

THE CHIMES

Jan. 13, 2016

**Next Chimes
deadline:
January 27**

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**Ash Wednesday is
February 10 this year.**

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.

Alicia Wood, Pastor
Tom Boll, Editor

Hand to Plow highlights: Actions, ministries must connect with church's core mission

The Syracuse United Methodist Churches met again Saturday for the second installment of the large group Hand to Plow series.

These workshops aim at both creating relationships among members of all the Syracuse United Methodist Churches and helping to shape the vision for the Syracuse United Methodist Parish. There were 27 lay people in attendance with nine members representing UUMC.

The day opened with coffee, doughnuts and singing led by Rev. B.J. Norrix on the guitar. The first activity of the day included small covenant group discussions where John Wesley's favorite question "How is it with your soul?" was asked and answered.

The afternoon session was led by Rev. Dr. Aaron Bouwens, the Upper NY director of vital congregations, and was based on the book "Bearing Fruit" by Lovett Weems.

Two highlights from the session were the clarification between a church's mission and vision and the "So That..." test taken directly from Weems' book.

The mission of a church, to make disciples of Jesus Christ and to love our neighbors, does not change or waiver over time or circumstance. The vision of a church describes how the church will live out its mission in its current time and place based on current local and global circumstances.

This ties in directly to Weems' "So That..." test that helps churches evaluate the why of their actions and ministries, by completing phrases like, "We hold a monthly community dinner, So That _____."

If these phrases are often completed by statements like, in order to raise money or to boost membership and are not able to be connected

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New year, new leaders in a number of roles

It's a new year, and with it come a number of changes in leadership for UUMC.

Gwen Tillapaugh-Fay and Barbara Nunn are our new co-lay leaders, as Beth Drew has stepped down after seven years in that role.

Gwen is also now a part of the Syracuse United Methodist Churches Leadership Team, which now also includes Doug Randall.

Taking Gwen's place on the Gov-

erning Board, overseeing the Mind area, is Sophie Finlayson-Schueler.

New members of the Staff/Parish Relations Committee are Don Kotten, chairman, and Ed Tillapaugh.

Steve Bacon and Charles Chappell III are taking positions as trustees.

Harry Miller is a new member of the Nominations and Leadership Development Committee.

Remembering the Golden Rule while 'Finding Home'



Alicia Wood

Happy New Year!
We have jumped right into a busy January!
Our theme of "Finding Home" in January has been Spirit filled and

eventful.

In the January Sundays to come we will be remembering Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, honoring our leaders and learning more about our Safe Sanctuary policy.

Our Friday Community/pantry guests have communicated that toiletries are much needed. Therefore we are asking for donations of toiletries. Please bring your donations on Sundays and place them on the altar throughout January.

Lent starts early this year on Feb. 10! We will host Ash Wednesday at UUMC this year. More details about Lent to come.

On my vacation this week I've decided to read Karen Armstrong's "Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life." I've peeked at it, and of course I'm hooked!

Armstrong dreams of a world filled with compassion. She says most religions have the concept of the Golden Rule.

I loved that she has shifted the Golden Rule into "positive form: Always treat others as you would wish to be treated yourself."

The Golden Rule for Christians is something like "love your neighbor as yourself" or "in everything do to others as you would have them do to you."

For me, Armstrong's positive form of the Golden Rule helped with questions like; Who is my neighbor and what if I don't love myself?

Armstrong's use of "wish" makes this statement clear. We all have a wish for how we would like to be treated. We wish to be treated with respect and fairness. We wish to be heard and treated with compassion. We wish to be loved.

Our theme of "Finding Home" may be a time in which we reflect on this ideal of compassion.

As we continue to find home or help others to find home, let us be filled with compassion.

Peace,
— Pastor Alicia

New member Anneke worked with special needs adults

Syracuse native Anneke Vasquez joined UUMC last year.

