

THE CHIMES

June 5, 2020

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Pastor Alicia online:

10 a.m. Tuesdays:

Coffee with the Pastor, Zoom [https://
zoom.us/
j/9526127163](https://zoom.us/j/9526127163)

Password: 7277

Noon Wednesdays:

Children's Moment,
Facebook Live

10 a.m. Thursdays:

Thought of the Day,
Facebook Live

**Friday Mornings: From
Pantry, Facebook Live**

Articles for *The Chimes*
must be submitted by
noon on the deadline day
and can be sent to:
media@uumcsyracuse.org

Alicia Wood, Pastor
Tom Boll, Editor

UUMC building still closed, but congregation remains active

As per the governor's orders, New York State is opening up in phases.

We're now in Phase 2. Large gatherings are part of Phase 4.

Basically, little has changed since the May issue of *Chimes*. And much has to change before UUMC reopens, including securing a reliable supply of sanitizing products and masks, plus new procedures and protocols for anyone entering the building.

The Upper New York Conference has distributed detailed guidance for churches, which you've received with previous communications.

So the building is closed, but UUMC has not been idle.

Outreach Coordinator Galyn Murphy-Stanley's report on Page 3 shows the huge increase in families and people served by The Food Center @ 324 University Ave. — our pantry's

new name — while the guests remain outside and in their vehicles.

And work has been ongoing in the basement to prepare the building for when Food Center guests are once again allowed inside.

Sunday worship continues online, with live viewing of the recording at 10:30 a.m. on YouTube and Facebook. If you miss the service at that time, it is viewable on both those sites anytime afterward.

Members continue to participate in worship through singing, praying and reading Scripture.

And after worship members and friends have participated in virtual sessions of The Gathering Room and Soup & Sermon Chat.

Having celebrated Pentecost last Sunday, we now move into a new worship series, "Beguiled by Beauty."

And we will continue the Hymn
See **SUMMER**, Page 2

Worship series focus: beauty, contemplation and compassion

Our next worship series, which runs for six weeks, is called "Beguiled by Beauty: Cultivating a Life of Contemplation and Compassion" and is based on the book of the same name by Wendy Farley to be released in the fall.

The basis for this series is this: "All things are beautiful — not by a standard of 'pretty' as seen by our eyes, but by an essence of sacred worth that is sensed by the spirit.

This is the root and heart of compassion and justice. Practices of contemplation help us train our gaze to these deeper truths. In this worship series we will dwell with the God of Divine Goodness, deeply in love with us, and practice ways to return that love as we fall more deeply in love with creation and with one another."

It begins this Sunday with the theme of "Beauty, Contemplation
See **SEND**, Page 2

Say something when we or someone else is hurting



Alicia Wood

Greetings,
Sometimes watching the news is too much to bear.

I have gone from anxious about COVID-19 to frustrated that we still need to call for equality and justice on our streets and in our country.

I am still quite worried about the spread of COVID-19. I am staying vigilant with social distancing, mask wearing and cleaning my hands. It seems there is a recipe to slow or stop the spread of COVID-19 but not one single set of guidelines to stop the spread of racism.

How long have we been talking about racism? For me, it has been my entire lifetime.

It's frustrating for me, a white woman, to continue to talk about racism, equality and justice. I can't even imagine the frustration of a person of color.

The words of Jeremiah ring so true today: "They have treated

the wound of my people carelessly, saying, 'peace, peace,' when there is no peace. (Jeremiah 6:14)

It seems leaders have promised change, reform and justice before with not much real change happening.

How can we ask people to just go home and this time things will change when we've heard this so many times before. So, I ask myself, "What might I do to be an agent of change?"

Then I ask, "What can the church do?"

The bishop of the DC Episcopal Church, Mariann Budde, said, "We in the Diocese of Washington follow Jesus in His Way of Love. We aspire to be people of peace and advocates of justice."

I pray this echoes our personal lives and the way we interact in society. The Rev. William Barber and the Poor People's Campaign has called for a national day of fast from racism on Monday, June 8. This is a short yet powerful way to show unity.

This week in my Children's Message on Facebook Live, I read the children a book by Peter H. Reynolds called "Say Something!"

This book is all about speaking up with words, art, education and even protest.

Reynolds shares with children that we can speak up for ourselves or for another being hurt.

It's amazing the insight Reynolds has and how he is able to speak it at a child's level. This, of course, may help adults as well.

