



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 2024

Happy New Year NUMC!

Wow, what a year of incredible ministry and growth we had in 2023! First, I would like to thank the amazing church staff that make it all possible. Thanks to Karin for keeping the office running so smoothly, and for all of the work she does behind the scenes. Thanks to Brandon for the beautiful music he shares with us during our Sunday worship. Thanks to Stephanie for so creatively and confidently leading our Sunday School, youth, and family programs. Many thanks to Olga and Daria, our new custodians, who work so diligently to keep our building organized and clean. I am also thankful to the Church Council, Trustees, and Finance Team who all work so hard to support the ministry work we do here at Newtonville. I want to thank the amazing SPRC committee who all care so well for the all of the staff and myself, as we work to move NUMC confidently into the future. Thanks to all! I couldn't do my work as pastor without all of you. As a personal note of thanks on behalf of the staff, I want to thank you, the congregation, for the generous Christmas gifts that you offered us this year. Thank you!

As we move into 2024 together, we can do so confidently and faithfully, knowing that God has great plans for NUMC, as we continue to grow both numerically, financially, and spiritually. I am excited to see all of the great ministry we we do together this coming year. Please know that each of you remain in my prayers, and I ask that you pray for my family and myself as well. Happy New Year!

Peace,
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

NIGHT TO SHINE

On **February 9, 2024**, Our Savior's Church in Albany will once again be hosting *Night to Shine*, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation.

Night to Shine is an unforgettable prom night experience centered on God's love for people with special needs. The event is expected to serve more than 100,000 people with special needs through 200,000 volunteers and 700 host churches in all 50 states and in 20 countries around the world.

In the past, we at NUMC have donated to help provide corsages and boutonnieres for guests. If you'd like to donate, checks should be made payable to Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Cash donations will also be accepted.

Sandy Rivenburg plans to once again volunteer as a buddy. See her if you have questions. Thank you!!

Sandy

FOOD PANTRY

The pantry continues to be a vital ministry.

Donations are always welcome and thank you to all those who so faithfully give so that others will not be hungry.

Just a reminder that we are in the cold season so no cans or glass things that will freeze and pop should go in the outside pantry until Spring please.

The sign-up sheet to help with the pantry is in the coffee hour room.

Items to fill the pantry can be found on the shelves in the kitchen and in the non-cold silver refrigerator in the hall.

Please email me at any time with questions, concerns or suggestions. Ahummingbird@yahoo.com

Thanks, Cheryl Assimon

RECONCILING MINISTRIES INITIATIVE

After worship on Sunday, January 7, 2024, Ethan McGeough-Gamache will share his journey as a member of the LGBTQAI+ community. It will include a time for questions for Ethan, Pastor Nick, and the Reconciling Ministries Task Force members with 3x5 cards available, should anyone want to ask their question(s) in writing.

The official vote to become a reconciling congregation will be taken directly after worship on Sunday, January 21, 2024 for all active members. If you are unable to be present for the vote, please contact a member of the Reconciling Ministries Task Force for an advance ballot.

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."
(Luke 10:27)

The Reconciling Ministries Task Force

Nancy Goddard

Liz McGeough-Gamache

Kingsley Osei

Stefanie Perez

Sandy Stevenson

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE AT NUMC

January 2024

- Great location: Rt. 9 and Maxwell Rd, Newtonville.
- Ample parking.
- 162 sq ft. with plentiful natural light
- Private access
- 1st floor location.
- Clean communal restrooms.
- Kitchen privileges.
- Heat & electricity included.
- Snow removal & lawn care

Inquiries to:

Brian Hayes (518)791-9454 or

Donna Buda (518)577-5797

TRUSTEES AT WORK

Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, **to care for the church of God**, which he obtained with his own blood. ACTS 20:28

As the new chairperson for the Trustees Committee, I realize what a huge responsibility this position presents. I want to express my thanks to all the former Trustee committee members for their dedication to the upkeep of our church, parsonage, and cottage. We have been working diligently to follow in their footsteps.

Carpets in room 5, 10, Pre-K and the Grace Lounge have been cleaned. A new carpet has been installed in room 4. The broken water fountain by the Pre-K room has been removed and a new door to access the piping has been constructed. The Grace Krauss Lounge has two new 10-foot heat registers. An egress window on the upper floor of the cottage has been installed along with a new furnace. Finally, our church bells are fixed and ringing again!

