

LAMPLIGHTER

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LAMPLIGHTER

“I could tell where the lamplighter was by the trail he left behind.”

Harry Lauder

SPRING 2024

First United Methodist Church of Windsor, NY

REV. EDWARD HONRATH, PASTOR

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Change is coming! As I was writing this, we have seen some warmer temperatures, but of course it is still Winter so the cold and snow are not over yet (even though I can do without the snow)! But Spring is on the way and I look forward to the warmer weather and the new birth and growth of our natural world.

There is another change coming as well. I will be leaving my Windsor and Sanitaria Springs churches as their pastor at the end of June this year. My last Sunday will be June 30. My wife Cathy and I will be moving to New Mexico to be closer to her parents and other family members. It is a bittersweet decision as I had planned to stay with my churches much longer, but we see this as an opportunity to serve and support family.



Our District Superintendent and Bishop are working on finding a suitable replacement for me, so I ask for your prayers for them in their work.

Although this time of transition and change may cause great worry, we must remember that our God is the one who holds our future. We must remember that we serve a God that knows the beginning and the end and that our God is walking alongside us as we undergo this change and is well aware of our concerns.

Proverbs 3:5-6 “So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine... So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.”

Peace be with you,

Pastor Ed

The First United Methodist
Church of Windsor is a
family of Christian faith and love
whose mission
is to
Learn the gospel,
Live the gospel, and
Share the
gospel of Jesus Christ.

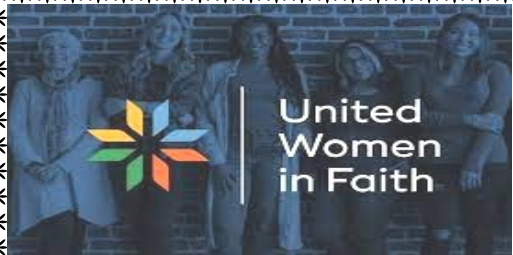


“Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song.” (Pope John II)

We hope your Easter was filled with the joy and hope of the promise of Christ’s resurrection.

Thank you to members of the Sanitaria Springs UMC for hosting the Maundy Thursday service. Thank you also to the members of both choirs who provided wonderful music and to those who read scripture during the Good Friday and Easter Services. If you were unable to attend our Easter service and hear Pastor Ed’s message, you can listen on our Facebook video page.

We are always so grateful for those who purchase the beautiful plants in memory and/or honor of loved ones and for Jeannie for purchasing and arranging them on our Easter altar.



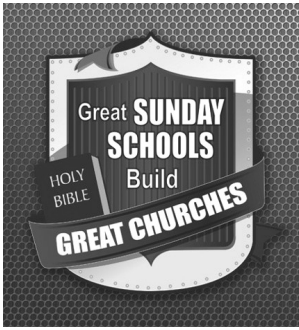
SOUP & SALAD: We will serve our delicious soups and salads one last time until we gather again in the Fall. Please join us beginning at 5:00pm on **Thursday, April 11.**

LADIES: You are cordially invited to attend our Spring Luncheon on Sunday, April 28th, at 1:00pm in Fellowship Hall. All ages are welcome! We are pleased to welcome Pam Washburn as our guest speaker.



START SAVING YOUR TREASURES
Saturday, May 18 9am-1pm

The United Women in Faith provide copies of the devotional The Upper Room. They are found on the table in the entry and also on the information table in the narthex. If you would like a large or small print copy and are unable to pick one up, call Sue in the office and she will be happy to mail you one.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

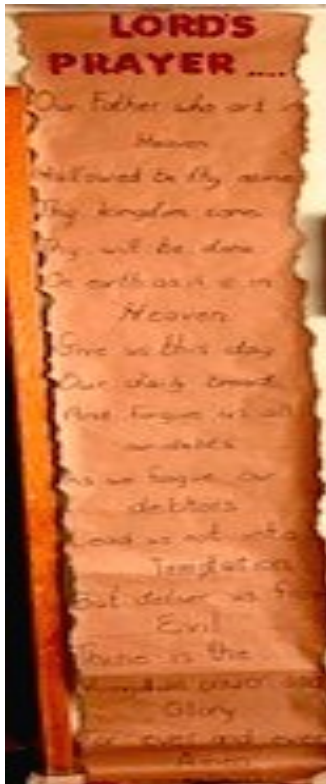
Submitted by Terry Walker

It has been a very busy month for our Sunday School. The older youth all went on an *Escape to Egypt* journey to protect baby Jesus from King Herod. We had to find clues to reveal our path of travel. Some clues were obtained by answering questions about Jesus, some were written in Braille, and one was even hidden deep inside an ice block! Everyone had lots of fun and we did indeed save the baby! We ended our journey by sharing a nice meal together.