We are to "say something" when we or someone else is hurting. I believe Jesus told us to "say something" when he told us to love one another in John 13:34-35.

I will be out saying something in Syracuse. I wonder, would University UMC like to "say something" publicly as well?

Please stay safe and healthy!

Peace be with you until we meet again,

Pastor Alicia

Summer Hymn Sing tradition to continue virtually

CONTINUED from Page 1
Sing tradition of past summers by starting worship singing one verse of hymns suggested by the congregation. Email your hymn suggestions to: media@uumcsyracuse.org.

Pastor Alicia continues her online presence Tuesday through Friday as noted on Page 1.

Online worship will continue to be offered after in-person worship resumes in the Sanctuary.

A technology group has been meeting and investigating approaches and equipment to im-

prove the worship experience for the viewer.

The Connections Group of young adults meets virtually thanks to Barbara Fought and Nelson Price.

In this time of upheaval, the Governing Board has on its agenda formulating plans for the future of UUMC.

Thank you for keeping up your support by donating online at tinyurl.com/UUMCdonate or mailing your contribution to the church at 1085 E. Genesee St., Syracuse, NY 13210.

Send in photos of beauty

CONTINUED from Page 1 and Radical Compassion."

Following themes are: June 14, "We Are Made for the Beloved"; June 21, "Awakening to Beauty, Falling in Love with the World"; June 28, "Abyss, Mystery and Wonder"; July 5, "The Beauty of a World without a 'Why'"; and July 12, "From Beauty to Compassion and Justice."

In conjunction with this series, please email photos of whatever you find beautiful on the Earth — nature, people, etc. — to media@uumcsyracuse.org.

May 2020: a month of meeting the needs of more families



**Galyn
Murphy-
Stanley**

May 2020 COVID-19 Emergency Food & Diaper Distribution

Date	Households	Adults	Seniors	Children
5/1	132	212	191	20
5/8	163	233	263	74
5/15	176	292	376	57
5/22	178	272	322	53
5/29	240	287	360	70
Total	909	1,296	1,512	274
Total Individuals Served: 3,082				

Diaper Bank

We distributed a total of 10,050 diapers over two Fridays, May 1 and May 8, to 201 families of babies along with three cases of powder formula, RECORD setting for UUMC and the Diaper Bank of CNY.

To-Go Sunday Breakfast

A total of 175 guests received a very heavy breakfast bag with hot coffee in May, averaging 35 people per Sunday. Amazingly, each Sunday morning was beautiful and dry.

Updates, accomplishments

- I was notified Friday afternoon that we've received another grant award from the Food Bank of CNY for \$1,752.28. This is to assist in our food expenses through the month of June.
- As a staff we are working to use a DIY solution for our cleaning/sanitizing of UUMC. Our building cleaning supplies are dwindling, and we are unable to get more at this point. We've figured out a couple methods that will be in use as soon as spray bottles arrive.
- Over the past week our lower parking lot boarded by East Fayette Street, Ashworth Place and University Avenue has become sought after.



Boxes of produce from the Food Bank of CNY

Easter Farm Workers used it to pack Emergency Food Boxes for their members. It may become the site of a pet food distribution by the Kia Foundation.

- Our weekly milk donation from the American Dairy Association has increased, ensuring 180 guests receive a half-gallon of fresh whole milk. I received confirmation this week that this allotment will continue until the end of this year.
- The Food Bank has been able to match our current distribution number with a beautiful

approximately 25-pound box of fresh produce for each guest. These boxes are free to us.

- I am increasing the number of boxes to pack to 205 this week.
- Barbara Fought has connected me with a local/SU photojournalist who is very interested in our work. She will be doing a story on us and the local response to COVID.
- Joyce Flynn and her cousin Cindy are working hard to get our clothing/book room sorted. It's looking great, and I'm so happy they've taken on this task.
- I will be sending out an update and check on our greater UUMC volunteer list serve including our (possibly) new volunteers from Temple Concord.

Please let me know at outreach@uumcsyracuse.org if you or others should be added. When we are in more normal times I will list current UUMC volunteer opportunities there.

