



Newsletter of The United Church of Phelps
58 Main Street
Phelps, NY 14532
315-548-2772

Transitional Pastor – Reverend Ellen Donnan

Website: unitedchurchofphelps.org

Church email: unitedchurch@ottcmail.com



Our Mission

“The United Church of Phelps reaches out and welcomes all people so they may worship God passionately, become people of prayer, develop a deep faith, demonstrate faith through service, and share their faith.”

FROM THE TRANSITIONAL PASTOR:

If I were to ask you to give me your thoughts about the Old Testaments, what would you say to me? Really! I am asking. Would you tell me any of the following?

- The Old Testament is boring, negative, and no longer relevant.
- The Old Testament is about God being angry.
- How can God command people to kill other people?
- What is there of interest to me in the Old Testament?
- I like some of the stories, like Noah’s Ark and Daniel in the lion’s den, but the rest doesn’t speak to me.

I can relate to these comments because I have thought these very same things at one time or another in my life. However, I am beginning to find relevance in going back to the roots of God’s relationship with humanity and some of the books in the Old Testament actually have gems of wisdom in them that I cherish.

As I was trying to discern where God was leading me for the next sermon series, I came across Haggai – pronounced “Hay guy.” I have to admit that I am not “into” the Old Testament prophets (probably because I don’t consider myself an Old Testament scholar) and I only occasionally dabble in them for my personal devotions – and rarely do I preach from them. But God pulled my attention away from my comfort zone of the New Testament and I am convinced that I am supposed to preach from Haggai next.

Who is this Haggai guy? According to one resource I am using (*Take Courage: A Study of Haggai* by Jennifer Rothschild), Haggai’s LinkedIn profile might look like this:

- I was born in Judah before 586 BC.
- I’m the only person in the Old Testament with the name Haggai.
- I began prophetic ministry in 520 BC.
- I’m the first of the prophets to minister to Israel following her return from Babylonian captivity.
- I successfully encouraged the people to complete the task of rebuilding the temple.

