

# THE CHIMES

June 6, 2012

**Next Chimes  
deadline:  
June 20**

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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](mailto:uumctb@twcny.rr.com) or put in Box No. 12 in the church office.

Rev. Craig French, Pastor  
Tom Boll, Editor

## CONFIRMATION, MUSICAL, NEW MEMBERS IN STORE

As the program year winds down, several special events and celebrations are scheduled during the month of June.

The June 10 worship service includes confirmation, receiving new members and celebrating graduates.

The youth to be confirmed are Colleen Magowan, Katrina Tillapaugh, Jereline Weah and Nichola Weah.

People scheduled to join our congregation are Dick Hunt, Memory Mungure and Fred Zuti.

Also on the 10th the UUMC No-Fault Orchestra will be playing during the service.

The following Sunday, June 17, the Disciples/Youth Choir, under the direction of Mary Magowan, will perform "Splash Kingdom: A Lifesaving Musical for Kids."

The story takes place at Splash



**Katrina Tillapaugh is a member of the confirmation class.**

Kingdom, a local waterpark. To get in, the kids must make reservations "personally" with the CEO, Jesus, See **TEXTBOOK**, Page 6

## Come to Methodist Night at the Ballpark June 21

Thursday, June 21, is the annual United Methodist Night at the Ballpark. The opponent is the Pawtucket Red Sox. Game time is 7 p.m.



A tailgate party featuring free grilled hot dogs and coney dogs sponsored by the Crossroads District United Methodist Men starts at 5:30

p.m. Please bring a dish to pass, your table service and lawn chairs. Bring non-perishable food items for the Food Bank. Collection bins will be at the tailgate party.

Tickets are \$4 and will be available after Sunday's service from Tom Boll in the Gathering Room and at the church office during the week.

# Conference a powerful reminder in many ways



**Rev. French**

This side of heaven, the church is my home. Not because of the amount of time I spend there (though my wife and family might want to make that case). No, the church is my home simply because I was born into it and it's always been part of my life.

That may not make for as savory reading as the stories of those who were miraculously rescued and converted from lives of darkness, sin and debauchery (the more lurid the tale, the better, praise God!).

But the path to God takes many forms, and one path is not better or truer or more glorious than another.

As a United Methodist pastor, the church is my home in another sense, as well.

When I was ordained, I became a member of an Annual Conference. My membership was no longer in a local church, but in a larger regional body — the same body, in fact, that a local church is part of.

It is, of course, all too easy for a pastor and a congregation to think of themselves as the center of the universe — that the only thing that matters is what we say and do. But our structure — and our theology — tell us otherwise ... tell us that we are part of something much greater than ourselves.

The birthing of our new Upper New York Annual Conference makes that abundantly clear on a day-to-day basis. Stretching from Albany to Jamestown, Plattsburgh to Binghamton, this An-

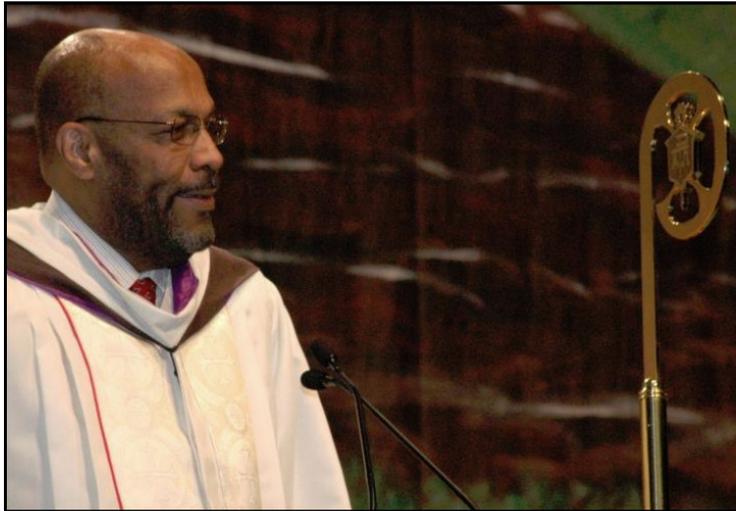
nual Conference is three to four times larger than any of its predecessor conferences. That means having to learn new ways of relating and working. Patterns that we once took for granted no longer will do.

The changes are both good and bad. The day of knowing every church and every pastor has come and gone. At the same time, the expanded size of the Conference has brought about an economy of scale, enabling us to do things in mission and ministry that were not possible in smaller configurations.

