



Loved by God,
Led by Grace

Grace, Simplicity and Giving



by ChristArt.com

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.
When true simplicity is gain'd,
To bow and to bend we shan't be asham'd,
To turn, turn will be our delight,
Till by turning, turning we come round right.

"Simple Gifts"

by Elder Joseph, 1848

Practicing Simplicity

Ann Hagmann¹ (Submitted by Sondra Scott)

Practicing simplicity in our lives, contrary to its suggested meaning, is not a particularly simple or easy way of living. Life is very complex and the walk of simplicity is complicated and demanding, but the rewards are a hundredfold. Simplicity is not about poverty, or a renunciation of possessions, or a set of dos or don'ts. Rather simplicity is a spiritual discipline that reorients one's life by deliberately organizing it for a purpose. Simplicity is a practiced discipline that deals intimately with beliefs and views that provide shape and order to our lives. Practicing simplicity with our time, energy, and money becomes a reflection of our inner beliefs and helps us define our priorities. Just as each person is a unique individual, each person's path to practicing simplicity will reflect their personal situation.

On the most basic level, simplicity means being honest and sincere with ourselves about our faith and what really matters most to us. If you desire to travel the path of simplicity, you can pursue this journey from a number of directions. For instance, your outward expression of simplicity can be material, relational, financial, or spiritual.

Material simplicity - Deals with the physical things in your life. Is your home full of things that add beauty or function or do your possessions simply take up space and require energy and money to maintain?

Relational simplicity - Applies to our relationships with people and time. Do the people who matter most in our lives receive the time and energy from us that properly reflects their priority to us? How do we use our time? Do we expend significant amounts of time on unnecessary matters?

Financial simplicity - Encompasses the way we spend our money and how we use credit. Are our financial investments wise? Do our faith and values impact our everyday economic decisions? Do we use our money to help others?

Spiritual simplicity - Involves our relationship with God and our understanding of life. It includes honesty and integrity. Are we willing to be vulnerable by embracing openness to God and life? Do we believe God's path offers abundant life?

Simplicity touches every area of our lives as we open more facets of ourselves to God and the central value that directs our lives. If you feel drawn to begin the journey of practicing simplicity in an area of your life, trust God to show you a path that is in harmony with your Christian beliefs.

¹Hagmann, Ann. "Simplicity: A Lenten Path." Article posted in The Life section of the MethodX Web site sponsored by The Upper Room. <http://www.upperroom.org/methodx/thelife/articles/lentsimplicity.as>



Caring Corner Barbara Saltarella

Spring is in the air and summer is just around the corner. Things are very busy here at the church and those of us on the Membership and Nurture teams are working on a few things that will bring us into the summer months.

On May 7 the Elderteens will be having a luncheon, the menu is hamburgers, potato salad, green salad, fruit and assorted cookies. There are some surprises in store, so won't you join us for a few hours of fun, fellowship and surprises. For more information, check the "announcements" section. See you there.

A new study group will start May 1, meeting from 7:00 -9:00 p.m. This new group is called "Christian Caregiving, A Way of Life." The leaders will be Wendy McKee and Barbara Saltarella. This group study is part of the Stephen Ministry. Christian Caregiving will challenge, and equip you to care for others in a distinctively Christian way. No, you don't have to go and visit anyone, but rather it will help answer this ques-

tion: "Do you ever feel uncomfortable talking about your faith, praying with others, or trying to comfort a friend?" If this sounds like something you might be interested in please call the church office. We look forward to seeing you.

During the summer, our team will be working on a study for the fall called "Living Fully, Dying Well". We hope to have speakers on different subjects. Our first speaker will be Barbara Bruce who was our Christian Education Director back in the 1980's. She has since gone on to write some wonderful books, and teaches and works with Elder Hostels as well as being on the Older Adult team for the District. This is not a course for our older adults but a study for all ages. As we continue putting it together I will keep you informed.

I am so thankful to have Shelley Kayne on our team. She is doing a wonderful job with our health ministry and Blood Pressure clinic. Thanks, Shelley. I also

(Continued on next page)

want to thank Mea Seymour for stepping in and helping with the Blood Pressure Clinic while Shelley was away. Thanks, Mea.

