

THE mini STEPPING-STONE June 9, 2021 Issue



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From The Pastor

We in New York State are at a tipping point in this pandemic and I want to share some information about that. Governor Cuomo has stated that in the next few weeks or even days, New York will have reached 70% fully vaccinated. When that happens, most of the restrictions will be lifted. New York state is ahead of the curve among most of the rest of the US and we should be very proud of our citizens for standing up and doing the right thing and getting vaccinated.

Several weeks ago, we conducted a straw poll of in-person attendees on a day when there was a large percentage of members in attendance. That poll showed that all but one person was fully vaccinated. Nearly 100%. CUDOS TO OUR CONGREGATION! We should be very proud of our response to this pandemic and the need to be vaccinated in order to be safe and return to some form of normalcy!

in response to questions and conversation during church on Sunday about masking in general and singing without a mask, a member of our congregation contacted the Onondaga Co. Health Dept this past Monday. The bottom line is this: with such a high percentage of congregants fully vaccinated we were informed that we no longer need to wear masks to attend or to sing. That is Good News!

Now, we want to remind folks that if you are at risk, under 12, unable to get the vaccine, etc., we encourage you to wear a mask. And there should be no chiding of anyone wearing a mask. We respect one another's needs and support their personal decisions because we as a corporate body care about more than just ourselves – we care about and for one another and thus show the love of Christ. Social distancing is still a good idea for now; especially as it gives some latitude to anyone who is still wearing a mask.

On Monday evening, the Church Council voted to lift the mask mandate for entry into the building and for worship. Again, those who are concerned should still wear a mask and we are on our honor to represent the truth about vaccination.

For those who are not comfortable being in a group of unmasked people, I remind you that we send out links for ZOOM participation. ZOOM is a great way to worship with us when you are shut-in or sick, on vacation, got up late; for lots of reasons! AND...Please know that we *want* to worship together in person.

We thank God who has heard our prayers for help and sent knowledge and skill to doctors and nurses and healthcare professionals, to biomedical researchers, and to government officials to respond to this pandemic and help lead us out of fear and back to a new "normal". And while this plague is not over, we give thanks that we can breathe a little easier!

Peace,

Pastor Rick +

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY by Pastor Rick

The PEACE, Inc. Nutrition Program has for several years provided a lunch for around 30 Tully area seniors in our Fellowship Room every Tuesday. And there are quite a number of our senior congregation members who participate in that lunch. In fact, I was also a regular attendee, both as pastor of the church, but also – as a qualified senior! YIKES! Cost was minimal (\$3.50), it was a good meal, and more so, it provided an opportunity to get together for socialization and mutual care.

Well, like many things, the Tuesday lunch was shut down last year by the pandemic. And a recent call to the nutrition program coordinator revealed that it is likely a few months after restrictions are lifted before the program will be back in Tully.

But all is not lost. I also have found that we can provide a weekly lunch on our own to the Tully Seniors. It would be up to us to set and enforce any guidelines, though social distancing rules would still apply. And Velda Bumpus, who is the local site PEACE Nutrition coordinator, will help us contact the regulars to see if they are interested and ready to return.

So I am wondering if there are some congregation members who are interested in this ministry opportunity. Here is what I think we would need:

Coordinator – help set the menu each week, make sure that there are people to make food, serve food, and clean up. This can be a mostly-work-from-home opportunity! 😊

Site Manager – take money, make sure food is ready to be served, general oversight and coordination. (I am happy to take on that role as long as there is someone ready to step in when I am not able to be there)

Cooks – purchase ingredients, make sandwich fillings, sandwiches, soup, salad, dessert, etc.

Servers – three on the day to help serve, and clean up. (I may have a dishwasher all lined up)

Cooks and Servers for the day could be the same people, or someone could volunteer to do one or the other task. **FOOD MUST BE MADE IN OUR KITCHEN.** Our kitchen is inspected and approved by the Onondaga Co Health Dept who regulates this kind of program. This would not be a full meal, but rather a simple soup/sandwich, soup/salad, sandwich/salad combo with a light dessert, coffee/tea.

