THE CHIMES

Jan. 11, 2012

Next Chimes deadline: Jan. 25

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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

WEEKLY CLASS OFFERS CHANCE TO LEARN DRUMMING

UUMC members will get a chance to get with the beat starting Jan. 31, when a weekly drumming course begins.

Music educator Nisha Purushotham will teach the course at 7 p.m. on four Tuesdays.

The goal is for enough members to learn drumming so it can be used in worship on occasion.

Nisha Purushotham

Purushotham will be in worship on Jan. 22 to introduce the congregation to drumming and will conduct a mini-workshop afterward. The class will participate in a worship service in February.

Purushotham is a multi-instrumentalist, singer-songwriter and artist educator based in Boston.

She is a classically trained pianist who learned and performed works from the Baroque, Romantic and Classical periods.

Since 1998, she has studied Afro-Caribbean and North Indian percussion traditions with master drummers from Cuba, Dominican Republic and India. She is a folk arts fellow of the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

In 2000, she founded The Rhythm and Roots Project, which builds community, animates creative expression, nurtures cultural knowledge and inspires social change.

This spring Purushotham is teaching a course, "Rhythm and Roots: Building Cross-Cultural Community through Drumming," at Syracuse University.

New organizational structure proposed

As we start a new year, a new organizational structure for our church has been developed.

This is not because the current structure is broken, but rather, because it seems desirable to use people and time in ways that are effective, efficient and beneficial to all programs and ministries.

Please review the projected structure **on page 4**, Feel free to contact Lay Leader Beth Drew with questions or comments at bmdrew@gmail.com or 492-9123.

The structure will be presented at the church conference Jan. 29 after worship.

Also on the agenda is the 2012 budget, annual reports and election of new leaders.

Great bargain hunting a gift that helps others

Rev. French

A week or so before Christmas, I received the following letter from an anonymous member of the church. I have condensed the letter just a bit, due to space limitations; but otherwise it is exactly as I received it. It speaks for itself, and you'll see why I want to pass it on to you.

Dear Pastor Craig:

The reminder in the Chimes about the clothing ingathering has prompted me to write you. Last year when Ms. Drew announced the in-gathering, she mentioned "gently used, and perhaps new" clothing. This last caught my ear and appealed to me as a "cool idea." As the service went on, and you were preaching, you touched on something that echoed with this, and then it kept popping up.

Now when I'm in worship, I try to attend to what is happening and at the same time "listen" for things that catch my attention. If something catches my attention twice, I will follow it, even if it means "tuning out" to what is happening.

(Sorry. This includes tuning you out, but I hope you can see that, when it's this kind of distraction, it is a response to the preaching).

Anyway, in this inner quiet, I started to work out if I could do this and what I could spend if I did. I came up with the idea of $30 and felt I was being encouraged to go ahead and do it. It seemed so small in terms of impact; not a very powerful gift.

Then I realized that one of my "gifts" is the ability to find things at great discounts (and I enjoy doing it). I grew up in a family that was not only a single parent for a number of years, but came from Scandinavian farm folk; the ability to get the most value for the resources available was not just a "life skill" but a virtue and almost ethical requirement.

As a result, from the age of 7 I learned not only about boxes of gently used clothes, but also how to go to rummage sales, fire sales, how to look for good quality clothes on sale and clearance racks. The key was to look for well-made things that for one reason or another were within economic reach. Even after our situation improved, these skills and approaches were the way we did things.

So in the pew I decided to go to Marshall's after church and see what I could do. It was a good time, because my family was out of town, so I had a sense of open time. I was excited. I also chuckled at myself; the old phrase, about worshiping God with our "prayers, presence, gifts and service" popped to mind. I was in prayer about this.

Warm winter outerwear was distributed on Christmas morning.

It was happening because of my presence in the pew, the presence of the people around me, you, the choir and Ms. Drew. The "service" component was clear, but I had never before thought of "gifts" as including things like "great bargain hunting." It cracked me up ... and also delighted me.