People & Prayers

DEATH



Robert Morris Sr. died May 7 of COVID-19 at the age of 67. Robert was our church's Sunday morning office worker in the early 2000s

and was a tremendous help, including setting up our Gathering Room for after worship functions. Here is his obituary: [OBITUARY](#)

PRAYERS REQUESTED:

For Those in Military Service:

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

Sunday, May 10

- **Julie Oscars:** All who are alone
- Prayers for those who live with their abuser. You are not alone.
- **Nelson Price:** Lisa, Patrice, Lynn Baker
- Kim's neighbors
- **Elise,** as she grieves on Mother's Day the loss of her mother
- **Connie Myers:** Family and friends of a recent Jamesville-DeWitt grad who died suddenly last week.
- **Susan Bates:** My aunt, who came home yesterday!
- **Kenna LaPorte:** Continued prayers for my father, mother and great-niece Lily.
- **Martha Sutter:** For Peter and Diane Swords
- **Stephanie Hitztaler:** Praying for Peter and Diane! And, for my mom as she cares for my father in his long recovery from COVID-19, and for my father to keep moving forward in his recovery.
- **Margaret Leonard:** Pray for

my friend **Joanne**, Ray's niece **Teri**, my son, **Jamie's neighbors**, who are recovering from COVID-19.

Sunday, May 17

- **Susan Bates:** Prayers for all those feeling alone in this time. Also the family of **Melissa Etheridge** on the loss of her 21-year-old son to drug use.
- **Barbara Fought:** Pray for Robert Morris Jr.
- **Peter Swords:** For Jeanne's healing, comfort, etc.
- For Tom Owens' healing and comfort
- Prayers to fill our second and third floor space.
- **Margaret Leonard:** My friends Joanne, Linda D., Joanne P.
- **Jayne Humbert:** Peter Swords, who may leave hospital for apartment isolation today!
- **Claudette Brown-Smythe:** Prayer for Marcia, who is struggling with cancer
- **Ann Owens:** Tom, my husband, Judy, my best friend.
- **Jeanne Finlayson-Schueler :** My friend's sister, Tammy, who was recently diagnosed with cancer
- **Leanna King :** For my neighbor Tony
- **Susan Bates:** My niece Virginia and her kids.
- **Julie Oscars:** Fred Oscars, Barbara Crawford.
- **Stephanie Hitztaler:** My dad and all those who are recovering from COVID-19, and for those for whom the uncertainty of this situation is particularly unsettling, e.g. in terms of job loss, etc.
- **Kenna LaPorte:** Please pray for my nephew, Devin, and his

family for the loss of his daughter, **Emily**, who was killed yesterday in an ATV accident while celebrating her graduation from high school.

Sunday, May 24

- **Albertina Mukasa:** For all community in church
 - **Sharon Smith:** Pray for safety for all
 - **Dan Mastronardi:** Pray for a vaccine
 - **Ann Owens:** Tom's continuing health issues. He is doing better this week.
 - **Barbara Fought:** Nels says a prayer of gratefulness that COVID-19 deaths are going down.
 - **Martha Sutter:** Guidance for the planners to safely bring our university students back to the community.
 - **Dan Mastronardi:** Pray that we can safely open up small businesses in the near future
 - **Ann Owens:** Prayers for my niece-in-law, who is due for a baby anytime and her husband, **Cody**, my nephew, who is in the Navy and will be on a ship for 9 months at the end of June.
 - **Holly Austin:** Prayers for people (adults and kids) stuck at home with their abusers
 - **Barbara Fought:** Nels says prayers for Nic and other people now serving in the military
 - **Carol Boll:** Shut-ins and nursing home residents
 - **Barbara Fought:** Prayers for Robert Morris Jr.
 - **Ann Owens:** Tom, my niece Pam
 - **Jayne Humbert:** Peter Swords, Jeanne Finlayson-Schueler
- See PEOPLE, Page 5

People & Prayers

CONTINUED from Page 4

- **Kim Kromer Murphy:** Prayers for my daughter, **Robin**, and her continuing struggle with mental health.
- **Connie Myers:** **Arthur**, a 9-year-old friend who is hospitalized
- **Carolina Cordero Dyer:** Prayers for my mom in Texas who lives alone
- **Dan Mastronardi:** My wife, **Morgan Mastronardi**
- **Susan Bates:** Those with health issues
- **Carol Boll:** For our son, **Jon**, working under quarantine in São Paulo, Brazil
- **Tom Boll:** The family of **The Rev. John Vannorsdall**, who died of the virus at the age of 95. He was the chaplain at Gettysburg College when Carol and I were attending.
- **Lynn Baker:** **Jeanne Finlayson-Schueler, Peter Swords and Tod Wilcox**
- **Stephanie Hitztaler:** Prayers for my dad's healing.
- **Holly Austin:** For our beloved little foster daughter who has health issues
- **Barb Weaver:** Grateful for

UUMC family and Pastor Alicia. Please continue to pray for **Bob and me**.

