Inside this issue:

- From Pastor Alicia: Looking ahead for denomination, UUMC
- Outreach: A look at what happens in a month
- Birthdays
- Altar flowers
- Ben Wiles
- Church & Society
- Potato pickup help
- People & Prayers
- Finance Corner

World Communion Sunday, plus Stewardship Drive in October

September is behind us, fall weather is here and the pace of activities picks up even more in October and beyond.

October kicks off with World Communion Sunday on the 6th, which also starts our Stewardship Drive.

For World Communion Sunday, you’re invited to bring an item from a culture or nation that is special to you for display on our Communion table. Please bring your item by 10:15 a.m. You can wear a special garment or item as well.

For the Stewardship Drive, each Sunday you’ll hear testimonies, with areas such as music ministry, Food Pantry, breakfasts and small groups touched on. Oct. 27 is Pledge Card Sunday, when you’ll be asked to make a commitment for 2020.

That final Sunday of October we also will receive new members.

On the other two Sundays, the 13th and 20th, we’ll have baptisms of Ellyn Gale’s granddaughter and Morgan and Dan Mastronardi’s daughter Ruby, respectively.

Along with the Stewardship Drive, we’re beginning a new worship series for October called “A Wonder-full Life.” It uses Scripture and the movie *It’s a Wonderful Life* and its characters’ reaction to a crisis with money to help us examine our own relationships with money.

The four Sundays’ themes are: “Looking Back,” “Looking In,” “Looking Out” and “Looking with Gratitude.”

Jazz group, barbershop chorus headed to UUMC

If you’re a fan of jazz or barbershop chorus music, or both, November is the month for you.

The Theodicy Jazz Collective will perform during worship on Sunday, Nov. 3, All-Saints Sunday, the day we remember those saints among us who have died in the past year.

The eight-member group describes its work as “incorporating sounds from the traditions of jazz and gospel music and rhythms from Latin America and Africa.” It says, “The music is a constant prayer, sometimes a shout of joy, sometimes a call to action, sometimes a cry for hope.”

After performing here, the collective will join with the Hendricks Chapel Choir at Syracuse University for a 4 to 5 p.m. program in the chapel that includes the Canterbury Jazz Mass.

On Nov. 9, Harmony Katz, a 60-member barbershop choral group, will perform 7:30-9 p.m. in an a cappella concert from which all pro-

See BARBERSHOP, Page 5
From our pastor...

Greetings!

I’ve just returned from the Leadership Institute held at the Church of the Resurrection in Kansas City. (Yes, I ate Kansas City barbecue! It was delicious!)

The Leadership Institute was focused on the future of our denomination, the United Methodist Church.

The conference started by reminding us of our history. There was a time when women were not able to be ordained because of the rules of the church.

We also had a dark time in our history when African Americans were segregated into a Central Conference. The Central Conference was not geographic like the other Annual Conferences but based only on race.

We were reminded that we have made it through these two exclusive ways of “doing church,” YET we have so much work to do to treat all people equal.

Many of the presenters, including several bishops, envisioned an inclusive future for the United Methodist Church, including our LGBTQ siblings in the full life of the church.

We heard three plans for inclusion that would also restructure the Global UMC that will hopefully become legislation at the General Conference 2020 in May in Minneapolis. Feel free to Google the three plans to learn more. They are the Indianapolis Plan, Next Generation UMC and UM Forward Plan.

Many people see the General Conference 2020 as the best chance to vote out the hurtful language in the Book of Discipline and include our LGBTQ siblings fully. I am hopeful.

I plan to attend some of General Conference 2020 to love and support my colleagues who are voting delegates.

This is a challenging time in our denomination. So many of us want to follow what Jesus called the greatest commandment to love God and our neighbors as ourselves. (Matthew 22:34-40).

For me, this means all our neighbors or all people despite the denomination’s polity.

I’ve just begun practicing the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. The first week is all about the realization that God loves each of us and calls us by name. (Isaiah 43)

If God knows my name, then God must know the names of our LGBTQ siblings and all others who have been excluded by the church in the past.

I look forward to updating you as things move forward. Let’s all continue to pray that hardened hearts are opened to the idea that ministry comes through our diversity.

