

THE CHIMES

March 21, 2012

**Next Chimes
deadline:
April 11**

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Articles for *The Chimes* must be submitted by noon on the deadline day and can be sent to: uumctb@twcny.rr.com or put in Box No. 12 in the church office.

Rev. Craig French, Pastor
Tom Boll, Editor

AFRICA UNIVERSITY, ENVIRONMENT ON TAP

As we approach Holy Week and Easter, much is in store for us at UUMC.

March 25, Africa University graduate Dr. Artemus Gaye will preach, and our No-Fault Orchestra will play.

Gaye, a native of Liberia, graduated from St. Patrick's Catholic High School in 1993 during the Liberian civil war.

He won a scholarship to attend Africa University — a Pan-African, United Methodist-related institution of higher learning in Old Mutare, Zimbabwe — and did so 1995-97, studying divinity and education.

He was later awarded a residency in clinical pastoral education, specializing in trauma care, at William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, Mich., from 1997 to 1999 and concomitantly earned a B.A. in Christian counseling in 1999 from Trinity Col-



**Dr. Artemus
Gaye**

lege in Evansville, Ind.

Gaye earned his MTS at Garrett Evangelical with emphasis in religion and journalism in 2000. He earned a doctorate in theology last year with a focus on Christian ethics.

He served as adjunct professor at St. Xavier and Benedictine universities. He is a consultant to Northwestern University Law School Human Rights Programs on Truth and Reconciliation Project for Liberia.

He is a member of the Advisory Board for Africa University Development Office in Nashville.

See **WORKSHOP**, Page 4

A legacy of nurturing at UUMC and beyond

Some people like to get things started and nurture them along. Joanne Zinsmeister Yarwood is one of these people.

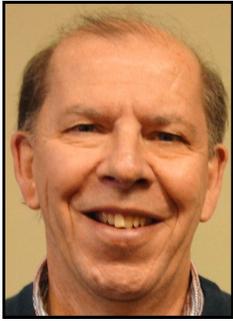
She helped found "The Caring Coalition" as Hospice and Palliative Care Associates was originally called, and was Hospice board

member for many years.

Her first husband, Walter, received Hospice care at home in 1993, and the mother of her second husband, Ed Yarwood, received Hospice care too.

Joanne helped to start the
See **JOANNE**, Page 6

God sent Jesus to get us back on track, living fully



Did you ever make or build something that didn't turn out exactly as you planned? A recipe? A home repair? A sweater? A carpentry project? A painting? A garden? A presentation? A sermon? A child? A marriage? A friendship? A job change? A re-location? A life?

What did you do when you realized it wasn't everything you thought it would be? Did you give up? Shrug your shoulders? Throw it away? Try to salvage it?

The opening two chapters of the Bible posit some important truths:

- ◆ the world and everything in it were created by God; and
- ◆ God deemed it all good.

By the time we hit the third chapter of Genesis, however, things begin to go awry. Adam and Eve prove to have minds of their own and choose to follow their own instincts and desires.

They disregard God's instruction "manual." They cower in fear and shame. They try to pass the blame.

And in the end, they find themselves on the outside, looking back over their shoulder toward paradise.

Things definitely are not working out according to God's plan.

The situation gets even worse with murder and all manner of evil, until God is ready to throw the whole failed experiment away: "I will blot out from the earth the human beings I have created — people together with animals and creeping things and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them."

The whole project is nearly flushed down the drain in the great flood ... at the end of which, God appears to have second thoughts, vowing never again to destroy the world, no matter how much it varies from divine intent.

If Genesis was
Plan A for God,
then Jesus was
Plan B ...

In a sense, the whole rest of the Bible (all 1100+ pages) is the story of God's attempt to salvage a wayward humanity and creation — answering the question not only of "why suffering and evil exist," but also of "God's nature, power and purposes."

As Christians, we believe and affirm that the answer is supremely found in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Each year we reclaim and retell that story — that "holy mystery" — during Lent and Holy Week. And a holy mystery it is, indeed . . . for while the

Church down through the years has come up with three partial answers, trying to explain what exactly is accomplished through Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection, no single answer has proven fully satisfactory (in large measure because they come from different eras in history with different world views, different theological agendas, different questions, needs and starting points).

Do I believe that God sent Jesus to suffer and die, with Jesus simply following a pre-written script, like an actor in a role? No.

