Stewardship Campaign kicks off Sept. 9

Our Stewardship Campaign begins this Sunday, Sept. 9, and runs through Sept. 30.

You may be asking, why so early?

As a part of the Syracuse United Methodist Ministries, we need to work together to decide on a pastor’s compensation package by mid to late October.

Therefore, we at UUMC need to have our 2019 budget in place by mid-October.

Mark Fullerton and Nelson Price will co-chair the Stewardship Campaign.

If you are able to help in any way please let them know. We may need help stuffing envelopes or making a few last-minute calls as we wrap up the campaign.

Pledge Card Sunday will be Sept. 30. Our worship series for the stewardship campaign is “Moving Out of Scare City.”

Our budget this year may be challenging given the vacant office space within our building. Please prayerfully consider your 2019 pledge.

We are grateful for all you have done to keep vital ministry happening on University Avenue for so many years.

— Pastor Alicia

Worship series offers alternative to living constantly in fear

Our September worship series, as noted above, is “Moving Out of Scare City.”

As the Worship Design Studio puts it: “The sense that there is not enough drives greed, fear and exclusionary behavior. We begin to live in ‘Scare City,’ where it seems that death, starvation, feelings of being overwhelmed and swallowed up can lurk around every corner.

“The Good News is that this is an illusion. A spiritual journey into the truth of abundance of all that we need offers us an alternative vision.”

See WORSHIP, Page 4

Time is now to back Reconciling Network effort

A specially-called General Conference of the United Methodist (UM) Church has been called for February 2019 to consider a proposal from the Council of Bishops to remove language in our Book of Discipline (the church rulebook) that is discriminatory to LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer) persons and to remove prohibitions against such persons being ordained as pastors or married in UM Churches.

Unfortunately, while removing the language that hinders churches like University Church from being fully inclusive, it also leaves room for churches to decide to continue to discriminate.

The Reconciling Ministries Network, which University Church is a part of having been a Reconciling

See FUND, Page 4
Let’s work on relationships within congregation and with neighbors

Greetings!

This summer has been a wonderful season of learning, reflection and fun.

I enjoyed attending several different churches while I was in England from differing settings such as rural, urban and suburban.

In England, statistically the number of Christians is lower than the U.S. Churches that have over 50 people are considered average size. Churches with attendance over 100 are really hopping!

For me the most spiritually uplifting part was the excitement of who was at church.

Some people did lament the fact that their churches are smaller than 50 years ago.

But it seemed when the congregation got together they were very excited to share time together.

As I reflect on this observation, I believe God is nudging us to work on building relationships within our congregation beyond who we already know. We have many new faces each week.

Of course, as we work on building relationships within our congregation we will continue to reach out to build relationships with our neighbors.

Jesus was all about relationships! He would sit and have a meal with tax collectors and others with negative reputations within the culture to build relationships.

Jesus spent time teaching and talking with his disciples building relationships.

In Luke 10:38-42, Jesus is visiting with Mary and Martha. Martha was making sure all the tasks of hosting were getting done so that Jesus was comfortable and well fed.

Mary sat learned and talked with Jesus.

Martha was upset with Mary. When Martha asked Jesus about Mary’s sitting and lack of getting anything done, Jesus told Martha that Mary was taking the time to learn and build a relationship with him.

Jesus felt the relationship was more important than the business.

As we move forward in the next year, let’s get to know one another more deeply and grow deeper in relationship with Jesus Christ.

This year, let’s pray together and for one another.

Let’s check in with one another and share a cup of coffee or a meal together.

Let’s study the Scriptures together and recommit to an individual daily devotion or reflection.

I look forward to building my relationship with each of you and letting some of the busywork go.

I also long for the deepening of my relationship with Jesus Christ. Will you join me?

Peace and Blessings,

— Pastor Alicia

Extra security added Sundays and during pantry

We have hired Richard Woodford. His primary duty on Sunday morning is hospitality and security.

He will help Arlen with some custodian duties, but his primary task is security. This does not mean we are excluding anyone from any activity at our church. Everyone is welcome at our church no matter their past or present life journey.

Richard’s job is to pay attention and keep things calm and cool throughout the morning. He also will do that on Friday mornings during pantry hours.

We have four emergency buttons that are connected directly to the police. Richard, Arlen, Pastor and the organ loft will each have an emergency button.

These efforts are not meant to scare people or to make them feel unsafe at church. We are working to remain diligent in the context of our world while remaining hopeful in the people who live and work in our city.

