



# The Steeple

## May 2021



### PASTOR'S PAGE

I've been asked to write something about my life's journey. So let me briefly tell you about a few events that helped shape me.

One of the things that had a large impact on my life was being born of missionary parents in India. My story begins in Allahabad, India, a city on the Ganges river. Being born in a place like that gave me a lifelong interest in other places and other people doing things different than I do them. And my favorite food is curry.

A second impact on me was the church in which I spent my childhood. In 1942, my folks decided to return to the US. We spent the first year back in the US in Wisconsin, at the headquarters of the church popularly known as the "Burning Bush", partly because of their emotional worship services, but also because they published a magazine by that name.

The Burning Bush had been started around 1900 by a small group, including my grandfather and great uncle. They had decided to establish the principle of "give up all", by which they meant that Christians should be so unattached to material things that they would be willing to give all their material and financial assets to the church, following the early church as described in Acts 2. So people gave the church their property, their savings - everything. It was pretty radical – perhaps too radical for it eventually failed.

When I was a teen I stopped going to the Burning Bush but there were a couple of influences from that church that have been important to me. One is that I grew up around people who were not driven by material things and who taught me about commitment to one's faith. A second was that they loved the Bible and taught me to love it as well.

A third major impact on my life occurred as a result of stopping one day to chat with the United Methodist pastor to students at the University of Illinois where I earned my BS in Physics (Perhaps the most intellectually challenging thing I have ever done). He asked me if I would consider going to a seminary for a year to wrestle with some of the theological and Biblical issues we had discussed. I thought and prayed about it and decided to accept his suggestion. It was a tremendous experience. It was a good seminary with talented professors and students. I stayed 2 years and grew my faith more in those two years than any other period of my life.

Finally, the decision that Gerry and I made to become missionaries (Presbyterian, by the way) for 5 years in Pakistan was a life changing choice. To live as part of a small minority of Christians in a majority Muslim country has helped us understand what it is to be a Muslim in the US. It also helped us appreciate that the vast majority of Muslims in countries like Pakistan are fine upstanding people despite the scary headlines about Muslims that often dominate the news.



I have been so fortunate to have been the recipient of so many people's interacting with me in a very positive way. I look forward to getting to know you better in the 2 1/2 months left as your pastor.

Peace and Joy,

*Jim Harvey*



## **WE'RE BACK IN THE PARKING LOT**

Starting May 2 the worship services will be back in the parking lot for the South Hadley Methodist Church Sunday worship service at 10:00 a.m. and thanks to Mark Hudgik we will continue to be on Zoom.

*Come see old friends and make some new friends!*

To join the service on Zoom go to the church web site: [www.thesteepleinthefalls.org](http://www.thesteepleinthefalls.org)

## **CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS**

**Pray for:** Carol Brunelle, Carol Szulc, Harry Thomas, Beth Dietz, Pauline Kiakis, Samantha Snopek, Adele Reynolds, Bev Pead & Family, Doug & Dee Brooksbank, Frank Hudgik, Dave Fanaras, Tom Deren, Tim O'Donnell, Vinnie Deitner, Darlene Dout, Tom O'Dea, Bob & Viola Mortimer, Colleen Mortimer, Rev. Peter & Joanne Milloy



† **Pray** for the family of Eunice Mittler who died on April 10.

**Congratulations** to Emma Hudgik & Keith Fox on the birth of a daughter on April 10. The proud grandparents are Mark & Ellen Hudgik, great grandfather is Mark Hudgik and great great grandfather is Frank Hudgik.

## **CASSEROLES**

Nine casseroles were delivered in April to Kate's Kitchen. Casseroles will be delivered at 9:30 a.m. on May 31. If you need your casserole picked up call Ann 695-1212 or Carol at 575-1491.

## **STEEPLE LIGHTING**



If you would like the steeple lit for one month, the fee is \$25.00. The deadline is the 25th of the month. More than one person/family may participate.

