

August 2022



THE BELL TOWER



The First Congregational Church, Spencerport UCC
65 Church Street Spencerport, NY 14559



August 2022 Newsletter
From the Pastor's Desk

Live in the sunshine, swim in the sea, drink in the wild air.
~Ralph Waldo Emerson

Summertime—It is the best time of the calendar year, in my opinion. I remember when I was a kid living in Springfield, Illinois; one early summer when I was riding in the back seat of my mother's car, a song by the rapper Will Smith came on the radio. The song went like this:

*Summer, summer, summertime
Time to sit back and unwind.
School is out and it's sort of a buzz
But back then I didn't really know what it was;
But now I see what have of this
The way that people respond to summer madness.
The weather is hot and the [people] are dressing less and checkin'
out the fellas to tell 'em who's best.
Riding around in your jeep or your benzos [a Mercedes Benz] or in
your Nissan sittin' on lorenzos...*

In this song, the rapper Will Smith was talking about the joy and thrill of summer. For most of us summer is a time to sit back and unwind. It is a time to remove the winter coats, sweaters, and heavy boots; and just throw on a t-shirt, a pair of shorts, and some sandals. O how I love summer. Prior to the pandemic, my family and I would take a cruise to the Caribbeans every June. We would eat good food, explore the islands, collect souvenirs, swim in the ocean, and enjoy the comedy shows and the musicals on the cruise ship. When we weren't on a cruise, we would always find some outside activity to do like cooking on the grill or just simply getting some ice cream from our favorite ice cream shop. Summertime is absolutely my favorite time of the year. What's your favorite time of the year? Fall, Winter, Spring, or like me summertime?

Well—whatever season is your favorite, make sure you take time out to slow down and enjoy every moment of it. So many times, we rush through life, trying to get from one thing to another; trying to accomplish one project after another; and even trying to solve one problem after another. But let me challenge you—to slow down, live in the moment. Take time to smell the roses; to swim in the ocean; to play in the snow (if winter is your favorite season). Take time to bake a cake with your grandchildren; to rise early to listen to the birds as they sing, early in the wee hours of the morning.

Recently, I heard someone say, "Every man [or woman] gets two lives. The second one begins the moment they realize that they only have one." Seeing that we only get one life to live, slow down, take your time, and relish every moment. If you find yourself getting frustrated by something, stop whatever it is you're doing, and breath, relax. Most of the things that we get upset about are not even worth it.

Furthermore, this is exactly what I am planning to do this summer—to stop, breath, and relax; to stop and walk on the beach to feel the sand underneath my feet; to stop and listen to the sound of the ocean waves crashing against the banks; to stop and enjoy some good quality time with family and friends.

Let us relish in the beauty of God's creation and enjoy this summer!

Pastor Michael

Who doesn't love a great barbecue?

HOMEMADE TANGY PULLED PORK BARBECUE, FRESH COLESLAW, SALT POTATOES, ROLL, BUTTER, AND DESSERT

You're Invited to a



SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 2022

AT

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

65 CHURCH STREET

SPENCERPORT, NY

DRIVE THRU ONLY

NOON TILL SOLD OUT

TICKETS \$12

****ADVANCE TICKETS RECOMMENDED****

AVAILABLE BY CALLING CHURCH OFFICE AT 585-352-3448

OR AT CANAL DAYS CHILDREN'S CRAFT TENT.

PROCEEDS TO BE DONATED TO ROCHESTER ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL K-5TH

TO PROVIDE SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND WINTER GEAR.

Join Us!!!



COUNCIL AND BOARDS MEETINGS

Tuesday, August 16th @ 6:30 PM IN PERSON.



FINANCE BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, August 10th @ 7:00 PM Via Zoom

WOMEN'S GUILD UPCOMING DATES:

WOMEN'S GUILD PICNIC:



Saturday, August 20th @ 1 pm @ The Darrohn's Home.

Please sign-up on sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall when available for a count. *Bring your own drinks. No dish to pass needed. Picnic meal will be provided. Sign-up deadline 8/14. Maps/Directions provided upon request.

MEETING:

Monday, September 19th @ 9:30 am, Bring a brown bag breakfast.

August 2022

BREAKFAST CLUB

Please join us every Tuesday!

Hope to see you there!

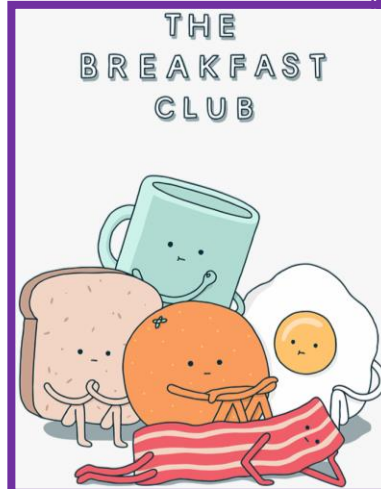
AUGUST DATES/LOCATIONS

August 2nd – Slayton Place
(26 Slayton Ave. Spencerport)

August 9th – Panorama
(730 Elmgrove Rd.)

August 16th – Theo's Restaurant
(1174 Brooks Ave.)