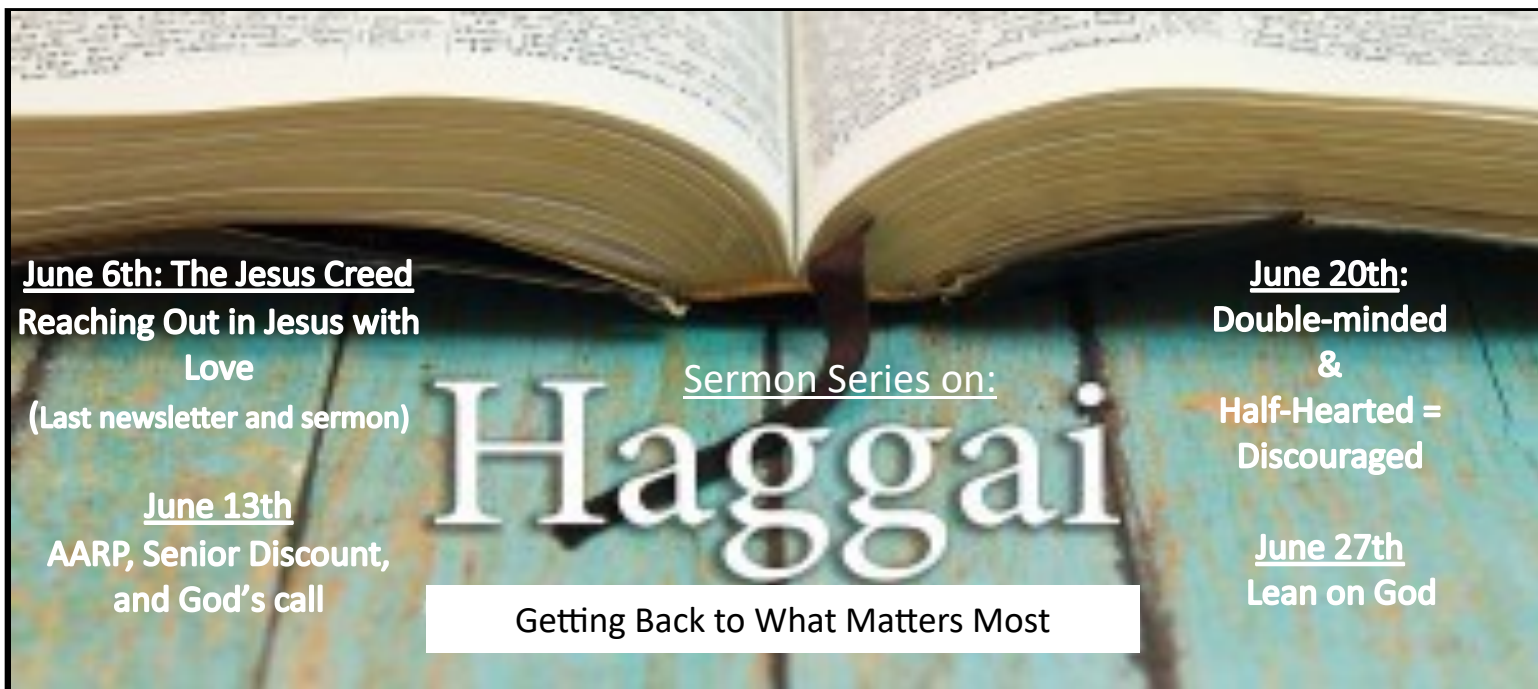
He was born at a particular time with a particular purpose/ministry for God. Some scholars think he was older when God called him. You might picture him in our society as a card-carrying AARP-er, drinking discount coffee at McDonald's, with gray hair, and a purpose to his step. He might even be a member of our congregation, strongly encouraging us to do what God is calling us to do – even though we might not really want to do the project. Much as some of our older folks lived through the depression and that experience made an impact upon them, so Haggai probably experienced captivity in Babylon and was shaped by that experience.

Did God really use this old man? Surely God doesn't ask people who have already been there and done that to do more? Truthfully, yes, God did use this old man to encourage the Israelites to rebuild the temple. And yes, God uses people of ALL AGES – from infants to the day someone dies – to do ministry on God's behalf.

As I have begun researching this book, I am excited to introduce you to Haggai. It is a very short book – only two chapters long – which can be read in one sitting. But when you slow down and think about what some of the verses say, you come away encouraged and more confident in your faith in God.

This series will be more like an old-fashioned Bible study, I think, and will address issues like: discouragement, courage, faithfulness, and attitudes. Feel free to bring your Bible to church with you so you can take notes on Haggai as we go along. I hope you will join me on this journey "back to the future" as we engage Haggai and the people and events of the time and bring what we learn back to our "future" of today.

God bless! Ellen



June 6th: The Jesus Creed
Reaching Out in Jesus with Love
(Last newsletter and sermon)

June 13th
AARP, Senior Discount, and God's call

June 20th:
Double-minded & Half-Hearted = Discouraged

June 27th
Lean on God

Sermon Series on:
Haggai

Getting Back to What Matters Most



THANK YOU to all who ordered and helped support the BBQ on May 8th. We made \$658!!! A special thank you to Brian & Sheila Hemminger, Betsy Bourne and Ellen for helping with serving. Also a BIG thank you to Sherry Ebel & Michelle Driscoll for making the *yummy* cupcakes!

God Bless!
~ Music & Worship Team ~



News from Leadership:

Our regular monthly Leadership Meeting was held May 12 at 7PM in Social Hall. Everyone is always invited to attend. We wear masks and distance to be safe at this meeting.