Anneke still lives in Syracuse, near Fairmount, with her daughter, Aliyah, an eighth-grader at Camillus Middle School. Her son, Jordan, 19, is in the Air Force and stationed in Dover, Delaware.

For nearly 20 years Anneke worked with adults who had special needs. All of those years were at Spaulding Support Services, and for the last nine of those she also worked at Enable — full time for both agencies.



Aliyah and Anneke

Anneke's a Nottingham High School graduate, and she attended Keuka College.

Although she doesn't bowl, she goes to alleys as a way to connect with former clients. Hobbies include going on day trips and camp-

ing. She also loves reading and recently read "Quiet Moments of Hope for Moms," a book of prayers, by Ellen Banks Elwell. Anneke also enjoys singing and helping at the food pantry during our Friday Community.

She likes the diversity at UUMC. "You don't find that very often," she said.

ALTAR FLOWERS were given to Jim and Betsy Wiggins, Beth Drew and Bridget Moriarty by the congregation

The white poinsettias were given by the Altar Guild in honor and memory of UUMC loved ones.

Remaining poinsettias were offered to the congregation on Sunday after worship.

Finance Corner

Pledging Update

2015 total pledges:	\$210,572
Paid to date:	\$206,168
Non-pledge contr.:	\$30,142

Sounds of the Spirit Visual Fund

Donations received	\$79,519
Expenses paid	\$75,901
Current balance	\$3,618

New year a time to analyze, examine our many ministries



**Galyn
Murphy-
Stanley**

I find that one of the most difficult parts of being a working adult is choosing where to put my energy, efforts and attention.

When my three children were very small, I vividly remember feeling outnumbered. Who of the three needed my attention most? What could wait? Which activity, lesson or outing was too hard, too unsatisfying, too expensive to continue?

These choices are the same in UUMC's Outreach program. As we look forward to our activities in 2016 our Outreach team, headed up by Katie Flynn and Nelson Price, analyzes and discusses the many ministries and activities that fall under the "Outreach" umbrella: Figuring where to put our work and efforts. Finding or identifying funding streams to support each project. Critiquing the efficiency of programs: Whom do they serve? Who will partake? Who will bring the food? are discussed at our monthly meetings.

The "Re-thinking Missions Team," a cooperative effort of the city UMC churches, participates in much the same process but on a larger level. Each of the eight city UMC churches is very individual in its own methodology of how it embraces its community, congregation and spirituality.

Homing in on ministries that we can all work on together, that have most value, that meet the largest need are the questions and work that this team tackles.

As new programs are integrated into UUMC, old ministries will change. But, like children as they grow, new energy, strength, friends and community will happen around these new activities.

One of our most fabulous new programs, "Grocery Rescue" from CNY's Food Bank, has impacted and touched so many of our Outreach programs.

With weekly deliveries of cut, cleaned, packaged produce, prepared (largely organic) food items and sprouted, whole grain, crusty, seasonal baked goods are available to our many visitors engaged in a variety of UUMC programs.

This one new addition to UUMC has allowed us to save

money, feed various guests better quality and more diverse foods, link the multiple Outreach projects and produce an abundance, thereby creating a vehicle to connect with UUMC tenants, neighborhood pantries and community centers.

In December we moved nearly 920 pounds of produce and packaged foods and 611 pounds of baked goods from this one program.

Additionally, 2,232 meals were provided for by our pantry, approximately 130 guests were served a hot, homemade, amazing Christmas dinner (complete with dessert, gifts and punch) and about 190 hungry bellies were filled at our Community Breakfasts.

Like children, UUMC's programs will change, grow, get stronger and fall down. They will each be supported, guided and nurtured to make them the strongest ministry we can make.

I wish you each strength and happiness in this new year.

— Galyn Murphy-Stanley
Outreach Coordinator

Governing Board gives approval for interim choir director

Martha Sutter is taking a two-month leave of absence as music director because of work requirements at Syracuse University.

The Governing Board has approved Bridget Moriarty as interim choir director.

