

# The Visitor

March  
2024



## Senior Pastor

Rev. William Mudge 315-292-0850

## Congregational Care & Family Ministries

Rev. Jeff Hodge 315-383-4384

## Administrative Pastor

Rev. Susan Ranous 315-445-1045

## Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Gordon Knapp 315-200-1250

## Music Director

Dan Williams 315-406-0232

## Secretary

Lisa Kane 315-635-6442

## Bookkeeper

Rod Porter 315-247-7426

## Treasurer

George Ramseyer 315-638-8177

## IN THIS ISSUE

Congregational Care & Family Ministries Page 2

BFUMC & BNS "Egg-stravaganza" Page 4

V.B.S. 2024 Page 4

Holy Week Schedule Page 5

Eureka! Book Club Page 6

Easter Lily Order Form Page 7

Church Office: 315-635-6442

Fax: 315-635-6963

## Normal Office Hours:

**Monday - Friday, 9:00 am–2:00 pm**

E-mail: [secretary@bvillefirstumc.org](mailto:secretary@bvillefirstumc.org)

Website: [www.bvillefirstumc.org](http://www.bvillefirstumc.org)

## **PLEASE NOTE:**

Articles for the **APRIL**  
must be submitted to the church office  
by **March 15<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you.

**[Church Calendar](#)**



**From the Pastor's Desk**

*"A Sheepdogs Tale"*

**"So, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So, we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."**

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 NRSV

We began a new adventure in the Baldwinsville United Methodist Church this past fall – Rev. Jeff Hodge, Rev. Susan Ranous and I are now sharing ministry in Baldwinsville UMC, Liverpool UMC, and Pennellville UMC. This is a very exciting new to us design that brings the varied gifts and graces of 3 pastors and 3 congregations together.

As we live and worship together you may notice that almost every week, I declare that the scripture lesson for the day is "one of my very favorites"! Truth is, I love the Bible, and love every opportunity to open the Bible and think with you.

However, if I were pressed for a REAL favorite text, I would be hard pressed not to read the one above from 2 Corinthians 5. Read it again if you will – how amazing that we have been reconciled to God through Jesus Christ, and now we are sent as ambassadors to spread this reconciling Love of God to everyone!

As we move together into the season of Lent, I invite you to prayerfully consider how God might use you, how God might use US in this ministry of reconciliation. Perhaps it will be a kind word to a stranger, perhaps a gift to someone in need, perhaps a smile offered to a broken soul. I believe this – God is ready, willing, and able to use all of us in building the Kingdom of God here at the Baldwinsville First United Methodist Church! Hear these words again friend, **"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."**

Come and join us for worship at 9am Sunday morning for our Heritage worship service featuring our choir and familiar hymns. If you are unable to join us in person, we are livestreaming our worship services on YouTube and Facebook. Looking for a Lenten Study? Check out the information on page 2. Plan to come and join us on Sunday morning – we'll save you a seat!

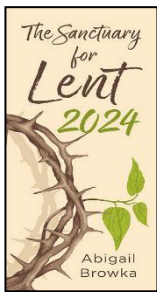
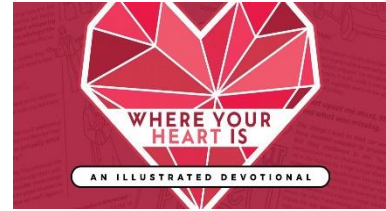
Serving Christ with You,  
Pastor Bill Mudge

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Rev. Jeff Hodge

### *We're having a Conversation of the Heart during Lent*

“Where Your Heart Is” Family Devotionals are available in the lobby. They are a wonderful resource for all ages to move deeper in our faith during this season of Lent.



### **Lent Study: Emily Dickinson & the Poetry of Lent**

For the 4<sup>th</sup> year, we will offer a combined church study for Lent via Zoom. The class is free, but registration is needed to get the Zoom link.

**We will meet on Mondays in person at Liverpool UMC at 6:30 p.m. or via Zoom on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. between February 19 and March 27.**

This year we are using “The Sanctuary for Lent 2024”, which is written by Abigail Browka, a United Methodist pastor in the Upper New York Annual Conference. Books are available in the office.