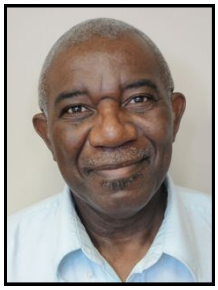
Without going into the story, I had a fun time with my $30 and 1 hour of time. I was able to get a large men's size winter jacket, fiber fill, hooded, warm; a set of insulated ski gloves; and a winter cap. The value on the tags from the original vendors came to about $173. (In my family we remember these things.) More importantly, they were well made, warm and new.

I was a little concerned about how my spouse might feel, since things were tight. When they got home, they not only thought it was great, but encouraged me when I said I wanted to share the story with you.

I am writing this to you for several reasons.

See 'THROWAWAY,' Page 8

Outreach/Mission



Believe it or not, 2011 is past and gone. I am glad that this change has taken place because it reminds me that the year is one of the many new things that happen in life.

During this time many persons will make pledges for the future. Some of them will be kept, others not, but I believe everyone will attempt something new.

As we approach these new things or goals, I suggest that we spend time in prayer recognizing that God is the director of our lives. In addition to praying we need to listen to the voice of God, especially on issues that are not very clear to us.

Consider sharing these dreams with those who will support you. Otherwise, some persons may seek to destroy your goal.

I am reminded of the magi who went to Herod to hear about the King of the Jews. He appeared to be excited to see and worship the newborn.

Toward the end of this story when Herod was not told where the child was located, he sent orders to destroy children within certain age ranges so he would be sure this child king was killed.

Thankfully, on this occasion, the King of the Jews was saved.

Begin to think about giving some praises for the victories you shall achieve this year. The magi brought valuable gifts and gave them to the King of the Jews. Consider giving God praises and some gifts for what God will do for us.

More than 160 people were served Christmas breakfast in Fellowship Hall.

A Christmas breakfast.

Budget

December 2011 ended on a very positive note: Our budget ended in the black because friends contributed funds to make this possible. Praise the Lord.

Christmas Breakfast/Giveaway

Christmas morning breakfast fed more than 160 persons, and the worship service took place in Fellowship Hall. We provided more than 100 persons with winter coats, hats, socks, etc. The children received their gifts from the businesses on the East Side of Syracuse.

Thanks to everyone who gave an item for the Christmas giveaway, and may you receive a blessing from God.

Thanks

We cannot but say thanks to members of the Outreach Board/Committee for the guidance they offered during the year. Each time we met, the members spent time in struggling with issues related to Outreach. In the end we were able to come to some conclusion and we could only give thanks to God.

Our Regrets

At this time I am saddened to hear of losses in the Nelson Price/Barbara Fought family. We know it is a difficult time for one person to lose a family member but when both of them lose someone at the same time, I believe it is more devastating. Please continue to support them with your prayers.

The Outreach Board/Committee now meets on Wednesday evenings and it has proven successful for the members. I hope this will be more practical to some of the individuals who desire to serve on it. Please continue to work with us as we reach out to others this year.

Thanks for all your help.

— Joseph Smythe
Interim Outreach Coordinator

Update

A dozen more coats are needed to give away to those in need in the following sizes:

Women's: 3 extra-large, no tight waistbands;

Men's: 1 large, 3 XL large, 3 XXL, 1 XXXL and 1 XXXXL or XXXXXL.

Proposed New Organizational Chart and Structure for UUMC (January 2012)

UNY Annual Conference

Bishop + District Superintendent

Governing Board
(overall leadership, direction-setting, vision-keeping)

Chair, Lay Leader, Pastor, SPRC Chair, Trustees Chair, Finance Chair, Chairs of "Body" + "Mind" + "Spirit"

8 – 10 "right" *leaders*, with clear mentoring model and accountability. Meets at least 6 times / year.

Core Values

Jesus + UMC + UNYAC

John Wesley

Bishop Schnase

Pastor John Helmiere

UUMC Mission / Vision

UUMC Current Priorities

UUMC Historic Emphases

Pastor

Church Staff

Congregational Meetings

2 – 3 / year

Feeding God's People . . .

