



One Voice

**Monthly Newsletter of the United Church of
Phelps**

**58 Main Street
Phelps, NY 14532
315.548.2772**

**www.unitedchurchofphelps.org
Transitional Pastor – Reverend Ellen Donnan
Pastor Emerita – Reverend Shirley H. Filiatreau**

FROM THE TRANSITIONAL PASTOR:

On February 17th we start the season of Lent, a time to reflect on our relationship with God as we remember the last days of Jesus' life. With all the "troubles" we have been dealing with the past year, I challenge all of us to think about Billy Graham's statement above and focus on *heaven's hope* during this Lenten season, rather than giving up something or berating ourselves for not being better at including God in our lives or something else. For indeed, **"Earth's troubles fade in the light of heaven's hope."**

As I reflect back on the past year, what comes firmly to the front of my mind is that God keeps His promises! God promised to always be with us... and God was. God promised to provide for all our needs – even when people hoarded basic staples... and God was. God promised to grant us peace as we focus on Him... and God did if we did. God promised to love us.. and He does.

What has God done in your life? How have you grown closer to God? Have you spent the past year afraid or have you leaned on God to give you strength and courage? Where have you grown spiritually? When have you forgotten to feed you spirit through worship or prayer or Bible reading?

Everyone will have different answers to these questions. Some have rebelled against the restrictions meant to keep us from spreading the virus so quickly that hospitals would become overwhelmed. Some have rejoiced that the pace of life has slowed down. Some lost their jobs and the stress of paying bills and buying food and medication has been great. Some retained their jobs but had to adjust to doing things with COVID-19 NY state safety plans in mind.

Many things have changed very quickly and we are adjusting to those changes. One thing has never changed: GOD IS GOD. GOD ALWAYS HAS BEEN, GOD IS NOW, AND GOD WILL BE IN THE FUTURE. There will never be a time when God does not care about us. There will never be a time when God forsakes us. There will never be a time when God forgets His promises to us.

The way we worship has changed. The way we hold meetings has changed. The way do ministry for God has changed. The way we interact with each other has changed. BUT GOD NEVER CHANGES. You can depend on that.

So during Lent this year, let us focus on God rather than the changes. Let us watch for God's hand at work in our lives and in the lives of others. Let us take time each morning and evening to spend 5 minutes talking to God and listening for His response. Let us focus not on ourselves but on others who are dealing with more than we are. Let us remain positive while others are fearful.

Please read this newsletter for we are doing **NEW THINGS** to help us feel more **NORMAL** during Lent.... like using Zoom more so we can be together during worship experiences.

I am here for every one of you. If you need some time with me in person or over Zoom, let me know. I am meeting with people for pastoral care and spiritual mentoring by appointment only and am generally in the office on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. I pray for you every day and for the new pastor that you will be calling. God bless you and keep your faith in God strong!

Ellen

Earth's troubles
fade in the light
of heaven's hope.

BILLY GRAHAM

February Sermon Series:

February 7 : What is Your Reputation? **Matthew 1:18-25** ****WITH COMMUNION****

February 14 : What Has God Called YOU to Do? **Luke 1:46-55**

February 21 : Do you have a Birth Certificate or a Driver's License? **Luke 5:1-11**

February 28: Does Love Come Easy or Hard for You? **Mark 10:35-45; Luke 9:49-56; John 13**



To The United Church of Phelps,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$45.23 to Phelps Food Cupboard, from Pennies from Heaven.

We appreciate your support and generosity, which enables us to provide for those in need, especially given the current circumstances with the virus.

Again, many thanks,

Tom Cheney

*HOPE is the joyful assurance that even when I walk on uncertain ground, Jesus is with me, securely
guiding me with his steady hands*

..... The spirit of the Lord shall carry Thee

1 Kings 18:12



2021 REVERSE LENT CALENDAR

Why not try this during the 40 days of Lent this year? Instead of giving something up, try taking on a simple task each day that can bring you closer to God. Here are some suggestions for each day of Lent, but feel free to change them or add on ideas you have.

