

# THE CHIMES

Jan. 9, 2013

**Next Chimes  
deadline:  
January 23**

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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

## MLK CELEBRATION JAN. 19 FEATURES NAACP CHAIR

Rosalyn M. Brock headlines the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Dinner Celebration Jan. 19 at the Carrier Dome.

Brock made history three years ago when she became the youngest to chair the Board of Directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

UUMC has reserved a table for the 4 p.m. dinner, which is followed by a free program at 5:30 that includes Brock's speech.

Tickets for the dinner are \$25, \$15 for students and one dinner meal for SU students on meal plans.



**Rosalyn M. Brock**

Please contact the church office at 475-7277 if you are interested in buying a ticket.

During the program the Martin Luther King Jr. Unsung Heroes Awards will be presented to Adena Rochelson, an eighth-grader at Wellwood Middle School in Fayetteville; JoVan Collins of Syracuse; Brenda Muhammad, a graduate stu-

dent at Syracuse University; and Engineers Without Borders at Syracuse University.

Over the past 25 years, Brock has served the NAACP in several leadership roles.

She is a Diamond Life Member of NAACP and joined the association as a freshman at Virginia Union University, where she was elected president of the Youth and College Division from Virginia.

In 2005, she created the Leadership 500 Summit with other young adult members of the NAACP to recruit, train and retain a new generation of civil rights leaders ages 30-50.

## Stephen Minister training class to start Jan. 22

Coming Jan. 22: The first session for the next Stephen Minister training class.

The 50-hour class will be taught weekly on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and this time instructors and site are hosted by UUMC's Stephen Ministry network partners at DeWitt Community Church, 3600 Erie Boulevard East. The \$75 cost covers book material.

If you are interested in this opportunity or would like more information, please contact Gwen Tillapaugh-Fay at 256-7668, or leave a message and your contact information with the office staff, 475-7277, or [uumc@twcny.rr.com](mailto:uumc@twcny.rr.com) for a return call.

# Four questions to ponder as we start a new year



Rev. French

*In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."*

*When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.*

*They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet ..." Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared.*

*Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."*

*When they had heard of the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.*

*On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage.*

*Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.*

*And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road. (Matthew 2)*



Wallpaperslot.com

On the twelfth day of Christmas — Epiphany — we celebrate the arrival of strange foreigners to worship and present gifts to baby Jesus.

More than offering a bit of exotic allure to Christmas, the arrival of the wise men (or magi or three kings) adds theological depth and intrigue to the story: reminding us that Jesus (his birth, his life, his death, his resurrection) is not just for some people but for all persons everywhere; reminding us, too, that God's power, found in Jesus, is a threat to all those who would claim power for themselves and their own agenda; and reminding us, also, that listening to God can often lead us down new paths in life.

At the start of this new year, I invite you to spend time with four questions:

1. Who are the strangers in your life whose hunger and thirst for wholeness is as real as your own? What gifts do they bring?
2. In what ways does your use of power align with God's purposes? In what ways does it serve only your own agenda? (And if you claim you have no power, whose power are you acquiescing to?)
3. Where do you find your joy — the kind of joy that is richer and deeper and truer than any earthly possession?
4. What new road is God opening up to you? Will you take it?

I invite you to ponder these questions in the weeks and months to come — what they have to say to you personally ... what they have to say to us as a congregation ... what they have to say to us as citizens of this city/county/state/nation.

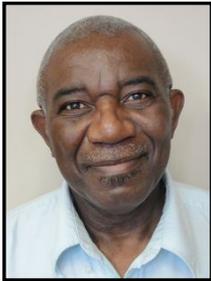
— Craig

## **Time to Compile, Submit Your Annual Report**

2012 annual reports are due Jan. 23. Please send as an attachment via email, if possible. All reports should be signed.

If you need a copy of your 2011 annual report, please email [uumc@twcnj.rr.com](mailto:uumc@twcnj.rr.com) or call the church office at 475-7277.

# OUTREACH MINISTRY

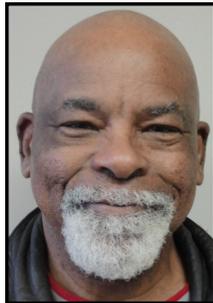


**Rev. Smythe**

Here are two more volunteers who work for the Friday Community. Julius Lawrence has been a volunteer since last year. Julius, who was the program director at PEACE, presently works as a building maintenance person especially with the Upper New York Conference of the Methodist

Churches.

