

First United Methodist Church of Horseheads
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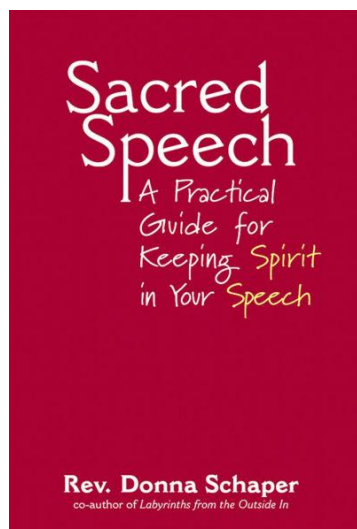
Newsletter June 2025

Christians working together to share Jesus' Love as God's hands, feet and voice.

Pastor Page

Can you imagine a new thing in our church? What do you have to lose? Dream it, pray about it, write it down and get it started. I will help you launch it to the glory of God. But you must be passionate about it, willing to go the extra mile and work with others to make an impact. *Ministry With Seniors, Hospitality Ministry, Monday school for children*: these are just some ideas in my heart; what are yours? If you are already leading more than one ministry, do not feel guilty and take on more! But look for people around you to invite into leadership. Listen to new people share their ideas of how to accomplish service to Christ. Diversity of thought and mind are good. Holy Spirit, lead us!

Perhaps you have experience in the work world as a leader. If so, God can use you here. Perhaps you have not been a leader before but feel a nudging to get more involved. If so, we provide on-the-job training! If you are already leading some ministry within our church, please consider training another person to learn your position and skills. As I look around, some churches are flailing, declining and may soon lose their staff, pastor and ability to fund even the most basic of services. We do not want to get to that point, but we must plan for growth through active participation. And we must ask God to show us how to pass on leadership to the next generations of Jesus-followers. "Each one Reach one" is a great motto to adopt.



Are you ***afraid to talk about politics or religion***? Don't be! Join me, Pastor Jeff, on Wednesday June 11 at 5:30-7:00 for "Together at Church" potluck with an overview of the book Sacred Speech. Learn practical ways to:

- Acknowledge the Divine in the words we use
- Use speech to maximize the possibility of love and care
- Use speech to minimize fear
- Link, connect and contact with others through words

You can order this book through Barnes and Noble or Amazon. You do not need to read it in advance, but you may grasp the concepts better if you do. In this increasingly polarized society, we Christians cannot afford to be part of the problem; let us become part of the solution by learning and practicing sacred speech.

Finally, don't give up dear Christian! God is not finished with us yet and we have so much more to give. Miracles happen when we offer to be God's

hands, feet and voice.

*"Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish **abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine**, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen."*
Eph. 3:20

A Car Show (Cruise – In) is being planned on our grounds for Saturday Sept. 20. We hope to have food trucks, and some games planned for that day. More information to come!

Annual Conference Session took place May 22-24 in Syracuse. Every pastor attends and every church sends one lay representative. Important business which affects us all is accomplished at this time. In 2024 and this year we have not had a person attend from our laity. We must correct that next year, so if you are interested in this 3-day event in 2026, please contact Pastor McDowell or lay leader, Jan Przybylski.

Ministry with Seniors has three volunteers so far with much that can be done to enhance quality of life for our region. Can you help with events, publicity and connection with our aging population? Please contact Pastor McDowell or Carol Crandell.

Hospitality Ministry could help us go beyond being nice, friendly people and become more effective in assimilating people into the life of our church. We have an outline of how to proceed and will need **five** committed people to carry this out. Interested? Call Pastor McDowell before he “voluncalls you.”

From Sunday School to Monday School is a trend that began a decade ago in some places. We can capitalize on the need for after school childcare and make this a place to lead children to Christ. To launch this in the Fall of this year, we will need **five** committed people to plan, study and implement. You know who to contact if God is calling you to this work!

Did you know? Our church participates in Shared Ministries of the Annual Conference, funding ministries of mission, administration and outreach which help us do more, together with over 600 local churches. We reach around the world to lead people to the love of God through Jesus Christ.



Joel McDowell



Parish Visitor/Cindy Ellis

June is here! Now we can plant our flowers and vegetable gardens. Thank you, God, for this lovely time of year. And thank you God for our church family. Let us remember those who need God's healing. Keep Sally Davidson, Bonnie Belcher in your prayers for knee recovery. We pray for God's nearness for John Harvey, Don Sommers, Walter, Larry and Alan Madison, Galer Perrault, Jen & Harry Hillman, Laura Peck, Ted Cooper, Betsy Hull, Dan Flatt, Kevan Carichner. Please remember those at home with cards, phone calls: Letha Padgett, Betty Hess, Carol Erway, Evelyn Catlin, Dick Brigger, Tom & Laura Peck, Bev Ring, Phyllis Naegely, Bob Blackall, Bonnie Flashphaler, Robert Sauerzopf. Let us remember with prayers those who lost a loving family member:

Bonnie Tressler – Mother Josie Knapp passed away.