What I do believe is that God sent Jesus (the God-man) to get us back on track, in terms of living fully and freely in harmony with both God and neighbor ... knowing full well the risk of seeing Jesus rejected and put to death, because of the radical grace of his message ... knowing, too, that death would not be allowed to have the last word.

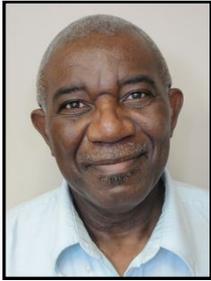
If Genesis was Plan A for God, then Jesus was Plan B — fully part of and consistent with Plan A — which is why the Bible calls Jesus the last (or second) Adam.

Or in computer terms, Jesus is a "system restore"— the means by which God makes everything right and new and whole again, even when that seems utterly or unbelievably impossible.

Happy Easter! Praise to the One who does not give up on us!

— Rev. Craig French

OUTREACH/MISSION



The Volunteers Luncheon was a positive function.

Approximately 25 persons were in attendance.

The persons who attended

included volunteers and the office staff.

The meal included curried chicken, rice and peas, fried plantain and cabbage. The devotion was led by Pastor Craig French, and individuals sitting at the table shared positive words about each other. The theme for the day was "We Celebrate You."

Two families, the MacDonalds and Kotens, received plaques for longstanding involvement in and with the pantry.

I personally am very thankful to be involved in this activity. It was meaningful, and I sense the appreciation for each volunteer.

I thank everyone for their special contributions and hope they will continue to be involved with the outreach services.

I thank Rachel, Don and Marsha, Tom and Pastor French for their support as we planned this function.

School Supplies

Last September we purchased items for school children who need them.

In September we distributed some of the items but knew that when this part of the school year came others would need some as well.

During February and March we distributed to 35 families books, pencils, notebooks,



The Outreach Volunteers Luncheon was held March 15.

markers, pens, folders and lined paper.

The parents and grandparents who received these were very grateful. I recall one grandmother saying, "These are coming at the right time because my grandchildren needed them. Thank you for these gifts."

We hope that in the years to come we will keep the children in mind and always support them.

Clothing

At the moment we are restructuring our clothing area. Don Betz, building superintendent, constructed two additional racks for us, and these help us to reduce the number of items folded and placed in containers for the friends to search through each week. The new arrangement allows everyone to see what is available and select them.

In addition we now include a list of the bare minimum clothing each friend will receive and their names are listed.

Thanks to Marie and those who work with her, we are

able to display most of what we have in Fellowship Hall.

As a result of this kind of display we recognize that we could use some additional clothing racks. We identified that if we received \$65 we could purchase additional ones, and they could be folded and stored each week. These racks hold 125 pieces of clothing.

If you believe this is something worthy of your contributions, we ask you to make your contributions to Outreach and label it "Clothing Racks."

Our next step will be to label items with colors so we will see what items are not being taken and remove them to other venues.

Thanks to everyone for your contribution of clothing and believe me, the friends do appreciate every one.

May we continue to support the varied programs of the Outreach Programs, and may we experience the blessings.

— Joseph Smythe
Interim Outreach Coordinator

Finance Corner

Pledging Update

Total amount pledged for 2012: \$203,760. Amount paid to date: \$41,728. Pre-paid pledges: \$13,900.

Progress on "Sounds of the Spirit"

Current balance of the "Sounds of the Spirit" capital campaign to improve the quality of the sound in the sanctuary is \$19,747. Total pledges received are \$25,962. The project is likely to cost at least \$40,000. More contributions are needed to help UUMC reach beyond our walls. Checks should be made out to University UMC with a notation of "SOS."

Thank you from Interreligious Food Consortium

On behalf of the Interreligious Food Consortium, I would like to thank you for your continuous participation in the downtown CROP Walk.

For 30 years, the IFC has walked with Church World Service to raise awareness of hunger in our community and in our world.

I look forward to seeing everyone on Oct. 14, 2012, for the 36th Walk for Hunger.

— *Michaela Jordan,*
for the Outreach Ministry

Help for Families New to U.S.

The Center for New Americans is in need of blankets, bath towels and kitchen tables and chairs.

New families are arriving each month, so supplies need to be replenished.

If you have small items to donate, contact Margo Kotten. For large items, call Patrick King, 474-1261, extension 203.

