

THE CHIMES

June 24, 2015

**Next Chimes
deadline:
July 15**

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UUMC raised the most money of 12 Crossroads District congregations participating in the Africa 360 offering received at Annual Conference.

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

Alicia Wood to succeed Craig French as pastor at UUMC starting July 1

Rev. Alicia Wood, who was our pastoral presence last summer, returns July 1 as our pastor, the clergy team of the Syracuse United Methodist Church has announced.

She also will be preaching at the James Street campus and be part of a team exploring a new church plant at Destiny USA.

Rev. Wood, who graduated in May from Boston University School of Theology, said her office hours at UUMC will be noon to 4 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday and Friday.

Upon her appointment here, she said, "I'm not sure what is to come in the life of University UMC, our neighborhood and our country. I know God

will be with us as we work to figure this out and be faithful in our mission to share God's love with all people in ways we have yet to dream. As Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, 'Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase.' "

The rest of the clergy team and their assignments are: Rev. BJ Norrix, lead pastor, Brown Memorial and Erwin First; Rev. Andy Anderson, Gethsemane and Bellevue Heights; and Rev. Jee Hae Song, Hope Korean and St. Paul's.

UUMC will bid Rev. French farewell this Sunday, June 28, in a celebratory service followed by a luncheon recognizing his 41 years of ministry.

'Camp Grandpa,' bike trip and freedom from sermons

Rev. French sat down for an "exit interview" with Chimes editor Tom Boll in which he looked ahead and back. Some excerpts:

This summer, he'll be running "Camp Grandpa," with the two granddaughters who live with him and Barb and the grandson who visits every weekend: "I want to be outdoors with them, introducing them to Central New York's features, both natural and historic. ..."

He'll also be doing a cross-state bike ride with one of his sons.

He's looking forward to escaping the weekly duty of writing a sermon: "It's kind of one of those love-hate pieces of work. I take preaching and

the art of crafting a sermon very seriously. And so it is arduous and draining. And in that sense it will be wonderfully liberating to be removed from that pressure. ..."

A joy of ministry: "Being able to really sit with folks as they have really struggled to find God's face in their own life and to be able to watch folks come spiritually alive and to know that that is an act and gift of God, that all you really are is a bystander in that, perhaps a prodder to invite folks to reflect in a different way than they have done before ..."

An audio file of the interview will be available in the future. Details will be forthcoming.

As life's seasons change, faith, hope and love remain



Rev. French

The songs keep running through my head. Two of them. I didn't ask for them. I didn't go looking for them. They found me.

They're not even songs I would choose, given the chance. But they certainly are appropriate for this season of my life. Most appropriate and most fitting.

One is a song from "The Sound of Music," sung by the Von Trapp family children, as they prepared to take their leave not just for the night but forever:

*"So long, farewell, Auf wiedersehen, good night,
I hate to go and leave this pretty sight."*

*"So long, farewell, Auf wiedersehen, goodbye,
I leave and heave a sigh and say goodbye ..."*

The second song is a Frank Sinatra tune that's much more arrogant, boastful and egotistical than I'd ever want to be ... but whose lyrics still capture some of what I'm feeling. The pomposity, bombast and brashness all make me cringe, whenever the jukebox in my head starts spinning the song.

But per my previous disclaimer, I'm not in charge of the jukebox or the playlist. It has a mind of its own and selects the song for me, whether I like it or not. Even so, some — some — (though not all) of its lines are more than relevant:

*"And now, the end is near,
And so I face the final curtain ..."*

*"I've lived a life that's full;
I traveled each and every highway ..."*

"Regrets, I've had a few

But then again, too few to mention ..."

"I've loved, I've laughed and cried

I've had my fill, my share of losing ..."

No, I didn't do it "My Way," but God's Way. At least that's what I tried to do. (God and you will have to judge how well I succeeded.)

All of this is to say that my time with you is drawing to a close. My checklist of chores is rapidly dwindling: my final Chimes column, my final sermon, my final staff meeting, cleaning out my office, saying my goodbyes, turning in my keys.

It won't be a perfect ending, of course. How could it be? It wasn't a perfect beginning ... or a perfect middle ... or a perfect anything. In this life, nothing ever is.

