

## The United Church of Phelps Weekly Newsletter

58 Main Street  
Phelps, NY 14532  
315-548-2772

# June

Week 1

Pastor Emerita—Rev. Shirley H. Filiatreau

Transitional Pastor—Rev. Ellen Donnan

[www.unitedchurchofphelps.org](http://www.unitedchurchofphelps.org)

### FROM THE PASTOR:

“Some time ago, my friend Brenda flew to Chicago for a visit with her daughter’s family, and especially with her granddaughter, Charity. Charity is five years old – a plump, cute, highly verbal little girl. Charity’s paternal grandmother had been visiting the previous week. She is a devout woman who takes her spiritual grand-mothering duties very seriously, and she had just left.

“The morning after Brenda’s arrival, Charity came into her grandmother’s bedroom at five o’clock, crawled into bed, and said, “Grandmother, let’s not have any Godtalk, okay? I believe God is everywhere. Let’s just get on with life.” “I like Charity. I think she is on to something.

“Let’s get on with life” can serve as a kind of subtext for our pursuit of spiritual formation and how easily and frequently the spiritual gets disconnected from our actual daily lives, leaving us with empty Godtalk. It’s not that the Godtalk is untrue, but when it is disconnected from the ordinary behavior and conversation that makes up the fabric of our lives, the truth leaks out. A phrase from Psalm 116:9 – “I walk before the Lord in the land of the living” – clears the ground and gives some perspective on Charity and “let’s just get on with life.” (*Living the Resurrection* by Eugene Peterson, p.43-44)

Living the resurrection is very much tied into living life. Without bringing God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit into our lives, we are just doing “Godtalk,” as Charity said. And people can tell when we are just talking about God and when we LIVE our faith, which is the resurrection life!

As Christians, we cannot compartmentalize our lives into separate boxes: church/faith; work; school; family; friends; whatever other categories you want to add. That doesn’t cut it! For IF the resurrection of Jesus the Christ made an impact on me as a person, then EVERY PART OF MY LIFE has to be impacted. IF Jesus’ sacrifice was not in vain, my life has to have changed. IF I am a true follower of Jesus, how I live my life needs to reflect my attempt to represent Jesus to others through my interactions with each person. IF I truly believe in Jesus Christ, then what I say I believe when I worship God in worship is tied to my work ethic and is also tied to how I do my school work and is also tied to how I treat and interact with family members and is also tied to who I am with my friends. We cannot be completely different in each of those settings!

God cannot be dismissed from our lives when we leave worship!

Part of this, for me, has to do with my understanding of God’s Kingdom: I believe that with the advent of everyone receiving the Spirit of Christ in our lives at the original Pentecost (the story can be found in Acts), the Kingdom of God has arrived here on earth. Not perfectly. Not the way it is in heaven. But nevertheless, here! We no longer have to wait to be a part of God’s Kingdom. We can communicate directly with God without going through an intercessor. The relationship between God and people has shifted and we are called to be the representative of God, the hands and feet of God, here on earth. For God wants to have a relationship with everyone – not “Godtalk,” dismissive relationships that appear important to someone on Sundays only, but a real, everyday-in-your-life relationship with each person.

I don't know about you, but I want everyone to have the kind of relationship with God that I have! I want everyone to know how very much God loves them – to the point of becoming human in order to experience what it is like to be human; to the point of then allowing Jesus to be abused, both physically and verbally; to the point of allowing Jesus to die the most humiliating of all deaths – crucifixion; to the point of allowing the disciples and other followers of Jesus to believe he was no longer alive; and finally to the point of raising Jesus from the dead! I want others to experience God as a Rock in turbulent times, as a safe place where they can share everything with God, as the perfect Parent unlike human parents, and as Provider in times when we do not have what we need. Whatever we need, we can find through our relationship with God.

Will we always understand WHY? Will we always enjoy WHERE we find ourselves? Will we always know HOW to muddle through situations? Will we always know WHAT to do? Will we always know WHEN hard times will be resolved? NO!

What we do know is this: God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. God loves us and forgives. God would prefer we follow God's plan for us, but when we don't, God is still with us. God desires a relationship with us, AND NOT GODTALK!

Consider your life: Do you live your faith in a resurrected Savior? Or do you only give "Godtalk" about your faith? There is a difference. Think about it.

*God bless! Ellen*

# Don't Forget!

Although we are not having Sunday or Thursday worship, *please* still send in your tithes/donations. You can do so by mail, 58 Main Street Phelps, NY 14532 or drop it by in the mail box. The church still needs to function and we depend upon your support to do so. We GREATLY appreciate any and all support.

We want to give a HUGE THANK YOU to all who have been giving.



The United Church of Phelps  
**BAG MEAL PROGRAM**  
 58 Main Street  
 Phelps NY 14532

**FREE for EVERYONE! 11:00 am –1:00 pm**

The BAG MEAL PROGRAM is on their 11th week!...WOW!