Federation for Social Action

The Upper New York chapter of the Methodist Federation for Social Action will meet 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 14 at UUMC to hear updates on poverty, inclusiveness, environment, immigration and Palestine/Israel. Bring your own lunch or \$5 to cover the cost of one. RSVP and questions: unymfsa@yahoo.com.

Workshop March 31 at SU on Christianity and the environment

CONTINUED from Page 1

Our speaker for **Palm Sunday**, April 1, this year is Brian Webb, director of educational programming for Blessed Earth.

Blessed Earth is an educational nonprofit based in Kentucky that inspires and equips Christians to become better stewards of the earth.

Through church, campus and media outreach, it promotes environmental change and spiritual growth.

March 31, the day before he preaches in our worship, Webb will conduct a workshop, "Christianity: Friend or Foe of the Environment?" 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Noble Room of Hendricks Chapel at Syracuse University.

Webb will focus on Christian views of the natural world,



Brian Webb

faith community can offer to the environmental movement.

Free parking is available in the Quad 1 lot next to the chapel and in the lots adjacent to Archbold Gym and Carrier Dome, which can be reached via the Quad 1 lot.

In addition to Webb preaching on Palm Sunday and the usual distribution of eco-palms, there will be drumming.

identify common Christian objections to environmental efforts and highlight unique opportunities that the Christian

On **Maundy Thursday**, April 5, we are invited to attend a 7 p.m. service at Rockefeller United Methodist Church, 350 Nottingham Road.

On **Good Friday**, April 6, our sanctuary will be open for a time of quiet prayer and reflection from noon to 3 p.m. You are welcome to come and go as you choose.

Rev. French will have materials available if you want some structure or help for your prayer time.

He also will have a way for you to write down situations/ places/people you want to pray for on Good Friday.

On **Easter** we will welcome our next interim organist, Alice Hatt. "Hallelujah Chorus" will be sung at the close of worship.

Five Sunday breakfasts for 2012 still need sponsors

The Community/Church Breakfast is a vital entry point to our church for both volunteers and guests.

It is paid for through sponsorships so that it doesn't impact the rest of the budget.

Attendance has risen to about 100 for every breakfast, held the second and fourth Sunday of each month, so we know the need continues to increase.

Each of these individuals/families named at the end has pledged \$230 to pay the cost of one breakfast for 2012. Five breakfast sponsorships remain.

If anyone would like to sponsor or partially sponsor one of the remaining breakfasts, please contact Ted Finlayson-Schueler at 446-6333 or schoolbusted@safetyrules.net.

Sponsoring individuals/families for 2012 are as follows: Fought/Price



Preparing fruit for the Community/Church Breakfast are, from left, Katie Flynn, Barbara Matthews, Barbara Cargo and Lee Potter.

Craig French
Garmans
Katie Flynn
Sacias
MacDonalds
Steenbergs
Scisciolis
Ellen and David Bacon
Hemphills

Finlayson-Schuelers
Samuels
Kotens
Wiggins
Sutters
Virgos
Woods
Magowans
Steinem

Selected History Room photos and pictures up for auction

The History Room of UUMC is in possession of several pictures that have been given to the church over the years.

Some are framed photographs of members' travels; others are just nice pictures. A small reprint of Picasso's "Guernica" is among the latter.

In cooperation with the Altar Guild, these pictures, along with any historical or personal information about the piece, are being hung in the Gathering Room.

The congregation is invited to look at the pictures and if you are interested, make a bid on a particular offering. The pro-



The History Room has this print of Picasso's "Guernica."

ceeds, if any, from this auction will benefit the History Room's ongoing preservation of our historical collection. The showing will go on for approximately a month.

If you need any more information or if you have a picture you might like to contribute, please contact Rosemary DeHoog at 446-3317 or rdehoog@twcny.rr.com.

Joanne has given decades of service to her church, community

CONTINUED from Page 1

Evening Guild 30 years ago along with Jan Garman. This month the Evening Guild met at Joanne's home to relive memories and to enjoy each other. Many of the original members are still active in the guild.

She was co-chair with Ginny Dewey of the African Cultural Festival at UUMC, when a one-pound can of green beans cost 19 cents.

Joanne joined UUMC in the 1960s with her husband, Walter, and their five children. Joanne and Walter were very active at UUMC.

They ran political seminars on Sunday mornings for political candidates who were running for office. She helped buy property for our present parking lots, was past president of United Methodist Women, served on the stewardship and financial committee, was president of the trustees and presently serves on the endowment committee.

