

THE STEPPING-STONE



March, 2019 Issue

Church e-mail address: tullyunitedcc@gmail.com; Our website: tullychurch.org Facebook : Tully United Community Church
Phone: 315-696-8066

From The Pastor

Talking with Edie Cook recently, she shared with me that she had brought in some forsythia branches to force open so that she could have a bit of spring now. That was such a lovely thought; something to remind her in the midst of cold and snow and ice and wind that warmer temperatures are coming and green will soon return and the sun will warm our frozen earth and our hibernating souls once again. The thought sent me off thinking about the yellow forsythia branches and the fuzzy pussy willows and the brave crocuses. And just the thought of it brought me a bit of spring in the midst of the winter blahs...

This month begins the season of Lent. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, a day to remember that we are dust and to dust we all return, it is a period of time to reflect on who we are, what God calls us to become and what the cost of our discipleship is. It is a period of fasting, prayer, contemplation and action. And it can feel a bit like the cold, barren terrain of winter to our souls.

I came across this about fasting from Pope Francis.

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

That idea of fasting, of giving up something for Lent, compels some to give up things like chewing gum, eating chocolate, eating meat. I have a friend who quips, "I gave up going to church for Lent." Lent can feel a bit of a drag. Yet I think if we follow Pope Francis' words, we might just feel like a bit of spring has entered the winter blahs of our souls and brought us a bit of warmth and hope and light. And following these words can set us in a new direction, a new habit of the soul, a sure way for Jesus to shine in and through us.

Keep A Holy Lent.
Pastor Rick +

CHURCH HIGHLIGHTS



HOW ARE WE DOING?

February 2019 attendance

February 3 – 67

February 10 – 60

February 17 – 63

February 24 – 63

BAPTISMS/CONFIRMATIONS: Please speak with Reverend Richard Reed about your interests as soon as possible

A service of **CHILDREN'S BAPTISM** can be held anytime during our Sunday morning worship services. Speak with Reverend Richard Reed or any Board member to set up a date for the baptism.

NEW MEMBERS can be welcomed into church membership anytime. See Reverend Richard Reed following worship, or call the church office, 696-8066.

BABY HAVEN NURSERY

Mary Burgett serves as the Baby Haven Care Giver on Sunday mornings during worship. Mary is generally in the Baby Haven beginning at 9:15 a.m. If you have questions see Pam Downey, 696-2439.

FAMILY DAY REMINDER...Family

Day will be held Sunday, March 3, 2019 during our 9:30 a.m. worship service (Communion will be served by intinction and gluten free wafers will be provided). Children will attend morning worship with their families and Sunday School classes will be held following worship from 10:30 – 11:00 a.m.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

We appreciate the support you have shown by sharing your thoughts and concerns with us. For the time being, we are discontinuing the comment sheet insert in our weekly Sunday bulletin. However, a supply of blank comment sheets can be found next to the Comment Box on the table in the Murdock Lounge. We encourage you to continue sharing the things you love about our Church community and/or any concerns you may have about our Church life. Thank you!

COUNCIL CALLS SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, March 24, 2019 10:45am

Purpose: To report on the options explored for accomplishing intentional interim work here at TUCC, to answer questions and to receive feedback from church members on these options, and to vote on a direction for Council to proceed.

Greetings Church Family ~

The TUCC Church Council wrote to you last fall stating that we would research two ways of accomplishing intentional interim work suggested by Rev. Kelsey (ABCNYS) at our church dinner.

We have done that and also researched a third option that Rev. Kelsey offered to us in January. An information sheet discussing these options will be emailed to members (3/6) and will also be available in the church narthex. Please read this carefully and prayerfully consider the options presented.

Council members will be available post services on March 10 and March 17 in the sanctuary to answer questions regarding the options. We are also available by phone at your convenience. We hope that you will be part of the discussion and vote on Sunday March 24th for the next step forward for TUCC!

In service,
Church Council Members

Pam Downey and Sharon Mariani, Christian Education

Kim Guttendorf, Deacons

John Burgett, Mission and Outreach

Ann Sedore, Personnel Relations

Teri Krom, Stewards

Jim Butkus, Trustees

Beth Lattimer, Financial Secretary

Hugh Reed, Treasurer

Karen Prince, Church Clerk

Bernice Potter-Masler, Moderator

FEBRUARY 4, 2019 COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Treasurer – Voucher approval system is working well. Fisherman’s Net balance is \$2,700. Net income continues to be up.

