

# FOOTHILLS Worship Center

June/July 2026 Bimonthly Newsletter



## **The Walls of Jericho: A Testament to Collective Strength**

When you hear the story of Jericho, you're getting a front-row seat to one of the most epic examples of unity in the Bible. Picture this: the Israelites, having wandered 40 years in the desert, are now on the threshold of the Promised Land. The first obstacle they encounter is the massive, fortified city of Jericho, between them and their destiny.

God gives Joshua, their leader, what seems like a bizarre battle plan. They're to march around the city once a day for six days. Then, on the seventh day, they've got to go around seven times. No swords drawn, no arrows flying—just trumpets blaring and a whole lot of walking. Sound strange? It definitely was, but here's the key: they had to do it together, as one united group.

The seventh day arrives. They go around Jericho seven times, the priests blast their trumpets, and the whole crowd shouts. And the walls of that once-daunting city just fall. Against all odds, through shared belief and combined effort, they saw a miracle.

That story's got something to teach us about the power that lies in being united. When people come together, focused on a common goal, especially when it's a goal that feels impossible, mind-blowing things can happen. Just like the Israelites, your strength multiplies when you're not going it alone. Whether it's tackling a community project or simply being there for each other, unity can turn the everyday into the extraordinary.

And it's not about everyone being the same. The Israelites had different roles—leaders, priests, soldiers—but their differences didn't matter because they moved as one, and that's what brought those walls down. Let us at FWC do great things together for God!

# The Little Engine That Could

Most of you know Linda Fisher and her husband Dave. If you don't, here is a little background. They both worked in the school system. Linda, was a reading teacher, and Dave, a vice-principal. They made a life-long career of being educators and ambassadors for kids. Linda saw a need and an opportunity for kids to have access to free books. So, Dave and Linda purchased the Little Library that is out on Jansen Avenue. They painted it got it registered on the Little Library directory and stocked it with some books. Linda wrote the following article for this month's newsletter:

We want to thank everyone who has contributed books to our Little Free Library. Your great



generosity- whether from children, parents, grandparents, or teachers-has created a real wonderful collection of books.

Because of your donations, we are able to offer a wide and ever-changing variety of books. We've received brand new stories, treasured collections

from retiring teachers, and books that children have passed along after enjoying them. Each contribution helps create a fun reading opportunity for all.

Our Little Free Library is especially unique because it is dedicated entirely to children's books. It has become a loved and frequently visited resource in front of our church. In fact, it is so popular that it needs to be restocked every week.

Thank you for helping us inspire a real love of reading and for keeping our library shelf full. We hope that your kindness and support will continue so we can truly making this special children's space possible. THANKS EVERYONE!



## Getting Young Adults Involved at Foothills

Last month, I (Lynné) got a call from the Interim Executive Director & Workforce Development Coordinator of Boces/Ptech (Nichole). She asked if we could use some help in the Food Pantry from students in the: Wildlife & Fishery, Agriculture Technology and Nutrition majors. Nicole was thrilled to hear of our plans to enhance what our food pantry currently offers our "neighbors", and she was eager to assign five students for workplace experience in their related fields of studies with us. (very Cool!) On May 26<sup>th</sup> the five high-school juniors arrived at FWC and were ready to dig right in. If you recall, from last newsletter, we were to receive three donated raised-garden beds. The plan was to have the students place the soil in and plant the seedlings in the beds. We had mulching to do around the trees in front of the church as well. Lorrie put them to

work with Carole Sweet who had already started mulching around the trees the week before. On the second day of their internship, one of the kids asked me, "How religious are you?" He proceeded to be very inquisitive about God, heaven, and the Holy Spirit. His knowledge was limited but he wanted to understand how it is all relative to other religions and life today. I pointed him in Pastor Brad's direction. I told him that the Pastor has ALL the answers. A couple hours later, he did stop in to talk to Brad. It was soothing to see that kids do want to know, without being forced to learn. They want to understand. I invited him to watch YouTube services and come back with any questions. It just gives me hope in the future that Jesus Christ will become part of their everyday thoughts if only they get to know him. Amen!