That's the general idea. There may be some more details to consider later. I am hoping that you will pray about this and that God might lay on your heart a desire to minister in this way to a need we already know we have. It would be great if other than the same usual's are involved, but whoever God may send our way I know will be richly blessed for their endeavor!

Please see Pastor Rick or contact the church office if you wish to be part of this ministry opportunity! (315) 696-8066.

From the Moderator

This Sunday, the TUCC family will celebrate an important milestone in our church's history. **We will be installing Reverend Richard G. Reed as our fifth settled pastor.** An installation service allows us to recognize the calling of the pastor, to acknowledge his responsibilities and duties, to reaffirm the congregation's obligation to love and support him and to remind the congregation of their duty to follow the new Pastor's lead.

We believe that Rick's particular giftedness will lead us to renew our effort for church and spiritual growth, to expand community engagement, and to promote the development, strengthening and reinvigorating of church leaders.

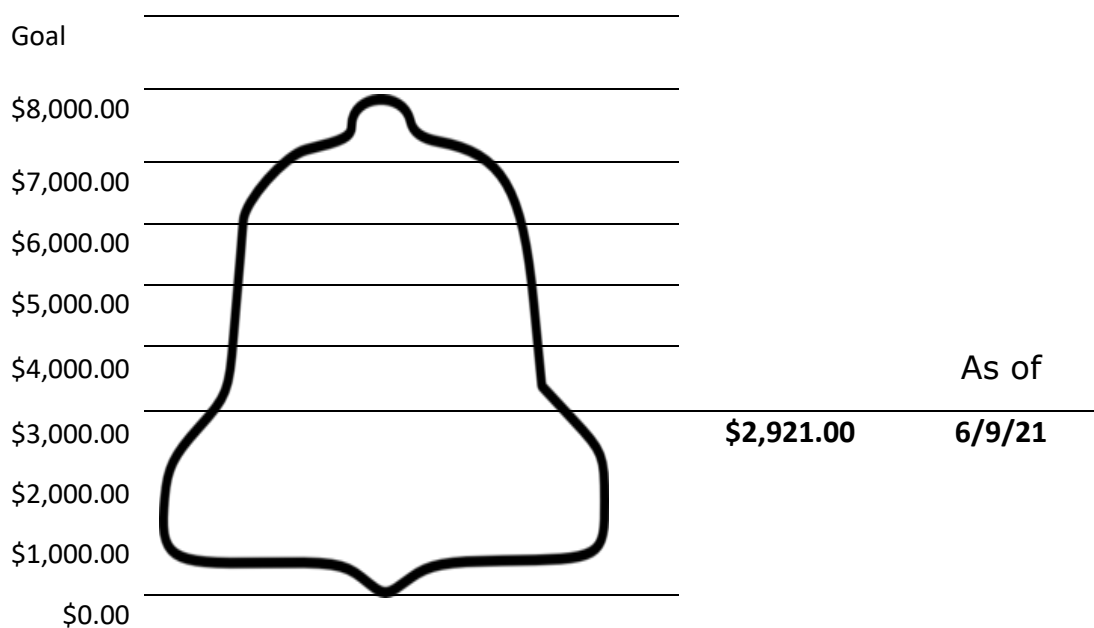
We are incredibly thankful to the members of our church who served on the Pastoral Search Committee for their hard work, dedication, interest, and care over many months. It would have been impossible to complete the search process without each one of them.

We also want to thank all TUCC members for their honest input, discernment, and wisdom that helped us all see and understand how the Lord is moving us forward as a church.

As we move into the future, we want to continue to be a prayerful church. Please pray that Rick experiences the love, grace, peace, and goodness of God as he moves into this new opportunity and responsibility. Please pray as well for our congregation that we continue to serve God and serve people.

Fund Raiser

The bells are available in silver or gold, are engraved to commemorate TUCC's 50th anniversary and cost \$10 each. The funds raised will support repair of our outdoor bells carillon.





