

The Nimmonsburg Witness

Nimmonsburg United Methodist Church

918 Upper Front Street, Binghamton, New York 13905

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JULY 2022



A warm welcome to our new Pastor, Reverend Harold Wheat



Dear faithful servants of God ...

In community at Nimmonsburg UMC, I am honored to receive and glad to accept the call to be your Pastor. I give thanks for the creative and diligent work you have done in partnership with Pastor Jenni Piatt. What a privilege it is to come to the helm of a well cared for ship!

I come from a family deeply engaged in Christian service. My great grandfather was a Wesleyan Methodist pastor, and my grandfather and uncle are in the roles of UMC pastors. My mother is a church organist. I was probably the only one who was surprised when the Lord awakened me with a call to become a pastor.

One of the gifts of the training I received was the wisdom to allow my calling to ministry to flow from the full or overflowing cup of humanity. On my Sabbath (Monday) and in my time off, I take time to invest in relationships with family, pursue my study of the martial art of Aikido, spend time in nature, and play in my woodworking shop. These activities bring me joy and help me come to the role of pastor with a full heart.

I am looking forward to getting to know you and partnering with you to discover what God has in store for us. I've come to expect that what God has in store will be *"abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20)!"*

Yours in the grace of Jesus Christ,

Rev. Harold Wheat



Lectionary Readings

July 3, 2022

4th Sunday after Pentecost—Green

- ♦ Matthew 9:35-38, 18:10-14
- ♦ Psalm 23

Sermon: “How to Use Your (Part-Time) Pastor” - “Go After the One”

July 10, 2022

5th Sunday after Pentecost—Green

- ♦ John 10:1-18
- ♦ Psalm 23

Sermon: “How to Use Your (Part-Time) Pastor” - “Guard the Beloved Ones”

July 17, 2022

6th Sunday after Pentecost—Green

- ♦ Mark 4:1-20
- ♦ Psalm 23

Sermon: “How to Use Your (Part-Time) Pastor” - “Sow the Word”

July 24, 2022

7th Sunday after Pentecost—Green

Sermon: *Guest Speaker*— “Hate Has No Place Here”

June 31, 2022

8th Sunday after Pentecost—Green

Guest Pastor

I would like to thank all of you who supported the Mission trip to Frakes, KY. I was so happy my friend, Nancy Sydlosky, and I could join your group. Having been before, I knew that I would leave there feeling blessed and was not disappointed. I am so happy that the rest of the group felt the same.

We all bonded well and appreciated all the hard work that everyone did to make sure all of our projects were completed. I was especially happy to share with Pastors Dave and Jenni before they go on their new adventure. My prayer is that you continue to support the work of the Henderson Settlement which continues to create opportunities for better lives through Christ-centered services. I am looking forward to joining your group again. Let's not wait 10 years!

Love and prayers for all of you!

Nancy Stockholm



Greater Good Grocery News

The Greater Good Grocery is full of good news! Sales have increased, more customers have been served, and the Northside of Binghamton is no longer a food desert. We have so many exciting programs going on at the store including Free Produce Day, SNAP Double-Up Food Bucks, and more.



Most recently, we've partnered with BOCES to create a hands-on experience program at Greater Good Grocery. Students from BOCES learn real-life skills such as stocking shelves, unpacking inventory, mock interviewing, and more. So far, over 50 students have successfully completed the program! Many are looking to volunteer or work at the Greater Good Grocery. We've enjoyed having groups of students come to the store to learn what we're all about!

To stay up-to-date on Greater Good Grocery, you can follow us on Facebook, or check us out online at: www.greatergoodgrocery.org

Come shop with us!

Nimmonsburg Church Cookbooks

Here is another of the many delicious recipes you will find in our Nimmonsburg Church Cookbook. For those of you who don't have one yet, there are still plenty available with lots of great recipes.

Here is a delicious raspberry chicken recipe submitted by Patti Derr.



