



# *The Church Bell*

*Newtonville United Methodist Church*

568 Loudon Road, P.O. Box 7

Newtonville, NY 12128

(corner of Loudon & Maxwell Roads)

518-785-6789

January-February 2023

Happy New Year!

I'd like to begin with a personal thank you on behalf of myself and my family, for the generous Christmas gift that was given to us this year. We are so thankful for all of the ways that this congregation blesses us, and your generosity during this season is most appreciated!

I would also like to thank each of you, on behalf of the three families from Troy that our church cared for this Christmas. Due to your generosity, we provided funds for a Christmas meal, and gifts for each family member. I know that each family was blessed by your giving, and that both children and adults alike were able to have a beautiful Christmas this year. A special thanks to Karin for creating our tags and creating the tree! And thanks to Joy for finding us the families, and then sorting and delivering the gifts.

This Spring our church has some exciting and important tasks before us. We have already begun, and will continue to discuss ways to educate ourselves around the sin of racism, and to look for ways for NUMC to respond to racism that surrounds us with real and tangible methods for putting an end to it. We also will deeply engage in conversation and make concrete plans to increase our welcome to our LGBTQ siblings in Christ. If you have a desire and feel called to work with either of these two ministry opportunities, please see me at your convenience.

Please join us on Sunday January 8, immediately after worship for a pot luck, and a Celebration of Ministry for 2022. I will share ministry highlights from last year, some goals and plans for 2023, and Eric will share this year's budget and provide an opportunity for the congregation to ask any questions. Please sign up in the lounge if you are planning to come, so that we make sure we have enough food for lunch. I look forward to seeing you there. We have much to celebrate here at NUMC!

See you in church!  
Pastor Nick

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Keep in touch with  
Pastor Nick - call or text  
his cell phone:  
**(443) 813-7584**  
or email him:  
**pastornickbufano@  
gmail.com**

***The Mission of Newtonville United Methodist Church is to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ  
and to be God's love with our neighbors in all places.***

# News and Notes

## A CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY

Please plan to stay after worship for a potluck lunch and "A Celebration of Ministry" on Sunday, January 8th.

We will recap what was discussed at our Church Conference held in November at Trinity UMC and Eric Jensen will be able to present our complete fiscal wellness report of 2022 and our new budget for 2023.

A sign-up sheet will be placed in the lounge for the potluck luncheon. Everyone is welcome to attend!

## RED BIRD MISSION DRIVE 2022

*Thanks* to the many people who purchased, packed and labeled the Red Bird Mission shoe boxes and to the Prayer Shawl Ministry participants who knit and crocheted all year to provide gifts for the people served by the Red Bird Mission in Beverly, Kentucky.



In November, Newtonville United Methodist Church delivered 18 Christmas shoe boxes and 63 sets of hats, mittens and scarves to Calvary UMC to begin the trek to Red Bird Mission in Beverly, Kentucky - the most comprehensive mission in the United Methodist Church, providing outreach and services including health care, education, spiritual, social, and economic assistance.

## CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church Council meeting, scheduled for November, was postponed until January. Watch for the exact Tuesday in the Weekly Church Update.

## TRUSTEES

Trustees will meet **January 9** and **February 6** at 6:30pm.

## SUPPORT THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN UKRAINE

United Methodists and others wishing to provide humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people in the wake of the Russian invasion of their country may contribute to Advance #982450, UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery. This fund will provide direct assistance to those in Ukraine as well as assistance to Ukrainians fleeing to neighboring countries.

Gifts to support the people of Ukraine can be made in the following ways:

- Online at <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/982450>
- By toll-free telephone: 888-252-6174
- By check made out to Global Ministries/UMCOR with "Advance #982450-Ukraine" written on the memo line, either mailed and addressed to Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY, 10087-9068 or given at or through any United Methodist church

One hundred percent of all Advance contributions go to the designated cause.

The United Methodist community in Ukraine, though quite small, is actively engaged in assisting neighbors in need. Global Ministries is in touch with the church's leadership as well as with church leaders in countries welcoming those who are fleeing from violence in Ukraine.