## CHECKS & BALANCES



To keep the integrity of your donations, our accounts are reconciled, verified and approved by using three different methods. A monthly reconciliation is performed by the Treasurer of the General Fund and the Treasurer of the Operating Fund. If you recall from previous newsletters, the General Fund is the account we use to pay our monthly operating bills and employee salaries out of. The funding of this account comes from your donations, fundraising, and rent. The Operating Funds are held by S.A.L.T. (Simplified, Accountable, Leadership Team) for the sole purpose of maintaining the building such as when we black topped the food pantry parking lot or we had to repair the heat and had the plugged sewer line.

A monthly reconciliation is performed by each Treasurer. It is then verified by the S.A.L.T. Chairperson using the corresponding bank statement as supporting documentation. Annually, an audit is performed by a congregant with great banking knowledge. The congregant randomly selects some checks and matches the corresponding invoices pertaining to the respective check for accuracy. You can be assured that your money is being used well and stewardship is happening



**The choir's last Sunday, until Fall is June 28**

4-6pm \$10 **menu**  
June 5<sup>th</sup>  
**Baked Ziti & Meatballs**  
Side Salad, Fresh Bread & Dessert  
Dine-in/Take-out Available  
305 Jansen Ave. – Use Back Door



The Foothills Women are having their annual picnic at Sandy Harrington's garage and pool. Anyone is welcome. The June date is TBD. There will be hotdogs and the ladies ask that you bring a dish to share along with a bathing suit and towel if you want to swim.

**Congrats 2026 Grads!**



FWC will be hosting the 2026 Johnstown Baccalaureate Service on June 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. We are asking for volunteers to be ushers and welcome our guests. Most of the visitors will never have been here before so it is our chance to make a great first impression! If you can help see Lynné, Lorrie or Pastor Brad

4<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**Foothills Fairy Festival**  
305 Jansen Ave, Johnstown NY  
**Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026**  
10am-2pm

**JOIN US FOR A MAGICAL DAY!**

- Shop a variety of craft & vendor booths
- Church bake sale, food tent, & lemonade stand
- Play in the "Fairy Realm" courtyard & blow bubbles
- Get wings, crowns, wands, face paint & hair tinsel
- Free kids' crafts, photo ops, and activities
- Affordable indoor carnival games & raffles

Our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Fairy Festival is coming up on Saturday August 1<sup>st</sup> from 10 am – 2 pm. If you can help with set up, take down or anything in between, please let Tabitha, Lorrie or Lynné know.

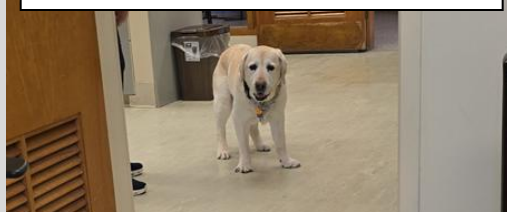
## Random Pictures from the Past Couple Months



**Garage Sale**



**An Office visit from Fawn**



**Sandy being Sandy**



**Johnson Brothers Working on the Parsonage Deck**



**Behind the Scenes**

**New Freezer is Here!**



## God's Mission for FWC Food Pantry Ministry

The Food Pantry has been on a rollercoaster ride the past few years. It is one of the many reasons we moved to Johnstown in 2022. Our leaders knew there was a need for more food and that we were capable doing it.

They were absolutely right! The F.P. started out with increased use almost as soon as we opened the doors. Then we ran into food deficits to keep the shelves stocked. Then we hit gold with a tractor trailer filled with 650+ cases of chicken our first summer, which brought a lot of attention to us...good attention but as

the use of the pantry increased so did the resources needed to run it. Unless you live under a rock, you know the price of just about everything has increased over the past year and that has brought more challenges to keep shelves stocked. With some grants, donations, and networking with other pantries we had been able to keep up with the need. We also purchased refurbished commercial freezers and refrigerators to store our fresh foods and freezable items. But, when one broke, we had to try to find a way to replace it. Well, the last week of May, we were finally able to do that. One of our volunteers worked some magic and got Lowe's in Amsterdam to discount a new freezer for us. It is a blessing. We also have been able to establish a new relationship with Hannaford in Gloversville, and soon with other local grocery stores to help take us on our next journey to help our neighbors of Fulton County even more! Our God is Great! Amen?

Check out the next page of this newsletter to see how you can help the F.P. with their fundraiser coming up later this month on June 11th.