Pastor – Working on plans for services during Lent and on Easter. Stressed importance of communication.

Moderator – TUCC Constitution updated for amendment approved at Annual Meeting. List of amendment dates included.

Christian Education

Lindsey Moore VBC coordinator
April 7, 2019 craft workshop, lunch and egg hunt
March Family Sunday with youth participation

Deacons

Reminder needed for Sunday flowers
Plans for services during Lent and on Easter

Mission and Outreach

Presentation for April 4th soup supper
Welcome bags

Personnel Relations

Approved job descriptions for paid staff
Staff evaluations
Janitorial contract review

Stewards

February 28th birthday dinner and program
TUCC “postcard” finalized for distribution

Trustees

Purchase of another large dehumidifier approved
Drinking fountain upgrade
Sound system issues

Endowment/Investment Committee

Bundling/annual fee quotes for consolidating accounts
Requesting detailed proposals for investments

2019 LENTEN DAILY DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET REMINDER

Copies of the 2019 Lenten Daily Devotional Booklet continue to be available on the table in the church narthex. The readings begin Ash Wednesday, March 6th and continue through Easter Sunday, April 21st. We give a *Special thanks* to all those who submitted articles over the past 20 years for the booklet and to Nancy Chawgo for compiling, Karen Prince for proofing, and for donating their time and skills to put it all together.



SOUP SUPPERS/LENT

Beginning on Ash Wed. March 6th and a Service to follow, then, every Thursday through Lent

There will be Soup suppers with a program that is sure to interest everyone. All are invited and welcome.
Thurs. March 14th-PRB-Marianne Ralbovsky-TAC
Thurs. March 21st-Christian Ed-Youth Group
Thurs. March 28th-Stewards

FROM THE TRUSTEES:

Thank you to the anonymous donor of our New Bunn Coffee Maker!

As usual the Trustees are always in need of many things: members, skilled workers, and material things.

If anyone can help us out in the following areas, to buy or donate, please let us know.

Need:

- 3 or 4 drawer fire rated, lockable file cabinet
- Someone to reset pavers in front of Church main entrance by driveway
- New vent/light fans for restrooms

DEACONS

SUNDAY MORNING REFRESHMENT FELLOWSHIP AND COMMUNION

In March, Kim Guttendorf and Jaci Colombo are the refreshment fellowship providers and communion preparers. If you can provide cookies etc. for refreshments please sign up on the sheet located on the refreshment table on Sunday mornings. All monies collected help cover the cost of the coffee, refreshments, & supplies.



RECIPES NEEDED!!

BOARD OF MISSION & OUTREACH is compiling a new cookbook!

We are looking for recipes of your favorite soups and desserts. While making soups or desserts for our soup suppers, would you mind writing down the recipe and giving it to one of our board members? We hope to have the cookbook ready for sale by next fall. Our members are Sally Greene, Beth Lattimer, Lorraine Balmer, John Burgett, Sharon Treise, and Sue Wright.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REMINDERS –

We remind you that the 1st Sunday of the month - is Family Day. Children attend worship with their families and Sunday School classes are held following worship from 10:30-11:00 a.m.

Youth Group meets every other week and is led by Karin Dykeman and Del Wayne.

PRAYER SHAWL REMINDER

Prayer Shawl group meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays each month at 7pm to work on prayer shawls/fellowship time. The completed prayer shawls are given to those in need of comfort during difficult times. If you have suggestions of a person to be recipient of a prayer shawl, please complete one of the request cards on the table in the narthex and turn it in to the office. We will do our best to honor as many of the requests as possible in a timely manner.

Sympathies



We offer our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of Justin Edinger, who passed away on Feb. 7th.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of Patricia (Patty/Pat) Harris who passed away on Feb. 16th.

Our sincere condolences go out to the family and friends of Helen Williams who passed away on Feb. 19th.



