

The Evangel



June 2012

The newsletter of
Vestal United Methodist Church

In this issue:	Page:
Pastor's Page	2
Worship Schedule	3
Christian Education	4-7
Youth Group & Wesleyan	8-9
Reaching Up / Reaching Out	10
Church Picnic / Farewell	11
Finance Update	12
Windows	13
Congregational Health	14
Green Team	15
United Methodist Women	16
Announcements	17
Website Map	18
Our Church Family	19
VBS Forms	Insert
June-July Calendars	Insert

Upcoming events:

Worship Services

June 3 Children's Day
June 10 Reaching Up / Reaching Out & Picnic
June 17 Farewell to Pastor Mary / Father's Day
June 24 Graduation Sunday

Committee & Team Meetings

Mon., June 4 Trustees 7 pm Library
Mon., June 11 Finance 7 pm Library

Special Events

June 9 Vestal Community Chorus Concert 7 pm
June 16 Red Cross Blood Drive 7:30 am—12:30 pm
June 20 Party for Pastor Mary 6 to 10 pm



I am showing my age, but I have heard Bob Hope singing this song over and over in head. He would sing it at the end of T.V. specials and the lyrics would match the special guests or the special place of that show.

This congregation has given me so many wonderful memories over the past 11 years. All of you will be carried in my heart wherever my faith journey leads me.

God's grace is doing wonderful things in the midst of this church. I have enjoyed being a part of that mission and ministry over the years. I have loved holding babies, singing with the choir, dancing with the youth, and learning with and from older people. There have been numerous, grace filled experiences that have led me to tears and laughter — OK, a lot of laughter!

I want to thank all of you for accepting that laughter and the atypical pastor I have been. You have allowed me to be fully myself and share the gifts that God has shared with me. I pray that if I have hurt or offended anyone, you will find it in your heart to forgive me. I also pray that if I have inspired or helped anyone along on their journey of faith, you will in turn reach out to another to help them along their path as well. You will always be a part of me, thanks for the memory.

You can reach me here. —————>

Blessings and peace, Pastor Mary

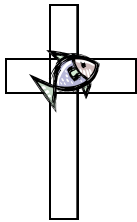
1921 Maplewood Drive
Hagerstown, MD 21740
maryricketts622@gmail.com

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

JUNE 2012

June 3 *Children's Day*

	<u>8:30 a.m.</u>	<u>11:00 a.m.</u>
Acolytes:	Meghan Wenzinger	Emilie FitzGerald
Readers:	Sunday School	Sunday School
Music:	Chancel Choir	Sunday School Singers
Organist:	Mary Jo Granger	Mary Jo Granger
Greeters:	Joe & Joyce Lamphere	
Usher Team:	Dave Reed	Mel Chubbuck
Welcomers:	Ann & Jeff Kobza	Cheryl & Greg Papa



June 10 *Reaching Up/Reaching Out*

	<u>8:30 a.m. Commissioning</u>	<u>11:00 a.m.</u>
Music:	Mary Jo Granger	Master's Choice
Welcomers:	Ellen & Clayton Heath	Cyndi Chapman & Doris Brearley

Summer Worship Schedule begins ~ One service at 9:30 a.m.

June 17 *Father's Day* **Preaching: Mary Ricketts**

Acolyte:	Marie Taylor
Reader:	OPEN
Music:	Chancel Choir & VUMmer Hummers
Organist:	Mary Jo Granger
Greeters:	The Wheeler-Nieman Family
Usher Team:	Tom Cole
Welcomers:	Sylvia & Dick Place



June 24 **Preaching: Mike Willis**

Acolyte:	Meghan Wenzinger
Reader:	(Graduate)
Music:	Wesleyan Choir
Organist:	Mary Jo Granger
Greeters:	The Taylor Family
Usher Team:	Mike Macey
Welcomers:	Marylynn & Tom Cole



Education

From our Director of Education, Ann FitzGerald:

SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSIONS



On May 20, the Sunday School collected about \$50 for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. The Relay for Life helps to raise funds to fight cancer and to raise awareness of cancer prevention and treatment.

