

Pastoral Meditation

For the morning's light
And the dawn's reminder of hope and renewal
For your untameable utterances of life
For your continual "let there be's" In our life
For your love in the midst
We give you thanks, O God.
Release within this season of togetherness
The persuasion of your Spirit
That we may be enfolded into nothing but your love
So That we may be transformed only by love

Eternal Listener,
In the course of this month
We will live in the tension
Between response and reaction
Between compassion and fear
Between contemplation and chaos
We will choose wisely at times
We will choose poorly at times
Above all else
We hold dear this assurance
Awareness of your loving kindness can lead to Creative Transformation
In this month of practicing our awareness of you
May your transformative grace be witnessed in our lives. Amen.

New opportunity during Lent:

A Time of Loving Kindness prayer: 6:00-6:15AM (Online Livestream Only),
12-12:30pm (Livestream and in Person/Sanctuary), and
9:30-9:45pm (Online Livestream Only) (Monday through Friday)
Wednesday March 5-Friday April 18th.

The brief moments of prayer are opportunities to join God in praying for loving kindness, peace, and happiness to our loved ones throughout Lent.

Grace and Peace,
Phil



Church Activities for March

Choir

Choir rehearsals are at 1:00 pm each Thursday.
Chime Choir practice at 2 pm on Thursdays.

All are invited to come and practice for the **Hallelujah Chorus for our Easter Service.** We'd love to have More voices for a fuller sounding choir!

Please see Linda Moore if you would like to participate. All are welcome.



Cuddle Quilts

As you enjoy the warmth and beauty of our Sanctuary this month we hope you will take note of the Cuddle Quilts draped over the altar rail. These little quilts are made with love and care and we'd love to have your help and prayers for them. If you can sew, trim fabric with scissors, or tie a knot then you are needed for this church mission! They bring so much comfort to children in the hospital.

Please join us Saturday March 15th from 9am to Noon. We hope to see you even if only for an hour. Join the fun as we make baby quilts for Golisano Hospital. Thank you, Susann Pruitt

Lunch Bunch

Did you know that each Tuesday we have social time called Lunch Bunch? We bring our lunch to eat together. Sometimes we share a pot of soup and loaf of bread and of course a dessert! We'd love to have you join our Lunch and social time **Tuesday's at 11:45am.** Bring your lunch and enjoy some fellowship!

Community Breakfast

Everyone is invited to attend a breakfast every Saturday (except the first Saturday): 8am @ Slayton Place in Spencerport. This is sponsored by the Men's group, but all are welcome.

Game Night Fourth Fridays

Each month several folks get together in the Fellowship Hall to play board games. If you are looking for a chance to socialize, here's a fun way to do so. We meet at 6 pm and share snacks while we play a game or two. See you on March 28, 2025

Coffee Fellowship

This month we need volunteers to sign up to set up, prepare baked goods and clean up so we may all enjoy fellowship time together. We welcome those who enjoy baking to share your treats for Coffee hour. Please sign up so we know what to expect, or want to help by setting up or cleaning up after. Questions, see Sue Josephson. Sign up sheet is on the main bulletin board.

Thank you, CARE Team

Prayer Concerns

Please join us in prayer for: Peg W and family, Ed & Sue McP, Gary C, Christie, Joanie S, Theresa S, Joyce P, Carol, Mary, and Lisa. Remember those who have lost loved ones in your thoughts and prayers: Ralph S whose sister passed..



Tax Aide

AARP Tax-Aide is preparing taxes at the Riga Town Hall (585-293-3880) on Wednesday afternoons and Chili Community Center (585-889-4680) on Thursday and Friday mornings. If you need help getting your taxes completed, please call one of those numbers for an appointment. If you have trouble getting an appointment or have mobility issues, please contact me directly and I'll do everything I can to get you taken care of.

Lyle Tague 585-352-0837; Lyletague@icloud.com

Polity Course: at Bergen UMC: March 1 & 15

This course gives an overview of the structure and organization of The United Methodist Church. The 2020/2024 Book of Discipline is recommended for this course and can be ordered from Cokesbury, if you can't borrow your churches copy. The 2016 edition is okay, if that is what your church has. The text for you to purchase for this course is Polity, Practice, and Mission of the United Methodist Church by Thomas Edward Frank. It is on Amazon. Please read the first few chapters before March 1.