She was president of the Syracuse Home Association, received the Goldstein Memorial Rotary Award for social welfare



Joanne Zinsmeister Yarwood and Dr. Ed Yarwood.

service, was board member of the Hospice Foundation of Central New York in 1994, and was host to foreign exchange students in her home. She is still in touch with two former students in Japan.

She has visited 49 countries, including three trips to China and Russia, with the hope of building better understanding among people through communication.

Joanne has contributed

financially to the Syracuse Symphony and to the Health Science Center of Syracuse Foundation.

For many years she has belonged to a book and Bible group that presents research papers on religious topics.

In 1993 to honor Walt and Joanne, their K group planted a dogwood tree in our church garden. Joanne was married to Walter Zinsmeister for 45 years. They had four daughters and one son, Karl, who was domestic policy adviser to President George W. Bush.

In April, Joanne and Dr. Ed Yarwood will have been married 16 years. Ed has two children and four grandchildren. Joanne has 13 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Please thank Joanne and Ed when you see them in church for their years of service to our church and to the community. In the glass case in the Gathering Room are additional memorabilia.

– Barbara Cargo

Senior Highs seek 'Trivial Pursuit: Bible Edition'

The Senior High Sunday School class would like to play the version of "Trivial Pursuit" that covers the Bible.

The game is no longer available new. If you have that version at home and would like to loan it for their use, please contact Bette Helwig at 457-3750.

Time to get your tickets for annual ACTS dinner

Thursday, April 19, is the annual spring banquet fundraiser of the Alliance of Communities Transforming Syracuse, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, Electronics Parkway, Liverpool.

The theme is "Celebrating a Decade of Diversity in ACTION," as ACTS marks 10 years of activism in Syracuse. The evening has a social hour followed by dinner and program.

UUMC is a dues-paying member of ACTS. Our Jim Wiggins is a board member. Last year we were able to fill a table with attendees.

Tickets are \$50, and \$25 of that goes to ACTS as a tax-deductible contribution. Contact Tom Boll, uumctb@twcny.rr.com, or the church office to reserve your ticket. Deadline for payment is Easter Sunday, April 8.

PEOPLE / PRAYER CONNECTION

THANKS

- From **Margo Koten**: Thank you for the beautiful flowers that I received while I was recuperating from the flu.
- I give thanks to God for another year of life because my birthday was yesterday.
- For successful operations for my grade school and grad school friends. Pray that they may remain cancer-free
- For continued healing for **Marie and Lois**
- For **Fred Willard**
- Thankfulness for the life and ministries here of **Alan Drew**, who left us one year ago
- Thanks be to God for snowy owls at our airport and for **Alan Drew**
- To **Katie Flynn**, who adds so much to our church in so many ways

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR:

- **Rita Soufleris**, who is in Crouse Hospital after surgery, from **Ginny and Bob Dewey**
- Birthday blessings for my great-grandsons, twins, **Lucus and Joshua**, turning 1 year old, from **Clara Windsor**
- The people in tornado disaster areas and give them hope, from **Elise**
- More than “civility” in public discourse: for affirmation of good leadership, especially of women leaders, from **Peter Swords**
- Praise God for family unity inside the Syracuse community, from **Elise**
- The United Methodist General Conference and decisions the delegates will make
- **John Swords** and his family

- as they care for him
- Lord, help us make responsible decisions daily
- Happy 10th birthday for **Sam**
- Jesus, welcome **Jessica** home
- Continued strength for **Wednesday**
- A clearer path for **Katrina**
- Productive changes for **Phil**
- Our church and its leadership
- Our country and its leadership
- My friend, **Judy**, who broke her hip and has other medical concerns
- My brother-in-law, **Chris Lyon**, recovering at home after suffering a stroke, from **Gwen Tillapaugh-Fay**
- All service members, parents and grandparents, from **Russ and Valerie**
- People we can learn from, and for the love we can share as we learn together, from **Peter Swords**
- States south of New York that have more snow than we have
- **Charles Chappell**, who is recovering in Fahey Rehabilitation Center
- **Rita Soufleris**, who is recovering at home after recent surgery
- **Jon**, as he prepares for two years in Costa Rica, from **The Bolls**
- Those of us struggling with inertia of depression and self-doubt, please help clear our vision and give us strength
- Sprit, mercy and grace, from **Elise**
- Our families, Dr. Canonzarro, UUMC and staff, the poor and suffering. May God walk with them and carry them through

