

The Visitor

JANUARY 2022

Senior Pastor

Rev. William Mudge 315-292-0850

Congregational Care & Family Ministries

Rev. Jeff Hodge 315-383-4384

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Gordon Knapp 315-303-4862

Worship Leader

Nairobi O. Smith 585-944-7421

Music Director

Nancy B. James 315-256-7509

Secretary

Lisa Kane 315-635-6442

Treasurer

George Ramseyer 315-638-8177

Bookkeeper

Nancy B. James 315-256-7509

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Church Office: 315-635-6442

Fax: 315-635-6963

Normal Office Hours:

Mon. - Fri. 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

E-mail: secretary@bvillefirstumc.org

Website: www.bvillefirstumc.org

PLEASE NOTE:

Articles for the **FEBRUARY**
must be submitted to the church office
by **January 15th**. Thank you.

[Church Calendar](#)



"A Sheepdogs Tale"

"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:2-6 NRSV

When I sat down at the keyboard to write a report to the Baldwinsville First United Methodist Church and for the 2021 Church Conference, I had to begin with that scripture from the pen of the Apostle Paul to his friends in Philippi. Paul had great affection and regard for the believers in Philippi, and he gushes occasionally when he speaks of them. I understand that feeling, I am blessed to serve Christ with you.

The past year was very difficult in many, many ways. COVID has impacted every aspect of our lives. Our nation and the entire world it seems has been closed, interrupted, or broken by this pandemic. And yet the Church of Jesus Christ has persevered. We have persevered. I have thought many times this past year of a quote I heard and remember from my youth. The quote is, "Adversity does not build character, it reveals it." (Author James Lane Allen)

So, I ask you to ponder, my friends and family in Christ, what has this journey revealed about us and our character as Disciples of Jesus Christ?

We began our fall ministry together with 10 weeks of prayer that led us into the fall and concluded on Thanksgiving Day. I have witnessed miracles in our congregation and in my own spiritual life during these intentional days of prayer. God is moving in and around us, God is moving in this congregation.

As we turn the calendar into 2022, we will begin with 3 weeks of prayer and reflection built around John Wesley's Prayer of Covenant Renewal. I believe our Intentional Discipleship plans will gain momentum. We will be organizing and inviting every member of our congregations to join a Class Meeting group and plot a course for deeper Biblical literacy. We will organize and invite people of all ages to engage in one missional adventure in 2022. These will be available in house, in our towns, around the state and nationally and internationally God being our helper! It's past time for the Church to leave the building and take God's with us.

Come and join us for worship this Sunday morning at 9:00 A.M. for our Heritage worship service featuring our choir and familiar hymns. Stop in for Praise and Contemporary worship lead by Nairobi Smith at 6:00 P.M. on Friday nights. We have pizza and fellowship and a great time together! It has been exciting to have our church family returning and worshipping together, but both services will be available online through Facebook and YouTube. We'll save you a seat!

Blessings, Pastor Bill Mudge

CONGREGATIONAL CARE & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Rev. Jeff Hodge, Congregational Care & Family Ministries

January 2022

Join us for our Church-wide Epiphany Party on Wonderful Wednesday, January 5, 2022!

We celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord and look forward to what God is doing in our midst as we move into 2022! Join us for a special Pork Loin dinner prepared by Alan Lindsay. Join us from 6:00 until 7:30 p.m. for a special evening of fun, food, music and fellowship.

Reservations for the event are appreciated.



Please Note: Wonderful Wednesdays moves to monthly for winter.
Our February event is Wednesday, February 9)

Sunday's COOL Activity Time during worship for kids of all ages!

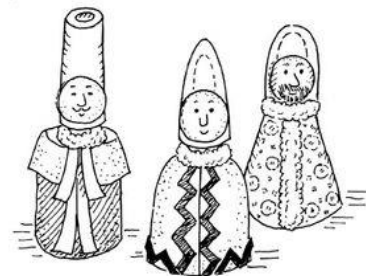
Eureka! Book Club Meets on Tuesday, January 25

We will begin 2022 focusing on The Covenant Prayer and the book "The Wesley Prayer Challenge" by Chris Folmsbee (foreword by Adam Hamilton) on Tuesday, January 25. Bring your own dinner at 6:00 p.m. Discussion begins at 6:30 p.m. Both Participant's e-book and Leader's Guide e-book on Hoopla for free). The DVD, hardcopy Participant's book, and hardcopy Leader's Guidebook, all on loan from the UMC Media Center, are available for sign out on the bookshelf in front of Jeff's office. (Also -- Hoopla (free) also has movies about John Wesley life/teaching that you can watch on your own)

Epiphany Resources for families

[Super Simple Epiphany Crafts and Activities for Kids
\(thekennedyadventures.com\)](http://thekennedyadventures.com)

[Epiphany Activities for Kids | HowStuffWorks](http://HowStuffWorks)



Of Continued Concern:

Mary Anita Berry (St. Joe's), Helen Falge,
Sally Graham, Jim Larmondra, Cheryl Metrick,
Jay Scarson-Barrett, Justin Taylor,
Josephine & Caroline Turner,
Layne, daughter of Allie Derby, Robert Yeddo

Friends & Neighbors:

