

Church Chat
June 2025

Dear Friends in Christ

Warmest greetings in the name of our Triune God. It is a delight to commend this month's publication of the Newsletter. I trust you will appreciate its contents.

As we enter the month of June, let us give thanks to God for the beauty of creation and the rhythms of life. The warmth of summer, the blooming flowers, and the gentle breeze all remind us of the goodness and generosity of our Creator.

This month, we are celebrating significant milestones. We congratulate our graduates, who have worked hard to achieve this accomplishment. Let us cover them with prayer that they will continue to seek God's guidance and wisdom as they embark on new adventures. We offer our congratulations as well as our gratitude and appreciation to the families and friends who have supported our graduates.

As Pentecost approaches, we are reminded of the gift of the Holy Spirit. On that day, the disciples were filled with courage, wisdom, and power, and they went out to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. It is my prayer that we too be filled with the Spirit's presence, and our lives transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit.

On Father's Day, we honor the fathers, grandfathers, and father figures in our lives. We thank God for the men who have demonstrated love, leadership, and guidance, and we pray for all those who are navigating the challenges of fatherhood.

In the midst of summer's busyness, let us not forget to rest in God's presence. May God's peace and joy be with you throughout this month and always. Let us prioritize community, building each other up, and support one another in our walk with Christ.

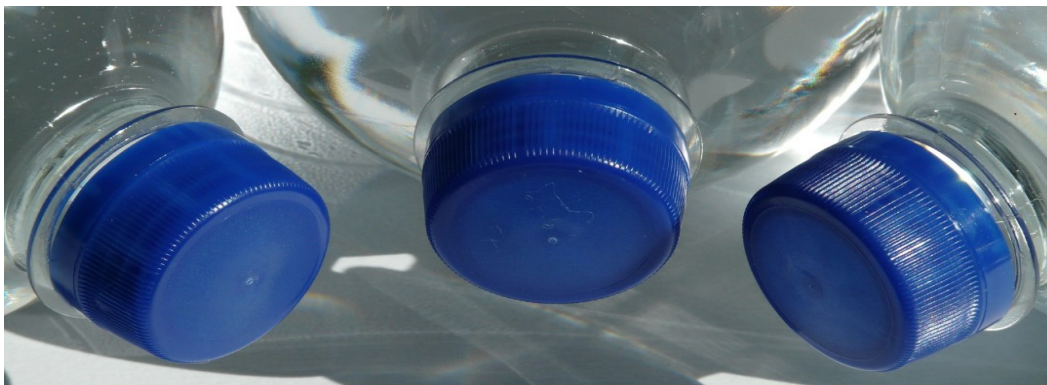
As a church family, we are grateful for the opportunities we have to serve and worship together. I encourage you to remain connected and in fellowship through worship, Bible studies, outreach programs, Vacation Bible School, and community events.

May the Holy Spirit guide and empower us as we seek to shine the light of Christ's love in our world.

With love and blessings,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jefferson Niles".

Jefferson C. Niles, EdD, MAE, BA
Pastor
Email: pastor@ciceroumchurch.org



BOTTLE DRIVE



AT 11 AM
- 1 PM

Help support our youth group by donating your
bottles and cans to our upcoming Bottle Drive!

SUNDAY

June 1, 2025



8416 Brewerton Road
Cicero, NY 13039



315-699-2731



<https://ciceroumchurch.org/>



*Kindness is
in your blood*

Blood Drive

United Methodist Church

Welcoming Room
8416 Brewerton Rd
Cicero, NY 13039

**Tuesday, June 10, 2025
12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**



American
Red Cross

Summer Camp 2025

It's that time of year when we start planning for summer! Have you considered sending your children, grandchildren, or neighbors to church camp? There are four Methodist camps in up-state New York, each offering different programs and retreats for our youth. We have found that those who attend church camps often return excited with many stories to share about their experiences. This year, thanks to the generosity of many contributors, campership funds are available to cover 50% of the cost for attending summer church camps. We encourage you to think about sending a child to camp this summer. For additional information or if you have any questions, please reach out to a member of our Christian Education Team or Mike Janisch at 315-663-6126. We look forward to hearing from you! UNY Conference camp information- Click on ministries and then Camp and Retreat

Camp Websites

www.unyumc.org

www.skyfarmcamp.org

www.skylakecenter.org

www.aldersgateny.org

www.asburyuny.org



Happy Children's Day!

