



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

September October 2023

Hello NUMC! Please read a message from our new Coordinator of Youth and Family Ministries!

Hello! My name is Stephanie Aleceia Ramkissoon, and I am thrilled to step into my new role as the Coordinator of Youth and Family Ministries at Newtonville Methodist Church. Over the past few years, Newtonville United Methodist has been my home base as I pursued my education at Siena College. Now, I am thrilled to return in a new capacity.

At the age of 2, I immigrated to the United States with my parents from Guyana. Since we arrived, my family and I were active members in a local church called Shiloh. Despite its small size, Shiloh was a fruitful congregation with the youth group never exceeding more than 10 kids. I sang in the church choir for over a decade, performed on the piano and violin during every Christmas celebration, acted in church plays, and even delivered sermons. Around age 17, when our church's pastor passed away, I was called upon to step in as a substitute preacher. For six months, I deepened my faith by delivering weekly sermons on Sundays and dedicating the rest of my week to preparing for them, all while juggling responsibilities at home and in high school. This experience strengthened my bond with God and nurtured my love for both my faith and service.

Entering college, I knew that I wanted to become a missionary and help in any way possible, while spreading God's message of love. Dedicated to my career goal, I continued to attend and help with services at a variety of churches, including NUMC's bible study sessions. I pursued a double major in Religious Studies and Spanish at Siena, which thoroughly taught me about religious beliefs and morals, as well as how to communicate these lessons in a different language. My real-world experiences have allowed me to put some of those lessons into action. In recent years, I have worked for different migrant and refugee shelters, including some on the US/Mexican border. I've collaborated with Schenectady inner City Ministries to help overcome food insecurity for struggling families. Furthermore, at Siena, I dedicated my time to advocating for students in need and encouraging the broader community to embrace a life of service.

Needless to say, I am deeply passionate about a service-filled lifestyle. I firmly believe that God has blessed us so that we, in turn, can be a blessing to others. With this perspective, I am tremendously enthusiastic to be working with our congregation's youth. I have great hope for this position, but it wouldn't be possible without the support and care of the congregation. I am genuinely excited for the impact that our combined efforts will have on the future of the world – our children. I would like to express my gratitude one last time to the Newtonville congregation for giving me this remarkable opportunity and for all of your continued efforts toward the success of the program.

Stephanie Aleceia Ramkissoon

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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

10:00 AM SERVICES RESUME

On September 3rd we will resume our regular Sunday worship schedule starting at 10am.

SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

There are two groups that have begun to form around social justice. One is working on anti-racism education and action for us as a congregation. The other is working on LGBTQ inclusion, and how we can best be a truly inclusive and affirming spiritual home for all people here at NUMC. Both groups are open to all who are interested. Please see Pastor Nick if you'd like to participate, and look for information and education opportunities coming from these groups in the near future.

NEW BOOK STUDY: WHITE FRAGILITY

We will continue our anti-racism work by facilitating a book study of the text White Fragility by Robin Diangelo. This study will meet on Zoom for **four Wednesday evenings, from 7-8:30pm The dates are September 13, September 20, September 27, and October 4.** The study will be led by Joy Bufano. Joy will send out the link as we get closer. If you are interested in reading the book and joining the study, come see Pastor Nick for a copy!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY RETURNS

Bible study begins on **Wednesday October 11!** We will meet on Zoom again this year, each Wednesday from 7-8:30. Pastor Nick will announce more details as we get closer to October. All are welcome!

RECONCILING MINISTRIES TASK FORCE

On August 20, it was announced during worship that there is a group of your Newtonville family who desires to facilitate education, discussion, and discernment to explore becoming a reconciling congregation. A reconciling congregation is committed to achieving LGBTQAI+ justice and full inclusion in the life and leadership of The United Methodist Church, both in policy and in practice.

Why? Very simply, because it is the right thing to do. Explicitly welcoming all of God's children in every form as they were created by God to be fully part of our family is to carry out Jesus' command: "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)

On **Sunday, September 17** there will be a congregational meeting following worship for all who wish to learn more about what this includes and for this task force and Pastor Nick to answer general questions you may have regarding this journey.

Shortly after that, we will begin a series of learning opportunities in a variety of formats and at various dates and times to provide everyone with opportunities to learn more.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please speak with any one of us or with Pastor Nick.

Our task force currently includes:

Liz McGeough-Gamache
Nancy Goddard
Kingsley Osei
Stefanie Perez
Sandy Stevenson

If anyone else would like to join us in leading this initiative, please let Liz or Nancy know.

Thank you for your open hearts, open minds, and open spirits as we embark on this journey together.

