

Castile United Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 512 Castile, NY 14427  
Church Phone: 585-493-2840  
Church E-Mail: Castile\_UCC@yahoo.com  
www.castileucc.com  
Temporary Pastor: Tammy Lathan  
Tammy's Cell Phone: 585-969-0695  
United Flyer Editor: Marlene Loomis



**February 2023**

**“United Flyer”**

**“One Pair of Hands”**

**One pair of hands formed the mountains  
One pair of hands formed the sea  
One pair of hands made the sun and the moon  
Every bird every flower every tree.**



**One pair of hands formed the valleys  
The ocean the rivers and the sand  
Those hands are so strong so when life goes wrong  
Put your faith into one pair of hands.**

**One pair of hands healed the sick  
One pair of hands raised the dead  
One pair of hands calmed the raging storm  
And thousands of people were fed.**

**One pair of hands said I love you  
And those hands were nailed to a tree  
Those hands are so strong so when life goes wrong  
Put your faith into one pair of hands.**



## Common Misconceptions About Christian Life

By Mary Fairchild (*Abridged*)

*New Christians quite often have misconceptions about God, the Christian life and other believers. This look at some common misconceptions of Christianity is designed to dispel some of the myths that typically hinder all Christians from growing and maturing in the faith.*

- **Once you become a Christian, God will solve all your problems** - Many new Christians are shocked when the first trial or crisis hits. Here's a reality check - get prepared - the Christian life is not always easy! You will still face ups and downs. You will have problems and troubles to overcome. READ: *1 Peter 4:12-13*
- **Becoming a Christian means giving up all fun and following a life of rules** - A joyless existence of mere rule-following is **not** the true and abundant life God intends. Rather, this describes a man-made experience of legalism. God has amazing adventures planned for you. READ: *Romans 14:16-18*
- **All Christians are loving, perfect people** - Well, it doesn't take very long to discover that this is not true. Although Christians strive to be like Christ, we will never obtain complete sanctification until we stand before the Lord. In fact, God uses our imperfections to "grow us" in the faith. If not, there would be no need to forgive one another. As we learn to live in harmony with our new family, we rub each other like sandpaper. It's painful at times, but the result brings about a spiritual smoothing and softening to our rough edges. READ: *Colossians 3:13*
- **Bad things don't happen to truly godly Christians** - Often Christians begin to wrongly believe that if they live a godly Christian life, God will protect them from pain and suffering. READ: *2 Corinthians 11:24-26* Some believe the Bible promises health, wealth and prosperity for all who

live a godly life. Not true! Jesus never taught this. You may experience these blessings in your life, but they are not a reward for godly living. At times we experience tragedy, pain, and loss in life. This is not always a result of sin, but rather, for a greater purpose that we may not understand. We may never understand, but we can trust God in these difficult times, and know he has a purpose. READ: *1 Peter 1:6-7*

- **Christian ministers and missionaries are more spiritual than other believers** - This is a subtle but persistent misconception that we carry in our minds as believers. Because of this false notion, we end up putting ministers and missionaries on "spiritual pedestals" accompanied by unrealistic expectations. When one of these heroes falls from our self-constructed perch, it tends to make us fall away from God as well. Don't let this happen in your life. READ: *1 Timothy 1:15-16*
- **Christian churches are always safe places, where you can trust everyone** - Although this should be true, it is not. Unfortunately, we live in a fallen world where evil resides. Not everyone who enters the church has honorable intentions. READ: *1 Peter 5:8* and *Matthew 10:16*
- **Christians should not enjoy any earthly pleasures** - I believe God created all of the good, wholesome, enjoyable, and fun things we have on this earth as a blessing for us to enjoy. The key is not holding on to these earthly things too tightly. We should grasp and enjoy our blessings with our palms held open and tilted up. READ: *Job 1:21*
- **Christians always feel close to God** - As a new Christian, you may feel very close to God. Your eyes have just been opened to a brand new, exciting life with God. However, we should all be prepared for dry seasons in our walk with God. They are bound to come. A life-long walk of faith requires trust and commitment even when you don't feel close to God. READ: *Psalm 63:1* and *Psalm 42:1-3*.

