The United Methodist Church of Queensbury’s growing edge

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Welcome!
Give and Receive God’s Great Love
Can you hear Mary trying to catch her breath as she is trying so quickly to speak the most influential words probably ever spoken in the course of human history:

“...I’ve... I’ve... I’ve SEEN the LORD!”

Did she run? Did she walk with her fingers rubbing circles in the temples of her forehead? Did Mary have to stop at times on the way to the other disciples and consider how surreal this whole weekend had been?

Her Rabbi is alive again after being publicly executed by the authorities. She was probably with the disciples when Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. In fact, Lazarus himself was probably with them all in the midst of all this.

But it was all still sinking in for all of them. Is it still sinking in for you? I have to tell you that it is still sinking in for me.

The problem for me, sometimes, is still seeing the grief and the loss happening in our community. I still have issues in the Resurrection sinking in when I read of all the tragic situations all around this world.

How, then, shall we live into the reality of the Resurrection? What do we say in the midst of tragedy? What do we say to death? What do we say to suffering?

As Easter people, this is where the rubber meets the road: what do we say to all of these things without sounding trite or Pollyanna?

This is where hope comes into play. We sure say a lot about faith and love as Christians but I wonder sometimes if we say enough about hope. The Apostle Paul puts hope into the top three, “faith, hope, love remain the three.”

What, then, is our hope? Our hope is that the Resurrection answers all the questions of death and fear. Our hope is that when God chooses sides, God is always on the side of life. Our hope is that God “works with the world as it is to bring it to where it can be.”

Could it be that hope means that we live life in such a way that when we experience grief and suffering, we know that God will answer in the fullness of time. And in that hope, we actually live in that future reality in the here and now.

May it be so and may Grace and Hope Abound!
FROM PALMS TO THORNS TO EMPTY TOMBS

We venture each year through the life, teachings, death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord. This year we experienced this journey in new ways with the hope of deep meaning and a looking forward to the joy of God’s answer to the reversals of life.
This year’s Lenten journey was deeply intentional. We began with setting the stage that we would follow Jesus on a number of his one-on-one encounters through the Gospel of John in our times of worship. While our Sundays were times of worship in the journey, there were twelve people learning about discipleship on Thursday evenings.

The students who were not already members would go on to be received as new members on Easter Sunday, following in the ancient Christian practice of observing Lent as a time for preparing to be welcomed as members into the church on the holy day!

Also during the Lenten season those seeking a deeper sense of God’s presence in their times of intentional rest met together on Monday Evenings for a deeply moving small group experience called the Practice of Rest led by Sandy Wild and Dianne Rutledge. Several Resting in His Presence Services were offered throughout the season as well.

As we moved toward the Holy Week, our children led our worship services with their prepared musical offering called the Tale of the Three Trees. Those present wiped away tears as they were moved by God’s Spirit in the message and offering our children gave led by Carol Ann Elze-Sussdorff, our Director of Music.

Palm Sunday began with our children distributing the palm branches and the hosannas proclaiming Jesus as the Christ and the King! In the midst of the service we turned toward the impending passion of Jesus as we celebrated the Last Supper together in communion.

Several people found it meaningful to receive communion during Holy Week as it was offered at the church at Noon everyday during the week.

What a wonderfully moving experience on Maundy Thursday. We were ushered into Clark Hall where the tables and chairs were arranged in the shape of the cross. We celebrated the Last Supper and then, while singing “Were You There?” we moved from the Hall into the Sanctuary.

A tenebrae re-enactment of the disciples fleeing the scene following readings was interspersed with hymns and anthems. One of the most moving moments that evening was when the roman guard figure (played by Keith Laake) entered the sanctuary and looked on as the Christ figure (played by Jim Clark) took up his cross and slowly dragged the heavy beams out of the sanctuary and implanted it in the front yard of the church. The cross remains there for the town to see it barren throughout Eastertide.

Good Friday included a music and scripture media presentation that depicted the artwork of the passion throughout the centuries. Several people were moved by the video as it told the story once again of the immense suffering Jesus endured because of his love for the world.

And then, EASTER! We began early that day on the pier of Lake George as nearly 100 of us from church and the local community gathered for an Easter Sunrise Service! The lake was still and glassy and as the service began, the sun appeared from behind the mountainscape and began to warm all of us gathered!

