



Faith Connections – June 2024

Ionia United Methodist Church
2120 Elton Rd., Ionia, NY 14475
585-657-6984 www.ioniaumc.org

From Our Pastor's Desk:

Greetings for summer as we live the faith! Summer is happening, & it is noisy with birdsong which I enjoy just about every single morning. It is a background for a time of prayer & causes me to smile at the thought of eggs opening for new life, birds seeking food and feeding those babies; & even the nests that are already abandoned on the ground from a big wind that blew through the branches knocking nests from pine trees. Early summer is planting, listening, watching, & loving God's creation.

Creation Care & Creation Justice are part of our personal, everyday ministries because we recycle, reuse goods, & get imaginative with how to fix the fixable rather than toss stuff into the landfill. We are aware we need to reduce plastics in our every day (are you reusing the cottage cheese containers, too?) because if we purchase fewer plastics, the market will speak by producing fewer plastics. I know we have begun to make purchases of things packaged in biodegradable or sustainable materials, too. Maybe you too have had some online purchases arrive this week & the material was all paper packaging – not bubble wrap or plastic envelopes. It was pleasing to see & I said a little "thank you, Lord", prayer. I know with our congregational awareness of Creation Care we are doing all the little things we can to treat the planet with respect & love. God created this beautiful place for our living & we are keenly aware we have been careless in our response over the decades. So, we are moving forward with a new awareness!

Are you interested in more creation justice involvement? I am asking any of you who wish to join in a specific Creation Justice ministry to be a part of guiding the congregation in this mission & justice ministry to help keep our body of Christ informed, activated, and alive to the needs of the planet in our beautiful corner of the world.

We have talked a great deal about water as a focus for many reasons: we live in the Finger Lakes region of the US, & water is used as a constant metaphor for life in scripture (baptized by water & the spirit to be made new!). How can we help ensure that our great, great grand-children can be baptized in CLEAN water & be made new? And because we have been blessed with water in our society by simply turning on the tap in various rooms in our homes to quench thirst, cook, & make clean, we take clean water for

granted. Do we have that luxury right now? Can we honor God's creation by listening to God for the ministry we are called to regarding water?

I look forward to hearing from you this summer as we cast a vision as a congregation devoted to Christ who come together over the love of God and God's creation. What shall we say to our community as we respond to God's grace? Can we find unity in this purpose?

The people of our UMC tradition have been through wars, pandemics, haters who would have us abandon faith entirely, many changes that seem to highlight the tension in the scripture & a general malaise in the spiritual vitality of our communities. Yet, we are here & grounded in the biblical Word and our prayers.

I believe if we remain united in God's love through Christ as a faithful worshipping community, in fellowship by loving neighbor and self, and seek the care of God's creation that sustains our living as part of our service and mission together, we will be alive in seeking deeper faith. The energy for Jesus that calls out to us by the power of the Holy Spirit will keep us open for those who are seeking God's grace, too. The idea of leaving a cleaner, brighter world for our grandchildren who will worship God is part of the vision God calls me to share with you. As we walk together in this unity, others will see it, hear it, & witness it in you. This is the path of disciple-making; a path that leads to God's grace.

I hope you will join this journey. Will you pray about it? Let us unite over love, grace, & creation justice to find ourselves realizing a bit of peace & hope, together.

United are we in God's amazing grace!
Love, Pastor Robin

Here are some links for some additional resources for your consideration:

<https://www.creationjustice.org/water.html>

<https://www.umc.org/en/how-we-serve/social-issues/creation-care>

<https://www.unyumc.org/ministries/upper-new-york-creation-care>

<https://umcreationjustice.org/caretakers-of-gods-creation->



Joys in our church

Dick Belding & 2 other men will be going on an Honor Flight to Washington, DC on June 15-16. His son Lee will be accompanying him.