United Women in Faith News

The winter weather nixed our original date of making Grab & Go lunches for the Open Door Mission on January 20th (Martin Luther King, Jr Day) as our plans included children who were off school. Wednesday, January 29, turned out to be a school holiday - Lunar New Year! (Who knew? It's been almost 15 years since my kids graduated from High School). We discussed homelessness and how the lunches would help to feed their bodies. And also how our encouraging words would let those in need know that we support them. The children did a wonderful job of decorating 70+ bags. We had a great turn out!

February 16th was Women's Sunday where we celebrated the work and mission of our North Chili United Women in Faith unit, highlighting some of our 2024 accomplishments. Michael Henry from Foodlink was our guest speaker. We learned that Foodlink is a regional food bank serving a 10 county area of Upstate New York where 12% of the population (>150,000 people) live with food insecurity. Food insecurity is "household-level economic and social condition of limited or uncertain access to adequate food." Michael, also shared that Foodlink addresses the root cause of hunger through numerous programs (Community Farm, Pop-up Pantries, Curbside Market, etc). UWF is going to organize a tour of the Foodlink facility this year where we can learn more about this worthwhile organization. I hope this year's Women's Service was a reminder of the importance of "faith in action", inspiring you to carry your faith forward in your daily lives. Our next meeting is Monday, March 10th, where our annual Call to Prayer and Self-Denial program will be presented. The Call to

Prayer and Self-Denial began more than 125 years ago as a prayerful way to study, pray, and then give sacrificially to better the lives of others. This year the offering will support economic development and microenterprise projects, vocational training, life skills, and livelihood training internationally. Specially, funds will support the work of UM conference women's teams that design and lead projects that make a direct impact on improving the lives of their families and community members. All of the ladies in the congregation are invited to attend.

As the days grow longer and the earth awakens, may you feel the warmth of God's love shining upon you. May He bless you with renewed energy and a sense of purpose this March.

Lori McComb, North Chili UWF President



Food Pantry

Grace Church of the Nazarene continues to serve 20 to 30 families in the Ogden area each Wed. 5:30-7 pm. Clients are allowed to come every 30 days. As their neighbor we continue to support them in this important mission.

Food Pantry Donations needed this month:

- shampoo conditioner laundry soap dish soap single toothbrushes
- Kleenex toilet paper sanitary products~ both tampons & pads,

Small to Regular size containers and unscented products are preferred, please.

Thank you all for the great response for this mission!

This is a local community pantry and Grace Church is very thankful for our support.

Our next delivery day is March 16 th.



March 2025 EVENTS

1 March Sat

8-10 am Pancake Breakfast

2 Mar, Sun Transfiguration Sunday

10 am Worship

Scripture: Luke 9:28-36

Liturgist: Don Allis

Ushers: Susann P, MaryLou Bowers

Communion: Layla & Vanessa Lee, Fiona P

Sunday School: Sandra Waterman

Camera: Linda Tague

Sound: Rodney Nichols

Coffee Fellowship: Volunteers

11 am Coffee Fellowship

11:30 am Property Stewards Mtg

6 pm Bible Study

4 Feb, Tue

10 am Bible Study

11:45 am Lunch Bunch

12:30pm FM Celebration mtg

5 Mar, Ash Wednesday

10 am Vitality mtg.

