

# THE CHIMES

Feb. 22, 2017

**Next Chimes  
deadline:  
March 8**

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**Daylight saving time begins the night of March 11. Turn clocks ahead. Our Handbell Choir plays March 12.**

*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*

## Our Lenten worship theme follows Amos-inspired 'Roll Down Justice'

With the days getting longer and spring getting closer, we'll conclude our Spiritual Affective Disorder series this Sunday, February 26.

Just three days later, Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 1.

We'll have a 6:30 p.m. service that evening.

Our worship theme for Lent 2017 is "Roll Down Justice," a series inspired by the music of Mark Miller.

From the Worship Design Studio, the series "is inspired by Amos, a prophet whose message is that God calls us to 'let justice roll down like waters.'

"Worship without justice is not acceptable. Rather our songs must

move us to action on behalf of the oppressed."

The themes for each Sunday are as follows:

March 5: "Child of God: Naming Each One"

March 12: "How Long: Renouncing Evil"

March 19: "I Dream of a Church: Christ's Representatives"

March 26: "I Choose Love: Communities of Forgiveness"

April 2: "God Has Work for Us to Do: Faithful Disciples"

April 9: Palm Sunday: "The Day Is Coming: We Are One"

April 16: Easter: "Welcome: The See **RENEGADE**, Page 5

## New Church & Society Team gets organized

A new Church & Society Team for UUMC was approved by the Governing Board at its meeting on Tuesday, February 14.

Over a dozen UUMC members have been meeting during the past six weeks to discuss ways in which our church can have a positive impact on city, state and federal policies and actions that have a negative effect on the well-being of our community and citizens.

The 2016 United Methodist Discipline provides for a Church & Society Team in each local church to "expand the congregation's awareness of issues related to peace with justice, environmental survival, and human

welfare, especially connecting these issues with Jesus' example in the gospel stories."

The new team also fits UUMC's Mission statement: "We at University United Methodist Church are the hands and spirit of Jesus Christ transforming our neighborhood, our city, our world and ourselves."

The team will be interacting with the congregation to determine priorities and actions.

Persons interested in becoming a part of the Church & Society Team may contact Pastor Alicia or the church office.

The next meeting is 4 p.m. Sunday, March 5, at the church.

## 2016 numbers show positive trend; adventures lie ahead



**Alicia Wood**

Greetings!

One of the hallmarks of Methodists is the methodical way in which we do just about anything.

Therefore, each

February we are to submit statistical data about our local church to our Upper New York Annual Conference.

I'm happy to report some of the really exciting and positive ways in which University UMC is growing and continuing to share God's love with our neighbors.

Here are some of the highlights.

In 2016, we welcomed three

adults and three children in the Christian family through baptism.

Our food pantry has almost doubled, from 2015 to 2016, in the number of meals given through the CNY Food Bank and the grocery rescue program. We have doubled the number of small group book and Bible studies. I'm grateful to the people who volunteer to lead our groups!

In addition to 28 of our former James Street UMC brothers and sisters joining UUMC, 27 additional people publicly proclaimed their faith and became members of our church, which included four confirmation students.

It is humbling to be a part of the movement of the Holy Spirit at work at the corner of East Genesee and University Avenue in Syracuse. I'm grateful to all of you for your faithfulness, hospitality and prayer as we move and grow in numbers and in faith.

Please join us for what we're calling a "Town Hall" Potluck on February 26 after worship. If you are able, please bring a dish to pass. We have a few new adventures to share. I'm hoping to have a lively conversation about our future as we move forward into 2017.

Peace,

— *Pastor Alicia*

## Jim Roser helps refugee family adapt, enjoys attending dirt track races



**Jim Roser**

You might see Jim Roser on Sundays in The Gathering Room with members of the Bruno family, who are Congolese and arrived in the U.S. last fall from a refugee camp in Mozambique.

Jim, who joined UUMC last year, has been helping them learn English and aiding with transportation and shopping as they adapt to life in the U.S.

He said, "I am having the time of my life with the Bruno family. I will be involved with them for the rest of my life."

Jim is from Constableville, on the outskirts of the Tug Hill Plateau. He graduated from South Lewis Junior Senior High School and attended BOCES and focused on carpentry.