The two services at church were full of Easter joy, as the Baker Brass along with Carol Ann triumphantly sounded out the fantastic news that Jesus Christ is alive again and forevermore! The church was packed on that beautiful day! What a blessing it is each year to know that Easter is a season... not just a day! May you be blessed in the knowledge that Jesus Christ has answered Death with Life!
On Saturday, April 5th, sixteen girls—both young and young at heart—gathered for a movie night in Clark Hall. We all enjoyed the newest Tinker Bell movie, Tinker Bell and the Pirate Fairy. We were introduced to new fairy friends as well as familiar favorites.

It was a great story about appreciating each other’s gifts and talents, working together, and forgiving each other. One adult commented that only when they put down their swords and did what they did best did the fairies succeed.

When the girls were asked how they liked the movie, the unanimous response was, “Awesome!” Everyone agreed we need to do this again.

What was the best part of the movie? “The ending [when they all showed the best of their talents].”
SOMETHING LOOKS NEW...

SAYING “COMMUNITY” IN NEW WAYS

Fresh! New! Different! Innovative! Sometimes, we welcome these words and sometimes we question them. Why change? What was wrong with the previous way? Is this costing us more? These are very important questions!

As you can see, the newsletter looks drastically different! In fact, the look is so drastic that it warrants an article to discuss the reasons for the change! We are retooling this crucial publication for a number of reasons.

One of the items that came up during the visioning process was our church’s communications. The evaluation was that we do a wonderful job proclaiming what is coming up in the life of the church, but, like many other churches, we sometimes lack in celebrating the recent past in the life of the church.

As we’ve looked at how to meet the goal of telling God’s story in the life of the United Methodist Church of Queensbury, we’re using this newsletter to implement this change.

First, our church newsletter is moving from its monthly schedule to a quarterly schedule. Creating and printing a newsletter quarterly will allow us to send you upcoming events well ahead of schedule so that you may add them to your calendar that much sooner. It also allows us to plan ahead as a church; and also allows us to worry less about meeting a monthly deadline when we submit items!

Most of all, the mission and vision of this newsletter is now going to be clearly two-fold. First, The Growing Edge will tell the story of the life here at church. It will contain articles of recent events and celebrations, fun small group experiences and the transformative presence of God in our midst. Second, it will invite us all into opportunities of worship and fellowship, education and outreach.

As we look at the size of the publication and we see color splashed throughout, we may ask: how much more is this costing the church? Because we’ve moved from a nine publication per year schedule to a four publication schedule, we will remain within budget. In other words, this change will not cost us more.

We may also ask, what are we going to do in between the publications if something else needs to be communicated? As you’ve seen throughout this year, we’ve expanded the news section in our weekly bulletins. This weekly invitation to opportunities will be extremely helpful between mailings of The Growing Edge.

We will also be working on expanding our digital communications to line up with our printed communications. Our website and our email strategies will be updated this year to keep us connected in helpful ways. Do not fear, friends who do not like tech... we will continue to print and offer our communications in ways that will always be available to you even if you do not use a computer!

We hope that this format is such that you will want to pass it on to friends or others as a “port of entry” into the life of the church. Our endeavor is to share insights into our times of worship and fellowship in such a way that visitors and friends will then turn to the pages of upcoming events and consider in a fresh way what it would like to join us in the journey of faith!

As always, if you have further questions about our communication strategies you can always contact us and we’d be more than pleased to answer them as best we can!

Grace and Peace Abound!

A SURPRISE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR HELEN!

On Sunday, April 6th after the 10:20am service, Helen Sander’s family and friends gathered in Clark Hall to wish her a Happy 90th Birthday. All of Helen’s family came to share in this celebration with her, even her son all the way from California!

Some of you may not know that Helen was our church organist and choir director for decades! She was the organist for many weddings through the years, notably Meg & George Hagerty’s wedding and also Jan Gobeille’s daughter’s wedding.

Thank you to all who made this day so special for Helen.
Implementing Our Vision Continues to be Realized...

THE GROWING EDGE

PHASE II

OUR FIRST YEAR TOGETHER IN IMPLEMENTING OUR VISION IS ALMOST COMPLETE!

An Exciting Time to be in Ministry Together!

We're approaching the end of our first year together in implementing our vision! What an exciting time to be in ministry together.

We've looked well to the growing edge of life here at the UMC of Queensbury. Our five areas of focus over the next four years are well under way. Youth & Children's Ministry, Membership Care, Leadership Development, Missional Outreach, and Sacred Space Improvements: all of these areas of growth we can see wonderful changes already happening in the first year.