As the denomination struggles to move forward, our congregation is on the move. We will continue to fight for change in our denomination as we actively share God’s love in worship and in service.

Our outreach is so vibrant and strong! Our music ministry sounds beautiful and blesses us weekly in worship! This autumn we will bring into our Christian family four babies through baptism and five or more people through membership.

With all this excitement and joy, our Stewardship Campaign begins this week.

As I reflect on our congregation I can’t help but think of our diversity. We are diverse in so many ways! How lovely! Our gifts are many and diverse.

I am reminded of the Widow’s Offering (Mark 12:41). The widow gave all she had and then some, although it was not much some people’s eyes.

Let us prayerfully consider our gifts to continue the ministry of the congregation as the widow once did. Although our gifts are diverse in number, every penny counts.

Your pledge card will ask for prayerful consideration of time and service. In ministry this is a very important part of our giving. Sharing God’s love is our call.

I am excited and grateful to be in ministry with you this autumn through Advent! It’s going to be another blessed year.

Peace and Blessings,

Pastor Alicia

Alicia Wood

Pastor Alicia at the Leadership Institute.
Outreach Ministry

One month’s activities: pantry, concert and much more

As the Outreach team with our large network of support folk, partner agencies and volunteers are preparing and amping up to begin our busiest time of the year, it was suggested to me that folk/congregants do not know all that the UUMC’s Outreach team does. I’d like to share a snapshot of one month of Outreach efforts within University United Methodist Church.

November 2019:

- **Friday, November 1, 8, 15, 22:** Food Pantry for the community, open clothing closet, Food Bank truck arrives filled with recycled foods, make diapers accessible, have voter registration & pro-literacy enrollment paperwork available for guests
- **Friday, November 1 - Monday, November 25:** Enroll, ready, purchase, order and stock supplies for Thanksgiving bags
- **Sunday, November 3:** Provide Bagel Breakfast for community/congregation
- **Sunday, November 10:** Support and offer volunteers to Community Breakfast
- **Tuesday, November 12:** Collect 5,000 diapers from the CNY Diaper Bank
- **Saturday, November 9:** Host fundraising Interfaith a cappella concert to benefit Food Pantries on the East Side of Syracuse.
- **Sunday, November 10:** Support and offer volunteers to Community Breakfast
- **Tuesday, November 15:** Food Bank truck delivery of 3 pallets of food
- **Saturday, November 16:** Pick up donation of 1,000 pounds of potatoes
- **Sunday, November 17:** Provide Bagel Breakfast for community/congregation
- **Monday, November 18 - Friday, November 22:** Final preparations for Thanksgiving bag giveaway
- **Tuesday, November 19:** Food Bank truck delivery of 2 or 3 pallets of food
- **Wednesday, November 20(?)**
- **Friday, November 22:** Cornell Cooperative Extension provides nutritional workshop for Food Pantry guests
- **Saturday, November 23:** Support and offer volunteers to Community Breakfast
- **Saturday, November 24:** Support congregation volunteers in packing Thanksgiving bags
- **Sunday, November 24:** Support and offer volunteers to Community Breakfast
- **Sunday, November 25:** Thanksgiving bag giveaway to community members
- **Wednesday, November 27:** Clean up/reorganize
- **Thursday, November 28:** Thanksgiving Day
- **Friday, November 29:** Redraft, Re-budget annual budget and contract for Upstate University
- **Sunday, November 30:** Provide Bagel Breakfast for community/congregation
- **Monday, December 2:** Order next food delivery from Food Bank
- **Tuesday, December 3:** Clean up/reorganize
- **Wednesday, December 4:** Thanksgiving Day
- **Thursday, December 5:** Redraft, Re-budget annual budget and contract for Upstate University
- **Friday, December 6:** Beginning efforts for December and Christmas events

*This is a partial list*

Although this may look like a page out of my calendar, imagine the details around each task, the volunteers, the food, the energy, the effort. We have become the largest Food Pantry in the Southeast Quadrant of the city of Syracuse. It truly takes a village to run an urban Outreach program.

All are welcome to join in our efforts. Please come by on a Friday or Sunday morning or join one of our Outreach meetings.

