

Bristoletter

**Newsletter of the United Church of Bristol
A member congregation of the United Church of Christ**

**United Church of Bristol
7177 County Road Two
Bloomfield, NY 14469**

TO:

“God is still speaking”

Jerry LaRue Fletcher
Treasurer

Catherine Joseph
Moderator

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Those Whom We Hold in Prayer

Lance, Stephanie, Ginny, Wendy, Sally, Carrie, Debbie, Sandy, Rod, Josh, Todd, Bea, Ellen, Ryan, Margaret, Doris, Elaine, Debby, Mike, Gerald, Joan and Bill.

Prayers of compassion for those who are lonely, ailing, discouraged, afraid, or hungry - in body or soul. Prayers for the victims of flooding in Texas and Oklahoma.

Prayers of thanksgiving are offered for the gift of listening ears, gentle hands, warm hearts, and receptive spirits, and for the gift of another successful church dinner!

Altar Flower Committee Report

Following is the schedule for the next 3 months for Altar flowers:

June	Gloria Miles - 229-2322
July	Diane Bassage - 657-6609
August	Fran Staub - 229-7306

If anyone has a Sunday they wish to place flower on the Altar or in the Narthex please call the appropriate person to schedule your arrangement.

Happy summer gardening to all!!

Peace;

Diane, Fran & Gloria

Christian Education

The Christian Education Committee would like to thank the families who shared their "spirited" children with us this year for Sunday School lessons! They each bring their own creativity and eagerness to learn and share! A special thank you goes out to Shaina, Jenna, Nicolle and Mackenzie for all their help with the weekly lessons!!

Our program will continue through **Sunday, June 21st (Father's Day)**. During Fellowship Hour on the 21st we will be hosting an Ice Cream Social with the June birthday cake. Please plan to join us! Our committee will be meeting to discuss curriculum for next year's program on June 30th. Any suggestions are always welcomed!

We look forward to an exciting, educational Christian Education program for the fall! We are always hoping to increase our numbers; so bring your children, grandchildren, neighbors and friends to join us in the fall! Remember: "Take God with you," whatever your summer plans!

Blessings to all,

The Christian Ed Committee

Pastor's Letter

My windows are open these days. With temperatures consistently above 60 degrees, I've enjoyed the luxury of vacuuming up all the dead flies, throwing up the storm windows, pulling down the screens and taking in lung-fulls of pollen-laden springtime air. Even amidst the sneezing, it's delicious! My living room table has

lost its winter coating of dust, only to be replaced by a yellow patina of pollen. Who says I have no seasonal decorative sense?!

Open windows mean louder traffic. Spring traffic has a sense of urgency to it, as though folks are rushing to get done what they haven't been able to do for months, like plant, mow, picnic, swim and tan. Even cars ostensibly heading to work in the morning seem to be buzzing to the office in order to get **OUT** of the office and back to the yard, boat, golf course or grill. There's a kind of "strike while the iron (or weather) is hot" mentality. OR, perhaps more apt, "make hay while the sun shines." A hunger to maximize limited opportunities.

Things are more precious when they're scarce – which suggests to me that our friends in San Diego or Honolulu may have no idea as to the value of a warm, sunny day! We northerners tend to treasure what is fast and fleeting, as we are haunted by the recollection of a mere 5 hours above freezing in all of February! We can be forgiven if we loll in the lounge chair for another minute or two...or gaze at the irises for just a bit longer!

Therein seems to be my spiritual learning these days: to drink deeply in the moment, relishing the warmth of a friendly smile, rolling a funny story around in my mind, or delighting in those waning moments of sunset when the shadows are long and the clefts in the hills are deep and dramatic.

Jesus said, "Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly father feeds them" – along with help from that last aisle of Wegman's where they sell the 5 pound bags of wild birdseed!

Perhaps as the season deepens, so too will our trust in God's cycles of abundance. My strawberries just started to show up in my backyard. With luck, I'll be able to harvest enough berries this year to cover 2 large pieces of toast with jam! Humble beginnings. Where there's life, there's hope...and perhaps a whole pie's worth one day!

Strawberries send out runners, little strands of growth that yield fruit in new places. With a modest amount of attention to weeding and thinning, but mostly just waiting and trusting, the berries will come. OK, if I'm honest, I **DO** occasionally **TALK** to my strawberries, when no one's listening. Just a bit of a pep talk, now and then. I love strawberries, so I'll try anything!