To read the full article go to: [10 Common Misconceptions About Christian Life](#)

## Church Directory

Temporary Pastor: Tammy Lathan

Tammy's Office Hours:

Tuesday & Thursdays: 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Wednesdays: By Appointment Only

Tammy's Cell: (585) 969-0695

Church Phone: (585) 493-2840

Church E-mail: [Castile\\_UCC@yahoo.com](mailto:Castile_UCC@yahoo.com)

Website: [www.castileucc.com](http://www.castileucc.com)

Administrative Coord.: Marlene Loomis - 493-2968

Admin. Coord. Hours: Tues.- Fri. 8:00 AM- 2:00 PM

Church Moderator: Dennis Miller - 493-2743

Bd. of Elder Chair:

Bd. of Trustees Chair:

Custodian: Brooke VanEpps – 689-7473

Director of Music: Barb Meyer - 322-7396



### Facebook Live

Most all of our worship services can be viewed on Castile UCC Facebook Live or you can view it anytime at your own leisure.



### Newsletter Deadline

All newsletter articles for the "United Flyer" are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month and are at the discretion of the church office. We welcome your submissions.

## February Preaching Schedule

February 5- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

Deacon Sue Russell

12- 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

*Holy Communion*

19- Transfiguration Sunday

26- First Sunday in Lent



## Altar Flowers

February, 2023

5 - Carol Becker (In memory of Carol's mother)

12 - Beth Pond (In memory of Butch Pond)

19 - Barbara Meyer (In memory of Edna Meyer & William Unrath)

26 - Marcy VanZandt



## Brunches

February 12- Featuring a "HOT COCOA BAR"

Tammy Lathan, Marlene Loomis & Bonnie Miller



## Clerks Records

Births:

Gabriel Lincoln Scott (born December 23, 2022)

Parents: Dan & Rachel Scott

Grandparents: Paul & Abbey Scott



## Kindness...

*"Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you."*

*Princess Diana*



## Lenten Fireside Chats - 6:00 PM

**Begins February 22 – Ash Wednesday**

Lent is a season of preparation for Christ's death and resurrection. This year we will be using "Surrounded By Grace" (A Bible Study For Lent) by Bill Thomas.

### **Lesson 1 *Grace for Those Awkward Moments***

**FOCUS:** Jesus Christ cares about the simple or little things of life and has power and ability to change, even the smallest things, for our benefit.

### **Lesson 2 *Grace to Overcome What Was***

**FOCUS:** Jesus knows about our past mistakes and, if we truly seek Him, He can forgive and give us a chance at a new start.

### **Lesson 3 *Grace for the Times When Life's Too Hard***

**FOCUS:** When life's demands are overwhelming and we should allow Jesus to bring comfort against a backdrop of frustration.

### **Lesson 4 *Grace for the Broken Heart***

**FOCUS:** Jesus cares for us, even when things are tough.

### **Lesson 5 *Grace When Things Are Chaotic***

**FOCUS:** God's peace is promised to those who follow Jesus and is available especially in hard or challenging times.

### **Lesson 6 *Grace on Display***

**FOCUS:** Jesus' death on the cross is part of God's plan of grace.

### **Lesson 7 *Grace Delivered***

**FOCUS:** Easter means we have the opportunity to spend eternity with God in heaven.

## Christian Education News

Our Sunday School lessons are based on the weekly Children's messages taken from Sermons4Kids.com.

**February 5 – "Let Your Light Shine"**

**February 12 – "Forgiving and Forgiven"**

**February 19 – "The Transfiguration"**

**February 26 – "Jesus Says No to Temptation"**



## Pastoral Search News

The Pastoral Search Comm. is looking into different ways in which to advertise the Pastoral position available at our church. Thank you for your continued support.

### **Committee Members are:**

Tyler King: Chair    Marlene Loomis: Contact  
Debbie Beeman    Lynn McNamara  
Barbara Meyer    Cliff Scott



## UCC Food Pantry

### **The Castile UCC Food Pantry is OPEN!**

This Food Pantry is open to residence in the Town of Castile and **may be visited monthly.**



*"For God so loved the world, He gave His only Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.*

*- John 3:16*

## Board of Trustees News

### **St. Pauly's Used Clothing Drop-off Box**

**What to Donate:** Used clothing, shoes, belts, purses, linens, blankets, curtains, and stuffed animals.

**What NOT to Donate:** Furniture, electronics, household items, books, toys, rags, pillows or fabric scraps. **Our latest check was \$100.09.**

### **News from St. Pauly Textile, Inc.**

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! We're excited to share with you the impact your clothing shed made over the last year -

- **40,604 pounds of clothing were donated to your shed in 2022.**
- **This was enough to clothe and estimated 7,480 people all over the world.**
- **Based on this volume of clothing your organization received \$1,624.17.**

Thank you so much for everything you, your volunteers, and your communities do to support the clothing shed program.

