



Dear Ones,

*My Dad was a Star Trek fan. I remember sitting with him in the living room, watching the original series together. In later years, we'd watch Next Generation, and there were a few times that I'd pick him up and take him to the movies to see Star Trek play out on the big screen. Only once did we make it to a Star Trek convention together - and that was likely enough.*

*Dad's favorite character was Mr. Spock. Spock was a Vulcan - a race that had managed to winnow out emotions as a means of eliminating disorder and war. Of course, the series played off the tension between Humans (often making gut-based decisions) and the logical Vulcans. Long before I wore a "WWJD" bracelet (What Would Jesus Do?), I was instead attempting to "think like Spock" at the urging of my Dad.*

*I think many of us recognize the importance of balancing logic and emotion. When we make decisions, we often rely not just on the subjective stuff (our experiences, how we feel) but also whatever data we can find. When groups make decisions, it can be a bit more challenging. Everyone has their own experience (and much of that might be shared!) but actual objective data is hard to come by.*

*Jamesville, like all churches, is facing all sorts of decisions. In order to provide as much information as possible in making those decisions, the Council is working with Holy Cow! Consulting in offering the Congregational Assessment Tool (or CAT). This tool will help provide the objective data side of our information pool so that we might make better informed decisions.*

*So.... when you see an invitation to participate in the CAT, please do so! It may not have us thinking like Spock, but hopefully it will allow us to make better decisions for our church!*

*Blessings – Karen*

**Now registering!** VBS 2024 will take place the week of July 15-19.

This year's theme is **SCUBA - diving into friendship with God!**  
All children going into Pre-K to 6th grade this fall are invited to VBS.  
Youth and adults 7th grade and up are welcome to volunteer.  
To register, visit [www.jamesvillecommunitychurch.org](http://www.jamesvillecommunitychurch.org)

Contact Alex or Christina Snow with any questions:  
315-247-3733, [alexandersnow@gmail.com](mailto:alexandersnow@gmail.com),  
[christinasnow159@gmail.com](mailto:christinasnow159@gmail.com)



**Our Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)** has been actively searching for a full-time pastor since January 2022. They are currently preparing both a presentation of their efforts as well as some insight into how other congregations are managing the current clergy shortage. Stay tuned for an opportunity to learn more about possible options!

**Bo-Peep Preschool** just wrapped up another successful school year, and registration is nearly full for the fall. This coming year we will welcome a 4<sup>th</sup> staff member. Laura Fisher will be joining us as the program adds a 5<sup>th</sup> day. In case you missed it, Channel 9's "Tell Me Something Good" with Tim Fox visited last fall. To view the coverage, visit [www.localsyr.com](http://www.localsyr.com) and enter BoPeep in the search bar.

**Trustees** have been quite busy with the usual general building maintenance, and with attempting to remedy the back drainage problem. With the help of many generous memorial gifts, they've added a shed to protect our lawn mowing equipment, facilitated installation of our new sanctuary flooring, addressed a number of plumbing and painting needs, and recently worked with the Boy Scouts in removing a large amount of brush left over from National Grid's clean-up of their adjoining property. Please be sure to give them each a heartfelt "thanks" for their continued efforts to keep our church building secure and welcoming!



**Clean-up Day** was another huge success! With help from our friends at **River of Joy** and the **Boy Scouts**, we completed our chores in record time. Our collaboration with our church partners continues to reap many blessings!

**Bursting Baskets** – In the spirit of our congregation's commitment to community outreach, we recently took the opportunity to support Jamesville Elementary School's biannual June fundraiser. This year's basket contained over \$600 in gift cards to our local eateries, and accompanied a display inviting patrons to our Sunday services as well as our VBS program. We're happy to report that this year's winner was none other than our own Kerri Harrison's mom!

**Bible Study** - Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m., no experience required! This summer we are wandering through scripture to learn what it teaches us about the nature of God. Where do we learn that God is all-powerful, or all-knowing? What about some of the other doctrines the church holds dear? Come for good fellowship and discussion!



We were happy to welcome several new voices in the Choir this year. While they are on hiatus for the summer, our music director is busy planning for our weekly special music. If someone in your family is willing to share their talent while gaining some performance experience, please contact Bob Anderson at 315-632-6121 or [rpa15@twcny.rr.com](mailto:rpa15@twcny.rr.com)

And please join us this summer as we enjoy these talented musicians!