We can do something like that for each other: encourage, support, coax, comfort and cheer – so that our fruits will flourish, to the glory of God. I wish you all a season both ripe and rich with the blessings of God. In faith,
Tim

United Church of Bristol Calendar for June and July 2015

- June 14** Deacons Meeting – 9am
Worship at Methodist Church - 10am
Bristol Fun Day – 11am – 4pm
- June 15** Cabinet Meeting – 6:30pm
- June 16** Bristolite Luncheon – Noon
- June 21** Honoring our Graduates Day
Christian Education Ice Cream Social
Birthday Cake Sunday
- June 25** MM Ewing Carnival – 5pm – 8pm
- June 28** Guest preacher Rev. Emily Castner, Protestant Chaplain @ Monroe Community Hospital
- July 26** Worship at Levi Corser Park – 11am
- August 9** Cabinet Meeting after service

Happy Birthday in June to:

Rylan Angell – 6/2
Amanda Angell – 6/5
Susan Damaske May – 6/5
Reagan Fletcher – 6/5
Autumn Kunes – 6/5
Nick VanStralen – 6/7
Nikolle VanStralen – 6/7
Andy Fagan – 6/8
Dave Parsons – 6/10
Gladys Cooper – 6/11
Linda Ensman – 6/12
Bill Stanley – 6/15
Ana Stanley – 6/19
Kyle T. DiBiase – 6/21
Joan Hall – 6/26
Dorothy Erb – 6/29

Happy Birthday in July to:

Brett Fletcher – 7/6
Lucille McKee – 7/8
Sean Fagan – 7/11
Richard Lyons – 7/12
Ginny Ford – 7/13
Emily Angell – 7/16
Jordyn T. DiBiase – 7/18
Sam Chappell – 7/25
Kali Schrader – 7/27
Emily Fletcher – 7/30
Shaina Babcock – 7/31

Liturgist, Greeters, & Fellowship Hour – June & July 2015

DATE	LITURGIST	GREET & FAREWELL	FELLOWSHIP HOUR
June 7	Sally Ess	Sheila Hudson & Gloria Miles	Faye Brocklebank & Mary Lynne Parmelee
June 14	Catherine Joseph	John & Rena Faulkner	Enjoy Bristol Fun Day!!!
June 21	Linda Ensman	Jim & Mary Lou Burgess	** Christian Ed Ice Cream Social **
June 28	Pat Pestle	VanStralens	John & Rena Faulkner
July 5	Deb Footer	Don & Pat Sanford	Elaine Burd & Edie Thomas
July 12	Rena Faulkner	Richard & Norma Lyons	Babcock Family
July 19	Dianne Marcellus	Cc Bodnar & Faye Brocklebank	** Don & Pat Sanford**
July 26	MaryAnn Strasser	Church Picnic @ Levi Corser Park	Worship Service @ 11am
August 2	Ellie Babcock	Bob & Dianne Marcellus	VanStralen Family

- **“Greeters”**: Please try to remember to have one or both of you be a “fareweller” at the end of the service by the door to wish those people well who may not be staying with us for the fellowship hour. Thank you for adding this new task and making everyone feel welcome all the time at UCB! Your other duties still are to be at the door by 9:20, remember to wear your name tag, have guests sign our guestbook, hand out the Sunday bulletins and any other hand-outs, count all the attendees and enter the total in the book, take up the collection when called by the Pastor. Headsets are now kept in Pastor’s office and should be returned there after the service.

- **“Fellowship Hour”**: will need to provide juice for children and non-coffee drinkers. Pick up the cake, if it is ****cake Sunday****, Pat and Sally order it. Cake is picked up at Wegman’s catering desk. You pay for it, then are reimbursed by the church when the receipt is turned in. ****These represent “birthday cake Sundays”**. If you should be on fellowship hour for this Sunday and are new to this, please see Pat or Sally.

>>These are “pot-luck Sundays”. A huge spread for “fellowship hour isn’t really necessary on these Sundays. Please, all are welcome to join in for a pot-luck luncheon after a light fellowship snack.

+Please find your own substitute if you are unable to fulfill your appointed task. THANKS!

+If you would like to be added to this list, please let Pat or Sally know.