



Brewerton U.M.C.  
5395 Orangeport Road  
P.O. Box 879  
Brewerton, NY 13029  
Phone: 315-668-3999

Address Service Requested



www.brewertonumc.com  
Pastor : Jack Keating  
pastorjack@brewertonumc.com  
Phone: 315-668-3999

*"Connecting people with Jesus and walking the path of real life faith"*

*Worship every Sunday at 10:00 am*

*A nursery is provided*

*Children's Sunday School during services*

*Coffee & Fellowship Follows Worship Service*



# APRIL 2016!

Spring In New Hampshire

Claude McKay

Too green the springing April grass,  
Too blue the silver-speckled sky,  
For me to linger here, alas,  
While happy winds go laughing by,  
Wasting the golden hours indoors,  
Washing windows and scrubbing floors.

Too wonderful the April night,  
Too faintly sweet the first May flowers,  
The stars too gloriously bright,  
For me to spend the evening hours,  
When fields are fresh and streams are leaping,  
Wearied, exhausted, dully sleeping.



## Brewerton United Methodist Church Calendar

### Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>:

- 10:00 am – Worship Service
- 11:45 am – UMW Monthly Meeting

### Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>: (SOMETHING NEW)

- 10:00 am – Line Dance (Zumba)

### Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>:

- 6:30 pm – Charge Conference

### Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>:

- 9:00 am – Trustee’s Workday & Monthly Meeting

### Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>:

- 10:00 am – Worship Service

### Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>:

- 10:00 am – Line Dance (Zumba) (new item)
- 6:00 pm – Twilight Stitchers

### Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>:

- 12:00 pm – UMW Fashion Show

### Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>:

- 10:00 am – Worship Service

### Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup>:

- 10:00 am – Line Dance (Zumba) (New Fun)

### Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>:

- 1:30 pm – 6:30 pm – Red Cross Bloodmobile

### Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>:

- 4:00 pm – Roast Pork Dinner

### Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>:

- 10:00 am – Worship Service

### Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup>:

- 10:00 am – Line Dance (Zumba) (still new)
- 6:00 pm – Twilight Stitchers

### Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>:

- 7:00 pm – Capital Campaign Team Meeting

### Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>:

- 12:00 pm – Happy Day’s Senior Luncheon

\*\*\* Check out the regular scheduled events on the back page for new items and changes to current events.

## Regular PoLM Facility Events

- Adult Bible Study:** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays 1pm -2pm
- Mission Circle:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday- 1 pm !
- Easter Morning Clothing Closet:**
  - Wednesdays - 6pm -8pm
  - Thursdays - 10:30am – 12:00pm
  - Saturdays – 10:00am – 1:00pm
- AA “Forever Young”:** Wednesdays 6:00pm – 8:00pm
- AA “Life Changing”:** Fridays 6:00pm – 8:00pm
- New World Ministry:**
  - Saturday: 9:00 am – 11:30 am - Tutoring
  - Sunday: 2 pm (Worship)
- Karenni Ministry:**
  - Sunday: 10:00am – (Worship)
- Mattydale History Group:**
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday 6:30pm – 8:00pm

## Regular BUMC Facility Events

- Food Pantry:** Tuesdays 10:00am – 12:00pm  
Thursdays 4:30pm – 6:30pm
- ZUMBA:** Mondays 9:00 am – Zumba Gold Chair  
10:00 am – Line Dancing  
6:00 pm – Zumba/Zumba Toning  
7:00 pm – Strength Class  
Wednesday 6:00 pm – Zumba toning  
7:00 pm - Strength  
Thursdays 9:00 am – Zumba Gold Chair
- Yoga with Linda:** Tuesdays 5:30pm – 6:30pm
- Twilight Stitchers:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays 6:00pm – 9:00pm
- Choir Rehearsals:** Thursdays 6:00pm – 6:45pm
- Resistance Training:** Mondays 7:00pm – 7:30pm

The May 2016 Newsletter deadline is, Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any problems making the deadline, or have additions or corrections for the newsletter, please contact me in church or by phone at 695-3114, or by e-mail: [kpeckham7123@windstream.net](mailto:kpeckham7123@windstream.net)

Thank You. Kathy Peckham

## NOTES FROM THE PATH OF LIFE

By Peg Leonard

“Joy, like the dandelion, crops up when least expected and often where not sought.” (Simple Wisdom)

### **ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

The Adult Bible Study meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. On April 5<sup>th</sup> the class will be discussing “Take Courage” (There are times in every ones’ life, even in the midst of storms, that you know you’ll never be the same) from our study book, EXPERIENCING THE WRDS OF JESUS, by Max Lucado. On April 19<sup>th</sup> the class will discuss “Move the Stone Away” (Physical death isn’t something to be feared, and it doesn’t stand in the Lord’s way). Do these topics interest you? Come join the lively discussion!

