



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church

Faith Connections – January 2016

Ionia United Methodist Church

2120 Elton Road, Ionia, New York 14475

585-657-6984 www.ioniaumc.org

From Pastor Juls:

Dear Ionia UMC family & friends,

Have you ever had a bad phone call, conversation or event that put you in a bad mood? You then may find yourself bringing that bad mood into other areas of your life or conversations, & you can spread your bad mood to others. We can even spread things like this into a new year.

A way to prevent this kind of carryover is to do an annual reflection where you review the ending year & acknowledge yourself & what you have gone through during that year. By acknowledging what we experienced & celebrating the good and the bad, we are able to start the new year fresh & open to new possibilities. We are the people we are because of all the experiences that we go through & we are constantly learning and growing.

Jesus asked questions & told stories that people could relate meaning to & learn from. Below are the year-end reflection questions that I shared during service on December 27th.

Year End Reflection

The end of the year is a good time to reflect on all that has happened in our lives over the past 12 months & to look forward at horizon for the coming new year. Listed below are some areas to explore.

1. Gratitude: What are you grateful for? Who have you most appreciated this year? Acknowledge yourself as well as others.
2. Successes: What is your definition of success? What have been your biggest accomplishments? Where have you succeeded & where have you moved forward?
3. Breakthroughs: In what ways have you changed? How have your relationships improved?

4. Disappointments: What did not occur as you had planned? What events / people let you down?

5. Failures and Lessons: What have you learned? What lessons/concepts do you most want to remember?

6. Unfinished Business: What unfinished business do you have? What would you like to do about it? You might decide to finish it or you might choose to lay it down and not finish it. What support do need/want in order to get it done?

7. Forgiveness: Who are you avoiding? What events and/or people in your life or in your past have a hold on you (i.e. Who or what do you complain to others about? What do you find yourself thinking about over and over? Who do you secretly wish would go away or would get a taste of their own medicine?) Who can you forgive? Is there something you want to forgive yourself for?

8. Relationships: What changes do you want in your relationship(s) next year?

Vision

How do you want to celebrate this past year? What changes do you want in your life next year?

Matthew 9:17 (NRSV): *Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are destroyed; but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved.*”

May these reflection questions bring learning & gratitude for 2015 & help create a new “wineskin” for 2016!

Merry Christmas all year long!
Love, Pastor Juls

Pastor Juls Foes

Phone: 723-9503; Cell & Text: 748-2458

Email: julsfoos@rochester.rr.com

January office hours:

Thursday evenings 6 – 8 pm

Other appointments available during evening hours by request. Dave, Pastor Juls husband, is driving her to the church for office hours while she continues healing & waiting for approval to drive again.

Sunday Worship Schedule

10:30 AM Sunday Worship

10:45 AM Sunday School

11:30 AM "Coffee Time"

Nursery Care during the service



Our prayers are with Chris Cantie & her family
- her father passed on in November
Mission Trip to Telica, Nicaragua Dec. 31, 2015
- Jan. 9, 2016

Our church family members who have traveled south for the winter

Mary G Bennett	Betty Chapple
Doris Daniels	Mary & Jim Dunne
Sue Garling	Shirley Kelly
Mel & Shorty Inglesby	Roy Parrish
Helen & Bob McCombs	Barb Price
Wilma O'Brien Cathy Weld	Our home-bound
MaryAnn & Cliff Pimm	

Those battling disease
Our military men and women in all places



Dear Ionian Friends!

The beautiful holiday bouquet of fragrance and color from all of you in your hidden, special valley of Ionia, has brightened Jim's and my December days in this time of anticipation for the miracle of Christmas. We will never forget our special time with you and thank you not only for the lovely gift, but for your kind welcome to your congregation. Until we meet again.....God bless you all.

Bonnie and Jim Nolen

Joys!

Our Advent Pot-luck lunches and activities!

Our Advent & Christmas worship services!

The beautiful poinsettias on our altar & all the decorations in our sanctuary!

The Christmas food baskets we gave out!

Molly, Cooper & Gracelyn Thompson all

performed in the Holiday Ice Show at the

Canandaigua Civic Center!

All the Operation Christmas Child boxes that our church collected. One shoebox is now on its way to a child in Zimbabwe!



Confirmation Class

Classes will be restarting on Sunday, January 10, from 12:00 pm – 1:15 pm.
_We will meet weekly on Sundays after worship service



Sunday, Jan. 3rd, 11:45 AM: Pot-Luck Brunch with our church family after Church!

Just bring a dish to pass & join in on the fellowship!

We have a pot-luck brunch on the 1st Sunday of every month this year.

Come for some fellowship with our church family!



Ad Board Meeting
Sunday, Jan. 10th, 11:45AM

All officers & chairmen should attend



Sunday Schools News

A class for elementary through middle school students will be meeting downstairs during worship services on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month.

Nursery is available each Sunday during the worship service.



www.ioniaumc.org
News, events, photos, etc



Used Printer ink cartridges - can

be redeemed towards copier paper & many office supplies. Leave the ink cartridges in the box in Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

From the Trustees: We have had our final fire inspection & are in good shape. Emergency exit plans will be coming. All exit signs are working now.