— Pastor Alicia

Vacation Bible School was a hit Aug. 19-23 with 22 children attendees, 3 teenage helpers and many volunteers.
I have a vegetable garden, as my mother did before me and my grandmother before her.

Food gardens are used in my family to augment meal options for our immediate consumption. Also, to engage our children in enriching, educational activities where the child becomes invested in an ongoing project that can be contributed to the family. In turn, the child is encouraged to repeat this project and be proud his/her effort.

Additionally, our food gardens ensure the best nutritional health for our families for the least amount of money.

The national campaign to eat more produce addresses us at a very early age. Our grocery industry is involved. Entire school districts subscribe to this belief, as do restaurants and departments of tourism.

Huge amounts of money are invested in advertising campaigns that inform us everywhere we turn to consume more produce. And, you know, it’s working.

On any Friday morning at UUMC’s Food Pantry we are moving hundreds of pounds of reclaimed produce.

“Reclaimed” meaning produce that was destined to be discarded by grocery stores is brought to us from the Food Bank of CNY.

This fabulous program — “Grocery Rescue” — makes up the majority of the bread and produce we are able to share with our guests.

“Reclaimed” vegetables at our Food Pantry.

Congregation members and friends of members are bringing in overages from their gardens and we join with a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture farm) in Madison County that provides us with a small donation each week.

As we close our pantry at noon every bit of produce is gone. As a matter of fact, most produce is gone by 11:30 a.m. Late arrivals often have nothing to gather. We always need more produce.

Like many great programs, there is some contention from our guests and volunteers about who can access the fresh food when and how much.

We have many folk who visit us weekly just to collect fresh produce and bread.

We have New Americans, vegetarian and very health conscious guests who will gather very little non-perishables from the shelves of our pantry to gather the majority of their food from the produce room (AKA Pettengill Center).

We have many folk from other Food Pantry districts who are unable to gather fresh foods from their pantry and come to us specifically for those items.

In the September/October 2018 magazine Mother Earth Living, Andrea Darr writes about “Grow a row for those in need.”

The article explains the various programs and methodology through U.S. history where backyard farmers were/are encouraged to donate spare produce from their home gardens to national and local food access programs such as Food Pantries.

The “Plant a Row” public service program encourages folk and farmers to grow an extra row of produce in their home garden.

Since 2011, 2 million pounds of fresh produce have been donated and recirculated back into community free food access sites by produce gathered from backyard farmers through this one program.

As Central New Yorkers are in the depth of our harvest season and you find yourself unable to consume or process another tomato, zucchini, pepper or basil leaf, consider donating them to UUMC’s Food Pantry.

We will ensure that it will get back to the people where we can all eat better and enjoy some of the best offerings of Syracuse’s summer.


— Galyn Murphy-Stanley Outreach Coordinator
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Congregation since 2011, is working to help this proposal to succeed as it appears to be the best hope to keep our denomination from splitting over this issue.

Four of us from UUMC recently attended a convocation in St. Louis addressing this issue.

As we listened, it became clear that this is a time that we, as a Reconciling Congregation, need to stand up and support this issue with more than an “All Are Welcome” banner.

We have set a goal of raising $10,000 in four weeks — ending Sept. 23 — to support the work of Reconciling Ministries Network, and we have over $4,000 already.

We are asking each person to consider a gift that is substantial from your own financial perspective, whether that is $10 or $2,000.

This is not a part of regular giving to this church for our ongoing ministries. This is a one-time request to restate our commitment to equality and to create a more just future for our denomination.

We have heard so many stories about persons being turned away from UM Churches because of who they are.

Billy Kluttz, an amazing young man who worshipped at UUMC while getting his master’s degree at Syracuse University’s Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, was told by his district superintendent, a woman who had known Billy since he was born, that she would not support his candidacy for the ministry because he was gay.

He is now a Presbyterian pastor.

Lynn Baker and Kellie Wood told a story about friends of theirs who were told, at a UM church, that their baby couldn’t be baptized there because the couple was gay.

Pastor Alicia has shared how many of her seminary classmates, young persons looking forward to a lifelong career in Methodist ministry, left the UM Church because they were not able to serve in a church where discrimination was written into the rules.

You only had to hear the cheers and clapping as we walked along in the State Fair Pride Day Parade to know that people want churches to be open and welcoming.

The UM Church does many wonderful things here and around the world.

Splitting the Methodist Church over slavery took over 100 years to repair. We can’t afford to make the same mistake again.