Thank you to the congregation for your contributions to help make these preventive maintenance projects possible.

It is an honor to work alongside many talented dedicated people to keep our historical building, built in 1893, preserved for generations to come.

In Peace,
Donna M. Buda
Chair of Trustees

NEWTONVILLE PRESCHOOL

Registrations for the **2024-2025 school year** begins in **January**. Know of someone that has young children? Or a family that has moved into the area? Openings are available for three- and four-year-old morning programs. Please spread the word to family, neighbors, friends and colleagues with young children. Contact Fiza Rohail at 783-1976 and visit our website at newtonvillepreschool.weebly.com

2024 BROOKS BARBECUE

For 2024 we have decided to do 4 barbecues rather than 5. This will have no significant impact on our profit as we are increasing the price of a chicken dinner by \$2. A chicken dinner will cost \$15. Everyone else in the area has already been charging \$15 or more.

The **2024 dates** are:

Thursday May 9

Thursday, June 6

Thursday, September 12

Thursday, October 3

2024 NUMC GARAGE SALE

Mark your calendar!

The 2024 garage sale has been scheduled for Saturday, April 20.

We will start accepting donations on Monday, April 8.

Many folks have already stepped up and taken responsibility for a department.

Looking for someone to be in charge of the furniture 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.

CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church Council meeting will meet on Tuesday, **January 9 at 7PM** (*change of date*) in the Grace Krauss Lounge.

FINANCE

The Finance Committee will meet on **Tuesday January 2 at 6:30pm** in Room 4.

TRUSTEES

Trustees will meet **January 8 and February 5 at 6:30pm**

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

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY

Please plan to stay after worship on **January 21st** for a soup and bread potluck lunch and our yearly Celebration of Ministry meeting of Newtonville Church.

We will recap the discussions and plans made at our annual conference in October, review the **budget** for 2024 and *hold our Reconciling Vote*. All members are encouraged to attend and participate. Everyone is invited!

CHURCH FAMILY OUTREACH

Since the pre-Thanksgiving pot luck was such a huge success, we (Gail and I) have decided during the winter months it would be nice to have a get togethers after church in January (Celebration of Ministry), February and March. Watch for those dates.

Get out your favorite soup recipes and join us for fellowship, meeting new and old friends.

If making soup doesn't work for you, consider bringing a dessert to share. There will be a signup sheet in the lounge, so we know how many tables we will need. Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend.



Keeping Our Promises

Prayers ~ Presence ~ Gifts ~ Service ~ Witness



In Our Prayers

PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayers for **Beth**, a friend and neighbor of Diane Davison; those dealing with health issues; **Kathy Maker, Bill Smith, Bill Rainbolt, Barb Rasmussen, Piper Toby, 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 Art Bowen Head Usher

Jan 7: Geoff Whittle and Clifton Fowles
Jan 14: Tom Assimon and Wendy Spendiff
Jan 21: Liz and David McGeough–Gamache
Jan 28: Nancy Goddard and Gail Cotler

Feb 4: Clifton Fowles and Geoff Whittle
Feb 11: Tom Assimon and Wendy Spendiff
Feb 18: Liz and David McGeough–Gamache
Feb 25: Nancy Goddard and Gail Cotler

Worship Assistant Rotation

Jan 7: Sandy Rivenburg
Jan 14: Kaylee Spendiff
Jan 21: Wendy Spendiff
Jan 28: Kathy Maker

Feb 4: Frank Essien
Feb 11: Joan Jensen
Feb 18: Pam LaCasio
Feb 25: Charles Bonsu

Our Gifts October & November 2023

Average Undesignated Income needed for 2 months \$37,330	
Pledges	\$19,986
Plate	\$1,416
Youth Coordinator	\$2,250
Preschool	\$4,886
Building Rent	\$1,200
Brooks BBQ	\$2,728
Initial Offering	\$5
Festival	\$2488
Heat	10
Undesignated Income total:	\$35,214
Designated Funds	
Building Fund	2,942
DS Mission	\$200
Little Food Pantry	\$270
Youth/Children	\$477
World Communion	\$477
UM Student Day	\$485

FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

Offerings can be mailed to the office, either in your regular offering envelopes or marked "Attn: Financial Secretary" 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 get in touch with you to set that up through Vanco.