June 8th at 9:30 AM – Children's Worship Service

We invite you to join us for a special worship service conducted by the children! All children are welcome to participate as stewards in this unique experience.

ALL CHILDREN WILL BE INVOLVED WITH WORSHIP ON THIS DAY.

God's Country Jamboree

Sunday
June 8, 2025
6:00 PM

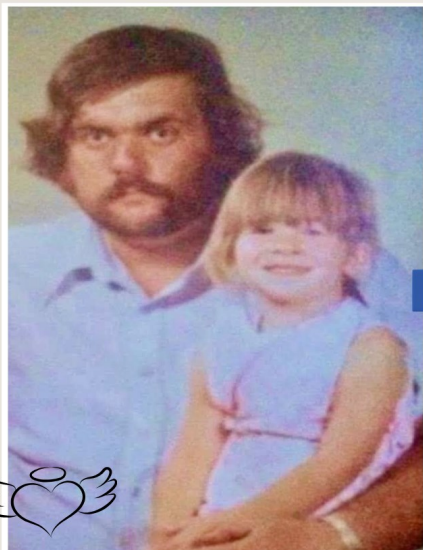
Featuring
God's Country Ramblers



Cicero United Methodist Church
8416 Brewerton Rd, Cicero, NY

Your words have comforted us, your support has strengthened us, and your love has sustained us. We are beyond grateful for your kindness during our greatest sadness. Your thoughtfulness will always be remembered.

*The Family of
Scott Michael Popp
August 3, 1979 - May 4, 2025*



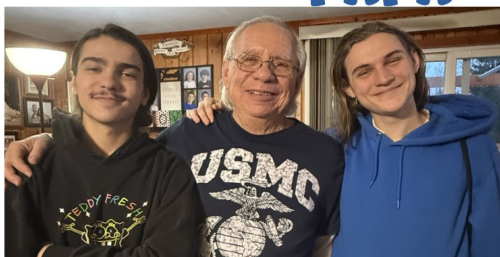
DAD



PAPA



DADDY'S MY FAMILY
GIRL



Love Grows Here

Cicero United Methodist Church Logo Design Challenge

Cicero UMC' Long-Range Planning Team has been working hard to look into our future and make some new plans. Recently the Administrative Council has approved a new Vision and Mission Statement and a church-wide set of Core Values which will help speak to our community, guide development of programs and set our spiritual direction. You will begin to see changes in signage, messaging and the overall look around the church as we roll out these statements of belief. Our common Vision is that Love Grows Here!

NOW WE NEED YOUR HELP! Our Vision Statement needs a logo – a visual representation of the phrase Love Grows Here that will help direct our congregation and speak to our community as they look to us for examples of faith in action and God's grace in all things.

So, we present a challenge to our congregation...create a visual that captures the warmth, hope and spiritual connection expressed in the phrase Love Grows Here. Here are some things to consider as you create your entries:

The logo that is selected will be used for signage, public messaging, our stationary, t-shirts, coffee cups – anything and everything we can think of!

The Logo must include the phrase Love Grows Here (you may use or not use this font type called Modern Love in MS Word). It may or may not include the words Cicero United Methodist Church (font of your choice).

Entries need to be electronically **submitted by Sunday, June 29** to Mike Irwin (mirwin1220@gmail.com) or the church office and two semifinalists will be selected by a small group of the Long-Range Planning Committee.

Semifinalists will be submitted to the congregation through the Buzz, Bulletin and in church for a vote and a winner announced in mid-July! The winner will get a prize of significant bragging rights!

So, put on your creative thinking caps, grab a pen or pencil or fire up the computer and let's get going!

We Believe that faith is a personal journey and that we grow toward Christ through service to others, nurturing and teaching all God's children, loving each other and spreading the gospel throughout the world.

CUMC Mission Statement

Cicero United Methodist Church strives to provide a community of faith that is actively loving, including and serving ALL people while growing a relationship with God.