When all is said and done, however, three things remain. Faith in the One who carried and sustained us over the past seven years, through good times and bad ... and who will continue to do so in the future. Hope for the riches of God's promised joy and well-being and all manner of good — for you and for me. And love for each other and God that never wanes and never falters.

+ + + + +

One of the great challenges in any change of pastors is learning to trust and depend on the new pastor, instead of the old one. That doesn't happen overnight ... but the sooner you get started, the sooner it will happen. While I will miss you, I want Pastor Alicia to come to know you and love you as much as I have.

For that to happen, you need to turn to her (not me) for all mat-

ters of pastoral and spiritual care. As of July 1, she will be the go-to person for all of your pastoral and spiritual care — baptisms, weddings, funerals, hospital visits, family crises and emergencies, etc. You will quickly come to appreciate her pastoral heart and abilities. (If it's appropriate, desired and helpful, she'll know how to get in touch with me.)

I know you're familiar with these rules and protocols, but I want to remind you again. At the same time, I'm not dying (!) and I'm not going anywhere, so chances are we'll bump into each other at the grocery store, the mall or a ballgame.

When we do, I hope you'll say "hi" and ask how my family and I are doing. I, in turn, will want to hear how you, your family and mutual friends are doing.

What I won't want to do is gossip about the church or the new clergy. I'll be praying for you — your well-being, your growth, your continued fruitfulness — both personally and as a congregation, and so will welcome and be delighted to hear about any and all of that.

— *Craig*

P.S. I'm sure you'll be hearing more about last weekend's wonderful workshop and worship with Rev. Mike Mather from Indianapolis. It was a definite highpoint, as well as a pacesetter for the future. I'm thankful to Phyllis Wright and others in the congregation, who made this possible through a special guest speaker fund. Since that fund is running out, I invite you to make a special donation to keep it going ... as well as a donation to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, which often supplements the speaker fund and gets used in so many other essential ways.

Help comes from F-M teen and pastry and bagel shops



**Galyn
Murphy-
Stanley**

Last week a young woman came to see me to make a large donation of personal toiletry items to the pantry. In my typical fashion of running about in the morning getting

the dog walked, kids fed, myself showered and out the door, I forgot what had inspired me about this young woman when I first learned of her a year ago.

Adena Rochelson, a 16-year-old sophomore at Fayetteville-Manlius High School, is the creator, proprietor and distributor of "Operation Soap Dish."

In 2009, when Adena was 9, she used her allowance to buy toiletry items after recognizing that the "personals" shelf at the St. Lucy's food pantry was often empty. Quickly realizing that her allowance wouldn't purchase enough product to satisfy all of the guests at the pantry, Adena began collecting items through donation drives.

A year ago my two younger children came home telling me they needed soap and shampoo to donate at school. Syracuse City's Ed Smith school ran a large toiletry drive for Adena's program through the spring. The students learned of Adena, her mission and her history. Literature on the program was sent home to Ed Smith parents. The school made a notable contribution to "Operation Soap Dish" and a notable impression on its kids.

Adena and her work occupied many dinner conversations in my house. The giving of a bar of soap, so basic but profound, awakened

a trait in my kids and me that my Irish grandma described as being a "noticer."

Since 2009 "Operation Soap Dish" has distributed over 30,000 items valued at \$75,000. Adena has collected items from across the U.S., Canada and Israel. Toiletry items are given throughout Syracuse to the Ronald McDonald House of CNY, shelters for individuals escaping domestic violence, food pantries and Meals on Wheels.



As UUMC's Outreach program welcomes Adena's "Operation Soap Dish," we also welcome Picasso's Pastries. Located at 466 Westcott St. at the corner of Dell Street, Picasso's Pastries opened in 2013. It is a personal family favorite that's provided many birthday and celebratory treats for my family, as well as a cozy, warm couch in the wintertime, a perfect place to meet with friends.

Picasso's has begun making donations of bread and pastries that outreach volunteers and I make available to guests each Friday morning, with rave reviews.

Kayla and David, joint owners of Picasso's Pastries, are very happy to link with the community and provide Picasso's extras for our guests.

