

THE CHIMES

Oct. 2, 2013

**Next Chimes
deadline:
October 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 or put in Box No. 12 in the church office.

Rev. Craig French, Pastor
Tom Boll, Editor

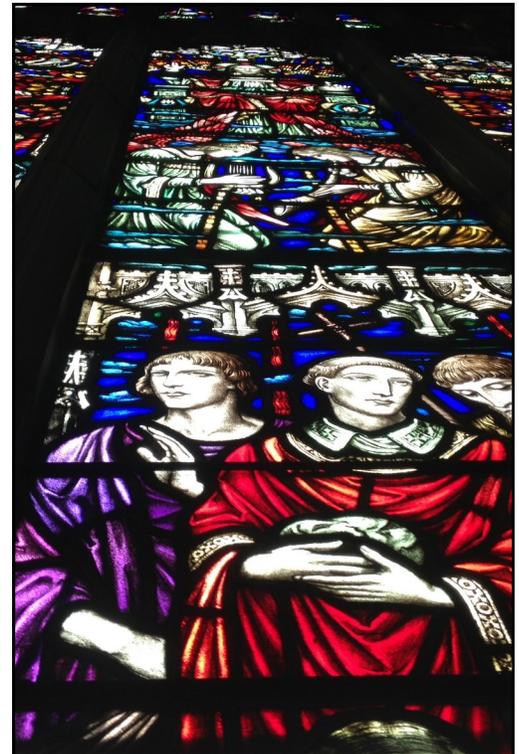
Connective Corridor grant to fund landscaping and lighting upgrades

UUMC applied for and was included in the second round of Connective Corridor Façade improvement grants.

The church's plans prepared by Appel Osborne, our landscape architect, are up for review by the committee handling this and are available for examination in the Chappell Room. They include:

- Removing most of the plants on both sides of the main entrance, grinding down the tree stumps and replacing with new planting
- Adding lighting from inside the church to better illuminate the Ascension window at night
- Adding outside lighting to highlight the building's exterior
- Moving the playground fence to the existing stone sign

A prayer labyrinth is an optional add-on to the plans. It would be between the sidewalk leading to the playground and the property line with Copper Beech Commons. Current plants would be removed.



The Ascension window will get better lighting for outside viewing.

UUMC is in the process of submitting a final application in hopes of receiving the full amount of \$25,000.

World Communion Sunday coming up

This Sunday, Oct. 6, is World Communion Sunday, a time to be in communion with Christians all over the world.

The congregation is invited to bring in breads from around the world.
See **WHAT**, Page 4

From the History Room...

Cornerstone Is Laid

By Rosemary DeHoog,
Church Historian

In August 1871, the principal focus of attention in the community was the formal launching of Syracuse University. The cornerstone of the building was laid on August 12, 1871. See **A CONSECRATION**, Page 4

A new way of looking at the story of Jesus



Rev. French

Slowly . . . s l o w l y . . . I am migrating into the digital world, learning to make use of all the resources found there.

Most of the books I read now are e-books (though I miss the feel of a “real” book in my hands).

Much of my worship planning and sermon preparation is done online (while a 40-year-old working library of theological books collects dust).

The majority of my news (to my lasting regret) comes via the Internet, not an “old-fashioned” newspaper.

Correspondence?
Online.

Shopping? Online.

Music? Online.

I still have a ways to go, but I’m getting there.

The online world has even become a source of spiritual sustenance for me. I subscribe to several sites that feed my soul regularly.

One of them is “Gifts in Open Hands” by Maren Tirabassi. Once upon a time I collected books by Maren. Now I encounter her creativity on my computer screen.

I was particularly taken a couple of weeks back by her fresh take on the gospel of Luke.

She introduced it this way: “*I have a spiritual discipline that involves reading one gospel over and over again each season and then, near the end of the season, seeing what have come of the connection of that particular time and the text. So ... this is a look at Luke as seen through summer eyes.*”

It’s sticky, mosquitoes are everywhere, and there’s time to think about pregnancy.