## Foothills Worship Center Food Pantry

is fundraising to buy food that will be provided to families in need from our community through use of our pantry.

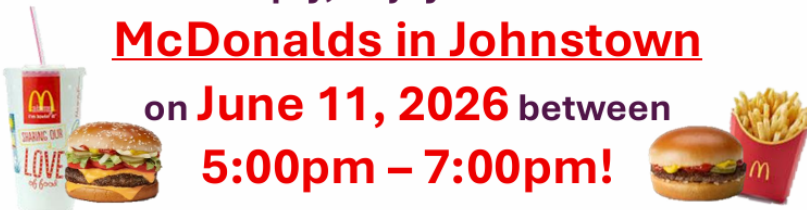
### How can you help?

Simply, enjoy dinner at

### McDonalds in Johnstown

on **June 11, 2026** between

**5:00pm – 7:00pm!**



McDonald's is generously contributing a portion of all its sales from this event to support our Food Pantry so that we can continue to fulfill our mission of providing essential food assistance!

## June Anniversaries

**Sandy & Gus Sacerio – 50 Years!**

June 5

**Charles & Lottie Baker**

June 15

**Don & Kimberly Paige**

June 18

**Leo & Cynthia VanAllen**

June 22

**Mary Catherine Caron & Ron Nilsen**

June 24

## July Anniversaries

**Marion & Kevin Johnson**

7/15

**Tom & Patricia Green**

7/25

**Ellen & Oliver Brault**

7/26

**Rosaland & William Rowback**

7/31

## JUNE

Randy Elmendorf	6/1	Aiden Sacerio,	6/2
Leo VanAllen	6/4	James Baxter	6/6
Lynné Chesebro	6/6	Anderson, Michael	6/8
Tom Green	6/11	Lucas Tennant	6/15
Linda Bronk	6/16	Deb Soltner	6/16
Veronica Baker	6/16	Danielle Anderson	6/16
Wendy Weissman	6/18	Frances Lyon	6/22
Betty Twardy	6/26		

## JULY

Tina Evans	7/6	Jan Sears	7/6
Jodi Brown	7/8	Sally Brenner	7/11
Robert Crouse	7/13	Jeff Nicosia	7/17
Diane Klock	7/17	Bruce Erhardt	7/21
Lisa Valachovic	7/23	Tom VanAllen	7/23
Jewel Ernst	7/24	Linda String	7/24

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY



# Do You Know Where You Are Going?

One day a traveler in a remote country town, convinced that he was on the wrong road, came to a halt in a village. Calling one of the villagers to the car window, he said, *“Friend, I really need your help. I think that I am hopelessly lost.”*

The villager looked at him carefully and asked, *“Do you know where you are?”*

“Yes,” said the traveler. *“I saw the name of your town as I entered.”*

The man nodded his head, *“Do you know where you want to be?”*

“Yes,” the traveler replied.

**“You are not lost,” the man said. “You just need directions.”**

Many of us are in the same position as that traveler. We know where we are, sometimes disappointed, dissatisfied, and experiencing little peace of mind. And we know where we want to be—at peace, fulfilled, and living life abundantly. Like the traveler, we are not lost—we just need directions. As you take the next steps in your journey, remember to take those steps with God. Remember to pray!

***“I am the LORD your God.***

***I teach you what is best for you.***

***I direct you in the way you should go.”***

**–Isaiah 48:17 NIRV**

Did you hear about the little mouse who hitched a ride across a bridge on the back of a huge elephant? When they got to the other side, the mouse said,

***“Whew! Did you see how we made that bridge shake?”***

Deep down inside, you, too, want to shake your world—but you have sense enough to know you’re no elephant. Don’t worry. God doesn’t expect you to be.

In Ephesians 1:19 (NLT), Paul says, “I pray that you will begin to understand

**the incredible greatness of his power for us who believe him.”**

So, hop on board. With God, you can make a difference. For eternity!

As you look toward the future, don’t be afraid to dream. God will use your dreams if you give them to Him. Dare to dream big dreams and then wait on God to instruct you. You may be surprised what He will do. *“More than you can dream, hope or imagine”*  
***“With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”*** –Matthew 19:26

Dream  
God-Sized  
Dreams

Dream  
God-Sized  
Dreams

Dream  
God-Sized  
Dreams