During this Sunday School year, the Sunday School raised over \$ toward a variety of missions!

CHILDREN'S DAY— JUNE 3

On June 3, we will celebrate Children's Sunday during both the 8:30 a.m. and the 11 a.m. services. Children and youth will be participating as greeters, ushers, and readers as well as providing the Children's Time Message, the Message and some music. The flowers in the sanctuary this day are in honor of our teachers. Teachers are welcome to take one home. Any flowers remaining will be planted around the church in their honor.

Our last day of Sunday School before Summer Break will also be June 3.

WOULD YOU ENJOY THE HONOR AND PRIVILEGE OF WORKING WITH CHILDREN IN SUNDAY SCHOOL? IF SO, THERE ARE OPENINGS FOR NEXT YEAR!

It's never too soon to volunteer for teaching next year. If you would be interested in teaching, co-teaching, shepherding, acting as a station leader or helping in Sunday School for all or part of the next year, or if you would be interested in substituting, contact me (in the Education Office (or e-mail vumcdre@stny.rr.com), through the Church Office or at home: 748-0806 (or annbillfitz@verizon.net).

*Studies have shown, "As the church school goes, so goes the church."
Please prayerfully consider your role in this vital ministry.*

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Adult classes are finishing up the year. The last class will be June 3. Have a happy and safe summer!

THANK YOU TEACHERS AND HELPERS!

Thank you to all the volunteers who have made our Sunday School and UMYF program a success. The time and effort they have devoted toward our VUMC children and youth is greatly appreciated. Once again, we owe a special debt of gratitude to the youth and young adults that ventured into the classroom - what a blessing they are to the church! Adult Sunday School Leaders should also be commended. *We would not have the quality program that we do without all their hard work!* Thank you for a great year!

Thanks again to all who helped:

Church School Staff

<i>Director of Religious Education</i>	Ann FitzGerald
<i>Financial Secretary</i>	Marilyn Magur / Janet Clink
<i>Resources Coordinator</i>	Julie Ekblaw
<i>Nursery Coordinator</i>	Marianne Taylor
<i>Children's/PowerXpress Coordinator</i>	Susan Wenzinger
<i>Youth Coordinator</i>	Marie Clink
<i>Adult Coordinator</i>	Mary Place

Teachers/Helpers/Leaders

Baby Nursery

Nicolette Race, primary care provider
The Bunzeys, Ann Griffiths, Nicole and Sue Hinrichsen,
Carolyn McFall, helpers

Beginner 3s, Preschool 4s, 5s, and Kindergarten

Tara Kenhart, co-teacher
Christen Gorman, co-teacher
April Tice and Amy Hutter, helpers

1st Grade

Caleb Decker, co-shepherd
Erin Stewart, co-shepherd



Teachers/Helpers/Leaders Continued

2nd Grade

Cyndi Cooper, co-shepherd
DJ Clink, co-shepherd

3rd and 4th Grade

Ann FitzGerald, shepherd
Amanda Kerila, helper



**THANK YOU TO OUR
SUNDAY SCHOOL
TEACHERS**

Station Leaders, Guest Speakers and Helpers

Brenda Bunzey, Cyndi Cooper, Ann FitzGerald, Bill FitzGerald,
Cinda Gausman, Dana Gleason, Sue Hinrichsen, Phil Messina,
Teresa Moore, Candy Murchie, Kim Powell, Corinne Schake,
Lisa Schriver, Karen Sileo, Marianne Taylor, & Susan Wenzinger

5th and 6th Grade

Dawn James, teacher
Betsy Ehrhardt, Lisa Kelly, and Maureen Suter, helpers

Substitutes for Children's Classes

Bill FitzGerald, Linda Macey

Confirmation Teaching Team

Dan Clink	Jan Hallock
Jeanne Scovell	Pastor Mary Ricketts
Pastor Mike Willis	

Pathfinders (8th and 9th Grade) Teaching Team

Barbara Ossege	Bill FitzGerald
Janice and Rick Sutphin	

10th through 12th Grades


Shelly Farro, co-teacher
Marianne Taylor, co-teacher

Youth Substitutes and Guest Speakers

Bill FitzGerald, Pastor Mary Ricketts


Join Us June 10 for Church Has Left the Building!