### **Children’s Church: Our Worship-Time Sunday School**

Children’s Church meets Sunday a.m. **We will now be** the hall. Our 30-minute time for coloring sheets and first time they attend.



following the Children’s Time each **meeting in Room 213**, at the end of Sunday School includes a story, a crafts. Please register your child the



**Join Pastor Jeff for Lessons from South Africa on Saturday, March 9 from 1 until 4 p.m.** We will have a covered-dish luncheon in the dining room, followed by a presentation in the Sanctuary, complete with pictures and stories from Pastor Jeff’s recent Cross Cultural Immersion in South Africa.

**Of Continued Concern:**

Dave Horan, Elijah Huling, Pat Kline,  
Jim Larmondra, Janet McIntosh,  
**Clara Rose Thomas (Crouse),**  
Ron Waterbury

**Friends & Neighbors:**

Liz & Jim Bartholomew, Aunt & Uncle of  
Barb Stowe & Sue Vanderveer  
Francis Bliven, Julia Bliven's husband  
Larry Disotell, friend of Pam Fallesen  
Carolyn Dixon  
Emily Gibbs  
Richard Greer, Dave Greer's brother  
William Hobart, friend of the Kisselsteins  
Craig Hodge, Pastor Jeff's brother  
John Hughes, Joyce Wilkinson's brother  
Dana Kaiser, Donna Foster's son  
Rudy Kline, Pat Kline's husband  
Roberta Maxwell,  
sister-in-law of Patty & Rocky  
Blakely Nowicki, Kisselstein family  
Zachary Thomas, grandson of Mary Thomas  
Lisa Wilson & family, Judy Herbs' niece  
Ruby VanDuser, friend of Suzanne Ellis  
Isobella Vecchio, friend of Ron Waterbury

**Pray for our Service Men & Women:**

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



**Sympathy to:**

Douglas & Stephanie McCall & family on the  
passing of his mother, Phyllis Brown.

Norma Widmann & family on the passing of  
her stepdaughter, Kathleen Egerer.

The family of Dr. Raymond Pray, brother of  
Wes Pray, on the death of his wife, Prudy.

Pamela Yeddo & family on the passing of  
her husband, Robert Yeddo.

**Remember Those at Home and at Care Facilities:**

*Joan Foster*

Bill Barrett – Loretto-Cunningham #504  
Charles Bordwell – Brookdale #53  
Sharyn Brown – Sedgwick Heights #344  
Gertrude Collins – Loretto-Cunningham #936  
Marjorie Dence – McHarrie Pointe #513  
Judy Herbs – Elderwood #225D  
Barbara Johnston – Van Duyn #457  
Mildred Long – Syracuse Home #122  
Ernestine Parry – Syracuse Home #107  
Mary Eleanor Slye – McHarrie Pointe #401





**Join us for the BFUMC/BNS Family "Egg-stravaganza"**

**Sunday, March 24**

The church building will be hopping with Easter activities on Palm Sunday, March 24 at 3:00 p.m. as BFUMC and BNS combine to host our first Family "Egg-stravaganza". It will be a fun-filled afternoon with Easter games and activities, crafts, an Easter Egg Hunt, and a chance to meet the Easter Bunny! The event is free. Cash donations to help defray costs are always welcome. Checks may be made to BFUMC with "Egg-stravaganza" in the check memo.

---

**IT'S NOT TOO SOON TO BE THINKING ABOUT  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!!!**

**JULY 8 – 12, 2024**

**For Children entering Grades K-5**

**Youth entering grades 6 and above** can join us as counselors, guides, and helpers!

**Adult helpers** are needed for each station: crafts, science, music, recreation, and snacks. Storyteller Jeff

Hodge is also looking for **actors** to give life to each day's Bible Story!

Email Jeff Hodge or Janet Brooks with your availability and area of expertise!

[JHodge312@yahoo.com](mailto:JHodge312@yahoo.com) [JBrooks48@aol.com](mailto:JBrooks48@aol.com)





## at Baldwinsville

### **Sunday, March 24 – Palm Sunday**

Worship Service at 9:00 a.m. in Sanctuary  
BFUMC/BNS Family “Egg-stravaganza” at 3:00 p.m.

### **Thursday, March 28 -- Maundy Thursday**

Worship Service at 7:00 p.m. in Sanctuary

### **Friday, March 29 – Good Friday**

Baldwinsville/Pennellville Tenebrae Service in Pennellville at 7:00 p.m.