Sincerely,  
St. Pauly Textile, Inc.



*"So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love."*

1 Corinthians 13:13

### **Thank you's**

To the **Castile UCC Women's Fellowship** for donating two new smaller trash cans for the church. The larger ones we too hard to lift the garbage out of and the 55 gal. bags were very costly. Also, for purchasing six new Navy Table Clothes in memory of Marsha Mason Horton.

To **Jenifer Wallace** for all of our Valentine's decorations.

## February Birthdays

- 1 - Stephen Balmas
- 3 - Suanne Redden
- 5 - Steven Meyer
- 5 - Sue Ferris
- 6 - Jeff VanValkenburg
- 11 - Jacob Klein
- 13 - Zachary Swarthout
- 15 - Cliff Scott
- 15 - Emma Totstline
- 16 - David Brown
- 17- Maya Bellamy
- 19 - Audrey Embling
- 19 - Karin Rice
- 20 - Theodore Lindsey
- 22 - Alex (AJ) Swarthout
- 24 - Emily Reagan
- 26 - Casey VanZandt
- 26 - Kathryn Luczak
- 27 - Carol Scott



## Casual Walk Through Matthew's Gospel Part Two

This, our second month of casually walking through the Gospel of Matthew, finds us continuing the same portion of scripture. (Matthew 1:1-17) Matthew went at length to assure us that Jesus' birth was planned by God since the very beginning of creation, Jesus is a part of the family of all creation. He is part of your family, of mine and everyone's.

As I pondered that, my mind was stimulated to think about my own family and how very important it is to me. For example, I smiled as I remembered one cold winter morning going to my office in the church and finding a very colorful note from my then teenage daughter, Mary. The note had only three words had just three words: "AIN'T GOD GREAT." That shining note took the chill out of that cold morning. Mary knew what she wrote. She was then and still is very involved in the church. She knew the truth of her words and joyfully shared them with her dad, whom she knew was under a lot of pressure in his profession

at that time. Family relationships are so important.

Knowing that truth, Matthew wants to be sure we understand that Jesus is a part of all families. Matthew therefore includes a lengthy genealogy, as he shared in our text for today. (Matthew 1:1-17) Let's agree that it can be a bit tedious reading. However, he included it for a very good reason. Genealogies can be very revealing.

I read part of my genealogy one time and at one point I was surely surprised. In the 1700s a distant relative of mine who lived in England proved to be a character! On a sunny afternoon he was arrested for streaking! Can you believe it? Up to the time I read that I thought running around without any clothes on was a rather new phenomenon created by 1970's college students looking for excitement. No, I never dreamed that one of my cousins would be so far ahead of our times!

But guess what? Matthew saw Jesus' genealogy as crucial for anyone to really understand Jesus. To know his family tree helps us to know the baby Jesus and to understand why the angels sang at his birth. In juxtaposition, as I ponder my family tree and my naked cousin, I am not sure if I know my kin any better, I hope not! At the bare minimum, I must admit reading the genealogy was informative.

As we look over Matthew's genealogy, we should be reminded that in one way or another, we all come from a common source. The Genesis story of creation with the first man and woman-- Adam and Eve being created is a truth uniting both science and religion. Somehow human nature had its start; somehow there was a beginning; somehow life was created and thereby began our family tree. God created all; one family tree for all.

Matthew's effort seeks to open the doors of our minds. He calls attention to the fact that our neighbors in the luxury motorhomes here at Virginia Beach Campground are my sisters and brothers even though my vehicle is less than that half the size of theirs. It means that the pilots flying those navy jets screaming over us are also my sisters and brothers.

All that is to say, that we should let Matthew's genealogy cause us to ponder not only who JESUS IS, but also how we are related to one another; different classes up and down the social ladder have nothing to do with our family tree. Neither do our varied nationalities, or races, or different thoughts about God, have any effect on our family tree.

Each and every human being is either a sister or brother, a child of God; all God's children belong to God's family and that means even you who are reading this and me, we are either a brother or sister. And I love you!

The more fully we grasp the truth that all humans have ultimately a common genealogy, the easier it will be to believe that the earliest person (millions of years old) is included in our ancestry. As Genesis tells us, God did the creating.

Jesus saw no differences between rich or poor. He accepted everyone as equal no matter where they lived, the color of their skin, the language they spoke or any other variant. And He truly calls upon us to do the same.