5:45 pm Soup Supper

7:00 pm Worship Service

6 Mar, Thu

10 am Bible Study

1 pm Choir practice

2 pm Chimes practice

8 Feb, Sat

8 am Community Breakfast Slayton Place

9:30 am -3:30 pm Pie Baking

9 Feb, Sun 1st Sunday in Len

10 am Worship

Scripture: Luke 4:1-13

Liturgist: Rodney Nichols

Ushers: Lori & Paul McComb

Sunday School: Sandra Waterman

Camera: Randy Bloechl

Sound: Todd Hochgraf

Coffee hour: Volunteers

11 am - Coffee Fellowship

11:15 am Pi Day Pie sale~ Slices and Whole

6:00 pm Bible Study

10 Mar, Mon

Char V's Birthday

7:00 pm UWF mtg

11 Mar, Tue

10 am Bible Study

11:45 am Lenten Soup Lunch

13 Mar, Thu

10 am Bible Study

1pm Choir Practice

2 pm Chimes Practice

14 Mar, Fri

Sandy W's Birthday

15 Mar, Sat

8 am Community Breakfast at Slayton Place

9 am-Noon Cuddle Quilts & OCC Crafts

16 Mar, Sun 2nd Sunday in Lent

MaryLou B's Birthday

10 am Worship

Scripture: Luke 13:31-35

Liturgist: Lyle Tague

Ushers: Gail Powell, Kathy S

Sunday School: Sandra Waterman

Camera: Don Allis

Sound: Carol Bloechl

Coffee Fellowship: Volunteers

11am Coffee Fellowship

11:30 am Food Pantry Delivery

6:00 pm Bible Study

18 Mar, Tue

10 am Bible Study

11:45 am Lenten Soup Lunch

7 pm Church Council meeting

March 2025 EVENTS continued

19 Mar, Wed

11:30 am Addison Parkland Service

20 Mar, Thur

10 am Bible Study

1pm Choir Practice

2 pm Chimes Practice

April Newsletter Deadline

22 Mar, Sat

Jim K's Birthday

8 am Community Breakfast at Slayton Place

23 Mar, Sun 3rd Sunday in Lent

10 am Worship

Scripture: Luke 13: 1-9

Liturgist: Randy Bloechl

Ushers: Sue J, Kathy Krisher

Sunday School: Sandra Waterman

Camera: Todd Hochgraf

Sound: Todd Calvin

Coffee Fellowship:Volunteers

11am Coffee Fellowship

6 pm Bible Study

25 Mar, Tue

10 am Bible Study

11:45 am Lenten Soup Lunch

Ralph S's Birthday

10 am Bible Study

1pm Choir Practice

2 pm Chimes Practice

28 Mar, Fri

6 pm Game Night

29 Mar, Sat

8am Community Breakfast at Slayton Place

30 Mar, Sun UMCOR Sunday

10 am Worship

Scripture: Luke 15: 1-3; 11b-32

Liturgist: David Hale

Sunday continued

Ushers: Becky & Lary Cornell

Sunday School: Sonya Pease

Camera: Linda Tague

Sound: TCarol Bloechl

Coffee Fellowship:Volunteers

11am Coffee Fellowship

6 pm Bible Study

Special Sundays

UMCOR Sunday

This offering provides major support of the United Methodist Committee on Relief.

It offers immediate assistance for disaster programs: emergency services, food, shelter, health. 100 % of your gift goes to disaster recovery.

Please pray about your offering to this Special Mission and give generously to love your neighbor.

Monthly Opportunity to Make New Friends!

Worship Service: The Addison of Parklands
March 19, 2025 at 11:30 am.

Together as a church we lead a worship service the third Wednesday each month for the residents at the Addison Residence at the corner of Chili and Union, led by Rev. Phil. The service is typically 30-40 minutes and our presence is so deeply appreciated by the residents! The time spent together is truly meaningful! All of us are invited to attend!



Farmers Market Celebration North Chili UMC

Dear Congregation and NCFM Supporters:

Coming soon is the 50th Season and Anniversary of our North Chili Farmers Market (NCFM). With this 50th Season of the NCFM we would like to celebrate the 5 decades or the ½ century of Community Service. This is certainly the priceless dedication and commitment from our present and past church family which is making this treasure stand the test of time!

For this celebration we have several ideas to make this a memorable year for our community market. We welcome your help in any way, so please watch this space for more information about our plans. There may be new T-shirts, market bags, a scavenger hunt, Children's activities, prize baskets, and more. Please contact John Standinger at standingerjohn@gmail.com or 585-281-6538, if you would like to be involved in any way. Let's make this a season to remember. And thank you all for your support for the NCFM for all these years. John



Finance Team News:

We continue to hover right around the break even number. This past year we had a few unexpected expenses, but were able to cover them when they occurred.

	2024 B	2024 Actual	2025 B
Income	\$176,730	\$179,730	\$183,900
Operat Exp	\$179,514	\$184,864	\$191,886
Cash Flow Gain (Loss)	(\$2,784)	(\$5,134)	(\$7,986)

I'd like to take a second to spotlight the Farmers Market and Pancake breakfasts that added a bit over \$14,000 to our operating income. Without them and of course your generous giving the picture would be slightly darker. "Thank You" to all of our members, regular attendees and visitors for taking part in the maintaining of our church. When I mention Operating Expenses they include Pastor & Staff wages, Conference Commitments, Facility Mgmt (both church and parsonage) and Program & Committee Support. One major increase we did not budget for was the return of a real Rochester Winter. Our projected Snow removal budget was based on the previous 2 or 3 years expenses, and I believe the actual expense will probably run between two and three thousand dollars over budget.