the struggles, from **Russ and Valerie**

- Praising God for another year, celebrated my 50th birthday this past Friday, from **Daphne**
 - The family of Audrey Shenandoah, clan mother and matriarch of the Onondaga Nation who helped preserve their language and culture, from **Peter Swords**
 - Help me be strong and follow what I know is right, not easy
 - Traveling mercies for those traveling for the Urban Summit
 - Grant healing to all who are ill and in pain
 - My good friend **Judy**, who, in addition to many health challenges, is grieving the loss of her son **Tommy** at age 61, from **Clara Windsor**
 - **Charles Chappell**, who is in Crouse Hospital, from **Ginny and Bob Dewey**
 - The people of Japan, who commemorate today the losses of life, land and environment from the earthquake and Fukushima meltdown one year ago, from **Peter Swords**
 - Blessings on new ventures
 - Government leaders, may God grant them more wisdom to help the poor. Prayers for UUMC members and staff, from **Russ and Valerie**
 - Reconciliation with my sister: namely that God would open our hearts and minds. I pray that she would respond to my efforts to reach out to her.
 - Prayers of joy for **Trish**, who is now minister of youth in the Lutheran Church, which ac-
- See **PEOPLE**, Page 8

Altar flowers

Flowers were given by Nancy Hough, Matt and Lynn Steenberg and Mary Klepper and her children.

Flower recipients were Starke Donnally, Dot Logan, Rita Soufleris, Ted Thuma, John Swords and Rosemary and Charles Chappell Jr.

Flower deliverers were Starke Donnally, Marg McDivitt, Lee and Ed Potter, Peter Swords and Charles Chappell III.



University United
Methodist Church

Feed My People: Body, Mind, and Spirit

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Dated material



WEEK OF MARCH 25

Sunday the 25th

9 a.m. Community/Church Breakfast

9:30 a.m. Christian Education

10:30 a.m. Worship

11:45 a.m. Fellowship - Gathering Room

Tuesday the 27th

10 a.m. Staff meeting

Thursday the 29th

7:30 p.m. Senior Choir rehearsal

Friday the 30th

10 a.m. - noon Food Pantry

WEEK OF APRIL 1

Sunday the 1st—Palm Sunday

9:30 a.m. Christian Education

10:30 a.m. Worship, Communion

11:45 a.m. Fellowship - Gathering Room

Tuesday the 3rd

7 p.m. Stephen Ministry

Wednesday the 4th

10 a.m. Staff meeting

Thursday the 5th

7:30 p.m. Senior Choir rehearsal

Friday the 6th

10 a.m. - noon Food Pantry

WEEK OF APRIL 8

Sunday the 8th—Easter

9 a.m. Community/Church Breakfast

10:30 a.m. Worship

11:45 a.m. Fellowship - Gathering Room

Tuesday the 10th

10 a.m. Staff meeting

Thursday the 12th

7:30 p.m. Senior Choir rehearsal

Friday the 13th

10 a.m. - noon Food Pantry

WEEK OF APRIL 15

Sunday the 15th

9:30 a.m. Christian Education

10:30 a.m. Worship

11:45 a.m. Fellowship - Gathering Room

Tuesday the 17th

10 a.m. Staff meeting

Thursday the 19th

7:30 p.m. Senior Choir rehearsal

Friday the 20th

10 a.m. - noon Food Pantry

April birthdays

1st – Matthew Steenberg

2nd – Ted Holmes, Jereline Weah

5th – Ralph Best, Diamond Weah

6th – Connor Fay

8th – Russ Young

9th – David Houston

11th – Sheila Murphy

13th – Doug Coutts

14th – Marty Nicholas

15th – Erin Barkan

16th – Julie Pedro, Ryan Steenberg, Eleanor Frank, Jeff Huard

19th – Dr. Richard Phillips, Gale Youmell

20th – Corinne Upcraft, Rev. Velma Brock

22nd – Princess Weah

23rd – Golden Duru

24th – Carol Dawes

29th – Genn Thuma, Ginny Knight, Janet Sciscioli

30th – Vera Gaskin

People/Prayer Connection

CONTINUED from Page 7

cepted her as God made her, unlike the Methodist Church, which wouldn't let her serve.