Highlights of this meeting:

We study Rick Warren's **the Purpose Driven Church** as the learning and discerning segment of our meeting. We thought about our mission statement, does it still fit? **"The United Church of Phelps reaches out and welcomes all people so they may worship God passionately, become people of prayer, develop a deep faith, demonstrate faith through service, and share their faith."** We found it to be true and inspiring. We will sharpen our focus on this statement so that we can appreciate the depth of our calling as well as where each specific one of us has a place reserved for only you.

- We are so excited to welcome three new members joining our worshipping family here at UCP. We warmly welcome Gloria Orsini, Leah Young, and Malissa Arnold. We also welcome Missy through baptism. We celebrate Sunday May 16 during worship.
- It is with regret as well as with a heartfelt thank you and good wishes as we honor the request for withdraw of membership of Patricia Ann Halstead and Wendy (Tiersen) Halstead. Both have given much to this worshipping community and we thank them for their love and efforts.
- Music & Worship is actively planning many worship opportunities like a Memorial Service Sunday May 16 to mourn and celebrate those loved ones who passed during COVID restrictions. summer worship in Methodist Park, and a special Father's Day celebration. We thank Hope Albrecht and her team and Rev. Ellen Donnan for bringing these ideas to fruition.
- The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has met numerous times and it is working awfully hard and earnestly to get the next step to call a Pastor completed. They are composing a Ministry Information Form (MIF) which is like a resume for UCP. It will speak to the depth and breath of what we do, why we do it, and how we do the unique ministry of UCP. Your frequent prayers for the process of both this church and the new pastor are welcomed and encouraged.
- If you have any concerns, questions, difficulties with how things are unfolding here at UCP, please speak to Dawn Norton. She is Leadership's Representative at Large and has taken on the role of listener and information sharer so we can move forward without clouds and concerns.

Please feel welcomed to attend the discernment time using Rick Warren's Purpose Driven Church at 6:30 and our next business meeting 7PM in the Social Hall on June 9. Bring your questions, concerns, or kudos to share. Be sure to mask and stay distanced. Frank has the Social Hall sanitized and configured so we can maintain safe distances while we meet. Thank you to Frank. If you cannot attend but have an item to raise up, please see Dawn Norton. Be safe, be well, be blessed in Jesus' name.

Linda K.



**Due to unforeseen events
JUNE BBQ HAS BEEN CANCELLED**



COMMUNITY

Memorial Service

Sponsored by: The United Church of Phelps

A BIG thank you to all who helped make Sunday, May 16th Community Memorial Service at Methodist Park such as memorable success. It was very well received by the community as there were around 50 people that attended.

It was so nice to hear the memories and stories people shared of their loved ones. The biggest response from those who attended was how grateful they were to have this opportunity to honor those lost over the past year. If you were not able to attend and would like to watch the service, you may view it on YouTube or Facebook.

Thanks Be to God,

UCP Music & Worship Team

NAMES OF ALL THE LOVED ONES HONORED AT SERVICE

Georgia Gonzalez
Wayne Keller
Patricia Conklin
Frances Van Kirk
Garry Clock
Charles Joseph Smith
Teri Baker
Carlton Beechler
David "Bub" Coe
Theresa Baker
Lynn Shoemaker
Ruth Nayaert
Sigrid Amberg
Cooper Snyder
Gerald Minns Sr.
Lucille Ebel
James Jensen
Ernest Bishop
Bradley James Cheney
Janice Carney
Dorothy Van Denbeckens
Kathy (Blackburn) Erbelding
Elizabeth (Betty) Mussack
Constant "Stan" Deridder
Emanuel Y.S. Li MD
Abraham Van Hanegen
Dennis Peters III
Matthew Davis
Richard Carney
Glenn Kregloh
Joyce Sherwood
Lois Graw