Galyn Murphy-Stanley, Outreach Coordinator
Longtime UUMC member Ben Wiles chats in church after worship Sept. 15, with his son, Chris, left, and Nelson Price and Nancy Hough. He died Sept. 26 at the age of 102. His service will be 10 a.m. Nov. 2 at UUMC.

Altar flowers
Altar flowers were given:
By Ginny and Bob Dewey in honor of Barbara and Jerry Cargo.

By Barbara Nunn in memory of her mother, Bernie Hinds’ birthday on Sept. 9.

By Ralph Best in memory of his wife, Elizabeth, and his mother, Elizabeth.

By David and Ellen Bacon in honor of their daughter Nancy Richmond’s birthday.

Flowers were given to the family of Furaha Adolphe, Rita and George Soufleris, Barbara and Jerry Cargo, Ted Guercio, Leigh Safford and Brad Bowers.

Flowers were delivered by Lee and Ed Potter.

November birthdays
5 — Lynn Steenberg, Ed Tillapaugh
6 — Monica Shworles
7 — Phyllis Wright
10 — Michael Grome
15 — Jim Virgo
16 — Jenny Hicks, Brian Finlayson-Schueler
19 — Robin Best, Connie Wilson
24 — Krystina Nilsson
25 — Roger MacDonald

Women’s Guild
The next Women’s Guild meeting is at 1:30 p.m. Oct. 23 in the Chappell Room. Lee Potter is the hostess. Dr. Bruce Simmons will talk about “Healthy and Successful Aging.”

There will be no meetings in November or December, followed by a 1:30 p.m. Jan. 22 meeting on consumer fraud hosted by Shirley Miller.

Sept. 22, the children tried juggling, in connection with Jesus’ parable about not being able to serve two masters. It’s like trying to juggle — your attention is divided.
Almost every year, the Society of Saint Andrew gleans the commercial produce fields of Maine and sends much of their product south and southwest.

We have been invited to partake in this wonderful event.

We desperately need volunteers to go to the UNY Conference Center, 7481 Henry Clay Blvd., Liverpool, on Saturday, Nov. 16, to help drive the potatoes to our neighborhood.

More information will come about pickup time. For more information, contact Outreach Coordinator Galyn Murphy-Stanley, outreach@uumcsyracuse.org.

The Church & Society Team’s mission is “Living FAITH, Seeking JUSTICE, Pursuing PEACE.”

In fulfilling the mission, the team will continue to conduct education sessions — teach-ins and documentaries, support sanctuary for people in need, lobby our political representatives, demonstrate/protest unjust actions and join other like-minded groups.

The team does not have a specific membership, as all interested parties are encouraged to participate in meetings and activities.

For example, the team believes clarity is needed before the next presidential election on the subject of economic systems.

For example, many Republicans may accuse the Democrats of standing for socialism, which they portray as an economic disaster such as found in Venezuela.

On the other hand, some Democrats portray our capitalism as an economic system of greed and oppression that is economically devastating to all but a few.

The truth is that there is misinformation presented by both sides.

Therefore, the team enlisted Syracuse University economics Professor Jerry Evensky to conduct a teach-in on “Socialism, Communism and Capitalism — What are these ‘isms’ about?” to help our understanding of these systems so we can better interpret the politicians’ positions.

The teach-in is 6:30 p.m. Dec. 4.

Other actions the C&S team has taken include support of sanctuary and monetary assistance for undocumented immigrants, Poor People’s Campaign and Green Light Campaign. The Green Light Campaign became law, allowing all New Yorkers, including undocumented immigrants, to apply for a driver’s license.

The next C&S Team meeting is 7 p.m. Oct. 23. All are welcome.

— Harry Miller

The Harmony Katz, who sing in four-part harmony, close each rehearsal with the following song:

“We sing to feel them all, the family in need.
We sing to answer every prayer a mother cannot heed.
We sing to touch the noble heart and raise the siren’s call.
We sing to feed each hungry child.
We sing to feed them all.”

We need volunteers to help support this event. Contact Outreach Coordinator Galyn Murphy-Stanley at outreach@uumcsyracuse.org.
DEATH
- Phyllis Lange, 92, died on Sept. 18. She was predeceased by her husband, the Rev. James Lange, who was pastor at UUMC and several other Upper New York churches. Phyllis was also the grandmother of Pastor Nate Lange, who currently serves Middleport UMC. Her funeral will be 3 p.m. Oct. 13 p.m. at Trinity Church, 2100 Whitehaven Road, Grand Island, New York. Condolences can be sent to Phyllis’ son, Mark Lange, at 2303 Staley Road, Grand Island, NY 14072.

