

THE CHIMES

March 15, 2017

**Next Chimes
deadline:
March 29**

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**Our Sanctuary will be
open 8-3 for prayer on
Good Friday, April 14.**

*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

Terry Hershey to offer workshops, preach on Palm Sunday weekend

Our guest speaker for Palm Sunday, April 9, this year is Terry Hershey, who's an author, humorist, inspirational speaker, ordained minister and landscape designer.



**Terry
Hershey**

Among his books are "Sanctuary: Creating a Space for Grace in Your Life" and "The Power of Pause: Becoming More by Doing Less."

Hershey also will present two workshops on Saturday, April 8: "Find Your Sanctuary: Create Places of Rest, Renewal and Refuge" and "Soft Hearts from Hard Places."

Here's his description of the first

workshop: "Everyone has a sanctuary. If only in our mind. Even if we can't name it, we know of its power. It is a place where you do not owe anyone and where no one owes you. We are wired to need grounding and renewal and less hurry. ... In sanctuary we can be wholehearted; whether grief or gladness or sadness or joy. We make space to see and to be seen. We make space to welcome, to offer comfort and hope."

The second workshop, he describes this way: "We know that we should love one another; practice

See **TERRY**, Page 2

Town Hall attendees choose issues for action

Attendees at the UUMC Town Hall meeting Sunday, February 26, considered 20 social justice concerns compiled by the new Church & Society Team and added three more.

They were asked to prioritize their top three and to indicate issues on which they would like to work. All but two received at least one vote. Several were similar and could be combined.

The top issues are:

- Concern for people covered by the Affordable Care Act and the future of health care for the poor, the elderly, children and women.
- Concern for the disparity of income between the rich and the poor, and the continuing inequality of individuals and groups within our society – racial, ethnic, LGBTQ, gender.
- Concern for refugees and immigrants being targeted for deportation.
- Concern for the plight of children: education (policies and funding by state and federal agencies), nutrition, health care, including prenatal and infant.
- Concerns for the effects of climate change on the poor, on climate change refugees and on political upheaval as changes affect agriculture and urban areas.

See **TEAM**, Page 5

Donate online, a new service, welcome team and justice



Alicia Wood

Lent is a time of reflection and renewed hope in the resurrected Jesus.

Let's take a moment to reflect on some updates from the "Town Hall" Potluck Meeting we had on February 26 after worship and then reflect on our Lenten journey as we look toward Easter.

Our "Town Hall" included the announcement of our church now accepting credit card and online donations.

During worship we are able to receive credit card donations via a QR code or by inviting people to go to our website to donate.

When one goes to our uumcsyracuse.org website they will be able to not only find out many things about our worship, music program and outreach but will also be able to give a donation and on Sundays watch our worship service via Live Stream at 11 a.m.

Our worship services and sermons are also logged on our website in audio form.

In addition, we announced the start of a second worship service around January 2018.

This worship service will not be held on Sunday. We have learned that 30 percent of residents of Syracuse work on Sundays. We would like to be able to offer another day of the week to worship and praise God in Syracuse.

If you would like to help in getting the second worship service started, please email me! (pastoraliciawood@gmail.com) We are happy to have many involved in this adventure.

We have officially launched a new Welcome Team. The Welcome Team works to greet and connect with visitors of our Sunday worship service.

Our dream is to have about eight people each worship service sitting in different places within the congregation who connect with visitors. We are looking for new team members.

If you would like to join the Welcome Team, please email Barbara Fought at bcfought@syr.edu.

Finally, the congregation present voted to sign the Charter for Compassion. The Charter for Compassion was a passion of Jim Wiggins. He introduced it to me the summer of 2015. The Charter for Compassion seems like an obvious thing for a church

to sign and yet a challenge to live out.

I am proud, honored, blessed to say our community is ready to live by the Charter of Compassion.

On March 26, as a part of worship we will each be able to sign a poster-size Charter for Compassion. The formal document will be signed at CharterforCompassion.org.

This Lenten journey we are focusing on the Amos text "Let Justice Roll Down Like Waters."

We acknowledge in Lent we need to let go of prejudices or beliefs that do not seek justice for all people.

Last Sunday we sang the song "How Long." This lament seems to say it all. Christians have talked about justice for thousands of years. Some of us have lived our lives striving to do justice in work and faith. Yet we still have work to do.

At the end of this Lenten journey we are reminded of the eternal hope in the resurrected Christ, who gives us hope on our journey of seeking justice even in the darkest of days.

