

Dear Friends

I greet you warmly in the wonderful name of Jesus and invite you to receive this fall publication of the newsletter.

Now that autumn is here we will begin to see changes in the color of the leaves, falling temperatures, and shorter hours of sunlight, all associated with this season. These occurrences in nature remind us of the inevitability of change. To quote Ms Moem:

“There’s been an undeniable truth
Since before we even existed;
Nothing ever stays the same.
Change cannot be resisted.”

Change comes in many forms and is caused in many ways. Sometimes it is sudden and very noticeable and then there are times when it is gradual, slow and imperceptible. I think, for example, of the changes that are caused by storms, fires, and other natural disasters that leave destruction and death behind. With those things come many changes and with those changes come uncertainty.

In the midst of life’s changes it is important to have some ground for stability. We find this in God who does not change. There are many verses in the Bible that remind us of God’s unchanging nature. The technical or theological term is immutability, which refers to God’s constancy or the idea that God’s character, will and promises never change. Here is one reference from the New Testament:

“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change” (James 1:17).

It is reassuring to know that we have a God with whom “there is no variation or shadow due to change”. We can have confidence in God that no matter what we are like or what circumstances we face; no matter the season or occasion, God is good and loves us all the same and all the time. We can rely on God through all life’s changing scenes.

Finally, October will be observed as Stewardship month. This year our theme is “Be Generous” and each week this month we will consider an aspect of generosity. This is also the time when we encourage members and friends to consider their financial pledge in support of the work and witness of the congregation in 2025 as well as making a commitment to serve in some area or ministry. We encourage you to give generously of your time, talents and treasure as we work together to build up the congregation, expand our mission to the community and find new ways to reach others for God’s kingdom.

God bless you and may you always be a wise, faithful and generous steward of God’s gifts.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Jefferson C. Niles

Jefferson C. Niles, EdD, MAE, BA

Pastor

Email: pastor@ciceroumchurch.org



More Rummage Sale News! Ever wonder what happens with all the left-over items from the Rummage Sale? Here's where this year's items went: Brown Memorial Church, Faith Journey UMC's Mission Central, Interfaith Works, Unity Acres Homeless Shelter for men, and the St. Pauly's Clothing/Textile Shed.

Rummage Sale Final Total Raised: \$11,846.32 of this amount \$1,184.63 will be given to the Youth Group towards a future Missions Trip.

Safe Sanctuaries

The United Methodists of Upper New York Conference requires All adults with regular and direct contact with children, youth, and vulnerable adults to participate in a 3.5-hour Safe Sanctuaries training. Upcoming training dates are: **Saturday, November 2: Registration opens October 2 website to register is <https://www.unyumc.org/resources/safe-sanctuaries-training-opportunities> lmniece77@gmail.com.** We also have training dates to become a Safe Sanctuary Trainer; if you are interested, call Mary at the office at 315-699-2731 for more information, and she will direct you on how to register

Forever Young Join us on October 23rd at 1:00 PM for cider, donuts, and cornhole! If you have a cornhole game, please let Bonnie Blanchard or Lee Mount know if you would be willing to let us borrow your game for our event. Sign up at the Welcome Center so we have enough cider and donuts. Next committee Meeting on November 6th, at 10:00 AM in the Spear Room

Donate Blood. Help save lives!

Our church will be hosting a Blood Drive on Monday, October 7th from 11:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Please mark your calendar and if you can donate, we look forward to seeing you!

Please call 1-800-Red Cross or visit RedCrossBlood.org and use sponsor code Cicero UMC to schedule your appointment. You may also scan the QR Code on the poster hanging on the bulletin board in our entrance way. Let us make this a tremendous success!

If you have any questions, please give me a call 315-254-1790!