The old woman and the girl with their ankles swollen and their song and leaping

sit in the long late twilight with quiet Zechariah who can’t talk but must pay attention to crickets.

And shepherds wander

the short hot nights, always wondering if it’s angels or thunder. Simeon and Anna,

too long retired for anything but swinging on the porch while the world goes by till they see this baby ...

And there’s this middle school boy with his puberty full of god whose folks come home from vacation and leave him in town.

And this is one of his grown-up stories – how it was sweaty work and smelled like pig,

cleaning toilets in that motel 6, near Four Corners – and the kid wasn’t in Vegas anymore,

but he remembered how good things used to be in Des Moines. And no one could be blamed for rolling up the window to drive by the drive-by, get the cops on the cell

after they’re out of East LA.

The sycamore in August is full of leaves but the short guy can’t hide.

And that’s Luke, too, somehow telling us he’s up that tree, or he’s weeping with a napkin

and an alabaster jar, or he’s watching Jesus weep himself over the city skyline with twin holes

that does not know peace.

And because Jesus is who he is, there’s a promise

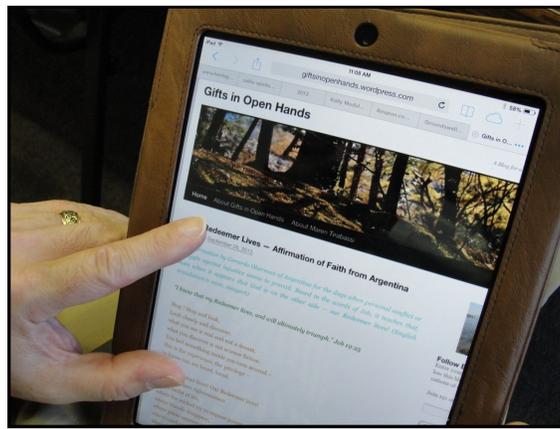
for the felon on his right in the middle of their execution, and forgiveness

for the national guard from the Bronx rolling bones for his suit.

And three days later

there’s some kind of extra inning

See AT BARBECUE, Page 5



UNY Conference awards \$6,990 grant for leadership development



Deb Virgo

Buzz. That's the sound that you'll hear around church on Friday Morning (and no, it's not the bees outside).

That's the sound of us becoming a community of neighbors, friends and volunteers.

Over the years UUMC has been trying to be more than a place where the "haves" hand out food to the "have-nots." And we're getting there, step by step.

Over half of our weekly volunteers can be classified as low-income and thus eligible to use the food pantry.

And the Annual Conference has just helped us to take the next step.

This summer the Upper New York Annual Conference, through its Reaching our Neighbors Ministry Oversight Team (RON MOT), offered grants for Ministry with the Poor. Of the 43 grant appli-

cations, 11 were funded.

We are thrilled to be one of them!

In the Crossroads District, Brown Memorial was also funded to expand its young parents group.

To learn more about this grant visit www.unyumc.org/news/detail/1753.

Our grant is entitled "From Charity to Leadership Development" and was funded for \$6,990. There are two sections to the grant.

One portion will go to enhancing our hospitality on Friday morning. We've been doing this for a while; our small table with instant coffee has expanded to a bigger table with occasional snacks.

With this funding we will be able purchase fruit and nutritional snacks every week. Think apple cider in the fall. Anyone know where to buy fair-trade instant coffee?!

The larger portion will focus on leadership development for volunteers who are ready to take

that step.

This ministry involves a training program, with a stipend, and a path for volunteers to become more involved with the life of this church.

We will start with the group of people who help with the food pantry but also hope to extend this to the Sunday morning breakfast guests and volunteers.

While still in the planning stages, we will base the curriculum on the book "My Orange Duffle Bag" and its companion workbook.

This text revolves around a series of exercises to overcome barriers in four areas: spiritual, emotional, physical and mental.