Our Graduates

High School

- **Aidan Brown**, Tully Junior – Senior High School
- **Luke Delavan**, Sonja Shepherds, grandson graduated from High School.
- **Jon Greenwood** at Christian Brothers Academy.
- **Jesse Hoogs**, Sharon Hoogs grandson, will graduate from Niskauyuna High School and will be going to Northeastern university in the fall.
- **Maya Elaina Lynn Huyge**, Manlius Prebble Hill High School
- **Hanna Pochobradsky**, Sue Wright's granddaughter, graduating from Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School. She played field hockey in high school and plans to play at SUNY Geneseo this fall. She is unsure of a major at this time.

College

- **Ellie Burns**, Sue Wright's granddaughter, is from Brighton, New York and a graduate of William Smith College in Geneva with a degree in biology. She played lacrosse all four years (last year cut short because of covid). Ellie will be attending the University of Rochester this fall to pursue a nursing degree and hopes to continue and become a nurse practitioner.
- **Camryn Rose Chawgo**, Nancy Chawgo's eldest Granddaughter, , received her Bachelor's Degree in Economics from Syracuse University on May 22nd. In the Fall she will begin working on her Actuary Certification.
- **Piper Kublick** graduated on May 14th with her MSW from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, Dept of Social work Thompson School of Social Work and Public Health. Her emphasis was in Child and Family and she will e starting a new job in Mental Health services with the Community empowerment Resources Agency.
- **Erica Masler** - graduated top of the class - 2021 Syracuse University College of Law.
- **Robert Nyumah** received a degree in Marriage and Family Therapy from Syracuse University graduate school this month. Robert is the oldest son of the Nyumah refugee family who were sponsored by our church in 2006. He also received the MFTS Social Justice Award from SU at the time of his graduation.
- **Bryan Reed**, Rick Reed's son his Masters in Physics from City College of NY.
- **Alexander Sedore**, Ann Sedore's grandson, graduated from Husson University with an MBA and earned graduate certificates in data analytics and healthcare management.

- **Caleb Sedore**, Ann Sedore’s grandson, graduated from Syracuse University with a degree in Information Management and Technology with a concentration in Information Security.

If you have graduates that you wish to have recognized by the Church. Please let the office know.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS:

June 11th – Karrie Cottrell, June 12th – Lorraine Balmer, June 14th – Dill Dewey, June 16th – Sara Kruth Breitzka, Christian Scalza, Ruth Fish Cooper, June 19th – Cindy Shore, Robert Cooper, Sr., June 20th – Cameron Allen Downey, June 22nd- Janice Wimmersberger



ANNIVERSARIES:

June 20th- Dan & Larrian Johnston

CHURCH ATTENDANCE Total

Sunday, May 30	50
Sunday, June 6	47

CONTRIBUTIONS (Sunday Offering and Loose Offering) for Sunday

	Total
Sunday, May 30	\$1,510.00
Sunday, June 6	\$2,907.00

TUCC Mask Guidelines- June, 2021

- *Vaccinated attendees do not need to wear masks.
- *Singing without masks is also allowable.
- *Adults who are not vaccinated should continue to wear masks. *People who have any health concerns should feel free to wear masks in any or all situations.

Request for diapers: Barbara Kohberger, Coordinator, CPE
PEACE is asking for size 3 diapers. Any kind BUT LUVS. They are completely out.

PEACE Inc., County South Family Resource Center, 12 Clinton Street, PO Box 312, Tully, NY 13159

Prayer and Praise

Prayer Requests:

Betty Fairchild has been hospitalized for a fall and heart palpitations/irregular heartbeat. For the family of Jerry Fairchild who has died-the brother of Bob Fairchild. Marie Kemp- shares a concern about music during these COVID times and seeks guidance that will make us all comfortable now that we are getting together.