Stephen Baker
Gary Sheppard
Naomi Van Camp
David Barnum
Janet Caves
Evelyn Scherbyrn
Shari Hahn
Raymond Towsley
David Clukey II
James T.J Taylor
Donald E. Webb
Norman Rockefeller
Janet Goodman
Marjorie Aude
Roberta Mae Vickery
Robert McMillen
Anita Heffron
Theresa Swartele
Suzanne "Sweet Sue" Davenport
Shirley McAllister
Loren David Couse
Mary Schaup
Michael Smolinski
Patricia Mastellar
Shirley Filiatreau (Pastor)
Richard Detro
Brian Gunsalus Sr.
Doris Jane Simmonds
Fredrick Merscher
Allison Lynn Jensen
Linda Burns
Fay Williamson

Carol Vine
Brenda Oosterling
Fern Tillman
Marjorie Toner
Paul Bounds
Eleanor "Ellie" Heusler
Mark Chamberlain
Louis (Butch) Terra Jr.
Doris Herrick
John DeBoover Jr.
Donald Wilkes
Monica Zaso
Charles Albro
Alice Sabin
Joan Graham
Nancy Jane Rogers
Robert (Bob) Schoen
Fred Wood
Kathy Button
Dennis Crouch
Robert Ogeen
Peter Smith
Minnie Deschepper
David Reynolds
LuAnn "Tilly" Kinney
Geraldine Gleeson
Sheryl Boardman
Ivan Youngman
Ruby (Almekinder) Leavitt
Charles "Chuck" Gantz
Patricia Ann Dean
John Frederick

James Swart
Ralph Bowman
Helen Crowley
Betty Lee Bowdren
Kurt Lannon
Ruth Goodman
Robert Hazell
Jack "Duffy" James
Robert McAvoy Jr.
James Boardman
David Brookins
Robert Kloepfel
Michael Donk
Shirley Doucet
James Johns Sr.
John Young
Lillian Hauf
A Thomas Pulvino MD
Ora George Rothfuss Jr.
Joanne(Keenan)Rothfuss
John "Jack" Beha
Harvey Decker
Dorothy Preece
Leila Miller
Curtis Bonafigila
Richard "Rick" Moracco
Edwin Nelson
Richard Jensen
Ed Clark
Leslie A. Buel

Our Virtual



The 5th Annual FPOC's Amazing virtual Bedrace
You and your friends can create
your own virtual bed at our GIVEGAB online page.

Log onto
www.givegab.com/campaigns/amazingbedrace

All event proceeds will fund FPOC to provide housing, case management and support families attain sustainable, safe housing.

New This year...



Sleep any where *but* your bed!
Take photos - win prizes!



January - April 2021
Where did a third of the year go?
It went to...

Families Served 33
People Served 152
Meals Served 4893
Volunteer Hours 229
Food Link Deliveries 38
Families in Apartments 6
Families that Graduated our Program 3

Are you behind in rent?
Are your tenants in arrears?

We have information to help
you apply for relief.

Call for information & assistance:

Family Promise: 585-905-3988

FLACRA: 315-719-7309

Catholic Charities: 315-789-2235 ext. 114



STEWARDSHIP.

It's all about gratitude.
It's all about giving back.
It's all about God.



On Sunday, June 20th, 2021
we will take time to honor
Father's Day.

***After worship please join us outside for
cookies & punch***

God our Father, in your wisdom and love you made all things. Bless these men,
that they may be strengthened as Christian fathers. Let the example of their
faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honor
them always with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this through Christ our
Lord,
Amen.

UNITED CHURCH
OF
PHELPS
CONTEMPORARY
WORSHIP

FRIDAYS
7:00

IN PERSON
&
YOUTUBE LIVE



Committee Report June 2021

The 10 committee members are continuing to reach out to the 50+ people in need in our community. Still waiting on CDC guidelines but we are hopeful that in-person visits will soon be a reality. We are still continuing to do phone calls and cards.

Always our goal:

Reaching out to others so they have a feeling of connection to The United Church of Phelps. To bring a moment of joy into their lives and bring smiles and laughter.