Please consider being a part of the solution.

— Ted Finlayson-Schueler

Worship series addresses our fears of not having enough, the unknown and others

CONTINUED from Page 4

We’ll travel to “the vast, open habitats of God’s grace.”

We start this Sunday with “Towers of Power,” which deals with consumerism and the culture of “not enough-ness.” Sept. 16 is “Around Every Corner,” which is about fear of the unknown and that we need to trust in the presence of God.

Sept. 23 is “The Other Side of the Tracks” and the fear of others.

We finish on Sept. 30 with “Altars Everywhere.” We don’t have to pack up and move. Just transform what’s around us.
DEATH
- Member Terry Kubat died July 27. His service was Aug. 21 at UUMC.

CONTINUING PRAYERS
- Prayer that the second and third floors of our building be rented.
- Sue: Bruce and Ella, my family and all those struggling with health issues
- Barb & Bob: Alayah Green, Carus Olcott Jr., Mary & Carus Olcott Sr., Maria Storto and family
- Sherri Cullen: Betty Baldwin, Kathy Dewey, Patti Fasulo, Jeanne and Shane, Nora and her father.

PRAYERS REQUESTED:
- For those in military service: Matt Fischer
- For kids in school, freedom from school shootings and our whole world from wanton violence and war.
- Relief to all who have been affected by wildfires this summer. Prayers for strength and safety for all firefighters and for a break in the heat and wind. Resolve for all us to face boldly climate change and to commit to ways we can change.
- Vacation Bible School and all the volunteers.
- Prayers for the Lynsky family on the death of their 18-year-old son Conner.
- Prayers that Alphonsina and Kiza pass their Regents this Thursday and Friday.
- Thank you for monarch butterflies; prayers for their survival and safe migration.
- Best wishes to my niece Abigale Anderson and Antonia Chavez, who will be married Aug. 19.
- Remember that Jesus is love and we must love people we disagree with also.
- I will be celebrating another year of life, and also taking my last final on Thursday. Lord, I pray for strength, knowledge, wisdom and understand to smoothly surmount all challenges I may encounter within this new year of my life.
- Elise: Prophet Jesus: I plead to you for housing and rescue from homelessness.
- I pray that we all finish this summer with a sound and healthy mindset, remembering why life can be so good.
- For every person in pain.
- For a colleague whose stepson is having serious health issues.
- To be thankful for all the lessons learned from all who have passed, and their gifts to all they have touched in their lives.
- Dear God, please be with Jo and Ed Loren. Give them hope and strength as Jo battles cancer for the second time in her life.
- May the prayers of our congregation go with Albertina as she goes to Job Corps for two years.
- For every person in pain.

Thursday, August 9
- Sharon Smith: Pray for all those who got flooded.

Sunday, August 12
- Please pray for Susie, who is dealing with health issues.

Thursday, August 16
- Tom: For kids in school, freedom from school shootings and our whole world from wanton violence and war.
- Susan: My mom — recent death of my father. For a place I can call “home.”

Sunday, August 19
- Dr. Nathaniel Appleton, speedy recovery.
- I ask our Holy Father to send an army of angels around both Mary and Broc Nolan today on their baptism and forever so that they may be protected. Please give them the grace to keep their eyes fixed on Jesus even in the most difficult times. I ask this in in his most holy name, Jesus Christ. Amen.
- For Joeviet Cooper and her new daughter.
- Mastronardi Family: Erin Mau-ro, for her second round of chemo tomorrow.
- VBS tonight! Registration is at 5:30 p.m. Tonight’s theme color is blue, so if you have anything blue, feel free to wear it. Pray for our students and volunteers.
- Zenneta Vigers, Merilyn Krack-hardt.
- God bless my family and all the church.
- Fern Twomey, Ester Pardue
- Mary lee Tyndall, Barbara Silverman, Rita, who is recovering from stroke.
- Ellyn: Wishing so much happiness and love to my daughter Leslie Gale and Kenny Williams, who will be married Aug. 25. It’s been a busy summer.
- For a colleague whose stepson is having serious health issues.
- To be thankful for all the lessons learned from all who have passed, and their gifts to all they have touched in their lives.
- Dear God, please be with Jo and Ed Loren. Give them hope and strength as Jo battles cancer for the second time in her life.
- May the prayers of our congregation go with Albertina as she goes to Job Corps for two years.
- For every person in pain.