Julie , Gary ,
Cliff & Mary Ann are now home
Members of the Aloquin UMC which will be
closing June 30th,
Jen in her heel surgery recovery,
Pat & Ron, Kay, Doris, Shirley, Elaine, Jan,
Lola, & all our home-bound members
A parishioner's son & his parents
Our nation & the world & all countries engaged
in war
Our military men & women
All those battling cancer, COVID, & chronic
diseases.



Our church's mission is to serve our church family & community & the world



Drop off your clean & empty "NYS deposit 5¢" Pop Cans & Bottles for Missions

Place into the crate or trash containers next to the shed behind the church. Please drain the bottles & cans & place them in plastic bags!
(Please No recyclable plastic milk jugs, etc)
Thank you for all the donations to missions!



For our Creation Care Misson: Recycle your soft plastic bags! Please take them to a participating store & place them in their recycling bin.

Acceptable are: bread bags, zip-lock bags, bags paper products come in, cereal bags, etc **(NO bags** from frozen foods, salad mix, candy, mesh, chip, pet food, trash bogs) Do not put them in your recycling tote to be picked up by your trash collector as they can not accept them or collect them!

A link to a vdieo about Wegmans recycling is: <https://www.monroecounty.gov/ecopark-video-wegmans>



We need someone to help print & copy the bulletin occasionally or for Sunday in every other month Time needed: about one hour each week. Should be familiar with the program "Word." Contact Pastor Robin if you can help with this task.



Sunday Ray Van Der Laan

DVD Studies will resume in the fall.



Sundays, 9 am at church starting on June 16th

Our new Bible study "The Gospel of Luke " We will use our Bibles & a book by Adam Hamilton called " Luke, Jesus & the Outsiders, Outcasts, & the Outlaws." This is a new time.

Please join in bible study!



to 10 am for Worship

starting Sunday, June 16th!



Happy June Birthday!

- 2 James Garling
Robert Parrish
- 3 Carlie Layton
- 4 Cindi Thomas
- 5 Elizabeth Bennett
Sharon Gilbride
- 6 Jeff O'Brien
Ciera Sullivan
Alice Wells
- 7 Vivian Schaefer
Bill Weld
- 9 Sarah O'Brien
- 10 David Fraser
- 12 Lori Stein
- 13 Jonathan Erb
Meredith Green
- 19 Hailey Willis
Linda Parrish Breese
- 20 Sherri Baylor
John Bennett
- 23 Donald Dunlap
- 24 Morgan Knapp
- 26 Celina Stonewell
- 27 Lola Harloff
- 29 Sandra Parrish



Birthday Sunday on the 3rd Sunday of each month

celebrating all those people with birthdays during that month! To make or buy a cake for this celebration, you may sign up in Fellowship Hall or call Carol 657-7310.



Congratulations, Graduates!

Bernie Talley Bloomfield High School
Melissa Price, graduating from college
Alan, Gene, & John Tolomay, graduating from colleges

Our Upcoming Dates:



**Fall Festival–Sept. 21st
at our church**



**Holiday Fair Craft Show:
in November**

9:00AM – 3:00 PM

Bloomfield High School

Applications available after July 1st on our church website: www.ioniaumc.org



Strawberry Social

Thursday, June 20th , 4:30 – 6:30pm

Enjoy seating inside the church & outdoors – weather permitting, & take-outs!

Our traditional menu: Hot dogs, hamburgers, sausages, salads, baked beans, goulash, & strawberry desserts (Strawberry Shortcake; Strawberry Sundae, the works (Strawberry Shortcake, & ice cream) & Hot Fudge sundaes) All items are priced a-la-carte

We will need volunteers to cook & work so if you are able to help out, sign up in Fellowship Hall, either email ioniaumc2120@hotmail.com, or call 657-6984, or our new online option: online sign-ups for the jobs & food donations! Click on the link below to sign up.

<https://signup.com/go/hDrKeaG>

If you need help with the online Sign-Up form, call Roger Cullen at 398-1282.