As you may already know, we are calling the next four years of ministry together in implementing our vision “The Growing Edge.” Our mission is the same as the United Methodist Church’s stated mission: “to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” We believe that a disciple refers to a person seeking a life lived following Jesus Christ. Along with this mission, our vision over the next four years is “to Look Well to the Growing Edge.” But we use the term “growing” in a special way: we do not simply mean to grow in terms of numbers. Numbers are not the goal. People are not numbers. Therefore, we believe our vision is faithful to the mission when we see growth as depth. We seek to deepen the meaning of our relationships and our ministries!

We believe that stewardship, that is, a heart for the maintenance and modifications of our ministries will help achieve our mission and vision.

From our parking lot, to the bridge inside, to the path between our worship and fellowship spaces, to the preparing of breaking bread, to the times and spaces of worship and learning, it is so clear to see that our mission and vision are alive!

Let's be sure that our work is about ministry! We see that we are making a difference in our community and the best is yet to come! Let’s spend a moment updating you on Phase I of The Growing Edge Vision Implementation.

MISSION OUTREACH

The church Food Pantry has been renovated and prepared to become linked with the Northeast Food Bank! This translates into receiving food at much lower costs. This means that we will be able to stretch the donated dollar even further to feed more people!

As you may have seen the outpouring of our community this past week to the survivors of the Sherman Square Fire in Glens Falls, we can report that our connection with our community is strong and will continue to strengthen.

Our Children led a phenomenal outreach campaign for those in need through the Heifer Project! Our Youth will mission in Rutland, VT on the church’s first annual mission trip! This coming weekend, our children will “jump” for Nepal!

We also give thanks for Debbie Romanaz’s leadership and the fantastic QUMCKidz Program. This Preschool and Before/After School Care program is outreach! It is outreach at its finest! We provide a caring and loving environment for children and parents in our community. So great emphasis this year will be to look at creative ways to communicate our core strengths in a competitive environment.

SACRED SPACE IMPROVEMENTS

During the Summer, we will renovate the Solarium into a Welcome Center. The nurture committee’s work has funded this welcome center redesign! If you’ve seen Clark Hall you know how much work has gone into preparing it for new ministries such as Youth Ministries and the upcoming Sunday PM worship services. The addition of a mobile stage, sound system, video/sound/lighting control center, chair and storage closet, projection screen and projector, and new chairs all make a huge impact on the kinds of ministries that can happen in Clark Hall.

NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES!

In the Fall, we modified the vision implementation to include children’s ministry as well as youth ministry. I believe we can all agree that child disciples become adult disciples if adult disciples model for child disciples. With that in mind, we will begin an education hour for all ages in September. We seek an education hour that is holistic, that deepens discipleship, that perhaps can set the week’s conversation at home. So in September, Sunday School will be from 9:30 - 10:15 in the morning; between the two morning worship services! Sunday school will be for all ages—yes, including adults! While Sunday School will be for many ages, all our classes will focus on the same scripture. This year we will use the curriculum from Feastings on the Word. It is a churchwide program that uses the lectionary for choosing which scripture goes with each Sunday. This way our Sunday School Scripture will also be our Worship Service Scripture. Every Sunday will be thematic and organized. Along with Sunday School, there will be a time of learning and enrichment for children during the 10:30 worship service following the children’s message. We pray this initiative will bear fruit in the following areas: We hope that parents and children will be learning together, volunteers will not miss worship, the children’s message will happen every Sunday, and as always, children may stay with parents for worship!

We also pray that adults will have a chance to learn more about the week’s scripture in Sun-
day School and that adults will be more comfortable teaching children the Scriptures. Parents will see that they have the option of 8:30 or 10:30 worship.

This is what a typical Sunday will look like:

- **8:30 - 9:20** - Early morning worship
- **9:30 - 10:15** - Sunday school/fellowship time
- **10:30 - 11:30** - Mid-morning worship
- **11:30 - Noon** - Fellowship time
- **4:30 - 5:30** - Afternoon worship
- **5:30 - 7:00** - Youth & Confirmation

With any change, it will be good for us to assess at the end of the year whether or not the change has been fruitful enough to continue its purpose. Our metrics for this Sunday School initiative at the end of year one will include:

- Is there fruit?
- How much deeper are our relationships?
- How much deeper is our discipleship?
- How is the energy level of our volunteers?
- What is the willingness to volunteer again?
- What is the depth of conversation at home?
- Is there a stronger connection to worship theme that week?
- Are there more new disciples because of this initiative?
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EVENTS THIS SPRING

MAY 18th
JUMP FOR NEPAL
Mission Sunday today “Jump for Nepal” join the children from 11:30 to 12 noon in Clark Hall. They will use the jump ropes they have made during Sunday School to “Jump for Nepal”. How can you help? You can sponsor a jumper and see how many times they can “Jump for Nepal”. Funds raised will go towards an Elementary School Resource Room for the school we are helping in Nepal. Thank you for joining in this fundraiser.