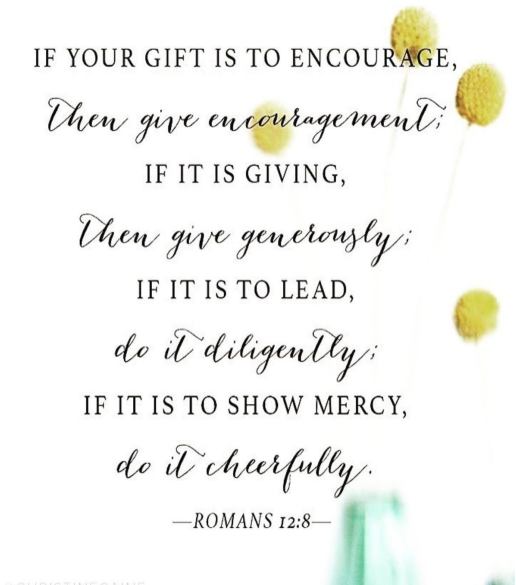
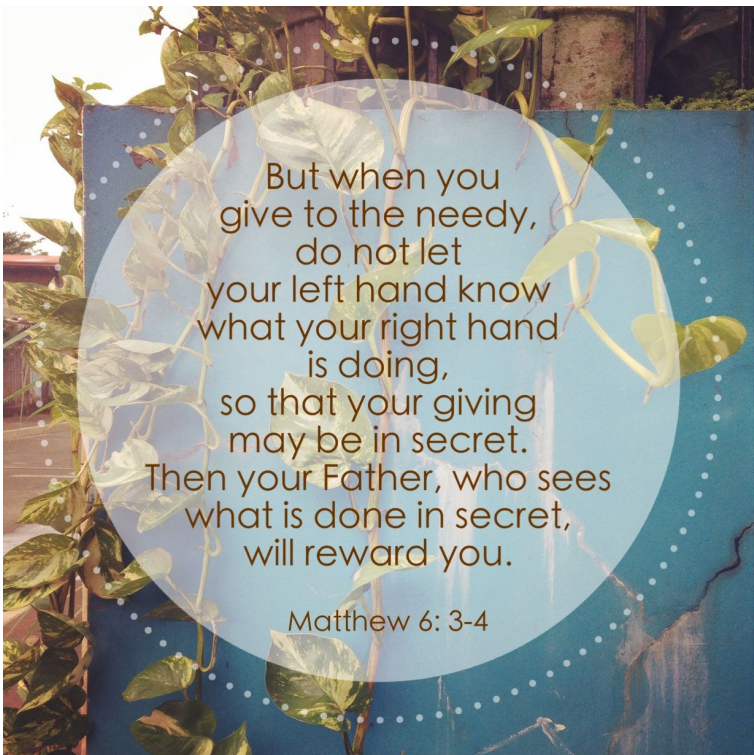
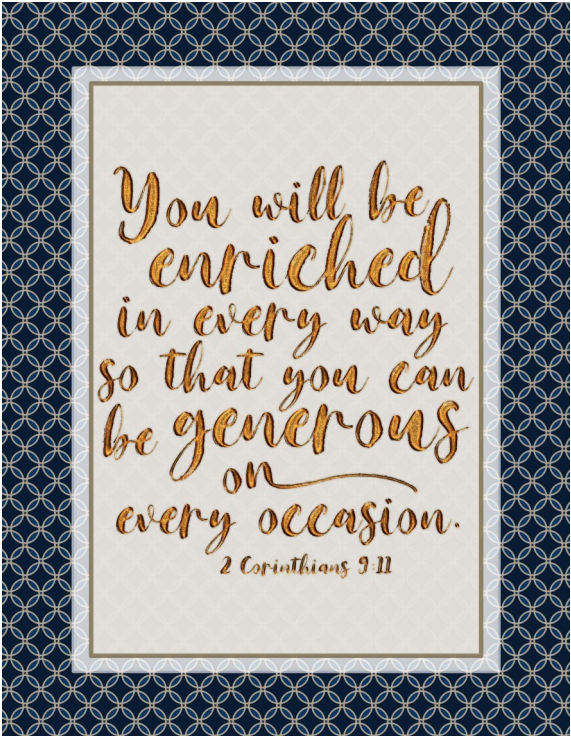
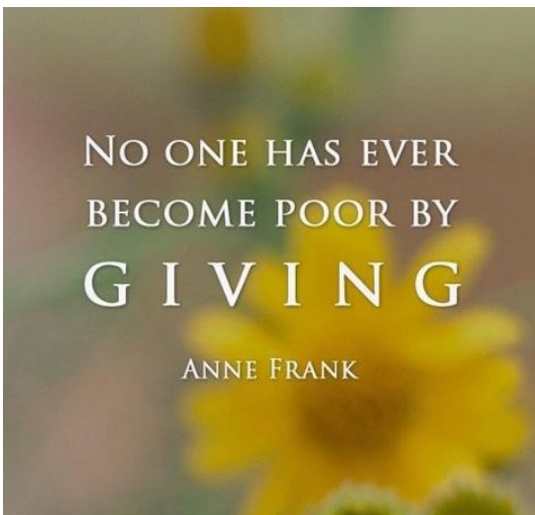
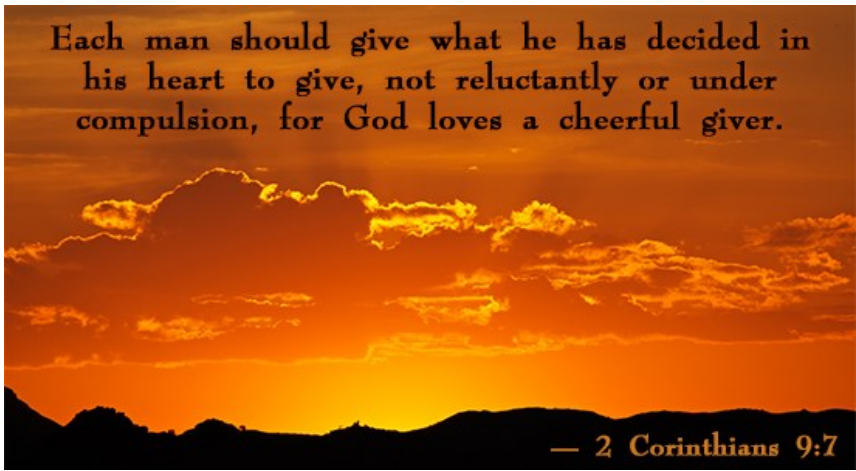
Thank you,