Please sign up for one or more jobs or food that you can contribute. Thank you for helping make this social another success!





Fall Festival– Sat., Sept. 21st !

on our church grounds
Tractor parade, Chow Hut, BBQ, games,
displays, demonstrations, & more!

Desserts of many kinds are needed for our dessert Wheel! Cakes, Cupcakes, hand-held desserts are always a hit! Drop your donations off at the church Friday Sept. 20th or before 10AM on Sat. June 21st

Seeking donations of glassware and dishes suitable for our fall festival dish pitch. The dish pitch is such a fun game for all ages & has been a fan favorite at FF for a number of years! The coffers are bare so think of us as you clean out your cupboards this spring! They may be dropped off in fellowship hall or in the tote on the back porch & we will get them stored away until fall.

We also need everyone who has a facebook account to post our flyer and information!



In Our Area:

Spring Rummage & Bake Sale May 31 (9am-7pm) & June 1 (9am-3pm) United Church of Christ, on Main St., Honeoye,

Sun, June 1, 10:30am til 4pm/sold out Chicken BBQ

Fundraiser for East Bloomfield UMC. \$13 meal includes 1/2 chicken, salt potatoes, roll, and choice of macaroni salad or coleslaw. In the Runnings parking lot, 3191 Co Rd 10 in Canandaigua. Catering by Gale-Wyn.

June 7/8- Heavenly Treasures Rummage Sale at East Bloomfield UMC, 2 Park Place at the corner of Rts. 5 & 20: Fr, June 7, (9am-2pm); Sat, June 8 (9am-2pm) and youth bake sale. Something for everyone . All proceeds will benefit the ministry of our Church

Tues., June 11, 7pm: Free Piano Concert, United Church of Pittsford, 123 S. Main St. Many familiar tunes!

Thurs., June 13, 4pm til sold out. Beef on Wick dinner, Perry UMC. 35 Covington St, Drive-through only, Beef on Wick, macaroni salad, Beans, brownie \$15

Fri., June 14, 7:30pm Grace Choir Concert at E. Bloomfield UMC, songs of Bill & Gloria Gaither

Aug 12-16, 9am-noon, HF-L VBS, 1st Presbyterian Church, 27 N. Main St, Honeoye Falls , ages 4-6thgrade, free, “Camp Firelight” register at <https://fpchf.betterworld.org/events/2024vbs>

Sat. Aug. 17th , 9am-4pm, West Bloomfield Congregational Church is celebrating our 225th anniversary! a community day with games, booths, entertainment, food, etc.

Every Monday & Thurs.4-6pm & Weds. & Sat. 10am-noon Free Community Clothes Closet in Parsonage House, Victor UMC, 106 E. Main St., shop for free clothing, etc.

2nd Mondays, 7pm Pub Theology at Fanatics in Lima with Honeoye Falls UMC “Beers, Conversations & God.” All perspectives are welcome.

Every Wednesday, 11:30 am, free Hands Of Hope Lunch, at St Bridget’s Church Hall, Bloomfield.

2nd Weds., 4:30-6 PM or until sold out Take-out Spaghetti Dinner UMC of Livonia, 21 Summer St, Spaghetti, sauce, meatballs, undressed salad, and garlic bread. Donations accepted.

3rd Thurs. of each month 11:30-1:00, Free Community Lunch at East Bloomfield UMC

2nd, 3rd, 4th Saturdays of each month Free Community Dinner 5:00 – 6:30PM at Victor Presbyterian Church, 70 E. Main St., Sit-down & take-out meals will be available

Fridays & Saturdays 10 a.m. to noon. Seeds of Love Clothing Closet in Honeoye – A clothing closet providing free clothes for community members in need at 8961 Main St., Honeoye, a service of St. Mary & St. Matthew’s churches

4th Saturday of each month Free Breakfast, 9-11AM, at East Bloomfield UMC Pancakes, sausage, fruit, beverages

News Prior to Annual Conference of Upper NY UMC May 30-June 1 from the Cullens:

We will be using the **World-Café model** this year at Annual Conference to vision our call for God's church in Upper New York.