Raspberry Chicken

Ingredients:

4-5 oz. skinless chicken breast (boneless)
 1/2 large onion, finely chopped
 1 c. fat-free chicken broth
 1 1/2 c. fresh or thawed frozen raspberries
 1/2 cup seedless raspberry jam
 1 t. butter
 1/2 t. salt and pepper
 2 T. flour
 2 t. oil

Directions:

- ① Mix flour, salt and pepper in a plastic bag. Add chicken, shake and coat.
- ② Heat oil. Add chicken and saute until done. Place on platter.
- ③ Add onion to a skillet and saute 2 minutes. Stir in chicken broth and jam. Bring to a boil and reduce by half.
- ④ Take skillet off heat and stir in berries.
(If frozen, stir until thawed.)
- ⑤ Serve over chicken.

Our July Celebrations

Birthdays:

7/6 - Patti Derr
 Jacob Shoemaker
 7/9 - Jacob Rueffer
 7/18 - Lynne Ruth
 7/19 - Judy Sanaeko
 7/21 - Zachary Moyer
 David Wolcott
 7/22 - Myrnie Ferro
 7/23 - Marie Thornton
 7/28 - Mini Daub
 Audrey Finch
 Justin Hagerman
 Gordon Justice
 7/31 - Deaven Rought

Anniversaries:

7/2 - Amy & Dan Morgan
 7/7 - Kathy & Chris Nabinger
 7/10 - Madeline & Dick Nemcek
 7/10 - Judy & Bill Poit
 7/19 - Debby & Dave Hagerman



Please let us
 know if we
 missed your
 birthday or
 anniversary!
 We want to
 celebrate
 with you!



We are continuing to collect items for the "Product Pantries" at Chenango Forks Schools. Students who are unable to purchase needed personal care items can discreetly take what they need from the pantries without embarrassment or ridicule. Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Gene Abbey Presents to the American Society for Quality (ASQ)

Do you know anyone who:



- contributed to ensuring safe, world-wide commercial airline travel;
- was instrumental in the U.S. Manned Space Program from its very beginning;
- rubbed elbows with Neal Armstrong and many other astronauts and NASA leaders; and
- was a co-inventor of the automotive electrical alternator?

If you know our Gene Abbey....you do!

Gene had an exciting career in commercial and military aviation, manned space flight simulation, and pilot/navigator training. Gene began his technical training in the Marines starting out as a telephone lineman; and, later a Radar Repairman. He graduated from the Lawrence Institute of Technology in Detroit Michigan while working days at the GMC Truck and Coach Division. He worked in the Electrical Engineering Laboratory developing automotive electrical systems and road test instrumentation. It was here that he became a co-inventor of the automotive alternator. We should think of Gene every time we start our car!

In 1956 after graduation, Gene moved to Binghamton and joined Link Aviation ... the birthplace of flight simulation and training system. Throughout his career at Link, he held many Engineering, Department Management, Project Technical Supervisory, and Program Management assignments. He was involved with programs such as the C-130 Cargo Plane, the TWA 707 Flight Simulator, the Boeing 747 Jumbo Jet airliner, and the F-106 Jet Fighter projects. From the early Air Force Dyna-Soar (sounds like, dinosaur!) simulator through the Mercury, Gemini, Apollo to the Sky Lab programs, Gene played major engineering and supervisory roles for many commercial, military and manned space flight programs. He retired from Link Aviation in 1989 and went on to start Binghamton Simulator Company, a successor to Link Aviation.

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Gene Abbey Presents to the American Society for Quality (continued)

Yes, Gene proudly has Neal Armstrong's signature which he obtained after a stimulating conversation during a shared airline flight. He has worked with many astronauts and NASA officials during his exciting career.



On May 19, 2022, Gene recalled his experiences in flight simulation and training during a Dinner Meeting of the Binghamton Section of the American Society for Quality (ASQ) held at TechWorks! on Water Street in Binghamton.

