

The Visitor



Pastor

Rev. William Mudge 315-2920850

Congregational Care & Family Ministries

Rev. Jeff Hodge 315-383-4384

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Gordon Knapp 315-303-4862

Worship Leader

Nairobi O. Smith

Music Director

Nancy B. James 315-256-7509

Secretary

Lisa Kane 315-635-6442

Treasurer

Stephanie Hines 860-917-3145

Custodian

Dan Mackin 315-635-6442

Housekeeper

Frank Harris 315-635-6442

IN THIS ISSUE

Church on the Island//Eureka! Book Club Page 2

Vacation Bible School 2021 Page 4

SAMASAN Page 4

Sunday School - Fall 2021 Page 5

Graduates 2021 Page 6

A Fall Study: "Half Truths" Page 7

UNYC Director of Stewardship Page 8

Fall Rummage Sale Page 8

Church Office: 315-635-6442

Fax: 315-635-6963

Summer Office Hours:

Mon. - Fri. 9 am–1:00 pm

E-mail: secretary@bvillefirstumc.org

Website: www.bvillefirstumc.org

PLEASE NOTE:

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

[Church Calendar](#)



"A Sheepdogs Tale"

"Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

Hebrews 10:19-25 NIV

We shared a wonderful celebration yesterday, June 27th, 2021, during our 9:00 A.M. Heritage worship service. We recognized our graduates and celebrated their journey. Dr. Douglas C. McCall – recent Ph. D. graduate from Penn State – preached, and we closed our service blessing the McCall family as they embark on their next adventure. I am excited to watch all our graduates, from our nursery family through those post graduate scholars as they carry the love we have experienced together into new communities.

The writer of Hebrews calls on us in the portion of scripture above to **"hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess... and consider how we might spur one another on toward love and good deeds"**. As I reflected on our time together yesterday, I imagined us as a congregation lovingly filling each of our graduates with courage and love. We poured into them, and each other, a reservoir of God's love that they can draw on when needed. That process and opportunity didn't end at 9:55 A.M. yesterday. Encouragement and love is the business that we are in! There is a more love and good deeds available for the taking and the giving!

Finally, I notice that church attendance was an issue even in the early church. The writer calls us **not to give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing**. We need you in our congregation, and you need us! As we emerge from this COVID experience, I believe that we are on the brink of the most exciting period of our 200-year history. Come and join us friends – you are not going to want to miss this!

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. **We are moving our Contemporary Worship to 6:00 P.M. Friday nights for the summer. It will be a causal dinner service – I will bring a pizza and some drinks – come and give this a try!** Both of these services will be available online through Facebook and YouTube. We'll save you a seat!

Serving Christ with You, Pastor Bill Mudge

CONGREGATIONAL CARE & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Rev. Jeff Hodge, Congregational Care & Family Ministries

July-August 2021

CHURCH ON THE ISLAND

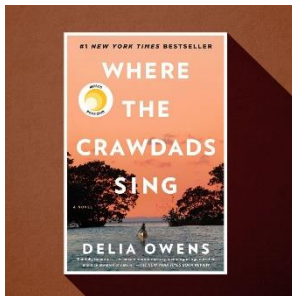


SUMMER 2021: JUNE 20 thru SEPTEMBER 5

Each week at 8:00 a.m. we celebrate worship with an informal, non-denominational 30-minute service on Papermill Island in Baldwinsville. Our worship time focuses on joy, hope and an uplifting message. Please bring your chair and join us in this beautiful setting for a time of meaningful worship.