Peace,

— *Pastor Alicia*

Terry Hershey: Caring of any kind begins with and is nourished by self-care

CONTINUED from Page 1
kindness and compassion. But here's the deal: Love can only spill from a heart that has been softened and in most cases broken."

Saturday's schedule is:

8:30 a.m.: Fellowship

9 a.m. to noon: Workshop: "Find Your Sanctuary: Create Places of Rest, Renewal and Refuge"

Noon to 1 p.m.: Lunch

1 to 4 p.m.: Workshop: "Soft Hearts from Hard Places"

Cost for the day is \$10, which includes lunch. Contact the church office to sign up.

Hershey says: "Care of any kind — compassion, generosity, communication, reconciliation, service, ministry, teaching, giving

— begins with and is nourished by self-care. ... Care — creating a space with dignity — begins with the intentional choices we make about being present. ... We make space to welcome, to include, to feed, to clothe, to house, to visit and to embrace. We make space to spill the light. We make space to offer comfort and hope."

Food Pantry now accepts pet food for guests' animals



**Galyn
Murphy-
Stanley**

Last summer, an occasional visitor to UUMC's Food Pantry offered me his dog in exchange for the food he gathered from our pantry.

Seemingly, he had inherited the very small dog from an elderly neighbor.

When I asked if he was able to care for the animal, he said they share food often. "What I eat, he eats," he said, but any future veterinary bills might be difficult.

A neighbor and friend to UUMC struggles to maintain an ever-growing cat colony in his home. "My paycheck goes to cat food," he said. "There's hardly any left for me."

We who work in the Food Pantry on Friday mornings are often asked if there is any pet food available: "My dog is like my kid. Do you have any food for him?"

Nationally, pet food pantries are on the rise, springing up in response to pleas from folk who might spend their last cent on animal food vs. food for themselves.

A Feb. 7 New York Times sto-

ry said pet food "pantries have become part of a broader movement among animal welfare organiza-

tions and pet lovers ... that aims to reduce the population of animals in shelters by assisting pet owners before they result in giving up their companions."

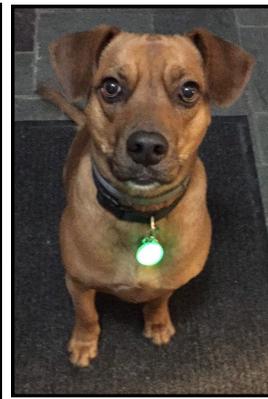
Supporters of pet food pantries are rooted in the belief that by helping pets we are helping people.

Abundant research states that pets help lower stress and blood pressure, improve moods, provide emotional comfort to adults and children and provide an increase in physical activity for pet caretakers.

Most animal "surrenders" to Onondaga County's SPCA have to do with inability to manage the cost of the animal's feeding or care.

Minimum-wage earners are faced with the choice of feeding themselves, their families or their pets all too frequently.

Although "free" food service



programs/ food access sites are available for people throughout Onondaga County, there is little available as emergency food access for pets.

Various pet foods and snacks will begin to be accepted by UUMC's Outreach program to establish an accessory offering to our Food Pantry guests.

Anna, our intern from Syracuse University, will work toward a fair methodology for guests' access to these offerings based on the national standard.

Successful assessment of these efforts may mobilize us to seek grant awards that will provide some financial independence and consistent accessibility to pet foods.

Please help us in this effort. Donations of pet foods will be accepted anytime.

Please contact Galyn at uumcoutreach@twcny.rr.com or 315-475-7277 if you'd like any assistance and/or support.

— Galyn Murphy-Stanley
Outreach Coordinator

New City UM church program collects items to help furnish apartments

The Syracuse United Methodist Churches have launched a new program, "Methodist on the Move," to assist families and individuals "who are going through a life restart" and needing to furnish their new apartment home.

It is the first major new mis-

sion project of our seven Syracuse United Methodist congregations that are working together on common ministries and mission projects.

Volunteers rented a U-Haul truck and picked up household furnishings on Saturday, March

11.

They were furnishing three apartments: two for single men and one for a couple and infant.

They had been provided apartments by Catholic Charities, but they had no furnishings for

See **STORAGE**, Page 5

People and Prayers

DEATHS

- Member **Dick Hunt** died Feb. 27 at the age of 88. His service was March 11 at Robinson Memorial Presbyterian Church.