May is Organ Donation Month we will have some information for you. It is also Older Adult Month. The theme this year is "Older Americans: Making Choices for a Healthier Future." This theme encourages us to think differently about health and long term care, and work together to rebalance and modernize our current systems so that we may adequately plan and address

the needs of current and future generations. Older persons are entitled to live lives of dignity and independence.

There are so many things that God has called us to do, but the main one is to love God with all our hearts, mind and soul and to love our neighbor. If you feel you are being called to our Member Care team please let me know.

Peace and Blessings,
Barbara



This month we are discussing the topic of Organ and Tissue Donation. This can take many forms, from donating a kidney or bone marrow to stem cell donation to organ donation at the time of death. We have many ways to consider donation. A very popular approach is the living donor. A person can donate an organ that's duplicated in the body, i.e.: kidney. New research is allowing transplantation of "living" liver tissue.

I've found that when the conversation of organ donation comes up people will typically comment, "No one would want my organs." This is probably due to lack of knowledge. Donation isn't just referring to organs. Skin (which we forget is an organ), the cornea of the eyes, bones, heart valves are all transplantable. What's become amazing in my work environment is the number of transplant patients that I am meeting that are wonderful examples of continued life thanks to an organ donor.

In exploring this topic, Barb and I referred to the United Methodist Book of Discipline. This book contains a section titled, "The Social Community." I'm going to quote an important paragraph. "We believe that organ transplantation and organ donation are acts of charity, agape love and self sacrifice. We recognize the life giving benefits of organ and other tissue donation and encourage all people of faith to become organ and tissue donors as part of their love and ministry to others in need." Here are some practical questions and answers about donation.

- **Are there limits for donors?** No. Your physical health is the important factor. Babies to elderly can donate.
- **Does donation disfigure the body?** No. Organ procurement is a surgical operation done under sterile technique.

- **What does donation cost?** There is no charge to the donor. The recipient will pay via insurance or Medicare or Medicaid.
- **Who can donate?** Anyone and everyone. People under 18 years of age need parental consent.
- **How many people are awaiting transplant?** Approximately 300 new candidates are added to the waiting list every month.
- **What can be donated?** Heart, lungs, kidneys, intestines, pancreas, liver, corneas, skin, heart valves, bone, blood vessels, connective tissue, stem cells, bone marrow, umbilical cord blood.
- **Does knowledge of organ donation effect my treatment when I am a patient in the hospital?** No. There is no effect on medical therapies.
- **If I sign my Driver's license as an organ donor, will my wishes be carried out?** This could be tricky. It's important that your family knows your wishes about organ donation because they may need to sign consent forms.

For more information check out these web sites: organdonor.gov, UNYTS.org. As always, this health corner has been developed to advance our health, spirit and education. Please know that God loves us and wishes us health in all areas of our lives. When our bodies start to age, we need more education. Please consider how your life has been affected by organ donation. As Christians, we believe there is new life in death.

Shalom, *Shelley*

Editor's note: Shelley's article comes with uncanny timing. Please read Peter Powers' article, "Where Are They Now" to see how the need for organ donation has touched our church family. -RJLZ

Where Are They Now?

Peter Powers

Welcome to the inaugural "Where Are They Now?" column. The aim of this column is to introduce or reintroduce a significant member of WUMC's past. By highlighting a member's past contributions and current activities, we hope to strengthen the bond between WUMC's past and present. We begin with Reverend F. Ray Hazlett.

As many of you know, Reverend Hazlett was WUMC's Lead Pastor from 1980 to 1991. He has led a full and rewarding life, both pre- and post-WUMC. Born into a family of educators in Queens, New York, Reverend Hazlett graduated from high school in Warsaw, New York. Reverend Hazlett's father was an academic dean at Houghton College, where Reverend Hazlett obtained a BS in Theology. Reverend Hazlett went on to obtain a Masters of Divinity from Alfred University, and did Doctor of Ministry work at Drew University. He served our country in the United States Army during the Korean War and was awarded the Bronze Star.

In addition to his appointment at WUMC, Reverend Hazlett served Angelica, Delevan/Yorkshire, Brooklyn Heights-Jamestown, Alfred University (Chaplain), Lyndonville and Trinity Amherst. As part of the WNY Conference, he was Chairperson of Evangelism, Camping, Board of Ordained Ministry and Conference Trustees and Vice-chairperson of Gateway Children and Family Services.