If you understand and are familiar with the Circles/Bridges Out of Poverty model, think of this as a pre-Circles step.

Click.

That's the sound of something falling into place that just feels right.

— Deb Virgo

*Interim Friday Community
Coordinator*

New member: Elise Curry-Schemichen



Elise Curry-Schemichen

Elise Curry-Schemichen is from Syracuse and a graduate of Henninger High School.

She is married to her husband, Richard, and has a son, Richard, 5, who has just started kindergarten this fall.

Her father was an autoworker and her mother a nurse's home aide.

She has three brothers and one sister. A stepbrother and her sister live in Syracuse, while her two other siblings live out of state.

Elise has worked as a janitor, short-order cook and industrial food-service worker. She plans on going back to school to learn another trade.

Her interests include home brewing of beer and wine, advocating for medical marijuana use and political science.

She regularly attends the Adult Contemporary Issues class before worship.

A Consecration Day fundraising miracle

CONTINUED from Page 1

the Hall of Languages was laid on the morning of Aug. 31, the first building to go up on the projected campus.

Then in the afternoon, was the laying of the cornerstone of the Dempster Church.

Many of the same people attended both ceremonies; obviously the new university and the new church were regarded as parts of the same new advance for Methodism.

In April 1872, construction had proceeded far enough so that the congregation could move out of its old wooden quarters and begin worshipping in the first or basement story of the new church.

The newspaper announcement for the first service on April 28, 1872, had an inviting appeal: "Not a cent of money will be raised next Sabbath. People will therefore doubtless attend in



large numbers."

The upper part of the church was completed later that year.

In December 1872, the ceremonies of consecration were held.

During the services, Dr. C.C. Curtis, the fundraiser, made an energetic appeal for money. The new church had cost \$58,000. Only \$11,000 from the Remingtons and \$7,000 from other sources had been raised.

Before the Consecration Day had ended, Dr. Curtis raised the remaining \$40,000, a miracle of fundraising.

From, "A Century of Ministry" by Dr. Nelson Blake, Syracuse University

What does a welcoming heart look like?

CONTINUED from Page 1

world. The bread will be collected near the beginning of the service and brought forward to the Communion table for all to see.

World Communion Sunday calls the church to reach out to all people and model diversity among God's children. The special offering benefits World Communion Scholarships, the Ethnic Scholarship Program and the Ethnic In-Service Training Program..

Last month, worshipers were asked to draw and/or write on the back of a yellow card in the bulletin what a welcoming heart looks like to them. The cards were displayed at worship last week on a three-sectioned board on the Communion table.

Some of the responses: Peace; being civil; hugs from Connie Wilson; a friendly smile, a cheerful voice; warm hugs every Sunday morning; as a single-again woman, struggling and lonely, each time I came to church a couple moved to sit with me so I would not be alone. Their presence — just sitting with me — felt like grace and love, and so welcoming.

This month, the sentence to complete with words and/or drawing is: The best gift I ever received was....

Finance Corner

Pledging Update

2013 total pledges:	\$249,290
Paid to date:	\$179,924
Non-pledge contr.:	\$16,005
Pre-paid pledges:	\$58,300

Sounds of the Spirit Campaign

Donations received	\$57,343
Expenses paid	\$60,315
Current balance	—(\$2,972)

October birthdays

- 4 – Janet Mandigo, Nelson Price , Phillip Wellner, Dan Shworles
- 5 – Renee Threatte, Lonnie Threatte
- 7 – Gloria Duru
- 8 – Arlene Musilli
- 10 – Mary Magowan
- 11 – Joanne Yarwo
Carol Boll
- 15 – Elizabeth Magowan
- 16 – Nathan Miller
- 18 – Ruth Houser
- 21 – Larry Myers
- 22 – Rev. John Swords
- 23 – Brian Branch
- 25 – Colin Simmons
Bob Laubach
- 26 – Katrina Tillapaugh
Barbara Cook
- 27 – Rosemary Chappell
David Sacia
- 30 – Koketso Ratala
- 31 – Ann Burrows

Lynn Steenberg honored

Lynn Steenberg will be one of seven people inducted into the Nottingham High School Alumni Wall of Fame Oct. 19 at Drumlins. She's described in the program as a "community leader and volunteer and innovative physical therapist." Tickets are \$50. Call 428-1129 for info.

