

# THE CHIMES

May 11, 2016

**Next Chimes  
deadline:  
May 25**

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**On Sunday, May 29, we'll  
have a hymn sing during  
worship.**

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.

Alicia Wood, Pastor  
Tom Boll, Editor

## Hospitality, transportation, connections among ideas that surfaced at planning session for year

The café Wholely Grounds on Onondaga Hill was the site for a church planning meeting May 7 for the UUMC Governing Board and others in the church family who represent various groups.

This café, in a converted church, serves as a home base for The ROAD — Relational, Open to all, Affirming and Diverse — one of the new United Methodist faith communities.

The participants brainstormed

ideas and prioritized about 20 to flesh out the church's strategic plan and vision, "Feed My People: Body,

Soul and Spirit" for the next year.

Ideas included transportation to bring people to the Friday Community, training to become

more hospitable on Sundays and

better ways to connect newcomers to ongoing ministries.

The Governing Board will next work to develop some of the ideas.

— Barbara Fought



Photo by Nelson Price

**Clockwise, from left, Rebekah Grella, Steve Bacon, Ernie Hemphill, Don Koten and Morgan Mills brainstorm ideas at The ROAD on Saturday.**

### Wanted: 12 to speak on Phoenix Affirmations

Pastor Alicia is looking for volunteers to talk for two minutes about an experience that led them to believe or reinforced their belief in one of the 12 Phoenix Affirmations.

The talks would be one per Sunday, running June 26 through Sept. 11. The talks could be recorded before worship

or the person could present theirs live.

The affirmations were developed about 10 years ago by a group of clergy and laypeople in Phoenix, Arizona, and lay out tenets of progressive Christianity. They are:

1. Christian love of God includes walking full- See **LOVE**, Page 2

### Confirmation & Pentecost

This Sunday, May 15, is Pentecost and Confirmation Sunday. As is custom, please wear red. UUMC's four members of the citywide class will be confirmed. A reception will follow the worship service.

## Take time to talk with others — we can share God's love anywhere



Alicia Wood

Greetings,

This week as I was driving toward home I noticed a car pulled over to the side of the road where I normally see a woman

sitting on the side of the road with a sign saying, "Homeless, anything will help, God Bless."

I have spoken with her before. I've dropped off bottles of water and McDonald's lunches in the past. I know she has to get enough money each day — \$35 — to be able to stay overnight in a room somewhere in the area.

She rents it day to day because she is never sure how much she will collect daily. If she does not collect the \$35 she sleeps out in the elements.

Cathy lost her job. Things went from bad to worse. In her job search she has lost everything. Now she can't afford her cellphone so when she applies for a job the potential employer cannot call her for an interview.

She may have some benefits through the government like food stamps and the "Obama phone,"

but I'm not sure.

I do know if she has food stamps as a single person she'll probably get only \$50 or less per month, and the "Obama phone" allows only 250 minutes per month.

Some companies are now starting with phone interviews so if the phone has minutes the interview would cut into the minutes quickly.

Given all of this, I thought to myself when I saw the car parked on the side of the road. Oh no, I hope the person is not giving her a hard time.

As I got closer I was so pleased to see a young man sitting with Cathy having lunch. They were both sitting on the guardrail, each eating a hamburger, fries and a drink. They were talking while they ate.

I could tell they were both engaged in the conversation.

I thought to myself this young man is sharing God's love! He is not only feeding Cathy, he is also building a relationship with her! If I had to guess, I'd say the conversation was more meaningful to Cathy than the

hamburger.

I drove away thinking three things:

First, we don't need to be in a church building to share God's love. This can happen anywhere, anytime, including the side of the road. We have the opportunity every day to share God's love. We just need to recognize it and take action.

Second, we have an opportunity to have a meaningful conversation with someone new every week at UUMC during our Friday Community and the second and fourth Sundays at Community Breakfast.

How much could it mean to someone if we took time out to sit and talk with folks? How could this shift the way someone feels about church and God's love?

Third, this world is going to be OK if most young people are like this young man who made the decision to spend his time with Cathy, a homeless woman.

By the way, the young man was wearing a cross necklace.

Peace,

— Pastor Alicia

## Love of God includes listening for God's Word, expressing that love in worship

**CONTINUED** from Page 1

ly in the path of Jesus, without denying the legitimacy of other paths God may provide humanity.

2. Christian love of God includes listening for God's Word, which comes through daily prayer and meditation, through studying the ancient testimonies that we call Scripture and through attending to God's present activity in the world.

3. Christian love of God includes celebrating the God whose Spirit pervades and whose glory is reflected in all of God's Creation, including the earth and its ecosystems, the sacred and secular, the Christian and non-Christian, the human and non-human.

4. Christian love of God includes expressing our love in worship that is as sincere, vibrant and artful as it is scriptural.