Reverend Hazlett followed Reverend Dean Richardson at WUMC. Peter Del Negro was Associate Pastor, followed by Donald Langreck and Patricia A. (Lesch) Olmstead. Reverend Hazlett established the Forty Fellowship (consisting of 40-year members of the church), and supported creation of Elderteens. He also designed and created the Easter Lily Cross and

the Poinsettia Wreath. During my recent conversation with Reverend Hazlett, he continually emphasized the sense of belonging within the church and the love amongst the members.

Following his retirement in 1996, Reverend Hazlett was elected to a four-year term as the Mayor of Williamsville. In August of 2005, he moved to Amherst, Virginia to be near his family. His son, Reverend Dr. Timothy Hazlett, was appointed to Emanuel UMC. Reverend Hazlett stays active in Habitat for Humanity, takes part in the church choir, and provides leadership to the church's Finance Committee and Trustees. He also assists the District Superintendent in supervising two other local churches. If that's not enough, Reverend Hazlett is active in the History of Methodism in Central Virginia where he plays the role of a Circuit Rider in colonial times, emphasizing the role of Methodism in the movement of religious freedom.

On a much more personal note, I learned from Reverend Hazlett that he is presently searching for the Gift of Life. Reverend Hazlett made a Gift of Life in 1986 when he donated a kidney to his son Mark, who passed away in 2002. Now, on dialysis for the past year to treat failure of his remaining kidney, Reverend Hazlett is in need of the Gift of Life from a living donor. He is currently on a waiting list at the University of Virginia Transplant Center. Over 89,000 other patients in the United States also are awaiting a transplant of a vital organ. If you are physically able, consider being a live donor. Or consider making the Gift of Life as part of a deceased donor plan. You may not be the one to help Reverend Hazlett, but you just may save the life of someone like him.

Please keep Reverend Hazlett, his family, and all others awaiting organ transplants in your prayers.

Introducing New Members

Jean Hagensick



Mrs. Emily Montasanti is married to **Alan**, and they reside on Rambling Road in East Amherst. Emily is transferring her membership from St. Luke's UCC. She and Alan are the parents of three children. **Isabel** (nicknamed Izzy) is four years old and likes crafts, Barbies and her dance class. Twins, **Jenny** and **Vinny**, are two years old. Emily likes to read, bake, ski and sew – how does she ever do it?!

It is with delight that we are introducing the following members who recently joined our church. Please introduce yourself to them and extend a warm welcome!



Pictured to the left is **Matthew Ehmann**, an active member of the Sr. High Youth Group, is transferring his membership from Christ UM. Matt, as he is called, has already indicated several areas of church work he would like to be involved with. In addition, Matt caddies at the Country Club of Buffalo, and likes football and swimming. Welcome, Matt!

Kelly and Shaun Beckwith are transferring from Pacific Beach UMC in San Diego. They both grew up in the northeast, and are returning to their roots to be near family. Daughter, **Tennessee** is one year old and was baptized at WUMC on April 1. Kelly, who loves to read, walk and scrapbook (when time permits) was inspired by the writings of Tennessee Williams and thereby came the naming. Shaun is a construction superintendent and loves building stuff, snowboarding and cars. They are happy to say they're expecting October 3! Don't be surprised if you hear Shaun saying "Hi" to you before you say "Hi" – that's just his outgoing nature.



Members of the Dorcas circle short and pack items to be given to Haven House. Pictured from left to right are: Fran Wilson, Rena Harbaugh, Nancy Howlett, Ruth Devonshire, Betty Cornell, Donna Swift, Shirley Balkin and Mary Hourt.



Shirley and William Giesler have moved here from Bayshore, NY and reside on Woodshire Street in Getzville. Their former church was the UMC in Bayshore. They have three children and four grandchildren. Now in retirement, they enjoy traveling, reading, using their computer and golf. Shirley is already sharing her love of music by singing in the choir. No doubt, many of you have already met Shirley and Bill as they are very warm and friendly. Bill wants to add that they recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary – congratulations!

DORCAS CIRCLE SUPPORTS HAVEN HOUSE

Dorcas circle supports Haven House by collecting items for the personal use of its residents. At each meeting, members bring designated items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, combs and deodorant. Then, in February, they make up individual welcome bags, which are given to Haven House.

