Thanksgiving Bag Project deadline nears; turkeys and volunteers especially needed

Thanksgiving is about two weeks away, and we are once again sharing our bounty with our friends and neighbors in and around our church.

We have 130 families signed up for Thanksgiving Bags this year, as the economic divide widens, other food pantries in Syracuse have closed and more people experience food and housing insecurity.

We are inviting everyone to join in this effort by contributing in one or more of the following ways:

**Food Donations:** frozen turkeys, canned veggies, winter squash, sweet potatoes, canned fruit, muffin/sweet bread mix, cake mix, canned frosting. We are very much in need of turkeys for the larger families.

**Monetary Donations:** cash or checks made out to UUMC with “Thanksgiving Bags” on memo line. It costs $28 to buy a complete meal for a family of five.

**Bag Donations:** reusable grocery bags or plastic and paper grocery bags

**Volunteering:**

- Bag Packing after Worship, Sunday, Nov. 18
- Bag Distribution at UUMC, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Nov. 20.

For more information, or to sign up to volunteer, please call me at 315-673-2761. Thank you in advance for any help you can give.

— Joyce Flynn

Pledging update: Goal reachable, but two ‘Ifs’ must be met

Twenty-five 2018 pledgers are missing-in-action so far for 2019.

Forty-four have pledged $169,472. Over half — 25 — have increased their pledges, critical to reaching our goal.

The big if: If the 25 pledge and increase their pledges, and IF two or three non-pledgers decide to pledge, we can reach our goal of $240,000.

Our annual budget is made up of three parts: giving by members of our UUMC community, rental income of about $110,000 from our second and third floors and giving by our past members – our endowment – of about $65,000.

Actually, there’s a fourth category buried within our community giving figure: $46,000 from members who have moved away and continue to support our ministries.

Many also pledged their personal gifts, talents and time to the many ways that we truly are the “hands of Christ” — serving, bringing hope, caring and inspiring persons in our church and wider community.

— Nelson Price
God can do the extraordinary through ordinary people like us

Greetings,

Fear and violence seem to be on the rise in these uncertain times.

I know it’s easy to get caught up in anxiety and fear. It may seem too overwhelming for one person to solve, fix or change. When things get bad it is easy to become hopeless.

A long time ago, an angel, a messenger of God, came to talk with an ordinary young woman named Mary. The angel shared the message that Mary would give birth to a child, Emmanuel, God with us, Jesus. (Matthew 1:23) When all hope was lost, God gave us new hope, new life, through Jesus. God calls on ordinary people to do extraordinary things often. It’s OK to get overwhelmed.

Sometimes, we need to take a leap of faith and just do something.

Whether we pray, share a smile or an act of kindness, this is a step toward making a change away from anxiety and fear and toward Jesus’ love.

Jesus shared with us the love of God here on earth. Every day we can share Jesus’ love through our words and actions. The hope that the little baby Jesus shared with us so many years ago lives on today. It lives on today as we continue to share the story of Jesus’ birth, life, ministry and death.

Today I’m grateful for the relationship I have with Jesus. It affects all the aspects of my life.

I’m grateful for the ministries we are doing together every day.

I look forward to the ordinary people of UUMC working together to do extraordinary things in our city through the love and hope of Jesus Christ.

Peace,

— Pastor Alicia

People and Prayers

CONTINUED from Page 5

Brown Memorial today.

- Maureen Roberts, Marlow Bock, and the military service of Mike Garcia. People of Pittsburgh
- John and Carrie Hunt: Patty Hunt is having surgery Tuesday. Please pray with us for our sister-in-law
- Erika: Maria Storto and Family and Barb and Bob Weaver
- Jim Tallman to return to work at McDonald’s next Sunday
- For the people of Yemen suffering hunger, injury and death from an unjust war.
- Prayers for our nation as we go to the polls on Tuesday, hopeful for a group of state and national leaders who will work together toward justice for all, protection from the environment and a fair and compassionate approach toward immigration.
- Sherri Cullen: Kathy Dewey, Patti Fasulo, Betty Baldwin, Alan, Nora and her dad.
- Please I call all church to pray for my country but nothing is not good.
- Bless everyone everywhere.

JOYS, THANKS & PRAISE

Sunday, October 14
- Happy Birthday to Nancy Hough this week.
- Thanks to God for the talents of Ted Finlayson-Schueler. He coordinated breakfast this morning, designed the worship space, put together the liturgy, is preaching, and tonight leads Bible study. God bless Ted.