MAY 22ND - 7PM
FAITH & FILM
We’ll watch excerpts and discuss the redemptive elements of THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION in this hour-long presentation and discussion.

JUNE 1ST
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY will be June 1st at the 10:20 service this year! A Rehearsal and Banquet will be on Saturday May 31st @ 6PM

MAY 16-18
MEN’S GROUP CAMPING
(Moreau Lake State Campground): ALL MEN ARE WELCOME. The Men’s Camping weekend runs Friday, May 16, 2014 through Sunday Morning, May 17, 2014. Just stop in during the day for a hike, fishing, snipe hunting or for a manly dinner by the campfire while we “shoot the bull.” No tent - no problem, we have plenty of tent space and RV space available for all. If you have any interest or questions, see Steve Huntington, Steve Miller or Larry Elmen.

MAY 28TH - 7PM
RESTING IN GOD’S PRESENCE
Prayer and Healing Ministry

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JUNE 8TH
PROMOTION SUNDAY
A very special Sunday where we recognize the work of our children, present Bibles to our upcoming 3rd and 7th graders, thank our dedicated volunteers, and present the ANDREW CUTTS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS to our High School Seniors.

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MAY 28TH - 7PM
RESTING IN GOD’S PRESENCE
Prayer and Healing Ministry

DINNER THEATRE
JUNE 6TH & 7TH - 6PM IN CLARK HALL
SPIRITED PLAYERS COMEDY
On June 6th and 7th at 6:00pm both nights, the Spirited Players will be performing the contemporary comedy, “Let him sleep ’til it’s time for his funeral.” All money raised will go toward the youth mission trip.

PRICE: $20; includes dinner and an 1 ½ hour play
MORE INFORMATION: For the best seats, purchase tickets early.
TO BOOK CALL: 793-9728

“Give all your worries and cares to God because He cares what happens to you.” - 1 Peter 5:7

“Whatsoever it is that presses you, go tell the Father; put the matter into His hand, so you shall be freed from that dividing and perplexing care that the world is full of. When you are to do or suffer anything, when you are about any purpose or business, go tell the Father of it and acquaint Him with it; yes, burden Him with it, and be done with the matter of caring; no more care, but quiet, sweet diligence in your duty, and dependence on him for the carriage of all your matters. Roll your cares and yourself with them, as one burden, on your God.” - R. Leighton

Dear Lord, thank You that You invite me to cast my burdens on You. I give You the things that are weighing on my mind today, and I ask You to take them from my hands. Amen.

***These services will continue on our regular schedule for the summer months.***
Intercessory Prayer  
Every Wednesday at 2 PM  
Mid-Week Worship Service  
Wednesday at 7PM  
June 25, July 23, Aug 27  
Pray always. God listens all the time!

Food Pantry Re-Dedication  
Following the 10:20 Service on June 1st, join us in the Clark Hall near the Food Pantry as we re-dedicate its ministries as it moves into a new phase of ministry! Also, the pantry was well stocked around the holidays and we thank everyone for making that happen. Now, months later, a few items are running low. Peanut butter and jelly, boxed cereal, mayo, spaghetti sauce, canned fruit and rice are needed. If you can help us out we would greatly appreciate it.

ACS-Relay For Life  
The American Cancer Society’s “Relay for Life” is a signature fundraising event and will be held at the Queensbury High School track. This will be the 19th annual event in Queensbury and will be the 4th year for the Walker’s team. Money raised is used for the 4 pillars: 1. research, 2. education and awareness, 3. patient/family services, 4. advocacy via the assembly/senators. The Relay is also an opportunity for people in the community to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and to fight back against the disease. Everyone is invited to join us for this uplifting and sometimes life-changing event. If walking around the track is difficult for you, we will be happy to walk for you. :-) Just having your presence there will be a blessing!

Phood & Phe-lowship at the Phaneufs  
Please see the signup sheet on the bulletin board outside the Pastor’s Office. Each Sunday listed Rev. Phil and Megan invite four parishioners to come and break bread with them at the parsonage after the 10:20 service.

