

THE CHIMES

January 9, 2019

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**Next Chimes
deadline:
January 30**

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.

Alicia Wood, Pastor
Tom Boll, Editor

Worship series calls us to connect with creativity given to each of us by God

Get ready to be "Drawn In" during our next worship series.

It's about "Living the Creative Life with God" and runs for six weeks from Jan. 20 to Feb. 24.

This series notes that we often focus on what we "should" do rather than what excites us and what we feel compelled to do. It encourages us to connect with the creativity in each of us and make the world a better place for all.

The weekly themes are as follows: Jan. 20, "Dream"; Jan. 27 "Hover"; Feb. 3, "Risk"; Feb. 10, "Listen"; Feb. 17, "Re-integrate"; and Feb. 24, "Resting."

Included in this series are weekly



children's projects that will be done during worship.

We need a few adults or older children to sit with the younger children and assist and supervise them as they

work on and finish their projects in the sanctuary.

The projects include fingerprint art, resist dot art, sculpture art, collage art, chalk art and color prayers.

Part of the weekly prayer for Children's Time sums up the series:

We "make our belief" that God is playing and creating through people in all places and God plays and creates with us too!

Teach-in/potluck planned about pivotal General Conference

A congregational teach-in and potluck will be held Sunday, Jan. 20, after worship.

This will help us, as a reconciling church, be informed on the special session of the General Conference Feb. 23-26 in St. Louis that will be crucial to the future of the United Methodist Church.

The session will determine how the denomination moves forward by addressing the fact that the Book of Discipline explicitly disallows the ordination of self-avowed homosexuals.

Proposed changes will be decid-

ed upon by the delegates in attendance. The General Conference will consider and vote on a way forward.

Help sought with pastor review

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee is conducting its annual review of the pastor's performance.

The committee asks your help in this effort by completing a form that will be attached to the weekly eblast on Friday and enclosed in the bulletin on Sunday. Your responses will be confidential.

2019: A year to tell stories about how UUMC has changed lives



Alicia Wood

Greetings!

I come to you full of reflection and excitement for the new year.

2018 was a good year for our Outreach ministries and worship experience. It was a challenging year financially.

In 2019 I hope we can dream big together so that we will “Feed God’s People: Body, Mind and Spirit” through outreach, worship and Bible study and use our building space as an asset.

I have so much hope and excitement for our year to come because I see God working through us.

Several things have come together this January that seem to complement each other or work together for God’s greater good.

October 2018 I attended the Bishop’s Retreat. The speaker

was Clif Christopher. His presentation challenged me so much that I brought home his book for each member of the Governing Board and Trustees.

We are currently in the process of reading and discussing Christopher’s book, “Not Your Parents’ Offering Plate.” It is a book about church finances that touches on almost every part of church.

Christopher encourages churches to tell their story. So I asked our pantry guests Friday if some would be willing to share their story on how University UMC has affected their life.

Three people immediately stood up and said they would share their story. I was blown away by their openness! University UMC is sharing God’s love in a tangible way!

Please know I will be asking you to share your story on how University UMC has affected your life. Our stories are the stories of

our congregation acting as Jesus’ hands and feet.

Our next worship series is called “Drawn In.” We will be encouraged to be creative and dream about what God has in store for us.

What better way to do this than by learning from children?

In this worship series, we will take the lead from the children’s creativity each week. We will remember how to be unafraid to dream up new life-giving ideas.

I am hopeful in 2019 we will get creative in our worship, Outreach Ministries and our building space so that our finances fall into place. Here’s the thing. We can’t do it without you ... and your prayers ... and your creativity. I just know God has much work to be done in our congregation and our city.

Happy New Year!

Peace and Blessings,

— *Pastor Alicia*

People & Prayers

CONTINUED from Page 5

JOYS, THANKS & PRAISE

Sunday, December 16

- Joy to see **Nate Appleton**

Sunday, January 6

- **Alphonsina:** I thank God for everything he has done for me. I want to take this moment to say goodbye to all the members of the church. I need your prayers as I am leaving Syracuse.
- **Jayne:** Good luck to **Alphonsina**, who leaves for Job Corps on Tuesday! Thanks for **Albertina** visiting from Job Corps for Christmas vacation!
- Congratulations to **Rebekah**

Altar flowers

Altar flowers were given by:

- ◆ Jim and Deb Virgo in memory of Jim’s parents, Roderick and Dorothy Virgo
- ◆ The Altar Guild in memory and honor of UUMC loved ones.

