



Clifton Springs United Methodist Church

*A Loving Church for a Living Lord!*

Rev. Brian Fellows – Pastor

1 East Main Street, Clifton Springs, NY 14432



## *April 2023 Newsletter*

*Our mission:*

*To make Disciples for the  
Transformation of the World*

# *our* Connection

United Methodist Church      Clifton Springs

April 2023 Edition



## Learning Loving and Leading

As we explore learning, loving, and leading after the disaffiliation vote, we enter a new chapter in our community faith journey, yet it is still the same faith journey. We are saying goodbye to some people as their journey takes them to different places and I look forward to greeting some new people as we journey together.

We don't forget the people who journey a different path. We are meant to love each other. I hope that the people who journey elsewhere will always feel welcome and have a sense of home when they come into our faith community. When life gives us pause to celebrate, I hope we will have smiles on our faces and open doors for everyone with a hearty "welcome home, it's so good to see you, my friend!" If we can't greet each other with love, we truly have missed the mark in our discipling. I totally expect to see people who have taken a different path in their faith journey involved in our mission and ministry. Welcome them as they work with us in the Food Pantry, the coffee shop, the supermarket and place we commonly go; we are still all a part of the Body of Christ.

We need to embrace our history. In many places in secular society, we are trying to erase or change history. This isn't the first-time people have left and new people have come into our community; it's still the same faith journey. Think of it as a new season or a different ecosystem that we are encountering. Some things will stay the same: still the hymnals, the same Bible, we are still going to worship, I'm still going to preach,

challenge, and encourage. Bible studies and small groups will continue to meet. Scouts and other groups are still in our building, Our Children's Place will continue to bring life and laughter into our walls each weekday. A used building is a loved building. Did you ever notice that about barns? You can spot an empty barn from far away, and a barn that is used soaks in the love of being cared for.

We need to try new things. It's great to have favorites and it is comforting to have traditions and it is exciting to find new things. Some of the things we will try along the way we will say "no thank you, not us or not now." We might say, "that is meaningful, I don't want to do it all the time but now and again would be great." Other things we will say "we need to do that more often!"

Love is not easy; part of me breaks with each person that says "goodbye." I also know that a part of them breaks too. We lead in our community by revealing the love of Christ in our relationships with each other. In those relationships is learning from each other. Growing and journeying are hard work for all of us, may none of us do it alone.

*Blessings,  
Pastor Brian*



*Make a donation*

Monetary donations can be made to CSUMC directly from the website through our secure online donation software. Please consider making your donation online using your computer or phone. The website address is <http://csumc.com>, or scan the QR Code.





Hello Friends, Please pray about where God desires you to serve in the mission and ministry of our church. The following is a list of many opportunities to serve in our Faith Community. Everyone has a place in the Body of Christ, where is yours?

**Lay Leader:**  
**Lay Member to**  
**Conference:**  
**Alt. Lay Member to**  
**Conference:**

**Safe Sanctuaries**  
**Male Listener:**  
**Female Listener:**  
**Lay Background Rep**

**Kid's Pantry**  
**Operation Christmas**  
**Child**  
**Prayer Shawls**  
**Mowing and Shoveling**  
**Cleaning**  
**United Women of Faith**  
**Leadership**  
**Coordinator of Liturgists**  
**(Scripture Readers)**

**Coffee Hour Coordinator**  
**Funeral Hospitality Team**  
**Computer, Slides,**  
**Audio/Visuals**  
**Special Music**  
**Bulletins**  
**Newsletter**  
**Social Media**  
**Website/ App**  
**Library**  
**BBQ**  
**Festivals (Sulfur Springs,**  
**Festival of Lights, Harvest**  
**Festival)**

(If you haven't already submitted your Estimate of Giving for 2023, please do so when you can.)



If you wish to provide flowers for Easter Sunday, please have them at the church on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, or bring them with you to worship on Easter Sunday before 9:30. If you will want to take your specific flowers home with you, please put a small tag of some sort in an inconspicuous place on your plant.

What kind of flowers should you bring? ANYTHING that helps us to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

HALLELUJAH!

If you are interested in helping to decorate the sanctuary on holy Saturday (April 8<sup>th</sup>) Contact Gail Connors or Melissa Lenhart. All are welcome! Thanks



Maundy Thursday Apr 6, 7:00 pm  
Good Friday Apr 7, 7:00 pm  
Easter Sunrise\* Apr 9, 7:00 am  
Easter Worship Apr 9, 9:30 am

*\*Sunrise service will be at Camp Dittmer, Toll Rd., Phelps, NY*



# An Easter Prayer

Christ the Lord is risen

And, as all the world rejoices,

Singing of His glory

With such joyful hearts and voices,

May you find that Easter brings you

Peace and faith and hope anew,

And may these blessings fill your heart

With joy the whole year through.