I would like to thank all of you for the cards, hugs, prayers, food and all that you have done for me during this difficult time of Lee's passing. Also, a huge thank you for the beautiful prayer shawl made by our group. All of you are special and I'm humbly grateful to be a part of this congregation.

My love to all of you.

Beth Lattimer

2019 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR

A draft copy of the 2019 altar flower calendar is posted on the bulletin board in the church narthex. There are some dates available for anyone who is interested. If you do not want to provide flowers this

year, be sure to cross your name off. Also, if someone is already scheduled on the date you wanted, just write your name next to theirs. Many times there is more than one flower arrangement for our worship service.If you have questions, please see Nancy Corey, (315-420-5442) or call the church office 696-8066. Thank you!

LILLIAN BIGSBY CIRCLE NEWS

Members of the Lillian Bigsby Circle Reminder: that we do not meet January, February, or March. The next meeting will be Monday, April 1, at 10 a.m. Please remember to bring a bag lunch, drinks and desserts are provided. All women are invited to come. We will be working on a Brothers Keeper quilt.

FISHERMAN'S NET REMINDER

The Fisherman's Net Program is a joint effort of TUCC, P.E.A.C.E. Inc. and the St. Leo's Outreach Program. If you have furniture or household items to donate, please contact the P.E.A.C.E. office at 696-8203 to arrange for the items to be dropped off (or picked up if needed). P.E.A.C.E. has a storage area in the three bay shed at the far end of the church parking lot. Monetary donations are also needed to help those in need. Checks should be made out to the church with your *offering # and Fisherman's Net* written on the memo line.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING SPECIAL OFFERING WILL BE RECEIVED – March 31, 2019

Lorraine Balmer will announce on March 24th,

“One Great Hour of Sharing” special offering will be received during the 9:30 a.m. morning worship service March 31st. A special offering envelope will be inserted in the bulletin that day for your donation to this special offering. Checks should be made out to the church with *One Great Hour of Sharing* and *your offering envelope number* written on the memo line. All monies received will be divided equally between the American Baptist and United Methodist denominations.



Donations to the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering enables both the American Baptists and United Methodists to respond to disasters around the world as well as here in the United States.

ADULT FELLOWSHIP PLANS FOR March 2019

Saturday, March 23rd-Progressive Pitch
More details and the sign up sheet are posted in the church narthex welcome area.

AMAZONSMILE where Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible smile.amazon.com purchases to the **program generating donations for TUCC!** It's so easy to click on it while shopping and doesn't cost the customer anything extra.
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/16-0990319>



MEETING TIME FOR THE ROTARIANS

The Tully Rotary Group meets at the church on the 1st & 3rd Thursday mornings at 7:00 a.m. for breakfast and a program. Nancy Chawgo and her crew of volunteers continue to co-ordinate and provide the weekly breakfast. Work begins at 6:00 a.m. for breakfast that is served at 7:00 a.m.

March 7th – Ed & Janet Hillenbrand
March 21st – Trudy Krewson & Karen Prince

SNOW SHOVELER'S SCHEDULE

Mondays-Ed Hillenbrand
Tuesdays-Bob Kemp
Wednesdays-Sam Colombo
Thursdays-Bob Thompson
Fridays-Jim Butkus
Saturdays- Chris Scalza
Sundays-Mel Moore

SYRACUSE HEALTHY

**START: ALL THOSE WHO SEW,
KNIT OR CROCHET....**

The program continues seeking donations of new, handmade baby items such as blankets, hats, sweaters, and booties. If you have questions, or need more information please call 435-2000, or see Dawn Cox, Church Secretary.



SHUT-INS FOR MARCH

March 3 -- Fran Fishlock
1786 Union St., Apt. 113,
Niskayuna, NY 12309
March 10-- Rita Cooper
700 E. Brighton, #719-Cunningham
Syracuse, NY 13205
March 17 – Don & Joyce West
Walden Place
839 Bennie Rd.
Cortland, NY 13045
March 24 – George Cook
Jewish Home-Menorah Pk
4101 Genesee St.
Syracuse, NY 13214
March 31- Fran Fishlock
1786 Union St., Apt. 113,
Niskayuna, NY 12309

We invite you to take a moment each week to send a holiday greeting card or note to those listed and to sign the card located at the welcome center on Sunday mornings. If you have a friend or family member that you would like included on the shut-in list, please get his/her name and mailing address to the church office (696-8066).