Bridget teaches voice in the Department of Drama and Setnor School of Music at SU. She's also a local mu-



Bridget Moriarty

sic director for community theater productions and works with the musical at Baker High School in Baldwinsville.

Bridget earned a bachelor's in music education at SUNY Potsdam's Crane School of Music, a master of music in voice performance from SU and a doctoral degree of music arts in vocal performance from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

People/Prayers

DEATHS



• Longtime member **Diane Tarbell** died Jan. 2 at the age of 69. Her service will be 11 a.m. Jan. 16 at UUMC.

• Longtime member **Genn Thuma** died Jan. 9. She was 90. Her service will be at 2 p.m. Jan. 17 at UUMC.



PRAYERS REQUESTED:

• For those in military service: **Jim Pettyjohn and Matt Fischer**

Sunday, December 20

- **Beth Drew:** My niece Sara was injured while playing soccer. She will have elbow and arm surgery tomorrow.
- **Chuck:** Pray for the sick
- **Diana:** That I am able to see God's path for me and that I gain enough faith to follow it.
- **Kathy:** Prayers that **Jim's** interview leads to a new career with Wegmans. Also prayers of healing for Jim's mom, **Susan**.
- **Peter:** For peace to come to all people, with miracles of healing and reconciliation everywhere.
- **Rebekah:** Prayers for my friend **Nathan's mom**, who had emergency surgery this past week in Houston.
- **Roser Family:** To wish our grandma a quick and speedy recovery from her surgery.
- Prayers for those suffering from separation and divorce.

- Keep all travelers safe over the holidays.
- Prayers for our pastor, this church, and the city of Syracuse.

Sunday, December 27

- **Diane:** For increasing faith and the ability to discern God's will for my life and the strength to follow it.
- **Elise:** Prophet Jesus, I truly praise you for recovering an angry heart!
- **Lee Potter:** Neighbor **Ann Marie Ronin** retired Syracuse teacher very ill at Crouse Hospital.
- **Peter:** For the peace and joy we experience together here and the chances we have to share it in the wide world.
- **Robert:** For rescue of the Christians and Zaidi children in Syria and Iraq.
- That children would learn about Jesus' birth.
- Be with holiday travelers
- Prayer for all the children in need of safe, loving homes and parents.
- Health and strength for all who are ill or overwhelmed by life. Help us to be God's hands and hearts in the world, so people will know God loves them.
- For those living in war-torn areas, that they may find peace; for the lonely and disenfranchised, that they may find friendship and acceptance.
- More participants from the congregation filling out Roving Listeners forms.

Sunday, January 3

- **Betsy Wiggins:** Please pray for Jim as he starts a new infusion therapy this week.
- **Elise:** Prophet Jesus, Bless **Heidi Shayne** for her safe journey home from a faraway place of rest.
- **Kathy:** Prayers for the family of **Jerry Jordan**. May he rest in peace.
- **Nate** : Peace and understanding in our homes, families, communities, nations and our world.
- **Peter:** Thanks for our ancestor and descendants & the awareness that life can go on in a better world
- **Shirley Miller:** Please pray for my cousin's grandchild, **Jimmy Cuthbertson**, who is seriously ill.
- Family and friends of **Diane Tarbell**, who was a longtime member of UUMC.
- That God be with my mom on her operation.
- Courage for those trying to move forward after experiencing loss.
- Prayers for those with health concerns
- For those needing work.
- For all who are going back to school. To better themselves for the new year.

THANKS AND PRAISE

Sunday, December 20

- Prayers of thanks for **Katie** being here and healthy, and sharing her time and gifts.
- Thanks to Jesus who helps us to fulfill our dreams.

Pledging total in line with last couple years

With approximately nine pledges from prior givers still outstanding, the stewardship campaign is coming to a close. The dollars that have been pledged will help drive the 2016 budget and continue the ministries and mission of University United Methodist Church.

