

THE CHIMES

August 8, 2019

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**Next Chimes
deadline:
August 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

Two chances for spiritual growth will be available in September

As we begin the last full month of summer and look ahead to September, there are two opportunities for spiritual growth, one at UUMC and one provided by the Crossroads District.

UUMC is offering a six-week beginner's course in the study and practice of *The Rule of Benedict A Spirituality for the 21st Century* by Sister Joan Chittister O.S.B.

Peace, prayer and work best describe the practice of The Rule of Benedict.

First written by Benedict of Nursiatio in the 6th century to provide order and substance to monastic life, the rules provided spiritual guidance to those seeking a closer relationship with God in Jesus Christ.

Benedictine Sister and Spiritual leader Joan Chittister provides an insight and commentary on how this ancient spiritual writing can bring meaning and guidance in our 21st century lives.

The study will begin with an orientation on Monday, Aug. 26, in the Chappell Room from 1-2:30 p.m. The course will begin at that time on Monday, Sept. 9, and continue for five consecutive Mondays, Sept. 16, 23 and 30 and Oct. 7 and 14.

The course is open to anyone seeking practical spiritual guidance in attaining a closer relationship with God.

For further information about the

course, please contact the church office.

The Upper New York Conference's Crossroads District is holding a Life in the Spirit Seminar 7-9 p.m. Sept. 20 and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 21 at Bellevue Heights UMC, 2112 S. Geddes St. Cost is \$20, but \$15 if you register and pay by Aug. 20.

A devotional guide, which began Aug. 2, is offered for every day through Sept. 20 to help you get ready for the seminar.

The Rev. Nola Anderson, district superintendent, writes: "The Life in the Spirit Event is an event designed to impart information regarding the person and work of the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, and to lead the participants into the fullness of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.

"However, it is not just an event about the Holy Spirit. It is an event with the Holy Spirit where the Spirit comes not just as an observer, but as an active participant.

"The material is designed to break down barriers, dispel myths and fears and create a hunger for the fruit and gifts of God's spirit to be manifested in a new and vital way in the life of the believer and in the life of the church."

To download the guide and get a registration form, visit unyumc.org, click on "Districts," and then on Crossroads District and you will see links to both.

Tough personal, cultural issues call for unceasing prayer



Alicia Wood

Greetings!

This past month has been one of deep conversations.

It seems as if many of us are dealing with tough issues.

Some challenges are personal health issues. Some are the health issues of close relatives.

Other challenges are around the concept of a loving and forgiving God for every person no matter what has transpired in the past.

Finally, some emotional and spiritual challenges revolve around the gun violence in our

nation.

All of these things have one thing in common: We are not in control of the outcome.

We may influence the outcome, but it is not something we have full control over. Even though we are people who like to be in control.

Romans 1:9 (NLT) says, "God knows how often I pray for you. Day and night I bring you and your needs in prayer to God, whom I serve with all my heart by spreading the Good News about his Son."

We are to pray without ceasing. I believe in prayer.

I believe in prayer without ceasing. I also believe in taking

action. Prayer leads us to action.

For me, Mother Teresa spoke these words of wisdom. She said, "I used to believe that **prayer changes** things, but now I know that **prayer changes us** and we **change** things."

I'd like to organize a regularly scheduled time of prayer together each week or month.

I feel we need a spiritual outlet for all the chaos in our lives.

If you'd like to join us or help organize a time of prayer, please let me know.

Let us continue to pray without ceasing so that prayer may change us.

Peace and Blessings,
Pastor Alicia

UUMC families' high school and college graduates noted

Eleven graduates from UUMC families were recognized this spring as they completed their studies in high school or college.

High School Graduates

- **Jamaiya Adams**, Corcoran High School, daughter of Fred Adams, granddaughter of Barb Nunn
- **Phoebe Faley**, Henninger High School, daughter of Melissa and John Faley
- **Allison Virgo**, Jamesville-DeWitt High School, daughter of Jim and Deb Virgo
- **Ben Virgo**, Jamesville-DeWitt High School, son of Jim and Deb Virgo
- **Diamond Weah**, Nottingham High School, son of Jerome and Josephine Weah

College Graduates

- **Zoe Faley**, bachelor of science in biology/forensics, Syracuse University, daughter of John and Melissa

Faley

- **Julie Harrison**, bachelor of science in biology, Le Moyne College, daughter of Rebecca Potter and Ted Harrison, granddaughter of Ed and Lee Potter
- **Samantha McDivitt**, bachelor of arts in psychology, minors in economics and French, Bucknell University, daughter of Mark and Mel McDivitt, granddaughter of Marg McDivitt
- **Michael Sofka**, bachelor of business administration, James Madison University, grandson of Don and Margo Koten
- **Sarah Miller**, bachelor of science in environmental science, Toledo University, daughter of Richard and Pam Miller, granddaughter of Harry and Shirley Miller
- **Grace Soufleris**, bachelor of science in health science, minor in Spanish, daughter of Peter and Deborah Soufleris, granddaughter of George and Rita Soufleris

Pastor's Fund:

The Pastor's Discretionary Fund needs replenishment. If you are able to help, please mark the fund name on the memo line of your check.