5. Christian love of neighbors includes engaging people authentically, as Jesus did, treating all as creations made in God's very image, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental ability, nationality or economic class.

6. Christian love of neighbors includes standing, as Jesus does, with the outcast and oppressed, the denigrated and afflicted,

See **RESIST**, Page 3

## Let's start a knitting/crochet group for Health Center's newborns



**Galyn  
Murphy-  
Stanley**

My husband delivers babies for a living, among other things.

George Stanley Jr. MD, director and physician of OB/GYN at Syracuse Community Health Center, is proudly responsible

for — through the combined efforts of his partner, midwife and supervised residents — 500-600 births annually.

Syracuse Community Health Center is a whole care public health clinic.

At its main South Salina Street location, SCHC services any individual with a vast array of offerings ranging from psychiatry to podiatry. Regardless if that individual is a private pay patient, enrolled in public health care programs or has no income, the staff at SCHC will care for this patient to the best of their ability.

As you can imagine, my husband's patient population is diverse. He, with his partners, are caring for the women of Syracuse no one else will care for.

The women who get his attention 60-plus hours a week are addicts, indigent, abused, imprisoned, refugee, homeless and pregnant youth.

My husband is very good at his job, he loves almost every minute of it and he, with his staff,



**Some of the sweaters made by Nancy Hough.**

get very invested in these women and their babies.

To support each baby and new mom, George and his staff put together a care package. The care package contains literature, a few diapers, a washcloth, a book for baby, rash cream, personal products for mom and something a bit special for baby, sometimes a blanket, sometimes a bit of clothing for baby, sometimes in a very special moment a knit garment for baby.

Nancy Hough knits exquisite baby sweaters. This winter Nancy gave me several sweaters, coincidentally just after George and I chatted about a baby going home from the hospital without good clothing for the snowy day.

It dawned on me instantly as I admired the precious sweaters that any parent would proudly

wrap their baby in, that there is a perfect connection here.

Our "Listeners Project" revealed the interest in a craft/knitting group by our congregation and our community.

I propose that a knitting/crochet group begin

at UUMC. The products generated by this group would become part of the care packages already being created by the Syracuse Community Health Center's OB/GYN department.

UUMC's Outreach program would supply patterns, yarn, needles and the connection between the two programs.

I would love to host this program in UUMC's Gathering Room one evening or afternoon a week and invite all interested folk who'd enjoy an evening of knitting/crocheting, social time and snack to spend an hour or two together, contributing to the babies of Syracuse.

Please let me know if you are interested in being a part of this at [uumcoutreach@twcny.rr.com](mailto:uumcoutreach@twcny.rr.com) or 475-7277.

— Galyn Murphy-Stanley  
Outreach Coordinator

Resist comingling of Church and State; acknowledge our shortcomings; seek best in others

**CONTINUED** from Page 2  
seeking peace and justice with or without the support of others.

7. Preserving religious freedom and the Church's ability to speak prophetically to govern-

ment by resisting the comingling of Church and State.

8. Christian love of neighbors includes walking humbly with God, acknowledging our own shortcomings while honestly seek-

ing to understand and call forth the best in others, including those who consider us their enemies.

9. Christian love of ourselves includes basing our lives on the  
See **CHRISTIAN**, Page 4

## Donation of van will eventually widen reach of Outreach, other ministries

Early this past winter the Finlayson-Schueler family offered the donation of their family van to UUMC.

After much conversation, investigation and meetings about setting procedure and processes around van use, I am happy to say we will begin offering transportation services to our outlying pantry areas, elder care facilities and our youth and outreach ministries once all the paperwork is completed. When that will be is to be determined.

One of the most prominent issues that presented itself in our “Listeners Grant” was transportation issues. One of the popular conversations that happens every Friday and Sunday morning and at most every UUMC event is, “Who will drive whom?” Transportation is a very common theme that impacts a large number of UUMC programs.

UUMC’s Food Pantry district — established by the Food Bank of CNY — covers the largest area in our city’s South East quadrant. Our general boundaries include Interstate 81, the Interstate 690 corridor and Ainsley Drive.

As our pantry sits on the northern corner of our district, there is a tremendous population of folk who require two or more



**The van donated to UUMC by the Finlayson-Schuelers.**

bus rides or an expensive taxi ride into pantry each month.

This reality proves that many folk who qualify for access to UUMC’s emergency food services are simply not consistently able to get to these services.

This, coupled with a neighborhood’s limited access to grocery, open food markets or garden space where fresh foods can be grown, creates a food desert.

A “food desert” is a defined geographical area where affordable and nutritious food is hard to obtain due to extraneous circumstances.

We have a few food deserts within the city of Syracuse, one of which is in our pantry quadrant. The Vincent apartment neighbor-

hood, which lies in a food desert, will become a target area of UUMC’s new transportation services. This neighborhood lives wholly within our pantry district. We are their emergency food source.