Sunday, August 26
- Prayers of healing for Marg McDivitt’s knee injury due to her legs collapsing at an out-See PEOPLE, Page 6
People and Prayers

CONTINUED from Page 5

door concert in Skaneateles last night.

- **Arian:** That I have a life filled with happiness and love.
- **Arshia:** For my cousin. She has cancer.
- **Alphonsina:** Thank God for everything he did for me, and Tuesday was my graduation day!!
- **Bruno Mukasa:** Congolese people need the peace for development. Invite all church to pray for this country.
- **John Hunt:** For Ron Janca dealing with ALS. He entered into a special medical trial this week.
- **Elise:** Prophet Jesus: bless my household peace into transition!
- **Barb and Del:** Zanetta Vigars, Merilyn Krackhardt, The Bowe Family.
- The family of Helen Bowe, Cosmo De Rose, who has health issues.
- That Pat and Erica’s health improves, and thank you for healing my wife from her breast cancer
- **Nate Appleton** in rehab and Dean Moyer.
- Blessings to all the children.
- **Erika:** Maria Storto and family and Barb and Bob Weaver.
- **Sharon:** Pray for Susie, struggling with cancer, and the people in Lodi struggling with flooding.

**Sunday, September 2**

- For newborn babies, their mothers, fathers and families. For the twins born at Crouse recently.
- **Colleen Reynolds,** for life challenges. May she find peace with her life and for happiness.
- For safe travels during the holiday weekend.
- Our church, Fern Twomey.
- **My Aunt Ellen,** who is in the hospital; my sister Linda, who suffered a house fire. It was a four-family home, Four families are homeless.
- **Helen Bowe family.** The additional flowers are from her funeral.
- For me during this time of conflict. Two paths, not sure which to travel.
- **Bob and Barb:** The family of Art and Helen Bowe, longtime members of James Street Church.
- Pray for healing for Bobby Jo and Robyn Lanzone, who are both young mothers battling breast cancer for the second time.
- **Zoe and Rosa,** newborn twins. Grandma is a guest here today and Rosa is in the neonatal unit. Prayers appreciated for the whole family.
- **Kathy Dewey, Betty Baldwin, Patti Fasulo, Nora and her dad, Jeanne and Shane.
- **Peter:** For the children and families separated in the “zero tolerance” policy, and for an end to the for-profit prison system.
- Since independence never changes in my country about the dictator. I send my eyes all side, but God himself can help it.
- **Merilyn Krackhardt**
- **Nichola:** May God guide me through all the foolishness and madness during this semester. May my faith not fall but be strengthened through him who gives us life. Also prayers for my family.
- Prayers for my family.
- Prophet Jesus: Bless my home and others near us where I live!
- **Maria Storto and Family, Barb and Bob Weaver.**
- Mary Lee Tyndall, Barbara Silverman, Dede and Martin and their family.
- My family, Bruce and Ella, those suffering with health issues.
- Prayers for a job and family.

**THANKS & PRAISE**

**Sunday, July 2**

- **Stephen Shepard:** Thanks be to God for my two new adjunct jobs! Also prayers for focus, resilience and guidance as I wrap up my thesis and open a new play at CNY Playhouse this month.
- Thank you, God, for Alphonsina’s graduation in August, and Albertina’s new adventure at the Job Corps.
- **Peter:** Thanks for the safe return from Hawaii of our housemate Aly. He got through the hurricane on Oahu and is flying home now.
Another of the unsung volunteers who helps our Sunday service run smoothly is Jules Colantonio, a student at SUNY-ESF.

On alternate Sundays, Jules runs the PowerPoint slide show that’s prepared by Ted Finlayson-Schueler.

Here’s a bit about Jules:
Q. Where are you from?
Jules: Oshkosh, Wisconsin
Q. Where did you attend high school and what activities were you involved in?
Jules: Oshkosh West High School. I was part of the varsity tennis team, in theatre club as sounds and lights, I was a French horn player in the band and started an environmental club while I was there.

Q. What are you studying now and where? What will your degree be in? What kind of job would you like when you finish?
Jules: I am a sophomore majoring in environmental resources engineering at ESF and hopefully will be graduating in 2021.

When I graduate, I will hopefully move to British Columbia or Alberta, Canada, and work as a forest engineer.

Q: Who’s in your family?
Jules: I have my wonderful mother and father along with 2 older brothers.

Q: What do you do in your spare time?
Jules: I love to camp, hike, backpack, and play the ukulele in my free time. I am also on the woodsmen team at ESF and part of the campus ministry, cru, at SU.