Administration

Trustees / Finance

SPRC

Nominations

Lay Leader

Lay Member of AC

Treasurer + Fin. Sec.

Safe Sanctuaries

(Syr. City UMC's)

Body

Chair:

Food Pantry

Community Breakfast

Outreach/Missions

Hospitality

Reconciling Ministry

Circles / Bridges

ACTS

(Membership)

Mind

Chair:

Christian Education

Youth

Sunday Childcare

Stewardship

Creation Stewardship

Native American Min.

Evening Guild

(Small Groups)

(Urban Training Ctr.)

(SCSD/NHS Partnership)

Spirit

Chair:

Worship

Music

Orchestra

Youth choir(s)

Communion

Ushers

Acolytes

Art & Heart

Care & Share

Stephen Ministry

Spirit Film

Meet some of UUMC's group of new members

UUMC welcomed nine new members and two affiliate members Dec. 18. The nine are Ralph Best, Caroline Brackett, Joyce Flynn, Katie Flynn, Eleanor Hunt, Robby Lewis, Greg Mahoney, Gary Peck and Dale Spicer. Dean Moyer and Carol Moyer, retired ministers, have chosen UUMC as their clergy conference.

In this and future issues of The Chimes, you'll learn more about them.

Joyce Flynn was born in Syracuse and came back here after getting her degree in physical therapy at Quinnipiac College (now University) in Connecticut.

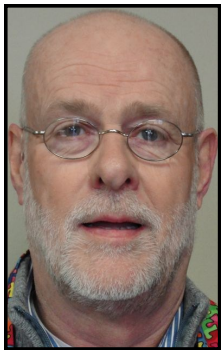
Joyce Flynn

She has spent her entire career working with people with developmental disabilities.

She now coordinates physical therapy services for the Central New York Developmental Services Office, a state agency that meets the comprehensive needs of the developmentally disabled population.

She's married to her husband of 31 years, Sean, and they have three children, Katie, Maggie and Laura. Her hobbies include reading, gardening and outdoor activities.

She's enjoyed helping with the community breakfasts and Thanksgiving bags and really likes the many mission opportunities at UUMC.



Gary Peck

Gary Peck was born in the North Country in Gouverneur. He has lived mostly in Syracuse since 1970.

Gary graduated from SUNY Canton with a degree in business.

He worked in food or food –related sales and just retired at the end of 2011. He spent 20 years in the dairy industry, selling manufactured products from milk to the grocery and food service industry, a number of years nationally to the quick serve restaurant chains, such as Burger King, Arby's, Wendy's, etc. He retired from a food brokerage business after 12 years.

Currently, he is involved in a couple of part-time jobs: usher at the Carrier Dome for sports events and per diem counselor aide at Syracuse Behavioral Healthcare.

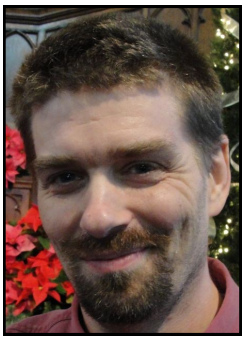
Gary's wife, Susan, retired six years ago as a nurse practitioner. They have four children from previous marriages.

Gary loves sports and to this day remains athletic. He ran two marathons in his mid 50s. He works out in the gym and walks 20 miles weekly.

Gary is concerned about food availability in the community and about people who struggle in life financially or with drug or alcohol addictions.

Robby Lewis grew up in Hannibal. He studied one year at Divine Word College in Epworth, Iowa, then moved to Florida.

He has been back in New York State for two years since his mother's death and is going back to school at Cayuga Community College.



Robby Lewis

Robby has worked in retail, banks and taxing agencies.

Sundays you've likely seen Robby, because he works part time on building superintendent Don Betz's crew. He also works part time at Home Depot.

His dad lives in Hannibal, where he is the town judge. His brother Jeremy lives in Fulton with wife Samantha. Brother Danny lives in Montgomery, Texas.

Robby is a Star Wars fanatic. Quiz him on anything about Star Wars; he'll probably know it.

Robby said he'd like to be involved in the reconciliation ministries of UUMC.