PRAYERS REQUESTED:

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

Sunday, February 26

- **Sharon Cullen:** Dan Reed, Grace Antonio, Adeline Ferrandi, Kathy Dewey, Gloria Goodison, Annette's Aunt.
- **Ellyn Gail:** Dear Lord, watch over us each day so that we can extend kindness and love to others.
- **Donna Ricci:** Say a prayer for my daughter, **Missy**. She is going through some hard times.
- **Kathy:** Prayers for safe travels for **Jodi**
- **Alana:** Please pray for **Ms. Dolores** as she is reaching her time here on earth.
- **Gail Tyndall:** Barbara Silverman and John Tyndall
- **Elise:** Prophet Jesus, I give praise with thanksgiving for a prayer answered for a new home.
- **Ann Owens:** Tom Owens, who is battling pneumonia
- Healing prayers for **Rochelle Dail** and **John Sadowski**
- **Peter:** For all people living in need have, that we can all keep in mind the rights they and we have under the Constitution.
- **Barb & Del Gilbraith:** Alan & Lois Lum
- Thanks for the life, ministry and witness of **Jim Wiggins**

Sunday, March 5

- **Ann Owens:** Tom Owens and Rochelle Dail
- Thanks for the life, ministry and witness of **Jim Wiggins**. Prayers for the **Wiggins** and **Hunt** families.
- **Cynthia Steinem:** Dear God, let us look for the truth in each person and let them see as a child of God.
- **Jim Tallman's** birthday is March 16
- **Erika:** Maria Storto and family, Barb and Bob Weaver
- **Olesea Cojohari:** Praying for my sister, **Crestina**, and her healing as she is recovering from health issues.
- **Terry:** Strength and healing for my mom, **Beth Day**, who has walking pneumonia
- **Allen Lum:** Healing prayers for all who need.
- **Jim:** I am blessed to be a part of the **Mukasa Family**. They are truly a gift from God.
- **Dean Moyer:** Gratitude for the grace-filled memorial service for **Jim Wiggins** yesterday.
- **Don and Margo:** The Hunt family.
- **Kathy Cleary:** Prayers for my mom's health.
- **Shirley Kern:** Julia Ovracker. She just lost her mom and is battling cancer.
- Prayers for **Vito's** three sisters, **Isabelle, Diane and Alice**, all with serious health challenges.

Sunday, March 12

- **Mamie B.:** Family and friends and the grace in the unity of others.
- **Verle:** For my wife as she goes through medical issues.

- **Gail Tyndall:** Barbara Silverman, Mary Lee Tyndall, Sue Guyer
- Prayers for the **Flynn Family**
- **Harry:** I pray for bridges, more bridges, repaired bridges, rebuilt bridges, new bridges.
- **Kathy Cleary:** Prayers for a Happy, Healthy Birthday to **Pastor Alicia**
- **Peter:** For health care as a human right for all, including Medicaid. Please, no cuts to Medicaid.
- **Ellyn Gale:** Please pray for the family of **Maurita Oot**, who died this morning.
- **Elise:** Prophet Jesus: I praise with thanksgiving for a stable home.
- **Dean Moyer:** A prayer for a special blessing for all celebrating a birthday this month.
- **Stephanie Hitztaler:** Safe travels for my mother coming from Colorado to visit. Gratitude for the good things God has given and grace to face the hard and painful things.

JOYS, THANKS AND PRAISE

Sunday, February 26

- **Weah Family:** Thank you, God, for all you have done for this family and other families.

Sunday, March 12

- **Ann Owens:** Tom Owens is home.
- Thanks for the many teachings of **Steve Bacon** and for the newly revamped mobile church website.
- **Joyce and Katie Flynn:** Prayers of thanks from the family of **Dick Hunt** for all the prayers and kind thoughts and support that we received from our UUMC family.

April birthdays

1 – Matthew Steenberg
2 – Ted Holmes, Jereline Weah
5 – Ralph Best, Diamond Weah
6 – Connor Fay
8 – Russ Young
11 – Sheila Murphy
13 – Doug Coutts
14 – Marty Nicholas
16 – Julie Pedro, Ryan Steenberg, Eleanor Frank, Jeff Huard
17 – Dale Fryer
19 – Dr. Richard Phillips, Gale Youmell, Abby Hyland
20 – Corinne Upcraft
22 – Princess Weah
24 – Carol Dawes
25 – Cheryl Brown
29 – Ginny Knight, Janet Sciscioli
30 – Vera Gaskin, Dennis Triggs

Storage space secured

CONTINUED from Page 3
kitchens, bedrooms and living rooms – such basics as kitchen utensils, blankets, towels and furniture.

Temporary storage facilities have been secured for future donations.

For now we will pick up donations one Saturday each month.

For a list of items that we accept, please contact Deb Virgo at 315-446-0266 or dlvirgo@gmail.com.