Fall Bible Study on Tuesdays for 5 week starting Tuesday October 1 going through October 29th 11 AM and 6:30 PM in the Spear room with Pastor Niles.



Thank you for your prayers and cards. Your kind expression of Sympathy is greatly appreciated by the family.
Chris Voorhies and Family





Blessing Box for all to use: Take what you need and give what you can. Our new box is a symbol of our inclusive community, offering assistance to anyone who needs food or other items. Please feel free to help yourself and drop off items when you can. Food insecurity is a real problem, but in our community, everyone is welcome and cared for. This Box is for Cicero United Methodist Church families, friends, and neighbors, or anyone who comes into our church in need. If you need something, please help yourself. If you have more than you need, please feel free to share, as you never know the struggles of our friends and families in our own church home.

Your donations to the Blessing Box have a direct and immediate impact on our community. Every item you contribute goes directly to those in need within Cicero United Methodist Church and our neighbors.

While food is always in demand, the Blessing Box also needs items like soap, shampoo, conditioner, feminine hygiene products, baby wipes, and cleaning supplies. Anything you use in your home, someone in need could probably use as well.

We are deeply grateful for your generosity in contributing to the Blessing Box, and we also want to remind those in need that it's okay to accept help. May God bless you all and be with you in your struggles and your acts of kindness.

“Gracious God, Fill my heart with compassion for those who are suffering. Help me see the world through Your eyes and extend my hand to those in need. Let Your love flow through me. In Jesus’ name, I pray. Amen.”

Compassion is the driving force behind many acts of giving. This prayer seeks to deepen our empathy for those facing hardships.



Attention everyone! Save the date for a special occasion! The highly anticipated Homespun Treasures event is back and scheduled for November 1st and 2nd this year. We are reaching out to our fabulous community of crafters and bakers for your valued assistance. This year, our 9th annual event promises to be extra special as we plan to extend our sale to include election day. And we are absolutely thrilled to announce our collaboration with the UMW for a grand bake sale! The UMW will provide specific information on ways you can contribute to this joint effort. Furthermore, we will have a delectable assortment of baked goods available for purchase at Homespun, and to make this a success, we need your generous donations. If you are skilled at creating specially crafted items for Homespun, we encourage you to connect with one of our dedicated team members - Jan Cerimeli, Deb Irwin, Sue Pitonzo, or Nancy Congdon - to discuss your creations. Keep an eye out for sign-up sheets in the welcome center for more details and opportunities to get involved!



United Methodist Women

Election Day Bake Sale, a significant event hosted by the United Methodist Women, is a testament to our community's spirit. UMW is looking for any and all homemade goodies, especially pies, but also cookies, cakes, muffins, breads, or any other baked goods that may be your specialty. Your participation is crucial to the success of this event.

Sign up sheet in Welcome Center. Please sign as soon as possible to ensure we have enough baked goods for the sale.

On Sale Day, November 5th, we will come together for a day of fun and community spirit. Thank you for your help and baking expertise. With your contributions, this fundraising event is sure to be a memorable and enjoyable experience for all.





Every church deals with conflict, both healthy and unhealthy. Together *lay servants and clergy* can be equipped and empowered to help lead through times of conflict as a time of transformation. (*SPPRC; Church Council and Administrative teams, Christian Education, etc.*)

Transforming conflict into a positive rather than a negative force is a spiritual pursuit and needs to be grounded in biblical principles: *love of God, neighbor, and self.*



Part 1 explains how we can prepare ourselves for the work of engaging conflict.