ASH WED February 17	Join the congregation in a pancake supper (6 pm) followed by worship (all on zoom)
February 18	Jot a note to someone special in your life.
February 19	Pick up your phone and call someone you haven't talked to in a while.
February 20	Help someone by opening a door, paying for their drink, or some other task.
February 21	Worship with the congregation
February 22	Do something special for someone who serves you.
February 23	Send a card to someone who cannot get out.
February 24	Make a donation to the Blessing Box.
February 25	Make a donation to the Food Cupboard (drop off at the church office)
February 26	Make a donation of food or financial donation to the lunch program at church.
February 27	Send a note to a child or youth.
February 28	Worship with the congregation
March 1	Do something nice for a stranger.
March 2	Check on someone who is lonely.
March 3	Pray specifically for someone.
March 4	Tell someone you love them.
March 5	Remind someone that God loves them.
March 6	Go for a walk and enjoy God's creation.
March 7	Worship with the congregation
March 8	Do something nice for a friend.
March 9	Bring in items for Health Kits.
March 10	Pray for missionaries around the world.
March 11	Share your faith with someone by telling them what God has done for you.
March 12	Say hi to your neighbor.
March 13	Send a card telling someone you are thinking about them.
March 14	Worship with the congregation
March 15	Pray for the church.
March 16	Say thank you to someone.
March 17	Make a donation to the Blessing Box.

March 18	Call someone on the phone just to say hi.
March 19	Pray for those who are hungry.
March 20	Send a note to a child or youth.
March 21	Worship with the congregation
March 22	Pay for someone's drink or meal.
March 23	Save coupons and bring them in to the church.
March 24	Share a good book with a friend.
March 25	Do something nice for someone special.
March 26	Offer to help someone with a project.
March 27	Make a donation to the Food Cupboard.
<i>PALM SUNDAY</i> March 28	Worship with the congregation
March 29	Read John 18:1-12. Ponder why Jesus allowed himself to be arrested.
March 30	Read John 19:13-18, 25-27. Would you deny Jesus 3 times?
March 31	Read John 19:4-6. What was Jesus guilty of?
<i>HOLY THURSDAY</i> April 1	Join the congregation in a soup & bread supper followed by worship (zoom)
<i>GOOD FRIDAY</i> April 2	Join the congregation in worship at 7 pm (zoom)
April 3	Think about your relationship with Jesus. What is he asking you to do?
<i>EASTER</i> April 4	<i>CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION!</i>



Happy Birthday!

Feb. 2 ~ Ale`jandro Caraballo

Feb. 3 ~ Helen Motzer

Kay Oosterling

Feb. 5 ~ Ellie Huesler

Feb 4 ~ Michelle Driscoll

Feb. 18 ~ Alice Sabin

Missy Arnold

It's a new year so make sure the office knows of any upcoming birthdays or anniversaries so we may all celebrate with you! Email, call or mail them into the church office.

unitedchurch@ottcmail.com

58 Main Street, Phelps, NY 14532 ATTN: Missy

315-548-2772



FLOWER ORDER FORM



ORDERS DUE:

Friday, March 12th

We are planning for another colorful and joyous garden to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus. All plants will come in a 6 in. pot with a bow. The cost will be **\$10.00 each, for lily, tulip, daffodil or hyacinth. Begonias will be \$12.50** Each plant is payable at the time of your order. Please complete and mail in this form or drop it by the church office. You may also call the church office 315-548-2772 and leave your order on the voicemail but payment needs to be at the church within 24 hrs of that order please & thank you. **Deadline for all orders is Friday, March 12th.**

PLEASE PRINT

Plant #1 __daffodil __tulip __lily __hyacinth __begonia \$ _____
_____ in honor of _____ in memory of

Name(s) of loved one(s) as you want it/them to appear on the bulletin.

Plant #2 __daffodil __tulip __lily __hyacinth __begonia \$ _____
_____ in honor of _____ in memory of

Name(s) of loved one(s) as you want them to appear on the bulletin.

Plant #3 __daffodil __tulip __lily __hyacinth __begonia \$ _____
_____ in honor of _____ in memory of

Name(s) of loved one(s) as you want them to appear on the bulletin.

ORDERED BY:

Total \$ _____

Your name(s) as you want it/them to appear on the bulletin

**Mail to: The United Church of Phelps
ATTN: Easter Flowers
58 Main Street
Phelps NY 14532**



Answer for last month's "Who am I?"