An interesting piece of data has emerged this year. Several individuals have chosen to give to the church but have preferred not to make a pledge. Giving is wonderful, and significant thanks to those who support the church in this way as well as those who make an annual pledge.

To date, 58 pledges have been received with a total commitment of \$179,649. It is realistic to think that the income for 2016 will reach at least \$182,000 representing 63-65 people. The pledge unit figure is down from 2012 and 2013 but is very consistent with 2011, 2014 and 2015.

Thank you for showing your

support, in a very tangible way, of University Church.

Fact-finding on credit cards

For a number of years the idea of working with an organization to make it possible to pledge and pay by credit card (as is practiced by many not-for-profit and faith groups) has been discussed.

There would be a fee associated with each payment, but the benefits might outweigh the cost.

If you would be interested in paying your pledge through an automatic credit card payment, please let any member of the Governing Board, Rachel Kgama or Alicia Wood know.

It may be time to move to this option for the convenience and financial practices of members and friends.

This is preliminary fact finding only and is not available for UUMC at this time. But it never is too early to start planning for 2017!

— Beth Drew

Thanks from Altar Guild,
for the efforts of many

Members of the Altar Guild of UUMC want to thank volunteers who decorated the church for Christmas services, arranged poinsettias in the sanctuary and/or delivered poinsettias or baked goods to homebound members and others associated with the congregation.

These include: Steve Bacon and Bette Helwig, Tom and Carol Boll, Jerry and Barbara Cargo, Starke Donnally, Beth Drew, the Flynn family, Ernie and Bobbie Hemphill, Don and Margo Koten, Jo-Ann May, Marg McDivitt, Dean Moyer, Barbara Nunn, Ed and Lee Potter, and Jim Wiggins.

Those receiving either the poinsettia or the baked goods were: Thomas Christoff, Dick Hunt, Nancy Hough, Ruth Houser, Mary Klepper, Dorothy Logan, Frances Long, Lois McTarnaghan, Ann Milner, Carol Moyer, Arlene Musilli, Eddie Nunn, Martha and William Potter, Cynthia Rowell, Don Steenberg, Diane Tarbell, Genn Thuma, Jim and Betsy Wiggins, Ben Wiles Jr., Mary Wilson, Gary Wood and Ed and Joanne Zinsmeister-Yarwood.

Flowers were also delivered to a recently arrived Congolese family of four.

— Bobbie Hemphill

Next: 'When Helping Hurts'

CONTINUED from Page 1

back to the church's mission, Weems suggests that the priorities of the church need to be re-evaluated and realigned with the church's core mission.

The next Hand to Plow large group session will be 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 27 at UUMC, where the book "When Helping Hurts" by Brian Fickert will be explored.

All are welcome to attend!

Guild meeting: The next Guild meeting is 1:30 p.m. Jan. 27 at Barb Cargo's home, 109 Humbert Ave. The topic is The refugee program, and the speaker will be church member Marty Nicholas. All are welcome, and please let the hostess know if you cannot attend at 446-4138.

Christmas gifts given to Congolese family

The afternoon Guild and a number of church members donated money and gifts for a family of four who recently arrived from the Congo. Toys, warm scarfs, gloves, hats, a food basket, a plant and gift certificates helped to make a festive Christmas for the new family.

Galyn and members of her family delivered the gifts from UUMC.

This is a very special holiday project for refugees who do not have a sponsoring group. Thanks to all!

February birthdays

- 2 - Bette Helwig
- 7 - Mellamby Duru
- 8 - Tom Boll
- 9 - Starke Donnally
- 16 - Robert Morris Jr.
- 19 - Jan Garman
- 20 - Aidan Brackett
- 21 - Taylor Bacon
- 23 - Roseanne Samuel
- 25 - Elise Curry-Schemichen



Artwork by John Swanson

**Many creative hands made
Extended Advent displays**

Many people commented on how the artistic displays at the front of the sanctuary contributed to their worship during Extended Advent.