We face a challenge as a church. Wages, conference expectations and property maintenance continue to increase, we find ourselves projecting a negative budget of almost \$8,000 this year. The Finance Committee as well as the Church Council will do our best to watch for ways to save money, and we are looking for ways to add to our income this coming year.

It is not all "negative news". We continue to afford Capital Projects such as; the updating of the lighting in the sanctuary. We also "invest" in caring programs such as Operation Christmas Child, CARE, College outreach and many more. All of this was made possible by your energy, talents and faithful support of our Church.

If you have any questions, thoughts or suggestions; please contact me and I will be happy to discuss these with you.

Randy Bloechl, Treasurer

Family Photo Board

We have been taking photos of folks who did not have a readily available photo, or who wants to update their picture on our family board.



Everyone is welcome to have their picture posted. If you have a digital photo, please send it to the church office e-mail (umcnorthchili@gmail.com) and we will have your

photo printed for our Family Photo Board.

Please contact [Don Allis](#) if you have any questions.

Operation Christmas Child News



It was exciting to hear that our shoeboxes went to Liberia and Ghana this past year. Let's continue to help share the Gospel of Jesus's love to children around the world.

Collection for March is

Activity Items - Balls, soccer balls, marbles, small or folding frisbees, musical instruments (recorders, harmonicas), small tools and fishing kits for older boys and sewing supplies for older girls. Please remember no liquid filled balls and everything must fit in a standard sized shoebox.

Crafting opportunities: We will team up with Cuddle Quilts to hold a joint sewing/crafting workshop on Saturday March 15th 9am-noon in Adams Hall. No experience necessary.

Thanks for your continued generosity, Sonya Pease

The Return of Pi (3.14159...) Day

Sunday March 9th

We will be selling whole pies and slices during coffee hour to support Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Calling all pie bakers, for donations of pies. What constitutes a pie? It must be ROUND. Sweet, savory, anything goes. You decide what you would like to bake. For those who would like to bake together, we will have a pie baking session on Saturday March 8th. See signups for details and timing.

Pancake Breakfast March 1, 8am - 10am



NChili UMC Community Breakfast Featuring the Magic Griddle!

Menu Includes:

Scrambled Eggs Sausage
All-you-can-eat Pancakes Juice & Coffee or Tea

Donations:

Adults: \$ 7 | Ages 5-10: \$4 | Ages < 5: Free

Come for Breakfast | Stay for Fellowship!

What is Lent?

Symbols of Lent: rough Cross, Ashes, Crown of Thorns, color purple.

Lent is a season of 40 days, not counting Sundays, because "every Sunday is like a little Easter."

The word comes from lencten, which means "spring." It begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday.

During this season Christians prepare for Easter in several ways. Some focus on simple living, prayer and fasting in order to grow closer to God. It is a time to refocus our lives to be more like Jesus. Some take on a service for Christ: collecting food for the needy, volunteering, working for justice, more time in prayer, forgiveness, etc.

The Great Three Days – the Tridium

From sunset Holy Thursday through sunset Easter Day proclaim the paschal mystery of Jesus Christ's passion, death, and resurrection. We journey with Jesus from the Upper room, to the garden, to the Cross, and to the tomb.

The colors most associated with Lent are somber colors like purple and ash gray.

The ashes symbolize our mortality and the need for ongoing repentance. The Crown of Thorns is often placed upon a rough hewn Cross to symbolize Jesus' painful death.

WELCOME



Easter plants may be ordered in honor of or in memory of a loved one. To order, please fill out the form below and return it in the collection plate (Sunday Mar. 2, 9, 16) with your payment. You may also donate to the flower fund. Checks should be made payable to UMC of North Chili. Orders can also be mailed to the church. Thank you for your support to beautify our church. All plants are \$ 5.00 each

In Honor of: _____ (or) In Memory of: _____

Tulip _____ Primrose _____ Tulip _____ Primrose _____

Daffodil _____ Lily _____ Daffodil _____ Lily _____

Flower Fund Only:

In Honor of _____ (or) in Memory of _____

\$ _____ \$ _____

Donated By: _____ Donated By: _____

All PLANTS ARE \$5.00 EACH Total No. Plants _____ Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

_____ Will _____ Will Not Pick Up Plants

Orders will be accepted until March 16, 2025 -- No orders after that date, Thank you.

Where ALL are genuinely welcomed, loved, & accepted as God welcomes, loves, & accepts ALL



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Worship: 10am Sundays
Rev. Dr. Phil Phaneuf