**THANK YOU** to Trina & Lily Marion, Alyson Barre and Alyssa Fugiel for cleaning most of the kitchen.



## EASTER PLANTS

Thanks to you the sanctuary was beautifully decorated on Easter morning. Plants were given:

- † In memory of Tom's brother, Joe Deren, by Tom & Carol Deren
- † In memory of Homer Washburn by The Washburn Family.
- † In memory of my parents by Ron & Karen Motyka.
- † In memory of Fran & Winifred Cerruti by Donna Barre & Family.
- † In memory of My parents, Norman & Doris Gagnon by Donna Pinciak & Family.
- † In celebration of our grandchildren and children by Alan & Ann Felsentreger.
- † In celebration and honor of our church by Heather Reichgott.
- † In honor of my grandchildren & great grandchildren with love from Gram/ Gigi
- † In honor of my parents by Kathy Washburn.
- † In honor of all my children, grandchildren & great grandchildren by Lois Felsentreger.
- † In honor of my parents by Bev Pead
- † In honor of our parents by Alan & Ann Felsentreger & Pauline & George Kiakis.

## CWS BLANKETS - HEARTS



In past years the women's group of our church have sold hearts and cards during May and part of June to earn money for CWS blankets. The hearts were pinned to a blanket in the sanctuary. This year you may purchase a heart for \$5.00 by sending a check to the UMW (United Methodist Women) include a note with what you want written on your heart and hearts will be available for you to purchase on Sunday mornings before and after worship from May 9 to June 20. The messages you write will be printed inside hearts in the July newsletter.

The proceeds will go to Church World United Service Missions to buy blankets to be used by people in need. Some of them may stay right here in the area. This is a great way to show your love by helping to keep others warm!



## GRADUATES WANTED

Please be sure to inform the office if there is a new graduate to celebrate. The names will be posted in the June newsletter. Email the church office or call Ann at 695-1212.



### TIME TO REQUEST A SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

If you have completed one or more years at an accredited institute of higher education and are continuing on, you can apply for the North Main Street Churches Scholarship. Applications for this scholarship will be accepted from May 1 through June 30. You can email or call the church office for an application.

The North Main Street Churches Scholarship Fund is a combination of funds donated for student scholarships from the Falls Congregational Church and the So. Hadley Methodist Church. The Scholarship will be awarded on Rally Day in September after the scholarship committee has reviewed all applications.

### ANXIETY SUPPORT GROUP



We are a small group who have found that meeting together to talk about our anxiety is beneficial and you are invited to join us. We start our meetings with a brief inspirational reading and end with a prayer. In between we often talk about our faith in relation to our anxiety. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested, contact Bev Pead at [bjpead031@gmail.com](mailto:bjpead031@gmail.com) for more information.

### A PRAYER

Gracious God

In these troubled days we may be finding comfort and security in our possessions.

Living so much online, we may find it hard not to covet a picture-perfect Instagram life of plenty.

But the unity of heart and soul that we crave comes only when we share what we have — even if our only abundance is that of grace.

Help us remember and let that be at work among us all.

Amen.

*By Beth DiCocco, Director of Communications*

*[Acts 4:32-35](#)*

*Rich Hughen, Interim Conference Lay Leader*

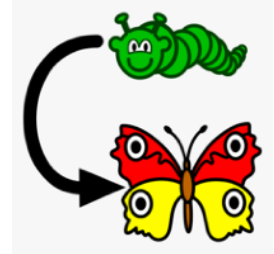
*Inspired by Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24*



## **FROM OUR LAY LEADER**

It's coming. Are you ready? What is 'it'? ... Change, or rather more change. Does that word scare you? It shouldn't anymore because we have experienced it often in the last year and a half. We are getting pretty good at it and it should be getting easier, kind of like getting your sea legs on a boat- a boat that rocks and rolls, threatening to throw you off. You learn to move your weight and maybe put out your arms for balance and after a while, the sea is calm again. You escape unscathed (ok, perhaps a little sick to your stomach).

And so it has been with our church, but as with most things, there was so much good that came from all the unsettledness. We still have Peter and Joanne in our community; we are taking more responsibility for our church; we welcomed Pastor Jim, who turned out to be a welcome presence in the face of uncertainty; we were able to experience worship with other churches; we know we are not alone and that we have only to ask for help and it will come; we learned to worship via Zoom when we were not able to worship in person.



Soon, we will learn who will be next in the parade of pastors. (Lol) I know some of us might be concerned about the change, but our District Superintendent is so good at matching pastors and churches that I have no concerns about us. Megan said she is not in the business of closing churches. She truly is concerned about us, not just as another church in the district, but as one under her personal care, and she wants us to flourish.