We are all working on learning the Lord's Prayer and will soon learn a song entitled *The Lord's Prayer* by Matt Maher, with the help of Mr. Noyd.

On Palm Sunday the children reenacted Jesus with his donkey entering Jerusalem while palms were waved and cloaks were laid before him. We once again hosted our Little Lamb Lunch. Those who attended shared a delicious meal and fellowship together. There were creative Easter bonnets worn, several crafts, and an Easter egg hunt for the kids.

Stop by our classrooms and see the Lord's Prayer and the many drawings our children have made while learning about our Lord. Thank you to all the teachers who are dedicated to these young disciples!





CAMP REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Many wonderful opportunities await children and teens at Sky Lake this summer. Learn more at skylakecenter.org/summer-camp and register on line at skylake.campbrainregistration.com

The WUMC Women in Faith have monies available from the bottles and cans redemption program to assist with camp fees.

See Jill Skinner for information on how your children can attend camp. Apply now! And keep your cans and bottles coming—Bob Bennett truly does enjoy collecting them and bringing them to the can redemption center 😊

Rejuvenate Retreat May 3-5, 2024

Sky Lake Camp & Retreat Center is hosting a women's retreat on the first weekend in May. The theme of the retreat is “Let's Play, Find Joy in Each Day”. At the retreat, we will insert some fun and playfulness into our mindsets. Our leadership team is planning a weekend filled with “mild and wild” activities. You might hike in the woods, cozy up by the fire, make cheese from scratch, experience massage therapy, paint with watercolors, craft a Shrinky Dink trinket, laugh yourself silly with “Laughter-cise”, toss a corn hole bag, or learn a gardening skill. You'll set your own pace as you take time in solitude in the great outdoors or take time to join with other women for activities. You'll dine on delicious and healthy meals prepared by our foodservice team. This retreat is one of our “Ladies of the Lake” retreats. Learn more and reg-



Following the spirit through creation, adventure and restoration -
For those curious about wild church, come on up to Sky Lake and visit each Sunday afternoon at 4:00pm and see what Church in the Wild offers!
Everyone of all ages is invited.
John Muir said, "I'd rather be in the mountains thinking of God, than in church thinking about the mountains."

SPPR (Staff Pastor Parish Relations) Committee Update & Request

- Cindy Martin, SPPR Chair

On behalf of the SPPR Committee, I'd like to thank Blanche Birtch for serving as our Treasurer over the last 13 months. I'd also like to welcome Ellen McNulty to the role. Blanche is continuing to provide some support during this transition.

As SPPR considered the needs of the church, the committee recommended a change of software to the online version of Church Windows which has been approved by Church Council. This will allow us to support remote work and provide the additional security of cloud-based data management for our administrative records. This change does represent an added expense of approximately \$650 per year. SPPR will plan a fundraising event later in the year. If you would like to support this expense, donations are welcome. Please indicate "Church Windows" or "Software" in your memo line or plan to partake in the future event. More details to come on that.

We also recommended a separate e-mail address for the Treasurer. If you have a need to communicate with Ellen in her role as Treasurer, email Treasurerwumc2024@gmail.com

The current members of the WUMC SPPR committee are:

Cindy Martin, Pastor Ed, Carol Holland, Matt Williams, and members Bob Bennett, Kate Daum, Karen DePrato, Sheri Hotaling and Cindy Krager. All members serve a 3-year term.

Please reach out to any of the members with concerns and/or questions.

At our January SPPR meeting the following liaisons were updated for our paid staff and committee reps:

Pastor—Cindy Martin

Administrative Assistant—Karen Deprato

Music Director—Kate Daum

Custodian—Cindy Krager

Treasurer—Carol Holland

Finance Committee Rep—Cindy Martin

Parsonage Committee Rep—Bob Bennett

Opportunities to "Become the People of God Among Your Own People"

Lay Readers—If you can devote one Sunday every few months, please see Isi Jahn. Thank you to those who currently lead us in the service and read scripture on Sunday mornings.

Our God's Bread Food Pantry—We are asking for your help a few hours a week or month on Tuesdays to assist in the distribution of food to our pantry families. For more information, please contact Jill Skinner or Carol Carpenetti. The pantry is open from 8:00 am until noon.

Christian Education—if you are interested in becoming the Coordinator or even assist in the classrooms when the teachers are out, please see Pastor Ed.