After high school he worked in dairy farming for 10 years. "My dreams were to be a dairy

farmer/owner," he said, "but when I came into it, things started to get crazy and the money was tough and you had to have big corporations to make it."

He then worked 15 years for the Rite Aid distribution center in Rome until it closed.

The following 10 years he spent working first at Lowe's and then Home Depot.

Until fairly recently he had been grooming salon manager and certified groomer for Petco Animal Supplies in Northern Lights Plaza.

Early this month he became a manager for the Valu Home Center in Western Lights Plaza.

Jim's biggest hobby is attending dirt track racing. He's been following that sport since he was 13 years old. The father of Jim's best friend from kindergarten is "Barefoot" Bob McCreadie, a legend on the dirt track circuit.

"We went to his house every

Sunday prepping the cars, getting them ready," Jim said.

His second favorite hobby involves team sports: baseball, basketball and football. He's a devoted fan of the Cleveland Indians, Miami Dolphins and SU Orange men's basketball.

Jim has a Chihuahua named Bella and tropical fish. He's had a tropical fish tank for 25 years. The fish help him get away from the difficulties of life.

"I'll sit in front of my tank for a half-hour at a time," he said. "It's my own relaxation and mental therapy."

As for family, Jim has a daughter, Adrianna, 18, a humanities major at Onondaga Community College, and a son, Collin, a seventh-grader at Camden Middle School.

Jim lives in Mattydale. He has a younger brother and sister who both live in Camden as do his parents.

## Snow days are fun, but many city children go hungry



**Galyn  
Murphy-  
Stanley**

**SNOW DAY!!!!**

This is the call that has greeted me the past two weekdays.

Anyone who has survived a Syracuse winter rec-

ognizes this regional delight – being able to turn off all morn-

ing alarms, curl back into bed and greet the day later with a hot breakfast, sledding, snowballs and not going anywhere other than walking the dog or visiting a friend. An enforced day off or at least the perfect excuse for one.

But there is a cloud that hangs over this silvery scene.

When I began my teaching job with the Syracuse City School District, new employees attended an orientation at Henninger High School's auditorium.

One of the tidbits of information given this day was "Don't expect a lot of snow days. We feed half of the city's kids. If we don't have school, they don't eat."

This phrase and other pieces of information regarding the adverse effects of snow days became more clear as I was teaching.

The day after a snow day many kids arrived back to school really hungry and happy to be in a clean, heated space.

Some came back to school with faces bearing bruises or cuts.

Some were exhausted by the amount of duties or care responsibilities at home and were happy to be back among peers, finding respite from their home life.

Currently, the entire Syracuse City School District's student body is offered "free" breakfast and lunch.

Students who participate in a school-based afterschool program or activity are given another small meal.

Easily 70 percent of the district's students are transported to and from school via public- and district-funded buses. There are endless educational programs catering to every kind of student spanning the entire day. Syracuse children are greatly supported by their district, 12 months a year, 10+ hours a day.

Syracuse City School District has virtually ceased offering a "delayed" start to the school day. "Half day" school dismissals are sparse. The district will close early only in an emergency.

Due to the overwhelming busing confusion these events would cause, it is simpler and safer to cancel an entire school day.

Buses are shared between schools in SCSD. In my neighborhood, H.W. Smith Elementary School is an "early" school. Those elementary students begin classes close to 8 a.m. Ed Smith Elementary is a "late" school. Classes begin at 9 a.m.

As both of these schools offer middle school programming, which begins an hour earlier than the elementary classes and buses are shared between these two buildings, you can easily see how a delayed start to the school day could become a calamity: stories of children waiting endlessly outside in foul weather for a school bus's arrival adjusted for a school day that begins two hours late, or

children who need to ready themselves and younger siblings for school and bus collections because Mom and Dad have to be at work at 9 a.m. have made a "delayed start" for SCSD an unpopular option.

Hourly or part-time workers will often get pay deducted from their paycheck if they need to stay home to supervise children's late departure to school. However, folk are often offered "sick" or "holiday" time without consequence.

Therefore, the district finds that families prefer a snow day vs. a delayed start as the family's wages will not be affected. Same formula for "half-day" dismissals from school.