Here are the numbers of the people this wonderful program has served:

Date:	Kitchen:	Blessing Box	Total
Apr 27-May 1	63	43	106
May 4-8	58	34	92
May 11-15	57	38	95
May 18-22	51	51	102
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>395</b>
<b>Past totals:</b>	<b>+522</b>	<b>+157</b>	<b>+679</b>
As of 5/22	751	323	1074

\*3 boxes of food handed out.\*

# COMMUNION

*Sunday*

Don't forget  
 your  
 Elements



Sunday, June 7th At 10:50 am

The United Church of Phelps

BOTTLE & CAN DRIVE

**FUNDRAISING**



Who has a stock pile of cans and bottles that you have not been able to return? Here is the perfect way to get rid of them and help the church. To make it as convenient as possible, there are several places you can bring your cans and bottles. This will be on-going so save up those cans & bottles and drop them at one of the many places to help support your church!

- Pat Hemminger's home, 229 Main Street Phelps, back by the red barn with a big –there will be a big crate with a sign to drop them off at.
- You can also drop them at the church. There is a BIG crate by the ramp with a sign. Coons Can's has graciously offered to come by and pick the bottles periodically for us.
- **Coons Can's** is OPEN. Hours are Mon-Fri 9:00 am - 5:30 pm and Saturdays 8:00 am - 4:00 .pm. You may drop them off there and just *specify* that you would like the money to go to "The United Church of Phelps".
- There has been an account set up at the bottle redemption in Clifton Springs at **GoGreen** by Dollar General Just *specify* the money to go to "The United Church of Phelps".

Thank you EVERYBODY!



The United Church of Phelps  
**Chicken & Pork BBQ**  
**June 20<sup>th</sup> at Methodist Park**

(next to Vienna Gardens)

**\$10 Dinner includes:**

**Pork Steak or Chicken Half, Salt Potatoes, Coleslaw, Roll, Dessert**

Orders must be in by June 15<sup>th</sup> at noon

[Email orders to: ucpchickenbbq@gmail.com](mailto:ucpchickenbbq@gmail.com)

**Please include: Name, order, phone #**

*A confirmation email will be sent with a pickup time.*

*\*You may call the church **ONLY** if you **do not** have an email at 315-548-2772, t*

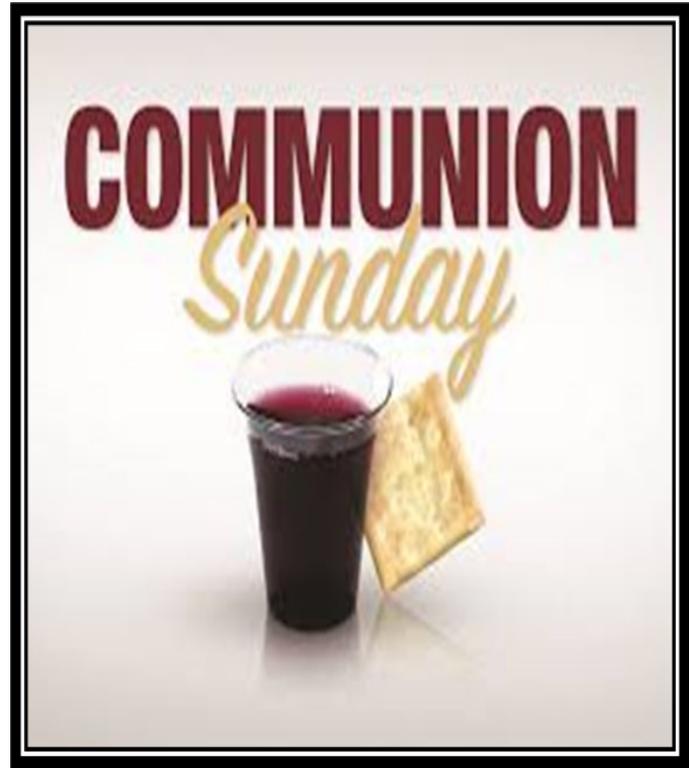
*hank you for understanding*

**\*Social Distancing and protective measures will be used\***

**PRAISE SONG** Do Something by Matthew West

I woke up this morning  
Saw a world full of trouble now, thought  
How'd we ever get so far down, and  
How's it ever gonna turn around  
So I turned my eyes to Heaven  
I thought, "God, why don't You do something?"  
Well, I just couldn't bear the thought of  
People living in poverty  
Children sold into slavery  
The thought disgusted me  
So, I shook my fist at Heaven  
Said, "God, why don't You do something?"  
He said, "I did, yeah, I created you" (now listen)  
If not us, then who  
If not me and you  
Right now, it's time for us to do something, yeah  
If not now, then when  
Will we see an end  
To all this pain  
Oh, it's not enough to do nothing  
It's time for us to do something  
I'm so tired of talking about  
How we are God's hands and feet  
But it's easier to say than to be  
Live like angels of apathy who tell ourselves  
It's alright, "somebody else will do something"  
Well, I don't know about you  
But I'm sick and tired of life with no desire  
I don't want a flame, I want a fire and  
I wanna be the one who stands up and says  
"I'm gonna do something"  
If not us, then who  
If not me and you  
Right now, it's time for us to do something,  
yes it is, come on  
If not now, then when  
Will we see an end  
To all this pain  
Oh oh, it's not enough to do nothing  
It's time for us to do something  
We are the salt of the earth  
We are a city on a hill  
We're never gonna change the world  
By standing still  
No, we won't stand still  
No, we won't stand still  
No, we won't stand still  
No  
If not us, then who  
If not me and you  
Right now  
It's time for us to do something  
If not now, then when  
Will we see an end