### **MISSION CIRCLE**

The Mission Circle meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month, at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Each month the women of the Mission Circle has a program that encourages spiritual growth and fellowship. This year the women are reaching out in mission in different ways .On April 14<sup>th</sup> the women’s mission project to clean the tables & chairs in the Fellowship Hall. Come help, it will be fun!

### **EASTER MORNING CLOTHING CLOSET**

The Clothing Closet continues to be a place where women, men & children come to find clothing, books, toys, linens & household items. Thanks to your donations there are items for those who come in. Donations can be brought to Brewerton UMC OR the Path of Life Mission Center. The Clothing Closet is open Wednesday, 6 – 8 pm; Thursday 10:30 am – 12:30 pm; Saturday, 10 am – 1 pm.

Come and Check us out!

### **COMMUNITY DINNER**

The Community Dinner is on the last Thursday of each month t the Path of Life Mission Center, 4:30 – 6 pm. The Easter Morning Clothing Closet is open during the meal. Thanks to the partnership of PoLM/Brewerton UMC & Cicero UMC we continue to feed & chat with anyone who comes. The meal is also supported by the free will donations made by the attendees. Come and be surprised by what the meal will be for April. One thing - it will be delicious!



## **PASTOR’S PONDERINGS**

Organized churches have earned many titles lately. Words like “judgmental”, “fake” and even “boring and dull” have been used to describe worship experiences in many churches. Obviously these are stereotypes that many describe some churches... but certainly not this one! Here are a few of the things I have learned from you as we gather for worship here in Brewerton...

1. **I have learned** how to laugh during the worship time. Worship and praise should be just that. Worship was designed to be a joyful place where we can freely express our love for one another and our love for God. I’ve never been in a group that laughed so much during worship time. We have a casual atmosphere that goes beyond even our clothing and into a relaxed place where we are free to be real. We are a real church, with real problems, serving a real God.
2. **I have learned** what it means to be creative and innovative. We have worshipped around tables, on the church lawn, in a parking lot concert and riding bikes around a lake. We have welcomed scouts, children, special Christian musicians, and everyone else who has come to be a part of our worshipping community. For whatever else you can say about this church, you must say after you leave each week that it was an experience.
3. **I have learned** that church really is about the people. While many churches become all but fixated on the programs they are trying to offer, all our efforts are placed solely on ministering to the families that attend. Each family is important and is seen as valuable contributors to the team.
4. **I have learned** that more is less. While we may not have all the programs of a mega church, we have all the things that matter most. We have passion for the Lord and a love for each other. We have compassion for children, the hungry, those needing clothing and those seeking a deeper relationship with God. And we are hungry to do something significant for God.

I am so thankful for this church that continues to teach me so much as we journey through faith together. If you too want to be a part of something profound, something fun, and someplace where you can be a part of a real community, then I encourage you to continue to stay involved. And bring a few friends who could benefit from those things as well! I look forward to laughing with you this Sunday!

See you in Church!

*Pastor Jack Keating*



## *A Message From Your Editor*

Growing up I quickly learned to look at nature for the signs of a season. And as the signs point to spring weather I would see preparations for the work ahead. Things like dad checking out the supply of fence post, wire, and staples for fixing fence. Now the surprise is fixing fence was a job that I sort of liked. I got outside for the day with dad and got to drive the tractor and got to walk around the land and see wildlife like deer, woodchucks, rabbits, and many others. Oh I didn't just sit and drive or walk around idle. Dad would put me to work helping. I learned to drive a fence staple, use a fence stretcher (ask me about that one), even to use a post maul (although dad usually stood way back). I also learned how to patch a section of broken fence wire. And when we were done, you could look back and see a good fence to keep the cows in their pasture and out of the crop fields.