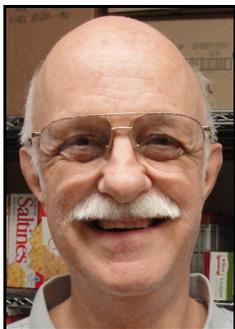
He was directly responsible for guiding children with various disabilities. Julius is the assistant pastor at Metro Harvest on East Fayette Street. Julius offers extensive services to the pantry. His knowledge of helpful organizations has helped us to identify various places and organizations that are helpful to us. One such place



**Julius Lawrence**

is Give to Others.com.

Richard Humbert, another volunteer, is a pilot and worships at Liverpool United Methodist church. His sister, Jayne, was more involved in previous times. Dick helps with the stocking of the pantry and making sure the empty boxes are taken to the Dumpster and every cart is accounted for at



**Richard Humbert**

the end of the day.

In addition, he offers valuable suggestions regarding the distribution of the food to friends, especially when there are limitations.

### Pecans

The sale of pecans is almost complete. The last time I spoke with Johanna there were still a few left for sale. I hope those who purchased the pecans this year was pleased with the quality.

Thanks to the team of persons who worked on this project.

### Winter Coats

Due to the limited number of winter jackets they were not distributed as scheduled. They will be distributed Jan. 13 to the friends who attend the breakfast. Thanks to the individuals who gave additional coats so others will receive one.

Our next major event will be Ministry Dinner. These men and women are offering great help to us and we deeply appreciate them. If you know any of them, make sure you say thanks for their constant support.

This past week at the weekly staff meeting, the passage that the pastor read focused on was that of the Magi — Matthew 3. One of the thoughts that I left the meeting with is “What star are you following? Is this star leading you where God desires and will this direction provide help for others?”

Let me hope we will each follow a star and we will find the desired results. Blessings.

— Rev. Joseph Smythe,  
Friday Community chaplain

## A prayer offered for the victims of the Newtown, Conn., school shooting

*Editor's Note: Susan Borenstein, a member of the administrative staff at Lynn Steenberg's Sports PT for three years, organized the staff for a brief prayer service after the school shooting in Newtown. Here is her prayer:*

“Children are like ice cream. There are many different flavors, colors, some have cookies or candy mixed in, and some start

off plain and add sauce or cherries as they go. And let's face it: a good bowl of ice cream brings a smile to everyone's face. Just as a child can. And that smile is full of dreams, creativity, intelligence, and endless possibilities.

“What happened at Sandy Hook Elementary is an unbelievable and unbearable tragedy that only solidifies the message that

we need to cherish the blessings we receive every day. Today, not only as colleagues, but as friends and neighbors, we can honor, and grieve with, all those affected by this horrific event. We can honor the community and surrounding communities of Newtown, Conn., as they fight this overwhelming sadness together.

See **CHILDREN**, Page 5

# PEOPLE / PRAYER CONNECTION

## THANKS

- Thank you, God, for children and teachers. Help us remember they are gifts from you. Help us to show love to them
- Thank you for music which heals all wounds
- From **Rosemary DeHoog**: I would like to thank Rosemary Chappell and Lee Potter for delivering altar flowers to me during my recovery from surgery. The flowers were given by Barb Cargo and Joanne Zinsmeister-Yarwood. I am most appreciative of your kindness.

## PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR:

- Those in military service: **Nathan Miller, Jim Pettyjohn, Alex Saxby and Matt Fischer**
- My cousin **Mark**, who was just diagnosed with leukemia, from **Cheryl**
- I pray that I find God's love and feel his presence again after a tough year, from **Chris**
- For courageous global action on climate change before white Christmases are a thing of the past, from **Deb Bradshaw**
- May we find people in our house and at our worksites, from **Grace House**
- For the many people who compassionately guide, teach and mentor kids, professionally or informally, as their (our) own kids from **Peter Swords**
- Heavenly Father, help us to think forward to show compassion! from **Elise**
- The United States to stop selling very dangerous guns

- Help us find a way to prevent violence of every kind. We need to study and pray and then act.
- We as a congregation become the light of this community — that our light shine wherever we go to bring others closer to Christ
- **Bernie Hinds**, from her daughters
- The **Ross family** on the death of their mother
- For the safety that comes from common understanding through dialogue and learning in community — not from power and weapons, from **Peter Swords**
- Infant Jesus, I thank you for honesty, charity and knowledge to overcome life's obstacles, from **Elise**
- Bless the people impacted by Sandy. Bless the service members, and UUMC staff, from **Russ**
- **Mattie Hightower**, upon the death of another brother
- The **Alinsanski family**, whose son passed away this week
- Those in pain and those healing
- Please pray for my sister-in-law, **Linda Scales**, who is on a respirator and fighting for her life;
- Our friend **Marvin Bruel**, who is undergoing tests
- The health and safety of all
- Sending lots of thoughts and prayers for the Sandy Hook shootings
- Jesus the Prophet, bless my household with providence and prosperity, from **Elise**
- Prayers for families to remain healthy and joyous

## Finance Corner

### Latest figures on pledging for 2013

Pledge income for 2013 currently stands at \$240,230, which is up 15 percent from last year.

Many regular givers who did not pledge last year committed to a pledge in 2013.

New money — from those never pledging in the past — totals \$8,000.

Pledges earmarked for the outreach program currently total \$4,360.

#### Pledging Update for 2012

Total amount pledged for 2012: \$204,360. Amount paid to date: \$187,971.

#### "SOS" Update

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

Current "Sounds of the Spirit" campaign balance is \$32,915. Current expenses paid are \$6,215. Total donations received are \$38,130.

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

### Looking Ahead in 2013

Human Relations Day	Jan. 20
Ash Wednesday	Feb. 13
Palm Sunday	March 24
Maundy Thursday	March 28
Good Friday	March 29
Easter	March 31
Pentecost	May 19
Thanksgiving	Nov. 28
First Sunday in Advent	Dec. 1

# Trying to live simply and make time for prayer



**Lyndsey Graves**

“Before moving here to Syracuse I attended a Christian college in Tennessee. Despite my initial resistance to the entire idea of Christian college (my parents made me go), after four years there I truly can’t imagine getting a better education anywhere.

But one of the undeniable drawbacks of going to a Christian school remains: Even those of us who traveled outside the Bible Belt and found off-campus friends or activities could easily forget that we lived ensconced in a “bubble.”

The overwhelming majority of people belonged to a very specific worldview and subculture that other college students did not share, from the obvious — twice-weekly mandatory chapel services; to the embarrassing — contemporary Christian music concerts; to the blessings — conversations with friends rooted in the religion minor we all shared, a huge concentration of social justice- and service-minded students.

Even as we criticized some aspects of our experience, it was still hard to remember that our experience wasn’t “normal.”

In “Red Letter Revolution,” Shane Claiborne offers a captivating description of the nation of Israel: “They are God’s little counterculture, a pe-

culiar people called out of the destructive patterns of their world to show the world what a society of love looks like.”

At Lee University, it was easy to be — for better or for worse — “peculiar people.”

Since then, my experiences at UUMC and Grace House have convinced me that it is both highly necessary and extraordinarily difficult to remain peculiar in the day-to-day “world.”

I am still surrounded by many more Christian people and activities than are most; but I still find myself conforming to the habits and patterns of consumerism, self-centeredness and the desire to fit in.

I’ve never been one for New Year’s resolutions, but this year it’s been a great season for remembering and re-evaluating my priorities: living simply rather than accumulating more, buying fair trade rather than whatever’s cheapest, making space for prayer rather than rushing to do something “productive.”

The practice of these priorities, though, is far more difficult than simply naming them in theory.

Might you help me stay accountable to these practices? Might you even join me in them? May we all find the courage to be peculiar — together.

— Lyndsey

*Lyndsey is our mission intern by way of Grace House. She will be with us through July.*

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## ‘... Children are the hearts of their parents, walking around’

**CONTINUED** from Page 3

We can honor the surviving teachers and students, and parents of these students, of Sandy Hook as they replay the fear they felt that day, and the fear and sadness they feel towards the future. We can honor the first responders to the scene within the school. How these people must have a vision in their minds we can’t even fathom to describe.