Friday, February 10, saw UUMC's food pantry close due to bad weather as we currently follow the SCSD weather closing directives. The reliance and need for consistent emergency food access is very real in Syracuse.

However, folk were not able to gain foods from UUMC's pantry that Friday. Our food truck was not able to come to UUMC, nor were many of our volunteers.

SCSD offers five snow days this school year. We've used three. If we use more than the designated amount, kids will need to give up a day (or two, three,..) from their spring holidays.

So, with every storm comes a bit of worry, a little more mindfulness and a lot more appreciation for sunny days with no clouds.

— Galyn Murphy-Stanley  
Outreach Coordinator

# People and Prayers

## DEATHS

- Former longtime, dedicated church secretary **Ruth Houser** died Feb. 11. Her service is 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24, at the Onondaga Co. Veterans Cemetery Chapel, 4069 Howlett Hill Road.
- Longtime member **Rev. Jim Wiggins** died Feb. 20. His service will be 11 a.m. March 4 at UUMC. A reception follows in Fellowship Hall.

## PRAYERS REQUESTED:

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

### Sunday, February 5

- **Olesea:** Prayers for my sister **Crestina** and her healing as she recovers from surgery
- **Peter Swords:** Justice for refugees seeking asylum from oppressive government and wars fueled by U.S. intervention.
- **Holly Thuma:** for the state of our nation and for **Callie and Wes** — healing and hope
- **Donna Ricci:** Look over my brother who has passed.
- **Leigh Safford:** **Wanda G.**
- **Irena:** Love you neighbor
- **Elise:** Prophet Jesus bless the ones who endure hardship and lessen them from it.
- **Ralph Best:** Please keep **Shirley Woodward** in your thoughts and prayers she is seriously ill
- **Stephanie Hitztaler, Oliver and Vera:** Prayers as our nation make this transition. Thank you for the snow
- **Mike Rodda:** **John Fike**, diagnosed with leukemia; **Anthony Pavia** and family, special

needs child

- **Peter:** For nuclear nations to agree that nuclear war was/is unacceptable and must never be fought.
- **Sherri Cullen:** **Dan Reed, Grace Antonio, Adelaine Ferrandi, Kathy Dewey, Gloria Goodison, Lisa Stevenson and family, Dan and Phelan and family**
- **Ann Owens:** For **Tom Owens** recovering at Syracuse Square
- **Al:** That I get a job in industry
- **Martha:** Healing for my colleague **Steve** with a serious medical condition
- Prayers for our country and President **Donald Trump and his family.**
- **Cecilia Hunick, Lois and Allen Lum, John Sadowski**
- Lord, thank you for keeping me patient in my situations. Please keep me in your praise and mercy. I am humble and trying to stay content in you. Your daughter

### Sunday, February 12

- **Irena:** Europe and U.S., Africa and Australia — together
- **Cynthia Steinem:** Thanks for the opportunity to move and pray. Help us all speak kindly about everyone, not just those who agree with us.
- **Don and Margo Koten:** For **Roger MacDonald**, who is dealing with health issues.
- **Peter:** For the courage of communities that are resilient enough to resist the top-down oppression of ICE.
- **Elise:** Prophet Jesus, I praise

you to give thanks and for teaching me perseverance.

- **Ann Owens:** For **Tom Owens**
- **Donna Ricci:** Keep the **Ricci and William** family safe
- For those helping the refugees around the world.
- **Barbra Fought:** For the life of **Jenny Heymoss**. She went to be with the Lord last week. A true saint.
- **Stephanie Hitztaler, Oliver, Vera:** Thank you for the snow! Help all movements and people within them resist the efforts to overturn the progress we have made in environmental protection and in fighting climate change.