Organist Change

Fred Willard has taken over as UUMC's interim organist, a post he will hold until Palm Sunday. A change was made because of scheduling difficulties involving previous organist Josh Smith. Look for more on Fred in an upcoming issue of The Chimes.

People Connection

THANKS

- For gifts already received and those to come, and for the forgiveness of others given to me. This is truly a gift.
- From **Betsy Wiggins**: Thank you for your healing prayers and beautiful flowers. I'm feeling better.
- For **John's** successfully surgery and for **Jason's** recovery, from **Grandma**
- I give thanks for a bright new year and celebrate God's work, from **Elise**
- For the joy of music and for all the volunteers who share their gifts so generously, from **Martha**
- For Lois' successful knee surgery. Thank you for UUMC's generosity in giving coats, hats, scarves and gloves, from **Grandma Ann**
- From **Gwen Tillapaugh-Fay:**

To my UUMC family:

The gifts of your kindness, support and care have been of great comfort for me and my family. Last week's altar flowers continue to provide grace and beauty and are a reminder that God's hand now hold my sister Christine with everlasting love!

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR:

- Special prayers for **Roseanne Samuel** as she assists her father's transition from the hospital to a nursing home, from **Ginny and Bob Dewey**
- **Kate Zinsmeister,** our granddaughter, and Steve Harvey, who were married Dec. 30. Bless their union, Lord.
- My mother, **Hilda Fryer**. She is having hip replacement surgery on Tuesday, from **Dale Fryer**.
- **Barbara Fought and Nelson Price,** on the deaths of Barbara's mother, **Marge Fought**, of Ohio, and Nelson's sister, **Fran Lund**, of Florida.
- My friend **Sean Harvey** and his family as his father recovers from his recent heart transplant, from **Julia**
- **Danny Sumrall**, father of **Nathan**, hospitalized in Singapore with heart problems, from **Martha**
- My step-sister, **Tracy Engle**, as she battles breast cancer, from **Karen**
- **Janice and Jack Carrigan,** who lost their daughter, **Kellie**
- A boxer named **Casey**
- All the military around the world be safe
- Family and friends of **Wayne Brubaker,** who died Dec. 20 in Gaithersburg, Md. He was a friend of **Don and Margo Koten**
- **Valerie**, who will be having major surgery this Thursday. Prayers for her healing.
- The students in our schools to teach and learn with vigor!
- My mother, who needs everyone's loving thoughts
- My sister, **Ruth Williams,** who is in ICU at Crouse Hospital, from **Mattie Hightower**
- My niece, **Nicole Lannon,** in Rochester, as she grieves the loss of her mother, from **Gwen**
- Our support of people with disabilities and other needs, that we may never ignore their strengths and needs, from **Peter Swords**
- **Heather Spears,** give her the strength to walk again and run with her son
- Those missing loved ones at this holy time of year. May your peace comfort their hearts
- Those who have difficulty coming to church
- Those battling cancer, especially my friend's mother who was just diagnosed with lymphoma
- **Susan Nicholson**, niece of **Ed Potter**, prayers for dealing with ongoing health issues
- All the police who must, in the line of duty, take another's life. Bless the families of both
- For **Tiffany, Josh and Arrowood family**, on the loss of their son —Josh's brother — **Jonathan**. Prayers of love and healing to their entire family.
- Thanksgiving for the life of my **Aunt Gini**, who died this week, and consolation for her family, from **Craig French**
- Give my friend **Joe,** and others like him, the strength to overcome Parkinson's
- Bless this church and its many good works
- The many blessings of 40 years of marriage
- **Ted Thuma**, for ongoing health concerns
- The life of **Cheryl Spear**, friend and colleague, who led people with disabilities at SU, and backed them up against oppression. Though she couldn't see, she helped us all see better, from **Peter Swords**
- Those in military service: **Nathan Miller, Jim Pettyjohn and Matt Fischer**

See **PEOPLE CONNECTION,** Page 8

Finance Corner

Update on pledging and income

Pledged in 2011	$183,114	Total Ministry Income 2010	$255,378
Actually Paid in 2011	$146,590	Total Ministry Income 2011	$241,176
Variance	($36,524)	Variance	(5.6%)
Ministry Income **Needed** in 2012		$260,000	
Pledged to Date		$198,000	

"Sounds of the Spirit"

The "Sounds of the Spirit" capital campaign to improve the quality of the sound in the sanctuary and provide digital recording capabilities to enable UUMC to reach beyond our walls is under way. Checks should be made out to University UMC with a notation of "SOS."