THANK YOU
- Thank you for the altar flowers that Ed and Lee Potter brought to George and me this past Sunday. They are still so fresh and lovely in our front hallway, greeting us as we pass by. We appreciate the flowers and the loving care they represent.
  George and Rita Soufleris

CONTINUING PRAYERS
- Sherri Cullen: Kathy Dewey, Heidi Wise, Billy and Family, Patti Fasulo, Jeanne, Patti Walker and family, Melanie, Annette and her family and mom, Grace; Marc Therrien.
- Erika: Maria Storto, Ann Leduc, Barb and Bob Weaver

PRAYERS REQUESTED:
For Those in Military Service:
- Chance Lawson, Austin Payne, Ian Enderle

Sunday, September 8
- Barb and Bob: Alayah Green, Carus and Mary Olcott Sr., John Quiggle. The family of Karen Tourtilotte.
- Bruno: I say good morning, everybody, and invite all church to pray for the Congolese people and peace.

Sunday, September 15
- Barb and Bob: Alayah Green, Carus and Mary Olcott Sr., John Quiggle. The family of Karen Tourtilotte.
- Bruno: I say good morning, everybody, and invite all church to pray for the Congolese people and peace.
- Prophet Jesus: Bless the people who struggle and overcome strife in the environment!
- Sue: My family, those with health issues.
- Alice Makul: My sister, Anne, as she waits for surgery date.
- For all those trying to bring food, shelter and relief to the two Bahama Islands hit by Dorian. Those homeless. For Nichola, in boot camp.
- Thanking God every day just to be waking up each day. Praying for all in stuff they may be in and out of harm’s way.
- I am good.
- I believe with God, Congolese people have a final victory against enemy in DRC.
- Ann Owens: My niece Pam, who had a stroke. She is only 39 and has two small kids.
- Please pray for my friend in rehab.
- Patti Timp

Sunday, September 22
- Prayers of gratitude for the harvest, so many people calling for climate justice, for my friend’s recovery from cancer. Prayers of support for my sister about to give birth.
- For rental or future uses or ministries for our vacant space here at the church.
- Praise him: for another day thanks to my family of prayer, I am still working high school diploma. Keep me in your prayers.
- Our Church Community.
  See PEOPLE, Page 7
CONTINUED from Page 6

- Prayers for all who are still in crisis from hurricanes and floods. Prayers for Abby and her family as she continues to struggle with mental health issues. Prayers of thanks for our week of wonderful weather.
- Prayers for health and strength! Thank you.
- That students learn to help poor Americans find better jobs.
- I can succeed at my new job and for our parishioners and world peace and happiness.
- Julie Oscars: As I give thanks for my new career in real estate, please pray that I serve each of my clients with enthusiasm, integrity and skill.
- Sherri Cullen: Kathy Dewey, Grace Antonio, Annette Reed, Lisa and Donnie Stevenson.
- Peter: For shared wisdom on stewardship, to help us divest from what’s killing people and to put our resources where our values lead us.
- Elise: Prophet Jesus: Guide me to positive opportunities to serve you.

Sunday, September 29

- Keep Darren in your prayers.
- Barb and Bob: Alayah Green, Mary and Carus Olcott Sr., John Quiggle, Frank Clish.
- Prophet Jesus: Bless my household with abundance and learn the difference between need and want!
- Stephanie: Lots of praise this week! Prayers of gratitude for the birth of my nephew, Cruz David, and for his health and safe delivery. Also, I am grateful for a major dental procedure that went well. Prayers for our leaders, especially in the U.S., to act now to curb carbon emissions.
- Peter: For justice, not only retribution but restoration, so that all people who have been harmed will know the oppression is ended.
- God, please help me be kind and to love those different from me. Amen.
- Thank God for the life of Ben Wiles, 102, and prayers for his family in their grief.
- For our nation as we move into new territory. For the life of Ben Wiles. For all the good he did during his 102 years. His presence will be missed.
- I am so glad to see Adolphe, to receive new baby from God.
- A prayer for those without us.
- Mamie: I am grateful, everybody. I am proud to share love. I am a worthwhile woman. Believe in your heart you are too. May God’s grace keep you and bless you throughout your week.
- For our senior pastor at FUMC Hopkinsville, Paige Williams, as she goes through her time of trial.
- My family, Mary, those struggling with health issues.
- I believe God, the Congolese people have final victory against enemy in DRC.