Gene's presentation included a demonstration in front of the Lunar Landing Command Module Training Simulator that is on display at TechWorks! While leading the Link Team, Gene was responsible for the project that allowed the Lunar Landing Mission to be successful. Most recently, Gene was instrumental in the renovation of the training simulator. *(Remember, the early space flight accomplishments were without the benefit of today's powerful computers, Global Positioning Systems (GPS), and LED flat screen displays!)*

Gene is a prime example of the innovation and technology for which the Southern Tier has become known world-wide.

Thank you Gene for your contribution to society and all you continue to do for our Nimmonsburg church. We appreciate you!

- Jim Tregaskis

WELCOME PICNIC FOR THE PASTOR



Come enjoy a picnic on **July 21st at 5:00 pm** and have a chance to get to know Pastor Harold. It will be held behind the church *(in the Wesleyan Room if the weather is bad)* following the Administrative Board meeting.

Hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, plates and utensils will be provided. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer for additional picnic items. Please let us know by **July 17th** (sign up sheet in entryway) if you plan to attend and what you would like to bring.

Let's show Pastor Harold what a welcoming congregation NUMC has!!



When the bell rings on Sunday morning, the video camera starts recording.

Anything you say is recorded and any movement or passing in front of the camera is recorded. No editing is possible, so what the camera sees and hears goes on YouTube and the website.

Henderson Settlement Trip 2022



When asked if there was another way into Frakes, or “the hollers”, John said with a smile on his face that it was all the same no matter if you are coming from north, south, east or west!

We began our journey early on May 21st by leaving the safe haven of the NUMC parking lot. The plan was to meet in Lexington that night for our first night away. Everyone arrived tired, hungry and in full anticipation that this trip was definitely going to happen. We had come this far, and Frakes, Kentucky, where the “settlement” is located, was calling to us. The next morning the roads would become narrower and windier. Phyllis Bartlett and Nancy Stockholm knew this “thing” about the roads — the rest of us could only imagine.

By late Sunday afternoon we had indeed braved the windy, narrow two-lane road which emptied into the Henderson Settlement area known as Frakes, KY. Many of us were still trying to grasp what had just happened as we eased our way along the “S” curves and the “hairpin turns”. It didn’t matter if you were in the front or back seat, we didn’t know whether to laugh or cry. Phew! HE was watching over us, and we eventually saw signs for our destination and pulled into the campus of Henderson Settlement (HS).

We found the house we were to call “home” for the next week and we were ready to crash. However, no one was there to greet us. It was then that we realized none of us had any “bars” on our cell phones. How were we to let anyone know we had arrived? God must have been watching and listening to us for eventually John suddenly appeared and apologized — there had been a little miscommunication regarding our arrival time. He joyfully unlocked the door to let us in. That was our first blessing. I take that back — it was our second blessing. The first was arriving intact!

Due to the fact that we were the only group that week, plus two other ladies from Michigan, the administration allowed us to stay in the big house (not the dormitory as expected) where there were 6 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, kitchen, living room, and a warm and cozy atmosphere. That Monday morning, Tom Savage quickly became the coffee whisperer, and we felt ready to start our first day after devotions in the living room. Each morning after that we met in the living room before breakfast and our work assignments. Members of our group took over the devotional time which seemed to jump start us first thing, along with coffee, of course. Then we generally walked or drove to the dining room for a most adequate breakfast. By Wednesday, the ladies from Michigan even walked over to the house and joined in. They were staying in one of the cottages built for couples who come to work.



One of the first sights we saw each morning, noon or night on the way to the dining hall was the schoolhouse which served as a reminder to us of the history of HS. In 1925, Hiram Frakes and others donated 123 acres of land, and the school began in the fall of 1925 for 13 students. Educational, economic and spiritual reforms were his dream and mission for this area. That was the beginning of Henderson Settlement. Three years from now, the Settlement will be celebrating 100 years of opportunity for the communities they serve. The plan in the next two years prior to the celebration is to update the schoolhouse and bring it back to a museum-like state. Presently the inside is in disrepair. It’s hard to imagine 13 active children of various ages learning, and a teacher teaching in the confines of that one-room schoolhouse.