By the time we had finished with the fences it was time to begin plowing. Now this was a job that was fairly easy though you needed to pay attention to your work. There was a couple of ways to start a field, start outside and work in, or start in the middle and work out. Ok, so I can be a little slow on the uptake, like it was a couple of years before I asked my uncle how he knew where he wanted to start. He said "simple, if I started outside last year, I start in the middle this year, and if it's been a few years from last plowing, I just look at the land, it'll tell me." Great, now I have to learn how to read the land. Actually it wasn't long until I understood what he saw. And I began to understand what my father saw in the land. My mother had grown up on the farm and had helped out as I had and she too read the land. It could tell you what you did with it the last time you worked it. It could also tell you if it was in need of something like food (fertilizer) or water. And I learned that caring for the land gave you something more than just hay, corn, oats, or vegetables. It gave you satisfaction in a job well done and as I found, peace.

Yup, helping out in the field though sometimes I felt cold, hot, or whatever, I most often felt at peace. And throughout my teenage years through all the trials and troubles of that age, I could always go out to corner of the pasture and just sit quietly watching the cows grazing, the squirrels running through the trees, and the birds flying here and there, and whatever other critter going about their life. And in no time, whatever had me feeling uptight was no longer so important at least for the moment. Feeling better I go home, OK life, come and get me..

*Kathy Peckham*



## MINISTRY OF PRAYER



### PRAYER CHAIN

When you need God's care and help, please let our new prayer chain join with you and pray for you.

To start the chain simply call: Tammy Allen 506-3066  
Or Pastor Jack 935-7659



### DAILY PRAYER

Thank you God, that we can trust you in every situation. Although we do not know the future, we do know your love never ends. Thank you for your promises that give us peace and hope.

Amen

### BOTTLES AND CANS

Put your collection of bottles and cans to good use by taken them to the Lucky Seven Collection shop by the Fulton Bank on Bartell Rd. Be sure to have them listed in their book for the Brewerton United Methodist Church account. OR - bring them to the red bin in the coat closet by the back and I'll take them in. Funds collected go to the shared ministry fund of our church.

Thank you, Ed Roundy

Thanks for supporting out Shared Ministry Account.



EVANGELISM TEAM SCHEDULE FOR 3/16 to 6/16

April 3 Claire  
10 Marion  
17 Judy  
24 Marilyn

May 1 Joe  
8 Marion  
15 Joan Doran  
22 Claire  
29 Judy

June 5 Marilyn  
12 Marion  
19 Joe  
26 Joan

Hi folks! Here is the current schedule for the Evangelism Committee visitations! Pastor Jack Keating is also a member of our committee. The church telephone # is 668 3999 and Pastor Keating's Cell 935 7659. Our mission is important! Next mtg. ?

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*Kudos Mid-Winter Dinner and Dance*

Kudos to the Family Ministry Committee for the mid winter Dinner and Dance. A wonderful catered Italian dinner was served. This really was a family night including the young children who enjoyed the music and dancing just as much as the adults. The church looked lovely and the conversations around the table was quite lively and very enjoyable.

*Thanks again team!!!!*

**WOMENS' NEWS**

The United Methodist Women will meet **Sunday April 3<sup>rd</sup>** after church service from 11:45 to 1:00.

After opening and prayer, we will be busy making decorations for the Fashion Show and Salad Luncheon which will be held on **Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup> at noon.**

Please come and bring your scissors to our Sunday April 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

Our next meeting will be **Sunday May 1, 2016** after church. Connie Chantry will present the program "Repentance and Reconciliation" a Native America study from Mission u.

Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup>- Annual Spring Fashion Show and Salad Luncheon. See info on another page in this newsletter.  
Pat Roundy

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*Helping Hands, Healing Hearts Mission*

**WANTED: RELIABLE USED CAR.** The Helping Hands, Healing Hearts Mission Team is looking for a reliable used car for an individual in our congregation. A donation would be a blessing but otherwise we can afford upwards of around \$800 for the vehicle. Please pass the word around and contact Craig Allen at 315-668-9412 if you have a car or any leads on one. Thank you!

*Brewerton United  
Methodist Women*

**SPRING FASHION SHOW**

**Saturday April 16, 2016**

**Salad Luncheon 12:00 Noon**

**Followed by a Fashion Show by:**

**CHRISTOPHER BANKS  
and CJ BANKS of  
Great Northern Mall**

Fashions modeled by ladies of our community.

Advance tickets only Donation \$8.00

No tickets at the door. Get your reservations in early.

See or **contact Beth Magill or Amy Magill @ 668-6640** for reservations for a large group table and tickets or for individual tickets.