TABS, TABS & MORE TABS

TUCC continues to collect big and small tabs from soda and juice cans for the Shriners Hospital in Boston to buy braces, time in physical therapy and other needed items. A large container for you to place tabs is located in the Riehlman Fellowship Room of the church. If you have questions or need more information about the tabs, contact Barb Berg (696-5425). Thank you.

RETURNABLE CANS AND BOTTLES

TUCC & Boy Scout Troop #62 continue to collect returnable cans and bottles (rinsed out, returnable aluminum cans and glass and plastic bottles) in the *Cans for Christ* bins in the east entrance way at the church. Proceeds are used to help cover expenses of camping trips that the scouts take throughout the year.

FOOD PANTRY REMINDER

Canned foods and non-perishable food items continue to be collected here at TUCC for the local food pantry on the first Sunday of the month (February 3rd), also communion Sunday. Also...food donations may be dropped off in the church office anytime. Especially needed are canned foods and non-perishable food items as well as paper products and toiletries. Baby foods and diapers (all sizes) also continue to be needed. The food pantry located at St. Leo's church hall is open one Wednesday a month from 1:00-2:00, or by appointment (696-8721)



then the meeting will also be canceled. Those attending are reminded to bring their own table service and a large dish to pass for the noon meal.

F.I.S.H. NEWS

The Tully and LaFayette F.I.S.H. Program (Friends in Service Here) Is in need of drivers who could drive clients to medical and dental appointments. Volunteer drivers are scheduled to drive once a month on either a Tuesday or Thursday. If you are able to help drive, please contact Barb Kohberger at the P.E.A.C.E. office 696-8203.

Anyone living in the zip code area of 13159 or 13084 needing transportation to medical or dental appointments is asked to call the F.I.S.H. number 696-8659 or 696-8506 no later than three working days prior to the appointment.

COMMUNITY NEWS

TULLY CLASS OF 2020 AFTER PROM

Fund raiser: **Doug's Fish Fry To Go**, will be at Kinney Drugs on Saturday, March 9th, from 11am-6pm.

T.A.G.'S "FINISH THE FOUNTAIN" fundraiser

TAG and Elm Street Café are inviting you to a delicious Italian Buffet on Sunday, March 10th! Tickets must be purchased by March 1st from Janet Hillenbrand (jlh55@aol.com). Or phone 315-427-9681 or directly from Elm Street Café. Adults \$20, Kids 5-12 \$15 and under 5 free. Seating's are 4:30; 6:00; 7:30. Drinks and ice cream are included. This will help complete the last stages of our Cornerstone Park!

TULLY SENIOR CITIZENS' GROUP NEWS

The Tully Senior Citizens' Group will meet at the church Wednesday, **March 13th at noon** for the monthly dinner and program. All those 50 and over are welcome to become a member of the Tully Senior Citizens' Group. Yearly dues continue to be \$5.00 per person. Questions: See Esther Hoose, 315-317-1618.

During the months of January, February, and March the second Wednesday of the month gatherings will be held at NOON at the church. If the Tully schools are closed due to inclement weather,

TUESDAY IS LUNCH TIME FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

**P.E.A.C.E. Inc. sponsors
the senior citizens' hot lunch
program** at the church every

Tuesday at noon. A donation of \$3.00 per meal is suggested and guests are \$6. Food stamps can be used for the meal.

Following is the menu for March:

March 5 - Sloppy Joe on a Kaiser roll

March 12 - Salt City fried chicken

March 19 - Sirloin Beef Stroganoff

March 26 - Meat Lasagna

All seniors 50 and over are welcome to attend the weekly lunches. In order for enough food to be available, those planning to attend the weekly meal should sign up a week in advance. If you have questions, or wish to sign up for the meal please call Velda Bumpus 315-683-5833.



FOOD GIVEAWAY AT ST. LEO'S CHURCH HALL

In addition to the local food pantry, St. Leo's Church hosts a FREE food giveaway through Wegman's that is held the first Tuesday of each month (January 8th) at 3:00 p.m. A variety of surplus food items are available each month for **EVERYONE** in the local community. If you have questions, call 696-8721 for more details.