Flowers were given to Gerry Mastronardi, Lois Lum and David Griffith and Erin Houghtaling, soloists in the East Syracuse-Minoa Chamber Choir.

Flowers were delivered by Deb Virgo, Morgan Mastronardi and Alicia Wood.

February birthdays

- 2 – Bette Helwig
- 7 – Domonick Weah
- 8 – Tom Boll
- 9 – Starke Donnally
- 19 – Jan Garman
- 20 – Aidan Brackett
- 21 – Taylor Bacon
- 23 – Roseanne Samuel
- 25 – Elise Curry-Schemichen

Women’s guild

The next meeting is 1:30 p.m. Jan. 23 in the Chappell Room, hosted by Janet Sciscioli. A representative from McMahan/Ryan Child Advocacy Center will speak.

2018 ends with whirlwind of activity in last two months



**Galyn
Murphy-
Stanley**

University United Methodist Outreach ministry has just completed two of its busiest months of the year.

During the months of November and December weeks of effort knit together into our main annual events.

Our efforts begin each summer reaching out to donors, ordering, having delivered and storing nonperishable food from the CNY Food Bank and our other food resource sites.

Guests are enrolled into programs of interest, rooms are reserved and support staff and volunteers are recruited and put in place.

Eventually, fresh foods arrive to UUMC along with decorations, tools, increased volunteers and additional supplies.

November brings our Thanksgiving Bag giveaway project. This year 146 households

received a Thanksgiving bag. These bags fed more than 500 people Thanksgiving dinner.

In early December UUMC hosts East Genesee Regent Association's children's Christmas party. We registered about 100 community children to attend this free event.

Our annual Christmas dinner saw approximately 175 guests in mid-December.

Additionally, our Friday morning Food Pantry becomes particularly busy during the holiday season.

We work hard to ensure our guests leave each week with lots of foods to stock their cabinets for snow days, holiday visitors or children home from school during their holiday vacation.

A total of 3,700 diapers from the CNY Diaper Bank were moved out to families each month.

In November, 847 individuals were provided foods through UUMC's Food Pantry. In December 501 individuals received

food. There is still breakfast and worship each Sunday. Worship on Thursday evening and our evening Food Pantry for Upstate Medical University students.

We attempted two fundraising events, collected and made available a bevy of winter outerwear to all of our visitors.

This month we hope to secure our relationship with Upstate Medical University's student support, find new supporters for our Pet Food pantry, find a bakery that might donate pastries for our Friday morning visitors, restock our shelves and rejuvenate ourselves.

Our volunteers labor tirelessly with us ensuring all of our events are accomplished. They deserve a break.

This spring will bring more activities. We'll be ready to take on these events and the folks who come with them.

— Galyn Murphy-Stanley
Outreach Coordinator

Thanks from Altar Guild for decorators, flower deliverers

Again this year members of the Altar Guild want to thank volunteers who decorated the church, arranged poinsettias in the sanctuary and continued the UUMC tradition of delivering flowers to shut-ins and others associated with the church.

Poinsettias were either given or delivered to recipients after the Dec. 23 church service.

The volunteers involved in some or all of the above activities include: Steve Bacon and Bette Helwig, Tom and Carol Boll, Ju-

dith Bowers, the Faley family, Ernie and Bobbie Hemphill, Don and Margo Koten, Danny and Kirsten Magowan, Marg McDivitt and Ralph Best, Bruce Moyer, Barbara Nunn, Ann Owens and Ed and Lee Potter.

Those receiving poinsettias were: Nate Appleton, Marilyn Benedict, Mike Camione, Rosemary Chappell, Hilde Cooper, Starke Donnally, Dale Fryer, Nancy Hough, Dorothy Logan, Lois Lum, Lois McTarnaghan, Jo-Ann May, Ann Milner, Bruce Moyer,

Dean Moyer, Carol Moyer, Eddie Nunn, Tom Owens, Erika Vitthuhn, Bob and Barb Weaver, Ben Wiles Jr., Mary Wilson, Phyllis Wright and Ed Yarwood.