## **2024 Annual Conference for United Methodist of Upper New York**

May 30-June 1, 2024, at Onondaga Community College, Syracuse NY

The Upper New York 2024 Annual Conference of the United Methodist church was opened by Bishop Hector A. Burgos Nunez declaring, "We're Moving Forward". The three-day conference purpose is both the business of the United Methodist Church, called "Holy Conferencing" where decision and resolutions are presented and approved, and sessions where both clergy and lay members gather to share challenges, vision and mission. Our worship time was also spent with wonderful music and dynamic preaching of the Gospel.

Bishop Nunez started the conference, claiming "we have been through a lot together over my first year. With 670 congregations and more than 100,000 members, Upper New York, United Methodists are starting a new chapter, one of moving forward with the leading of the Holy Spirit, a bright future, a new day, moving away from our past hurt and pain, creating strength and empowerment with joy and celebration".

There were reports from the recent General Conference held in Charlotte NC. This faithful body representing the denominations' regions from around the world discerned 3 major areas for faithful steps in our journey of faith: regionalization, an effort to put the church's different geographical regions on equal footing; the removal of restrictive language/bans related to ministry by, with and for LGBTQ people; and embracing new social principals for guidance in mission.

Challenges were also reported: the loss of 118 congregations and clergy due to disaffiliation, the closing of 12 United Methodist Churches some with history as far back as the 1800's, the shortage of pastors to fill the needs of local congregations, and the resolution of our liability from the Child Victims Act.

The message was clear, God is not inviting us to move on, God is inviting us to move forward. Past is a horrible place to live; it is only a good place to learn from. With no longer business as usual, the Upper NY Conference has reorganized, closed and consolidated district offices with District Superintendents working from the field. New emphasis on engaging youth now in the work of the church, developing a culture of ministry calling among all members, prioritizing relationships and building additional collaborations.

Bishop Nunez asked us to claim, Philippians 3, verses 13 and 14, for the conference, "My friends, I don't feel I have already arrived. This is one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching for what is ahead. I run toward the goal, so that I can win the prize of being called to heaven. This is the prize that God offers because of what Christ Jesus has done".

Thank you for allowing me to represent Jamesville Community Church at the 2024 United Methodist Annual Conference. I welcome any questions, thoughts or concerns you might want to discuss further.

Linda Wright, United Methodist Lay Delegate.

### **The Mission of Jamesville Community Church**

To worship God together;

To proclaim and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through fellowship, love, prayer, service, mission and the education of both young and old;

To build a more effective Church;

To join with others in providing Christian leadership in the community.

**Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, we remain a vibrant church.**

**Donations of your Time, Talent, & Treasure continue to allow us to work together towards our mission!**

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Just a reminder that our **Church Leaders** may be contacted through the church office, or through their Breeze directory info. We welcome questions, suggestions, and, of course, offers to volunteer as we work to honor the purpose and mission of our CHURCH!

**2024 Church Council:** Greg Sohrweide (Chairperson), Sue Smith, Kate Bolsei, Linda Wright, Sandy Bradbury, Gordon Hyatt, Fred Harle (Lay Leader), Gary Hartman (UM Rep), Rob Shallish (Treasurer)

**2024 Trustees:** Tim West (Chairperson), Lorana Zirbel, Peter Fallon, Chris Gerde & Dave Cain

**Bridge Pastor:** Rev. Karen Chamis

**Church Office Administrative Assistant:** Beth Cain

**Organist and Music Director:** Robert Anderson

**Bo-Peep Preschool Director:** Melanie Dawe

**Contact Jamesville Community Church:**

Church office phone: 315-492-1465

Pastor's email: [pastor@jamesvillecommunitychurch.org](mailto:pastor@jamesvillecommunitychurch.org)

Church office email: [admin@jamesvillecommunitychurch.org](mailto:admin@jamesvillecommunitychurch.org)

Church website: **[JamesvilleCommunityChurch.org](http://JamesvilleCommunityChurch.org)** for calendar updates, daily devotions, link to Facebook worship, Bo-Peep & VBS registration

Breeze Church Directory: **[jvillecc.breezechms.com](http://jvillecc.breezechms.com)**  
(Contact the church office if you need your log-in information.)

Sunday Worship streaming: [Facebook.com/JamesvilleChurch](https://www.facebook.com/JamesvilleChurch)