It's not enough to do nothing  
It's time for us to do something  
It's time for us to do something  
It's time for us to do something



**DON'T FORGET YOUR ELEMENTS**

**The United Church of  
Phelps**

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***Pastor Emerita—Rev. Shirley H. Filiatreau  
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The United Church of Phelps  
"United in God's Love"

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June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Trinity Sunday

10:50 AM

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Boldface text is said in unison

WELCOME

CENTERING MUSIC

CALL TO WORSHIP

Eternal Light, shine into our hearts.

***Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil.***

Eternal Power, be our support.

***Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance.***

Eternal Love, have mercy up us.

***May we seek your face with all our heart and mind and strength.***

Bring us to your holy presence as we worship you today.

***We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord. Amen.***

♦ SONG Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee #464

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;

Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, Opening to the sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the gloom of doubt away;

Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,

Stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise.

Field and forest, vale and mountains, Flowery meadow, flashing sea,

Chanting bird and flowing fountain, Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus Which the morning stars began;

Love divine is reigning o'er us, Joining all in heaven's plan.

Ever singing, march we onward, Victors in the midst of strife,

Joyful music leads us sunward In the triumph song of life.

CONFESSION

***Gracious God, we find ourselves embarrassed to come before you, for we have preferred the ways of this world to your ways. We have rebelled against your wisdom and we have gotten into trouble. We have rejected your guidance and have become lost altogether. To you belongs righteousness and to us confusion of face. O Lord, incline your ear to our troubles. Hear us when we pour out our sorrows before you. Forgive us, not on the ground of our own righteousness, but on the ground of your great mercy. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.***

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

Hear the good news! Our God pardons our sins and forgives our disobedience. God does not stay angry forever, but delights in showing mercy. Our God has compassion on us and tramples our sins underfoot. Hurl our iniquities into the depths of the sea. Give thanks to our God, for our God is good.

## CHILDREN'S TIME:

### If I Were A Butterfly

If I were a butterfly,  
I'd thank you, Lord, for giving me wings;  
And if I were a robin in a tree,  
I'd thank you Lord, that I could sing;  
And if I were a fish in the sea,  
I'd wiggle my tail and I'd giggle with glee;  
But I just Thank You Father, for making me – ME!

Refrain: 'Cause you gave me a heart and  
You gave me a smile  
You gave me Jesus, and  
You made me His Child  
And I just Thank You, Father  
For making me – ME!

If I were an elephant,  
I'd thank you, Lord, by raising my trunk;  
And if I were a kangaroo,  
I'd hop, hop, hop, right up to you;  
And if I were an octopus,  
I'd thank you, Lord, for my good looks;  
But I just Thank You, Father, for making me – ME!

If I were a wiggly worm,  
I'd thank you, Lord, that I could squirm;  
And if I were a crocodile,  
I'd thank you, Lord, for my big smile;  
And if I were a fuzzy-wuzzy bear,  
I'd thank you, Lord, for my fuzzy-wuzzy hair;  
But I just Thank You, Father, for making me – ME!

## GOD'S WORD

### Romans 16

## MESSAGE

### How Would Paul Introduce You?

## CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

**(NOTE: In these strange days of COVID-19, we are learning new ways of doing things. Today, for communion, you are asked to have bread and juice of some kind prepared before worship that you might partake of them at the appropriate time. Thus we will commune together this day.)**

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God! We are scattered in various parts of the world and yet as we celebrate this sacrament, we are brought together as one body of Jesus Christ. This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast that he has prepared.

Heavenly Father, show forth among us the presence of your life-giving Word and Holy Spirit, to sanctify us and your whole church through this sacrament. Grant that all who share the body and blood of our Savior, Jesus Christ, may be one in him and may remain faithful in love and hope. As this grain has been gathered from many fields into one loaf and these grapes from many hills into one cup, grant, O Lord, that your whole church may soon be gathered from the ends of the earth to show forth your Kingdom here on earth. Hear us now as we lift our voices in the prayer which your Son, Jesus, taught us, saying:

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

(Receive the elements)

Let us pray together: ***Lord God, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the living bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. Lord, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the Kingdom of God. Amen.***

◆ **SONG      Here I Am, Lord #525**

*Refrain:*

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night  
I will go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your People in my heart.*

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.  
All who dwell in deepest sin My hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?

I, the lord of snow and rain, I have borne My people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them, They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide Till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send?

◆ **BLESSING**

**\*Special thanks to Dawn Norton & Linda DeWeaver for helping with the Bulletins—THANK YOU!\***