A bag of baked goods was delivered to William and Martha Potter, and chocolates were taken to Keith and Phillip Wellner.

Flowers were given to thank Danny Magowan and Aimee deBerjeois in appreciation for special musical contributions provided during Advent.

People & Prayers

DEATH

- **The Rev. Velma Brock**, an Episcopal priest who served UUMC as an associate pastor, died Dec. 9 at the age of 81.

CONTINUING PRAYERS

- **Sue: Bruce and Ella**, my family and all those struggling with health issues
- **Sherri Cullen: Family of Greg Walker, Kathy Dewey, Patti Fasulo, Billy Howard and family, Betty Baldwin, Nora and Dad, Darlene, Jeanne and Shane, Rosie and Family**
- **Barb and Bob Weaver: Alayah Green and family, Carus Olcott Jr., Mary and Carus Olcott Sr., Charlotte Edick and family**
- **Erika: Barb and Bob Weaver, Maria Storto and family, Katie Green and family.** Pray for my church family

PRAYERS REQUESTED:

- For those in military service: **Matt Fischer**

Sunday, December 9

- **Maria Storto and Family, Alan Green and family, Barb and Bob Weaver**
- Please pray for my mother, who has health issues. Please pray for me and my little family. **Janice Myers.** Thank you.
- Prayers for continuing recovery of **Nate Appleton.**
- **Lois Lum**, who would love cards and visitors. She is at Iroquois Nursing Home. See **Ann Owens** for more info.
- Pray for the people of Yemen. May peace come to that country.
- **Brad Allen:** Please pray for me.

- **Robert:** Forgiveness and amends
- Brother-in-law **Andy**
- **Tim and Debbie Anderson**
- I wish a good Christmas for all family and in Christ and my family.
- **Sue:** My family, good test results tomorrow.
- For our military, give strength to all who work for preventive hot line, may God give them guidance especially this time of year.
- Prayers for the family **Jim Marshall** on the death of his son **Peter.**
- Families spending their first Christmas without a recently deceased loved one.
- Prayers for **Lynn and my mom.** They are having surgery this week.
- **Jean Conte Mallaro and Elaina Renfrew**, prayers for successful healing from cancer surgeries for them.
- For our Onondaga Nation neighbors, who consider all the migrants from Central America as their brother and sisters whose ancestors came north on the same route.

Sunday, December 16

- For **Charles Quotaye** as he mourns the passing of his sister in Ghana
- **Sue:** My family. A joy: I received good test results.
- Prayers of thanks for Abby's improvement. Prayers for a ceasefire in Yemen and peace for all who live there.
- **Jim and Debbie**, who lost a friend this week, **Mrs. Spicer.**
- **Anne** to regain her strength. Mercy for **Mel.**

- **Jacob Upcraft:** I pray for the people of California.
- For my friend **Pam's** surgery.
- I know the love of Christ makes the peace in the world. I need also in my country.
- **Steve:** Lord, Make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is doubt may I install hope, where there is sadness joy.
- Please pray for **Karen Brock and the Brock family.** Rev. Velma Brock died Dec. 9 in Maryland.
- **Glaina Renfrew, Marie Summerwood.**
- Prayers of Gratitude: For celebration of **Vera** Turning 4! For friends who helped mark the day. For the much-needed employment of my brother-in-law!
- **Esther Pardue, Ferne Twomey and Barb Gilbraith**
- For the people and children on our border and in Yemen.
- **Jim Tallman:** A Special Olympics athlete from Oswego died last week, **Annmarie Spicer.**
- **Angela: Lois Lum**
- A prayer for all those traveling and a blessed Christmas.
- Prayers for **Michael and Shirley.** Michael is receiving treatment again for an illness.
- Prophet Jesus: Please heal my husband, **Richard**, for he suffers from intestinal problems.