### Sunday, February 19

- **Faith:** I ask that the church please pray that God can strengthen my mind and heart so that I can continue to try my best in school
- **Donna:** A prayer for my granddaughter. It's her birthday today.
- For the family of **Ruth Houser**, longtime secretary for UUMC, who died Feb. 11.
- **John Fike and Anthony Pavia and family**
- For **Dan** and the Westcott Theater as he prepares for three nights of sold-out shows
- For college applications
- A prayer to keep the anxiety down
- Prayers for our country
- Prayers for my deceased parents
- A prayer for health problems. We're in God's care every day.  
See **PEOPLE**, Page 5

## March birthdays

2 – Jerry Cargo, Emelia Weah  
3 – Julia Ross  
4 – Grace Bradshaw  
5 – Doug Hemphill, Bob Coutts  
6 – Aimie Sarkodie-Mensah  
Best  
9 – Kirsten Magowan,  
Keith Wellner  
11 – Rita Soufleris  
16 – Nichola Weah  
17 – Jonathan Weah  
19 – Stuart Hosler  
20 – Donald Koten,  
Vito Sciscioli  
22 – Craig Myers  
23 – Bill Potter  
24 – Lisa Weah  
25 – Michael Fay  
26 – Barbara Nunn  
27 – Rosemary DeHoog, Denise  
Marshall, Jeanne Finlayson-  
Schueler  
29 – Renee McKay

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‘Renegade Gospel’ book study

**CONTINUED** from Page 1  
New Jerusalem.”

We’ll also have a Lenten  
book study with three small  
groups. The book is *Renegade  
Gospel: The Rebel Jesus* by  
Mike Slaughter.

Classes start March 3 and  
run for six sessions of 75  
minutes. They are: 12:30 p.m.  
Fridays at UUMC; 9:45 a.m.  
Sundays at UUMC; and 6:30  
p.m. Mondays at Dean Moyer’s  
house.

The Amazon book descrip-  
tion is: “Who was Jesus, really?  
Wouldn’t associating with him  
have meant joining a rebel  
movement? Doesn’t it still?  
‘Renegade Gospel’ is a church  
study that challenges believers  
to come to terms with the real  
Jesus – the rebel Jesus.”

Other city UM churches are  
also studying the book.

## People and Prayers

**CONTINUED** from Page 4

- **Weah Family:** Please pray for my brother because of his hand surgery
- God bless America and the United Methodist Church
- Please keep **Barbara Silverman** in your prayers
- **Peter:** God of love, please look down and see my people through. May we stop the wars and threats and have peace.
- **Jim:** Prayers for my niece **Brianna**. She is in the hospital and going through many tests.

### JOYS, THANKS AND PRAISE

#### Sunday, February 5

- **Dan, Morgan and Stella:** JOY! **Stella** will be turning 6 on February 12!

#### Sunday, February 12

- **Barb Nunn:** Grandson **DJ Adams** is 8 years old today. Happy Birthday!

#### Sunday, February 19

- **Eva:** Thanking God for God’s goodness
- Thank you, Lord, for all you have given me and made me to be strong. I’m strong because of your grace. God bless all.
- Thank you, God, for the bright sun
- **Alcea:** Thanking God for saving me from a major accident yesterday and keeping me safe

### ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Nate Appleton**, volunteer researcher for the U.S. Forest Service, co-authored an article with three others in “Urban Forestry & Urban Greening” titled “Residential building energy conservation and avoided power plant emissions by urban and community trees in the United States.”

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## UUMC withdraws from Community Garden

In addition to approving the new Church & Society Team at its February 14 meeting, the Governing Board also:

- On recommendation from the Missions/Outreach Team, approved withdrawal from the Community Garden at Spencer Park due to lack of volunteers, participation by the community and reduction of the load on staff, among other factors. Welch Terrace will continue its involvement.
- Was updated on progress in creating a corporation for the Syracuse United Methodist Churches to handle financial responsibilities (pay pastors’ salaries) and initiate joint ministries and projects.
- Approved use of remaining grant funds to pay a driver through June to take pantry guests home with their bags and boxes of groceries.
- Began review and updating of UUMC goals and objectives.

The Governing Board meets monthly and is made up of officers and leaders of the congregation. Vito Sciscioli is chair.

## The Guild

The March meeting will be March 22 at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Bobbie and Ernie Hemphill, 4628 Providence Road, Jamesville.

Ernie will present a program on "The Leper Colony on Molakai." They recently visited Hawaii and found the area most interesting.

All are welcome. Please let the hostess know you will be there, and you may bring guests. Call 315-492-9592.