## FINANCE

The Finance Committee will meet on **Tuesday January 31, 2023 at 6:30pm.**

## NIGHT TO SHINE EVENT

After a two year break due to Covid-19, Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Albany is once again hosting a Night To Shine event. On February 10, 2023, Our Savior's will join more than 700 other host churches in the world serving more than 100,000 special needs guests for a very special evening, an unforgettable prom night experience. Night To Shine will be held in all 50 states and 20 countries - all on February 10, 2023. In the past we at Newtonville United Methodist Church have been supporting this event with donations for corsages and gifts for the guests. If you'd like to donate, Sandy Rivenburg is collecting donations, accepting both cash and checks. If you'd like to make out a check, please make it out to Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Thank you for your support. If you are interested in volunteering at the event, see <https://www.oslalbany.com/night-to-shine>

## USCRI (United States Committee for Refugees and Immigrants) SEEKING FURNITURE DONATIONS

The **USCRI** Albany Field Office has welcomed more than 4,500 newcomers to Albany, New York since 2005. Refugees resettled in Albany come primarily from Afghanistan, Burma, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Iraq and Syria.

Newly arrived refugees receive a comprehensive set of services including housing placement, cultural orientation, school enrollment, coordination of initial health appointments, referrals to ESL classes and employment preparation and placement.

*Newtonville United Methodist Church is a furniture donation site for USCRI. Items in great need are twin and double beds (not king or queen sized), tables and chairs, sofas, living room chairs, area carpets, lamps, end tables and coffee tables. You may contact our office with questions or donations.*

## OUTREACH - CAPITAL CITY RESCUE MISSION

Newtonville United Methodist Church is doing an outreach program for the Capital City Rescue Mission. We have volunteered to serve dinner on the 2nd Monday of each month from 5:00 – 7:30pm.

Five volunteers are needed each month to serve the guests. Young volunteers must be at least 16 years old and accompanied by an adult. Parking is available across from the Mission in a closed DMV parking lot; or meet at NUMC to car pool.

Mandatory: face masks, hair net, gloves and apron, which are all part of what the Mission supplies to the volunteers.

Please contact me if you are interested in this program or have any questions: Gail Cotler, 518-441-4853 phone/text or [gailcotler@gmail.com](mailto:gailcotler@gmail.com).

## NUMC LITTLE FOOD PANTRY

NUMC continues to supply our community with food and essential supplies even during the winter months.

*With the cold weather upon us, we have suspended collecting canned goods.*

We ask instead that you consider donating the following: crackers, cookies, rice meals, macaroni and cheese, hot chocolate, pasta, dried fruit, tea/coffee, popcorn, beef jerky, snacks, baking mixes, dried soup mixes, powdered milk, dried beans, pancake mix, instant potatoes, bar soap and cereal.

Any questions or concerns may be sent to Pam Palmer at [ppalmer55@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ppalmer55@nycap.rr.com)

# Celebrations!

## January Birthdays

4 - David Pe'rez  
6 - Laura Romania  
9 - Erica Buda Doran  
11 - Judy Mills  
13 - Trevor Elmendorf  
14 - Nastia Elmendorf  
23 - Claire Romania  
31 - Mark Olstad

## February Birthdays

4 - Joan Jensen  
9 - Michelle Hogan  
12 - Jim Moras  
12 - Monika King  
13 - Sandy Rivenburg  
21 - David Pe'rez Jr  
24 - Griffin King  
24 - Chloe Palmer

## OPEN MIC NIGHT AT NUMC

An inclusive invitation to showcase and express our many talents; be it a song or dance, reciting a poem or cracking some jokes. All are welcome to both participate and watch! Join us in the Fellowship Hall on **Friday, January 27th at 6:30pm**. For more details and to sign-up contact Alyssa at [numcyouthandfamilies@gmail.com](mailto:numcyouthandfamilies@gmail.com).