Sunday, October 21
- Alphonsina: Thanks, God, for Adolphe’s wife to bring new baby girl in this church and her name is happy.
- Cynthia Steinem: Thank you, God, for the truth tellers, journalists and the families of those silenced by threats and deaths. Help us always to seek your truth.

Sunday, October 28
- Thank God for Rosemary De-Hoog and for all the good she did in the community.

Sunday, November 4
- Stephen Shepard: Thanks be to God! I defended my master’s thesis in chemistry at SU and passed!

Women’s Guild

The next meeting is 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 28, at the home of Margo Koten, 317 Standish Drive, Syracuse. The program is on our church’s Outreach ministry, presented by Galyn Murphy-Stanley, our outreach coordinator.
Some of Upstate’s medical students will use our pantry

This month we will welcome SUNY Upstate Medical University students to access UUMC’s Food Pantry. This endeavor begins with a trial period of three months where we will evaluate the students’ use of the food pantry, learn their food preferences, streamline our intake procedures and provide the education for the students and staff of issues and resources around food access in Syracuse.

When the Upstate student support team approached us in the spring, I was surprised at their request. They informed me that the governor had issued a directive to all SUNY campuses to create and/or establish a relationship with a local Food Pantry for their students’ use.

Due to this, Syracuse’s Upstate University conducted an assessment of their student body and found a notable percentage of their students struggling to find their next meal — those students identify as food insecure.

After meetings and conversations, Upstate’s student support has chosen to fold their students into UUMC’s established Food Pantry instead of creating their own.

Our Outreach team has done some research on this trend and found that currently 36 percent of U.S. college students are experiencing hunger and lack of stable housing. This number gets worse as the student gets older.

A graduate student has often aged out of their parents’ financially supportive umbrella. This often includes lack of health care coverage, car/renters insurance, housing and free food at Mom and Dad’s house.

A student age 20 and older not only faces creeping tuition bills, but many new bills that the student has not had to manage independently in the past. Food often ends up at the bottom of the list.

Additionally, consider that nontraditional students (those who are older, have families or who have worked prior to college to raise money or, support a family member) are filling our colleges and universities as the U.S. workforce becomes more limited for the uneducated.

Some students have to choose between buying a textbook or buying dinner. For most students food insecurity is a temporary situation. This is changed by the receiving of a financial aid check, a scholarship award, the end of the semester, graduation and hiring into the workforce.

But for many students who continue directly into graduate school and choose to finish their education as quickly as possible, their hunger follows them.

We will join with Upstate Medical University to ensure fair, free access to nutritious foods for all of their students who would like to partake.

The second Tuesday evening of each month our Food Pantry will be open 5 to 7 p.m. to host Upstate students and any community members from our Food Pantry district who might be needing to gather foods.

If you are interested in joining for a volunteer experience during these times, please contact me at uumcoutreach@twcny.rr.com.

— Galyn Murphy-Stanley Outreach Coordinator

Altar Flowers

Altar flowers were given by:

- Beth Drew in honor of Lois McTarnaghan’s 90th birthday.
- Jerry and Barb Cargo in memory of their parents
- Jeanne and Charlie Brown in honor of all of UUMC for your money and time toward the Blessings in a Backpack program
- Sharon Smith in honor of her uncle and aunt, Dick and Mary Cole
- Martha Sutter in memory of the October birthday of her mother, Laurine Sutter
- Nancy Hough in memory of her husband, W. Howard Hough, and her parents, Raymond and Margaret Laing.

Flowers were given to Lynn Baker, Judy MaGarvey, Danielle Adams, Nelson Price, Jill Sarkodie-Mensah, Alicia Wood, Nancy Hough, Rosemary Chappell, Mary Wilson, Janet Thorna and Nancy Nevin.

Flowers were delivered by Ann Owens, Ed Potter, Rita Soufleris, Barb Cargo, Barbara Nunn and Nancy Hough.
DEATH
- Longtime devoted member Rosemary DeHoog died Oct. 25 at the age of 79. Her service was Nov. 3 at UUMC.

CONTINUING PRAYERS
- Sue: Bruce and Ella, my family and all those struggling with health issues
- Sherri Cullen: Betty Baldwin, Kathy Dewey, Patti Fasulo, Jeanne and Shane, Nora and her father.
- Barb and Bob: Alayah Green, Carus Olcott Jr., Mary and Carus Olcott Sr., Frank Clish. Erika and Paul for the loss of their pet.