If you have someone in need or want to join this amazing team, please reach out to Dianne Rockefeller at:

dianneerockefeller@gmail.com
315-694-3383

On-Going Mission Projects Everyone Can Support:

- > Coupon Ministry
- > Blessing Box
- > Bag Lunch Program
- > Eyeglass collection
(Done through Lion's Club)
- > Pennies from Heaven
- > Volunteer to be a team member on a Leadership team



Methodist Park
Sunday, July 11th, 2021

&
Sunday, August 1st, 2021
with COMMUNION



Weather permitting



&



Media & Technology needs our help. They are in need of a new computer for worship services. The ability to stream and record is getting extremely difficult with the one they have now and with growing need to LIVE stream and record our events and services, this has become a priority. If you would like to donate towards this fund, please mark your donation with "*computer for media & tech fund*". The goal they are hoping to reach to get the computer needed is \$1500.00

ALSO: Media & Technology is looking for people to help out on the team. If interested, see Eddie after a worship service or email him at albrecht_eddie@yahoo.com

B.L.A.S.T



Last B.L.A.S.T
for the school year is
Sunday, June 13



Normal Church Office Hours

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

Wednesdays by EMAIL: unitedchurch@ottcmail.com



How Can We Help You?

Transitional Pastor: Rev. Ellen Donnan 315-521-2593 (Cell)	Lay Member AC: Christina Albrecht 315-398-9950 (cell)	Personnel: Rose Copper-Brown 315-719-4292 (cell)
Church Office/Adm. Asst: Missy Arnold 207-249-0185 (cell)	Treasurer: Shelly Bengtson 315-247-1927 (cell)	Prayer Chain: Marsha Gibbs 315-548-5546
Christian Education: Rita Caraballo 585-520-4970 (cell)	Media/Technology: Eddie Albrecht 315-945-8812 (cell)	Prayer Ministry: Nan Clark 315-406-5526 (cell)
Council Chair: Linda Kataskas 585-732-8892 (cell)	Member at Large: Dawn Norton 315-521-2899 (cell)	Presbytery Elder: Peg Carlson 315-521-4396 (cell)
Custodian: Frank VanNostrand 585-354-4126 (cell)	Memorial Fund: Cathy Scott 315-548-9448	Sec'y to Council: Marsha Gibbs 315-548-5546
Endowment: Frank VanNostrand 585-354-4126 (cell)	Missions/Outreach: TBD	Stewardship/Finance: Betsy Bourne 315-945-2307 (cell)
Financial Sect'y: Pat Hemminger 315-548-3546	Music/Worship: Hope Albrecht 315-945-8812 (cell)	Trustees: Dan Moracco 315-548-4548 (cell)
Health/Service: Dianne Rockefeller 315-694-3383 (cell)	Nominating: Jane Pedersen 585-738-1899 (cell)	"God is Good – All the Time!" "All the Time – God is Good!"



June 2021

Birthdays This Month

June 2 - Carolyn Gloska

June 14 - Ben Beauchemin

June 15 - Sharon Peets

June 20 - Pat Keefe

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

June 6th - Andy & Carolyn Gloska



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 Dianne Rockefeller for more information.

All items below 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. **

Church Volunteers



Volunteers for June 2021

Greeters: Ramp

June 6th - Peg Carlson & Karen Moracco

June 13th - Jerry & Nan Clark

June 20th - Shelly Bengtson & Hope Albrecht

June 27th - Linda Kataskas & Penny Albrecht

Lay Reader

June 6th - Frank Van Nostrand

June 13th - Rose Copper-Brown

June 20th - Christina Albrecht

June 27th - Karen Moracco

Acolytes

June 6th - Cheria Caraballo

June 13th - Alé Caraballo

June 20th - Griffin Bowers

June 27th - Griffin Bowers

NO NURSERY or BREAKOUT until further notice.

Anyone interested in wanting to Volunteer to be a Greeter, Lay Reader or Acolyte please get in touch with Hope Albrecht, thank you!!

Email: halbrecht89@yahoo.com or Phone: 315-945-8812