- Those in military service: **Nathan Miller, Jim Pettyjohn and Matt Fischer**

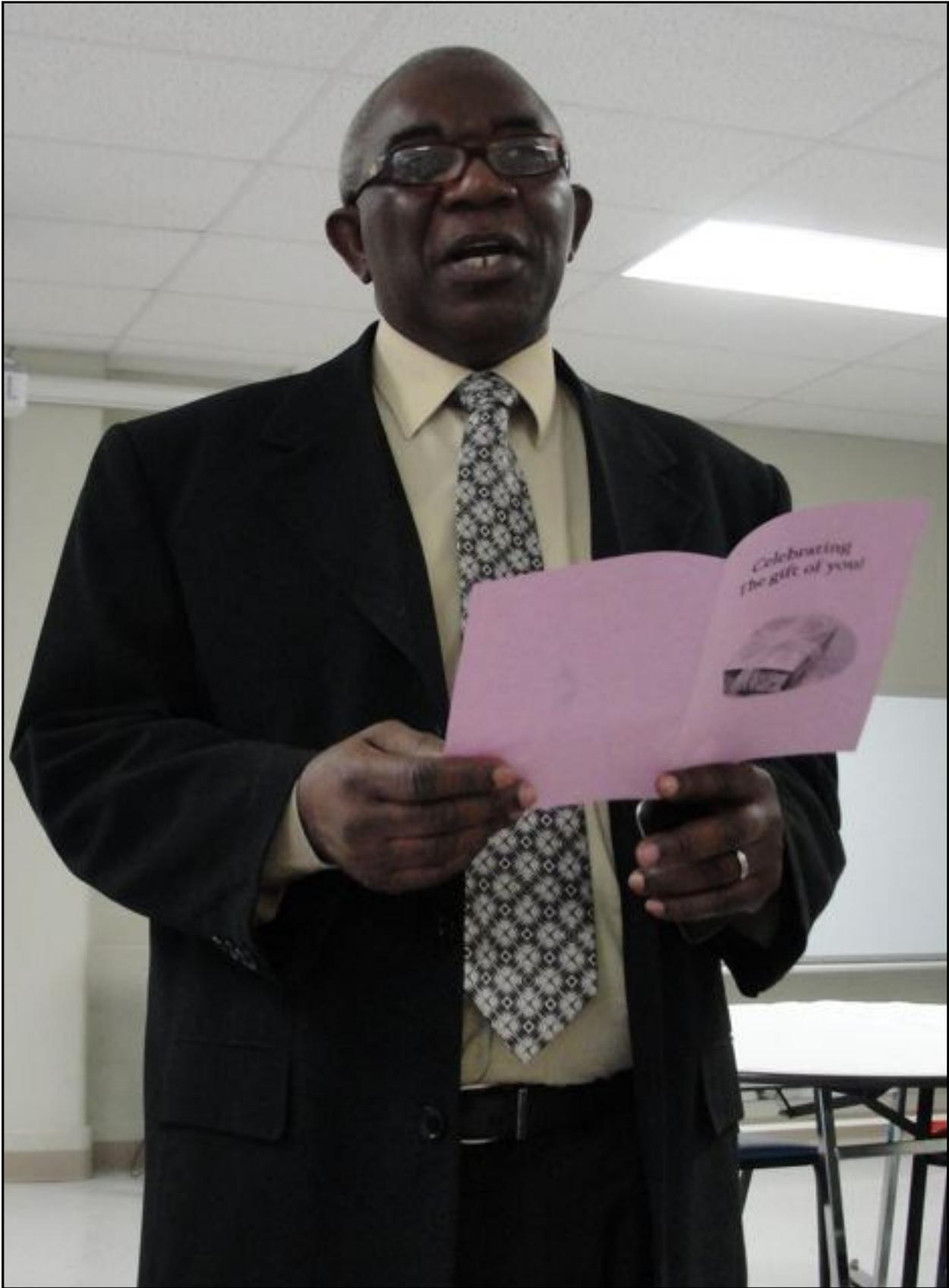
ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Alicia Swords** has received tenure at Ithaca College

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR: CROSSROADS DISTRICT CHURCHES AND PASTORS:

- **April 1:** Phoenix, Joseph Kim

- **April 15:** Chittenango, Michaela St. Marie; Hannibal Center/South Hannibal, Greg Beasley
- **April 22:** Cazenovia & Nelson, Betty Burlew
- **April 29:** Oswego Trinity UMC, Steven Eddy



Rev. Joseph Smythe, interim outreach coordinator, speaks at last week's luncheon for Outreach volunteers.