FOOD \$EN\$E REMINDER

The Food \$en\$e Program continues to be held at St. Leo's Church. Food \$en\$e of Tully also covers LaFayette, Fabius, Otisco and Preble. For more information about the cost (\$20.50) of the program and how to participate, please call St. Leo's Hall at 696-8721. Payment can only be made by cash or food stamps (no checks). You may go to www.stleostully.org for more details about this program.



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME REMINDER

Daylight saving time begins at 2:00 a.m. Sunday, March 10, 2019. Remember to set your clocks AHEAD 1 hour (in the spring we SPRING forward) before you go to bed Saturday evening, March 9, 2019.

MARCH LENTEN SOUP SUPPER SCHEDULE

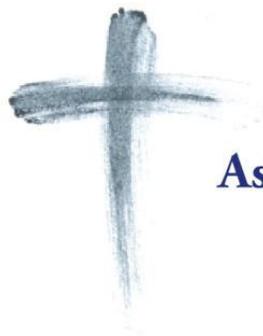
Ash Wednesday-March 6th-Deacons
Thursday, March 14th-Personnel Relations Board
Thursday, March 21st-Board of Christian Ed.
Thursday, March 28th-Stewards

COMING IN APRIL 2019

Leadership Night-April 1st
Lillian Bigsby Circle-10am, April 1st
Lenten Soup Suppers-Thursdays at 6pm
Easter crafts, lunch, Easter-Egg Hunt, April 7th,
11am
Maundy Thursday-April 18th, Soup Supper-6pm
Service-6:45pm
Good Friday-Noon service/1pm 24 hour Prayer
Vigil
Easter Sunday-6am Sunrise Service,
7am Breakfast, 9:30 am Worship
Senior Citizen's Dinner & Program will be at 6pm
Wednesday, April 10th

APRIL LENTEN SOUP SUPPER SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 4th-Mission & Outreach
Thursday, April 11th-Trustees
Maundy Thursday, April 18th-Deacons



Ash Wednesday
— Lent Begins

ADDRESS SERVICE

REQUESTED

**TULLY UNITED COMMUNITY CHURCH
5872 MEETINGHOUSE ROAD
TULLY, NY 13159**

**THE STEPPING-STONE
MARCH 2019**

(315) 696-8066

Rev. Richard G. Reed, Interim Pastor

Bernice Potter Masler, Moderator

Dawn Cox – Church Secretary

Non-Profit Organization

ABOUT OUR CHURCH The Tully United Community Church has both United Methodist and American Baptist affiliation.

OUR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE is held each week at 9:30 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Classes are held during morning worship. Children are dismissed for classes following the Children's Moment. **FAMILY DAY** will be celebrated March 3, 2019. Children attend worship with their families and Sunday School is held from 10:30-11:00 a.m.

HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated during our 9:30 a.m. worship service Sunday, March 3, 2019 by intinction and gluten free wafers are available.

LEADERSHIP: March 4th Boards meet at 6:30 followed by Council at 8:30

LENT SOUP SUPPERS: Beginning Ash Wed. March 6th, and every Thursday beginning March 14th-April 18th at 6pm-Soup Supper & Program

ASH WEDNESDAY: March 6th: Soup Supper at 6pm, Worship service at 6:45

MEMORIAL SERVICE: For Helen Williams will be March 9th at 11am at TUCC

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME-March 10th-Spring forward one hour

THE LILLIAN BIGSBY CIRCLE will not meet January, February or March 2019

ADULT FELLOWSHIP: Progressive Pitch, March 23rd at 7pm, Home of Jim & Kay Butkus, sign-up in the narthex.

PRAYER SHAWL- meets Monday, March. 11th & 25th at 7pm

TULLY SENIOR CITIZENS-Dinner & Program will be Wednesday March 13th at **noon**. Bring place setting & dish to pass

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Sunday, March 24, 2019 at 10:45am

TULLY ROTARY meets the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month at 7a.m.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: Collections enables both the American Baptists and United Methodists to respond to disasters around the world as well as here in the United States.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – April issue: March 24, 2019