Sunday, December 23

- **Jean Conte Mallaro, Marie Summerwood, Elaina Renfrew, Hilde Cooper.**
- Pray for my family, especially See **PEOPLE**, Page 5

People & Prayers

CONTINUED from Page 4

- my son **James**, who needs mental healing and spiritual healing.
- **Hilde Cooper, Lois Lum.** Those who are traveling.
 - **Angela: Lois Lum**
 - Peace on Earth
 - **Peter:** For our housemate, **Ally**, who is working on applying for graduate school.
 - **Courtney:** God letting us live a long time.
 - Prayers of thanks for both our personal family and our church family. Prayers of concern for **Paul D.**, who is undergoing testing for cancer. Prayers of care and concern for **Marva**, a co-worker of Katie's who suffered a severe stroke.
 - Prayers for those in Syria and other areas of war and dissent.
 - Thank God for Christmas.
 - I would ask all members in Christ to pray for peace in DRC.
 - **Lois Lum**
 - **Alayah Green, Carus Olcott Jr., Mary and Carus Olcott Sr., Charlotte Edick**
 - My family, **Marie Summerwood**, those struggling with health issues.
 - Prophet Jesus: Praise your arrival for, our hope and truth have been realized! Alleluia!!
 - **Barb and Bob Weaver, Katie Green and Family, Maria Storto and family.** Merry Christmas to my church family!
 - **Alphonsina:** I am so happy to be here today. Happy Christmas for everyone.
 - **Willie:** For my wife to be healthy. Also to cure cancer.
 - **Mike Rodda:** The family of

Mary Tarby

- Prayers of gratitude for all the joys of the season. Prayers for all those coping with loss and grief in the midst of the seasons joy.
- Happy Birthday to **Sandra Hough!**
- Keep **Jim Tallman** in your prayers. His side has been hurting him.

Sunday, December 30

- **Linda Bergh:** Palestinian children in the West Bank and Gaza, especially those in Israeli jails.
- **Gwen:** Prayers for dear family friend **Jimmy Keough** recovering in a Long Island hospital.
- For the USA president to renew our usual work as a country.
- For safe travels and for everyone a blessed New Year's.
- **Therese Hennessey and family**, who lost a son unexpectedly.
- See me through this middle-age crisis.
- For everyone who has lost a loved one this year.
- Help us to be thankful for all the gifts we have, and those yet to come.
- **Lois Lum**
- Prophet Jesus: I praise you for a blessing that I had received. Happy Kwanzaa!
- Dear God, Guide **Chance** in his journey over the next few weeks. He got sick in boot camp and lost a few weeks. Please give him strength, courage, guidance, and help him through the next phases of this training.
- **Christopher Mooney:** That the people with the power to do

so, promote a world of peace and prosperity.

Sunday, January 6

- For my son, who is going through a difficult time.
- For **Laura Blair**, who is going through a foot procedure Jan. 11 to have a speedy recovery.
- **Kathy:** Prayers for my dad and mom. Prayers for a win in the NFL playoff for the Bears today!
- **Sue:** My family. **Marie Summerwood.** Those struggling with health issues.
- **Alec:** Please pray and donate if you can as **Pastor Lynnette Cole** lost her home and her church in a fire this past Wednesday.
- **Barbara Silverman, Mary Lee Tyndall, Jenessa**
- **Peter:** Thanks for the No. 223 Bach Chorale! It brings back fond memories of our relatives who sang it in German.
- **Stella: Morgan's** baby is a girl, and her name will be **Ruby!**
- Prayers of protection for the team in Uganda.
- Young people who have died too soon and their grieving families.
- Prophet Jesus: Bless my husband, to heal with assistance from my doctor.
- Schroon Lake UMC and **Pastor Lynette Cole**
- For our federal government that Congress and the president will end the shutdown and for government workers without pay.
- **Stephanie:** Prayers of strength, physical and mental, for my dad, who has an incurable lung disease.

See **PEOPLE**, Page 2

Fair Trade coffee widely available, so UUMC ministry grinds to a halt

Fair Trade coffee sales have been a UUMC ministry for about 15 years. Since Fair Trade coffee is now sold in a variety of places, Beth Drew, who's sold it the last seven years, says it's time to quit. She supplied the following perspective of this effort:

Q. What is Fair Trade coffee?

A. Fair Trade is grown with stewardship of the earth in mind. Over 85% of Fair Trade products sold in the U.S. are certified organic, but all Fair Trade products (including coffee, tea, chocolate, produce, sugar and rice) are grown without the use of harmful chemicals and in a land-responsible manner. Additionally Fair Trade benefits the land, the farmer and the consumer!