At a recent meeting, Roberta Adams (Coordinator of Community Resources) met with the Circle and detailed the work of this agency. The work primarily provides a safe shelter for women and children who are seeking a haven from abuse. They depend on donations to a great extent. She said items for teenage boys are always needed, as well as the shelter items for individuals. One way they get monetary support is by selling used cell phones, and she encouraged us to collect these when possible.

Donna Swift, chairperson of Dorcas Circle, can provide more information about contacting and donating to Haven House.

Our 2007 Confirmation Class and their Sponsors



Scott Goodwin with sponsor John Tschamler



Matthew Gordon with sponsor Mark Emerson



Louis Cassety with sponsor Lois White



Christopher Roesch with sponsor Fred Pascolini



Michael Wheeler with sponsor Raymond Stilwell



Kristin Pascolini with sponsor Christopher Wylie



Devon Powers with sponsor Barbara Tschamler



Daren Powers with sponsor Otto Scharf



Jessica Seiler with sponsor Shelley Kayne



Shane Pettis with sponsor Gary Jones



Christian Emerson with sponsor Thomas Wishman



Michelle Pascolini with sponsor Barbara Saltarella



Katie Porter with her sponsor Carol Forden who was out of town when the pictures were taken



Christian Jones with sponsor Neil Kratzer



Andrew Wishman with sponsor Robert Bauer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OLAN MILLS RETURNS FOR PICTURE DIRECTORY

Good news! Olan Mills has once again agreed to put together a new picture directory. These directories can be a useful tool, helping each of us to connect the growing list of our congregation's names with faces. As a thank you for participating, each family will receive one free 8x10 portrait from Olan Mills. One picture directory will also be provided to each family of participants. The dates and times available are:

Tuesday, May 15: 1-7 p.m.

Wednesday, May 16: 1-7 p.m.

Thursday, May 31: 1-7 p.m.

Friday, June 8: 1-7 p.m.

Saturday, June 9: 10-5 p.m.

Appointments will likely fill up fast, so please be sure to book yours as soon as possible by calling the church office 634-4800. You will be able to have the photographs taken and select which picture will go into the directory during the same session. Additional photos will be available for purchase as well, and come with a 100% satisfaction guarantee.

SCRAPBOOKERS WANTED!

Would you like to get together one Friday per month from 6:30 - 10:00 p.m. to work on your stamping or scrapbooking hobby with others from the church? If so, come on down to Fillmore Hall and bring your projects. Admission is a handmade card or a store bought card or two that will be given to the WUMC visitation ministry. For more information, contact Karen Long at 691-7215.

PLANTS, BEAUTIFUL PLANTS

The season of Spring has come and it's time to start planning your flower beds. Bengert's Greenhouses will be supplying our plants again this year. We are looking forward to taking home their huge and beautiful hanging baskets and bedding plants. Order forms can be found in the easel display in the narthex and are due back by May 7. Flowers will be ready for pick-up in Fillmore Hall on Saturday, May 26 between 9 and 4 PM. Questions can be directed to Bonnie Hazlett, Lyn Updike or Deanna Hewson.

DORCAS CIRCLE SCHEDULES MAY MEETING

The next Dorcas Circle meeting will be held on May 10, 10:30 a.m. in the parlor. If you have questions, please call Donna Swift at 633-5407.

BOOK CLUB TO DISCUSS HOME TO HARMONY

The WUMC Book Club will hold its next meeting on May 18 to discuss *Home to Harmony* by Philip Gully. Location to be announced in a future newsletter. Questions? Contact the Killians at 838-4513.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Information for the June issue of the Methodist Messenger is due in the church office Monday, May 14. Information may also be emailed directly to Newsletter Editor, Rachel Zeller at RZeller143@aol.com.

ATTENTION ALL WUMC TEAM LEADERS!

In an effort to provide the most effective and efficient assistance to the committees of our church, the Communications Team has developed a new form for all team leaders to use.

The form is specifically designed to aid in announcing and publicizing events such as regular meetings, fundraisers, and special guest speakers. It will allow each team to request what kind of assistance is needed to communicate these events, such as: an article in the Messenger or newspaper, a weekly announcement, newspaper or radio ads, or a posting on a church bulletin board. It is also a way to indicate if you will need a photo or video taken during the event.