- **Stephanie Hitztaler:** Prayers for our leaders and decision-makers, for essential workers, and for those who are unemployed.
- **Jeanne Finlayson-Schueler:** Sophie's wife will be induced on Wednesday to deliver our new grandbaby.

Sunday, May 31

- **Martha Sutter:** Prayers for Minneapolis, the family of George Floyd and my friend whose mother tested positive for COVID-19 and is in Loretto
- **Ted Finlayson-Schueler:** **Elliott Stone Fisher**
- **Jeanne Finlayson-Schueler:** Pray that white supremacists stop inciting the riots and destruction of our cities and allow the peaceful protests to continue as planned
- **Robin Searles:** **Breonna Taylor's family** in Louisville
- **Debra O'Connor-Slater:** **Paul and Anita Darnell**
- **Sue Bates:** My friend **Donna**, who was exposed to the virus
- **Leanna King:** Say a word for me as I broke and dislocated

my arm yesterday

- **Kenna LaPorte:** Continued prayers for me and my family
- **Sue Bates:** **Liz**
- **Barbara Fought:** We pray for **Don and Shirley Struchen**, who have given their lives/careers to the work of the church. Don is likely in his last days here on earth
- **Jayne Humbert:** **Peter Swords, Jeanne Finlayson-Schueler**

THANKS & JOYS

Sunday, May 24

- **Kim Kromer Murphy:** Prayers of thanksgiving for the beautiful weather, which lifts our spirits.

Sunday, May 31

- **Sue Bates:** Congratulations to **Ted and Jeanne** on the birth of their new grandson!
- **Ann Owens:** Blessings to my nephew's new baby, **Aurora Elizabeth**

June is the anniversary of UUMC becoming a reconciling congregation. Please take the time to register with the Reconciling Ministries Network as a reconciling individual. To do that, go to rmnetwork.org.

July birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 3 – Kate Drew Rios | 16 – Ellen Bacon, Timothy Damron |
| 4 – Kelsey Youmell | 17 – Deirdre Zimmerman |
| 6 – Matt Fischer, Mark Zimmerman, Linda Oertel, Ping Hemphill-Wu | 18 – Elisa Sciscioli |
| 8 – Jon Boll, Esther Weah | 21 – Afton Kapuscinski |
| 9 – Sol Swords | 22 – Tahjmier Brackett |
| 10 – Jeff Foley | 24 – Dorothy Logan |
| 11 – Matthew Upcraft | 25 – Rebecca Youmell, Peter Sciscioli |
| 14 – Elizabeth Bradshaw, Esther Livingstone, Richard Schemichen, Eli Weah | 26 – Corrie Fagut-Pratt |
| 15 – Lee Potter, Margo Koten | 28 – Jayne Humbert |
| | 29 – Jackie Simmons |
| | 30 – Helena Weah |

Women's Guild

The Women's Guild is suspending all meetings and gatherings until further notice. We will let everyone know when it's safe for us to get together again.

— *Barbara Nunn*

Finance Corner

Pledging Update

2020 total pledges:	\$217,360
Total Pledges Received	\$94,686
Non-pledge contributions	\$16,079
Easter Offering	\$195
Trustees Bathroom Renovation Fund	\$24,625

Sounds of the Spirit Visual Fund

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

J.J. Warren will preach June 14.
Pastor Alicia is off June 8-15.



University United
Methodist Church

Feeding God's People: Body, Mind and Spirit

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Return service requested

Dated material



Clockwise from top left: Nelson Price and Barbara Fought hold a meeting with the young adult Connections Group; Bruce Simmons loads the elevator with boxes for Friday outdoor Food Center distribution; Poor People's Campaign sign on our corner; 4 gallons of hand sanitizer courtesy of State Sen. Rachel May, Syracuse.





Mary plants marigolds in planters outside the church.



Food boxes await distribution on a Friday.























Rachel and Pastor Alicia model their purple facemasks.



Richard gives a bagel breakfast to a CENTRO bus driver on a Sunday morning.