2023 BROOKS BARBECUE SCHEDULE

Mark your calendar: Brooks barbecue dates remaining for 2023:

Thursday, September 14
Thursday, October 5

Price for a chicken dinner is \$13.00 and chicken only is \$9.00. A dinner includes 1/2 chicken, baked potato, dinner roll, applesauce and a homemade brownie/cupcake.

Please think about *volunteering*. We need folks to help on prep days which are usually the Tuesday and Wednesday mornings prior to the barbecue at 8:00. And, as always, we need bakers to make brownies. You can pick up box mixes with directions from the Grace Krauss Lounge after worship service or anytime during the weeks before each BBQ event for delivery to the kitchen the day before the event.

WATCH LIVE / PAST SERVICES ON YOUTUBE:

The YouTube link for the worship livestream is below. Click on the link, and once on our page, click on the word "LIVE" and you'll be connected to our live broadcast. If you want to watch later in the day, you click on this same link and follow the same process. I look forward to seeing you Sunday morning or anytime you are able to tune in!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQyivsIUcE-7o-AUWFs3C8g>

CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church Council meeting will meet on **September 19 at 7PM** in the Grace Krauss Lounge.

FINANCE

The Finance Committee will meet on **Tuesday October 17 at 6:30pm** in Room 4.

TRUSTEES

Trustees will meet **September 11 and October 2**

USCRI UPDATES: SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

(See weekly updates for additional information)

USCRI clients need the following items for the school year...

backpacks	pencils
pens	crayons
colored pencils	pencil sharpeners
markers	binders
notebooks	loose leaf paper
erasers	scissors
glue sticks	rulers

Drop off school supplies Monday-Friday from 9am-4:30pm at 99 Pine Street, Albany. For questions or to schedule a drop off, please email Kelley Gourley at kgourley@uscmail.org. Or donate through our Amazon Wishlist at <https://shorturl.at/wDOV9>

Thank-you!
Brian Hayes brian.m.hayes6@gmail.com

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.

PLEASE NOTE:

NUMC will no longer be accepting bottle and can donations.

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Celebrations!

September Birthdays

1-Brandon Akuoko
2-Patrick Palmer
10-Maryann Olstad
10-Stefanie Pe'rez
10-Kathy Mascelli
13-Pam LaCasio
11-Donna Buda
14-Jim Kurbiel
17-Bob Kircher
18-Laurie Wheeler
22-David S. Plume
23-Art Bowen
28-Jeanie Guity
29-Tyler Scorzelli

October Birthdays

3-Megan Wheatley
3-Corey Ware
17-Gay Tarlo
20-Todd Hanley
20-Brody Williams
29-Laura Prince

Anniversary

1-Bob and Jean Cerrone

RED BIRD MISSION

The Mission team at Endwell United Methodist Church is again coordinating the collection and delivery of shoeboxes for the Red Bird Mission, located in Beverly, Kentucky. The Red Bird Missionary Conference is one of three United Methodist missionary conferences in the United States. It is the most comprehensive mission effort of the United Methodist Church, providing outreach and services that minister to the whole person-spiritual, physical, social, and economic.

The need is even greater this year. Our goal for 2023 is to transport at least 3,500 shoeboxes and other supplies to the Red Bird Mission in November.

There are two different styles of shoeboxes-adult and children. Items needed for the adult shoeboxes include: a comb or brush, shampoo, hand lotion, deodorant, a toothbrush and toothpaste, Chapstick, a full size bar of soap, a washcloth, disposable razors, shaving cream, nail care supplies, socks, a pair of work gloves or mittens, and a winter hat or scarf.

Items needed for children's shoeboxes include: two or three small toys, two or three items needed for school, a comb or brush, shampoo, hand lotion, a child's toothbrush and toothpaste, Chapstick, a bar of soap, a washcloth, a small flashlight, socks, a pair of mittens, and a winter hat.

Please consider being a part of this vital mission. You can learn more about the mission by going to EndwellUMC.org and clicking on Missions. If you have questions, please contact Dave Alexander at [607-743-8955](tel:607-743-8955) or Endwell United Methodist Church at [607-754-5735](tel:607-754-5735).