The Lunch Bunch  
June 11, 1pm at The Dochsider, July 16 (note return to 3rd week meeting dates) 1pm Olive Garden, August 20, 1pm at Red Lobster. Mark your calendars for the lunches you want to attend. Come alone or bring a friend, we have room for you at the table!

The Month of August  
Smile! The new picture directory is coming! Get Ready to Smile! We will be updating our church directory with portraits! We will have times available for portrait sittings during the month of August! Look for more information to come in the bulletin and also on the church website.

The Attic Sale Results  
Thank you all for your help and support for the Attic Sale by either donating, working, or purchasing items. Without you we couldn’t have had another successful sale! We made a total of $1,846.25 on the sale this year. Thank you, again, for your support. - Hilda Pratt, Attic Sale Coordinator

Vaca, Bible School  
Our theme will be “Welcome - Giving and Receiving God’s Great Love!” We will meet for a kick-off event on Sunday Evening the 27th and then meet Monday through Thursday mornings from 9 AM - Noon. If you are interested in volunteering or having your child participate, please let the church office know! It’s great that we’re able to give this date out this soon. Tell your neighbors and friends all about it!

The Month of August

Summer Worship News!  
We will continue to worship at both the 8:30 and 10:20 times during the summer. We will not move to a single service.

Share Your Event!

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Thank you all for your help and support for the Attic Sale by either donating, working, or purchasing items. Without you we couldn’t have had another successful sale! We made a total of $1,846.25 on the sale this year. Thank you, again, for your support. - Hilda Pratt, Attic Sale Coordinator

Vaca, Bible School  
Our theme will be “Welcome - Giving and Receiving God’s Great Love!” We will meet for a kick-off event on Sunday Evening the 27th and then meet Monday through Thursday mornings from 9 AM - Noon. If you are interested in volunteering or having your child participate, please let the church office know! It’s great that we’re able to give this date out this soon. Tell your neighbors and friends all about it!

The Month of August

Summer Worship News!  
We will continue to worship at both the 8:30 and 10:20 times during the summer. We will not move to a single service.

Share Your Event!

at the parsonage

JUNE 21st from 12 - 2pm

“It’s Been One Year!” Party!

Rev. Phil, Megan, Ty, and Fiona would love to celebrate with all of you our one year together! It will also be Fiona’s birthday! Come to the party at the parsonage. Fiona is blessed and doesn’t need a thing! So, instead of presents, The Phaneufs are starting a QUMCKIDZ Scholarship Fund! Perhaps you’d consider giving to that outreach ministry!

More Information: philphaneuf@me.com
To RSVP Call: (518) 973-9728

May 30th - 6pm

ACS-Relay For Life

The American Cancer Society’s “Relay for Life” is a signature fundraising event and will be held at the Queensbury High School track. This will be the 19th annual event in Queensbury and will be the 4th year for the Walker’s team. Money raised is used for the 4 pillars: 1. research, 2. education and awareness, 3. patient/family services, 4. advocacy via the assembly/senators. The Relay is also an opportunity for people in the community to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and to fight back against the disease. Everyone is invited to join us for this uplifting and sometimes life-changing event. If walking around the track is difficult for you, we will be happy to walk for you. :-) Just having your presence there will be a blessing!

More Information: www.relayforlife.org/queensburyNY
Jeff Jarett at jarett@adelphia.net or call 798-4568. Bottle donations may be made at It’s Your Nickel redemption centers located at: 88 Dix Avenue 761-4060 (across from Whiteman Chevrolet)
130 Broad Street 798-5199 (next to Talk of the Town)

Phood & Phe-lowship at the Phaneufs

Please see the signup sheet on the bulletin board outside the Pastor’s Office. Each Sunday listed Rev. Phil and Megan invite four parishioners to come and break bread with them at the parsonage after the 10:20 service.

The Lunch Bunch

June 11, 1pm at The Dochsider, July 16 (note return to 3rd week meeting dates) 1pm Olive Garden, August 20, 1pm at Red Lobster. Mark your calendars for the lunches you want to attend. Come alone or bring a friend, we have room for you at the table!

More Information: Pat Taylor
To Book Call: 260-2259

The Month of August

Smile! The New Picture Directory is Coming!

Get Ready to smile! We will be updating our church directory with portraits! We will have times available for portrait sittings during the month of August! Look for more information to come in the bulletin and also on the church website.