The World-Café model is a conversational process that facilitates open discussions and sharing of ideas. It is designed to create a living network of conversations around questions that matter.

The questions that we will be delving in are:

1. What are your hopes, dreams, and vision for your local church? What is the future God is calling your church to live into?
2. What are some obstacles or challenges that have impacted your church from reaching these hopes?
3. How can our Conference and districts assist in overcoming these identified obstacles?

As United Methodists of Upper New York, we are at a time of hope and renewal. Your Board of Laity is hoping by engaging in this conversation process, the 2024 laity session harnesses the collective wisdom, experience, and energy of Conference members, fosters unity, and helps United Methodists of the Upper New York move towards a future of hope. Contact Donna or Roger Cullens for more information.

The Conference Creation Care team has encouraged us as stewards of creation to advocate for actions needed to reduce packaging waste. The New York legislature is considering laws to do that now. The people at Story of Stuff have assembled a quick tip sheet for us to learn the basics and contact our reps.

We're providing step-by-step instructions that make advocacy and making your voice heard easy.

[Learn about the bills, order your postcards, get a call script and more.](https://www.storyofstuff.org/bring-back-refill-new-york/?akid=433259.64482.HLq8oF&rd=1&t=6)

<https://www.storyofstuff.org/bring-back-refill-new-york/?akid=433259.64482.HLq8oF&rd=1&t=6>

These bills reduce packaging waste, tackle litter, save taxpayer money, create good green jobs, hold corporations accountable and more. Let's

pass the Bigger Better Bottle Bill for an improved, modernized state bottle bill and the Packaging Reduction Act for less plastic and packaging waste. Click "Go" to learn more.



Our church is again collecting printer ink cartridges! Staples has changed their program so that we will again be collecting the cartridges in the box in Fellowship Hall or in the plastic tote on the back porch. We will receive Staples coupons to purchase office supplies! So, just drop them off. Please put them in a plastic bag so any leftover ink cannot leak out.



Each Sunday morning, 8:30 am, Rev. Dr. Robin Blair hosts the, Finger Lakes Journal, radio show, on WYLF, AM 850. It is about 20 minutes in length where Rev. Blair has interviewed a guest about something that is happening in the beautiful Finger Lakes area that could be of interest to the folks like us who live here!

Common Table Podcast

The Social Holiness Team of UNY AC UMC, (Pastor Robin is a member) offers a variety of podcasts for your information regarding matters of social justice and love. Please visit:

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/1940809>



Framed Photos from 1999 in our Pentecost altar display

Two of the workers on Church Clean-up Day



Mother's Day, Festival of the Christian Home, Continuing with 10 Commandments



Celebrating a hymn with drums!

Photos of our Altars



Working our way through the Ten Commandments



Altar on Pentecost

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Church Website: www.ioniaumc.org
Email: ioniaumc2120@hotmail.com
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Church Phone: 585-657-6984

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robin Blair
Pastor's Email: revrobinblair@gmail.com
Pastor's Phone: 315-729-4485



to 10 AM for Worship
starting Sunday, June 16th!
Bible Study at 9:00 AM

June Calendar

Sundays, 9:00AM (on 16th) Bible Study
10:00 AM (on 16th) Worship Service
11:00 AM (on 16th) Coffee Hour
Sunday, June 9th ; Birthday Sunday
Sunday, June 16th Fathers' Day & Graduate
Recognition
Tuesday, June 18th Ad Board meeting
Weds., June 19th Juneteenth
Thurs., June 20th Strawberry Social
Sunday, June 23rd Newsletter Deadline
Sunday, June 30th , Monthly Brunch