There are other committees that your talents and information may be shared for our church. Let members of our Lay Leadership group know where you feel you may serve. A list of the WUMC Administrative Council and church care committees can be found on the narthex table.

Lay Leadership (Nominations committee) include Sue Bennett, Carol Carpenetti, Jill Skinner, Mary-Ann Waldron with the Pastor as chair.

MISSION OUTREACH

*In the same way let your light shine before people, so they can see the goods things you do and praise your Father who is in heaven.
Matthew 5:16*

Our church and its members offer and support several opportunities to provide for others through our talents, our time, our monetary gifts, and our donations of clothing, food, etc. Laurie Wightman, Missions chair, along with the other committee members, recently met and discussed a long list of ideas:

- ▶ A Jail Ministry has begun to collect clothing for inmate release. New and/or washed and gently used unisex sweatshirts, sweatpants are being collected, along with new t-shirts and socks. A collection box can be found in the narthex.
- ▶ Collection of items for UMCOR hygiene kits and specific feminine hygiene kits.
- ▶ Starting a “Dial a Ride” program to provide a ride to Sunday worship services and events.
- ▶ We will support the Red Bird Mission shoe boxes this year. Different items will be identified for collection at specific times through the year. Our goal is to send out 50 boxes this year.
- ▶ Our church will be assisting at the Monday free community meal at Fairview UMC on April 8th.
- ▶ Possibly participating in the Hunger Walk here in the Windsor community.
- ▶ Participating in Sky Lake Workdays that are both published and organized, as well as possibly having the youth of the church involved in other days.
- ▶ Would like to have a Project Homecoming event where all members, past and present, might come together and celebrate the life of our church.

More information about these upcoming projects will be available as we coordinate them. Your participation and/or ideas to share in any of these mission opportunities is always welcome. Please contact Laurie.

NOTE: MINUTES OF 2023 and JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2024 CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS CAN BE FOUND IN THE NOTEBOOK ON THE NARTHEX TABLE. IF YOU WISH A COPY E-MAILED OR PUT IN THE U.S. MAIL, PLEASE LET SUE KNOW. INCLUDED HERE ARE THE SPECIAL COUNCIL AND CHURCH CONFERENCE MINUTES.

SPECIAL SESSION of WUMC Church Council—February 5, 2024

Zoom meeting—in attendance: Matt Wightman, Laurie Wightman, Blanche Birtch, Sue Bennett, Pastor Ed Honrath, Cindy Martin, Sandy Dodd, Carol Holland, Jenna Amberge, and Jeannie Ditch.

Sue opened the session with prayer.

This meeting was called to allow those council members not in attendance at the February 4th meeting with Leon Wlazlo to hear his proposal regarding the Church Windows configuration.

Pastor Ed shared that Leon’s proposal would use Leon Wlazlo’s expertise and allow him access to work with the Treasurer, the Finance Team Chair, and any other staff member of the church during
. . .continued on pg. 7

SPECIAL SESSION February 5, 2024 WUMC Church Council continued. . .

scheduled hours to reorganize the Church Windows system so that our budgetary work could happen without any more difficulty and confusion within the system.

Question regarding a consultant's fee: *No, Leon would do this for free.* Also further clarification was needed for some council members to make a decision. If there were any concerns at all, they are to be taken to Pastor Ed for clarification and mediation.

Original Motion to Accept the proposal: Sandy Dodd. Second: Jeannie Ditch. Voting: Ayes-5; Carol Holland abstained.

Thank you to all for your willingness to have the discussion. Meeting adjourned with prayer by Pastor Ed.

Original Minutes submitted by Jenna Amberge, Council Secretary

Motion to accept Minutes submitted by Susan Bennett, Council Chair, following February 20 Council meeting: Matt Wightman motioned to approve as amended, Sandy Dodd seconded. All in favor.

Windsor United Methodist Church (WUMC)
56 Chapel St., PO Box 36, Windsor NY 13865
Special Church Conference—February 26, 2024

This special session of the church conference was scheduled by our DS, Rev. Bob Kolvik-Campbell to present the Resolution to Sell the church parsonage.

Present: The Rev. Bob Kolvik-Campbell, District Superintendant of the Binghamton/Oneonta District, Pastor Ed Honrath, the Rev. Ron Wenzinger (representing the District Committee on Buildings and Grounds), John McNulty, Chair of the WUMC Board of Trustees, and 40 members of the WUMC congregation.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm with Pastor Ed leading us in prayer.