More Information: office@queensburyumc.org
Call: 973-9728

Yay! The Attic Sale Results

Thank you all for your help and support for the Attic Sale by either donating, working, or purchasing items. Without you we couldn’t have had another successful sale! We made a total of $1,846.25 on the sale this year. Thank you, again, for your support. - Hilda Pratt, Attic Sale Coordinator

July 27th - July 31st

Vaca, Bible School

Our theme will be “Welcome - Giving and Receiving God’s Great Love!” We will meet for a kick-off event on Sunday Evening the 27th and then meet Monday through Thursday mornings from 9 AM - Noon. If you are interested in volunteering or having your child participate, please let the church office know! It’s great that we’re able to give this date out this soon. Tell your neighbors and friends all about it!

More Information: Rev. Phil
To Book Call: 973-9728

Summer Worship News!

We will continue to worship at both the 8:30 and 10:20 times during the summer. We will not move to a single service.

Share Your Event!

Email: office@queensburyumc.org
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Our parking area needs rescaling & striping, so we thought we could break it down into the amount of spaces we have! If we were to have 80 people offer $65/space, the parking project would be fully funded!

In the same way, our ramps need new decking, so why not have 225 pledges of $25 each? We need to let our light shine! literally, on the main entrance so that we know we are pulling into the right church! So our front entrance needs new lighting. We’ll install a longer-lasting, brighter, and more energy efficient light to show the way. This will cost around $1500.

Two new professional stoves can make a great difference in the kitchen! As we’re working toward a complete kitchen redesign in the near future, stove surface space is an immediate need that we can easily address. Two five-burner stoves can increase efficiency in our meal ministries!

Perhaps you’d like to sponsor the new Sunday PM worship service! We want to give this new opportunity to praise God for life its best chance for meaning. If we were to fund the first sixteen services at $150, this will plant the new invitational worship time with strength! Keep in mind that this new seed campaign will fund the employment of musicians for the first year. If we were to take all of these creative ways to steward our current resources and to prepare for new ministries, we are hoping to gather together $25,000 between now and June 15th!

We believe that our generosity can meet this goal—the goal of the Growing edge is always about ministry! We believe that our mission “to make disciples of Jesus Christ” can be better served through our stewardship of the gifts we have historically received while also planting seeds for current and future ministries.

So the GROWING EDGE fund for 2014 recap
$65 For the lot! Parking lot campaign... 80 needed to fund
$25 To bridge the gap... 225 plank pledges
$150 To sponsor the new service this year... 16 needed for 2014 musicians.

You May Be Asking:
What Can I Do?
Here are some possible action items you may wish to consider:
• Let us pray and consider how we can be effective in ministry
• Let us give as we are able. If you’d like to give, please mark your check made out to the church with the memo line “Growing Edge Phase 2”, that will ensure that it is accounted in the appropriate manner.
• Let us share with others the exciting way God is working in our lives here as we look well to the Growing Edge.

CREATIVE!
We decided to be a little creative with how we can meet the goal of $25,000 for Phase II of the Growing Edge Fund!

#1 OUR VISION IS ABOUT MINISTRY
TO STEWARD THE GIFTS FROM OUR PAST
PHASE II PROMOTES MINISTRY IN THE NOW...

#2 RESEAL & STRIPE LOT
We know how important it is to keep a routine on resealing parking areas. This regularly scheduled maintenance is upon us and if there were 80 of us who could give $65, we can fully fund this project!
THE PLAN: 80 spaces @ $65/ea.

#3 NEW ENTRY LIGHT
Sometimes it’s difficult (especially at night) to know exactly when to turn in to the main entrance. We’d like to replace the burnt-out light (which would cost hundreds to replace just the bulb anyway) with a brighter, longer-lasting, and energy efficient LED lamp and post.
THE PLAN: $1500.00

#4 NEW STOVES
While we work toward plans for a complete kitchen redesign in the next few years, we can immediately address one of our biggest needs: more stove surface. Two new stoves will increase efficiency and eliminate bottlenecks for our meal ministries.
THE PLAN: 2 stoves @ ~$850/ea.

#5 RE-DECK THE RAMPS
The back ramp is in serious need of new decking. To address this safety issue immediately this Summer, we just need 225 of us to say, “I have $25 for this part of the vision!” We will replace the wood decking with a sturdy, longer-lasting, full-of-traction decking material.
THE PLAN: 225 planks @ $25/ea.