PEOPLE/PRAYER CONNECTION

THANKS

- Thanks to all who helped prepare for and staff our table at the Westcott Street Cultural Fair Sept. 15: **Ted Finlayson-Schueler; Deb, Ben and Allison Virgo; Nancy and Keith Nevin; Amanda Mountain; Larry Myers; Cheryl Brown; Gwen Tillapaugh-Fay; Carol Boll; Dan and Kirsten Magowan and Barbara Fought**, from **Tom Boll**

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR:

- Those in military service: **Nathan Miller, Jim Pettyjohn, Lt. Timothy Nevin, Matt Fischer**
- Daughter, **Chris**, as she recovers from a serious broken leg, and for Ann and her family as they care for her, from **Ann Milner**
- **Timothy Nevin**, who will soon be deployed to Afghanistan
- Our Syracuse community to heal from violence and to end the oppression of poverty, especially for children, from **Peter**
- The people of Kenya
- Efforts toward peace. For Presidents Assad, Putin and Obama
- Prophet Jesus, Inform your servants, never ignore my laws I gave to Moses! Keep the fire in your hearts! From **Elise**
- All who are suffering from chronic pain; all people all over this world; Lord, keep us safe, from **Russ**
- The chance to succeed in our worldwide quest for peace, by nonviolence rather than threats of war, from **Peter**
- Prophet Jesus, help your servant to concentrate on your divine information to defend ourselves, from **Elise**
- All the children to gain stronger faith year by year
- Help us remember the men, women and children hurt by war, equally loved by God, no matter what name they call you
- A peaceful response to the atrocities in Syria
- Legal Advocacy for disabled to find a new office
- To stop wars, by **Grady**
- Our leaders and the leaders of the United Nations, my sister, **Penny**, and UUMC, from **Russ**
- The kids over the world, who all deserve safety and need to know we are working as hard as we can to give it to them, from **Peter**
- Prophet Jesus, bless my son, Richard, on a learning journey as a profitable business, from **Elise**
- **Mary Wilson**, may she have good health and happiness. Her smile uplifts all our spirits
- Sustainable peace in the Middle East by rolling back our reliance on weapons and by building relationships across boundaries, from **Peter**
- Prophet Jesus, I plead with you to energize mercy inside me, from **Elise**
- **Carol Boll's** parents and their health concerns
- Good to see **Russ** back
- Thank you all, God bless
- Help in finding inner peace
- Our Christian education leaders and teachers

CARE AND SHARE MINISTRY

ASKS PRAYERS FOR:

- **Oct. 6:** Shirley Murray, Arlene Musilli, Larry Myers
- **Oct. 13:** Nancy Nevin, Keith Nevin, Martha Nicholas
- **Oct. 20:** Eric Nilsson, Eric Nilsson, Krystina Nilsson

See **PEOPLE**, Page 6

At barbecue 'Jesus just stands there with corn bread in his hands'

CONTINUED from Page 2
*and he's invited to an end of the season barbecue in Emmaus and somewhere between the coleslaw and the ribs
Jesus just stands there with corn bread in his hands,
and Luke goes into the house and pulls out his last postcard to send
to his buddy Theo --*

"having a wonderful time, wish you were here."

What part of Maren's "gospel" catches your eye and ear? How would you tell the story of Jesus in your own words and setting? What would you emphasize? De-emphasize?

Connecting the story aloud to our own life and experience is key to helping others understand the

relevance and power and beauty of the Christian faith and Christian church for themselves. Key also to reviving the church ... making it *matter* and *come alive* again for a new generation.

— Craig

P.S. What have you found online (including blogs) that helps keep your spirit alive / growing / fresh? I'd really love to hear.