Offering Envelopes

Anyone who wants numbered offering envelopes should contact Charles Chappell III after worship or call the church office. Having numbered envelopes helps in recording contributions.

February birthdays

4th – Josh Barkan
6th – Gwen Sacia
7th – Mellamby Duru
8th – Tom Boll
9th – Starke Donnally
12th – Abraham Lincoln
16th – Robert Morris Jr.
18th – Mattie Hightower
19th – Jan Garman
20th – Aidan Brackett
21st – Taylor Bacon
23rd – Roseanne Samuel
25th – Johanna MacDonald
29th – Michael Messina-Yauchzy

Thanks to decorators, deliverers during Advent

Members of the Art and Heart Committee would like to thank the following volunteers for decorating the church, arranging the poinsettias in the sanctuary and/or delivering the poinsettias or baked goods to shut-in members and others associated with the congregation.

These include: Steve Bacon, Bette Helwig, Sue Bambacht, Tom and Carol Boll, Judith Bowers, Barbara Cargo, Charles Chappell III, Ernie and Bobbie Hemphill, Don and Margo Koten, Jo-Ann May, Marg McDivitt, Barbara Nunn, Ed and Lee Potter, Rita Soufleris, Peter Swords, Debra Virgo, Chris and Tom Welch, and Jim Wiggins.

Those receiving either the poinsettia or the baked goods were: Gregory Bayne, Charles Chappell Jr., Ila and Thomas Christoff, Beth Drew, the Dahal Family, Bernie Hinds, Ruth Houser, the Hso Family, Freda Kirkley, Mary Klepper, Dorothy Logan, Arlene Musilli, BJ and Larry Meyers, Mercia Palmer, Martha and William Potter, Marion Rush, Don Steenberg, Joseph Smythe, John Swords, Diane Tarbell, Genn and Ted Thuma, Beth Welch, Betsy Wiggins and Ben Wiles.

Stephen Ministry Series

The next Stephen Ministry continuing education series offering is 7 to 8 p.m. Jan. 17 in the Pettengill Center on "Financial Challenges: When to Refer." A representative from Clear Point Credit Counseling Solutions will speak.

Gatherings for Newcomers

Please join Pastor Craig French, lay leader Beth Drew and other newcomers to UUMC each month for conversation, refreshments and a chance to get to know each other.

We will be gathering at Beth's home, 4569 O'Dell Place, Jamesville, Jan. 24 at 7:30 p.m. Please respond to the church office, 475-7277 or uumc@twcny.rr.com, or to Beth, 492-9123 or bmdrew@gmail.com.

Annual Reports

2011 annual reports are due Jan. 16. Please send as an attachment via email to uumcrk@twcny.rr.com. All reports should be signed. If you need a copy of your 2010 annual report please email Rachel Kgama or call the church office at 475-7277.

SpiritFilm

Our SpiritFilm selection for January is "The Descendants," a sensitive story of death, loss and parenting. We will be meeting on Saturday, Jan. 14 at the Price/Fought home, 6312 Hamlet Crest, across from CBA, at 7:30 p.m. We hope to see you there.

Martin Luther King Celebration

The Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance will hold a Martin Luther King community observance at 5 p.m. Jan. 15 at Living Water Church of God in Christ, 121 Huron St.

'Throwaway lines' can sometimes open the way

CONTINUED from Page 2

One is, as my pastor, I want to thank you and to let you know one small slice of what is happening as you lead us in worship. There are many things that never get back that can be encouraging.