Copies of the form are located in the church office and should be turned in to Communications Team leaders Sondra Scott (SondraLScott@hotmail.com) or Marie Lorwa (desertgirl58@hotmail.com) via email, or you may leave a hard copy of the completed form in the church office, and a member of the Communications Team will be in contact.

ELDERTEENS MAY LUNCHEON

Mark your calendars and come for a time of sharing at the Elderteens luncheon, May 7 at noon. The cost to attend is \$10. Money may be sent to Mrs. Donna Swift, 226 Ayer Road, Williamsville, NY 14221. PLEASE NOTE, if you have already paid for the February luncheon (which had to be cancelled due to the cold temperatures), you do not need to send any money.

CHRISTIAN CAREGIVING: A WAY OF LIFE

Do you ever feel uncomfortable talking about your faith, praying with others, or trying to comfort a friend? "Christian Caregiving: *A Way of Life*" will challenge and equip you to care for others on a distinctively Christian way. Won't you come and join us on Tuesday, May 1 between 7:00-9:00 p.m. If you are interested please call the church office 634-4800.

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

RETIREMENT RECEPTION FOR MERLE SHOWERS TO BE HELD AT WUMC

A time of celebration will be held on Sunday, June 3, from 6 - 8 p.m. at Williamsville UMC to honor the Rev. Merle Showers, Niagara Frontier Community Minister from 1996-2007 who will retire on July 1. A program of celebration will begin at 6 p.m. in the sanctuary followed by a reception time in Fillmore Hall. You may show your appreciation in three ways. Come to the celebration; send a letter for Merle and Carolyn to be included in a "Love Letter Album", or contribute a money donation for a love gift. Part of the love gift will be for Merle for his retirement but the sizeable portion will be for Merle to distribute among the various projects and ministries of his choosing in the Niagara Frontier. Letters and money gifts (checks payable NFCM, memo Shower Love Gift) should be sent to Debbie Parise at the District office, 410 Minnesota Ave., Buffalo, NY 14215-1032 or brought to the celebration. Mark your calendars now to be part of this special event.

CAMP ASBURY AND CAMP FINDLEY POSITIONS

Please contact Rev. Larry Williford (585-237-5262 or campasbury@wnyumc.org) if you are interested in any of the following:

ELECTRICIAN SOUGHT: Camp Asbury is looking for an Electrician to volunteer some time to help with some rewiring of Beckwith Cabin so we can put in a shower.

HEALTH DIRECTORS/CAMP NURSES NEEDED: Both Camp Asbury and Camp Findley are now in the process of hiring Health Directors/Camp Nurses for the summer camp program. We MUST have an RN in order to hold summer camps. This position can be split in a variety of formats for the summer. If you are interested or know of someone who would be, please have them contact the camps for more information.

EXPERIENCED GOLFER WANTED: Camp Asbury is looking for an experienced golfer to help teach beginning golfers how to play at Golf Camp this summer. Play two rounds of nine holes along with them for free!

MISCELLANEOUS CAMP POSITIONS AVAILABLE

We are still looking for persons interested in serving on summer staff at both Camp Asbury and Camp Findley. Camp Asbury is still in need of at least two male Core Counselors and two Kitchen Staff. Camp Findley is in need of summer staff for all positions.



The WUMC Trustees are sponsoring an All Church Work Day on Saturday May 12 from 9 a.m. to noon.

We need volunteers of all shapes and sizes to help spruce up the church with painting, cleaning, yard work and other assorted odd jobs.

All Church Work Day

Call John Tschamler 837-4302 for more information

CAMP ASBURY WORK DAY

Saturday, May 19 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., join in the effort to help clean up brush, split wood cut up downed trees (only persons experienced with chain saws, please – it would also be appreciated if you could bring your own chain saw if you have one), rake leaves, and clean up the grounds at Camp Asbury. Please contact Larry Williford for more information, or if you or a church group would like to come and help out, so we can know how many people to plan on. Lunch will be provided!

WUMC SEEKS ASSISTANT CUSTODIAN

Williamsville UMC has an opening for an assistant custodian, 10 hours per week, flexible hours, some holiday work. Contact Jack Killian SPRC chair at 838-4518 or killian@localnet.com.