Altar flowers

Flowers were given by David and Ellen Bacon, Marg McDivitt, Nancy Nevin and Carol and Tom Boll. Flowers were given to Sue Bambacht, Dot Logan, Dick Hunt, Rosemary and Charles Chappell, Kelly Nielly, Johanna and Roger MacDonald, Rev. French and Mary Fridie Wilson.

Flowers were delivered by Rev. French, Starke Donnally and Lee Potter.



University United
Methodist Church

Feed My People: Body, Mind, and Spirit

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WEEK OF OCTOBER 6

Sunday the 6th

9:30 a.m. Contemporary Issues

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all

10:30 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. Sunday School for all

11:45 a.m. Fellowship - Gathering Room

Noon Book Study: "A Season of Mystery"

Monday the 7th

6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry

Wednesday the 9th

11:15 a.m. Staff meeting

Thursday the 10th

7:30 p.m. Senior Choir

Friday the 11th

10 a.m. - noon Friday Community

WEEK OF OCTOBER 13

Sunday the 13th

9 a.m. Community/Church Breakfast

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for grades 1-12

9:30 a.m. Contemporary Issues

10:30 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. Sunday School for preschool, adults with disabilities

after children's blessing in worship

11:45 a.m. Fellowship - Gathering Room

Noon Book Study: "A Season of Mystery"

Monday the 14th

7 p.m. Handbell Choir

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 OCTOBER 20

Sunday the 20th

9:30 a.m. Contemporary Issues

10:30 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. Sunday School for all
11:45 a.m. Fellowship - Gathering Room

Noon Book Study: "A Season of Mystery"

Monday the 21st

6:30 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 OCTOBER 27

Sunday the 27th

9 a.m. Community/Church Breakfast

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for grades 1-12

9:30 a.m. Contemporary Issues

10:30 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. Sunday School for preschool, special adults after children's blessing in worship

11:45 a.m. Fellowship - Gathering Room

Noon Book Study: "A Season of Mystery" (final session)

Monday the 28th

6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry

Wednesday the 30th

11:15 a.m. Staff meeting

Thursday the 31st

7:30 p.m. Senior Choir

Friday the 1st

10 a.m. - noon Friday Community

People/Prayer Connection

CONTINUED from Page 5

• **Oct. 27:** Barbara Nunn, Eddi Nunn, Elsie Olivo

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR CROSSROADS DISTRICT CHURCHES AND PASTORS:

• **Oct. 6:** Pennellville, Jeffrey Hodge; Minetto UMC,

Chuck Forbes

- **Oct. 13:** Oswego Center UMC, Steven Eddy; Southwest Oswego, Elyse Skiles
- **Oct. 20:** Solvay; Kirkville, Bruce Webster
- **Oct. 27:** Syracuse: Bellevue Heights, Patience Kisakye; Syracuse: Brown Memorial, Marti Swords-Horrell

Sunday School Classes

9/29/13
(4 photos)











Ben and Keith at the UUMC booth at the Westcott Street Cultural Fair Sept. 15.



A lost sheep was found in the sanctuary.

Wedding of Fred Zuti and Robby Lewis

9/14/13
(2 photos)



Rev. French delivers a few remarks during Fred and Robby's wedding Sept. 14 on the sidewalk in front of UUMC. He did not officiate.



Rev. Quinn Caldwell of Plymouth Congregational Church conducted the marriage ceremony for Fred and Robby.

Prayer Service for Rev. Steve Heiss

9/20/13
(2 photos)



Bishop Webb, far right, blesses Rev. Heiss, his advocate and the complainant before all four of them headed upstairs for further talks on the charges filed after Rev. Heiss wrote the bishop acknowledging he officiated at same-sex weddings, including his daughter's. Most of those attending the service came forward for a laying of hands during the prayer.



Rev. Heiss talks to supporters in The Gathering Room after his meeting ended with an agreement to keep communicating for 30 more days.