While parents and youth are out working around the church and in our neighborhood, children age 0 through 4th Grade are welcome to join us. We will be providing childcare in the nursery, and Sunday School age children are welcome to join us for fun and service.



OPERATION OVERBOARD (Dare to Go Deep with God!)

VBS—2012
July 23 through July 27



Children aren't the only ones who can have fun at VBS!

Be a VBS Volunteer

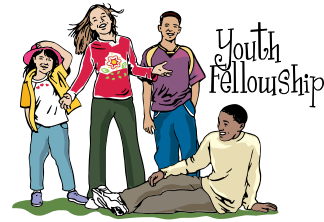
If you would like to be a part of something amazing, join us as a volunteer at Vacation Bible School this year! Please contact Ann FitzGerald at the church office or at 748-0806. Or fill out the form on the back of the registration form located in the center of this Evangel.


- Preschool Leader and Co-leader
- Bible Actors
- Snack/Mission Leader(s)
- Dive Guides (Crew Leaders)
- Helpers for all areas
- AV Helper

ANOTHER WAY YOU CAN HELP

Also, many items are needed for VBS. Please watch for donation sign-ups in the back of the sanctuary.

Senior High & Middle School Schedule



 MEMORIAL +DAY+ Sunday, May 27- No Meeting



End-of-the-Year Picnic for
Middle and High School Youth
Sunday, June 3 from 3pm to 6pm
Held at the Wenzinger's home.
All are welcome to swim,
weather-permitting.
5th Graders are invited!

Main dish, beverages and paper products will be provided.
Please bring a side dish or a dessert to share.
RSVP to the church office by Wednesday, May 30!

End of Year Trips: Middle School Youth will go to Knoebels Amusement Park. The Senior High Youth are going White Water Rafting at the Lehigh River. Both trips are planned for Thursday, June 21st (tentative)

Congratulations to the Senior High Youth Group who raised \$1,750 with their Flamingo Flocking Fundraiser!

Wesleyan Choir Schedule



Sunday, May 27

No Rehearsal

Sunday, June 3

Rehearsal at 5:15 p.m.

Sunday, June 10

No Rehearsal

Sunday, June 17

Rehearsal at 5:15

Sunday, June 24

Sing at 9:30 am Worship

SUMMER MUSIC SCHEDULE

June 24	Wesleyan Choir	Group
July 1	_____	_____
July 8	_____	_____
July 15	Jim Meade	Men's Quartet
July 22	Kelly Decker	Piano
July 29	VBS Singers	Group
August 5	_____	_____
August 12	_____	_____
August 19	_____	_____
August 26	_____	_____
September 2	Gleasons	Handbells



WE ARE REACHING UP AND REACHING OUT!

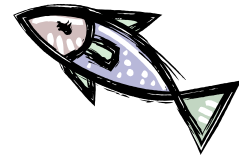
We're planning a day of mission for the entire church on Sunday, **June 10th**. This event will be very similar to our mission Sunday last June. Here is some information that outlines the day and ways in which you might help.

Participation forms for volunteers and Assistance Needed forms are on the table Under the Balcony.

- The Yellow form is for volunteer participation, and permission slip for our younger members. You can indicate how you would like to help.
It is important that everyone completes a participation form so that we can create teams prior to June 10th.
- You will have the opportunity to choose from some broad categories: Work at the Church or Work in the Neighborhood. Please let the church office know if you are willing to lead a team.