Hymn Sing Sunday

This year it will be Sept. 1. Please submit to the church office the name of your favorite hymn and why it's your favorite.

Fair Pride Parade

This annual parade at the New York State Fair is 6 p.m. Aug. 23. If you wish to march with UUMC's group, contact Jeanne Finlayson-Schueler at jeannefs327@gmail.com

Pantry boundaries likely to shift if temple sale moves ahead



**Galyn
Murphy-
Stanley**

A neighbor of ours is closing its doors.

Temple Concord's administration has agreed to sell its historic, 108-year-old Syracuse synagogue to a developer of luxury student apartments.

Temple Concord, one and a half blocks from University United Methodist Church, was established in 1839. It is the ninth-oldest Jewish congregation in the United States and a member of the Union for Reform Judaism.

The sale is contingent on the buyer getting city approval of its plan to turn the site into student apartments. If approved, the sale will take months to finalize. Then the congregation would move to temporary quarters while it makes plans for a new permanent home.

Approximately 350 families, a total of about 1,000 people, are members of the congregation, which was established as the Temple Society of Concord in Syracuse.

The temple's membership has grown from 280 families to 350 over the last 10 years, but that's still down from its peak of about 800 families 30 to 40 years ago. Nationally, membership in synagogues, like that of churches, has been in decline for decades.

The congregation moved in 1911 from its first synagogue to its current home on the south-east corner of Madison Street and University Avenue. A religious education building was added in the late 1920s, and another building was constructed in the 1960s.

The synagogue's original building, which contains its sanctuary, was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2009.

Temple officials said the building had not been for sale but they were approached by a developer who offered to buy it. Financial pressures were behind the decision to sell.

Temple Concord has a nice sized Food Pantry that will close once the congregation and staff requires relocation. It's second in size and sum of folk serviced to UUMC's Food Pantry.

Temple Concord's food pantry coordinators are supportive colleagues who often gift us with food and companionship in our efforts. They will be missed as will our shared alliance in providing a Band-Aid to food insecurity in Syracuse.

Food pantries in the city of Syracuse are organized by neighborhood districts in specific quadrants of the city.

Historically, these were organized with a lens toward population density. Theoretically, each district contained a similar sum

of folk that might access a food pantry.

When a host site of a pantry closes, districts shift and different host sites carry the load of what was once many.

We have recent evidence of this on the city's north side when First English Lutheran closed its doors.

The Food Bank of CNY worked with the remaining North Side Food Pantries to replot the North Side districts. Although there is eventual resolution, Syracusans who access food pantries are often forced to travel farther to access their pantry/food and struggle to move their food on public transportation or on foot in often difficult weather.

Once upon a time folk could access a food pantry in every neighborhood in the city.

Our Outreach Ministry will be working with the Food Bank of CNY to redesign the Food Pantry districts of the Southeast Quadrant of Syracuse if Temple Concord's sale moves forward.

This will offer us an opportunity to introduce more Syracusans to UUMC and our ministries.

As always we continue to change and evolve. This is what keeps us energized, focused and homed into the people of Syracuse.

*Galyn Murphy-Stanley,
Outreach Coordinator*

July Outreach Statistics

Food pantry: 4,032 meals; 134 households, 448 individuals (129 children, 270 adults, 21 seniors, 28 Upstate Medical University students.