Tickets are available from United Methodist Women.

*Hope to see you there!*

*APRIL BIRTHDAY'S*

Marge Kolb	April 3rd
Constance Nyman	April 6th
Tom Davies	April 7th
Kuhlman Nyman	April 7th
Adam Beitz	April 7th
Marion Ford	April 11th
Rick Mooney	April 14th
Ruth Keach	April 17th
Essie Ziegler	April 18th
Ruth Rogers	April 19th
Patricia Will	April 19th
Ann Marie Wood	April 21st
Muriel Bickom	April 22nd
Gina LeBeau	April 23rd
Michael LaFlair	April 23rd
Stan Harrington	April 24th
Brent Utano	April 24th
Ava Rae Dwyer	April 27th
Elaine Detjen	April 28th
Kathryn Tryon	April 29th

Birth Stone: Diamond

Birth Flower: Sweet Pea - or - Daisy

Zodiac: Aries = March 21 - April 19

Taurus = April 20 - May 20

## This and That from Pastor Jack

1. **As this is being written** we are on the brink of Holy Week 2016. We've had a meaningful Lenten season thanks to the efforts of so many. The Choir has offered wonderful music, Revival has led us well, as well, the Altar and Sanctuary has been beautiful and even the kids are getting into a better understanding of Lent and how we are indeed, People of the Resurrection. Thanks to all who work so hard to make our worship life so meaningful!
2. **Our Capital Campaign** is off and running FULL SPEED AHEAD! Yesterday our Leadership team offered their gifts, totaling \$20,250 and we are on our way toward achieving our goal. Please welcome those who will be calling to visit with you in April to hear more about this exciting time in our history together.
3. **Things are also hopping in Mattydale!** The monthly community dinners, which are held on the last Thursday of every month, are held in the Path of Life Mission Center building. We continue to do important ministry through the Easter Morning Clothing Closet ministry, Salina Historical Group, and other vibrant ministries are occurring in Mattydale. Come and be a part of the fun. Just speak with Peg Leonard to get involved in our Mattydale campus ministry.
4. **A specially called CHARGE CONFERENCE** will be held at the church on Thursday night, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Our DS Rev. Nola Anderson will preside at the Charge Conference and the only order of business will be to act on the possible sale of the parsonage and adjacent vacant lot at our Mattydale campus. All voting members of the congregation are invited to attend this meeting to be held in the Fellowship hall. Thanks!
5. **Our Lenten Study group has concluded.** Thanks to Peg Leonard for leading this study, Living lent as people of the Resurrection. Each week's subject built on the worship emphasis as we moved through Lent. Thanks to Peg and all who attended this wonderful study group!
6. **A delicious Roast Pork Dinner** will be served here on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. We'll start serving at 4:00pm and serve until all are fed. We'll offer Roast Pork, REAL smashed potatoes, vegetable, salad and desserts. We're looking for Dining Room helpers for the day and people who might be able to help with donations of food and desserts. Please sign up in the hallway outside the Sanctuary. THANKS!



# Roast Pork Dinner

Saturday April 23, 2016

## Brewerton United Methodist Church

5395 Orangeport Road  
Brewerton, NY 13029  
(668-3999)  
[www.BrewertonUMC.com](http://www.BrewertonUMC.com)

Serving Starts at 4:00 PM - until the food runs out

Adults: \$10.00  
Under 7: \$ 5.00



Roast Pork  
REAL Mashed Potatoes & Gravy  
Green Beans  
Tossed Salad  
Rolls  
Dessert  
Beverages

Take Outs Available!

# HAPPY DAYS SENIOR LUNCHEON

Adults 55 and over are invited to the luncheons.  
Sponsored jointly by: the Brewerton United Methodist Church  
and the Divine Mercy Parish

## APRIL

**LUNCHEON:** Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at noon.

**WHERE:** Brewerton United Methodist Church  
5395 Orangeport Road  
Brewerton, NY 13029.

**MENU:** Corned Beef & Cabbage, Italian Bread, Ice  
Cream and Cookie.

**PROGRAM:** Tony Bush, Town of Hastings Supervisor,  
will be the speaker at our April  
Luncheon. He will be discussing the  
many new and exciting developments in  
the Brewerton area.



