  
1 John 5: 1-6  
John 15: 9-17

**May 16** 7th Sunday of  
Easter, Acts 1: 15-17,  
21-26, Psalm 1  
1 John 5: 9-13  
John 17: 6-19

**May 23** Pentecost  
Acts 2: 1-21 or  
Ezekiel 37: 1-14  
Psalm 104: 24-34, 35b;  
Romans 8: 22-27 or  
Acts 2: 10-21  
John 15:26-27;16:4b-15

**May 30** 1st Sunday  
after Pentecost  
Isaiah 6: 1-8  
Psalm 29  
Romans 8: 12-17  
John 3: 1-17

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## Getting to Know You

What a month I have had getting to know you. Though I have only "scratched the surface", I have already enjoyed many conversations, shared a number of meals, and heard more than a few family stories as well as tales about the church. Thank you for your openness in sharing your hearts with me.

Remember the playful refrain by Rogers and Hammerstein, from the piece "Getting to Know You"

"Haven't you noticed  
Suddenly I'm bright and breezy?  
Because of all the beautiful and new  
Things I'm learning about you  
Day .. by ... day."

Truly, it has been a pleasure to begin the process of getting to know you individually and as a church. As you begin to know me you will discover that I love to have fun. And, since parties are fun, I thought a **Talent Show Birthday Party** would be a great way to combine some of the things I love: meeting people, learning about them and having FUN!

I'm so interested to learn about your apparent and hidden talents; everything from musical talents, to stories of your harrowing experiences. You can tell a tale, show something you made, or something that has meaning to you, offer a life hack, share a verse or proverb you love. . . the possibilities are endless. I hope you will make plans to join in the fun!

Please come this Sunday at 3:00 pm to, **Grace United Has Talent!**

## Finding Karen

If you would like to catch up with me, I will be in the office in the mornings Monday through Thursday. If you prefer that I visit you at your residence, or if you would like to catch a meal, a snack or a walk, I'll catch up with you in the afternoons. Just call the church and we'll arrange a time. Fridays and Saturdays are my days off, so generally I'll be out of pocket those days, turning my attention to personal and family time. I check with staff when I'm out of the office or otherwise engaged, so please feel free to leave a message with them when I'm away from the church.

**Pastor Karen**

**Adult Study/Fellowship:** Sunday nights at 7 pm. Finishing up "The Book of Forgiving". Soon we will start a bible study with Pastor Karen "Hot Topics of the Bible". A Zoom invitation will be sent out on Sunday afternoons. Please join us.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Sunday May 2 3:00 pm at Worship Center *Talent Show Birthday Party***

**Sunday May 16 following Worship Congregational Meeting**

**Friday, June 4 (Rain Date June 5) Family Fun Night**

**Sunday June (TBA) Garden Service with St. John's and Shepherd of the Valley**

**Sunday July 17 Chicken BBQ. Tickets, sign up sheets for donations and workers will be out by 1st of June. Let's make this a fun and successful event.**

**From the Praise Committee: We meet in person each Sunday at 10 am.** The service is also on Facebook® live, or a recorded YouTube® worship is available later in the day. Anyway you decide to join us, we hope you feel welcome at Grace United.

**May 16 - Congregational meeting** after worship to vote on the status of the Parsonage.

**May 23 - Pentecost** When the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus' followers. (Wear RED)

### **FAMILY FUN NIGHT**

**GAME NIGHT and BROWN BAG AUCTION** Friday June 4<sup>th</sup> (Rain Date June 5)

**Save the Date:** We will start the night at 5:30 with outdoor games. Bring your corn hole, ladder golf or whatever you have and we'll enjoy some fellowship outside.

At 6:45 the Brown Bag Auction will start. We had such a great time last year so we thought we'd try it again!!! This time we plan to invite the community and hopefully draw in some new faces. As you might remember, the guidelines are Make It, Bake It, Sew It, or Grow It. As we did last year, we will be in the church parking lot and this year we can advertise!! So look for posters, let the juices flow for ideas and fill up those bags!! So bring your lawn chairs and games if you have them and join us for a fun evening.

### **The Egg is Accepting Donations!!**

As many of you know, work is being done on the Johnson Cemetery. Being that Nathaniel Johnson was a prominent member of the Congregational Church, serving on its Board of Trustees and laid out the site of the cemetery with a map in 1854, the Ministry Committee thought it would be a nice gesture to pay tribute to those veterans who are buried there. These veterans represent 28 in total. One is from the War of 1812; 25 are from the Civil War and two from World War II (one received a Bronze Star and Purple Heart from the US Army and the other a US Navy Nurse). Seven of the Civil War Veterans were killed in action and the families were able to bring them home to rest. The others were mustered out and lived out their lives here, in Wellsville.