I do think our next pastor will work to lead us to new things and to help us grow. That might make some squirm a little, but it's important to remember you change every day, and if you are not changing, you are dead, and that goes for the church too. Keep in mind the seven last words of a dying church are 'that's the way we've always done it'. For the love of our church, we are all called to embrace new ideas. Everybody has gifts, possibly one you don't even recognize in yourself. My word to you is – keep your heart open, we can do it!

Let's all keep our eye on the future with expectations of new and exciting things that will breathe life into our church. 🎵...We are the church together...🎵

With eager anticipation,

*Mary Lou*

## **A WELCOME SURPRISE**

One day recently I was going through the pantry mail, and seeing an envelope from Church World Service I was curious why Neighbors Helping Neighbors would receive something from them. Surprise! It was a check. When the CROP Walk is held, the money is distributed to non-profits in the area and we were chosen. This is the second check from a CROP Walk and we are deeply appreciative of those who walked and those who donated. Thank you, everyone for helping us serve those in our community who need help.



## **ODDS & ENDS**

- **The Upper Room** is our daily devotional guide. If you don't have your May-June issue yet, you can get one on Sunday morning worship or call Ann at 413 532-500 or 413 695-1212. Thank you to Frank & Mark Hudgik for purchasing them for us to use
- The **Daily Prayer** is an email our church gets from the conference office. Ann has been passing each one along. Set aside some time to read it slowly and make it your own. (One is included in this newsletter.)
- **Our Church Website** Thanks to Donna & Steve Pinciak and Mark Hudgik you may find some interesting things on **our congregation's website**. It's [thesteepelinthefalls.org](http://thesteepelinthefalls.org) or you could just Google *South Hadley Methodist* and the link to our website should be the first thing that pops up. A Daily Prayer under the title Worship; Prayers & Concerns where you can add a prayer request; *The Steeple*, the church newsletter; and more.
- **Offerings** Your offering can be mailed to the church office. Checks can be made out to UMC. People who do their banking online can send their offering that way. The mail is checked regularly by Ann. The address is  
United Methodist Methodist Church  
30 Carew St.  
So. Hadley MA 01075
- **Casseroles for Kate's Kitchen** Ann contacted Kate's Kitchen and they are in need of food and appreciate all that we do. You can call Ann at 695-1212 or Carol at 575-1491 and make arrangements for your casserole to be picked up curb side. To participate combine one pound of cooked pasta with sauce and meat, cheese if you would like. Put it in a pan (available at church), cover and please put into a plastic grocery bag to protect it in transit. Casseroles are due at church on the last Sunday each month but you can put it in the church freezer at any time.
- **Prayers & Concerns** If you have a concern or celebration you would like to share you can call the church office 532-0500 and leave a message or call Ann 695-1212.
- **THE FOOD PANTRY, Neighbors Helping Neighbors**, is open and is in need of volunteers to help. The pantry's exciting new venture is a Mobile Food pantry in Granby. Clients using the pantry remain in their cars and only volunteers enter the building. If you would volunteer, contact Mary Lou at [mlguarnera@nhnfoodpantry.org](mailto:mlguarnera@nhnfoodpantry.org) or 413-437-7593. Besides volunteers, what is most needed right now are financial donations.
- **Kitchen Help** wanted to finish cleaning the church kitchen. If you will help put all the dishes and containers that are on the open shelves through the sanitizer or would be willing to clean one or both ovens let Ann know: call the church 413 532-0500.

**Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.**

**Elizabeth Andrew**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# BIBLE BOOKS WORD SEARCH

OLD TESTAMENT



## Jesus Healed Many People Word Maze

Find your way through the maze to connect the words from the answer phrase in their correct order.