Love your neighbor as yourself. To do so will bring you joy and peace that is a by-product of living in harmony with others. Do not let your nearest neighbor nor someone on the other side of the world distort your family tree, for we are all sons and daughters of the One Loving Creator.

**Peace, Joy & Love,  
Clyde & Audrey**



### **Congratulations**

Congratulations to **Colin Regan** on his recent appointment to the position of Under Sherriff for Wyoming County.

Colin started in the Sheriff's office in 2002 as a deputy. He was promoted to Sergeant in 2013.

He is also a Drug Recognition expert and was recognized in 2018 for his work in stopping drunk and impaired drivers.

## Missions News

### Scrap Metal Mission

- cast iron • copper • stainless steel • steel • brass
- aluminum • lawn mowers • electric motors • old machinery • power tools • hand tools • batteries

Please, NO: T.V.'s, computers, air conditioners, freezer, refrigerators (nothing with Freon in it.)

**Contact Chuck Klein at 567-8204 for pick up.**



## Women's Fellowship

Our Mission Statement:

*"Through the belief in our Living God, our mission is to reach out and support families and individuals in need, by sharing ideas and creativity, using our time and talents to strengthen ties in the community."*

**2023 Co-Chairs:** Dawn Miller & Judy Goodenow

**Co-Sec.:** Mary Reagan & Marlene Loomis

**Correspondence:** Carol Becker

**Treasurer:** Cindy Feroletto

**Next Women's Fellowship Meeting**

**Monday, February 13, 2023 – 11:00 AM**

**ALL Women are INVITED!!**

## 'Meals & Missions'



**2023 Theme:**  
**"A Modern Take on  
Jesus' Parables"**

**Next meeting:**  
**Thur., February 16  
at 12:00 PM**

During Jesus' time on earth, He loved using profound parables to teach important lessons. For 2023 Meals & Missions are going to be exploring modern takes on some of the most beloved Parables.

**February's Parable**

**A 'Cranky Old Man' Dies and Nurses Find a Surprise**

## College Students Care Packages

If you have a family member in college, please send us their address so Women's Fellowship may send them a care package. The best way to contact us is by email: [castile\\_ucc@yahoo.com](mailto:castile_ucc@yahoo.com).



## Hawaiian Luau Dinner

**Saturday, February 25**

**5:00 – 6:30 PM**

**Free Will Offering for Dinner**

**Menu:** Pulled Pork & Rolls, Hawaiian Fried Rice, Coleslaw, Fresh Vegetable Cups

### **Desserts Featuring:**

Pineapple Upside Down Cake, Coconut Pineapple Cake & Sugar free Jello



## **Also: Chinese Auction & Quilt Raffle**



**The Castile Library will be holding**

**"CHOCOLATE in the STACKS"**

**BASKET RAFFLE**

**Tues., February 14**

**Doors open at 5:00 PM**

**Drawing at 6:00 PM**

## Military Personal Addresses

No address at this time, *but please keep them in your prayers.*

**Christopher Meyer**  
**Mgr. Michael McLaughlin (deployed overseas)**  
**Nathan Scott – South Korea**  
**Tyler Smith**  
**Garrison Villeneuve**

**Michael Close**  
211 Brooks St  
#9000 Box 467  
Oceanside, Ca 92051

**Anthony Feroletto**  
142 Droms Rd.  
Glenville, NY 12302



**PV2 Lindsey, Tristin**  
304 N. McCarthy Ave.  
Bldg. 845 Ste 117-Branch  
Eglin AFB, FL 32542

**Page, Christopher Michael**  
3742 Patriot Drive Apt 201 Mail Box 5  
Abilene, Texas 74606

**Joshua Soble**  
2726 Trojan Ct.  
Lenmore, CA 93245

**Sara Torres**  
11537 Laurel Lake Square  
Fairfax, VA 22030



## Single Mom's "Breaking Bread" Club

**Are you a single mom? Join us for free dinners & fun programs for Moms & Kids.**

The group meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month 5:30 – 7:00 PM at

**Breezeway Barn**  
**141 North Center Street Perry, NY**

**Contact: [jenhall@hiridge.gmail.com](mailto:jenhall@hiridge.gmail.com)**

## **ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES** **CASTILE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST** **January 22, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Dennis Miller at 11:02 AM. There was an opening prayer by Temporary Pastor Tammy Lathan. There were 27 present. The minutes of the October 23, 2022 Church Council meeting were read. Motion was made by S. Meyer and seconded by M. Loomis to approve the October 23, 2022 minutes as written. Motion was carried.