Our ability to mobilize for effective action has been greatly strengthened. Great evidence of that was seen at last weekend's Annual Conference gathering,

where we heard of the powerful ways we were able, for instance, to respond to last year's floods in the Adirondacks and Southern Tier.

But Conference is more than the shape of our boundaries, more than scope of our ministry, more than the size of our budget, more than the legislation and resolutions we adopt, more than the friends we get



Upper New York Annual Conference photo

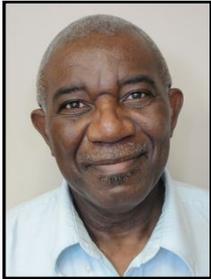
**Rev. Dr. Marvin A. McMickle, president of Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School, preaches during the Service of Reception, Commissioning and Ordination.**

to greet.

Even more, it is a reminder for me of what it means to be a pastor, what it means to be called by God, what it means to be in Christian ministry. These were the moments that lifted my soul and took my breath away last week:

The ordination service. The memorial service. Some superb preaching. And most of all the short, but meaningful appointment service. All helped to fire me up for the year ahead, especially with the news that I have been reappointed to University Church.

# OUTREACH MINISTRY



The summer months are fast approaching or rather they are here.

It is my hope that we have decided

that we will do our best for everyone involved in the Outreach Ministry of the congregation.

Have you decided when you will volunteer during the months ahead? If you have not yet decided, do so now.

One person showed up last Friday because she was not certain how frequently she will volunteer.

## Change of Name

At the recent Outreach/ Missions Committee meeting, we agreed that our focus will not be on the pantry alone on Fridays, rather it will be called the **Friday Community**.

The rationale behind this discussion and direction is while several friends receive food, oth-



**The newly named Friday Community includes the clothes closet, knitting, nutrition classes, cooking demonstrations, food pantry, fellowship and pastoral care.**

ers receive clothing alone and others meet their friends, attend the educational opportunities, share concerns with staff and receive support such a pastoral care from either the interim director or other members of staff.

In addition, the congregation continues to experience members from the pantry and the

Sunday morning breakfast attending Sunday morning classes and worship, while others are accepting membership with the congregation.

Let us hope that whatever we do will help the growth and development of this idea.

The Friday Community is a ministry in the congregation that serves the people of the East Side and beyond.

## Toilet Paper

Last month I asked for this important item and the congregation contributed in excess of 200 rolls. This means that 100 pantry friends received them.

Thanks to everyone who gave and we will always accept this item even if we do not ask for it. The people are indeed thankful.

I hope this summer will be rewarding and blessed for everyone.

— Joseph Smythe  
Interim Outreach Coordinator



**Mattie Hightower plants seedlings in the Community Garden.**



Save the Date! Church Picnic, Sunday, Aug. 19, at Pratt's Falls County Park. Details to come.

## Finance Corner

### Pledging Update

Total amount pledged for 2012: \$203,760. Amount paid to date: \$71,609. Pre-paid pledges: \$13,900.

### "Sounds of the Spirit"

Approximately \$40,000 is needed to upgrade our antiquated sound system.

Current "Sounds of the Spirit" campaign balance is \$27,178. Current expenses paid are \$6,215. Total donations received are \$33,393.

Checks should be made out to University UMC with a notation of "SOS." Thanks to all who have contributed.

### New Stephen Minister

Our newest Stephen minister, Cheryl Brown, was commissioned June 3 at DeWitt Community Church as part of a recently completed 50-hour training program held in conjunction with the Stephen Ministry program at DeWitt Community Church.

This is the second class the two churches have done together. We also conduct ongoing supervision and continuing education jointly.

### LGBTQ Prayer Service

People from all faith traditions are invited to a LGBTQ Pride interfaith prayer service at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 12, at Temple Concord, 910 Madison St.

Anyone who wishes to be in the choir should meet in the sanctuary there at 6 p.m.

A reception will follow the service. UUMC choir members participated last year, and UUMC members attended the service.

## Thank You, UUMC

### **From ACTS**

The Alliance of Communities Transforming Syracuse is very grateful for your support of our 2012 Spring Banquet.

Your generosity enables our coalition of 40 diverse faith communities and community organizations to continue the work of organizing, dialogue and advocacy as we address the issues like food availability, public education and justice.