Additionally, Bruegger's Bagels at Nottingham Plaza has agreed to supply us with Thursday night's leftovers. Assorted bagels

will be bagged and made available as a bread choice for our guests.

The CNY Food Bank has had many fresh produce options available this early summer and in turn, we are able to make these items available for guests. We can hardly keep up with the demand.

In May, 2,056 meals were supplied for our Friday Community guests. The amazing Sunday Community Breakfast fed close to 200 hungry bellies.

The hallway that runs alongside the pantry looks a bit different. With a happy donation from Craig French of a couple fabulous social justice posters and appropriate area social service agency posters and a new sign announcing pantry availability and hours, we're looking a bit more user friendly. Come check it out!

Adena's website opens with Gandhi's statement, "Be the change you wish you see in the world." One of the most powerful phrases spoken, in my opinion.

The same phrase can be re-organized to read: See the world, be the change.

These and future relationships that we create for Outreach projects will teach all of us to see each other. In our work we can change a moment, a person, an event, maybe even a life. Even a 9-year-old can see this.

Peace & Happiness,

— Galyn Murphy-Stanley
Neighborhood Outreach
Coordinator

P.S. It's worth a special trip for a Picasso's almond croissant, an amazing snack on your journey toward peace & happiness.

People/Prayer Connection

PRAYERS REQUESTED:

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

Sunday, June 21

- **Astrid:** Prayer that the world be filled with the love and care my father gave to all people.
- **Chuck:** Pray for the victims of the church massacre.
- **Elise:** Prophet Jesus, guide me to learn to know this confusing behavior called hate. I no longer desire to live it!
- **Robert:** That we may extend outreach and uncover the talents of our neighbors.
- Pray that **Harry** will come through his back surgery tomorrow successfully and free of pain.
- Pray for the continuing recovery for **Barbara Nunn and Harry Miller.**
- Pray to overcome depression and to trust God to deliver me.
- May my wife find lasting relief from the health issues she has confronted for more than three years.
- All grieving and investigating the AME Church shooting in Charleston and Godspeed to the NOPD officer killed
- Prayers and grace as we have authentic conversations about racism.
- We pray for those who have suffered violence — and pray for healing for those who are angry and fearful and with hearts of hate; to all living in fear; for those seeking work.
- Dear God, Help us love enough to continue to be God's hands and heart in this church and community.

Sunday, June 14

- **Alicia:** For graduates and new beginnings
- **Elise:** Prophet Jesus, I praise you for continuing to repair my wounds on me!
- **John:** I hope all the single people find healthy relationships.
- **Robert:** An end to needless homelessness.
- For family and housing crisis
- For my friend Gene's family as **Gene** died last night
- Pray for my father-in-law and mother-in-law for health concerns at this difficult time
- Health concerns for **Kim Ostering**
- Pray that Dad makes a speedy recovery from his fall and broken arm
- Godspeed to the two kayakers in Saturday's accident and to the first responders searching for them
- Dear God, Keep us, **Alicia Wood**, those who know your love, and those who have yet to meet you. By the grace you give, your forgiveness, too. We hope to meet everyone, to be your love in the world
- For **Pat McFall** and family as they grapple with serious illness
- Prayers for the family of **Edward Smith, Mrs. Jeanette Whitney** and my wife, **Stephanie.**
- Prayers for Legal Advocacy for the Disabled.
- Please pray for those looking for work.
- Pray that **Sharon Evans** has a wonderful birthday today.

Sunday, June 7

- **Elise:** Prophet Jesus, Guide

me to use my surplus blessings to assist others of your teachings.

- **John:** I hope everyone has a good week.
- **Negin:** For all people who move to a new place. (We are moving to California this Friday!)
- **Rebekah:** For comfort for my family as my **Uncle Billy** died Thursday from lung cancer.
- **Robert:** May the word of God and our efforts reach far and wide.
- Dear God, Watch over all of us in our new beginning.
- Prayer for **Pastor Craig** in his retirement.
- For all those who struggle with mental & physical health issues that they may find peace, comfort and support
- Be with the family of **Dr. Phillip Ferro**, who died this week.
- God heal our hearts, forgive pettiness of others and find a soulmate.
- Pray for funding support for New Hope Animal Rescue Farm

Sunday, May 31

- **Elise:** Prophet Jesus, I beg you, with my hands and knees, to learn to love divine towards the ones who hurt me!
- **Peter:** For all our children — and for an end to child poverty, which costs our taxpayers many times more than it would take to end it.
- **Sandy:** A prayer for everyone to be healthy, and God should bless everyone around the

See **PEOPLE**, Page 5

People/Prayer Connection

CONTINUED from Page 4
world!