After donations have been made and work done to preserve this site, the cemetery will once again be a pride and remembrance of Wellsville's history.

Donations will be accepted through Memorial Day weekend and presented to the Legion Riders on behalf of the Grace Untied Congregation.

### From the Stewardship Committee:

Stewardship has been active on several fronts this past month. Seven office windows and two sanctuary windows were replaced by Vision Contracting. Blinds will be installed in the main office matching those in the Fellowship Hall. There is a new clock hanging next to the coffee maker and the old commercial mixer, which had not been used in several years, has been sold.

Office for the Aging has resumed use of our Worship Center as a local luncheon site. Installation of the Wi-Fi upgrade was completed by Computer Solutions. One of the two networks is designated for guest use. That password will be posted on the bulletin board outside the office.

Directions for Independent Living is increasing its Wellsville based staff and will move across the hall at the Mission Center, into the larger office area previously occupied by Youth for Christ.

The tenant who occupied the Christian Temple parsonage for several years has purchased a home in Olean, prompting an ad hoc committee to assess the condition of the property and recommend whether the parsonage be kept or sold. Three of the five members of the ad hoc group represented the Stewardship committee. Several considerations, including a strong real estate market, led this committee to recommend the parsonage be sold rather than holding on to it for rental property or future use as a parsonage. A special congregational meeting has been called for May 16 to discuss and vote on this recommendation.

### **The Ministry Committee met Wednesday, April 14**

We are busy with the workings of the church and local community.

Carol Dodge gave a presentation about the Salvation Army on what they offer and how we can help as we continue to help them in the future.

We are sending a \$250 donation to St. John's for the sneaker collection this spring for the school children.

We talked about membership and Pastor Karen will be writing up an article asking if anyone is interested in joining our church.

Linda updated us on new addresses and phone numbers. She continues to send out notes and cards to our congregation. If anyone knows of someone in need of Pastoral care, please contact Linda at the church office.

There will be 2 Special Offerings this month. May 23<sup>rd</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> are the Sundays for Pentecost (DOC) and Strengthen the Church (UCC).

We discussed some fundraisers and we plan to have another Brown Bag Auction in June.

We are looking to fill the Helping Hands Freezer and are hoping to bring it upstairs soon.

### **Special Offerings for May**

This month both church denominations are having special offerings with the same message... RENEWAL. The Pentecost offering (DOC) and the Strengthen the Church offering (UCC) supports the planning, nurturing, sustaining and specializing in ministry of new church development through both regional and general programs.

To quote Rev. Traci D. Blackman... "Your generosity seeds the work and your faithful support in giving, gives root to the many signs of ever-emerging life that springs faith into many church ministries".

So as we watch the budding trees and the flowers renew their lives, please help to continue to renew the work of the church.

Grace United Church  
P. O. Box 408, 289 North Main St.  
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May 2021 Newsletter for Grace United Church

**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

5/2 Karen Borchert  
5/6 Renee Johnson  
5/7 Gracie Hirt  
5/9 Jan Pratt  
5/14 Linda Sweeney  
5/17 Dana Beckhorn  
5/21 Gabrielle Sorochin  
5/26 Gail Allen

**MAY ANNIVERSARIES**

5/1 Frank & Mary Rosemary  
5/25 Jim & Becky Wightman

Bring those Giant Tapes in:  
For every \$500 worth of tapes, the church gets \$1.  
For April we collected \$3000 worth of tapes.  
There is a box in the narthex for the tapes.

**Usher & Reader Schedule for May**

**May 2 – Head Usher** Roxy Schmidt  
Reader Roxy Schmidt, Ushers: \*John Flurschutz, Carol Flurschutz

**May 9 – Head Usher** Marcia Pratt  
Reader Sue Johnson, Ushers: \*Jan Riley, Bob Shook

**May 16 - Head Usher** Roxy Schmidt  
Reader Sue Williams, Ushers: \*Marcia Pratt, Kim Toot

**May 23 - Head Usher** Sue Pederson  
Reader Kim Toot, Ushers: \*Roxy Schmidt, Sue Williams

**May 30 - Head Usher** Sue Pederson  
Reader Carol Flurschutz, Ushers: \*Bob Shook, Beth Shook

**March Financials**

Total Income:  
**\$9,825.00**  
Actual expenses:  
**\$6,528.02**  
Net difference:  
**\$3,296.98**  
Total for the year:  
**Income:**  
**\$31,043.99**  
**Expenses:**  
**\$25,152.75**  
Net difference:  
**\$5,891.24**