Thank you for helping to ensure that ACTS will continue to be an effective voice in Central New York.

### **From UMCOR**

Thank you for our generous gift to the United Methodist Committee on Relief. One hundred percent of your \$200 contribution will go to disaster response in the United States. Because you gave, UMCOR is able to "Be There" and "Be Hope" on your behalf.

### Fellowship Time Volunteers

It is time to plan for summer fellowship time in the narthex. People are needed to take responsibility for one or two Sundays in July and August. Tasks include preparing and setting up lemonade, iced tea and cold water by 10 a.m. Clean-up is usually complete by 12:15 p.m. Step-by-step written directions are available to guide you. If you can help or if you have any questions, please contact Beth Drew.

### For Families with Young Children

We will have an early evening potluck supper on Saturday, June 23, at 4 p.m. for families with young children.

Hot dogs, a veggie option and drinks will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass and your table service.

Please RSVP to [tsteinwe@syr.edu](mailto:tsteinwe@syr.edu) or call the church office at 475-7277 so we have a sense of how many to prepare for.

# PEOPLE/PRAYER CONNECTION

## THANKS

- From **Don Koten**: Thank you for your thoughtful concerns after my surgery. The flowers, cards and calls all reflect a loving and caring congregation. Thanks!
- Thank you, God, for enough eggs and a full breakfast for everyone today at church breakfast. Feed our souls and hearts too, from **Cynthia**
- From **Tom Boll**: Thanks to all who helped plant the community garden: **Peter, Dale, Mattie, Katie, Bruce, Stephanie and Kathy**, plus a daughter and granddaughter
- From **Barb**: Thank you for all your prayers, cards and well wishes. Mother continues to improve each day.
- From **Jana Telfer and Josh, Lucas and Roby Hadley-Telfer**: Our hearts are filled with gratitude to University Church for opening your doors and your arms so that we could bring **Mark** back home to say farewell
- Prayer of great thanks for my mother, sister (also a mother) and my grandmother, who is going strong in her late 80s
- Thank you, God, for mothers and fathers who have shown us love as you would have us love

## JOYS

- A joy. My sister, **Margaret**, has been found cancer-free after six months of chemo, from **Nelson Price**
- We are happy to have **Joyce and Jack Robertson** joining us for worship today
- A joy that motherhood is a blessing from God. Thank

you, God, from **Ellen Bacon**.

- A joy that our son, **David**, graduated from Niagara University yesterday. He has a job! From the **Murphy Lund Family**

## PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR:

- Good news! I no longer have a feeding tube and am eating pureed food, from **Diane Tarbell**
- Families and communities on land leased to gas drilling, as they face the dangers of hydrofracking; may we all learn how to protect our health, from **Peter Swords**
- To pass my Regents exams and to be a successful woman in life and for the disabled, poor and sick, from **Merylyn**
- The loss of my father, that Christ will rebuild my life, from **Rodney Franklin**
- Lord, teach your servants to perform the laws Jesus fulfilled, from **Elise**
- Those in military service: **Nathan Miller, Jim Pettyjohn and Matt Fischer**
- My sister-in-law, who was just diagnosed with breast cancer
- My family in Jamaica
- **Jean Sheehan**, who will have surgery this coming week
- Blessings on the Hyland family
- Thanksgiving for UUMC. Prayers for all who are seeking a church where all means all
- The family of Trooper **Amanda Anna**, who was killed recently in the line of duty, from the **Yarwoods**
- **Genn Thuma**, who is experiencing severe back pain because of a compression frac-

ture

- **Russ**, who will have knee surgery Tuesday
- Those living with cancer, and all who need healing
- A continued healthy pregnancy
- My parents, that God will continue to grant them peace, understanding and forgiveness
- Legal advocacy for the disabled to find a new home for a new office here in Syracuse
- Our neighbors from the Onondaga Nation, Clan Mother Audrey Shenandoah, Chief Stanley Buck and their families
- A safe move across town this weekend, as my boyfriend and I take the next step in our relationship
- We had a record attendance at this morning's (May 27) breakfast – 136! Donations of time and talent and money are appreciated as our pantry and breakfast participants continue to increase, from **Breakfast volunteers**
- To help me get better and help me in math and help my new classmates make new friends, from **Dakota**
- **Joan Bronman**, receiving treatment at NIH, from the **Kotens**
- **Charles Chappell**, who is back in Crouse Hospital
- The safety of **Lt. Alex Saxby**, who is in Afghanistan
- Thanksgiving for graduating from college. I pray for guidance in the future
- The grace at being at the right place at the right time

See **PEOPLE**, Page 6

## Altar Flowers

Altar flowers were given by Patti Gill and Brandon, Jim and Betsy Wiggins and Stephanie Threatte and Family.