The origin for these artistic endeavors was John Swanson's artwork, which we licensed for use in worship. A California painter and printmaker, Swanson credits his storytelling and creativity to his Mexican mother and Swedish father. Our signature graphic of a village in the hills under the night sky is one of many paintings in his series on the Nativity.

Jill Sarkodie-Mensah made the starry night banner that spanned the front of the sanctuary. She hand stamped each of the stars on the fabric. Ted and Sophie Finlayson-Schueler are to be credited with constructing the mountains that appeared week by week.

Ted also regularly spends eight hours a week designing the images that appear on the front screen.

These were truly acts of creativity and love, so please thank them when you next see them.

— *Barbara Fought,
Spirit Chair*



**University United
Methodist Church**

Feed My People: Body, Mind, and Spirit

1085 East Genesee Street, Syracuse, NY 13210
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Dated material



WEEK OF JANUARY 17

Sunday the 17th

- 10 a.m.** Contemporary Issues
- 10 a.m.** Sunday School, kindergarten-12th grade, Pettengill Center
- 10 a.m.** Adult Bible Study, History Room Annex
- 11 a.m.** Worship, Guest speaker: Ted Finlayson-Schueler
- 11:15 a.m.** Sunday School for adults with special needs
- 12:15 p.m.** Fellowship, Gathering Rm
- 12:30 p.m.** Soup and Sermon Chat, Chappell Rm
- 2 p.m.** Genn Thuma's service

Wednesday the 20th

- 9:30 a.m.** Staff Meeting
- Thursday the 21st
- 7:30 p.m.** Senior Choir
- Friday the 22nd
- 10 a.m. - noon** Friday Community

WEEK OF JANUARY 24

Sunday the 24th

- 9 a.m.** Community Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
- 10 a.m.** Contemporary Issues
- 10 a.m.** Sunday School, kindergarten-12th grade, Pettengill Ctr
- 10 a.m.** Adult Bible Study, History Room Annex
- 11 a.m.** Worship, Pastor Wood
- 11:15 a.m.** Sunday School for adults

with special needs

- 12:15 p.m.** Fellowship, Gathering Rm
- 12:30 p.m.** Soup and Sermon Chat, Chappell Rm
- Monday the 25th
- 7 p.m.** Handbell Choir
- Wednesday the 27th
- 9:30 a.m.** Staff Meeting
- Thursday the 28th
- 7:30 p.m.** Senior Choir
- Friday the 29th
- 10 a.m. - noon** Friday Community

WEEK OF JANUARY 31

Sunday the 31st

- 10 a.m.** Contemporary Issues
- 10 a.m.** Sunday School, kindergarten-12th grade, Pettengill Ctr
- 10 a.m.** Adult Bible Study, History Room Annex
- 11 a.m.** Worship, Pastor Wood
- 11:15 a.m.** Sunday School for adults with special needs
- 12:15 p.m.** Fellowship, Gathering Rm.
- 12:30 p.m.** Soup and Sermon Chat, Chappell Rm
- Wednesday the 3rd
- 9:30 a.m.** Staff Meeting
- Thursday the 4th
- 7:30 p.m.** Senior Choir
- Friday the 5th
- 10 a.m. - noon** Friday Community

Pecan Sales Profit

Thanks to all who supported the sale of "pecans plus" this Christmas season. The sale realized a profit of \$1,170, which will go toward the UUMC Outreach Program.

Jan. 10, 2016 service
(2 photos)



Pastor Alicia has a toy stethoscope near the baptismal font as she talks with the children about Jesus' baptism and his hearing from God that God was pleased with him.



We welcomed four new members during the service. They are Sungsu Lee, Terry Kubat, Devine Cooper and Joviet Cooper.