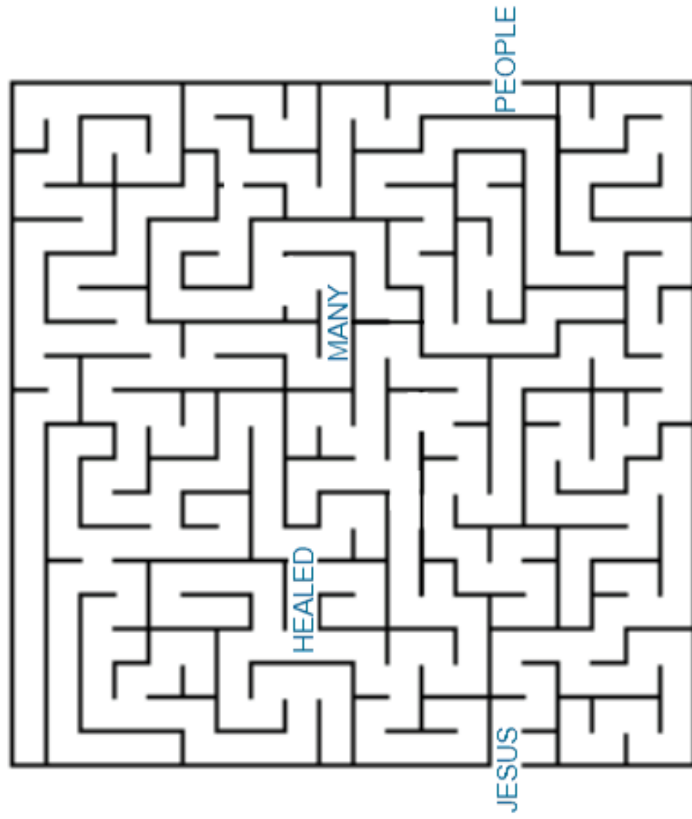
Y U K Z E C H A R I A H T R E E D S J A D E E Q  
 Z C F W H O X V S S P H U D U S H P N L Z G  
 C C Z E C C L E S I A S T E S T T G O L E S  
 D A N I E L W O F S L J P U I V H H Y L K T  
 A H A B A K K U K G L H S T R J J M E G I Q  
 Q W O R A G E N E S I S A E K O O M R E D  
 H C P R O V E R B S B O L R I B N E A L L Y  
 A H G E J U D G E S D Z M O N A A H L A H Z  
 G R S O N G O F S O N G S N G D H O A M L N  
 G O J L A M O D Q K P C A O S I Z S C E E E  
 A N Z E P H A N I A H U D M J A W E H N D H  
 I I T V R U A G P D P C H Y K H V A I T N E  
 P C R I Y E M M P F B I S A I A H C S A U M  
 H L C T Z C M I O L E O J O S H U A A T M I  
 C E H I G B A I C S Q Z G D N A H U M I B A  
 J S U C J B W E A A X T R H S C Z K U O E H  
 O I S U V B D C N H H N I A E U O E N R M  
 B A R S K X D E X O D U S P E D F G L S V

ZEPHANIAH  
 ISAIAH  
 OBADIAH  
 EZEKIEL  
 DEUTERONOMY  
 RUTH  
 JONAH  
 GENESIS  
 HAGGAI

JUDGES  
 LAMENTATIONS  
 NEMESIAH  
 HOSEA  
 JOSHUA  
 PSALMS  
 EXODUS  
 AMOS  
 EZRA

NATHAN  
 MALACHI  
 JOEL  
 ECCLESIASTES  
 DANIEL  
 SAMUEL  
 JOB  
 SONG OF SONGS  
 PROVERBS

ESTHER  
 ZEPHANIAH  
 KINGS  
 NUMBERS  
 JEREMIAH  
 MICAH  
 CHRONICLES  
 LEVITICUS  
 HAGGAI



Answer: Jesus Healed Many People

Luke 7:21b HCSB

All are welcome! Join us for worship or join in one of our missions.

## South Hadley Methodist Church

Worship Sunday 10:00 a.m. on Zoom

Pastor Jim Harvey jimharvey@charter.net 413 259-4404



Church office: 413-532-0500

e-mail: [churchoffice@thesteepinthefalls.org](mailto:churchoffice@thesteepinthefalls.org) web site: [www.thesteepinthefalls.org](http://www.thesteepinthefalls.org)

Dr. Heather Reichgott, Minister of Music

Ann Felsentreger, Secretary

Neighbors Helping Neighbors: 413-437-7593



**SOUTH HADLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

**30 Carew Street**

**South Hadley, Massachusetts 01075-2705**

**Return address service requested.**