Continue prayers for:

the following individuals who we hope are all getting better and staying healthy: Diane Sager and family, Hollis friend's Bob and Sandy, Linda Cottrell, Sally's cousin Linda, Jay Vania, friend of Kay and Jim Butkus, Dawn Cox requests prayers for Fred, Laura Rouse, Nancy Chawgo, Hugh Reed, Larry Berg, Tammy James – Dawn Cox's sister; Paula Mickelson, Patricia Bloodgood, Sue Bickelhaupt, Barbara & Arthur Berg; Joe Puccia; Charlene Gale's daughter-in-law and granddaughter; Rick Reed and Laura Currie's friend Allyson Hill; Tammy Huyge's brother Mike. Rick's friend Tony Campolo, retired Professor at Eastern University; Jim Canole friend of Pamela Poulin; Mary Thompson, Betty Ketcham, Hugh Reed's mother- in- law, Barbara Stanley; Nancy Foster's daughter, Breanna; Kay and Jim Butkus' daughter Pam Falge; Brenda Millis, Sharon French and Edie Cook. The people of Myanmar (Burma) and Afghanistan.

Prayers for all college graduates

Joys Shared:

David Frank shared that his son, Jackson is coming home for a visit. Peter shared that the TAG plant sale went well last Saturday (June 5th). Dawn and Fred are really looking forward to getting back to NY. Mary Thompson's son received a promotion. Sharon Hoogs is attended her Mother-in-law's 99th birthday party (May 30th). Rick Reed's youngest son celebrated his 35th birthday and completed his Masters in Physics. Larry Berg is doing well, walking without a cane. Barb Berg is home and doing well. Art Berg is still at Loretto. We are hopeful that he will be able to come home mid-June.

Church Activities

Fund Raiser Bell Sale – On going

Saturday, June 12th – 8:00 am to noon- Blood Mobile – Tully United Community Church

Wednesday, June 16th – Peter's Weeders 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Sunday, June 20th -Father's Day

Sunday, July 11th – at noon – Adult Fellowship picnic at Sharon Hoogs lake house.

Bell Choir meets **each Wednesday** at 6:30 p.m. No experience is necessary.

Prayer Shawl Meetings- **There will be no prayer shawl meetings until further notice.** Requests are still being taken. Shawl makers will be knitting and crocheting at home. Finished shawls can be left at the church office. If you have any questions, please call Sandy Burgett at 315-696-5197.

Church Members – there is a board in the Office.

“All the Saints, Who From their Labor Rest “

We wish to remember all of our loved ones that have passed since Nov 1st, 2020

We request:

- 1. the name of the individual who has passed**
- 2. when did they pass (month, day) if known**
- 3. their relationship to you**

Ways to Support Your Church and Community

Ministries come in many forms. Some take time, some take money, and some take both! Here are some suggestions for giving to others:

1. Offerings to TUCC – mail or drop off at church; use the PayPal link on the church website or pay through the electronic bill payment process of your bank.
2. St. Leo’s Food Pantry and Outreach, POB 574, Tully, 13159. Attn: Cheryl Paccia. Pantry needs monetary donations for fresh produce, meat, and dairy
3. Donate sauce, tuna, canned veggies, PB, jelly, toiletries, paper products, etc., for the Food Pantry. A donation box is at the church or they can be left just inside St. Leo’s hall between 9am – 2pm or just outside the door.
4. Shop *smile.amazon.com* and select TUCC as your non-profit. A percentage is returned to the church!
5. Contact the Pastor, any Board chair or the Moderator to offer your ideas, time or talent. A vibrant church is built around the passions and talents of the congregation.

Meditation and Sunday Service in our Sanctuary

Our sanctuary is open daytimes for prayer or meditation. Hand sanitizer is provided by the door. Homemade masks are available for you to wear and take for added protection during COVID19.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87556610214?pwd=WE9kMnhaK2ISS3dFSk51WTI4MVVQZz09>

Meeting ID: 875 5661 0214

YouTube service: Please watch your emails, our website and TUCC Facebook for the update.

TUCC INDOOR WORSHIP GUIDELINES are on our bulletin board and website tullychurch.org.

***Remember: Wash your hands. Wear your mask in public. Stay home if you are ill.**