Flowers were given to Marge Maynard, Christine Doran, Marjorie Clark, Stephanie Threatte, Abby and Don Hyland and Jeremiah and Sara Bergan.

Flower deliverers were Judith Bowers and Marg McDivitt.

Flower coordinators were Judith Bowers, Barb Cargo and Margo Kotten.

## Picture Directory

The Care & Share Committee and church staff put together a new picture directory.

Directories are available in the church office, one per family, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday. Additional copies are \$10 each.

Our total expense was \$884. Donations are greatly appreciated to help defray the cost.

Please make your check payable to UUMC with "Picture Directory" on memo line.

## People/Prayer Connection

**CONTINUED** from Page 5 together, to share in the healing process and to move toward social change, from **Peter Swords**

- 82-year-old **Bill Anderson**, who needs a ride to church. Pray for his health, from **Robert James**
- God bless my dear mother, **Hazel Lee**. May she now rest in peace with our Lord, from **Marilyn Sims**
- All the college graduates, from **Martha**



University United  
Methodist Church

*Feed My People: Body, Mind, and Spirit*

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### WEEK OF JUNE 10

Sunday the 10th

**9 a.m.** Community/Church Breakfast

**9:30 a.m.** Christian Education

**10:30 a.m.** Worship

**11:45 a.m.** Fellowship - Gathering Room

Wednesday the 13th

**11:15 a.m.** Staff meeting

Friday the 15th

**10 a.m. - noon** Friday Community (+Food Pantry)

### WEEK OF JUNE 17

Sunday the 17th

**9:30 a.m.** Contemporary Issues Class

**10:30 a.m.** Worship - Children's Musical

**11:45 a.m.** Fellowship - Gathering Room

Wednesday the 20th

**11:15 a.m.** Staff meeting

**7 p.m.** Staff/Parish Relations Committee

Friday the 22nd

**10 a.m. - noon** Friday Community (+Food Pantry)

### WEEK OF JUNE 24

Sunday the 24th

**9 a.m.** Community/Church Breakfast

**9:30 a.m.** Contemporary Issues Class

**10:30 a.m.** Worship

**11:45 a.m.** Governing Board

Wednesday the 27th

**11:15 a.m.** Staff meeting

Friday the 29th

**10 a.m. - noon** Friday Community (+Food Pantry)

## Zimmermans to visit on July 24

Dr. Mark and Deirdre Zimmerman, General Board of Global Ministries missionaries in Nepal, whom UUMC has supported for many years, will visit the evening of Tuesday, July 24, for a potluck dinner at the church. Details will be forthcoming.

## Textbook Is the Bible

**CONTINUED** from Page 1 and must pass Lifesaving 101. The textbook for the course is the Bible.

Once the kids learn the "ABC's of Salvation" they can enter Splash Kingdom — heaven.

Then, on June 21, there's United Methodist Night at the Ballpark. (See story on page 1.)

On June 23, there's a gathering for families with young children. (See brief on page 4).



**Food and other items for our pantry await pickup by the children on Sunday.**



**Children gather the donated items for our Food Pantry.**



**Rev. French talks about giving and the Food Pantry donations, now in carts, before blessing them.**



**From left, Stephanie Hitzler, Mattie Hightower and Katie Flynn work to plant the Community Garden.**



**Kathy Quinn and Bruce Simmons work at the Community Garden at Spencer Park.**



**With the Community Garden planted and mulched, with mulch he supplied, Bruce Simmons gives the young plants a drink.**



**Dale gets the young tomato plants caged up.**



**The Community Garden, planted and watered.**



**Looking south on University Avenue, the new Ronald McDonald House is under construction diagonally from the church.**



**Looking south on University Avenue, a dedicated bike lane is visible on the left, as construction continues on the Connective Corridor. University Avenue will become a two-way street when construction is finished.**



**Work continues on Copper Beech Commons adjacent to the church. About 300 college students are expected to fill the apartments beginning in August. Students from Le Moyne, OCC and Syracuse have already signed leases.**



**Roses in bloom outside our Peale entrance on University Avenue.**