Food Pantry needs combined with identified requests at our area elder care facilities and with our youth ministries expanding to include a nice sized confirmation class, we know that our van will provide an exceptionally powerful tool in ensuring access, consistency and unvarying effort in creating a means for all who want to participate in UUMC’s community.

Great thanks to the Finlayson-Schueler family for this amazing gift and the opportunity to extend our efforts to a broader population.

— Galyn Murphy-Stanley,  
Outreach Coordinator

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## Christian love of ourselves means caring for our bodies, minds and spirits

**CONTINUED** from Page 3  
faith that, in Christ, all things are made new, and that we, and all people, are loved beyond our wildest imagination – for eternity.

10. Christian love of ourselves includes claiming the sacredness of both our minds and

our hearts, recognizing that faith and science, doubt and belief serve the pursuit of truth.

11. Christian love of ourselves includes caring for our bodies, and insisting on taking time to enjoy the benefits of prayer, reflection, worship and recrea-

tion in addition to work.

12. Christian love of ourselves includes acting on the faith that we are born with a meaning and purpose; a vocation and ministry that serves to strengthen and extend God’s realm of love.

# People/Prayers

## THANK YOU

- **From Carol Boll:** Thank you for the beautiful flowers and cards of sympathy on the passing of my mother. They were deeply appreciated and comforting during this sad time. Both the Easter lily and the (very hardy) Christmas poinsettia brightened Mom's room in her last weeks, and all of us found comfort in the prayers and support of our wonderful church family.

## PRAYERS REQUESTED:

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

### Sunday, April 17

- **Barb & Jerry:** Healing prayers for our good friend, **Karl Barth**, who is hospitalized at Upstate.
- **Elise:** Prophet Jesus, thank you for tough times for me to grow from!
- **Kokie:** For the victims of the latest earthquake.
- **Peter:** For the great diversity in this community – may we use it as strength, as we resist the “business as usual” of war and domination.
- For **Pastor Alicia** and her family on the death of her sister-in-law
- Prayers for **Arius'** mother in the hospital and loving care for her.
- For all who are suffering from natural disasters.

### Sunday, April 24

- **Jim: Pearl Washington's** family.
- **Elise:** Prophet Jesus, for guidance to end confusion coming this new month.
- **Kathy:** For the Ohio family tragedy.
- **Peter:** My supervisor, **Cheryl**,

and her daughter **Joelle**, who's in ICU and getting better.

- **Robert:** That we may all grow in faith and spirit and stay fit.
- **Jayne Humbert:** All comfort and sympathy for **Barbara Nunn** and family
- For the **Nunn Family and the Boll Family and Pastor Alicia's family** in their grief
- Prayers for the family of **Gwen Hunt** on her death; for the people of Japan in the aftermath of the earthquakes there
- Bless this congregation and the world as we try to live a God-like life
- For the ability to channel anger in a productive way
- Our church family
- Prayers for healing for **Charlie Adams**
- The 500 refugees who drowned this past week and the 41 other family members who survived

### Sunday, May 1

- **Ed: Doug Hildemann**, whose wife, **Kelly**, died this morning.
- **Marie:** Lord grant me happiness so everything will work out for me in planning my life.
- **The O'Neills: Jan Spillett**, recently diagnosed with a malignant tumor
- **Peter:** For a NY State energy plan that truly supports clean energy – without subsidizing nuclear plants (dangerous & wasteful).
- For **Vito's** sister, **Alice Pratt**, who, after brain surgery was diagnosed with lung cancer.
- Prayers for **Jim and Megan** on the loss of their daughter
- Pray for peace among family, acceptance and love among friends.
- Pray for Independence Party to

grow

- For my best friend in Christ, **Art**, who is recovering from a serious illness. He has done so much for me.

### Sunday, May 8

- **Carol:** For a friend **Sue**, and her husband, **Bob**, who recently was diagnosed with prostate cancer.
- **Dithole:** Prayers for my sister in South Africa who was re-admitted to the hospital for further testing.
- **Elise:** Prophet Jesus, I thank you for calmer days ahead.
- **John:** I want to wish all the mothers a Happy Mother's Day. Have a great Mother's Day.
- Pray for my family
- Pray for mothers. Happy and blessed Mother's Day to moms everywhere who gave us life.
- Prayers of hope and healing for the Syracuse family who passed away in the Martin Street house fire.
- Persons displaced by the Alberta, Canada, fire

## THANKS AND PRAISE

### Sunday, May 1

- Bless God for life.
- Thank you, God, for each of us here today and those who have not come here yet.

### Sunday, May 8

- Praise God for **Eva Jah**, who passed the test and will become a citizen next month.

## Update from Trustees

We are continuing repairs to the stonework on East Genesee Street using funds generously given by Freda Kirkley. Also, look for landscaping improvements using funds donated by Mary Klepper in memory of Larry.