THANKS & PRAISE & JOYS

Sunday, September 15

- We celebrate Vito and Janet’s 50th wedding anniversary.

Sunday, September 22

- Thank you for being with my friend Darren.
- Ann Owens: Congratulations to my niece Tricia and Scotty on their wedding today.
- Barb and Bob: JOY! Our 19th great-grandchild was born last Sunday, Loretta Jayne. She had some respiratory problems but is doing fine now. We are so blessed!

Sunday, September 29


Community Breakfast Request

Help is needed cleaning up and cleaning the silverware after the breakfast the second and fourth Sundays.

In an effort to conserve, silverware has replaced plastic utensils. Come at 9:30 a.m. if you can help.

ACTS “Race Matters” Book Club

The next meeting is 7 p.m. Oct. 28 at Holy Cross Church, 4112 E. Genesee St., DeWitt, on the book Love Your Enemies: How Decent People Can Save America from the Culture of Contempt by Arthur C. Brooks. For more information, contact ACTS Facilitator Peter Sarver at petersarverACTS@gmail.com.
### Finance Corner

**Pledging Update**
- 2019 total pledges: $203,474
- Total Pledges Rec’d: $160,433
- Non-pledge contributions: $14,047
- Thursday Service: $327
- Trustees Bathroom Renovation Fund: $24,625

**Sounds of the Spirit Visual Fund**
- Donations received: $95,991
- Expenses paid: $88,891
- Current balance: $7,100

### WEEK OF OCTOBER 6

**World Communion Sunday the 6th**
- 9 a.m. Bagels & coffee, The Gathering Room
- 10:30 a.m. Worship, Communion
- 11:45 a.m. Fellowship, The Gathering Room

**Noon**
- Soup & Sermon Chat, Chappell Room
- 6 p.m. Fast Track II Disciple Bible Study

**Monday the 7th**
- 1 p.m. Rule of Benedict study, Chappell Room
- 6 p.m. Handbell Choir rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday the 8th**
- 5:30 p.m. Governing Board

**Wednesday the 9th**
- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Pettengill Center

**Thursday the 10th**
- 10 a.m. Food Pantry, Clothes Closet, Diapers, Fellowship Hall
- 12:30 p.m. Book Study, Chappell Room

**WEEK OF OCTOBER 20**

**Sunday the 20th**
- 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
- 6 p.m. Fast Track II Disciple Bible Study

**Monday the 21st**
- 7 p.m. Handbell Choir rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

**WEEK OF OCTOBER 27**

**Sunday the 27th**
- 9 a.m. Community Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 11:45 a.m. Fellowship, The Gathering Room

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

**6 p.m.**
- Fast Track II Disciple Bible Study

**Monday the 28th**
- 12:30 p.m. Book Study, Chappell Room

**WEEK OF NOVEMBER 3**

**Sunday the 3rd**
- 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

**6 p.m.**
- Handbell Choir rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

**Monday the 4th**
- 7 p.m. Church & Society

**Wednesday the 6th**
- 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Pettengill Center

**Friday the 8th**
- 10 a.m. Food Pantry, Clothes Closet, Diapers, Fellowship Hall
- 12:30 p.m. Book Study, Chappell Room
Photo contributors:
Galyn Murphy-Stanley,
Jeanne Finlayson-Schueler
Emily Kenny (SU grad student)
Pastor Alicia
Pantry guests and others attend a Healthy Bucks workshop Sept. 6 during which they get information on eating and cooking healthy and then receive vouchers for fresh produce at the downtown farmers market.
Farewell to Barb and Jerry Cargo
September 8, 2019
(8 photos)
"Til We Meet Again"
Baptism of Leylanii Shand
September 15, 2019
(2 photos)
Baptism of Furaha Adolphe

September 29, 2019

(3 photos)