PRAYERS REQUESTED:
- For those in military service: Matt Fischer
- Thursday, September 27
  - Alec: Please pray for my mother as she continues to recover from surgery
- Sunday, September 30
  - Sherri Cullen: Safe travels for Rosie and Billy. I’m thankful the doctor got it all.
  - Maria Storto and family, Barb and Bob Weaver
  - Prayers of gratitude for Oliver, who just celebrated his sixth birthday this month. Thanks also for the supportive school he attends. Prayers for my brother-in-law, who has some mental health issues.
  - Kellie: Prayers for Lynn for good results of a biopsy taken of her thyroid. Results tomorrow.
  - May the world heal from the wounds that greed has made.
- Pray for Dr. Ford and her courage in strength in tough times.
- Michelle Klock (Angela’s cousin), who has health issues.
- Thank you, God, for the courage of the women in the elevator. She was not afraid.
- For those grieving the loss of more the 600 lives in Indonesia
- Mary Klepper’s Family. She died this past week.
- God bless Mota. This afternoon is her baby shower.
- Morgan: Continued prayers for Gerry Mastronardi and Erin Mauro for health concerns.
- Ann Owens: My dear friend Judy, with serious health issues. My niece Michelle, with good health news.
- Erika Vitthuhn, Bob and Barb Weaver, Alayah Green, Carus and Mary Olcott Sr., Maria Storto and family.
- The family of Donna Douglas, who died; Jenessa
- For our Congress.
- For the kids
- For the U.N. treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons, which gained more signers.

Sunday, October 7
- Elijah Harris Jr.: May members pray for my musical restoration within the church of my choice.
- Maria Storto and family, Barb and Bob Weaver, Erika and Paul for the loss of their pet.
- Angela Palmieri: Rev. Tom Schafer’s Family. His funeral is this Friday.
- My family, who is struggling with health issues.
- Prayers for the Mastronardi family. Dan’s dad, Gerry, has been diagnosed with stage 4 bone cancer.
- For the healing of Nate Appleton, recovering from a stroke.
- For our country. It seems like the people in power have too much power. Prayers for all those who feel dismissed and disregarded. Prayers that we can regain a moral compass. In general prayers for all who feel dismissed and diminished.

Sunday, October 14
- Level T needs more good workers.
- Lord, keep me safe as I come to accept my eyesight. I’m noticing more each day. Father, my life is in praise of you.
- For Christina Miller, may she find a job and have wisdom and guidance to raise and support her children in your likeness.
- Maria Storto and family, Erika and Paul, Alyah Green, Mary and Carus Olcott Sr., Bob and Barb Weaver.
- Happiness to Nelson Price, who turned 90 years young a week ago. Happy Birthday!!
- Pray for my Aunt Mary and Uncle Dick as they settle in their new home.
- For the leadership we so desperately need to address the global emergency of global climate change and that all of us would be moved to action.
- For all the children and families to have basic rights of

See PEOPLE, Page 5
People and Prayers

CONTINUED from Page 4

safety and determination in loving communities.

- Headed back to work at McDonald’s on Nov. 11 for the grand reopening
- My family, those struggling with health issues, and Geri Schafer. Lord have mercy on your people.
- For the children of the world. The homeless, the starving, the abused. May they find hidden strength, love and care.
- For the people of Indonesia. For the victims of the recent shootings and their families.
- Pray for those in Panama City.
- Please pray for a successful medical procedure for Betsy, our cousin Don’s wife.
- For better health.
- Dear God, will you place your hands on my daughter and my grandchild, shield and protect them throughout the next nine months. Guide her with your wisdom and bless them with your love. Thank you for this most amazing blessing. Forever in your name, Amen!

Sunday, October 21

- My family. Those struggling with health issues.
- Tom Boll: For the family of Peter Celentano, my best friend from the “neighborhood” in Hempstead, who died Monday. We met when we were 10 years old.
- Patti Gill: The passing of my cousin Tony, on Friday.
- My aunt, who is fighting breast cancer that has metastasized.
- Gwen Tillapaugh-Fay: My brother-in-law Bob Spear, recovering at Upstate from broken ribs after a bicycle accident.
- Angela Palmieri: Dominic Palmieri (my dad). He has health issues.
- Prayers for Joyce Flynn’s coworker Vince Schmidt and his family on the death of his father, Bernie.
- Peter: For safety and justice in the lives of all children and to criminalization of the poor, and to militarization of our country.
- Bob and Barb Weaver, Maria Storto and family.
- Alice Makul knee replacement surgery on Tuesday
- Donna Ricci: I would like to pray for a safe move.
- Bruno: God to comfort my country.
- Mary: God to give me strength, courage and love to get through whatever Friday brings. Please bless us.