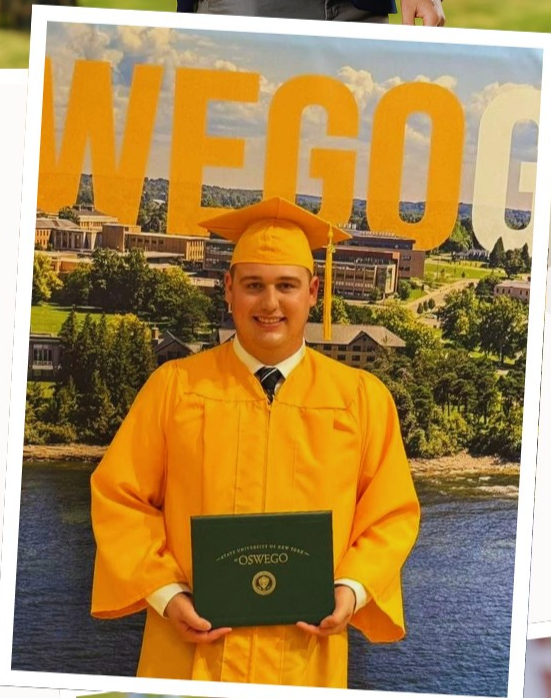
CUMC Vision Statement

Love Grows Here





GRADUATE



*As you move into a world
of opportunities, remember
this is just the start of
your journey.*

CLASS OF 2025





Love Grows Here

Each May it is a blessing to host an intergenerational gathering to celebrate Our Golden Christians who have worshipped and praised God sharing **GOD'S LOVE** and inspiring everyone whose life they touch to follow Jesus and spread **GOD'S LOVE**!

Because of the **LOVE** of all of God's children, (3 years old to 98 years old), the Sunday School Staff spends months, days, and hours sharing ideas, planning, decorating, and preparing for each Golden Christian Luncheon using our individual God-given talents!

Members of the administrative staff share their **LOVE** creating lists of Golden Christians, creating mailing addresses, mailing invitations, recording RSVPs, ordering supplies, and are always willing to support our Golden Christian Luncheon!

The Youth Group and their leaders, Confirmants and their mentors, share their **LOVE** by serving meals and beverages to our guests; by expertly preparing strawberry sundaes that they learned to make when they previously shared **GOD'S LOVE** on their mission trip to Virginia; by vacuuming and cleaning; by returning furniture to classrooms and storage at the end of the luncheon.

The technology team generously shared their time and **LOVE** by preparing slides; by providing sound and assisting in a variety of ways when they were not needed to control the technology board!

Sunday School children shared their **LOVE** by helping to set up for the luncheon, by assisting during the luncheon and using their God-given talents to entertain guests by playing in the chime choir, singing in the children's choir and playing instruments during the game!

Our hearts were full after the Chime Choir played "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" and we asked guests to share their favorite stories of Jesus with people at their table! The room was just buzzing! **LOVE WAS GROWING!**

Then the children's choir was introduced and sang "Oh How I Love Jesus" And the **LOVE OF JESUS** was passed around the room, until EVERYONE was asked, "Everyone, do you **LOVE** Jesus?" And they responded, "Yes, I **LOVE** Jesus?" Then they were asked, "Why do you **LOVE** Jesus" and everyone sang, "**BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED ME!**" **LOVE CONTINUED TO BLOSSOM AND GROW!**

Everyone was asked to share the person who taught them about how much JESUS **LOVED** THEM. The children decided it was their Children's Choir director who taught them to sing, "**JESUS LOVES THE LITTLE CHILDREN**" What a beautiful message of **LOVE** shared by our youngest children! After sharing their song, Rev. Niles said grace.

And the Kitchen staff under the direction of an amazing Sunday School teacher who shared her **LOVE** working many days to adjust her delicious chicken and biscuit family recipe to feed over 175 guests, served a meal enjoyed by everyone! Appetites satisfied **LOVE KEPT GROWING IN OUR HEARTS!**

After the meal, the room was buzzing once again as everyone played and intergenerational game which included 10 multiple choice questions identifying Parables of Jesus, 5 fill in the blank scriptures about Jesus, and 3 Name that Tune songs played by four talented Sunday School students! The guests that sat with Pastor Niles Family were ecstatic because they got every answer correct!