## Finance Corner

### Pledging Update

2016 total pledges: \$179,649  
Paid to date: \$51,702  
Non-pledge contr.: \$9,226

### Sounds of the Spirit Visual Fund

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

### Organ Repair Fund Goal: \$12,000

Matching Gift received \$6,000  
Donations received \$4,400

### Deadline to match gift: May 22

### Gifts for Community Garden: \$90

## Altar flowers

Altar flowers were given:  
By Brad and Judith Bowers, in memory of loved ones;

By Rosemary DeHoog, in memory of her parents, Frederic and Edith Luther;

By Marg McDivitt, in loving memory of John;

By the Flynn family, in exuberant celebration of the second anniversary of Katie's heart transplant and new life, and in thanks to our church family for all the prayers, love and support over the past four years.

Flowers were given to the Flynn family, Elise Curry-Schemichen, Barbara Nunn, Alicia Wood, Barry Lentz, Sophie Finlayson-Schueler, Emily Hensler and Eva Jah.

### Guild meeting

The next meeting of the UUMC Guild will be 1:30 p.m. May 25 at Marg McDivitt's, 106 Sheraton Road, Syracuse. The topic is "Good Books We Have Enjoyed." This a very favorite meeting when we all talk about favorite books we have read.



## University United Methodist Church

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

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### WEEK OF MAY 15

#### Sunday the 15th—Pentecost

**10 a.m.** Contemporary Issues

**10 a.m.** Sunday School, kindergarten -12th grade, Pettengill Center

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

**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 18th

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

#### Thursday the 19th

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

#### Friday the 20th

**10 a.m. - noon** Friday Community

### WEEK OF MAY 22

#### Sunday the 22nd

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

**10 a.m.** Contemporary Issues

**10 a.m.** Adult Bible Study, Laubach Rm

**10 a.m.** Sunday School, kindergarten -12th grade, Pettengill Center

**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 25th

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

#### Thursday the 26th

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

#### Friday the 27th

**10 a.m. - noon** Friday Community

### WEEK OF MAY 29

#### Sunday the 29th

**10 a.m.** Contemporary Issues

**10 a.m.** Sunday School, kindergarten -12th grade, Pettengill Ctr

**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 30th

**Memorial Day—Office Closed**

#### Wednesday the 1st

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

#### Thursday the 2nd

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

#### Friday the 3rd

**10 a.m. - noon** Friday Community

### General Conference

Please pray for the delegates at General Conference, as United Methodists from around the world have gathered in Portland, Oregon, through May 20 to make decisions that affect so many lives.

### UMM Night at NBT Stadium

It's June 7. Bring a dish to pass for the 5:30 p.m. tailgate, with hotdogs and coney provided by United Methodist Men. Sing the national anthem at 6:15. Game starts at 6:35. See Tom Boll for the \$7 tickets.

# Earth Day Trash Pickup

April 23, 2016  
(5 photos)













**We said goodbye to Sophie Finlayson-Schueler May 1. Sophie started her job May 9 as assistant planner in Lima, Ohio.**

# Planning Retreat May 7, 2016 (5 photos)





① Training  
Teaching - teacher, ushers  
volunteers

② Small group  
Chilfester B...  
Book studies  
Similar inter...  
Fa, aggr...

Worship  
music, what? 2/10  
2nd worship  
Global music  
Reflection time in...

① <sup>(Remind)</sup> Rearrange Sunday mornings  
ex. choir, bible study, Sunday school, etc.  
focus: learning worship

② Rethink community outreach  
understanding the purpose, teaching  
empower instead of enable the

outreach enhance  
parent bpst  
parent group

Church growth in  
embos, community ch...

• integrating current issues  
into all we do <sup>worship</sup> <sup>music</sup>

• <sup>both</sup> communication/information  
<sup>in church</sup> in community neighborhood

• Syracuse <sup>mac d</sup> <sup>mens</sup> <sup>tion</sup>

• linking <sup>to</sup> with mission







① Training  
Teachers, leaders, singers, readers, volunteers

② Small group offerings  
Collective Bible study  
Book studies  
Similar interest groups  
(e.g., gardening)

③ Worship  
music, dance, drama  
and worship musical diversity  
Global music  
Reflection time incorporated

① Rearrange Sunday mornings  
(rethink)  
ex. choir, bible study, Sunday school, etc.  
focus: learning, worship

② Rethink community  
understanding the purpose  
emphasize instead of  
outreach on  
expand efforts

③

• integrating current issues into all we do  
worship  
educ.

• communication/information  
in church  
in community/neighborhood

• Syracuse UMC  
mac coop  
Connections  
confirmation

• linking financial stability with mission/purpose

Communion Service  
May 1, 2016  
(2 photos)