**Suggested donation: \$6.00**  
*because of the high cost of corn beef*

Some of the developments are: the new  
waterfront pier on the north shore of the  
Oneida River just east of the Route 11 bridge. What will be  
happening at the: Lighthouse Park, Fort Brewerton, and the  
CNY Raceway Park being located southeast of the Cicero  
Middle School.

**RESERVATION:** Your reservation is due by Wednesday,  
April 20<sup>th</sup>, one week prior to the  
luncheon.

Make your reservation by calling:  
Shirley Jones 676-4973

*Please, if unable to keep your reservation, call 676-4973  
to cancel, as soon as possible.*

**Remember, to bring:**

- Toiletries to the April Happy Days Luncheon.
- Box top education coupons for Heartspring.
- Soda can pull-tabs for the Ronald McDonald House.

**NEXT LUNCHEON – May 18, 2016**

  
If the Central Square School District is CLOSED, the  
HAPPY DAYS SENIOR LUNCHEON will be canceled.

## *Line Dancing Comes ....*

To Brewerton UMC Mission Exercise Line up

Starting March 29

For a 3 week trial class

Time: 10am on Mondays

In Fellowship hall.

This is a beginner class.

If it goes well It will be back starting May 2

Questions? Contact:

Tammy Allen @ 506-3066

Line dancing is just what it says, dancing alone in  
a line and has very repetitious dance steps.

It's Great fun and Good exercise.



## April Food Sense – Important Dates!

March 21, 2016

The April Food Sense Menu has been posted on the Pantry Bulletin Board in the hallway. The deadline for order/ payment is Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup> by NOON, please. Orders will be available for pickup at the pantry on Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> between 1:00 and 2:00 p.m. The program is open to anyone. Cash or EBT (SNAP) accepted as payment. See Deb Lombard or call the pantry at 676-5528 for more information or to place an order.

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### *Spring Is Here*

It is time to start out fresh and clean out the old things you don't use. 100 Years ago all scraps of fabric, paper, wood, and metal were creatively used or refashioned into new products. Currently 110,000,000 tons of waste material are accumulated annually.

Why not reuse the things we are throwing away. Our church collects bottles and cans using the money for our shared ministry account. Look in your closet. Is it too hard to get another thing in it? Clothing can be shared with others who need it. Leave them in the coat closet and they will be taken to Mattydale for our Easter Morning Clothing Closet Ministry. Our child care uses egg cartons, paper towel and bath tissue paper tubes, wrapping paper, ribbons, plastic milk bottles, etc for crafts.

Check your cupboard, are you going to use some of the products in there? We buy things sometimes that we are not really going to use, and they sit around collecting dust using up space. Why not give it to the Food Pantry who will give it to someone in need who could use it.

Other things can be recycled as well. Many large stores (such as Wegman's) have recycle bins for used plastic bags and batteries. Used florescent light bulbs can go to Home depot (just to name one). Used eye glasses can go to your optometrists.

Use the time for yourself as well. It's as good as time to get ready for summer. Pastor Jack has a bicycle ride day in the summer, why not get ready for it. Walking is good for you and Zumba is good and fun as well. Why not keep as healthy and young as we can. Enjoy what God has created out there. Maybe it's a good time to get off the couch and live a healthy joyous life God has made for us.

Submitted by:  
Marilyn Schaap

Dear Friends,

Earlier this month I announced that, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, I have been appointed to become the pastor at Camillus: Immanuel United Methodist Church on Kasson Road in Camillus.

This appointment comes to us as a surprise but I believe the appointment and my decision to accept it has been steeped in prayer. Our appointment process is conducted by our Bishop, Mark Webb and our Cabinet as a time of prayerful discernment. It is also a time in which the gifts and graces of all available pastors are considered, as well as the needs of all of our churches. Although at times the appointment process may seem confusing for many, I believe it is a spirit-filled time on the part of all concerned.

My appointment as Pastor of the Brewerton United Methodist Church will end then in June. My last Sunday to lead worship here will be June 19<sup>th</sup>.

In the coming days and weeks your Staff Parish Relations Committee, chaired by Rachel Windover will be working with our District Superintendent, Rev. Nola Anderson to discern who God is calling to be the new pastor here in Brewerton.

While this process is ongoing, we still have much work to accomplish together here. We will celebrate Holy Week, the Resurrection, and complete our Capital Campaign program in order to move the church into a time of more solid financial footing that will help the ministry here for years to come. This is all important work and I am fully committed to doing it with you in the next 3 ½ months!