## 2023 NUMC GARAGE SALE

### *Mark your calendar!*

The 2023 garage sale has been scheduled for Saturday, April 22, 2023. *We will start accepting donations on Monday, April 10.*

Diane Davison has retired as garage sale chairperson, but many folks have already stepped up and taken responsibility for a department.

The department chairs will all need help organizing and pricing the two weeks prior to the sale

Please contact Kathy Franklin by [email: auntiedoll@earthlink.net](mailto:auntiedoll@earthlink.net) if you can help.



# Keeping Our Promises

Prayers ~ Presence ~ Gifts ~ Service ~ Witness



## In Our Prayers

### PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayers for **Tina Sheridan** as she remains at Albany Medical Center (cards are appreciated); **Kathy Maker** recovering a fractured hip; **Beth**, a friend and neighbor of Diane Davison; **Karen Smith** as she recovers from injuries from a car accident; those dealing with health issues; **Bill Smith, Bill Rainbolt, Sally Coonley, Barb Rasmussen, Piper Toby, Eleanor Loos, Pat Loz, Christopher Biggs, Stephanie Sherman, Ann Crocker Lawton, Susan C.**; those dealing with addiction and those struggling to manage anxiety and fight depression. *Contact the office to add or remove a prayer request.*

### JANUARY - FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS:

**Usher Rotation** Bill Smith and Art Bowen Head Ushers

January 1: Bob Kircher and Tom Assimon

January 8: Clifton Fowles and Geoff Whittle

January 15: Liz and David McGeough-Gamache

January 22: Nancy Goddard

January 29: Bob Kircher and Tom Assimon

February 5: Geoff Whittle and Clifton Fowles

February 12: Liz and David McGeough-Gamache

February 19: Nancy Goddard

February 26: Bob Kircher and Tom Assimon

### **Worship Assistant Rotation**

Jan 1: Joan Jensen

Jan 8: Pam LaCasio

Jan 15: Kaylee Spendiff

Jan 22: Wendy Spendiff

Jan 29: Charles Bonsu

Feb 5: Gary Thompson

Feb 12: Sandy Rivenburg

Feb 19: Liz McGeough-Gamache

Feb 26: Frank Essien

## Our Gifts for October November 2022

Average Undesignated Income needed per 2 months <b>\$35,880</b>	
Pledges	\$20,391
Plate	\$213
Festival	\$2,003
Preschool	\$4,907
Building Rent	\$1,200
Bottle return	\$20
Brooks BBQ	\$2,697
Misc	\$3,397
<b>Undesignated Income total:</b>	<b>\$34,828</b>
<b>Designated Funds</b>	
Building Fund	\$3,182
DS Mission	\$200
World Communion	\$306
U Methodist Student Day	\$285
Little Food Pantry	\$1,000
UMCOR Hurricane Relief	\$1,000

## FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

Offerings can be mailed to the office, either in your regular offering envelopes or marked "Attn: Kathy Franklin" to P.O. Box 7, Newtonville, NY 12128.

The GivePlus app is another option that can be downloaded to either iPhone or Android. Simply search by zip code 12128.

For electronic giving on a regular basis, please contact the church office and we will put Kathy in touch with you to set that up through Vanco.

We sincerely appreciate your continued financial support.

# January

# 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	2	3	4	5	6	7
New Year's Day office closed 10:00am Worship 6:00pm AA	Office closed 6:00pm AA 6:00pm Girl Scouts	10:00am Banjo Band 6:00pm AA 6:30pm RCA	6:00pm AA 7:00pm Bible Study	10:00am TOPS 5:30pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm BSA PLC meeting	Epiphany	
	9	10	11	12	13	14
10:00am Worship 11:00am Celebration of Ministry 6:00pm AA	1:00pm Prayer Shawl 6:00pm AA 6:30pm Trustees mtg	6:00pm AA 6:00pm SOS 7:00pm BSA Meeting	6:00pm AA 7:00pm Bible Study	10:00am TOPS 5:30pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm BSA Comm. mtg		10:00am Sewing Guild
	16	17	18	19	20	21
10:00am Worship 6:00pm AA	Martin Luther King Jr. Day Office closed No Preschool 6:00pm AA 6:00pm Girl Scouts	10:00am Banjo Band 6:00pm AA 6:30pm RCA	6:00pm AA 7:00pm Bible Study	10:00am TOPS 5:30pm Girl Scouts		
	23	24	25	26	27	28
10:00am Worship 6:00pm AA	1:00pm Prayer Shawl 6:00pm AA	6:00pm AA	6:00pm AA 7:00pm Bible Study	10:00am TOPS 5:30pm Girl Scouts	6:30pm Open Mike Night	
	30	31				
10:00am Worship 6:00pm AA	6:00pm AA 6:00pm Girl Scouts	6:00pm AA 6:30 Finance Meeting				