## University United Methodist Church

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

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### **WEEK OF FEBRUARY 26**

#### Sunday the 26th

**9 a.m.** Community Breakfast, Fellowship Hall

**10 a.m.** Sunday School, K-12, Pettengill Ctr.

**10 a.m.** Hot Topics, Chappell Rm

**11 a.m.** Worship, Pastor Wood.

**11:15 a.m.** Sunday School for adults with disabilities

**12:15 p.m.** Fellowship, Gathering Room

**12:30 p.m.** Town Hall Potluck, Fellowship Hall

#### Ash Wednesday the 1st

**9:30 a.m.** Staff Meeting

**6:30 p.m.** Ash Wednesday service

#### Thursday the 2nd

**7:30 p.m.** Senior Choir

#### Friday the 3rd

**10 a.m.** Friday Community

**12:30 p.m.** "Renegade Gospel" book study, Chappell Room

### **WEEK OF MARCH 5**

#### Sunday the 5th

**9:45 a.m.** "Renegade Gospel"

book study, Laubach Room

**10 a.m.** Sunday School, K-12, Pettengill Ctr.

**10 a.m.** Hot Topics, Chappell Rm

**11 a.m.** Worship, Pastor Wood. Communion.

**11:15 a.m.** Sunday School for adults with disabilities

**12:15 p.m.** Fellowship, Gathering Room

**12:30 p.m.** Soup & Sermon Chat, Chappell Rm

**4 p.m.** Church & Society Team

#### Monday the 6th

**7 p.m.** Handbell Choir

#### Wednesday the 8th

**9:30 a.m.** Staff Meeting

#### Thursday the 9th

**6 p.m.** Worship Committee

**7:30 p.m.** Senior Choir

#### Friday the 10th

**10 a.m.** Friday Community

**12:30 p.m.** "Renegade Gospel" book study, Chappell Room

### **WEEK OF MARCH 12**

#### Sunday the 12th

**9 a.m.** Community Breakfast, Fel-

lowship Hall

**9:45 a.m.** "Renegade Gospel"

book study, Laubach Room

**10 a.m.** Sunday School, K-12, Pettengill Ctr.

**10 a.m.** Hot Topics, Chappell Rm

**11 a.m.** Worship, Pastor Wood

**11:15 a.m.** Sunday School for adults with disabilities

**12:15 p.m.** Fellowship, Gathering Room

**12:30 p.m.** Soup & Sermon Chat, Chappell Rm

#### Tuesday the 14th

**5:30 p.m.** Governing Board

#### Wednesday the 15th

**9:30 a.m.** Staff Meeting

#### Thursday the 16th

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

**7:30 p.m.** Senior Choir

#### Friday the 17th

**10 a.m.** Friday Community

**12:30 p.m.** "Renegade Gospel" book study, Chappell Room

## Altar Flowers

Altar flowers were given:

By the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Sneddon in their memory.

By Bobbie and Ernie Hemphill in memory of loved ones.

By Danielle Adams in loving memory of her brother, Todd Adams.

Flowers were given to Mamie Baxter, Starke Donnally, Jim Roser, Carol Moyer, Mildred Kuznia and Roger MacDonald.

Flowers were delivered by Dean Moyer and Danielle Adams.

## Worship Committee

The next Worship Committee meeting is 6 p.m. Thursday, March 9, in the Chappell Room.

# Sacred Places

Sunday, Feb 5, 2017

(4 photos)



**Pastor Alicia interviewed Emelia and Nelson during worship about their sacred spaces. Emelia spoke about Camp Casowasco, and Nelson spoke about time on his sailboat.**



**During children's time, the children and Pastor Alicia spread out a blanket and put a collection of special items on it to create a sacred space.**





# Our New East Genesee Street Sign



# Prayer Walk

Sunday, Feb 12, 2017  
(4 photos)



**Pastor Alicia led the congregation on a prayer walk through the building after worship Feb. 12. Prayers were for building tenants, those who come for services during the week and Sunday and for finding a new tenant to replace the Upper New York Conference when it leaves in March.**