Q. When did the Fair Trade coffee sales begin, and who started them?

A. I do not have a specific date when the sales started at UUMC, but I am estimating that it was probably in 2003 or 2004. Janet and John Allen started the idea and were in charge of the project until they moved on. Allan started work on it in 2006. I took over in 2011 and have continued until the present! In addition to individual sales, Fair Trade coffee is used for Sunday morning breakfasts and for awhile was used in the coffee time following worship.

Q. What are the logistics of selling it at the church?

A. We have worked with Equal Exchange in Boston, which offers products to churches at wholesale prices. Equal Exchange is a 32-year-old organization that works with farmer cooperatives, thus avoiding the middleman, in 19 Latin American, African and Asian countries.

I order the coffee directly



Beth Drew sells the last of her inventory of Fair Trade coffee and tea this past Sunday.

from them, pay for it up front myself, and then pay myself back as the products sell. Sixty cents on each bag of coffee sold and 15 cents on each box of tea have gone back to UUMC's Creation Stewardship Committee.

Q. Has the selection changed over the years?

A. Over the years we have consistently offered Breakfast Blend caffeinated coffee, a medium blend and organic decaffeinated coffee. We have added French Roast and Midnight Sun, which are darker blends; Mind, Body, and Soul, another medium blend; and have tried pods and beans — neither of which proved to be a big seller! In recent years a variety of teas have been offered.

Q. What are the congregation's favorites?

A. People like Breakfast Blend, Mind, Body and Soul, and Midnight Sun. Decaf also is steadily sold.

Q. What memorable com-

ments have you heard over the years regarding the coffee?

A. I think that the funniest stories relate to the fact that I keep the coffee in a large box in my garage and periodically people call me and come to the house to get coffee. When I have made that option available to the congregation in announcements, it always gets a chuckle, as it sounds as if we are doing some illicit dealing in the garage!

The best story is that this project is no longer needed. Fair Trade coffee is now available routinely in grocery stores, coffee shops and markets. This is the case of it being a good thing to be put out of business. I encourage people to continue to seek Fair Trade coffee and tea wherever they shop.

Q. Has demand fluctuated or been steady over the years?

A. There definitely has been a decline in sales as more and more coffee options are available to people. Nevertheless I have not taken a loss in any way and at least \$50 has been returned to UUMC each year. Many years it has been higher.

Q. Anything else you'd like to say about this ministry?

A. Closing up this project is a little harder than I'd thought it would be. It has been fun to link to responsible land use and social justice in this way, and there have been many great conversations and laughs around the coffee sales table. People from outside the church have asked me to bring coffee to them because they like the flavor and they like the idea. And I will miss going to my garage to get coffee when I need it! But I believe in my heart that it is time and thank all who have participated in this project.

News Around the UMC

Church extends support to deported man

DURHAM, N.C. — Samuel Oliver-Bruno, who found sanctuary in a United Methodist church for nearly a year, has been deported to Mexico. But the congregation of CityWell United Methodist Church continues to support his family and hope for his return.

Faith leaders struggle to bring hope to migrants

SAN DIEGO — United Methodists joined more than 300 faith leaders who marched to the border wall separating the United States and Mexico on International Human Rights Day in a “moral call for migrant justice.” Two United Methodist pastors were among those arrested when they stepped across the barrier set up by U.S. Border Patrol.

Prison ministry makes Christmas brighter

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone — The United Methodist Prison Ministry in Sierra Leone is helping incarcerated women and juveniles feel the joy of Christmas. “We don’t want them to feel lonely, rejected or neglected,” said Elmira Sellu, a United Methodist regional missionary.

United Methodists fight human trafficking

HARARE, Zimbabwe — According to a United Nations report, human trafficking has become the world’s fastest-growing global crime. The United Methodist Church in Zimbabwe is responding by raising awareness and becoming a secure haven for survivors.