Part 2 explores how we engage others in conflict transformation, outlining specific processes.

This course meets CEU qualifications for certified advanced lay servants.

All participants will receive a certificate of completion regardless of ministry leadership role.

START DATE: Oct 22-Nov 19 Tuesdays @ 6:30-8:30P (*participants are asked to read Chapters 1-2 prior to Oct 22*)

PLACE: Erwin First UMC, 920 Euclid Ave., Syracuse, NY

INSTRUCTOR: Rev. Diane E. DiLuzio, retired UMC Elder

TEXT: *The Spirit and Art of Conflict Transformation*, Thomas Porter 2010
(UpperRoom.org/store)

Registration due date: October 15th

For a registration form contact:

Bob Mueller, co-leader of Crossroads district Lay Servant Ministries
mueller915@yahoo.com

Foundational concepts to be explored:

Transformation focuses on changing relationships and the images that people have of each other and of their shared dilemmas.

In conflict resolution disputants are not interested in negotiated solutions. Solutions are often imposed upon them, and therefore not long lasting.

God's Country Jamboree!

**Sunday October 13, 2024
6:00 PM**

***Featuring
God's Country Ramblers***



**Cicero United Methodist Church
8416 Brewerton Rd, Cicero, NY**

God's Country News

65 people attended God's Country Jamboree Tribute to John Denver on August 25th. We enjoyed singing many of his greatest hits including Sunshine on my Shoulder, Annie's Song and Leaving on a Jet Plane. Mike Harrinton sang a catchy John Denver tune called Home Grown Tomatoes.

We watched a video of John Denver where he told the story of how he lost his first guitar and found it 5 years later, then he wrote the song This Old Guitar. We also sang the hymn Amazing Grace and during the sermon Pastor Niles told us how the hymn was written by John Newton a ship master when he was in a violent storm at sea. He felt lost and then found his way after he became a Christian.

The Pastor also reminded us of the 3 lost and found parables in Luke chapter 15. Many of us have suffered a loss of some kind. Thankfully we know we can find comfort in God's grace. God's love and mercy, freely given, will reassure us and help us find our way again. Our next service will be October 13th and we will pay tribute to Jonny Cash, Ye-Haw! Remember to wear your cowboy hat and bring a friend. Y'all come back now ya hear!



Welcome back to Sunday School! We're thrilled to have you here. Our recent session on September 8th was a great success, with 40 beautiful children of God joining us. With the love and fun we've experienced, we're confident that we'll have an even greater year ahead.

We would like to express our gratitude to our returning teachers for joining our children on their Christian walk. If you know a friend who hasn't been to Sunday School, please call and invite them to join us. We miss them! We are always in need of helpers and substitutes, and we use fun and teacher-friendly curriculum. For more information on volunteering, please see Sue Bonspille.

Our Christmas Pageant, a highlight of our year, will be presented on December 8th at 4:00 pm. Look for more information to be coming as Emily Bush and Brynn Nasko fine-tune the details. We can't wait to see you there!

Mark your calendars for upcoming Sunday School events. These are not just dates, but opportunities to grow and serve in our faith. Education Sunday was on September 22nd, where 5 second graders received their Bibles and Sunday School teachers were dedicated. UNICEF Sunday will be on October 27th. We will have a Sunday School Sweet Treat sale, and all proceeds will go to UNICEF. Please bring your loose change and bills to church, and don't forget to bring your can too! We will send Sunday School handbooks with calendars home soon so you can stay updated on all the exciting events. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to call Sue at 315-420-2101. Let's continue to walk with our Lord Jesus Christ and do His work together.

With Love in Christ,

Sue Bonspille



CUMC Trunk or Treat



**Music, Snacks, and
Games**

OCTOBER 26, 2-4

8416 BREWERTON ROAD IN THE PARKING LOT

[HTTPS://CICEROUMCHURCH.ORG/](https://ciceroumchurch.org/)



TO SUPPORT THE
EVENT, WE NEED
VEHICLES: CONTACT
SUE BONSPILLE AT
315-420-2101 OR
MARY AT 315-699-
2731 TO REGISTER
YOUR VEHICLE.
YOUR HELP IS
APPRECIATED.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