#6 MAINTAIN THE ROOF
The harsh winters often take a toll on our roof—especially the connecting points. Before another winter settles in, we’d like to address the issues to prevent ice-damming and leaking.
THE PLAN: ~$2500.00

#7 SIGNS
Our back sign needs to be updated and the message area in the front sign needs repairs. As we look to having conversation with the Town about a possible LED message area, we’ll need to keep the current version up and running!
THE PLAN: ~$1500.00

#8 WELCOME CENTER
We’re excited about redesigning the Solarium to include intentional elements that welcome all of us into worship and opportunities for fellowship and discipleship. Look for these changes to happen this Summer—A Welcome Screen, literature racks, and inviting ways to gather!
THE PLAN: FULLY FUNDED!

#9 SUNDAY PM WORSHIP
We’ll use the newly redesigned Clark Hall on Sunday PM in the Fall to begin a new worship service. To reach new people within the community and to offer a time of worship that may be more convenient for our current members!
Our music portion of the service needs a “jump start” in funding
PRICE: 16 services @ $150 for musicians
In the midst of destruction, seeds are planted

Last week, over thirty-five people lost everything they owned in a blaze that engulfed their apartments in downtown Glens Falls. In the midst of this tragedy, we acted in the way that Jesus Christ modeled and taught us. We have served 33 out of the 35 displaced persons with the donations that have come in from all over the community! Food, Clothing, Household and Grooming items have overflowed Clark Hall as it has become a modern day feeding of the five thousand... leftovers were in abundance even after we have served those immediately in need!

I think many of our mouths dropped when we came into worship on Sunday and saw the overflowing Clark Hall. We are overwhelmed by the generosity of the community. We are thankful for the many volunteers who have come in and gone through bags and bags of donated clothes and sorted them and folded them. Our Confirmands devoted their whole weekend lock-in to assist in this emergency response. Megan Phaneuf was immediately using social media the night of the fire to begin gathering volunteers and resources to respond with love and care to those who lost a great deal in this tragedy. Her coordination efforts proved to be extremely fruitful in the form of awareness and the outpouring of donations. Tyler Poquette spent most of Sunday transporting the displaced people from their temporary housing in hotels and apartments to the church to receive donations and return them to their homes-for-now. Lynette Dilmore, The Girl Scouts with the Lucynshis, Sherrie Ann Cutts, Martha Mann, Pat Lang, Linda Pollock, Jeanne Runkel, Dianne Rutledge, Dee Leichert, the Robertson, and many others have taken the time to come in and sort through the donations. We’ve been able to feed them as well through our food pantry! (If you volunteered and we forgot to include your name, we’re sorry but we are very thankful for you!)

Donna Milford at Sensibiliteas, Target Stores, The Crandall Public Library, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, and numerous others have donated to this outreach effort! And now we know that Schuylerville UMC is opening their own storehouse and our leftovers will go to serving the needs of others within our local area! Please continue to keep the families and individuals affected by the fire in your prayers. As they move into new housing, they will be going through transitions that will require hope, strength and courage. May God bless them and may God bless you all with your willingness to be the hands and heart of Christ within our community!

Archbishop Desmond Tutu

“Without God, we cannot: without us, God will not”
MAY ANNIVERSARIES
May 5th - Diane & Gary DeCesare
May 8th - Deborah & Anthony Romanazzi
May 10th - Anne & Gary Greco
May 14th - Christine & Mithe Graves
May 20th - Heidi & David Mt. Pleasant
May 21st - Meg & George Hagerty
May 24th - Laurie & Rolly Merrill
May 29th - Lori & Doug Shaver; Kathie & David Hubert

MAY BIRTHDAYS
May 1st - Devon Hiscox
May 3rd - Karen Dwyre, Kim Harvish, Daniel LaMay
May 5th - Lori Shaver
May 6th - Matthew Varney
May 7th - Joan Gerhardt, Jeanne Runh**
May 8th - Emily Korniah
May 11th - Laurie Merrill
May 12th - David Rinn
May 15th - Heather Friers
May 16th - Bill Magowan, Rev. Ray Stees, Benjamin Baler
May 19th - Nancy Armstrong
May 21st - Rich Whinnery
May 22nd - Linda Murray
May 23rd - Jeffrey Wild, Evan Wei**
May 24th - Cassandra Labanowski
May 26th - Rebecca Mt. Pleasant
May 28th - Dori Garb, Eleanore Bodner
May 29th - George Hagerty, Sharon Laahle, Rev. Phil Phaneuf, Melissa Rinn
May 31st - Kate Armstrong