I ask for your prayers for our Staff Parish Relations Team and the new pastoral leader God has in mind for the Brewerton church. I also covet your prayers for Becky and I as we begin the process of transition.

Finally, know that I love you and I am sad to leave you. You are a very special congregation and God is doing exciting things in and through this church. It has been my honor to serve here and I will miss you all very much. I love you, and God loves you even more.

I can't wait to see you in Church!

*Pastor Jack Keating*

## "April Food For Thought from the Food Pantry"

<u>Monthly Statistics:</u>	<u>February</u>
	<b>(8 Days)</b>
<b>Families/Households Served:</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Total Meals:</b>	<b>2,655</b>
<b># Ind. x 3 meals/day x 5 days</b>	<b>177 x 3 x 5</b>
<b># Children: (Ages 0 -17)</b>	<b>56</b>
<b># Adults :( Ages 18 - 64)</b>	<b>111</b>
<b># Seniors: (Ages 65+)</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Total Individuals:</b>	<b>177</b>

### *Holidays at the Brewerton Community Food Pantry Holidays Made Special for Families in Need*

We know, holidays, like Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas are special times, marked by celebrations with family and friends; highlighted by a special meal that is shared with loved ones. In an effort to ensure Brewerton families in need are given the opportunity to enjoy holidays with their families, our food pantry/church partners as well as community organization, groups, & neighborhoods, all work together to create holiday food baskets.

#### *Easter Holiday Baskets*

At this writing, the Easter 2016 food basket project is in full swing. Our BUMC congregation, together with the Calvary Baptist Church congregation, collected enough food & cash donations to provide 80+ local families with a complete Easter food basket. Each basket contained: cranberry relish, fruits, vegetables, potatoes, stuffing mix, gravy, juice, dessert mix, yams, Jell-o and quick bread mix, in addition to a choice of meat ranging from turkey, ham, chicken, pork tenderloin, based on family size. Thanks to a generous donation of baskets, grass, & plastic eggs from our friends at the Family Dollar, we were able to provide 24+ children with a special Easter basket filled with goodies & treats! It's amazing to see all the donations pour in! It seems we are able to enhance the project each year; beyond the previous year's!

The Boy Scouts from Troop #3112 were on site again this year to help assemble all the baskets and returned on Palm Sunday to deliver 14 baskets to families residing in the Bayshore Apartments and to assist with the 30 baskets that were picked up by clients on Sunday. Kathy & Dan Luke also assisted; delivering 6 baskets to families throughout Brewerton. Four additional baskets were delivered on Friday to clients who also received March Food Sense orders. An additional 11+ baskets will be

picked up during pantry hours on Tuesday and 6+ will go out on Thursday during pantry. With all the food, meat and cash donations that were received this year, we will be able to provide at least 10 additional families with a complete holiday meal leading up to Easter. This year's Easter "Adopt a Family" project was/is a success because our congregation and others in our community are committed to reaching out to those in need; showing & sharing our love with all those around us — just as Jesus would have done. Thank you for all you do in support of our food pantry and the holiday food baskets throughout the year.

#### *Thanksgiving Food Baskets*

Last year, we provided 109 Thanksgiving food baskets to local families in need. With the closing of the Brewerton Christian Church in August, we at BUMC took on the challenge! We held a "Bring a Turkey to Church," yielding 28+ turkeys! We were blessed with support from many community groups: a Mission Group from Wellspring Family Life Church, the Twilight Stitchers, Zumba4Missions, the Brewerton Elementary School, Girl Scout Troops #10028 & #10381 all got into the act; helping to provide enough food to fill all our baskets with some to spare!

#### *Christmas Food Baskets*

Our pantry partners at Divine Mercy in Brewerton held their annual "Caring & Sharing" holiday program where they provided holiday food items and personalized gifts for each of the children. Our food pantry provided food baskets to 35 "Adult only/Senior citizen" families in need. Again, we were able to provide holiday meals to many families in need thanks to the generosity of many. Our pantry's own "Secret Santa" made it possible again this year to purchase gifts for five children, who were not included in the Divine Mercy program.

Together we are making a difference in the lives of many during the holidays and every day. Thank you for helping to make that happen over the years.

Stay tuned...our next installment of *A Month in the Life of the Brewerton Community Food Pantry* where we will highlight the role the Food Bank of CNY plays improving program support through referrals, training and networking.

Submitted by: Deb Lombard, Pantry Coordinator