So who was our SUNY Geneseo graduate that has lived in Alaska and Germany AND likes to free lance write... **Barb Mater!**

Thank you so much for participating in "Who am I?" article. It was amazing to learn some special things about you!

***** February's mystery "Who am I?" *****

My name is colorful and my middle name is "Alee". It is taken from a Native American friend of my parents and means "flower". I grew up in Phelps—some of my activities include Girl Scouts, 4-H, and Ontario County Fair Queen. My parents and I have travelled to several states camping. One of my favorite experiences was when I participated in the "People to People" program where I lived with different families in Europe and a highlight of that was a visit to the Soviet Union. I am married, have 2 children and 2 grandchildren. I work as a dietician and my past church involvement included taking a Youth Group to Darian Lake for Kingdom Bound & various musical activities. At home I enjoy feeding the birds with my grandkids & listening to music to relax. (favorite singer—Jeremy Camp). "Who am I?" The answer will be in March's newsletter or if you can't wait, you can call 315-548-7020 and make your guess. If interested in being a mystery person for the "Who Am I?" column, call and speak with MaryAnn Gier at 315-548-7020. Also if you choose to sponsor a "Who am I?", that donation will go to funding the newsletter, such as paper, printing and mailing costs. Thank you to all who have donated!

President's Day



President's Day
Monday, February 15, 2021
Office will be CLOSED

Presidents' Day is an American holiday celebrated on the third Monday in February. Originally established in 1885 in recognition of President George Washington, it is still officially called "Washington's Birthday" by the federal government. Traditionally celebrated on February 22—Washington's *actual* day of birth—the holiday became popularly known as Presidents' Day after it was moved as part of 1971's Uniform Monday Holiday Act, an attempt to create more three-day weekends for the nation's workers. While several states still have individual holidays honoring the birthdays of Washington, Abraham Lincoln and other figures, Presidents' Day is now popularly viewed as a day to celebrate all U.S. presidents past and present.



Sunday, February 14th, 2021

Terrific Person

Hey you—
You're often on my mind;
You're a terrific person,
One of a kind.
I'm sending this poem,
Because I want to say
I'm thinking of you
On Valentine's Day!

By: Joanna Fuchs

What's Happening



**ZOOM Meetings are open to
EVERYBODY! Come be a part and
see what is going on.**

♦ **Dine-in together Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper**

Time: Wednesday, Feb. 17, 2021 6:00 PM / Service to follow immediately after (6:30)

See website for [Zoom link](#) Pancake recipe also on website

♦ **Good Friday Service**

Time: Friday, April 2, 2021 7:00 PM

See website for [Zoom link](#)

♦ **Maundy Thursday (Soup & Bread)**

Thursday, March 1, 2021 Dine-in together with soup & bread

Time: Soup & Bread 6:00 PM / Service to follow immediately after (6:30)

See website for [Zoom link](#)

Topic: Leadership team meeting February 2021

Time: Feb 10, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time

Leadership Team meetings have been changed to the *2nd Wednesday of the month*. A [Zoom link](#) to the meeting can be found on the website a week prior to the meeting so that anyone can attend.

Topic: Trustees meeting February 2021

Time: Feb 4, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time

Trustees meetings have been changed to the *1st Thursday of the month*. A [Zoom link](#) to the meeting can be found on the website a week prior to the meeting so that anyone can attend.



Youth group will be meeting at UCP starting Feb 7th.

If you have questions or concerns please contact Ellen via her cell. All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to participate.

**Meetings will be held at 5:30 p.m.
at Fellowship Hall**



**Newsletter Articles
For March due
February 15th. Send
articles to**

GRIEF SHARE IS COMING!

The GriefShare Program is a biblical, Christ-centered seminar that focuses on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one. There are three parts to each of the thirteen sessions: a DVD presentation that features nationally respected grief experts and real-life people telling their story; a small group discussion about the topic presented on the video; and a notebook that participants can work through on their own.

If you or someone you know is grieving the death of a loved one, we warmly invite you or them to join this seminar. **Why join GriefShare?** Many grieving people find they are only beginning the work of healing when friends and family members have returned to their daily routines. They don't understand the deep and prolonged impact caused by the death of a spouse, partner, child, family member or close friend. Those who are grieving need ongoing support. GriefShare is that ongoing support! Whether your bereavement experience is recent or not so recent, this group is for people who are looking for encouragement and understanding, as well as valuable information to use in the journey toward the new normal.