NETWORK OF RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES

Network of Communities Food Pantry needs volunteers to assist persons seeking food and to stock shelves. The pantry is open 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM Monday – Friday. Stocking of shelves can also be done at various other times.

SPLAT – YOUTH 2007

Our United Methodist global gathering for youth is taking place July 10 – 16. Four of our adventurous youth and Judy Toone will be traveling to Greensboro, North Carolina to participate. They're sharing a bus with youth and their leaders from Kenmore UMC as well as Christ UMC. This is an amazing event filled with fellowship, prayer and music that only happens once every four years, so we are thrilled they're able to attend!

WE PAID 100% IN 2006!

WUMC recently received a certificate of appreciation from the WNYUMC Conference for fulfilling our commitment to pay our 2006 Shared Ministries obligation at 100%. Thank you to each member of the congregation for paying your pledge in full and for the many other gifts throughout the year, all of which help support mission and ministry in the Western New York Conference, and throughout the world!



May is a month of celebration!!! In addition to Confirmation and two Youth Sundays, we will celebrate Pentecost on Sunday, May 27. Pentecost is the fiftieth and last day of the Easter Season when the Church received the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2). When I think of Pentecost, aside from the visuals of fire, wind and the dove, one of my favorite hymns is "Many Gifts, One Spirit" which speaks to this birth day of the Church. This hymn rejoices in the rich diversity of gifts that God provides us. It also reminds us that there is but one Lord, one Spirit, and one Word, which through our gifts may be perceived in a variety of ways. The three verses of the hymn are as follows:

*God of change and glory, God of time and space,
When we fear the future, give to us your grace.
In the midst of changing ways give us still the grace to praise.
God of many colors, God of many signs,
You have made us different, blessing many kinds.
As the old ways disappear, let your love cast out our fear.
Freshness of the morning, newness of each night,
You are still creating endless love and light.
This we see, as shadows part, many gifts from one great heart.*

The following refrain reminds us not only of our many gifts, but the source of our giftedness:

*Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many ways.
In our difference is blessing, from diversity we praise one Giver,
One Lord, one Spirit, one Word known in many ways,
Hallowing our days. For the Giver, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!*

The lectionary readings throughout the Easter season focus on the book of Acts and the exploration of the Spirit in the early church. These faith ancestors responded to God's powerful presence in lives committed to mutual ministry because they understood that the Spirit gives the church its mission and the power to undertake it.

We at WUMC have reason to celebrate with the many ministries gifted to us individually and collectively. With the advent of Pentecost, as we look towards the future, what mission is the Spirit giving to you and our church?

Blessings -

Daryl



UMC NIAGARA FRONTIER DISTRICT NEWS

MISSION FOCUS FOR MAY: Asbury Shalom Zone

Did you know that there are a number of immigrants from Ethiopia and Somalia living in the Buffalo area? Can you even imagine what their needs might be? Asbury Shalom Zone (ASZ), an organization funded by donations from local churches (like WUMC) and community organizations, provides for some of the needs of this group along with those of a Hispanic constituency in the area. Aside from operating a thrift store (more about that later!), ASZ provides a home for ESL (English as a Second Language) classes, facilities for local Cub Scout and Girl Scout troops, and adult education classes including "how to run a home", "parenting skills," and "home finance issues." ASZ is a business incubator for the neighborhood in which it is located as it rents space to small businesses starting up in the area. Asbury Shalom Zone also helps to sponsor a camp for neighborhood children to keep them safe and occupied during several weeks of the summer.

In order to continue its significant mission in the Buffalo area, Asbury Shalom Zone needs your help. Its Thrift Store is a major source of ASZ's income. They welcome donations of all kinds of clothing and household items that are still suitable for sale. There is a special need for shoes, purses, and belts. These are collected and shipped in bulk for distribution in Africa, South America, and Asia. ASZ gets paid BY THE PIECE/POUND and shoes, etc. are very "profitable" for them. Can you help by making a contribution of these and any other clothing/household items?

We will have special collection boxes in the narthex for materials for Asbury Shalom Zone during the month of May. We will also be soliciting any monetary donations you could make to this organization along with the funds contributed through the Outreach and Missions Team of the church. Please help in whatever way you can.