Lisa Ballard & mother, friends of Rev. Hodge
Liz & Jim Bartholomew,
aunt & uncle of Barb Stowe & Sue Vanderveer
Francis Bliven, Julia Bliven's husband
Jim Burke, friend of Harlow Kisselstein
Janis Darby, friend of Cheryl Metrick
Larry Disotell, friend of Pam Fallesen
Richard Greer, Dave Greer's brother
Marjorie Heck, Shari Mudge's mother
William Hobart, friend of the Kisselsteins
Jim Kelley, stepfather of Pastor Jeff
Richard Marks, friend of Joan Foster
Scott Maxwell, Rocky Maxwell's brother
Blakely Nowicki, Kisselstein family
Dick Patchett, Joan Patchett's husband
Melissa Sullivan Ricotta,
Bonnie & Millard Sullivan's daughter
Zachary Thomas, grandson of Mary Thomas
Lisa Wilson & family, Judy Herbs' niece
Isobella Vecchio, friend of Ron Waterbury

Pray for our Service Men & Women:

Holly Abbott, Jeff Coover,
Brian Cunningham, James Scott Gibbs,
Casey Hargrave, Jeffrey Lucy,
Dr. Kristen Lucy, Jeffrey Meany,
Brandon Merle, Benjamin Nordmark,
Tyler Reynolds, Peter Slye, Richard Slye



Sympathy to:

Family & friends of Lisa Jensen
Barbara Jones & family on the passing of
her mother, Eleanor Jones
Judi Dreher-Wiberg, Val Dreher-Caldwell,
and their families on the passing of
their mother, Carolyn Dreher.

Remember Those at Home and at Care Facilities:

*Patricia Berry, Joan Foster, Mildred Long,
Shirley McMahon. Mary Eleanor Slye*

Bill Barrett – Sedgwick Heights #124A
Charles Bordwell – Brookdale Liverpool #53
Sharyn Brown – Sedgwick Heights #332B
Gertrude Collins – Loretto-Cunningham #936
Marjorie Dence – McHarrie Pointe #513
Jack Ferguson – Loretto-Cunningham #517
Barbara Johnston – Van Duyn #455
Walter Maihofer – Park Terrace
Ernestine Parry – Syracuse Home #107
Jim Tudman – McHarrie Pointe #204



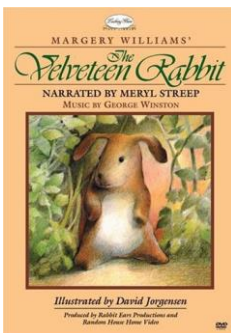
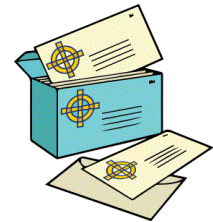
Read the Bible in a Year

Dedicated to Tom McMahon who started this wonderful way of staying connected every day through the year.

“RENEW A GOOD HABIT ... Daily Bible Reading. Sometimes it’s hard to get into the habit of reading the Bible. Here is an easy way to get started. Just pick up a copy of the 2022 Daily Reading Guide. They are in the back of the sanctuary, in the Chapel, outside the church office and inside the church office. You should be able to find one. The guide will lead you through reading the whole Bible in a year. Now that’s a GOOD HABIT.”

2022 Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2022 are now available. Those who normally use the boxed sets of envelopes may pick them up downstairs after Sunday services. There are boxes still unassigned. Please keep in mind that these boxes are already paid for by the church so don’t be shy if you would like to have a box even if just for the special Sunday offerings throughout the year. Leave your name on the sheet provided to let us know. Please remember the ‘Initial Offering’ helps to offset the cost of the envelopes.



SAMASAN Movie Night featuring “The Velveteen Rabbit”

Saturday, January 22, 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel

Toby and his father are certain that this will be a sad Christmas. Their mother/wife had recently died. Grandma decides to save Christmas. She takes Toby into her Magic Attic where Toby meets the Velveteen Rabbit. The Velveteen Rabbit sits in the Christmas Tree and watches Toby, his father, and grandmother celebrate Christmas. Light refreshments.

Thanks & Praise

Janet and Gordon thank all who remembered us this Christmas. We really miss interacting with our friends at the Baldwinsville Church.

In November and December, you all generously donated over 85 books to the Christmas Bureau during the SAMASAN: Book Donation Event. The Christmas Bureau thanked the Church very much for the many and variety of donated books.



01/01 Brian DeLola
01/03 Susan Lison
01/04 Karen Burke
Brett Pickett
01/05 Melba Lindsey
01/07 Virginia Johnson
01/08 Clara Trew
01/09 Lauren Witter
01/10 Joe Kenney

01/11 Jackie Anderson
Allison Jennings
01/13 Bill Brotherton
01/14 Nancy Brotherton
Judy Herbs
01/15 Kate Rinn
Chris Wooldridge
01/17 Emerson Derby
Dan DiRenzo
Lisa Schultz
01/19 Janet Ramseyer
01/20 Mary Eleanor Slye
David Smith
01/21 Jennie Hewitt
Donald Metrick

01/22 Jill Evans
01/23 Brianna Stewart
01/24 Olivia Oyer-Halen
Ray Rice
01/28 Stephen Brooks
Tom DiRenzo
01/29 Mildred Long
01/30 Cooper Cielez
Janet Hawley
Anna Smallwood
01/31 Allie Derby

2021 Committee Chairpersons

If you were a committee chairperson in 2021, your Annual Report for the year is due into the church office by January 21, 2022. Thank you!

2022 Bulletin Sponsors

If you would like to sponsor a month of Sunday bulletins (\$125) in 2022, please let the church office know. April and October are still available.

Men's Bible Study

Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. in the church conference room. The primary purpose of the Gospel of John is to show that Jesus of Nazareth was Christ, the Son of God, and that believers in him might have eternal life. The Men's Tuesday evening Bible Study will begin an 11-week study of John on January 4th. Dave Horan (315-638-2407) or George Ramseyer (315-638-8177).