We sincerely appreciate your continued financial support.

January

2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year's Day office closed 6:00pm AA	2 10:00am Banjo Band 6:00pm AA 6:30pm Finance Meeting 6:30pm RCA 7:00pm LC Square Dancers	3 6:00pm AA 7:00pm Bible Study	4 10:00am TOPS 7:00pm BSA PLC meeting	5	6
7 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Church 11:00 Conversation with Ethan 6:00pm AA	8 1:00pm Prayer Shawl 6:00pm AA 6:30pm Trustees meeting	9 6:00pm AA 6:00pm SOS 7:00pm Church Council 7:00pm LC Square Dancers	10 6:00pm AA 7:00pm Bible Study	11 10:00am TOPS 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm BSA Comm Meeting	12	13 10:00am Sewing Guild
14 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Church 6:00pm AA	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day No Preschool 6:00pm AA	16 10:00am Banjo Band 6:00pm AA 6:30pm RCA 7:00pm LC Square Dancers	17 6:00pm AA 7:00pm Bible Study	18 10:00am TOPS	19	20
21 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Church 11:00am Celebration of Ministry, Reconciling Vote 6:00pm AA	22 1:00pm Prayer Shawl 6:00pm AA	23 6:00pm AA 7:00pm LC Square Dancers	24 6:00pm AA 7:00pm Bible Study	25 10:00am TOPS 6:00pm Girl Scouts	26	27
28 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Church 6:00pm AA	29 6:00pm AA	30 6:00pm AA 7:00pm LC Square Dancers	31 6:00pm AA 7:00pm Bible Study			

February

2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 First Day of Black History Month 10:00am TOPS 7:00pm BSA PLC meeting	2	3
4 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Church 6:00pm AA	5 6:00pm AA 6:30pm Trustees meeting	6 10:00am Banjo Band 6:00pm AA 6:30pm RCA 7:00pm LC Square Dancers	7 6:00pm AA 7:00pm Bible Study	8 10:00am TOPS 6:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm BSA Comm Meeting	9	10 10:00am Sewing Guild
11 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Church 6:00pm AA	12 1:00pm Prayer Shawl 6:00pm AA	13 6:00pm AA 6:00pm SOS 7:00pm LC Square Dancers	14 Ash Wednesday Service 6:00pm AA	15 10:00am TOPS	16	17
18 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Church 6:00pm AA	19 No Preschool Presidents' Day 6:00pm AA	20 10:00am Banjo Band 6:00pm AA 6:30pm RCA 7:00pm LC Square Dancers	21 6:00pm AA 7:00pm Bible Study	22 10:00am TOPS	23	24
25 10:00 Worship 10:15 Children's Church 6:00pm AA	26 1:00pm Prayer Shawl 6:00pm AA	27 6:00pm AA 7:00pm LC Square Dancers	28 6:00pm AA 7:00pm Bible Study	29 10:00am TOPS 6:00pm Girl Scouts		

Calendar At-a-Glance

January Calendar

1 – Office Closed Happy New Year!
2 – Finance meeting 6:30p
3 – Bible Study 7pm via ZOOM
8 – Trustees meeting 6:30pm
9 – Church Council 7pm
10 – Bible Study 7pm via ZOOM
14 – Human Relations Sunday and Heat Offering
15 – Office Closed
17 – Bible Study 7pm via ZOOM
21 – Celebration of Ministry, Lunch, Reconciling Vote
22 – Prayer Shawl 1pm, room 10

February Calendar

5 – Trustees meeting 6:30pm
7 – Bible Study 7pm via ZOOM
11 – Heat Offering
12 – Prayer Shawl 1pm, room 10
14 – Ash Wednesday Service
21 – Bible Study 7pm via ZOOM
26 – 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	Stephanie Ramkison
Custodian	Olga & Daria Zhukorsha
Preschool Director	Fiza Rohail
Office Hours	12pm – 3pm M, W, Th
Telephone	518-785-6789
Email	NewtonvilleUMC@gmail.com
Website	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

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Return Service Requested

First Class
Postage
Required