26TH OCTOBER, 2024

HALLOWEEN SPOOKY HOUSE



LIVE AT

CUMC

HAPPENING DURING TRUNK OR TREAT 2-4 PM

HOSTED BY THE YOUTH

FELLOWSHIP

DONATIONS ALWAYS APPRECIATED



2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<p>1 11 Bridge</p> <p>12 Mahjong</p>	<p>2 10 AM Forever Young Alzheimer's Support Meeting 7 PM</p> <p>5:45 Music Team</p>	<p>3 2 Bereavement 6 Community Outreach</p> <p>Sanctuary Cleaning</p>	4	5
<p>6 1 Crop Walk 4-6 MYF Meeting Youth Room</p>	<p>7 Missions 7 Troop 117</p>	<p>8 10:30 AM Cicero Christian Sisters 11 Bridge 12 Mahjong 5 Harps 6:30 117 Cub Pack</p>	<p>9 9 Quilt Guild</p> <p>5:45 Music Team 6 Finance Team</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Sanctuary Cleaning</p>	11	12
<p>13 6 pm God's Country</p>	<p>14 Columbus Day 7 Troop 117</p>	<p>15 11 Bridge 2 Mahjong 6:30 117 Cub Pack</p>	<p>16 Discipleship 4 5:45 Music Team 7 PM Boy Scout Committee</p>	<p>17 6:30 Trustees</p> <p>Sanctuary Cleaning</p>	18	<p>19 9 Cropper Circle</p>
<p>20 Children's Sermon</p>	<p>21 6:30 SPRC Spear Rm 7 Troop 117</p>	<p>22 11 Bridge 12 Mahjong 6:30 117 Cub Pack</p>	<p>23 9 Quilt Guild Forever Young 1PM 5:45 Music Team 6:30 Education Team</p>	<p>24 Worship Team 9 am Folding Sanctuary Cleaning</p>	<p>25 Newsletter Email</p>	<p>26 9 Faith breakfast 11 Trunk n' Treat Haunted House</p>
<p>27 Food Drive/ UNICEF Sweet Treat Sale</p>	<p>28 7 Charge Conference 7 Troop 117</p>	<p>29 11 Bridge 2 Mahjong 6:30 117 Cub Pack</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 Halloween</p>		



In a culture where self-interest is not only normal but celebrated, the power of generosity can be overlooked. Yet, it's generosity that serves as a catalyst for meaningful change and kingdom impact. We see this concept illustrated throughout Scripture and reflected in God's character. And it's a virtue that as spiritual leaders we are called to nurture and promote.

Generosity is not just about giving money or material possessions—it's about cultivating a mindset and a willingness to share one's time, talents, and treasures with others. Like it says in Acts 3:25, "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

This four-part sermon series, titled "Be Generous," is designed to inspire and equip you to effectively communicate and encourage generosity to your congregation. These sermons offer practical applications, teaching your church to embody generosity in their daily life.

Based on the parable of the Good Samaritan, each sermon in the "Be Generous" series addresses a different aspect of generosity:

- **The Heart of Generosity:** Lay the foundation of generosity, exploring how giving reflects God's generous nature.
- **The Opportunities of Generosity:** Show how people can avoid missing opportunities for generosity.
- **The Cost of Generosity:** Focus on how generosity requires time and resources.
- **The Practice of Generosity:** Provide guidance on how to put generosity into practice by showing mercy.

This sermon series gives you an opportunity to engage your congregation on a deeper level, encouraging a culture of giving and creating a ripple effect within your community. The practice of generosity not only strengthens community impact but also cultivates personal growth and spiritual development.

You can have a generous church.



Cicero United Methodist Church Stewardship Pledge Form

I/We pledge \$_____ per week ___ per month ___ other ___

for a total gift in 2025 of \$_____ to support local ministries, including worship, education, pastoral service, missions, church and outreach,
locally and in the world.

Name: _____ Address: _____ City, _____ State, _____ Zip: _____
Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

- Please contact me/us regarding how to include this congregation in my/our will and estate planning
- I need giving envelopes

When you invest in your church, you are investing in God. You are investing in the United Methodist mission "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

"I will faithfully support the mission and ministry of Cicero United Methodist Church by my...

- Prayers
- Presence in Worship (my goal is to attend weekly/monthly/quarterly)
- Financial Gifts (please note above)
- Spiritual Gifts: including:
- Service: including:

*This commitment form may be placed in the offering plate, returned to the church office, or emailed back to Admin_Asst@ciceroumchurch.org

Pledges will be consecrated in worship on October 27th.

Cicero United Methodist Church

8416 Brewerton Road

Cicero NY 13039

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8416 Brewerton Road
Cicero, NY 13039
Phone: 315-699-2731
Website:
www.ciceroumchurch.org
E-mail:
Admin_Asst@ciceroumchurch.org

Church Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8:30 am to 2 pm

Sunday Services:
9:30 AM



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Cicero, NY 13039