SCHEDULE

| | |
|-------------|--|
| June 20 | Rev. Bill Mudge, First United Methodist Church, Baldwinsville |
| June 27 | Rev. Hannah Benedict, St. Mark's Lutheran Church |
| July 4 | Rev. Elizabeth Quick, The United Methodist Church |
| July 11 | Rev. Jeff Hodge, First United Methodist Church, Baldwinsville/Pennellville |
| July 18 | Rev. Susan Ranous, The United Methodist Church |
| July 25 | Rev. Patti Walz, The United Methodist Church, retired |
| August 1 | Rev. Bj Norrix, The Syracuse United Methodist Churches |
| August 8 | Rev. Mike Grinnals, Plainville Christian Church, United Church of Christ |
| August 15 | Rev. Jeff Hodge, First United Methodist Church, Baldwinsville/Pennellville |
| August 22 | Rev. Bill Mudge, First United Methodist Church, Baldwinsville |
| August 29 | Rev. Bj Norrix, The Syracuse United Methodist Churches |
| September 5 | Rev. Jeff Hodge, First United Methodist Church, Baldwinsville/Pennellville |

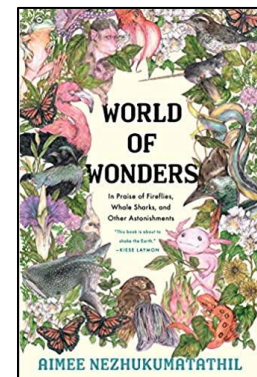


Eureka! Book Club

Tuesday, July 27 at 6:00 p.m.

Join us this summer for an evening of conversation and fellowship. In July, Barbara Jones will lead us through the book "Where the Crawdad Sings" by Delia Owens. Bring your own dinner at 6:00 p.m. and we will eat together in the chapel.

Tuesday, August 24 at 6:00 p.m. we will share our favorite essays from the book "World of Wonders" by Aimee Nezhukumatathil. Bring your own dinner at 6:00 p.m. and we will eat together in the chapel.



Of Continued Concern:

Harold Crandon, Gene Evans,
Helen Falge, Ed Froats,
Sally Graham, Oscar Jensen,
Jim Larmondra, Justin Taylor

Friends & Neighbors:

Lisa Ballard & mother, friends of Rev. Hodge
Barbara Church, Harlow Kisselstein's sister
Janis Darby, friend of Cheryl Metrick
Tom Disinger,
brother of Barb Stowe & Sue Vanderveer

Nelson Eddy, Cheryl Metrick's brother

Richard Greer, Dave Greer's brother
Marjorie Heck, Shari Mudge's mother
William Hobart, friend of the Kisselsteins
Jim Kelley, stepfather of Pastor Jeff

Sean & Heather McLeod,

friends of Lisa Kisselstein

Blakely Nowicki, Kisselstein family
Melissa Sullivan Ricotta,
Bonnie & Millard Sullivan's daughter
Norene Saccone, friend of Bonnie Kisselstein
Ginny Stady, friend of Bonnie Kisselstein
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



Please Note:

**There will be a Memorial Service for
Jean Disinger at Erwin FUMC in Syracuse,
August 7 at 11:00 a.m.**

Sue Vanderveer and Barb Stowe

**Graveside Service for Carol Ward Smith at
Jacksonville Cemetery, August 23 at 1:30 p.m.**

Beverly Frank

Sympathy to:

Megan & Jim Sollecito & family on the passing of
her mother, Beverly Cree
Family & friends of Paul Darby

Remember Those at Home and at Care Facilities:

*Patricia Berry, Joan Foster,
Mildred Long, Shirley McMahon*

Bill Barrett – Sedgwick Heights #124A
Charles Bordwell – Brookdale Liverpool #53
Sharyn Brown – Sedgwick Heights #306B
Gertrude Collins – Loretto-Cunningham #936
Marjorie Dence – McHarrie Pointe #513
Jack Ferguson – Loretto-Cunningham #517
Barbara Johnston – Van Duyn #455
Walter Maihofer – Elderwood # 111D (PT)
Ernestine Parry – Syracuse Home #107
Jim Tudman – McHarrie Pointe #317
Patricia Tudman – Syracuse Home #223



V.B.S. IS COMING TO BALDWINSVILLE FIRST UMC

Sparky the Dragon and our team at BFUMC are ready!
Vacation Bible School – *Knights of North Castle*
9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. every day, August 9 - August 13

The King's valiant knights are on a quest in search of the King's Armor. But the armor isn't what they think it is. In their quest, children are invited to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of God's power by exploring how we put on the armor of God. As the valiant Knights explore Old and New Testament stories, they will discover different pieces of protective armor: The belt of truth, the breastplate of justice, the shoes of peace, the shield of faith, and the helmet of salvation.