### **The following reports were given:**

Temporary Pastor: Tammy Lathan  
Clerk's Report: Marlene Loomis  
Church Treasurer: Beth Pond  
Financial Secretary: Cindy Feroletto  
Auditor's: Judy Goodenow, Debbie Beeman, Sally Bliss  
Board of Elders: Larry Rogers  
Worship Technology Group: Charles Miller  
Board of Trustees: Mark Barber  
Supt. of Buildings and Grounds: Greg VanSlyke  
Christian World Missions Comm.: Debbie Beeman  
Missions Treasurer: Mary Reagan  
SERRV Treasurer: Mary Reagan  
Food Pantry: Sally Bliss  
Women's Fellowship: Marcy VanZandt  
Women's Fellowship Treasurer: Cindy Feroletto  
Snackpaks: Marcy VanZandt  
Music Committee: Roxanna Backer  
Stewardship Committee: Marlene Loomis  
Nominating Committee: Marlene Loomis  
NY Conference Delegate: Mary Reagan  
GVA Delegate: Barbara Meyer  
Historian: Jacob Klein

Motion was made by Larry Rogers, seconded by Beth Pond to accept all reports as given. Motion was carried.

### **Old Business:**

**Decorating Committee:** This committee has been formed with 8 members. The Committee will elect a chairperson.



## **New Business:**

**2023 Slate of Officers:** Moderator Dennis Miller presented the 2023 Slate of Officers. The Slate is complete except for two openings on the Board of Christian Education. Motion was made by Steve Meyer, seconded by Colleen Bean to accept the 2023 Slate of Officers as presented, Motion was carried.

**Fire Alarm System:** The present fire alarm system is very antiquated. It did not pass inspection and will cost a lot of money to repair as is presently installed. We need a simpler system. Dennis is checking on the possibility of using several smoke detectors.

**Water Damage:** The Choir storage room and the Sunday School room in the basement both were damaged when some pipes burst. They are still under repair at this time. Barbara Meyer and helpers will meet this Tuesday (1/24/23) to assess the damage of music, books, robes, etc. that were in the Choir storage room.

**Boiler:** The boiler has also had issues recently and is under repair.

**Plumbing issues:** There have been multiple plumbing issues lately, especially with the bathrooms. There is a lot of iron in Castile's water. Because of infrequent use, Greg suggests the Cleaner flush the toilets at least once a week. Dennis suggested we might look into a water filter. This will be referred to the Trustees.

**Bell Tower Windows:** We need to repair and/or replace the 4 windows in the bell tower. There are three proposals for the Council to consider.

1. Keep the stained glass. It would be about \$6,500/window. They would be able to do the work in 2024. The amount per window decreased to \$2,600/window if we removed them and took them to the repair shop. There is also extra cost for rebuilding the sash around the window.

2. Replace the glass with acrylic. The cost is \$850/4x8 sheet. We will need two sheets. It will also be \$350/window for composite stops and labor to reinstall. The total cost for this option is

\$3,050. This work would be done by Robb's Glass from Warsaw.

3. Replace the glass with Plywood. It would be painted with crosses on the outside of each window.

Discussion and questions followed the presentation of the proposals. Motion was made by Larry Rogers, seconded by Beth Pond to accept Proposal #2 from Robb's Glass in the color blue. Quinn Bellamy is our contact with Robb's Glass.

**Stained Glass Windows:** Temporary Pastor Tammy would like us to prayerfully consider what to do with the Stained-glass windows when they are removed.

**Dumpster:** The church will rent a dumpster in the Spring. We will have a work party to clean out several items that are no longer used or needed.

**Piano:** The small piano in the entryway by the wheelchair ramp may be donated. Ron Lathan will inquire if it is wanted by a Silver Lake organization.

**Paint:** There are several cans of paint in the basement. Sherman-Williams in Geneseo will dispose of them 5 gallons at a time. They will not take oil-based paint. Please stop and take some if you are going to Geneseo.

**The next church council meeting will be April 23, 2023** immediately following the church service. Motion was made by Steve Meyer, seconded by Barb Meyer to adjourn. Motion was carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:58 AM with the Lord's Prayer led by Temporary Pastor Tammy Lathan.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Cindy Feroletto – Church Clerk**