Pastor Bob explained the voting rules that only professing members of the church are able to cast a vote. He handed out the document *Church Conference Resolution To Sell the Parsonage of the Windsor United Methodist Church*. He presented and read each of the 7 resolutions. Items 5 and 6 referenced the 2016 United Methodist Book of Discipline with regard to consent of the District Board of Church Building and Location and the Binghamton DS, along with the Restriction on Proceeds of Mortgage or Sale. A copy of the resolution document accompanies these minutes.

Also presented to the members by John McNulty, was a summary of the Offer to Purchase the property at 25 Academy St., Windsor NY. This summary detailed the terms of the purchase and the pending offer of \$140,000 with a final balance at closing. John explained that the final contract would then go through the attorney general's office. We will also need to hire our own lawyer (approx. \$2,000), which John has secured. This document also accompanies these minutes.

The floor was open for questions:

1. Explain the circumstances for which the monies from the sale can be used. Described in the Book of Discipline paragraph 2543 as referenced above.

Pastor Bob explained that a housing allowance is provided to any future pastor who may need housing. Church Council's task will be to discuss and create a plan for this.

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Page 2 WUMC Special Church Conference re the sale of the parsonage

There is a parsonage with the Sanitaria Springs UMC, which allowed the conference to consider its decision to approve the sale of ours.

2. If our donations and Sunday School attendance are increasing, why wouldn't we be favoring a FT pastor in the future?

Pastor Ed provided a document as requested by Council outlining the attendance and income from 2018 through 2023. It is unlikely we will afford a FT pastor based on current attendance, donations received and our income.

3. Income rental vs. what we can spend the monies received from the sale. Why can't we keep renting the property?

John McNulty explained that the repairs are extensive and the church cannot afford to pay for them. Expenses to keep it heated, etc. when it was empty were more than expected. It needs an entire new roof, and both porches are in need of extensive repairs. The current tenant has not asked for much and has and is willing to take care of many minor repairs with Trustee approval.

Pastor Bob re-emphasized having a plan in place to establish housing for an incoming pastor's need.

John also mentioned that the Board of Trustees feel their concentration is focused on keeping our church building and grounds in good repair and energy efficient.

4. A member asked why the roof replacement cost is so high. Pastor Ed again explained the repair costs vs. the monies available to do said repairs.

Pastor Ron explained the decision that the Committee on Housing and Grounds has heard based on our situation and is supportive of this decision. He also assured us that they are a good support resource.

After hearing from several other members regarding not living in the "what if's", but to move forward and continue with our discipleship making, Pastor Bob led us in prayer.

Voting by the professing members was counted by Pastor Ed and Pastor Ron by raising of hands with the following results: Those In favor of selling the parsonage = 34 Those not in favor = 4

The Resolution to Sell the Parsonage was accepted and the Trustees can proceed with the contract offer.

Pastor Ron led a Benediction.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted: Susan Bennett, Windsor UMC Recording Secretary



APRIL 21

PRAISE SERVICE

5:30 Share a light supper fellowship

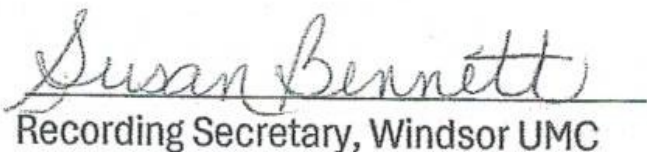
6:30 Service begins

Church Conference Resolution
To Sell the Parsoange

Windsor United Methodist Church
26 February 2024

1. Whereas the Windsor United Methodist Church received permission from the Bishop and Cabinet of Upper New York Annual Conference to place the Windsor UMC parsonage for sale, and
2. Whereas the Parsonage is not being used to house the pastor serving the church at this time, and
3. Whereas an offer to buy the Windsor UMC Parsonage has been received and reviewed by the pastor and the Board of Trustees of the church, and they believe it is a viable offer for the parsonage, and
4. Whereas the Board of Trustees and the Church Conference of the Windsor UMC have evaluated the offer, and
5. Whereas the Board of Trustees and the Church Conference of the Windsor United Methodist Church understand and will comply the process, outlined in paragraph 2539 and paragraph 2541 of the 2016 United Methodist Book of Discipline which includes consent of the District Board of Church Building and Location and consent of the Binghamton District Superintendent, and
6. Whereas the Board of Trustees and the Church Conference of the Windsor United Methodist Church understand and will comply with paragraph 2543 of the 2016 United Methodist Book of Discipline, regarding Restriction on Proceeds of Mortgage or Sale,
7. THEREFORE, the Church Conference approves the sale of the Parsonage of the Windsor United Methodist Church and directs the Board of Trustees to proceed under the aforementioned paragraphs of the 2016 United Methodist Book of Discipline, outlining the process and limitations on the proceeds of said sale.