Deb and Galyn Murphy-Stanley have represented UUMC on the ReThink Mission Team.

Livestreaming: Our service is livestreamed every Sunday. To watch, go to our webpage or to <http://tinyurl.com/uumcliveworship>.



Movers load up trucks with items from the Upper New York Conference and Crossroads District on March 9.

Conference, district and bishop heading to their new offices in suburban Liverpool

The Upper New York Conference, Crossroads District, bishop and staff are in the process of moving to the United Methodist Center, 7481 Henry Clay Blvd. in Liverpool.

To accommodate the move, the conference office will be closed March 17-21. The district office will be closed March 20-21. Both will reopen March 22 at the new location.

The district office hours will remain the same, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, and the phone number is 315-898-2029.

The conference office hours will be 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The new phone number: 315-898-2000. The Episcopal (bishop) office hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the new phone number for that office is 315-898-2020.

Team creates Quick Alert email list for actions

CONTINUED from Page 1

Other issues that received multiple support include proliferation of nuclear weapons, a balanced federal budget, violence in our communities and the possible Alt Right impact on our communities, governments and public schools.

The Church & Society Team plans to partner with other groups working on these issues. It also created a Quick Alert email list of people who want to be alerted to possible action issues at the local, state and federal levels – calls or letters to legislators, protests, planning meetings and meetings with legislators or decision-makers.

If you would like to (a) join the Church & Society Team, (b) be part a team working on one or more of the issues listed above, or (c) be on the Quick Alert email list, email the church office at uumc@twcny.rr.com.

The team's next meeting is 5 p.m. Sunday, April 2, at the church.

Finance Corner

Pledging Update

2017 total pledges: \$192,352
Paid to date: \$38,035
Non-pledge contr.: \$3,328
Prepaid 2017 pledges: \$28,366

Sounds of the Spirit Visual Fund

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

The UUMC Women's Guild meeting is 1:30 p.m. March 22 at Bobbie Hemphill's home. Reach her at 315-492-9592.



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Dated material

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WEEK OF MARCH 19

Sunday the 19th

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 21st

6 p.m. Food Pantry

Wednesday the 22nd

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

Thursday the 23rd

7:30 p.m. Senior Choir

Friday the 24th

10 a.m. Friday Community
12:30 p.m. "Renegade Gospel" book study, Chappell Room

WEEK OF MARCH 26

Sunday the 26th

9 a.m. Community Breakfast, Fellowship 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

Monday the 27th

7 p.m. Handbell Choir

Wednesday the 29th

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

Thursday the 30th

7:30 p.m. Senior Choir

Friday the 31st

10 a.m. Friday Community
12:30 p.m. "Renegade Gospel" book study, Chappell Room

WEEK OF APRIL 2

Sunday the 2nd

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

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Wednesday the 5th

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

Thursday the 6th

7:30 p.m. Senior Choir

Friday the 7th

10 a.m. Friday Community
12:30 p.m. "Renegade Gospel" book study, Chappell Room

Altar Flowers

Altar flowers were given:

By Nancy Hough in memory of Stephen Chen and Katherine Huang.

By Mike and Gwen Tillapaugh -Fay in memory of loved ones.

By Jackie Sadowski in memory of her husband, Joseph, and by Barb and Del Gilbraith in memory of their parents.

Flowers were given to Rochelle Dail, Hilde Cooper, Vito Sciscioli, Nancy Nevin, Brittany Stuart and Jayne Humbert.

Flowers were delivered by Gail Tyndall, Ann Owens, Marg McDivitt and Lee and Ed Potter.

ACTS Banquet

The Alliance of Communities Transforming Syracuse (ACTS) annual fundraising banquet is

Tuesday, April 25, at Drumlins Country Club. Tickets are \$65, \$35 of which is tax deductible.

There's a social hour at 6 p.m. Dinner and program run 7 to 9 p.m.

Contact the church office to reserve your spot.

One of two awards for social justice will be given posthumously to Jim Wiggins.

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Sunday, March 5, 2017

6 photos



The Sunday-morning book study: *Renegade Gospel: The Rebel Jesus*



An ever-flowing stream in our Sanctuary leads to the baptismal font.





During Communion, people got not only bread and grape juice, but also a fish that they later wrote their name on.



Later the children collected the fish with the names on them — signifying we are ALL children of God, no matter what others or the church may say.



Thursday, March 9, 2017

1 photo



Members of the Worship Team attached the “named” fish to the stream while praying for those named on them.

Sunday School
Sunday, March 12, 2017
3 photos