As stated to many at NUMC since our return, the days that followed were filled with “work”. The three men ended up the first morning along with the “two Nancys” (2N’s) at the Youth Center which was a few miles from the center.

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They proceeded to change fluorescent lighting to LED lighting in the main Activity Room. (Prior to that, we met Harry in the Building and Supply Warehouse and learned that “lights” in this area of the world are known to be pronounced “lawts” ... that had us a little confused at first until all of the “lights” went on ... pun intended)! We chuckled over that all week!



Marie McNeil and Phyllis Bartlett were taken to the Thrift Shop area to begin sorting, hanging, sizing and determining whether items were for men/women/older girls and boys/small children. They made a huge dent in that department. By the end of the week, they were receiving praises from the Coordinators as to the amount of work they had completed. I believe the staff didn't want the two of them to leave. Marie was their best shopper that week. Due to the weather being chillier than we anticipated, she went home with new jeans, socks, jackets and shoes. We all were prepared for hot weather, but it really was rather cool. Rain seemed to be more the case that week. In all, that was probably better for us because generally the heat and humidity in Kentucky and Tennessee is unbearable.



Jenni and I started taping the walls and moving beds in one of four bunk rooms in the Mission Dormitory. This room needed to be painted from top to bottom, ceiling included. At first I think we thought it would be a *piece of cake*. By the end of the first afternoon, we were rethinking that



misconception. The 2 N's and Richard showed up to help us, and finally by late Wednesday we were putting everything back together and singing praises that we were virtually finished. We felt the room looked pristine, glowing and ready for the next group of occupants.



By the end of the week, the two porches at the Administration Building and the open-air deck to the west of the Administration Building had been power washed, a small roof had been built over the back door of the Maintenance Building by Tom, Dave and Richard, two bathrooms had been painted at the Youth Center by Jenni, Nancy Stockholm and her life-long friend Nancy, and myself.

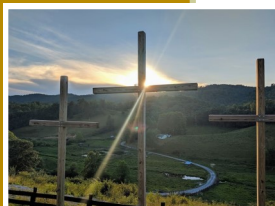


On Friday we were hoping to help construct a new area for composting up at the greenhouse area, but it rained and we were unable to do that project. We managed a tour of the greenhouse given by Casey, the Settlement's “green thumb”. The hanging baskets and flowers there are meant for the community and staff to purchase. In addition, we learned that they grow vegetables for the community and many of the items went to the Food Pantry on campus to be distributed to those in need. In addition, Henderson Settlement includes a farm where they raise cows and other animals.



Additional areas that make up the Settlement include a Craft Shop where local crafters can sell items they make; prenatal care is given to new moms along with infant support called MIHOW (*the MIHOW area provides infant formula*),
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diapers, wipes, clothing and toys for moms to take for their children); a library with both adult and children's collections; life skill classes; Bible Study is offered; tutoring and after-school activities are provided; youth are allowed to engage in Settlement "mini businesses"; garden assistance; sports leagues; home repair requests are made by residents and a home building ministry is provided. The list is endless, and the outreach even beyond the community is widespread. John took all of us on a tour of the area off the Settlement site which was most interesting, and left us in awe of some of the conditions in which residents live. In many cases, the roads are unpaved.

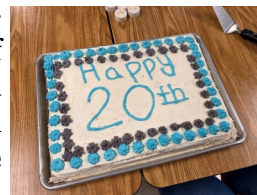


The following quote is from John Newman, Executive Director. One of the upcoming projects is the addition of a helicopter pad near the settlement in order to evacuate people to nearby hospitals which are great distances away. We were impressed by this situation, and Jerry's explanation of it to us one night gave us all a very clear picture of how remove this "neck of the woods" truly is.