Who may join this upcoming GriefShare group? Anyone who is a member or friend of any of the churches in Geneva Presbytery as well as people from the communities served by the churches in Geneva Presbytery. **Spread the word about this valuable opportunity, please!**

When: The 13 sessions of GriefShare will be held on Thursdays at 4 pm beginning on February 25. Each meeting will be approximately 60-90 minutes. There will be no meeting on April 1, which is Maundy Thursday. Meetings will be on Zoom.

Leaders: Your trained leaders for GriefShare are Elder Barb Squires, Elder Judy Mellgard, the Rev. Bruce Incze, and the Rev. Dr. Betsey Crimmins

Cost: The cost of this program is covered for you by the Committee on Leader Care of Geneva Presbytery

How to enroll and register: To enroll, send an email to Elena Delhagen (officeadmin@presbyteryofgeneva.org), Office Administrator of Geneva Presbytery, with the following information: name, mailing address, email address, phone number, name of your church, and whether you have access to Zoom or not. Once you enroll, the workbook will be mailed to you.

The United Church of Phelps
Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, February 24, 2021



**American Red Cross
BLOOD DRIVE**

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Give Blood • Give Life

Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org enter UnitedChurchPhelps for appointment

How Can We Help You?

Transitional Pastor: Rev. Ellen Donnan 315-521-2593 (Cell)	Lay Member AC: Christina Albrecht 315-398-9950	Personnel: Rose Copper-Brown 315-719-4292
Church Office/Adm. Asst: Missy Arnold 207-249-0185 (cell)	Advertising: Not filled at this time	Prayer Chain: Marsha Gibbs 315-548-5546
Christian Education: Rita Caraballo 585-520-4970	Media/Technology: Eddie Albrecht 315-945-8812	Prayer Ministry: Nan Clark 315-406-5526
Council Chair: Linda Kataskas 315-732-8892	Member at Large: Dawn Norton 315-521-2899	Presbytery Elder: Peg Carlson 315-521-4396
Custodian: Frank VanNostrand 585.354.4126	Memorial Fund: Cathy Scott 315-548-9448	Sec'y to Council: Marsha Gibbs 315-548-5546
Endowment: Frank VanNostrand 585.354.4126	Missions/Outreach: Brian Hemminger 315-521-0812	Stewardship/Finance: Betsy Bourne 315-945-2307
Financial Sect'y: Pat Hemminger 315-548-3546	Music/Worship: Hope and Penny Albrecht 315-945-8812	Trustees: Dan Moracco 315.548.4548
Health/Service: Dianne Rockefeller 315-694-3383	Nominating: Jane Pedersen 585-738-1899	"God is Good – All the Time!" "All the Time – God is Good!"

"Gifts of the Heart Health Kits"



The Mission Team continues to need your help in supplying the needs for the health kits! These kits make a big difference to people in need. See Brian Hemminger for more information.

{Band-aids, hand towels and toothpaste ARE NEEDED to complete kits!!}

Kit Items: One hand towel, one washcloth, one comb, one metal nail file/nail clipper, one bar of soap (bath size), one toothbrush, one tube of toothpaste (4-7 ounces), six band-aids

**** Seal all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure and bring them to the church office. ****

On-Going Mission Projects Everyone Can Support:

- * **1st "Sunday" of each month:** Food Pantry collection. Donations can be dropped at the church office during office hours-collection for this ministry has changed a little bit for the time being.
- * **Medicine Bottle Collection:** It has been brought to our attention that this ministry is no longer happening. Very sad and hope that perhaps another calling will open up in this place.
- * **Coupon Ministry:** Peg Carlson has graciously found a group of people to do this great service. Coupons can only be used up to 2 months back from them receiving them so please bring in your most recent dated coupons. Thank you Peg and the people helping with this much needed ministry.

Normal Church Office Hours

Office is remaining closed and staff only unless otherwise scheduled

Mon, Tues, & Thurs. 9:00-2:00.

Wednesdays by EMAIL: unitedchurch@ottcmail.com