- Prayers for a speedy and full recovery for **Barbara Nunn** after recent foot surgery.
- For all who are healing from abuse and victimization.

Sunday, May 24

- **Elise:** Prophet Jesus, I ask you to navigate me through your parables to achieve LOVE divine degree!
- **Robert:** Prayer that our community can live in peace and all needs are met.
- **Sharon:** For a family friend who lost a loved one this past week.
- **Craig:** Prayers for my father, **Vernon French**, as he celebrates his 88th birthday today & looks forward to returning home 4 days from now.
- For **Eva's** children, who visit the U.S. Embassy this week hoping to get their visas to move here to Syracuse.
- Prayers of peace for **Genn Thuma** as she moves to new housing at The Nottingham on June 2
- Continued prayers for Jan Garman's sister, **Pat McFall**, for increased health challenges.
- Prayers for my Mom and Dad, who are beginning a new chapter in life. Continued prayers for my son.
- Many prayers needed for my friend **Hank**, who is very ill.
- Prayers for **Barbara Cook**, who had another fall.
- Prayers for a breakfast guest, **Art**, who has lung cancer.
- Prayers for Legal Advocacy for the Disabled
- We pray for the Methodist

Church as a whole and that they will find a pastor for our church. The one best for us, and who will continue the work we started with Pastor Craig.

BIRTH

- We welcome **Trotter Warren Mee**, born June 5.

THANKS & PRAISE

- From **Barb Nunn:**
Dear UUMC Family,
Thank you for the beautiful flowers delivered by Jayne Humbert last Sunday. They are still lovely and fragrant after a week. I am on the mend and will probably be here (Syracuse Home) another week to 10 days. Thank you again.

Sunday, June 21

- Thanks for all God is doing for me.
- Happy 80th birthday, **Brad**.
- Happy birthday to **Ted Finlayson-Schueler**, whose birthday is June 22.

Sunday, June 14

- **Robert:** Thanking God for restoring health of **Mary Wilson** and may he bless her always. May God bless **Rev. French** in his retirement. Always thanking him for his loyal stewardship.
- Gratitude to God for the continued healing of **Barbara Nunn** from foot surgery.
- Praise of thanks and safe travels to **Rev. Mike Mather**.

Sunday, June 7

- **Jayne:** Gratitude that **Barbara Nunn** has come through her surgery and is currently at Syracuse Home.

- Thanks to the church and God for all he is doing for me.
- Prayers for **Erick Jah** for his birthday on June 9.

Sunday, May 31

- Joy that **Eva Jah's** children should get their visas next week and move here soon. Praise God!
- We welcome **Jayne Humbert's** brother, **Alan**, sister-in-law, **Laurie** and nephews **Ben and Mike** to worship today.

Sunday, May 24

- **Jerry Cargo's** knee replacement surgery went well on Tuesday. He is now at Menorah Park for rehab.
- Prayers of appreciation for all the men and women who have died serving our country.

CARE AND SHARE MINISTRY ASKS PRAYERS FOR:

- **July 5:** Shirley Murray, Arlene Musilli, Larry Myers
- **July 12:** Keith Nevin, Nancy Nevin, Lessie Newton
- **July 19:** David Blakes, Julissa Blakes, Maya Blakes
- **July 26:** John Indick, Terry Kubat, Sungsu Lee

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR CROSSROADS DISTRICT CHURCHES AND PASTORS:

- **July 5:** Crossroads District Superintendent Nola Anderson
- **July 12:** Jordan UMC, Glen Hardman
- **July 19:** North Volney UMC and Palermo UMC, Tammie Nipper
- **July 26:** Little Utica UMC, Michaela St. Marie, and Skaneateles UMC, Joellyn Tuttle