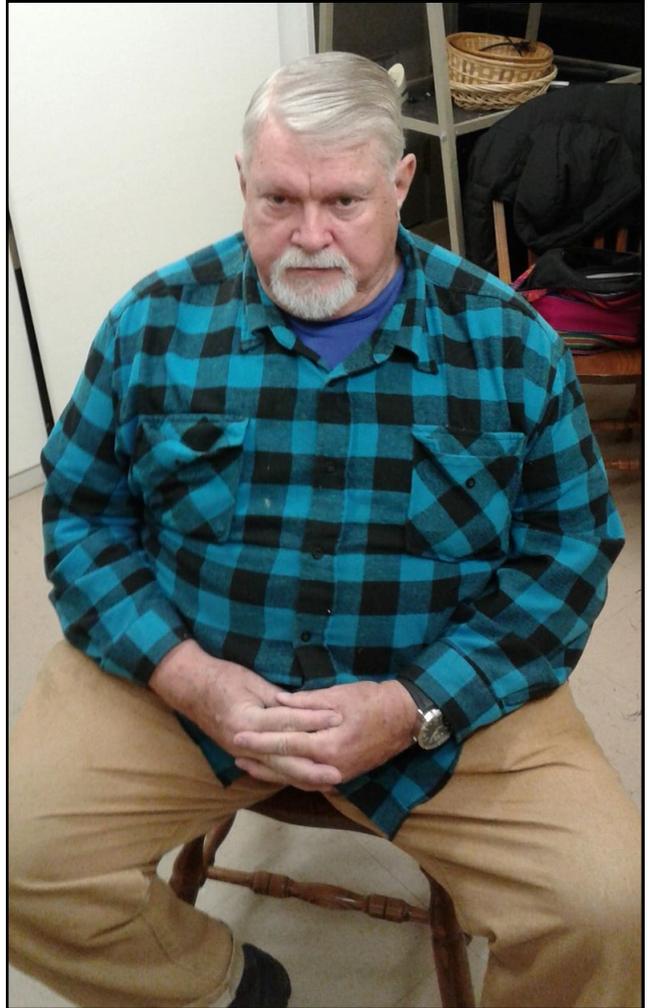
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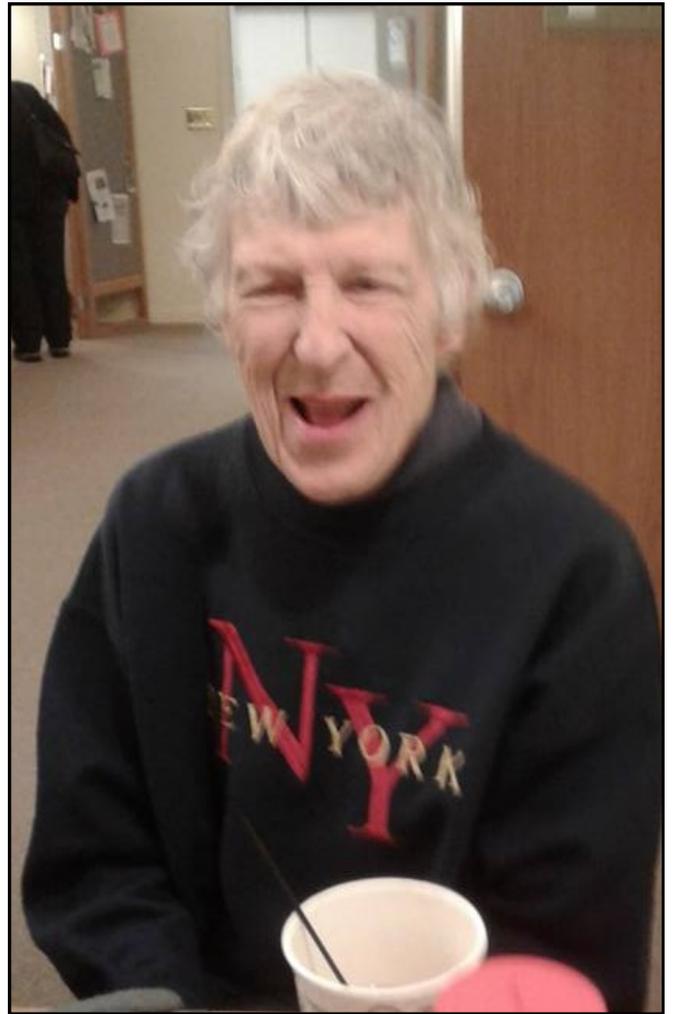
Sunday, Feb. 12, 2017

(Donated by DeWitt Styling Shop)









# Rally at Sen. Schumer's office Feb. 2, 2017