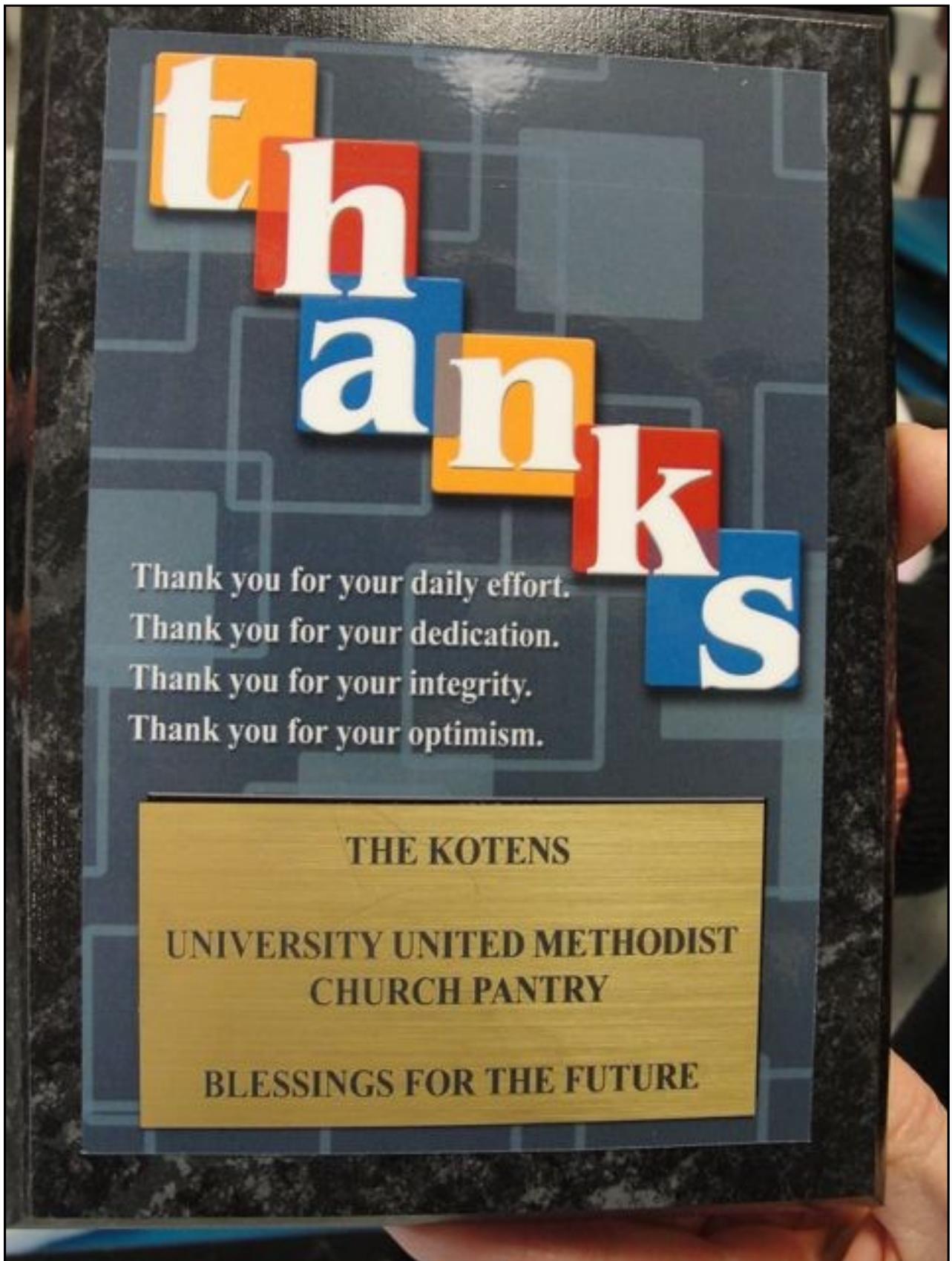
Outreach volunteers partake in last week's luncheon.



More Outreach volunteers enjoy last week's luncheon.



Roger MacDonald and Marg McDivitt talk at last week's luncheon.