Here is how we think the day will unfold:

8:30 to 9:15	Service of Blessing
9:30 - 11:00 am	Pick up Assignment Work in the neighborhood or participate in something at the church
11:00 - 11:45	Service of Celebration followed by the Church picnic on the front lawn Chicken provided by Phil's Chicken House, please bring a dish to pass



We will also be collecting food for the OLS food pantry and toiletries for the men at Rescue Mission's Whitney Place

We are excited to be in Mission to our neighbors as we live out the concept of being the church in the neighborhood in which we live!

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO THE
CHURCH PICNIC
SUNDAY, JUNE 10



We will gather on the church lawn after the service of celebration for Reaching Up, Reaching Out.

Tickets for Phil's Chicken quarters (\$3) or halves (\$5) will be sold before and after worship services through June 3rd.

Please bring a dish to pass and your table service.
We will have games and a bounce house for the kids!

Opportunities to say Good-bye to Pastor Mary

Sunday, June 17th:

We begin the Summer schedule for Worship with one service at 9:30 am followed by refreshments Under the Balcony. This will also be the last time Pastor Mary preaches and we will have a time to say good-bye during the fellowship time after the worship service.

Wednesday, June 20th:

Dinner & Dancing at the Vestal Elks
6:00 to 10:00 p.m.

The price will be \$15 per person which includes dinner, coffee, tea, water, dessert and dancing!



You should have received a mailing with a reservation information.
If you did not receive the mailing, please contact the church office.

Please note that the reservation deadline is June 11th.

You don't want to miss this grand event.

Finance Committee News

FINANCE UPDATE:

April Income: \$ 42, 221
April Expenses: \$ 33, 087
April General Fund Balance: +\$ 9, 123

Year-to-Date Income: \$136, 522
Year-to-Date Expenses: \$141, 913
Year-to-Date Balance: - \$ 5, 391



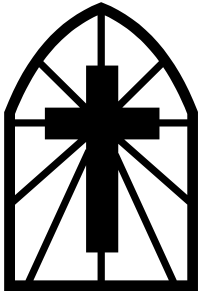
FLOOD RELIEF FUNDS:

Our church congregation has been generous with contributions to the 2011 Local Flood Relief fund. We still have significant funds available in the Flood Relief Account, and want to assist those in need in our congregation and local community as the rebuilding process continues. We can also provide limited funds to help homeowners meet some obligations in the buyout process. All requests will be treated confidentially.

Please contact:

Pastor Mike Willis or Finance Secretary, Tim Rhodes at 785-3367

Thanks to everyone for faithfully maintaining your pledge!



New Windows Needed

There are hundreds of windows in our church building. Almost 100 of them are in the part of our building that was the first phase of construction completed in 1952. These windows are in the education and office wings and the dining room.

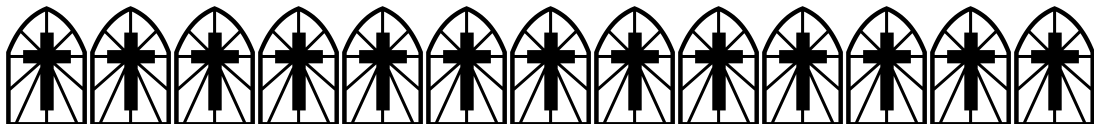
In an awareness of maintaining this wonderful building and minimizing energy costs, the Trustees and Finance Committee are giving the members and friends of our church an opportunity to purchase a replacement window for the project.

We will not be replacing our beautiful windows in the sanctuary or in the addition made to our church in 1994.

This year, you will have an opportunity to contribute towards these replacement windows. The cost of a window is \$400. If you would like to support this renovation project, you can “purchase” a part of, or all of, one or more replacement windows. This gift can be in memory or in honor of someone special and will be published in the All Saints memorial.

We will collect money for the replacement windows and give the congregation updates throughout the year.

Please prayerfully consider if you/your family can help purchase a replacement window for our church building.



Congregational Health Ministry

Enabling Gardening:

Garden tips for those with a green thumb but who are discouraged because of pain from Arthritis, Back Pain or any other disabling condition.

The core principle:

Keep your garden off the ground and within easy reach.