Finance Corner

Pledging Update

2015 total pledges: \$210,572
 Paid to date: \$100,835
 Non-pledge contr.: \$15,723

Sounds of the Spirit Visual Fund

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

ALTAR FLOWERS were given:

- by the Altar Guild in honor of our choir and No-Fault Orchestra.
- by Matt and Lynn Steenberg in honor of their fathers, Don Steenberg and David Bacon.
- in honor of Rev. Craig French and all the pastors who have served University United Methodist Church.
- by Patti and Brandon Gill in honor of loved ones.
- by Mary Fridie Wilson and Jo-Ann May in memory of Rev. and Mrs. W. N. Fridie.

Flowers were given to Dennis Triggs, Hank Krzykowski, Don Steenberg, David Bacon, Eva C. Jah, John Sutter, Ken Craig, Barbara Nunn, Dan Magowan and Martha Sutter. Flowers were delivered by Nancy Hough, Ellen Bacon and Jayne Humbert.



University United
Methodist Church

Feed My People: Body, Mind, and Spirit

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Dated material



July birthdays

2 – Israel Toe	Damron
3 – Kate Drew Rios	17 – Deirdre Zimmerman
4 – Kelsey Youmell, USA	18 – Elisa Sciscioli
6 – Matt Fischer, Mark Zimmerman, Linda Oertel, Ping Hemphill-Wu	21 – Harold Britton, Afton Kapuscinski
8 – Jon Boll, Esther Weah	22 – Tajmier Brackett
9 – Sol Swords	24 – Dorothy Logan
10 – Jeff Foley	25 – Rebecca Youmell, Peter Sciscioli
14 – Elizabeth Bradshaw, Esther Livingstone, Richard Schemichen, Eli Weah	26 – Corrie Fagut-Pratt
15 – Lee Potter, Margo Koten	28 – Jayne Humbert
16 – Ellen Bacon, Timothy	29 – Jackie Simmons
	30 – Helena Weah, Rev. Tom Wolfe

WEEK OF JUNE 28

Sunday the 28th
9 a.m. Community Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
10 a.m. Contemporary Issues
11 a.m. Worship, Rev. French, preacher
12:15 p.m. Fellowship, Gathering Rm
12:30 p.m. Farewell luncheon for Rev. French

Wednesday the 1st
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
Friday the 3rd

Office Closed – July 4 Holiday
No Friday Community

WEEK OF JULY 5

Sunday the 5th
10 a.m. Contemporary Issues

11 a.m. Worship, Rev. Alicia Wood, preacher, Communion
12:15 p.m. Fellowship, Narthex
12:30 p.m. Soup and Sermon
 Chat, Chappell Rm
Wednesday the 8th
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
Friday the 10th
10 a.m. - noon Friday Community

WEEK OF JULY 12

Sunday the 12th
9 a.m. Community Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
10 a.m. Contemporary Issues
11 a.m. Worship, Rev. Alicia Wood
12:15 p.m. Fellowship, Narthex
12:30 p.m. Soup and Sermon

Chat, Chappell Rm
Wednesday the 15th
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
Friday the 17th
10 a.m. - noon Friday Community

WEEK OF JULY 19

Sunday the 19th
10 a.m. Contemporary Issues
11 a.m. Worship, Rev. Alicia Wood
12:15 p.m. Fellowship, Narthex
12:30 p.m. Soup and Sermon
 Chat, Chappell Rm
Wednesday the 22nd
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
Friday the 24th
10 a.m. - noon Friday Community

June 21, 2015, Service
(2 photos)





Josh DeHoog, 19, talks about his 10 years as a volunteer making pancakes at the Community Breakfast.

Children's Blessing
June 14, 2015 (1 photo)



United Methodist Night at the Ballpark

June 16, 2015

(7 photos)



Incoming Crossroads District Superintendent Nola Anderson prepares to throw out the first pitch.