Anne Bargesser – Husband Robert passed away

Gary Cruttenden – Wife Connie passed away

The Grippin family – Janice passed away

Lois Wilson – Husband Merriett “Squib” passed away

We will be celebrating Dick Davies life on June 14.

God's blessings to our whole church family.

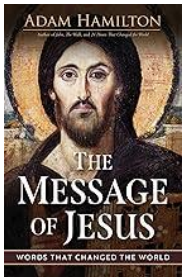


**UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH: Out next circle meeting is:
Wednesday: June 18, Noon, at the Clarion Hotel, Elmira
Contact Rita Colvin or Carolyn Ryan for information**

We continue to gather items for the Homeless in Chemung County. Let's fill the box, located under the United Women in Faith bulletin board by the kitchen door. Check the list of items needed – posted on the bulletin board. Thank you for sharing with God's children who can use our gifts throughout the year.

MAILBOXES: Spring cleaning is here! If you have a mailbox here at the church, please clean it out. They are getting a little bit full. If you do not wish to get the calendar/newsletter in your mailbox each month, please let me know. Thank you. Sandy Crane (Office@horseheadsumc.org)

MUSINGS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

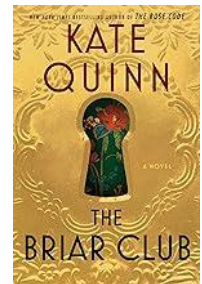


Do you actually know what Jesus taught? Did you know that much of what people **think** Jesus taught, he never said? **The Message of Jesus: Words That Changed the World** by Adam Hamilton explores six important themes in Jesus's teachings and why they matter. This easy-to-read **short** book gives new insight and understanding to the Sermon on the Mount, the parables, the "I am" sayings, and more. It will pique your curiosity on how these teachings speak to us today. Has a NEW BOOK tab. Check it out!

Lisa Alley recently donated **The Briar Club: A Novel** by Kate Quinn. This is a thrilling and powerful story of female friendships and secrets. It all takes place in a down-at-the-heels boardinghouse in Washington, DC during the 1950's. When mysterious widow,

Grace March, moves into an attic room, she draws quite an oddball collection of neighbors into unlikely friendships. Her weekly dinner parties and sun tea become a healing balm for all their lives. This book captures the paranoia of the McCarthy era and the changing lives of women after World War II. This is a spell bounding read. It is a novel of secrets and loyalty put to the test.

We have a wonderfully warm and welcoming library with tons of books for all ages! Would you give us a try?



Committee: During the month of June, the Missions Committee will be collecting money for the Border Buddies ministries. The money will go for a bucket and filter. The cost this year is \$45. Checks can be made out to Horseheads First United Methodist Church with Water Filters in the memo. A Border Buddies Bucket for collection will be in the lobby for the month of June. Thank you for your support.

Border Buddies Ministries Team #2 Pancake Breakfast: Saturday, June 7th from 8-11 a.m. here in the Fellowship Hall. Serving Pancakes, eggs, sausage, orange juice, coffee. The cost is \$8 per person, \$4 per child age 6 and under. Thank you for your support of this mission team who will be traveling to Honduras in August. Money raised will go to help buy materials for the building of the Escuela Arturo Quezada School!



Ride to church needed: A lifelong Methodist has moved into Horseheads and is seeking a ride to our service on Sunday mornings. This is non-medical transport using your own car. If you can help, please contact pastor McDowell.

Hello



fellow Trustees! I write that because every one of us is responsible for Our Church and Grounds. Not on the board? We welcome all input, mention a concern or suggestion to any one of us. We are: Marc McGrain, Bob Aiello, Ande Tubbs, Glenn Morris, Bob Olcott, Pam Skebey, Renee Torrey, and John Palme. And there is room for one more if you are interested in joining our committee.

Thanks, and Blessings, John Palme

New Workday/Cookout Scheduled: We need your help! Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 28th, 9am-12pm. All ages, all abilities. Volunteers needed for Church Workday and Cookout. Inside and outside. Come for an hour or stay longer. Lists of projects and their supplies will be provided. Cookout starts at Noon. Sign up on the sheet in the entranceway.



Outreach: There is a soldier standing at his post in the family photo area for the Outreach Committee. He is waiting for your donations to the Veterans who have served this country. They are looking for large and extra-large T-shirts (no logos please), underwear (larger sizes please), and K-cups (coffee, tea, hot chocolate). They gave for us, now let's give for them.