Keeping Our Promises

Prayers ~ Presence ~ Gifts ~ Service ~ Witness



In Our Prayers

PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayers for **Jonathan Walter** recovering after a serious dog bite and infection; **Charles Hardwick** recovering from serious complications arising from COVID; **Tina Sheridan** as she continues her recovery; **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, 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.*

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER VOLUNTEERS:

Usher Rotation Art Bowen Head Usher
September 3: Clifton Fowles and Geoff Whittle
September 10: Liz and David McGeough-Gamache
September 17: Nancy Goddard
September 24: Bob Kircher and Tom Assimon

October 1: Clifton Fowles and Geoff Whittle
October 8: Liz and David McGeough-Gamache
October 15: Nancy Goddard
October 22: Bob Kircher and Tom Assimon
October 29: Geoff Whittle and Clifton Fowles

Worship Assistant Rotation
September 3: Clifton Fowles and Geoff Whittle
September 10: Liz and David McGeough-Gamache
September 17: Nancy Goddard
September 24: Bob Kircher and Tom Assimon

October 1: Frank Essien
October 8: Kathy Maker
October 15: Joan Jensen
October 22: Pam LaCasio
October 29: Charles Bonsu

Our Gifts for June & July 2023

Average Undesignated Income needed for 1 month \$37,330	
Pledges	\$28,735
Plate	\$787
Initial Offering	\$5
Preschool	\$1,406
Building Rent	\$1,200
Brooks BBQ	\$6,108
Undesignated Income total:	\$38,241
Designated Funds	
Building Fund	\$6,379
DS Mission	\$200
Little Food Pantry	\$20
Youth/Children	\$90
Peace with Justice	\$504

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.

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					Sep 1	2
3 10:00 am Worship 6:00pm AA	4 Labor Day (Office closed) 6:00pm AA	5 10:00am Banjo Band 6:00pm AA 6:30pm RCA 7:00pm BSA meeting	6 6:00pm AA	7 10:00am TOPS 7:00pm BSA PLC meeting	8	9 10:00am Sewing Guild
10 10:00 am Worship 11:00am Church Picnic/ Homecomi ng Sunday 6:00pm AA	11 1:00pm Prayer Shawl 6:00pm AA 6:30pm Trustees meeting	12 6:00pm AA 6:00pm SOS	13 6:00pm AA 7:00pm Imagine No Racism Study	14 10:00am TOPS 4:00pm Brooks BBQ 6:00pm Girl Scouts	15	16
17 10:00 am Worship 6:00pm AA	18 6:00pm AA	19 10:00am Banjo Band 6:00pm AA 6:30pm RCA 7:00pm Church Council	20 6:00pm AA 7:00pm Imagine No Racism Study	21 10:00am TOPS	22	23
24 10:00 am Worship 6:00pm AA	25 1:00pm Prayer Shawl 6:00pm AA	26 6:00pm AA	27 6:00pm AA 7:00pm Imagine No Racism Study	28 10:00am TOPS 6:00pm Girl Scouts	29	30

October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Oct 1 10:00 am Worship 6:00pm AA	2 6:00pm AA 6:30pm Trustees meeting	3 10:00am Banjo Band 6:00pm AA 6:30pm RCA	4 6:00pm AA 7:00pm Imagine No Racism Study	5 10:00am TOPS 4:00pm Brooks BBQ 7:00pm BSA PLC meeting	6	7
8 10:00 am Worship 6:00pm AA	9 Columbus Day Indigenous Peoples' Day (Office closed) 1:00pm Prayer Shawl 6:00pm AA	10 6:00pm AA 6:00pm SOS	11 6:00pm AA 7:00pm Bible Study	12 10:00am TOPS 6:00pm Girl Scouts	13	14 10:00am Sewing Guild
15 10:00 am Worship 6:00pm AA	16 6:00pm AA	17 10:00am Banjo Band 6:00pm AA 6:30 Finance 6:30pm RCA	18 6:00pm AA 7:00pm Bible Study	19 10:00am TOPS	20	21 12:00pm Church Conference
22 10:00 am Worship 6:00pm AA	23 1:00pm Prayer Shawl 6:00pm AA	24 6:00pm AA	25 6:00pm AA 7:00pm Bible Study	26 10:00am TOPS 6:00pm Girl Scouts	27	28
29 10:00 am Worship 6:00pm AA	30 6:00pm AA	31 6:00pm AA				

Calendar At-a-Glance

September Calendar

4 - Labor Day (office closed)
10 - Homecoming/Church Picnic
11 - Prayer Shawl 1pm
11 - Trustees Meeting 6:30pm
14 - Brooks BBQ 4pm
25 - Prayer Shawl 1pm

October Calendar

1 - World Communion Sunday
2 - Trustees Mtg 6:30pm
5 - Brooks BBQ 4pm
9 - Columbus/Indigenous Peoples Day)
(office closed)
14 - Prayer Shawl 1pm
17 - Finance 6:30pm
23 - Prayer Shawl 1pm

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
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