Q. How’d you find UUMC?
Jules: I grew up United Methodist and work at a United Methodist camp over the summers, so when I got to New York, I knew I wanted to find a United Methodist church that I could go to every Sunday.

When I first arrived at ESF, orientation week, I didn’t know where anything was so I just searched online and UUMC popped up.

Q. Why did you agree to staff the PowerPoint slide presentations on alternate Sundays?
Jules: My parents do the PPT presentations at my home church in Wisconsin, and I would help whenever it is needed.

So when Barbara (Fought) sent out an email asking people to help with the service in many different ways, this was the best position I could serve the church in, with the knowledge I have with running the slideshows.

Q. Anything else you’d like to add?
Jules: I am still so excited that I have a wonderful church family in New York and I love seeing how energetic and fun the services get every service, i.e. the dancing of the palms on Palm Sunday.

October birthdays

4 – Janet Mandigo, Nelson Price, Phillip Wellner, Dan Shworles
5 – Renee Threatte, Lonnie Threatte
10 – Mary Woodburn
11 – Carol Boll
15 – Elizabeth Magowan
16 – Nathan Miller
21 – Larry Myers
22 – Michael Toe
25 – Colin Simmons
26 – Katrina Tillapaugh
27 – Rosemary Chappell
30 – Koketso Ratala
31 – Ann Burrows

If any birthdays are in error or missing, please contact Tom Boll, umctb@twcny.rr.com.
**Finance Corner**

**Pledging Update**
- 2018 total pledges: $209,472
- Paid to date: $153,380
- Non-pledge contr.: $12,827

**Sounds of the Spirit Visual Fund**
- Donations received: $94,579
- Expenses paid: $87,891
- Current balance: $6,688

**Women’s Guild:** The next meeting is 1:30 p.m. Sept. 26 in the Chappell Room at UUMC. Program: To be announced soon.

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**University United Methodist Church**

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

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**WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 9**

**Sunday the 9th**
- 9 a.m. Community Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
- 10:30 a.m. Worship.
- 11:30 a.m. Spiritual Interpretive Dance, Sanctuary
- 11:45 a.m. Fellowship, The Gathering Room

**Noon**
- Soup & Sermon Chat, Chappell Room

**Tuesday the 11th**
- 5:30 p.m. Governing Board
- 9 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 7 p.m. Teach-In: Opioids & Other Addictive Drugs”

**Thursday the 13th**
- 6 p.m. Worship, The Gathering Room
- 7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal, Pettengill

**Friday the 14th**
- 10 a.m. Friday Community

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**WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 16**

**Sunday the 16th**
- 9 a.m. Bagels & Coffee, The Gathering Room
- 10:30 a.m. Worship.

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**WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 23**

**Sunday the 23rd**
- 9 a.m. Community Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
- 10:30 a.m. Worship.
- 11:30 a.m. Spiritual Interpretive Dance, Sanctuary
- 11:45 a.m. Fellowship, The Gathering Room

**Noon**
- Soup & Sermon Chat, Chappell Room

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**WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 30**

**Sunday the 30th**
- 9 a.m. Bagels & coffee, The Gathering Room
- 10:30 a.m. Worship.
- 11:45 a.m. Fellowship, The Gathering Room

**Noon**
- Soup & Sermon Chat, Chappell Room

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**Altar flowers**

Altar flowers were given:
- By Nancy Nevin in memory of her son, Keith
- By Carrie and John Hunt in memory of Carrie’s twin brother, John Edwin Kittell

By Starke Donnally in memory of his father, Starke Donnally Jr., his mother, Janet Lehr Donnally, and his brother, Bruce Donnally
- By Carol and Tom Boll in memory of loved ones
    - Flowers were given to Aimee deBerjeois, Mary Slack-Nolan and Broc Nolan, Brad Bowers, Morgan Mastronardi, Marg McDivitt, Marilyn Benedict, Nate Appleton and Lois McTarnaghan.
    - Flowers were delivered by Don and Margo Koten and Ed and Lee Potter.
Community Breakfast
Aug. 12
(7 photos)
Vacation Bible School
Aug. 19-23
(15 photos)
New York State Fair
Pride Parade
Aug. 24
(1 photo)
Sunday, Aug. 26, 2018
Breakfast, Worship, Ice Cream Social
(6 photos)
Feeding God’s People: Body, Mind, Spirit