June 11th in
"Together at Church"
Sacred



the Fellowship Hall. 5:30 to 7pm.
with an overview of the book
Speech with Pastor Jeff.

June 8th



Please wear something red to the service.

June 15th



We will have
something for all men
after the service.



June 15th Peace with Justice Day. There will be
a special collection on this day.

WHAT IS PEACE WITH JUSTICE? The United Methodist Church uses this day to speak out for peace and justice. Our Social Principles call us to love our enemies, seek justice, and serve as peacemakers in resolving conflict. We renew our commitment to live into our mission of transforming the world, we must prioritize collaboration among nations, work to reduce the use and need for weapons, and foster just, equitable and durable solutions to the root causes of conflict.

Calling all youth ages 14-18!

Do you need volunteer hours? Do you love the idea of helping those less fortunate? Interested in a road trip during summer? Do you need something to write about for your college applications? Want to make new friends?

Well, do we have an opportunity for you! Horseheads UMC is looking for youth to join a group for a week-long work camp during Summer 2026. This is your opportunity to learn new skills by helping with basic home repairs and improvements during the day and worshipping with other youth in the evening.

If you have any interest in this opportunity, please reach out to the church office 607-739-1943. An informational meeting for everyone interested and parents will be held Sunday June 22 at 10:45 in the Wesley Room.

Karren's Clothing Cupboard - The schedule to sign up for May and June is in the entrance, come join us. We are still **not** accepting any clothing. We are still trying to get things organized from the rummage sale. Thank you for all your support.

Men's bible study

Men's Bible Study is starting up for the month of June only, reading the Book of Acts together. We will meet June 5, 12, 19, 26 at 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. in the Wesley Room. Please join us any or all of these times! No RSVP is needed.

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." -Acts 1:8-

This is just a few parts of the letter Mike and Glenda Miller sent. You can read the whole letter and the pictures below, found on the bulletin board on the side of the kitchen door. The pictures below are the people sponsored by the UMC Youth Group.

"As a tradition we are pleased to send you an updated picture and a thank you letter from the children you are sponsoring. This is so you can put in a place to remind you to pray for your sponsor's child. We thank you again for your continue partnership it means so much to us." Mike and Glenda Miller



Isreal Gonzalez Lopez

Sponsored by the United Women in Faith



Kamilla Alexandra Figueroa Bustillo



Sofia Alejandra Reyes Sosa

Sponsored by the Youth Group

Committee meetings and special events.

June 4th: Faith Builders, SCR, 5pm
Stephen Ministry, Rm. 12, 5:30

June 5th: Outreach Committee, LCR, 6:30

June 8th: Pentecost: **Please wear something red to the service.**

June 10th: Trustee Committee, Rm. 11, 7pm

June 11th: Midweek fellowship special presentation/potluck dinner, FH, 5:30pm

June 14th: Funeral for Dick Davies at 2pm

June 16th: Quilt Ministry, FH, 9am

June 17th: *Worship Committee not meeting until August*

June 18th: United Women in Faith meeting is at Clarion Hotel, Elmira.
Missions Committee, LCR, 2pm
Stephen Ministry, Rm. 12, 5:30
Staff Parish, LCR, 6:30

June 22nd: Baptism – Christopher Woodard

June 24th: Chemung County Election Staff, FH all day. *(Reminder to everyone who uses the Fellowship Hall/Sanctuary that day, your room changes)*
Stewardship, Rm. 11 at 7pm

June 25th: Church Council, LCR at 6:30

Committee Chair: Please send canceled summer meetings to the church office as soon as you know them. Please add in your starting up month if no meetings in July/August.

Monday Morning Praying: Each Monday at 10am, everyone is invited join in and Pray in the Wesley Room with Pastor Jeff.

Karren's Clothing Cupboard hours: Tuesdays from 10am to noon
Thursdays from 1pm to 3pm

Men's Bible Study: Thursdays through June at 10am

Knit-Wits: Thursdays at 11am

Cards/Games: Fridays at Noon

Quilting: Once a month on the third Monday at 9am

Book Club: Once a month on the third Monday at 1pm

Tai Chi: Starting up again in September

Church Library is open all year.

!!!!YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN OUR SUMMER READING PROGRAM!!!!

Starting on June 22, all children, youth, adults are invited to read five books by September 7th. With a lot of children's books, adults can read the five books to them, so sign them up too! You can find the sign-up sheets in the library. One Rule: All books read must be from our church library.

Too hot to read at home? Read it here in our air-conditioned library. Any questions, see any of our library volunteers, Myrna, Lisa, Hope and Louise. You can find some of them in the library after services on Sunday!