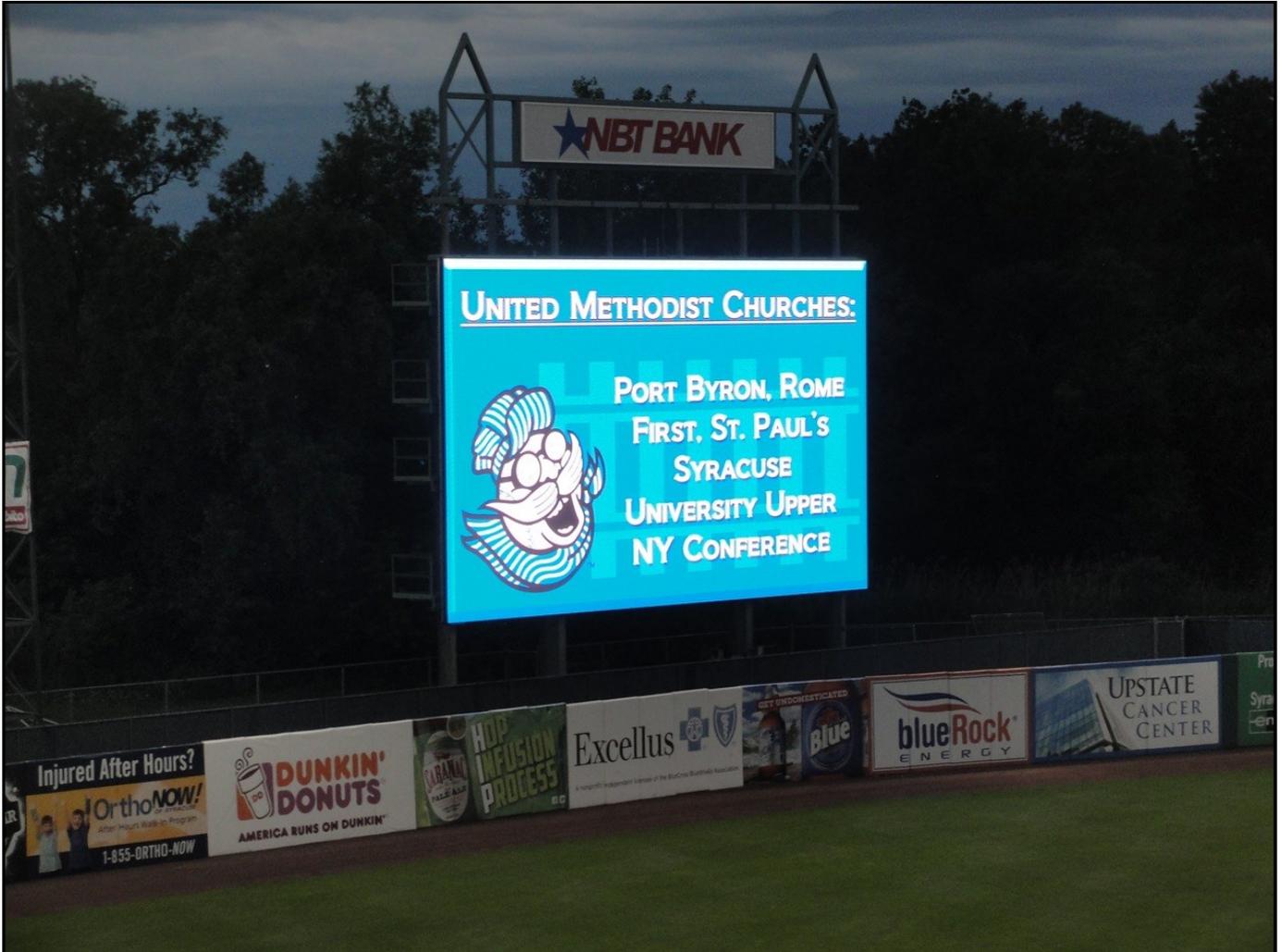
UUMC members and other United Methodists sing the national anthem.



Some of the UUMC contingent at United Methodist Night at the Ballpark.



Outgoing Crossroads District Superintendent Darryl Barrow.



UUMC is recognized on the scoreboard, although it might look like “University Upper.” The “Upper” goes with NY Conference.



The Upcrafts.