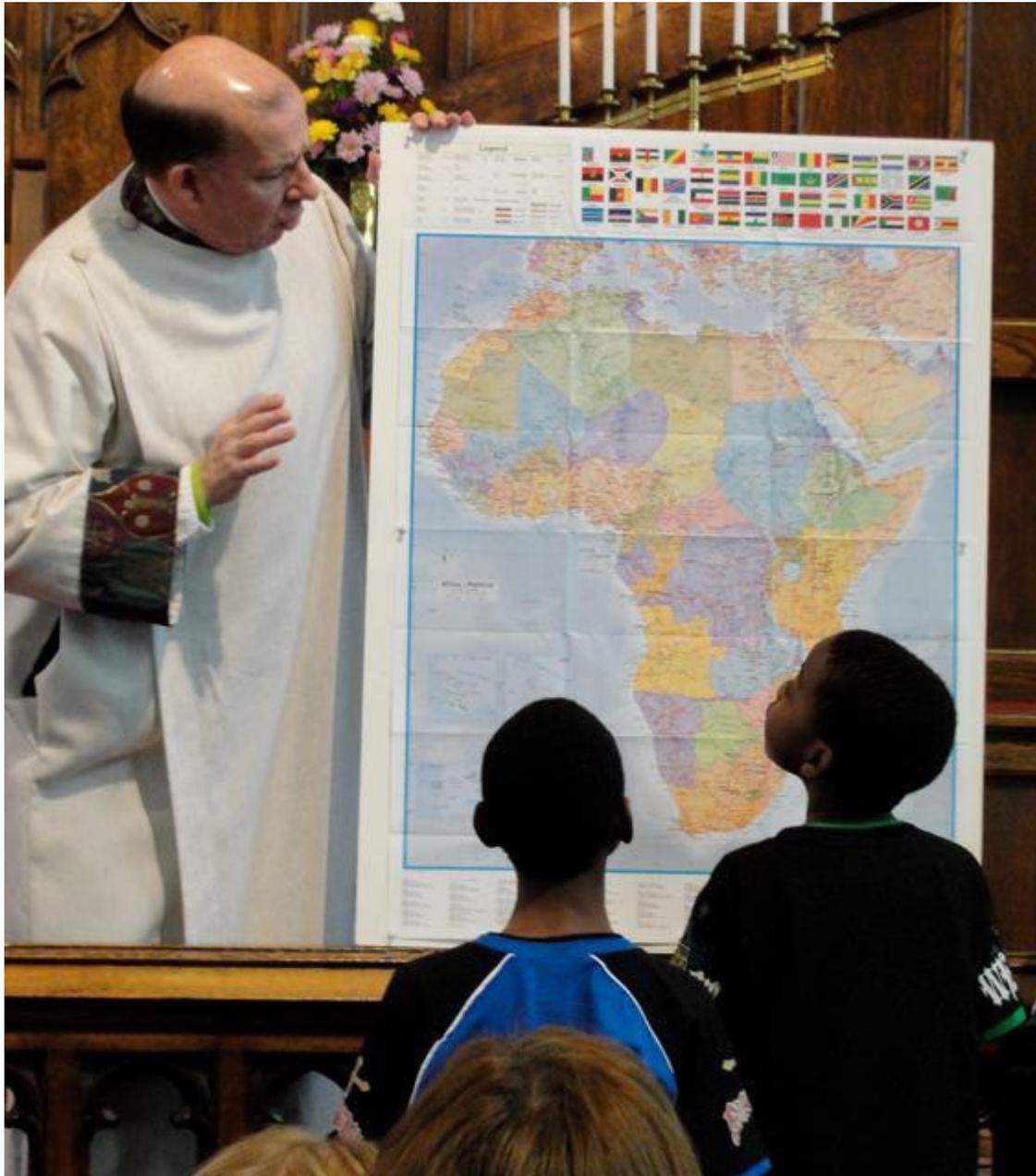
Thank you for your daily effort.
Thank you for your dedication.
Thank you for your integrity.
Thank you for your optimism.

THE KOTENS
UNIVERSITY UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH PANTRY
BLESSINGS FOR THE FUTURE

The Kotens and MacDonalds received plaques thanking them for their years of service to UUMC's pantry.



With our extremely mild winter and early spring construction continues at a fast past on the Copper Beech Commons development behind and adjacent to UUMC. Projected completion date is August in time for returning SU students.



Rev. French talks to the children about Africa and Africa University.