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Happy Easter

## April Birthdays



- 1 Mark Shultes, Ruth Spaulding
- 2 Jim Ebel, Judy Maslyn
- 3 John Mueller, Betty Hall, Ruth Pierce
- 4 Maris Avery, Camryn Mattoon, Daniel McIntyre
- 5 Daniel Snow
- 7 Janet Bird
- 8 Ben Shultes
- 10 Mark Herry, Brad Ranger, Paula Hess
- 11 Dennis King
- 12 Richard Giles, Jason Mark, Katlyn Parker, Matthew Young
- 13 Gayle Rosekrans
- 14 Paul Welker
- 15 Amanda Giles, Teresa Durkee, Brendan Severson
- 17 Brian Cummings, Patty Payne, Nancy Walp

- 18 Matt Bowman, Jim Conners, Sr.
- 20 Jason Charlette, Penny Sue Smith, Daniel Mowery, Laura DeCracker
- 21 Sue Trautman, Judy Vanderhoof
- 21 Gary Vogel, Jr
- 21 Christopher Waite
- 23 Emily Vanderhoof, Nick Curran
- 24 Jan Hess
- 25 Jennifer Snow, Landon Wertz, Dylan Wilkes
- 26 Larissa Severson, Rachel Mueller
- 27 Ben Cummings, Molly Thurston
- 29 Melissa Lenhart
- 30 Kaiden Ranger



## April Anniversaries

- 4 Brenda and Steve Capozzi
- 11 Charlie & Jan Hess
- 23 Clayton and Mary Ruggles

If information is incorrect or missing, please email [newsletter@csumc](mailto:newsletter@csumc) so it can be updated.





Mathew 25: “For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, “I was a stranger and you invited me in.”

Our food giveaway is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. This month it will be on April 20th. Volunteers are always welcomed. See Connie Jones or Steve Strub if you can spare a few hours a month.

The first Sunday of every month is Food Collection Sunday, when people are invited to bring donations to keep the food pantry well stocked. This month it will be on Sunday, April 2, and needs are many this month – the only things not needed at this point are peanut butter and macaroni & cheese. We welcome all donations, especially large bottles of juice, canned goods, cereals and anything else the Lord puts on your heart to donate. It is your generosity that makes this ministry work. Thank you and God bless you.

CSUMC Food Ministry  
Emergency contact: 315-521-2274



Our worship service is livestreamed every Sunday at **[csumc.freeonlinechurch.com](http://csumc.freeonlinechurch.com)** and on our YouTube channel. Please share this information with those you know who can't join us in person.





In this Season of Resurrection new life is budding forth all around us. Something is ending and something new and different is beginning.

You will begin to notice that certain people are missing from our worship time. They are following their call by God to worship elsewhere. They are beginning something new in their lives. And without them, we are beginning something new in the life of our congregation.

We will miss them and grieve that they are no longer among us, but we wish them well and will keep them in our prayers, as I know they will be praying for all of us.

It will take time to adjust to the changes. With God's guidance and grace our needs will be met. Together we can and will move forward. God is with us, encouraging us and expecting us to take advantage of the new opportunities being presented, to serve our church community and wider community.

We are not alone. God is among us and we have each other.

In His Love,

Gail Conners, SPR Chairperson



# CHURCH CALENDAR

Sun.	Apr. 2	9:30 - 10:30 am	Palm SundayWorship* Food Donation Sunday
Wed.	Apr. 5	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Trustees Meeting
Thur.	Apr. 6	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal Maundy Thursday Service
Fri.	Apr. 7	7:00 pm	Good Friday Service
Sun.	Apr. 9	7:00 am 9:30 - 10:30 am	Easter Sunrise Service Easter Worship – sanctuary
Tue.	Apr. 11	6:30 – 8:00 pm	Finance Meeting
Sun.	Apr. 16	9:30 – 10:30 am	Worship Service - sanctuary
Tue.	Apr. 18	6:30 - 8:00	COM Meeting
Thur.	Apr.20	5:30 – 7:00 pm	Food Pantry Giveaway
Sun.	Apr. 23	9:30 - 10:30 am	Worship – sanctuary
Sun.	Apr. 30	9:30 - 10:30 am	Worship – sanctuary

To add an event to the church calendar, please send email information to [administrator@csumc.com](mailto:administrator@csumc.com) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month previous to the event.

*\*All Worship services in the sanctuary are livestreamed and can be viewed online using <http://csumc.freeonlinechurch.com> or on our YouTube channel.*

# Church Contacts

## Pastor

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## Council on Ministries

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## United Women in Faith

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## Food Ministry

Steve Strub/Connie Jones  
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[kidspantry@csumc.com](mailto:kidspantry@csumc.com)

## Funeral Receptions

Cherry McIntyre / Sharon Ranger  
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## Prayer Chain (email)

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## Treasurer

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