Most classes and activities will take place outside. Children entering Kindergarten thru Grade 5 will participate in music, story, crafts, recreation, and snack. The VBS is FREE (this is a change from last month's announcement thanks to some generous donors). Our brochure is available. Registration forms are available in the office. For questions, please see Janet Brooks, VBS Director, or Pastor Jeff, Associate Pastor of Congregational Care

A Social Group Gathering



S.A.M.A.S.A.N. (Some Are Married And Some Are Not)

It is time to regroup after a long year of limited social interaction. If you are interested in getting together with others in your church family, this is an opportunity to start anew. It is time to be more than 'faces across a crowded room', so to speak. SAMASAN is looking at regrouping. You may be someone who is interested in joining with this group or forming another small social group.

Come and join us on **Saturday, July 17, at Onondaga Yacht Club** in Liverpool off Sycamore Street. We will gather about 5:00 p.m. and enjoy the clubs screened-in porch and watch the sailboats out on the lake. Dinner will be catered and at this point will include lemon chicken, garden salad, fruit bowl, rolls, and cake for about \$15.00; this includes the cost of using the Club. **Call Jan Beall at 315-635-1356, by July 6 if you would like to attend.** Please bring your own table service and beverage. All are welcome!

Sunday School Re-boot Planned for September – We need your help!

Like many other ministries in the church and community, the pandemic has disrupted the flow of our Christian Education and family and children's ministries. In the absence of a Director of Christian Education, I have assumed some of the responsibilities with the intent of re-setting and re-focusing our Christian Education Program in the wake of the pandemic. Our tentative plan is to return to in-person Sunday School this fall. We will have our **Blessing of the Back Packs** during the 9:00 a.m. worship service and **Ice Cream Sunday! (Sundae-Sunday)** on **Sunday, September 12** following worship. Registration for our fall Sunday School will happen at that time. Classes will begin at 10:15 a.m. on September 19.

Prior to the re-boot, we have a lot of needs to fill, including finding a **Sunday School Superintendent**, a person who will coordinate classrooms, putting curriculum in place (we have a pre-order in place with Cokesbury), recruit and train teachers, oversee weekly Sunday School, and work closely with Associate Pastor or Director of Christian Education; and **Classroom Teachers for Sunday School** – We are seeking teachers for pre-k, k; 1-2, 3-4, and 5-6.

I am reaching out to you because we need your help. I am seeking **three** things:

1. Your prayers for how B'ville First can continue to be faithful to its vows to "surround our children and their families with a community of love and forgiveness, so that they may grow in their trust of God and be true disciples of Jesus Christ".
2. Consider how you can fill one of these positions or help us in the recruitment and training of leaders for our Sunday School and other Christian Education programs.
3. **Attend a meeting with me**, if you are available, to discuss the future of our Sunday School and Christian Education Program, on **Wednesday, July 14 at 1:00 p.m. in the chapel.** I know some of you are not available during the day. Perhaps we can speak by phone or set up a different time to talk about Sunday School and Christian Education.

Blessings and Peace,
Jeff

2020 GRADUATES

C.W. Baker High School

Elijah Bahamonde
Eric Hildreth
Annabelle Horan
Joe Kenney
Brett Pickett
Olivia Ransiear
Ella Smith
Owen Tracy

Frank & Erin Bahamonde
Jennifer Hildreth
Timothy & Linda Horan
Christopher & Melinda Kenney
Kevin & Sara Pickett
Paul & Megan Ransiear
Brian & Lissa Smith
Jason & Maryka Tracy

Jordan-Elbridge H.S.