Sunday, October 28

- God bless my parents and help me to finish my school.
- Prayers for my family.
- Angela Palmieri: Dominic Palmieri (my dad), who is having health issues. Anna Roddy, who is having health issues.
- Erika: Maria Storto and Family, Barb and Bob Weaver
- Verle & Family: Focus on what is in front of us. That is God. Do not fear what is around us. God is always in control.
- Elise: Prophet Jesus: I praise you for a new home!
- Sue: My family, those suffering with health issues. Pittsburgh victims.

Sunday, November 4

- Ann and Angela: Christy, my sister, who was in a car accident with a deer. She is doing well. Not so much the car or the poor deer.
- Sue: Those serving dinner at See PEOPLE, Page 2

- Need prayers for moving safe.
- Laura: Praying for Becca Frass, as she prepares for surgeries following chemo/radiation treatments.
- Tim Anderson, as he prepares for back surgery.
- Sherri Cullen: Kathy Dewey, Patty Fasulo, Mrs. Antonio, Jeanne & Shane, Betty Baldwin, Nora and her dad.
- Prayers for our video tech, Stephen Shepard, who defends his master’s thesis on Tuesday.
- The family of Shelly Ledbetter, on her death.
- Jim Tallman has returned after his fall and recovery at rehab in Oswego.
- Be with all in the synagogue in Pittsburgh.
- Peace and love to the victims and families of the latest gun violence and gratitude for Elise’s return.
- Peter: For God’s permission that “tears may flow,” “for joy to come in the morning,” and for all people to listen to each other.
- Kellie: Prayers for Lynn and my mom for upcoming surgeries happening in December. That the outcome is good.
- Prayers for people in Yemen, who continue to endure terrible suffering in their war-torn country.

Sunday, November 11

- Sunday, November 11

- Feeding God’s People: Body, Mind, Spirit

Chimes newsletter Volume 18 No. 11 November 7, 2018 Feeding God’s People: Body, Mind, Spirit
More than a dozen offer help for families appealing deportation

Church & Society recently asked congregation members to consider helping undocumented immigrant families as they deal with deportation appeals.

Often the bread-winner is in detention. In one case, the bread-winner has had a serious medical incident.

Fourteen members volunteered for various caregiving roles:
- 2 for child care
- 5 for transportation
- 11 for providing food, clothing, household items
- 2 are willing to house an adult
- 1 will house a minor
- 2 volunteered to monitor Border Patrol interventions at the Regional Transportation Center.

Several UUMCers attended the Sanctuary Workshop on Oct. 8 where they learned that “undocumented” really means “under-documented” as the workers have a variety of documents, just not the “appropriate” ones.

Some have worked here several years and have created businesses that contribute to the community. Children born here, of course, are U.S. citizens, as provided by the 14th Amendment to the Constitution. The president has threatened to override the amendment and deny citizenship to newborns.

The CNY Interfaith Coalition may ask congregations to adopt a family to help in their care needs.

— Nelson Price, Church & Society

Advent sneak peek

Calm and Bright: 200 Years of Silent Night

Our Advent worship series, which starts Dec. 2, marks the 200th anniversary of perhaps the best-loved Christmas carol: “Silent Night.” Our series celebrates the carol’s message over the entire season of Advent and highlight its call for our lives that can guide us all year.

Each Sunday is built around one of the four verses, starting with Peace on Dec. 2 — “Sleep in Peace.”

Video Study

Our Advent video study discussion will be “Home for Christmas.” Even during hard times, the light of Christmas shines brightly. “Home for Christmas” shares the real-life stories of formerly incarcerated men and women as they find work and opportunity through Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles, California. As we hear about their struggles, we will recognize the Advent themes of hope, love and peace in their lives, and maybe in our own.

Our study begins Fridays on Nov. 30 at 12:30 p.m. and Sundays on Dec. 2 at a time to be determined.

Assemble Care Packages

During Advent we will not only discuss the love that comes in Christ, but we will live out that love by assembling Care Packages for groups in our community each week. Current plans include college students (for final exams), McMahon Ryan Child Advocacy Center, first responders and our breakfast guests.

Save the Dates!


An autumn song-circle

“Thankfulness: an Autumn Song-Circle,” led by Elisa Sciscio-li, Ahrayna Zakos and Jay Leeming, will be held 2–4 p.m. Nov. 18 at Center of Grace, 8219 Market Place, Building 10, Manlius.