Diaper Bank: 67 babies = 3,350 diapers

Pet Food pantry: 17 cats, 9 dogs

Grocery Rescue Food Distributed: 1,137 pounds of bread

products; 2,399 pounds of produce; 892 pounds of dairy/meat

Taxi service: 11

Bagel & Coffee Breakfast: 50

Community Pancake Breakfast: 150

People & Prayers

CONTINUING PRAYERS

- **Barb and Bob Weaver:** Alayah Green and family, Carus Olcott Jr., Mary and Carus Olcott Sr., Mary Ellen Will, John Quiggle
- **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, Anne Marie, Barb and Bob Weaver

PRAYERS REQUESTED:

For Those in Military Service:

- **Chance Lawson, Austin Payne, Ian Enderle**

Sunday, July 14

- **Sue:** Rhonda, my family, those with health issues.
- **Ann Owens:** Family of Lena, a young mother who was killed in a car accident yesterday.
- **Elise:** Prophet Jesus: Bless my son, as he turns 11 years old and Happy Bastille Day in France!
- **Donald Tate:** Pray for **Mary Evans** to get well. Good health to family and friends.
- Please keep **Ralph Best** in your thoughts and prayers. I start chemo for bladder cancer on July 24 for weekly treatments for six weeks.
- Prayers for all people marginalized due to race, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, mental health issues, and those struggling with addiction, illness, disability, that we welcome all and treat each person with dignity and respect.

- **Julian:** That I get the job at work.
- **Angela:** **Manny**, who is having health issues.
- Peace and justice for the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- Prayers for my nephew, **Austin**, as he and his unit deploy July 19 to Afghanistan. God, please watch over him and his unit and keep them all safe. Please bring each of them home safe to their families. Lay your hands on them in protection and to comfort them in fear. Please give your faith and love to each of their mothers at this time as they are so scared and need to be strong. Thank you. Amen.

Sunday, July 21

- **Sue:** **June Cullings**, my family, family of **Joanne Stehle**, who died
- **Peter:** For justice and human rights to be respected in U.S. policies, particularly toward children.
- Prophet Jesus: I praise you for summer, for it's a testament of your nurturing spirit.
- Children at the border.
- For migrants and the people of faith who are helping them.
- For **Ralph Best**, that his surgery and recovery go well. This Tuesday is the surgery.
- **Stephanie:** Safe travels for my mom, who is coming to Syracuse to visit us tomorrow.
- **Troy Cullen:** For my mother and stepfather's health. For **Jack's** battle with cancer; I need my fishing partner.
- **Julian Adamo:** The world learns to accept others. POTUS sees the light and

truth. I get the job offer this week.

Sunday, July 28

- Just pray for me, **Charlotte A.**
- Prophet Jesus: Bless the people who lack focus on you for abundance.
- **Sue:** Those with health issues, my family.
- A little boy was hit and killed on Wednesday. Please keep his family in your prayers.
- For all those who are oppressed and suffering persons as refugees, prison, immigrants.
- For the congregation of Temple Concord as it charts its future ministry and community.
- Prayers for the **Kelly family** as they struggle with a family member with serious mental health issues.
- Prayers for **Ralph Best** being here today looking great!

Sunday, August 4

- Prayers for the victims of the recent shootings in Texas and Ohio.
- Healing and peace for the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- Comfort for the families in El Paso and Dayton. Determination of all to bring about gun safety. How about never again to mass shootings.
- **Sue:** For good test results. My family.
- **Sherri Cullen:** **Kathy Dewey, Grace Antonio** and family, Families in the latest shooting in Texas, **Patti Fasulo**.
- **Peter:** For all of our children who all deserve safety, love, and community of resiliency —
See **PEOPLE**, Page 5

People & Prayers

CONTINUED from Page 4

- not threats of weapons.
- A prayer of gratitude.
- Heal our wounds and give us courage to reach out to others.
- **Barb Cargo:** Healing prayers for **Lee Potter's** knee.
- Prophet Jesus: I plead to you for a miracle by abolishing negative influences!
- I can get a new job and catch up on bills.
- Serenity.

THANKS & PRAISE & JOYS

Sunday, July 14

- **Peter:** Thanks for the prayers for my healing and recovery. It is going very well — no pain. Feeling very blessed!

- **Ellyn Gale:** I am so happy to announce the birth of my granddaughter **Harper Williams**, born July 13 to **Leslie and Kenny Williams!**

Sunday, July 21

- **Kokie:** Prayers of thanks for our growing family! I became an aunt June 27.
- Prayers of thanks for the amazing pastors of Syracuse United Methodist Ministries for their leadership at this week's VBS. Prayers for the children from the Near West Side who attended VBS this week.
- A joy! **Jim Tallman** is traveling to Washington, D.C., tomorrow.

Sunday, July 28

- **Jayne Humbert:** Happy Birthday to **Alphonsina Mulata**, Bruno's daughter.

Sunday, August 4

- **Pastor Alicia** offers prayer of thanksgiving as her daughter has returned from China today! Please pray for patience as pastor gets to know this new independent woman returning.
- **Ann Owens:** Happy Birthday, **Lois Lum**, Aug. 7! Happy Anniversary to **Ted and Jeannie!**
- Congrats to **Jim**, who received a baseball trophy today!
- **Barb Gilbraith:** I wish to thank everyone for their prayers of healing.