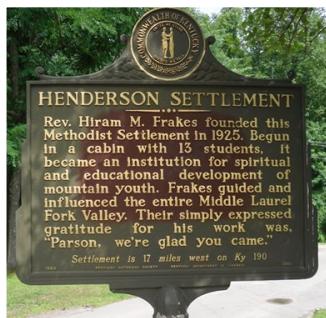
"Frakes Community Fire Department has asked Henderson Settlement if we would be willing to let them pour a pad on our property so that an Evacuation Helicopter can land. For the last several years, they have used our baseball diamond about every other week so they can land and evacuate someone to the hospital. Many have helped raise \$1,500 for the concrete and we have removed the topsoil. The only thing we are waiting on is for the Fire Department to tell us what Saturday they want our help in pouring the 25' by 25' concrete slab. In addition, the county has agreed to repair the road that is relied upon to get to the Helipad. It should be done soon as it really is a testament to a Community Project that is blessed by God."



Lastly, one of the many endearing memories of our trip was how great Food Service ladies treated us. Not only did they graciously greet us at each meal, they all went out of their way to make delicious repasts, making a second helping a must for some. There was always fresh fruit, an abundant salad bar and delicious desserts. In addition, one night we were treated to a variety of homemade ice creams from which to choose. And, much to Dave and Jenni's surprise, a 20th Anniversary cake appeared on May 25th with LED lights serving as candles. Enough cannot be said about the kitchen staff! John, the Executive Director, and his lovely wife, Lisa, joined us almost every time we sat down to eat, which was indeed special. In most cases when there are many groups at Henderson, they are unable to reach out and be "up close and personal" as much as they did with us. They treated us like royalty the whole time we were there to say the least. By the time we left, we could really call them "friends".



Bringing this scenario to closure is difficult; there are so many little things I am sure I forgot to mention. One thing for sure, leaving was difficult in spite of poor phone service and the lack of text messaging, etc. Thinking about meandering back through the "S" curves on Saturday was also on our minds. However, we all want to return someday, and we would like to bring all of you with us. Think about it. Let's make it happen! Back to Henderson, here we come!



Submitted by Rebecca Olivet

Our Henderson Mission Trip Team



From left to right:

Rebecca Olivet, Nancy Stockholm, Nancy Sydlosky, Tom Savage, Marie McNeil, Jenni Piatt, Dave Piatt, Phyllis Bartlett and Richard Huether

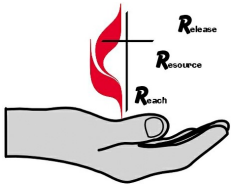
Sunday School Planning Meeting and Video Fest Details

Anyone interested in the future of our children's Sunday School, and would like to volunteer to help for the upcoming 2022-23 school year, please attend a planning meeting on **July 5th at 6:30 pm in the Wesleyan Room**. Please bring your thoughts, your ideas and your schedule to the meeting. If you need more information on the kind of help we need and cannot make the meeting, please contact Denise.

Since Sunday School has ended for the summer, we have begun a Summer Video Fest for the children during service (*after the Children's Sermon*). The videos are Christian videos and each has an important message.

Attention all parents/grandparents: If you have a child who will attend the Video Fest, we ask that you sign up for a week to be "monitor". The monitor will get the children settled, turn on the video, maintain control, and then dismiss them to their parents or grandparents. A Safe Sanctuary trained roamer will stop by on occasion as per safety protocol to check on the children. Please sign up in the narthex for a week to monitor. If your child is going to participate, you **MUST** sign up to be a monitor. We need volunteers to make this work. If both parents bring the child to the Fest, one parent can sign up for a week and the other parent sign up for another week. It will not be hard to fill the spots in that respect.

- Denise Kellett -



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