Sunday Volunteers Needed:



Scripture Readers for our worship service – sign up in Fellowship Hall



Sign up in Fellowship Hall to bring a snack (simple, as we are all going home for lunch afterwards) and prepare coffee and juice.



“I Can Do That..” Opportunities In Our Church:

Teach Sunday School or Babysit the toddlers in the Nursery – see Heather Kenyon

Read scripture or greet at worship – Sign up in Fellowship Hall

Sign up to fix goodies after church – Sign up in Fellowship Hall

Make a meal for the Canandaigua Veterans – Sign up in Fellowship Hall

Help with visitations for our homebound members - see Pastor Juls

Donate pop cans to the youth for missions- leave them in the crate by the shed

Donate \$ or food to the Food Cupboard – see Cliff & MaryAnn Pimm

Help with the newsletter mailing – see Dorothy Strapp



Church Newsletter

The deadline for the February newsletter will be **Sunday, Jan. 24th**. Submit news to Mary Twardokus at 657-7722 or email mt2152@hotmail.com

If you wish to be added to our “email church news” list, give Mary your email address. Emails are sent “blind-copy.”

If your name & birthday are not on our church family list, please contact Mary

If you are able to help assemble the newsletter on the 4th Weds. of the month, contact Dorothy Strapp to help out! It usually takes about 2 hours.



In Our Area:

Sunday, January 31, 4-5pm, Free Community Meal 1st Presbyterian Church, Honeoye Falls, in Guild Hall

Hands of Hope Kitchen free noon meal every Wednesday at the East Bloomfield Firehouse.

Our Missions:



Veterans' Dinners in Canandaigua.

This is a wonderful outreach to the veterans who have served our country!

Jan. 11: ____?____ & ____?____

Feb 8: ____?____ & ____?____



Pop cans/bottles for Telica

Drop off your cans & bottles in the crate behind the church (which has a new roof!) – used to fund another house in Telica!



Cuddle Friends: Contact Terri

Graham if you know of someone who may need some uplifting & to know that our church family is thinking about them and who would appreciate a stuffed animal with a note!



Ministry Directory

Ad/Board Chairman: Bambi Talley

Christian Education Heather Kenyon 314-2326

Cuddle Friends: Terri Graham 657-9292

Finance Chairman: Scott Layton 465-2039

Financial Sec.: Norene Adams 624-5463

Food Pantry: MaryAnn & Cliff Pimm 657-7338

Lay Leader: Russ Kenyon 314-2327

Missions/Outreach/Nurture Chairmen: Amy Mohr & Maureen Thompson

Newsletter Editor: Mary Twardokus 657-7722

Staff/Pastor Relations: Dick Belding

Treasurer: Sue Vary 315-939-4406

Trustees Chairman: Don Frelier 657-4504

Vice Chair: Ken Garling 657-6530

Sanctuary Chair: Jennifer Layton 455-7602

Youth Groups: Pastor Juls Foes



Happy January Birthday!!!

- 1 Sheila Weld
- 2 Mary Twardokus
- 3 Luke Bastian
- 6 Mel Inglesby
- 8 Rodney Belding
- 9 Sue Garling
- 10 Cathy Weld
- 11 Scott Layton
Hannah Tyo
- 13 Sam M. Fryer
- 15 James Tiffany
- 16 Gary Evans
Samantha Layton
- 17 Mary Tolomay
- 18 Alex Kenyon
- 20 James Schlenker
- 23 Donald Dunlap
Sue Washburn
- 24 Melissa Price
- 25 Susan Fraser
Sandra Hritz
- 27 Hal Giessler
- 28 Terri Graham
Vicki Smith
- 29 Lydia Paddock
- 31 Wayne Twardokus

If your name & birthday are not on our church family list, call Mary 657-7722 or email mt2152@hotmail.com

"On the street I saw a small girl, cold and shivering in a thin dress, with little hope of a decent meal. I became angry and said to God, 'Why did You permit this? Why don't You do something about it?'
For a while God said nothing. That night, He replied quite suddenly, 'I certainly did something about it. I made you.'

*"Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud."
Maya Angelou*

*"Give and you shall receive, more than you ever would have thought possible. "
Anne Frank*

*"Love and kindness are never wasted. They always make a difference. They bless the one who receives them, and they bless you, the giver."
Barbara De Angelis, author*

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A New Year's Prayer

"May God make your year a happy one! Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain, but by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes; not by making your path easy, but by making you sturdy to travel any path; not by taking hardships from you, but by taking fear from your heart; not by granting you unbroken sunshine, but by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows; not by making your life always pleasant, but by showing you when people and their causes need you most, and by making you anxious to be there to help. God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead."

Author unknown

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Epiphany, January 6th

Some thoughts for the new year:

"Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365 page book. Write a good one." Brad Paisley

"Change your thoughts and you change the world." Norman Vincent Peale

"Fill the cup of happiness for others, and there will be enough overflowing to fill yours to the brim." Rose Pastor Stokes

Live in such a way that those who know you but don't know God will come to know God because they know you.

"I do think we get second chances, fifth chances, eighteenth chances. Every day we get a fresh chance to live the way we want."

John Kennedy

What you will do matters. All you need to do is do it."
Judy Grahn