I also hope you would pass on my thanks to Ms. Drew, both personally and as encouragement; sometimes those spontaneously, gently put "throwaway lines" do open the way in someone else's walk with God. It's not just the words, but the spirit of the person who expresses them.

I am also writing this for my own sake; to express the story and appreciation helps make it more real to me as well.

I would have liked to be able to explore this with you as my pastor, but I have decided not to tell you in person for several reasons.

First, it was clear to me in the pew that part of the "leading" said that this one needed to remain "in secret" for my own benefit.

Second, I wanted you to be free to share this with Ms. Drew.

Third, if you thought that this approach might seem "cool" to someone else, I wanted you to feel free to share it. We learn a lot from each other.

Appreciatively and Fondly

Evening Guild Move

The next Evening Guild meeting is 1 p.m. Jan. 25 at Barb Cargo's home. It had been scheduled for the church.

University United Methodist Church

Feed My People: Body, Mind, and Spirit

1085 East Genesee Street, Syracuse, NY 13210
Phone: 315-475-7277 Fax: 315-475-8995
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Return service requested

Dated material

Week of January 15

Sunday the 15th
9:30 a.m. Christian Education
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:45 a.m. Fellowship - Gathering Room
Monday the 16th
Office Closed: Martin Luther King Jr. holiday
Tuesday the 17th
7 p.m. Stephen Ministry Continuing Education Series: "Financial Challenges: When to Refer"
Wednesday the 18th
10:30 a.m. Staff meeting
Thursday the 19th
7:30 p.m. Senior Choir rehearsal
Friday the 20th
10 a.m. - noon Food Pantry

Week of January 22

Sunday the 22nd
9 a.m. Community/Church Breakfast
9:30 a.m. Christian Education
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:45 a.m. Fellowship - Gathering Room
Wednesday the 25th
10:30 a.m. Staff meeting
Thursday the 26th
7:30 p.m. Senior Choir rehearsal
Friday the 27th
10 a.m. - noon Food Pantry

Week of January 29

Sunday the 29th
9:30 a.m. Christian Education
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Church Conference in sanctuary
11:45 a.m. Fellowship - Gathering Room
Tuesday the 31st
7 p.m. Drumming class, Gathering Room
Wednesday the 1st
10:30 a.m. Staff meeting
Thursday the 2nd
7:30 p.m. Senior Choir rehearsal
Friday the 3rd
10 a.m. - noon Food Pantry

People Connection

CONTINED from Page 6

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR:
CROSSROADS DISTRICT CHURCHES AND PASTORS:

- **Jan. 8:** Syracuse: University, Craig French; West Genesee, Rebecca Laird
- **Jan. 15:** Ira UMC, Susan Townsend; Tully, Keith Wimmersberger
- **Jan. 22:** Warners, Wade Jarrett
- **Jan. 29:** All appointments beyond the local church

Singing Christmas carols for guests at our Neighborhood Christmas Dinner.

Gary Peck puts hot biscuits into a basket for the neighborhood Christmas dinner.

Serving guests at the Neighborhood Christmas Dinner.

A plate shows the food at the Neighborhood Christmas Dinner.

Rows of desserts await distribution at the Christmas dinner.

Preparing an angel for the Christmas Eve pageant.

An angel gets her set of wings.

Three angels waiting to announce the birth of Jesus.

Angels herald Jesus' birth.

Mary (Sandra Courcy), Jesus (Josiah Williams—Sandra's son) and Joseph (Stephon Henton).

Three kings—Nichola Weah, Taylor Bacon and David Magowan—visit Jesus

Barb Cargo and Gwen Tillapaugh-Fay cut fruit for Christmas morning breakfast.

Greg Mahoney scrambles the eggs for Christmas breakfast.

Mike Fay fills up the orange juice dispenser on Christmas morning.

Brad Bowers plays Christmas music for Christmas breakfast.

Singing Christmas carols in Fellowship Hall during worship after Christmas morning breakfast.

Jo-Ann May, right, speaks with a breakfast guest.

Guests, members and friends eat breakfast Christmas morning.

Where the armory garage once stood, apartments for college students are under construction. Projected completion is in August.