Community Garden Blessing and Picnic

June 14, 2015 (7 photos)













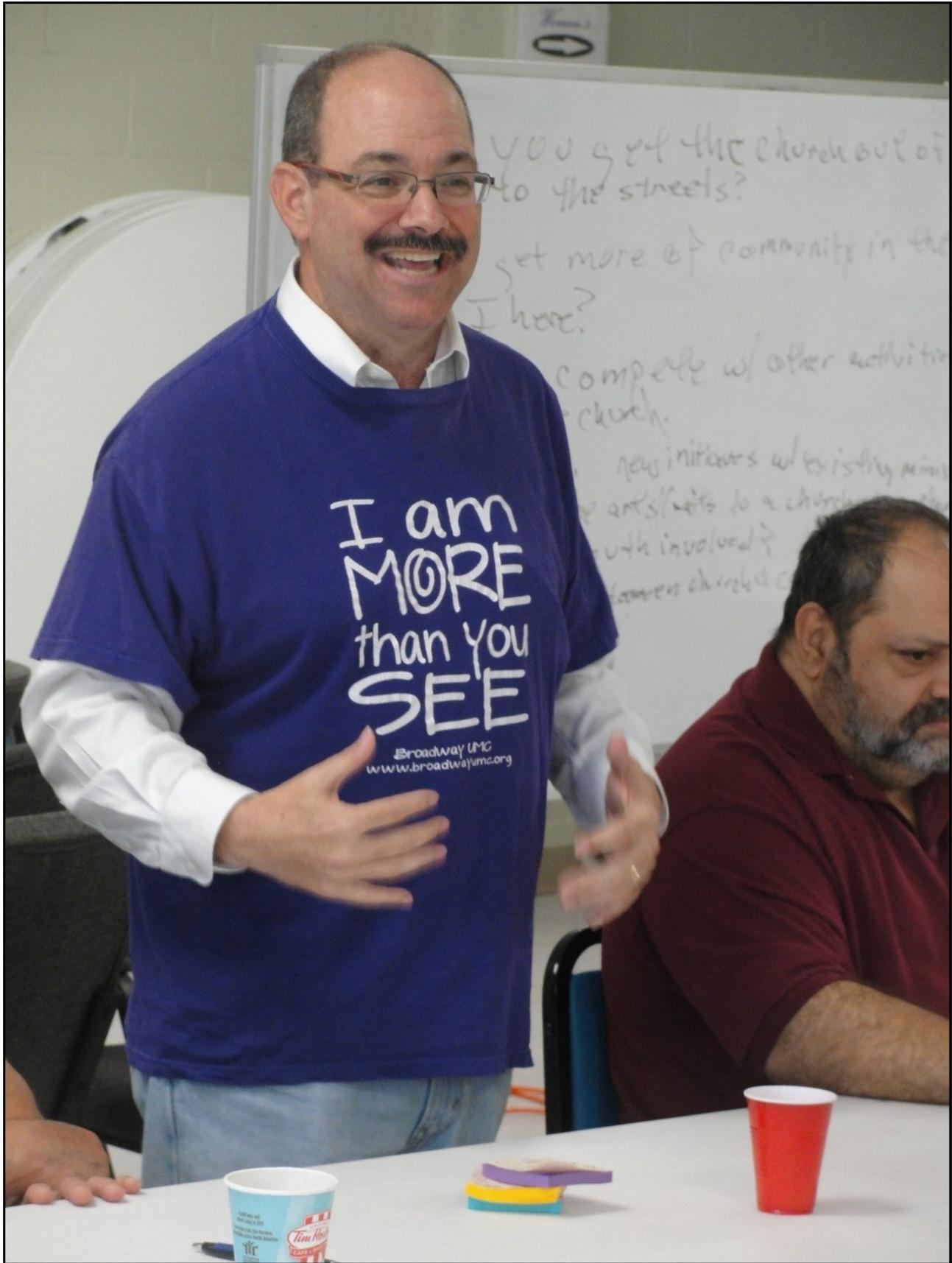
Workshop by Rev. Mike Mather

June 13, 2015

(3 photos)







Reports from Annual Conference

June 7, 2015, 3 photos



Ted F-S.



Nelson



Sophie F-S.

Community Garden Planting

May 30, 2015

(7 photos)



Herbs that survived the winter. Since this photo was taken, the tarragon (left) and chives (center, with purple blossoms) have been stolen.