August 25th – Johnny d's Restaurant
(2139 North Union St.)



You are invited to a special service of worship:

"We Honor You"

Honoring Our Brave First Responders

Sunday September 11, 2022

10:00 am Service, Reception following at 11:15 am
First Congregational Church of Spencerport UCC
65 Church Street
Spencerport 14559

RSVP – Paula, Admin: (585) 352-3448

Please join us as we host a unique worship service to show our gratitude to our local Fire Fighters, Police Officers and Emergency Medical Technicians. First Responders and their families are cordially invited to attend the service and the reception following. We humbly ask you for the privilege of recognizing your sacrifice and service to our community. May you be blessed, as you have been a blessing to others.

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE AUGUST 17TH

If you would like to submit an article for The September Newsletter, please email the church office at admin@spencerportucc.org, by August 17th. Thank you!

August 2022

CHRISTIAN ACTION



DONATION TO SALEM SOUP KITCHEN

Since Covid Salem Soup Kitchen has continued to serve over 100 individuals a week with grab and go bags. They are asking for our help by donating small snack size bags of potato chips. Last year through

your generosity we gave 800 bags of potato chips!

Can we do the same or better this year?

Please put your donations in the proper spot in Fellowship Hall.

All donations are needed by September 1st.

Boxes of 50 are available at BJ's or smaller amounts are certainly welcome.

Thank you!

Spencerport Ecumenical Food Shelf

Thank you for your continuing and generous support to the Spencerport Ecumenical Food Shelf.

This month the following items are especially needed: **Hot Cereal, Peanut Butter, Mac & Cheese, Knorr Sides, Muffin Mix, Coffee, Shampoo & conditioners.**

Cash donations can be sent to Dick Gallagher, the Food Shelf Treasurer at: 425 Ogden Parma Townline Road, Spencerport, NY, 14559.

A bin is available in the Fellowship Hall to drop off your donations. If you know of anyone residing in the Spencerport School District, in need of food, they can call 397-0290.

Questions or concerns: contact Melanie Ippolito at 352-3891

NEEDLES MISSION CLUB

Submitted by Holly Bauer-Mergen



CHRISTMAS IS COMING!! Really! But why am I sending out such an early reminder? Because we have a bin of yarn that would make great hats/scarves/mittens (and not so great for lap robes). If anyone would like to make any for the Warm and Fuzzy tree, please let me know and I will get down the bin and let you pick your favorite(s)!

August 2022

AUGUST MINISTRY SCHEDULE

GREETERS:

7 – Shirley Sherman
14 – Jan Elliott
21 – Ebony Sloan
28 – Bunny Tubbs

COFFEE HOUR:

7 – Ginny & Lynn Worden
14 – Bunny Tubbs
21 – TBD
28 – Sue Bagley

USHERS:

7 – TBD
14 – Char Schurkamp
21 – Ginny Worden
28 – TBD

LAY READERS:

7 – Gwendolyn Tappenden
14 – Roger Schurkamp
21 – Carolyn Mazzota
28 – Ellen M Kern

**USHERS, GREETERS, LAY READERS,
HELPING HANDS AND COFFEE HOUR HELP
NEEDED:**

**If you are interested in volunteering your time,
there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board
in Fellowship Hall or you can call the office at
352-3448.
Thank You!**



The Church Office will be on summer hours until September 12th:

Tuesday: 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

Wednesday: 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

Thursday: 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

Thank you!

NEWSLETTER CHALLENGE UPDATE!!!!

Unfortunately, we didn't have any of the winners reach out to us in the months of June and July. Hopefully we will have a better response in August and be able to give away these great prizes!

AUGUST NEWSLETTER CHALLENGE

For August we will continue our challenge with 2 more winners. Remember to read everything! If you find **your** name, **[A special hello to (Your Name Here)]**, Please contact the office, (585) 352-3448 or admin@spencerportucc.org. 😊



MONTHLY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Let's celebrate each other! We would like to start including special dates in The Bell Tower Monthly Newsletter. If you would like your Anniversary or Birthday (without year) included in the monthly newsletter, please contact the office at (585) 352- 3448 or admin@spencerportucc.org.

August 2022

SONSHINE CLUB SUNDAY'S COOL – SUMMER NOAH'S ARK THEME



CHOIR APPRCIATION – SUNDAY'S COOL



BOOKBAG & SCHOOL SUPPLIES DONATIONS

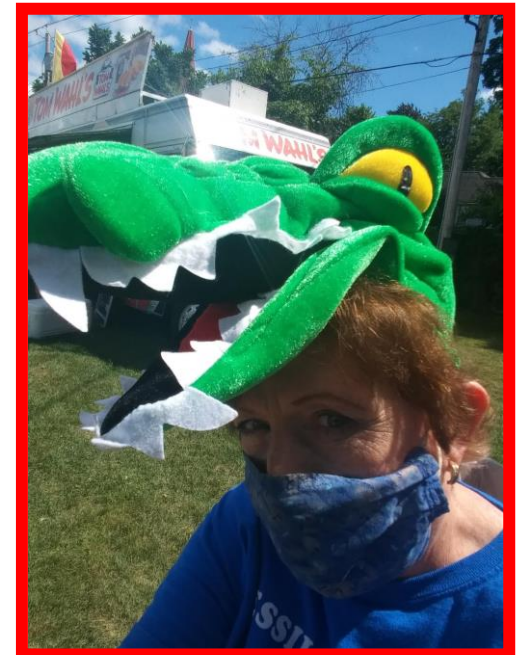


31 backpacks, filled with the blessings of God & our church, and also 1 pencil box, 1 box of tissues, 1 ruler, 1 sheet of stickers, 1 box of crayons, 1 box of colored pencils, 1 pair of scissors, 1 pencil sharpener, 2 composition notebooks, 2 glue sticks, 2 pens, 10 pencils and Markers!! Phew!!