Clara Derby

Thomas & Barbara Derby

John C. Birdlebough, H.S. Phoenix, NY

Liam Sweeney

Jeffrey & Penny Sweeney

Columbia H.S., East Greenbush, NY

Wendi Wojnovich

Grandparents: Janet Wojnovich
and the late James Wojnovich

Cardinal Gibbons H.S., Raleigh, NC

Bryce Wojnovich

Grandparents: Janet Wojnovich
and the late James Wojnovich

Council Rock North H.S., Newtown, PA

Eva Wojnovich

Grandparents: Janet Wojnovich
and the late James Wojnovich

Haverford Township H.S., Havertown, PA

Emma Wojnovich

Grandparents: Janet Wojnovich
and the late James Wojnovich

Cayuga Community College

Molly Derby, RN
Associates of Applied Science in Nursing

Thomas & Barbara Derby

Syracuse University

Kate Kisselstein
Master's in Library & Information Science

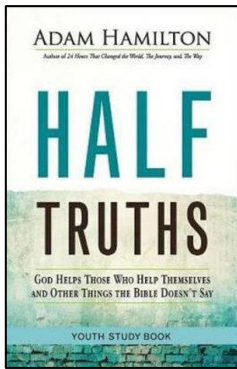
Harlow & Bonnie Kisselstein

University of Notre Dame: Mendoza Collage of Business

Jordan Easton Felicia
Bachelor's in Business Administration

Grandparents:
Judy Sugar-Giordano & Jack Giordano

A Fall Study: "Half Truths"



**A 5-week study:
September 15 – October 13
10:00 – 11:30 a.m. on Wednesdays**

This study on Wednesday mornings is using the book "Half Truths" by Adam Hamilton and will be supported with a video. Hamilton is a well-known Methodist minister from Kansas City who speaks across the country explaining questions of faith. This study takes common Christian phrases that capture some elements of truth yet miss the point in important ways. They include such statements as "Everything Happens for a Reason", "God Helps Those Who Help Themselves", "God Won't Give You More Than You Can Handle" and other phrases

that the Bible doesn't say. Contact Jan Beall (315-635-1356) to sign up for the class. Let her know as soon as possible if you wish her to order you a used book for \$7.00. This is a book you will enjoy having and you can order your own book on-line if you wish. A sign-up sheet will be in the church office.

Dear friends of the Baldwinsville congregation,

I would like to thank you for your prayers, kind acts and cards during my recent illness. My body is healing faster than expected.

Janet and I moved to an apartment at The Hearth at Green Point on May 24. After some 23 years of helping with pastoral work in Baldwinsville, it seems that that privilege is coming to an end. It has, indeed, been a privilege to serve among you, leaving a host of wonderful memories in my mind. Janet and I hope that this great congregation will continue to prosper under Bill and Jeff's guidance.

We are not far away and will surely be fortunate to see many of you from time to time. But at this moment of change we want to offer all of you our words of thanks for all of your kindnesses along the way.

Thanks for the memories!

May God's blessing rest upon you, Janet and Gordon Knapp

*The Hearth at Greenpoint, 150 Old Liverpool Rd., #130, Liverpool,
NY 13088
315-200-1250*

UNYC DIRECTOR OF STEWARDSHIP

Rev. Susan M. Ranous, Deacon of Stewardship

The last time I wrote for The Visitor, I wrote about reconciling the words “happy days are here again”, Christ’s return, and all the stuff going on in the world around us.

I wanted to share something that has been on my heart. I am a trained facilitator for the Upper New York Conference’s Imagine No Racism (INR) curriculum. I underwent the initial training back in 2018, and was privileged to lead a small group at that time. I then took additional updated training, and just this week started leading a new small group in one of our sister churches through the updated INR curriculum.