While dessert was being served, we pointed out the other themes that another Sunday School teacher worked so hard to create and with which she decorated the room! One of the themes was **KEEP WRITING GOD'S STORY OF LOVE!** Perhaps the highlight of the Luncheon was when June Stevenson, a precious and talented Golden Christian, shared her book as she kept writing **GOD'S STORY OF LOVE TO SHARE WITH HER FAMILY!**

Each guest received a gift bag sharing **God's Love and Our Love** that contained a copy of "Footprints in the Sand," a Little Jesus figurine that says **I LOVE YOU**, and a fuzzy pom-pom! A gift that keeps **on giving** – a gift to pass on and to share **GOD'S LOVE WITH OTHERS!**

LOVE KEPT GROWING AND GROWING OUR HEARTS WERE OVERFLOWING WITH NEW MEMORIES OF SHARING GOD'S LOVE TO CHERISH!

ENDING WITH A PHOTO OP TO REMIND EACH OF US IS A BELOVED CHILD OF GOD!



We would be remiss if we didn't recognize the families of our Sunday School children who generously share their precious blessings from God, their beloved children and grandchildren and who graciously share **GOD'S LOVE AND THEIR LOVE** as they help with Sunday School programs throughout the year and volunteer to help with music, help organize and make programs run smoothly and are vital parts of our Cicero United Methodist Church family! **With their help GOD'S LOVE CONTINUES TO GROW HERE!**



Please scan this registration form and email it to Admin_asst@ciceroumchurch.org, or visit this webpage: <https://ciceroumchurch.org/teaching-and-supporting-children-and-youth-in-christian-education-and-values/vacation-bible-school-2022>. To pay for your registration, go to the link below and select the VBS pull-down tab. After completing your payment, please email Admin_Asst@ciceroumchurch.org to inform them that you have registered online, as we do not receive notifications of payments. Thank you.

<https://app.easytithe.com/App/Giving/ciceroumc>



Wonder Junction- Registration Form
(ONE PER CHILD) \$15.00 each reg
Cicero United Methodist Church
8416 Brewerton Road
Cicero, NY 13039
(315) 699-2731
VBS Coordinator: Sue Bonspille 315- 420-2101

July 21st - 25th 2025
Pre-K (3 yrs old) – 6th grade
7th grade – adult invited to assist with the program

Child's Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Age: _____ Last Grade Completed: _____ Home Telephone: _____
Cell Phone: _____ Home Church: _____
Mother/Guardian: _____
Father/Guardian: _____
Parent's E-mail Address: _____

VBS hours are Monday-Friday, 9:00 am – noon. We will call the parent/guardian at home and/or cell in an emergency. If we are unable to reach you, whom should we call?

Emergency contact name: _____

Emergency contact phone: _____

Allergies or other medical conditions: _____

(Snack is served daily, please check the sign-in desk each morning or ask for the menu)

****We will be communicating with REMIND – CUMCVBS**

Mystery Shirts are included as part of the cost of registration.

t-shirt (circle): Childs(4T) SM. (5-6) MED. (7-8) LG. (10-12) XL (14-16) Adult: S, M, L, XL.

For recreation time, we ask that children wear closed-toe sandals or sneakers; this helps prevent injuries. There will also be a water day at the end of the week. They will not get soaked, but a towel may be brought in. Please indicate below if it is all right for your child to participate in the water fun day.

___ Yes they can participate ___ NO Rather they did not

Help is needed during this week of V.B.S. If you want to help, look for our help needed forms or contact Sue Bonspille.

*****We always seek help to defray the cost; we may ask for a craft or snack**



Irwin and Joint Bookman

CHURCH RUMMAGE *Sale*

**SAVE THE DATES: THE RUMMAGE SALE IS COMING! SPREAD THE WORD. SALE DATES ARE
FRIDAY AUGUST 22ND AND SATURDAY, AUGUST 23RD**

DONATIONS? WE WILL START COLLECTING ON JULY 28TH. WATCH FOR DETAILS!

**CAN YOU HELP? VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP SET UP, SORT, AND CLEAN UP! SEE DEB OR
MIKE IRWIN FOR MORE DETAILS.**

CONTACT INFO: DEB - IRWIND0119@GMAIL.COM; (315) 727-0190

MIKE - MIRWIN1220@AOL.COM; (315) 727-9483

Cicero United Methodist Church
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
8:00 am to 2 pm

Sunday Services:
9:30 AM



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