If you have any questions about this, please feel free to send me a note or call me at home at 689-0285.

Thanks.

Kevin Lyttle

Lay Leader, Outreach and Missions

CONCERT PLANNED TO BENEFIT INNER-CITY MINISTRY PROGRAMS

Please join us at a benefit concert this May 20 at 6:30 p.m. at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 75 East Avenue, Lockport, NY 14094, featuring Denise Davis and benefiting the inner-city ministries of Niagara Frontier City Ministries (or NFCM.) These benefit concerts provide key financial support to the inner-city ministry programs such as after-school tutoring at Metropolitan UMC, the summer reading program at Seneca Street, and Vacation Bible School at South Park. A freewill offering will be taken at the concert.

The evening will begin with musical offerings from various church choirs and music groups, continuing with Denise, and closing with several combined numbers. There will be a time of fellowship and refreshments after the concert. Denise Davis ministers through her witness as a Christian recording artist and national speaker, and has formed a special friendship with Emmanuel Church. Denise's CD's, tapes, and books will be offered for sale following the event. We are grateful to Rev. Duane Priset and the church family at Emmanuel Church for offering to host this benefit concert. Please show your support and plan to join us!

SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

WUMC has received an urgent request from Church World Service for school kits, because the demand has exceeded their supply! We invite you to collect and donate the following...

- 1 pair of blunt scissors
- 8½" x 11" ruled spiral notebooks,
140-200 count (no filler paper)
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 6 new pencils with erasers
- 1 large eraser
- 12 sheets of construction paper
- 1 box of crayons, 24 count
- 12" ruler

... and money to cover the cost of canvas bags needed to store the supplies in, shipping and packaging. We have committed to 25 kits. Thank you for your love and attention to this project. Please place items in the box marked "School Kits." Money donations can be given to Kevin Lyttle or Shelley Kayne.

In Christ,

Kevin and Shelley

on behalf of the Mission and Outreach Team

BAPTISMS

Much congratulations and blessings to Tennessee Rain Beckwith, daughter of new members Kelly Rozewicz-Beckwith and Shaun Beckwith, who was baptized on April 1 by Rev. Lewis. Shaun's brother Simon Beckwith, and Kelly's sister Erin Rozewicz stood in as sponsors. A very happy birthday to Tennessee too, who turned one year old on April 3!

More blessings and happiness to Nicholas William Weber, son of Chandra and Gregory Weber, who was baptized by Rev. Lewis on April 15. Greg's good friend John Kavanagh and Chandra's sister Jenna Hoyt were Nicholas' sponsors, with Chandra's other sister Natalie filling in for Jenna, who could not attend.

GET YOUR COPY OF THE SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS VIA EMAIL

Get the latest updates of the WUMC calendar and events. Even if you have to miss worship you can still get updates. An email version of the weekly Sunday Announcements and Calendar is available. If you would like to receive it, please send your email address to Michele@williamsvilleumc.org.

Information for the
June issue of the
Methodist Messenger
is due in the church office
Monday, May 14.
Information may also
be emailed directly to
Newsletter Editor,
Rachel Zeller at
rzeller143@aol.com.

PRAYER CHAIN

Church family and friends may request special prayers through the Prayer Chain. Please call Bob or Irene Hayman at 688-1258 to place your request.

If you have a pastoral need, please call the church office (634-4800) and leave a message. You may also call Rev. Lewis at 984-1140 or Pastor Bennett at 984-5483 and talk to them directly.

The church office hours are Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Our Staff and Lay Leaders Are Here to Help You

Lead Pastor: Gail Lewis

Associate Pastor: Daryl Bennett

Directors of Music: Judith Stafford and Wendy Amuso

Director of Christian Education: Judith Toone

Pastoral Assistant for Visitation: Barbara Saltarella

Church Administrator: Michele Grammer

Custodian: Mary Ann Horey

Sunday Nursery Care: Kathleen Ciccone,

Amanda Dickerman and Megan Beck

Coordinating Lay Leader: Gary Jones

Communication Ministry: Sondra Scott & Marie Lorwa

Member Care Ministry: Barbara Saltarella

Outreach & Missions Ministry: Kevin Lyttle