District Superintendent


Recording Secretary, Windsor UMC

Board of Trustees Report of the Work In 2023—reported by Geri Tow, Trustee Treasurer

2023 Officers: Chairman, John McNulty: Vice Chairman, Norm Quinn: Secretary, Keith Royer: Treasurer, Geri Tow; other members: Tom Birtch, Bob Bode, Matt Wightman.

The parsonage was rented to Amy Willett with the approval of the church council in February.

Replacement of the electrical system of the church was required because there had been significant water damage over the course of time.

The trustees explored the possibility of installing Mitsubishi heat pumps for heating and cooling the church to supplement the boiler. This provides an environmentally improved and less expensive option for the church. With the church council approval, they secured funding from the Sherwood Trust/Wilmington Advisors at M&T Bank for \$26,000. With the help of Matt Wightman, the cost of the four H21 heat pumps were greatly reduced. Two heat pumps are installed in the sanctuary, one heat pump in fellowship hall and one heat pump in the nursery section of the building. John McNulty and Matt Wightman supervised the installation.

The carpet was professionally cleaned in fellowship hall and the narthex.

A walk through of the parsonage was completed along with the SPPR committee and the appropriate form was submitted to Conference.

September school taxes for the parsonage were paid from the parsonage rental account. The renter has informed us that she is eager to purchase the house and the church council has approved the sale. The District Superintendant has informed us that there is a process which we need to follow for this to happen. He also stated that the proceeds from the sale of the Parsonage cannot be used for general operating. Only and of the interest from the proceeds is available to the church.

Some patching was done on the parking lot where most needed. The parking lot is in need of additional repairs in the future should funds become available.

The trustees decided that outside doors have deteriorated to the point that they needed to be replaced. The doors have been repaired with metal plates in the past. The estimate for the 10 double doors and two single doors is \$35,301. After some discussion and approval by church council, the request was made to the Sherwood Trust/Wilmington Advisors at M&T bank trust fund. The doors have been ordered at a lesser cost than we expected and they will be replaced as soon as they arrive.

We have been evaluating the assets of the church for insurance purposes and will soon have a report.

Many repairs have been completed over the course of the year by members of the Trustees Committee, to keep the building in good shape and we can all be thankful for their efforts.

The trustees have worked on a budget for 2024 with the hope that the most expensive projects are behind us.

Report from Matt Wightman, WUMC Board of Trustee Member

Last winter 2022-2023, we were primarily heating the church with fuel oil and keeping the unoccupied temperatures set around 50F to 55F. At that temperature we still used over 1200 gallons of fuel oil for the winter. For the 2023-2024 winter based on the fuel oil usage the previous winter, Mirabito recommended pre buying 1200 gallons of fuel oil at \$4.20 a gallon. This would amount to \$5,040.00 worth of oil. This year we used the 4 heat pumps for as much heating as possible. During extremely cold

...continued on page 10

Report from Matt Wightman continued.....

weather we supplemented with some oil to raise the temperature. According to the gauge on the tank we have used just under 1/4 of a 275 gallon tank or approximately 68.75 gallons. This would amount to \$288.67. As of 3/28 we have used 17,478 kWh of electricity to run the heat pumps. At an average of approximately \$.15 per kWh. We have used approximately \$2,621.70 for heat pump operation.

We have maintained the church at a minimum of 65 degrees which makes it more comfortable when typically unoccupied. So far this is a significant savings over what we would have spent for heat this winter. We are continuing to monitor and find ways to minimize the use of resistance electric heat on the Sunday School and office side.

Windsor First United Methodist Church

**TAKEOUT BBQ
FRIDAY, APRIL 26**



**CHICKEN DINNER
PRESALE ONLY**

Each dinner includes 1/2 chicken, baked potato **OR**
Mac n cheese, coleslaw, a homemade cookie all in a takeout
compartment tray.

\$15

<https://forms.gle/zVHqYxkRXs3UbC94A>

***PRE-ORDER by Friday, April 19 by using the link or
calling the church at (607) 655-1791.***

*Cash or check only
(payable to FUMC Windsor)*

Pickup Friday, April 26 between 4:30-6:00pm from
church parking lot off Chapel and Academy Streets.

Thank you for supporting our church!