### **Sunday, March 31 -- Easter Sunday**

Joint Easter Sunrise Service at Willow Bay, Onondaga Lake Park at 7:00 a.m. –  
Baldwinsville will meet with Liverpool and Pennellville at Willow Bay Park (3858 Long  
Branch Road).  
Worship Service at 9:00 a.m. in Sanctuary

### **Other Worship Opportunities**

Maundy Thursday – noon at Pennellville UMC, 7:00 p.m. at Liverpool (Tenebrae)  
Good Friday – Walk of the Cross begins in front of Liverpool First UMC at noon  
Easter Sunday – 9 & 11 a.m. in Liverpool, 11 a.m. in Pennellville

### **Eureka! Book Club Reminder**

We will be meeting in person on **MARCH 19** – one week earlier than usual. We will be in the dining room. The book is The Weather of the Heart by Madeline L'Engle

=====

### **Thanks & Praise**

We would like to thank our friends at the Baldwinsville Church for visits, phone calls , cards, notes, and the Christmas poinsettia. The Cheery Visitors, especially, live up to their name.

Janet and Gordon Knapp

Many thanks for all the prayer support and caring concerns at the time of my recent cancer surgery and during recovery. I thank God for the blessing of a loving church family and the outcome of complete healing. God bless all. Shirley Eisenhower

=====

### **Church Giving**

If you are not in church, you can continue supporting our church using automatic payments on your on-line bank account or the church's on-line payment system.

Using your bank's on-line bill payment feature, you can set up an automatic payment where your bank sends a check to the church. You control the frequency and amount of the payment. Simply use Baldwinsville First United Methodist Church, 17 W. Genesee Street, Baldwinsville NY 13027, indicate the amount and frequency of payment. Most banks do not charge you any additional cost for this feature.

The church also has an on-line payment system thru VANCO. Go to the on-line church's website [www. https://www.bvillefirstumc.org](https://www.bvillefirstumc.org) and on the right-side column press 'Online Giving – Make a Donation'. You set up your account and make your donation to the general fund or other areas listed. You will go to a screen where you can enter the amount, frequency of payment and if you want to pay using a bank account or credit card. You will have the option to offset the charge the church incurs for this system.

If you prefer to use a mobile device (cell phone), use the following QR code and it will take you to the on-line payment system from VANCO. Follow the same procedure to set up your contribution as the on-line system.  
<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z7C7/home>



For more information, contact Rod Porter, Bookkeeper (315) 247-7426 or Rocky Maxwell, Chair of Finance Committee (315) 488-5700. Thank you for supporting our church.



03/01 Ella Georger  
 03/03 Molly Lockwood  
       Holly McMahon  
 03/04 Noah Johnson  
       Melissa Turner  
       Ron Waterbury  
 03/05 Reagan Bouchard  
 03/06 Jeff Sweeney

03/07 Lori Driscoll  
 03/10 Diane Eastman  
       Michael Lawrence  
 03/11 Carrie Foster  
 03/12 Rev. Jeff Hodge  
       Chandra Hewitt  
 03/13 Kelly Carwell  
       Jessica Wallace  
 03/15 Tom Fredette  
 03/16 Lori DeLola  
 03/17 Eliza McMahon  
       Helen Stafford  
 03/18 Freida Waldron

03/19 Darcie Lesniak  
 03/19 Judy Peter  
 03/22 Alice Nykaza  
 03/23 Emma Webster  
 03/25 Ryan Hines  
 03/26 Julie Abbott  
       Reghan Metrick  
 03/27 Travis Smith  
 03/28 Alex Evans  
       Kate Kisselstein  
 03/29 Ardis Egan  
       Raina Malcolm  
 03/30 Rebecca Lawrence

**Please Note:**

If you would prefer to receive the newsletter by email, please let us know at  
[secretary@bvillefirstumc.org](mailto:secretary@bvillefirstumc.org).

**EASTER LILIES**

Easter lilies are \$9.00 each. Please use this form or call the church office at 635-6442.

**Orders are needed by March 18.**

**LILIES:** (\$9.00 per plant) No. of plants: \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

You can bring this form to the church office or put it in the mail.  
 Checks should be made payable to: **First United Methodist Church,**  
 17 W. Genesee St., Baldwinsville, NY 13027