Small and simple: Container garden

Place lightweight containers on your porch for easy access. The container should be half the height that the plant is expected to grow. Then add the potting mix and plant your vegetables or flowers.



Medium-size and manageable: Vertical garden

Stack boards on bricks or concrete blocks then fill the shelves with potted plants.

Large and lovely: Raised-bed garden

Assemble one of the many raised-bed kits that are available. The walls should be 16 to 24 inches high and the bed should be narrow enough to reach across comfortably.

These tips are from Heidi Sibert, a landscape architect, who has arthritis and is passionate about enabling gardening. More information can be found at www.arthritis.org. Happy Gardening!



Green Team News

Don't want it? Can't use it? Don't know what to do with it?

CONSIDER THIS!

Rescue Mission encourages recycling

(from an article in the Binghamton Press/Sun Bulletin 4-17-11)

The Rescue Mission popularized recycling long before it became a social buzz word. Like each person, each article of clothing has value to the Rescue Mission, regardless of its condition. If you throw away items simply because they are stained, torn, missing buttons or have broken zippers, they will likely end up in a landfill.

The Rescue Mission gives away or sells the good stuff and recycles the rest to earn cash that supports their services.



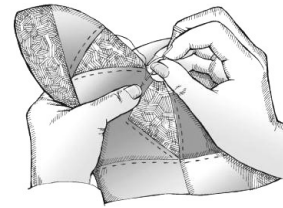
Please consider donating unneeded or unwanted clothing and household items. They are accepted locally at the **Thrifty Shopper Store**, 1139 Upper Front Street, Binghamton (Nimmonsburg Plaza) Open 10-8 weekdays, 9-9 Saturdays, 12-7 Sunday.



United Methodist Women

On April 15, 2012, the United Methodist Women's **Interest Group** received an award which read:

"In recognition of the very special women who make up 'The Interest Group' for their efforts to brighten the lives of their neighbors and peers. The generosity and kindness you have lavished on our 'Meals on Wheels' clients in creating and donating **1,000 quilts** is inspirational. The joy you have spread throughout the community knows no bounds. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts."



The quilts are part of the birthday packages for the Meals on Wheels clients.

The Interest Group has also made over **4,230 baby quilts** and donated them to local hospitals for newborns.

The Interest Group meets every Wednesday morning at 10:00 am at the church. In addition to the quilts, members make Teddy Bears for ill children, bags for Haiti/Church World Service kits, knitted hats for newborns and lap robes. All women are welcome to join this group.



A Note of Thanks

I wish to thank UMW for the Special Mission Recognition award I received at the Mother-Daughter Banquet on May 1st. The gift of ministries with women, children, and youth that has been forwarded to The Women's Division, General Board of Global Ministries, The United Methodist Church, is a tremendous honor. I am so proud to have received this award. It doesn't seem "right" to be awarded for something I enjoy doing. Again, THANK YOU!

Jan Hallock, Arlene Merritt Circle

Photos of High School Graduates Needed



On Graduation Sunday, June 24, we will have a PowerPoint presentation of photos of the High School graduates. We like to include photos from a young age and progress to a senior portrait. They can be candid shots or more formal—whatever you want to include. Be sure to include your full name with the photos. Please email 3 or 4 photos (.jpg format) to the church office by Sunday, June 17 to be included in the presentation.

Do You Like to Garden?

If you do, then maybe you'd like to join the gardening committee. We get together from 10:30 to 12:30 several Fridays a month during the gardening season to tend to the church gardens. We work as a group on whatever needs attention that week, and try to have a lot of fun while working!



We'd love to have you join us for as long as you can come, and as often as you can come, even if it's only once a month. If you'd like to be on the email list to know when we are working, please let me know.

Sue Biddle 625-4574; bbiddle@stny.rr.com

Equal Exchange—Fairly Traded Products

Fair Trade chocolate, tea and coffee will be sold after worship on June 3rd. to pre-order items, please have orders in by May 25th. You can call the church office [785-3367] if you have any questions.