# February

# 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:00pm AA <b>7:00pm Bible Study</b>	2 10:00am TOPS 5:30pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm BSA PLC meeting	3	4
10:00am Worship 6:00pm AA	6 6:00pm AA <b>6:30pm Trustees meeting</b>	7 10:00am Banjo Band 6:00pm AA 6:30pm RCA	8 6:00pm AA <b>7:00pm Bible Study</b>	9 10:00am TOPS 5:30pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm BSA Comm. mtg	10	11 10:00am Sewing Guild
1 10:00am Worship 6:00pm AA	13 1:00pm Prayer Shawl 6:00pm AA 6:00pm Girl Scouts	14 Valentine's Day 6:00pm AA 6:00pm SOS	15 6:00pm AA <b>7:00pm Bible Study</b>	16 10:00am TOPS 5:30pm Girl Scouts	17	18
1 10:00am Worship 6:00pm AA	20 No Preschool Presidents' Day 6:00pm AA	21 10:00am Banjo Band 6:00pm AA 6:30pm RCA	22 7:00pm Ash Wednesday 6:00pm AA <b>7:00pm Bible Study</b>	23 10:00am TOPS 5:30pm Girl Scouts	24	25
2 10:00am Worship 6:00pm AA	27 1:00pm Prayer Shawl 6:00pm AA 6:00pm Girl Scouts	28 6:00pm AA				

### Calendar At-a-Glance

#### January Calendar

2 – Office Closed  
4 – Bible Study via ZOOM 7pm  
8 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Heat offering  
9 – Trustees meeting 6:30pm  
9 – Prayer Shawl 1pm, room 10  
11 – Bible Study via ZOOM 7pm  
15 – Human Relations Sunday UMCOR  
16 – Office Closed  
18 – Bible Study via ZOOM 7pm  
23 – Prayer Shawl 1pm, room 10  
25 – Bible Study via ZOOM 7pm  
27 – Open Mic Night 6:30pm FH

#### February Calendar

1 – Bible Study via ZOOM 7pm  
6 – Trustees meeting 6:30pm  
8 – Bible Study via ZOOM 7pm  
12 – Heat Offering  
13 – Prayer Shawl 1pm, room 10  
15 – Bible Study via ZOOM 7pm  
22 – Ash Wednesday 7pm  
27 – Prayer Shawl 1pm, room 10

Join us!  
Bring a  
friend,  
Invite a  
neighbor

**Pastor** Rev. Dr. Nick Bufano  
**Music Director** Brandon Malowski  
**Administrative Asst.** Karin Wheatley  
**Youth and Family Ministries .** Alyssa Dessingue  
**Custodian** Richard Bryant  
**Preschool Director** Fiza Rohail  
**Office Hours** 12pm – 3pm  
**Telephone** 518-785-6789  
**Email** [NewtonvilleUMC@gmail.com](mailto:NewtonvilleUMC@gmail.com)  
**Website** [www.numc.net](http://www.numc.net)  
**Facebook Group** "Newtonville United Methodist Church"

**Office Hours: Mon., Wed., & Thurs**  
**12pm – 3pm**

**Live & Videos of worship services**  
**can be found online at**

**[www.facebook.com/groups/newtonville](https://www.facebook.com/groups/newtonville)**

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**Return Service Requested**

First Class  
Postage  
Required