Governing Board urges steps to prevent nuclear war

University United Methodist Church is a congregation committed to working toward social justice and peace. As such, we feel compelled to lend our voice to an issue that affects our congregants, our city and all of humanity by endorsing "Back from the Brink: A Call to Prevent Nuclear War."

We are joining both the Union of Concerned Scientists and Physicians for Social Responsibility, who together drafted this, in calling on our congressional representatives to support these five simple, common-sense policy solutions to fundamentally change our country's nuclear weapons policy:

We call on the United States to lead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by:

1. Renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first
2. Ending the sole, unchecked authority of any U.S. president to launch a nuclear attack
3. Taking U.S. nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert
4. Canceling the plan to replace its entire nuclear arsenal with enhanced weapons
5. Actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals

For more information and the links to the research used in drafting these points, please visit: <http://www.preventnuclearwar.org>

*Joyce Flynn, Chair
Governing Board*

City UM Churches' picnic

The picnic for the Syracuse United Methodist Churches this year is 5 p.m. Aug. 14 at Bellevue Heights UMC, 2112 S. Geddes St.

A brief worship precedes dinner and playtime.

UUMC has been asked to bring fruit salad, paper plates and plastic ware.

Please RSVP by Aug. 11 at office@uumcsyracuse.org and let us know what you're bringing.

Community vigil

Mothers Against Gun Violence will hold the annual Community Candlelight Vigil 7-9 p.m. Aug. 11 in Clinton Square.

This event remembers all victims of senseless violence. Rasheada Caldwell is the keynote speaker.

Finance Corner

Pledging Update

2019 total pledges: \$203,474
Total Pledges Rec'd \$135,117
Non-pledge contributions \$10,374
Thursday Service \$327
Trustees Bathroom Renovation
Fund \$23,775

Sounds of the Spirit Visual Fund

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



University United Methodist Church

Feeding God's People: Body, Mind and Spirit

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Put
Stamp
Here

Return service requested

Dated material

WEEK OF AUGUST 11

Sunday the 11th

9 a.m. Community Breakfast, Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m. Worship.

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

11:45 a.m. Trustees

Noon Soup & Sermon Chat, Chappell Room

Tuesday the 13th

5:30 p.m. Governing Board

Wednesday the 14th

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

Friday the 16th

10 a.m. Food Pantry, Clothes Closet, Diapers, Fellowship Hall

WEEK OF AUGUST 18

Sunday the 18th

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

Wednesday the 21st

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

Friday the 23rd

10 a.m. Food Pantry, Clothes Closet, Diapers, Fellowship Hall

WEEK OF AUGUST 25

Sunday the 25th

9 a.m. Community Breakfast, Fel-

lowship Hall

10:30 a.m. Worship

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

Noon Soup & Sermon Chat, Chappell Room

Monday the 26th

1 p.m. Orientation, Rule of Benedict study, Chappell Room

Wednesday the 28th

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

5 p.m. Outreach Committee

7 p.m. Church & Society

Friday the 30th

10 a.m. Food Pantry, Clothes Closet, Diapers, Fellowship Hall

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 1

Sunday the 1st

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

10:30 a.m. Worship. Hymn Sing Sunday. Communion.

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

Noon Soup & Sermon Chat, Chappell Room

Monday, the 2nd

Labor Day – Church Office Closed

Wednesday the 4th

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

Friday the 6th

10 a.m. Food Pantry, Clothes Closet, Diapers, Fellowship Hall

Women's Guild

The Women's Guild will hold its annual planning meeting for the upcoming year at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 28, at Barbara Nunn's home, 234 Scott Ave., Syracuse.

Altar flowers

Altar flowers were given:

By Del and Barbara Gilbraith in thanksgiving for 53 years of marriage on July 23.

By Sharon Smith in honor of Blessings in a Backpack supporters.

By Steve Bacon and Bette Helwig in honor of Ellen Bacon's birthday

Flowers were given to J.J. Warren, Nathan Sumrall and John Ginn, Barb Nunn, Peter Swords, Danny Magowan and Ralph Best.

September birthdays

5 – Sharon Huard

8 – Martha Potter, Sarah Lund, Noel Sommers, Joshua DeHoog

11 – Eva Cooper

14 – Oliver Onninen, Aidan Mountain

15 – David Magowan

17 – Patrick Hyland, Bill Potter

18 – Mike Rodda

23 – Dithole Thebe

28 – Kristofer Alestalo

Thanks to Pastor Alicia, Jeanne Finlayson-Schueler, Barbara Fought and possibly others for supplying some of the following photos!