No child labor is used in growing and producing these products. By buying these products, you can help support small farmers.



Navigating our New Website

We can still be found on the web at:
www.vestalunitedmethodist.org

From the Home page you can move to other pages by using the buttons in the blue bar.



The first five take you to: Home, Calendar, Staff, Directory or Prayer Wall

- ▶ On the Home page, you can click to "open" the Upcoming Events and scroll over an event to get details.
- ▶ On the Calendar page, scroll slowly over events for details.
- ▶ With permission and proper security, you can enter your own information into the Directory.
- ▶ You can enter and post a prayer request on the Prayer Wall — visible only to approved users of our website.

The next four are "drop down menus" that take you to additional pages:

Ministries

Christian Education
Adult Classes
Youth Sunday School
Children Sunday School
Middle School Youth
Senior High Youth
Missions
Vacation Bible School

Info

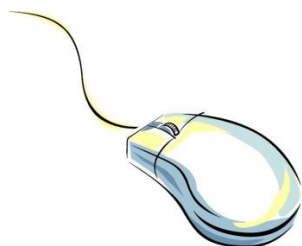
Home Page
Wesleyan Choir
VUMmer Hummers

Visitors

Vision Statement
General Information

Resources

Church Maps
Evangel ~ Newsletters
Monthly Calendar
Worship Bulletins



Use your 'smart' phone
to scan this QR code to
view our Website



Our Church Family

Sympathy is extended to:

Marlene & Ron Toth on the death of her Aunt Dorothy Glasser on April 26, 2012, at the age of 105.

Congratulations to:

Phil & Jane Hores on the marriage of their daughter, Jessica, to Steve Gebhart on April 14, in Oriental, North Carolina. They live and work in Durham, NC.



We welcome those who have recently transferred their membership to Vestal United Methodist Church:

- Joan & Richard Cook, from Park Terrace Community UM
- Barbara Press, from Park Terrace Community UM
- Candy VanDyke, from Owego UMC

Notes of Thanks:

THANK YOU to all the musicians who provided our music during the course of the year! It has been an INCREDIBLE year with BEAUTIFUL music—thank you to each and every musician! — Jim Gleason, Director of Music

The **Pathfinder Sunday School** class would like to thank everyone who donated material for blankets. A total of 18 blankets were made by the class — 9 for the SOS Shelter and 9 for the Children's Home.

Many thanks for your thoughts and prayers during the recent death of my Aunt Dorothy Glasser on April 26th, age 105. Special thanks to: Ruth, Church Secretary, Mike Willis, Pastor & The Prayer Chain. — Marlene (and Ron) Toth



Vestal United Methodist Church
 328 Main Street Vestal, NY 13850
 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Church Staff

Bishop: Marcus Matthews
 District Superintendent: Dave Masland
 Pastor: Mike Willis
 Associate Pastor: Mary L. Ricketts
 Minister of Visitation: Jim Meade
 Administrative Secretary: Ruth Napolitano
 Sexton: Gordon Vinson
 Financial Secretary: Tim Rhodes
 Director of Religious Ed: Ann FitzGerald
 Director of Music: James Gleason
 Organist: Mary Jo Granger
 Wesleyan Choir Director: Kristin Persley
 Wesleyan Accompanist: Tim Andrews
 Childcare Provider: Nicolette Holmes
 Evening Security: Gene McGowan
 Part-time Custodian: Phil Hores

Worship: Sundays at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
 Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.
 Church Office Hours: Monday thru Friday
 8:30 a.m. to Noon & 1 to 4 p.m.

VESTAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 328 Main St Vestal, NY 13850
 Church: (607) 785-3367
 Parsonage: (607) 748-6183
 FAX: (607) 785-0659
 Email: vumc@stny.rr.com
 On the web: www.vestalunitedmethodist.org

Non-Profit Org.
 US POSTAGE
 PAID
 Permit No. 15
 Vestal, NY 13850

Deadline for
 July-August Issue:
June 15