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES
June 2nd - Diane & Ed Russell
June 4th - Elaine & Bill Magowan
June 5th - Dot & Rich Whinnery; Cathy & Marc Meacham
June 8th - Jennifer & Sean Smith
June 10th - Joanna & Winslow McGuire
June 12th - Cheryl & Ray Stees
June 14th - Vicki & Neil Haspela
June 16th - Barbara & Bob Brunelle
June 20th - Paula & Robert Doty
June 21st - Betty & Joseph DeMatties
June 23rd - Susan & Robert Hummel

JUNE BIRTHDAYS
June 1st - Kevin Dwyre
June 2nd - Sandra Brands, Carly Merrill
June 3rd - Barbara Lester
June 4th - Brandon Seaman, Lydia Wheeler
June 5th - Brian Dwyre, Thomas Varney, Jr.
June 9th - Adam Brunelle, Colby Garb, June Maniaceh
June 10th - Matthew Crosby, Michelle Crosby, Gregory Runh**
June 11th - Elane Caple, Tracy Goodemote, Elaine Raymond, Laurie Stuart
June 12th - Kyle Hubert, Henry Sander, Elizabeth Nace
June 13th - Marshall Stevens
June 15th - Conor Davidson, Patricia Lang, Emma Goodwin

JULY ANNIVERSARIES
July 1st - Sharon & Paul Cederstrom
July 7th - Helen & Henry Sander
July 8th - Kim & Larry Cornell
July 14th - Jeanne & Gregory Runh**
July 18th - Laura & Thomas Lane
July 20th - Lisa & Willie Davis
July 21st - Tari & Phil Bacon
July 28th - Dorothy & Charles Little

JULY BIRTHDAYS
July 1st - Carol Beaudin-Carte, Tonya Nissinoff
July 3rd - Susan Wyman, Amelia Elmen
July 5th - Jade Melito, Jennifer Goodwin
July 6th - Diane Russell
July 7th - William Perry
July 8th - Samuel DelSignore
July 10th - Bill Lehecka, Devon Rinn
July 13th - Joseph DeMatties, Tom Baker
July 14th - Jack Hicks, Amber Stillier
July 16th - Dorothy Little, James Stine
July 17th - Robert Rowe, Jr.
July 19th - Ben Grant, Joy Griffin
July 20th - Nannette Oberhelman
July 21st - Kathy Baker, Ross Brown
July 23rd - Kevin Parmar
July 25th - Jill Clark
July 26th - Elinor Pingrey
July 29th - Martha Mann
July 30th, Kristin Friers, Robert Hagerty, Norma Malcolm, Daniel Polloch
July 31st - William Levandowski, Deborah Hummel, Michael Murphy

GIFTS GIVEN!
Clark Hall becomes an emergency storehouse for the people displaced by fire.
During the Lenten Season, our church offered three Resting Services on March 15th, March 26th, and April 7th. About eighteen people from our congregation, and other churches as well, participated in these services.

Some of those from other churches heard about our service from Facebook; specifically the North East Christian Connection Facebook page. Area churches share their events and activities on this page. Also, others have heard about us through Healing Spring Christian Ministries. They also have a Facebook page and post their events and worship evenings. If you have not already done so, you may want to LIKE these pages. The other important way others hear about the events going on at church is from YOU telling them. Word of mouth is still the number one way people hear about a service or event and attend. A personal invitation means so much.

Here are some of the responses to the question: What was [your] experience like [to rest in the presence of the Lord]?
1. “It’s a healing presence to be with Jesus, to be still, to absorb, to lift others up as they come to mind. Bless all the Prayer Ministry Group for their dedication & devotion.”
2. “It was nice to relax & be able to pray without any interruptions. The Lord’s energy & Spirit has reenergized me. Thanks for sharing this blessing with us.”
3. “It was very calming and spiritual.”
4. “Very peaceful.”
5. “Restful and warm.”
6. “Nice to have a safe, quiet environment to be mindful.”
7. “Peace.”
8. “Very relaxing & soothing. I felt very spiritual.”
9. “I know so many who are under attack right [now], I so long for a quite place to be with God, This is so great, thank you...”

All those who filled out our response cards said they would return and would recommend the service to a friend.

Our next Mid-Week Worship Service will be on Wednesday, May 28th at 7:00pm in the sanctuary.