United Methodist Night at the Ballpark
July 23, 2019
(12 photos)





















A foul ball left a bruise on Jacob Upcraft's back. He didn't get that ball, but his dad, Kevin, got another one later for him.



Potluck & Environmental Movie

July 28, 2019



Photo by Pastor Alicia

High School Graduates Recognized



College School Graduates Recognized



Sunday, August 4, 2019



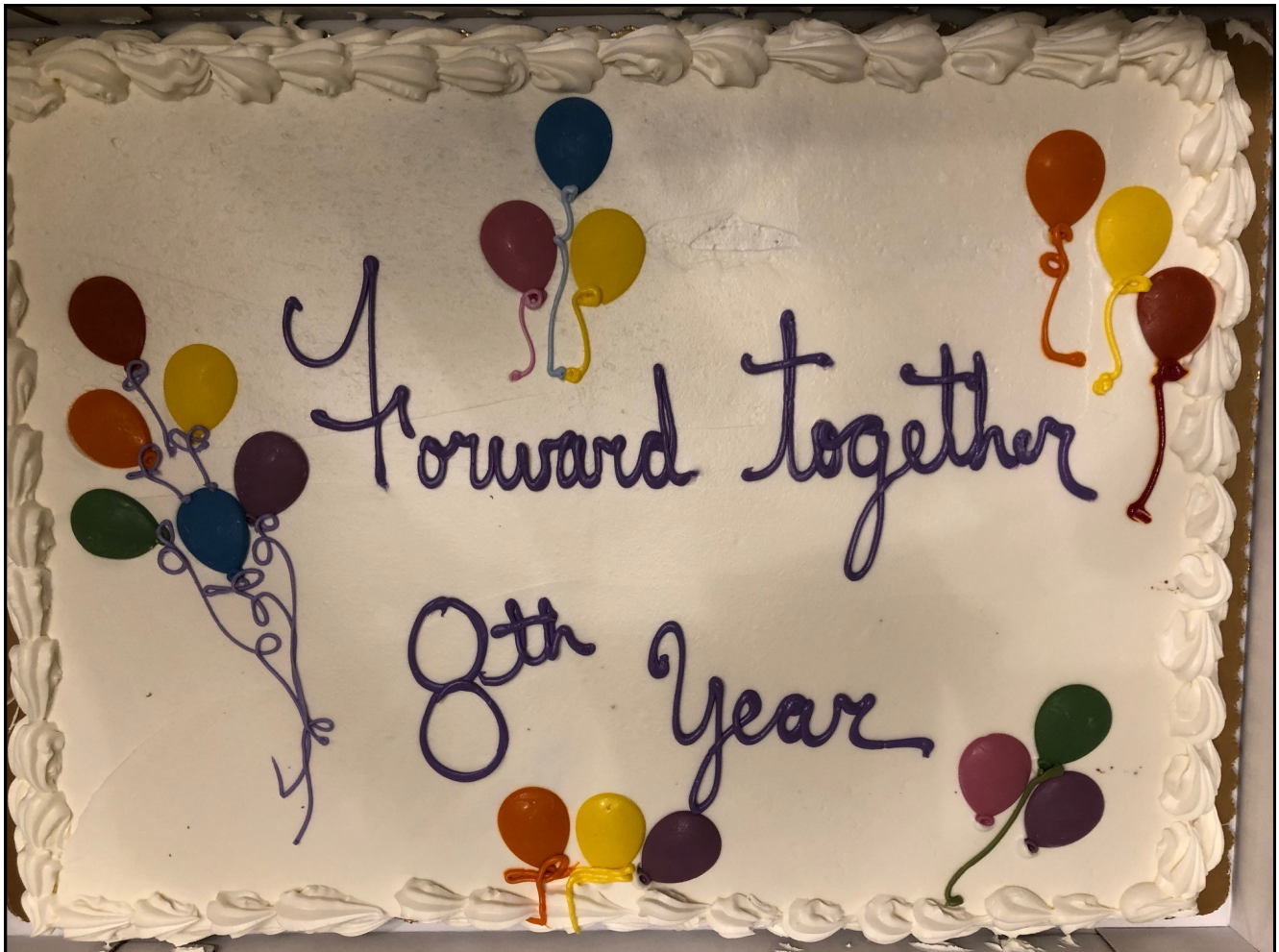
Baptism of Owen William Woodburn.



Children's Time during service of Aug. 4.

Reconciling Anniversary Celebration

July 15, 2019





Guest speaker J.J. Warren.