“As President Obama described, children are the hearts of their parents, walking around. We can honor the parents, who lost their hearts that day. No words can match the loss they have suffered or ease the infinite pain they are enduring.

We can only be there for them and express our sorrows.

Finally, we can honor the lives lost. Undeserving of how they were taken from us, but worthy of the memories we can respect in their name. Hoping they have found a new life above us, a world where they are forever protected, loved, and nurtured, in God’s arms. In His name we pray. Amen.”

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### **Guild Meeting**

The next Guild meeting will be at 1:30 p.m. Jan. 23 at Barb Cargo’s. Topic: Nancy Hough will present a program on cowboy poetry. Please call Barb, 446-4138, if you are unable to come.

### **New Coffee Choice**

Starting in February, a bolder blend of fair trade coffee will be available for purchase due to popular request.

Also, coffee beans and/or tea can be added to the sales. Please let Beth Drew know if that is something you would like.

### **Fellowship and Discussion**

At 5:30 p.m. Jan. 13, in The Gathering Room there will be a time for fellowship as well as trading perspectives on the week's text. If you can, please bring a vegetable for "stone soup." For information, see Gwen Tillapaugh-Fay or email Lyndsey at uumclg@twcny.rr.com.

### **Church Conference Scheduled**

A Church Conference will be held after worship Feb. 3. On the agenda for consideration are nominees for leadership posts in the congregation.

### **Pecans for Sale at Reduced Prices**

The Outreach Committee still has some nuts for sale at reduced prices for its fundraiser.

There are a few left of glazed pecans for \$6; chocolate-covered pecans for \$7; cashews for \$8; and gift boxes for \$10.

There's a big supply of cinnamon-glazed pecans for \$7.

### **Thanks, from UMCOR**

The United Methodist Committee on Relief thanks UUMC for our recent donations of \$537.50 to help hurricane survivors and \$5 for UMCOR's response to disasters in the United States.

One hundred percent of the contributions go toward relief.



University United  
Methodist Church

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

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### **WEEK OF JANUARY 13**

Sunday the 13th  
9 a.m. Community/Church  
Breakfast  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School, ages  
5 and up  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Issues  
10:30 a.m. Worship; Sunday  
School, ages 3-4  
11:45 a.m. Fellowship -  
Gathering Room  
Wednesday the 16th  
11:15 a.m. Staff meeting  
Thursday the 17th  
7:30 p.m. Senior Choir  
Friday the 18th  
10 a.m. - noon Friday  
Community

### **WEEK OF JANUARY 20**

Sunday the 20th  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Issues  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
11:45 a.m. Fellowship -  
Gathering Room  
Tuesday the 22nd  
7 p.m. Stephen Ministry

### **Wednesday the 23rd**

11:15 a.m. Staff meeting  
Thursday the 24th  
7:30 p.m. Senior Choir  
Friday the 25th  
10 a.m. - noon Friday  
Community

### **WEEK OF JANUARY 27**

Sunday the 27th  
9 a.m. Community/Church  
Breakfast  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School, ages  
5 and up  
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Issues  
10:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday  
School, ages 3-4  
11:45 a.m. Fellowship -  
Gathering Room  
Wednesday the 30th  
11:15 a.m. Staff meeting  
7 p.m. Handbell Choir  
Thursday the 31st  
7:30 p.m. Senior Choir  
Friday the 1st  
10 a.m. - noon Friday  
Community

### **Returned Chimes**

If you are moving or going away for an extended period and need The Chimes either stopped or sent to a new address, please contact Tom Boll at 475-7277 or uumctb@twcny.rr.com. This will prevent your copy of The Chimes from being returned

with postage due that the church must pay.

You may notice this Chimes comes with circular tabs at the top, per new postal regulations.

### **February Birthdays**

The Jan. 30 Chimes will have February birthdays.

# UUMC in Winter 6 Photos













# Christmas Eve Service/Pageant 14 Photos































**The Handbell Choir plays during “Joy to the World” on Dec. 23.**



**The Chimes crew assembles this issue for mailing.**