August 2022

CANAL DAY'S 2022



August 2022

CE DIRECTOR JESSILOU IS AVAILABLE!

.... In person or by phone or email as needed:
church office 585-352-3448
cell phone or text: 585-397-8766
office hours by appointment
email: christianeducation@spencerportucc.org

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



SPENCERPORT YOUTH MINISTRIES

Representatives from area churches are continue plan monthly Teen events. Our June Bonfire had to be cancelled due to weather issues and lack of response. **The next event is a field trip to the SENECA PARK ZOO!** All youth ages 12 and up are invited to attend. Youth are free, parents please pay entrance fee of \$10. We will meet at the zoo on **Sunday August 14th at 1:00pm.**

Please dress for the weather, and plan to HAVE FUN! Transportation is available if needed; kids unaccompanied by a parent need a signed permission slip. Contact Jessilou for more info. A special hello to Bella Ellsworth!

*** JESSILOU OFF DURING AUGUST ***

There will be no Sunday's Cool during the month of August. Children will be mailed some projects to work on and families are always invited to log onto the worship services offered on Zoom and Facebook. Jessilou is looking forward to being back September 4th!

SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR BACKPACKS!

Our mission to provide school supplies to needy students is nearly complete! In June and July, the Board of Christian Ed requested monetary donations so we could purchase any school supplies we may be short of to fill our backpacks. Thanks to you, the supplies have been purchased, the backpacks will be packed and delivered in August!



SONSHINE CLUB SUNDAY'S COOL

Summer Sunday's Cool is focused on our planet and its animals through the Noah's Ark story! So far, we've made clay animals, and Lego animals, and there's more to come. Watch for Noah's ark projects in the mail!



PENNY JAR NEWS

Last month we collected funds for school supplies – thank you all for your monetary gifts. In AUGUST, we will be collecting funds to support our newly formed partnership with RACS (Rochester Academy Charter Schools.) More info will be in the weekly flock notes.



RALLY DAY SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 18TH!

Mark your calendars and don't miss out on this annual event! Treasure hunt, picnic, and the pie eating contest! More info to come!

TEEN ZOOM SERIES: COMPARATIVE RELIGION

Beginning in October, teens are invited to participate in a 6 week Zoom program on the top 6 religions in the world! There will be incentives for participation and prizes offered!

FIRST MTG: MONDAY Oct 3rd 7PM: ISLAM

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED WITH THE 2022 SPENCERPORT CANAL DAYS CHILDREN'S TENT JULY 30TH AND 31ST!

August 2022

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
SPENCERPORT UCC
AUGUST 2022**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		9:00 – Breakfast Club @ Slayton Place (26 Slayton Ave.)				Noon – 4:00 pm – BBQ Pulled Pork Fundraiser
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10:00 - Worship/ Penny Jar	8:00 pm – Monthly Task Force Meeting	9:00 – Breakfast Club @ Panorama Restaurant (730 Elmgrove Rd)	7:00 pm – Zoom Finance Board Meeting			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10:00 -Worship		9:00 – Breakfast Club @Theo’s Restaurant (1174 Brooks Ave.) 6:30 pm – Council/Boards Meeting				1:00 pm – Women’s Guild Picnic @ The Darrohns – Sign – Up on Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall for count – Direction provided upon request*
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10:00 -Worship		9:00 – Breakfast Club @ Johnny d’s (2139 North Union St.) A special hello to Ebony Sloan!	6:30 p.m. Monthly Staff Meeting			
28	29	30	31			
10:00 -Worship	8:00 pm – Monthly Task Force Meeting	9:00 – Breakfast Club @ Blue Ridge Grill (3400 W. Ridge Rd.)				

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**
65 Church Street
Spencerport, NY 14559-1311

Newsletter

Challenge

****LOOK INSIDE FOR DETAILS****

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

Telephone: (585) 352-3448

Web site: www.spencerportucc.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SpencerportUCC

Pastor: Rev. Michael Sloan (1-309-262-6543 - cell)

E-mail: pastor@spencerportucc.org

Administrative Assistant: Paula Jackson

Office Hours: 9:00 am-2:00 pm – Monday-Friday

E-mail: admin@spencerportucc.org

Director of Christian Education: Jessilou Vaccarelli

E-mail: christianeducation@spencerportucc.org

Music Director: Darcy Colby

E-mail: musicdirector@spencerportucc.org



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