Jan. 3, 2016
Communion Service
(4 photos)









Christmas Eve Pageant

Dec. 24, 2015

(17 photos)

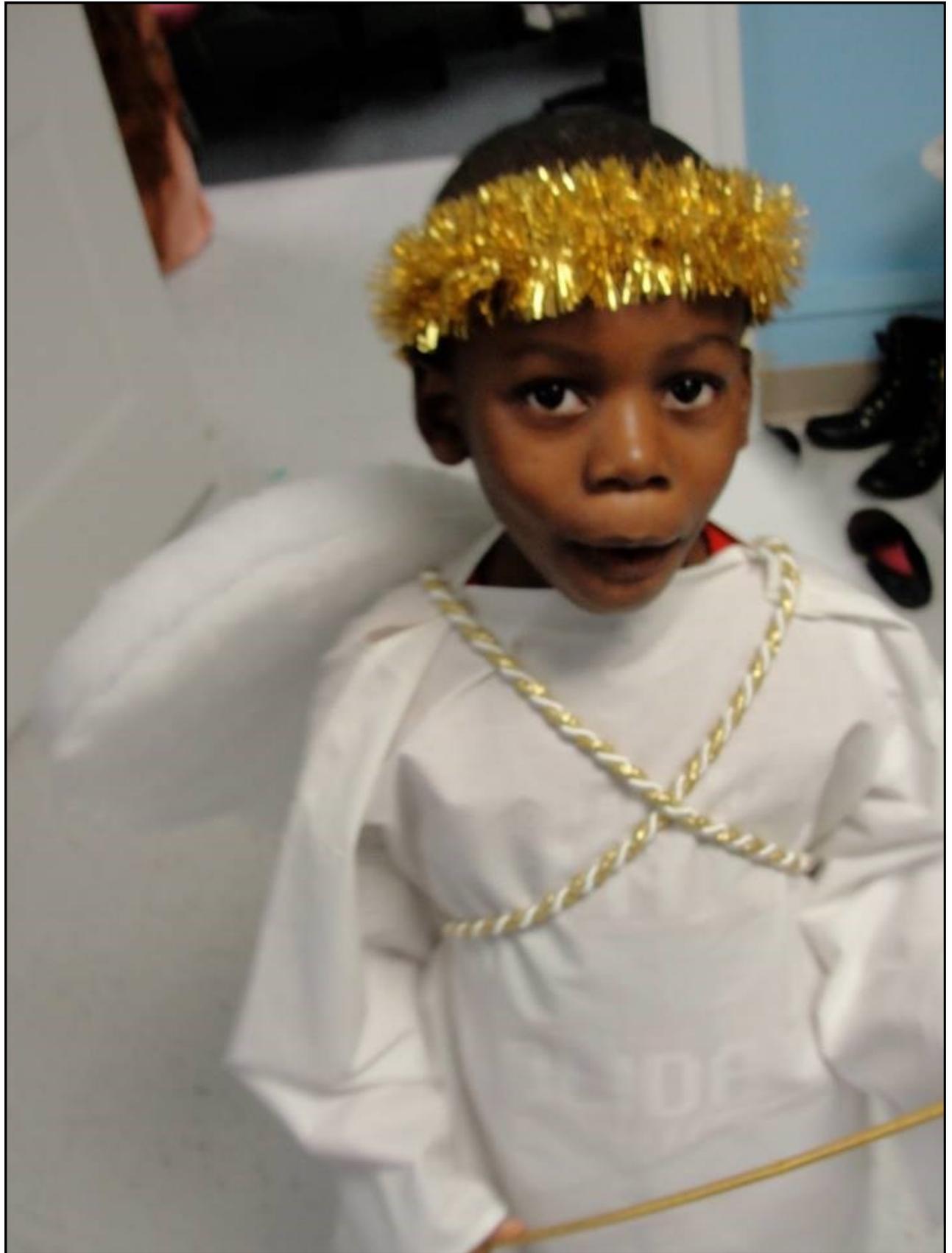


