

Dear Families:

This week, we read a passage from the Gospel of Matthew. This passage is found right after the Beatitudes that we studied last week. Jesus tells the people that they are the salt of the earth. Sounds a bit odd to be called salt, but Jesus makes sense. Salt is a vital nutrient that is necessary for life. It is also useful, in that it helps to preserve food, and it adds a pleasurable flavor to our food that we enjoy. We, too, are necessary to the church. We need to be useful to humanity and be so in a pleasant way.

Jesus also tells us that we are the light of the world. By our actions, we show others the way to Jesus like a lamp illuminates a dark path. If we are followers of Christ, we must be the salt and light in the world.

Today was also Scout Sunday! We welcomed our Scout guests downstairs with us as we prepared a treat for today's potluck lunch. It was very nice to have you participate with us today! We also collected food donations for the Souper Bowl Sunday food drive sponsored by Olean High School. We then enjoyed some fellowship at the congregational dinner. The congregation also installed its new officers this morning during the service. It was a busy day!

Please support the youth's mission projects while you're here! There is an ongoing mini-rummage sale in Fellowship Hall. You can continue to bring in bottle slips. And the donation boxes in Fellowship Hall are always there. The bin that supports our church Blessing Box is in constant need of items. Our weekly hot chocolate sales will return after church starting Sunday, February 22nd.

There will be no Sunday School next week, as the McClellan family will be taking a vacation in the Adirondacks. We will see you on the 22nd.

Thank you for being with us today!

Carol McClellan, CE Director