The curriculum has six sessions, and each and every time I sit through the work (at least six times so far), something new hits me. Last night was the first session with this group, and as we had our conversation and listened to Bishop Mark Webb’s introductory video for the curriculum, I heard these words uttered by Bishop Webb:

- Christ’s Word is the judgment of our world.
- Christ’s Cross is the measure of our response.
- Christ’s Face is the composite of all persons.

Wow! This puts racism right there at the forefront of our work as Christians in the world, doesn’t it? If we are Christians, loving our neighbor as we love ourselves and making disciples for the transformation of the world, how can we allow racism or any of the “isms” to continue. As the INR curriculum says, antiracism is more than simply not “being” racist, it requires the “intentional interruption and dismantling of racism.”¹

...intentional
...interruption
...dismantling

The courage that will take is scary, but ignoring the issues is scarier. Have you considered participating in an INR group? As a Deacon ordained to “compassion and justice”, I encourage you to do so.

¹ Imagine No Racism Curriculum – created by GCORR and Adapted by UNY CCORR

Fall Rummage Sale



Please note on your calendars our Fall Rummage Sale dates:

Take-in days are September 29 & 30

Sale days are October 1 & 2

Hope your summer will be enjoyable and if you clean out a closet on a rainy day, please think of donating to our Church Fall Rummage Sale! Thank you, co-chairs Dave Horan and Mickie Lorenz



07/01 Michael Kasprzak
 07/04 Wes Pray
 Oscar Jensen
 Justin Taylor
 07/05 Tyler Reynolds
 Kyra Phelps
 07/07 Summer Austin
 Micah Johnson
 07/08 Darren Gilbert
 Elijah Bahamonde
 Jay Scarson-Barrett

07/09 Amanda Lawrence
 07/10 Sarah Hudson
 Renee Bouchard
 Ezra Oyer
 07/11 Leah Bahamonde
 07/12 Jonathon Alfieri
 07/13 Timothy Link
 Dorothy Clary
 07/14 Susan Lawrence
 07/15 Jennifer Hildreth
 07/17 Dave Greer
 James Austin
 07/19 David Metrick
 Joyce Berube
 Timothy Horan
 07/20 Jolene Hurley
 Gene Evans

07/21 Tammy Falconer
 Liam Sweeney
 Karen Witter
 Pete Simmonds
 07/23 Sophia Cavalieri
 07/24 Sarah Jennings
 Claire McMahon
 07/26 Cindy Bartlett
 07/27 Karen Smith
 Zach Evans
 Tim Miller
 07/28 Eleanor Kieskowski
 07/29 Mary Thomas
 07/31 William Falconer
 Arleen Russ
 Andrew Johanson
 Rebecca Jensen



08/02 Elizabeth Noll
 Terry Miller
 08/03 Ethan Pacheck
 08/04 Ali Niemiec
 Lily Horan
 Linda Froats
 08/06 Joseph Monaco
 08/07 Drew Picco
 08/08 Olivia Ransiear
 Kaitlyn Dodge

08/11 Carl Kristeller
 08/12 Tehya Johnson
 Kevin Pregent
 Janet Knapp
 08/13 Lyra Sweeney
 Scott Hudson
 08/15 Cheryl Metrick
 Chuck Brooks
 08/16 Elijah Huling
 08/19 Madison Price
 08/20 Janet Brooks
 08/21 Emily Thompson
 08/22 Jack Ferguson

08/23 Clara Rose Thomas
 Jan Beall
 08/24 Jordie Reed
 Leigh Zacchia
 08/26 Kay Davidson
 08/27 Thomas Derby
 David Marsell
 08/28 Harlow Kisselstein
 08/29 Virginia Guy
 Susan Ranous
 Elizabeth Hildreth
 08/30 Carmey Evans