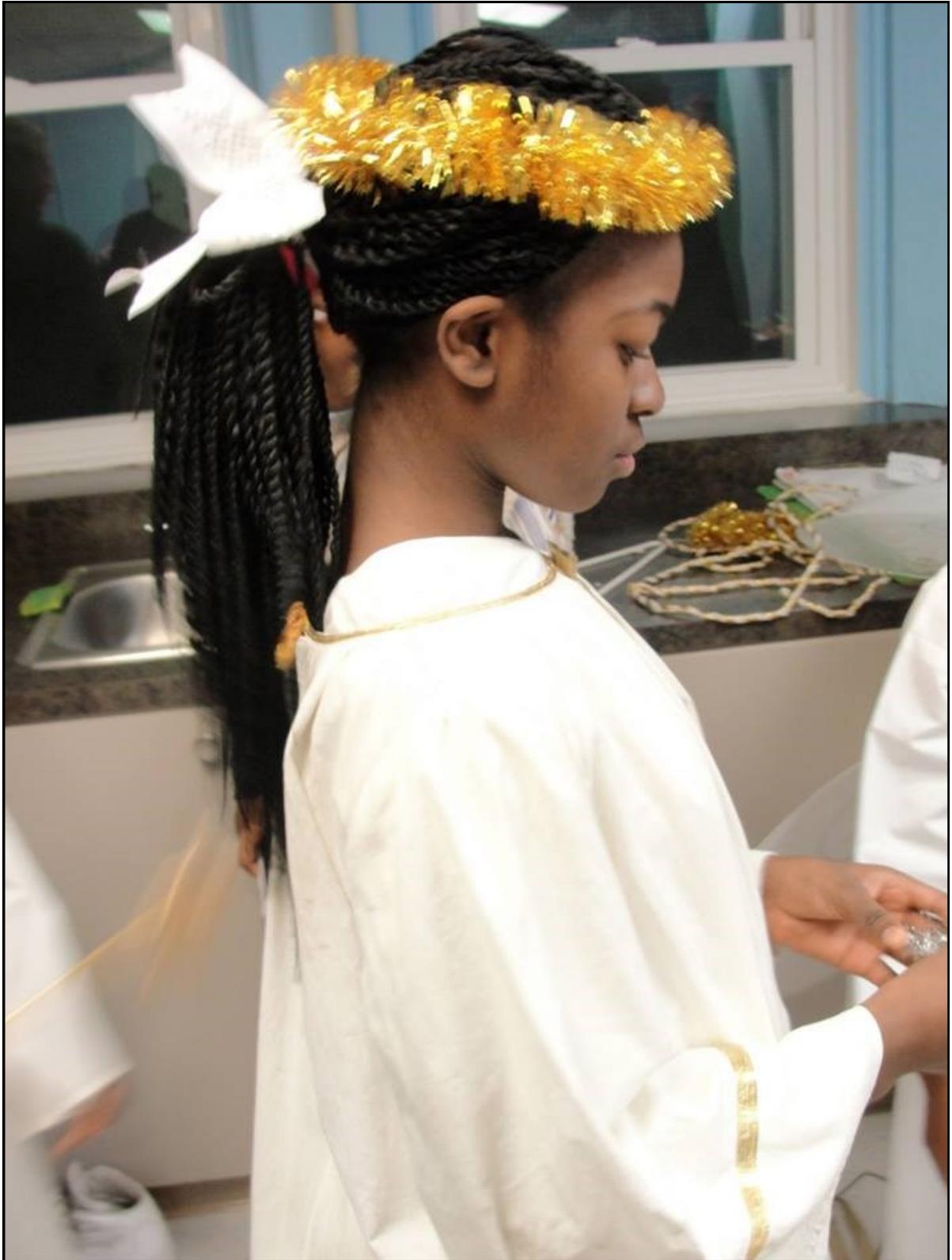






























Animals brought to the manger by the children.