— *UM News Service*

UUMC T-shirts, polo shirts

Let everyone know where your worship and feed God’s people. Order your black polo shirts and red T-shirts. The polo shirt sizes for men are from small to 4XL and for women are small to 3XL. Price is \$28. T-shirt sizes are small to 5XL for men and small to 3XL for women. Price is \$15. A signup sheet is available after worship, or you can call Mary at the church office with your choices.

Women’s Polo Shirt \$28



Men’s Polo Shirt \$28



Women’s T-shirt \$15



Men’s T-shirt \$28



Volunteers sought for a range of roles for the congregation

We are looking for people to share their gifts in a variety of positions. These include church historian, book/Bible study facilitator, UUMC representative for the ReStart ministry (resettling people out of Vera House, homelessness, jail) and musician occasionally for the Thursday service. Contact Pastor Alicia if you can volunteer.

Finance Corner

Pledging Update

2018 total pledges: \$209,472
 Paid to date: \$200,932
 Non-pledge contr.: \$34,301

Sounds of the Spirit Visual Fund

Donations received \$95,991
 Expenses paid \$88,891
 Current balance \$7,100

Christmas Eve offerings: The \$540 collected during the two services will go to Rescue Mission toward the construction and opening of its new center for homeless LGBTQ youth.



University United
 Methodist Church

Feed My People: Body, Mind, and Spirit

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WEEK OF JANUARY 13

Sunday the 13th

9 a.m. Community Breakfast, Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Christian Education, K-6th, Pettengill Center

10:30 a.m. Worship.

10:45 a.m. Christian Education for adults with disabilities, Laubach Room

11:45 a.m. Fellowship, The Gathering Room

Noon Soup & Sermon Chat, Chappell Room

Monday the 14th

7 p.m. Handbell Choir rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday the 16th

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

7 p.m. Church & Society

Thursday the 17th

6 p.m. Worship, The Gathering Room

7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal

Friday the 18th

10 a.m. Friday Community

WEEK OF JANUARY 20

Sunday the 20th

9 a.m. Bagels & coffee, The Gathering Room

9:30 a.m. Christian Education, K-6th, Pettengill Center

10:30 a.m. Worship.

10:45 a.m. Christian Education for adults with disabilities, Lau-

bach Room

11:45 a.m. Teach-In/Potluck on General Conference on Way Forward, Fellowship Hall

Monday the 21st

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Office is Closed

Tuesday the 22nd

5 p.m. Outreach Committee

Wednesday the 23rd

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

6 p.m. Trustees

Thursday the 24th

6 p.m. Worship, The Gathering Room

7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal, Pettengill

Friday the 25th

10 a.m. Friday Community

WEEK OF JANUARY 27

Sunday the 27th

9 a.m. Community Breakfast, Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Christian Education, K-6th, Pettengill Center

10:30 a.m. Worship.

10:45 a.m. Christian Education for adults with disabilities, Laubach Room

11:45 a.m. Fellowship, The Gathering Room

Noon Soup & Sermon Chat, Chappell Room

Monday the 28th

7 p.m. Handbell Choir rehearsal,

Fellowship Hall

Wednesday the 30th

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

Thursday the 31st

6 p.m. Worship, The Gathering Room

7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal

Friday the 1st

10 a.m. Friday Community

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 3

Sunday the 3rd

9 a.m. Bagels & coffee, The Gathering Room

9:30 a.m. Christian Education, K-6th, Pettengill Center

10:30 a.m. Worship. Communion.

11:45 a.m. Fellowship, The Gathering Room

10:45 a.m. Christian Education for adults with disabilities, Laubach Room

Noon Soup & Sermon Chat, Chappell Room

Wednesday the 6th

9 a.m. Staff Meeting

Thursday the 7th

6 p.m. Worship, The Gathering Room

7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal, Pettengill

Friday the 8th

10 a.m. Friday Community

Bringing in Christmas and
Special Music Sunday
Dec. 9, 2018 (6 photos)













UUMC No-Fault Orchestra rehearses after worship.

Neighborhood Christmas Dinner
Dec. 17, 2018
(19 photos)







































Christmas Eve — Before the Pageant
Dec. 24, 2018
(14 photos)





























Christmas Eve Pageant
December 24, 2018
(15 photos)





