You’ll plunge into the joy of singing aloud, exploring chants and songs from African, Sufi, Hindu, European and American cultures in a beautiful and meditative way.

This will be a “perfection-free zone” in which all are invited to swim in our common ocean of song and melody. The group will also pause to be grateful together for all the gifts of this season. No previous singing experience is required.

Cost is a sliding scale of $15 to $25.
It's that time again. Pecans are being sold to support our Outreach and food pantry programs. It's been a good crop, and prices are the same or slightly lower than last year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pecan Prices</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extra-large pecan halves</td>
<td>16 oz</td>
<td>$12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cinnamon-glazed pecans</td>
<td>10 oz</td>
<td>$9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chocolate-covered pecans</td>
<td>12 oz</td>
<td>$9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glazed pecans</td>
<td>8 oz</td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pecan caramel clusters</td>
<td>8 oz</td>
<td>$8</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

It's been a good crop, and prices are the same or slightly lower than last year.

Still have pecans in your freezer?! Drop them in your Thanksgiving bag donations!

The crop will be shipped shortly. We will be available before and after church to take orders.

Or you can call Deb Virgo at 315-415-7840 or email dlvirgo@gmail.com

We lit candles for the past and present saints in our lives on Nov. 4, All Saints Sunday.
Livestreaming: Our service is livestreamed every Sunday. To watch, go to our webpage or to http://tinyurl.com/uumcliveworship

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 11
Sunday the 11th
9 a.m. Community Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
9:30 a.m. Christian Education, Pettengill Center
9:30 a.m. “Born a Crime” Book Study, Chappell Room
10:30 a.m. Worship.
11:45 a.m. Fellowship, The Gathering Room
Noon Soup & Sermon Chat, Chappell Room
Wednesday the 14th
9 a.m. Staff Meeting
Thursday the 15th
6 p.m. Worship, The Gathering Room
7 p.m. Church Conference, The Gathering Room
7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal, Pettengill Center
Friday the 16th
10 a.m. Friday Community

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 18
Sunday the 18th
9 a.m. Bagels & coffee, The Gathering Room
9:30 a.m. Christian Education, Pettengill Center
10:30 a.m. Worship.
11:30 a.m. Filling Thanksgiving Bags, Pettengill Center
11:45 a.m. Fellowship, The Gathering Room
Noon Soup & Sermon Chat, Chappell Room
Tuesday the 20th
9 a.m.-Noon Thanksgiving Bag distribution
Wednesday the 21st
9 a.m. Staff Meeting
Thursday the 22nd—Thanksgiving
Office Closed
Friday the 23rd
Office Closed

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 25
Sunday the 25th
9 a.m. Community Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
9:30 a.m. Christian Education, Pettengill Center
10:30 a.m. Worship.
11:45 a.m. Fellowship, The Gathering Room
Noon Soup & Sermon Chat, Chappell Room
Monday the 26th
7 p.m. Church & Society
Wednesday the 28th
9 a.m. Staff Meeting
Thursday the 29th
6 p.m. Worship, The Gathering Room
7 p.m. Choir rehearsal, Pettengill Center
Friday the 30th
10 a.m. Friday Community

WEEK OF DECEMBER 2
Sunday the 2nd
9 a.m. Bagels & coffee, The Gathering Room
9:30 a.m. Christian Education, Pettengill Center
10:30 a.m. Worship. Communication.
11:30 a.m. Advent Luncheon, Fellowship Hall
Wednesday the 5th
9 a.m. Staff Meeting
Thursday the 6th
6 p.m. Worship, The Gathering Room
7 p.m. Choir rehearsal, Pettengill Center
Friday the 7th
10 a.m. Friday Community

December birthdays
3 — Karabo Ratala
4 — Chrysa Charno
5 — Vera Onninen
6 — Samora Thebe, Danny Magowan
7 — Virginia Dewey
8 — Eleanor Huard
12 — Alex Huard
13 — Rev. Harold Garman
15 — Dr. Bruce Simmons, Debra Virgo, Claudette Brown-Smythe
17 — Christopher Huard
19 — Barbara Cargo
22 — Rachel Kgama
25 — Kevin Upcraft, Peter Smith
28 — Dr. Edwin Yarwood
On All Saints Sunday: 11 candles in memory of those killed at Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh.
Friday Bible Study Class
Serves Sunday Dinner at
Brown Memorial UMC
(2 photos)
Pastor Appreciation Sunday
October 21, 2018
During Children’s Time: Children learn they’re created in God’s image...so they have mirrors to look at themselves.
A drumming workshop after church.