Neighborhood Christmas Dinner

Dec. 21, 2015
(16 photos)



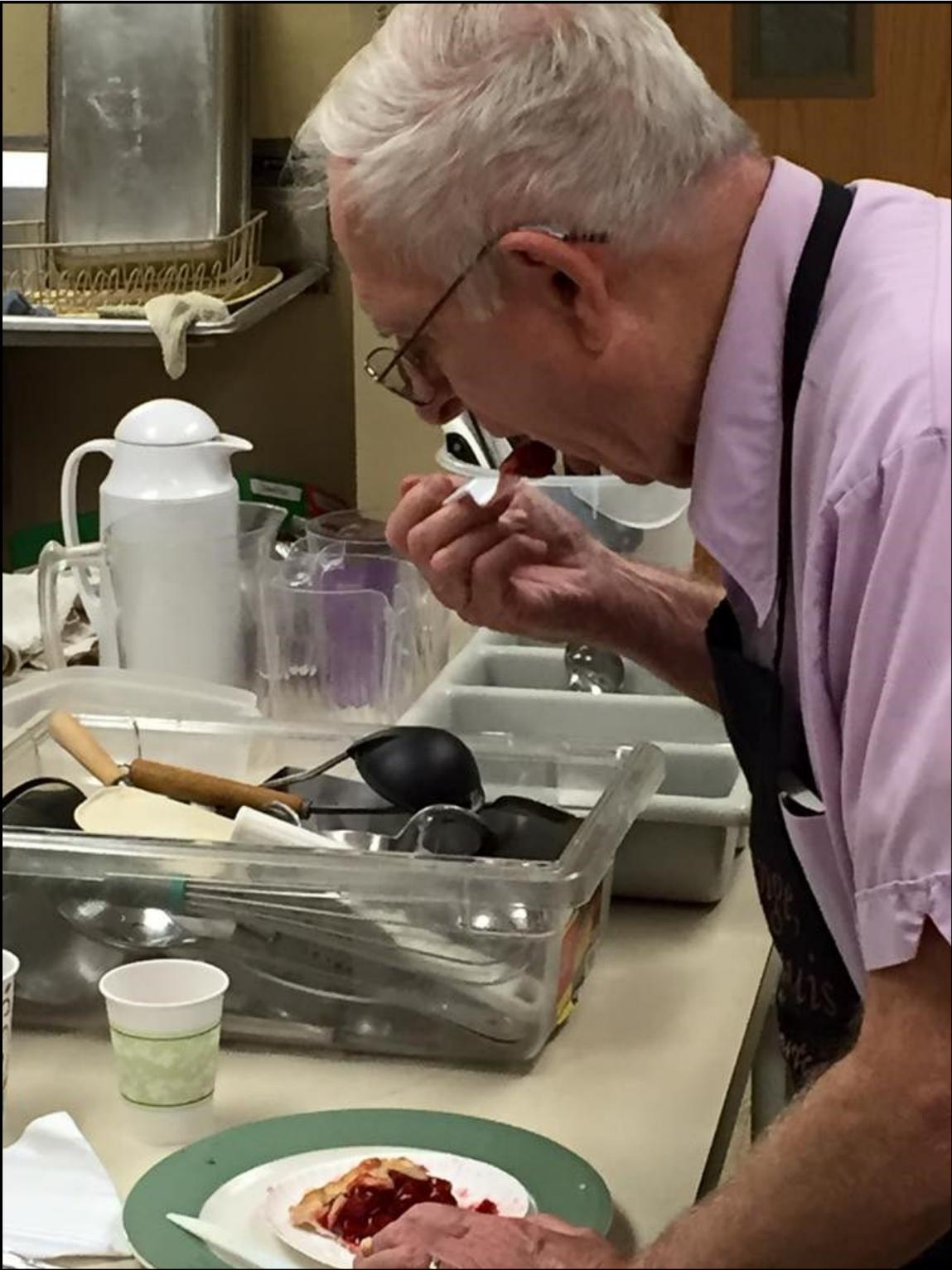






























Dec. 20, 2015 service



Lighting all seven candles on the wreath for Extended Advent