

THE CHIMES

Aug. 6, 2020

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Remember to go to:
[https://
www.facebook.com/
UUMCSyracuse/](https://www.facebook.com/UUMCSyracuse/)
**For 10:30 a.m. Sunday
worship!**

Reminder:
**Pastor Alicia is on
vacation through
August 17.**

Articles for *The Chimes*
must be submitted by
noon on the deadline day
— **Aug. 31** — and can be
sent to:
media@uumcsyracuse.org

Alicia Wood, Pastor
Tom Boll, Editor

Sept. 13 is target date for having worship resume in sanctuary

With the COVID-19 positive testing rate extremely low in Onondaga County, plans are being made to resume in-person worship at 10:30 a.m. Sept. 13.

Required protocol for entering the building that day and any day: Wearing a mask, using hand sanitizer upon arrival and signing in with your name and phone number — that information is needed for contact tracing in the event anyone becomes infected.

Volunteers are needed to help plan the reopening and for being at church that Sunday to help accomplish the necessary tasks for a safe worship service.

Please contact Pastor Alicia

at pastor@uumcsyracuse.org if you can help. That date is subject to change, depending on local conditions.

Regardless of when in-person worship begins, online worship will continue to be offered.

The two Black Lives Matter banners pictured in the July Chimes were vandalized recently as were our corner sign, a display case at the Peale entrance and the P.E.A.C.E. sign. Also our Little Free Library and our flower containers on the East Genesee Street steps were knocked over. Police were notified. The BLM banners were moved higher in an attempt to protect them.

See **LEADERS**, Page 5

Acts of Kindness to kick off 150th anniversary celebration

Starting this fall, we will be celebrating the 150th anniversary of University UMC.

We will be sharing stories and events that celebrate our history and telling you about some of the people who have helped along the way.

We will share dreams for our future and try to find ways to continue a tradition of love and hope in our families, in our church and in our community.

We are hoping that the children — and their friends and families! — can help to continue the tradition of love and kindness that makes this church so special by sharing 150 Acts of

Kindness.

There are so many ways that you do this already — helping your friends, sending cards to someone who is lonely or ill, doing chores to help your family — nothing is too small (or too big!)

We would love to have you share the kind things you're doing with everyone else. You can email them to the office — office@uumcsyracuse.org — and share pictures too if you have them. We will find a special way to share them with everyone at church as we celebrate. We can't wait to see how you share God's love!

— Karen Quick

UUMC faces a time of Exodus — a change in thinking



Alicia Wood

Greetings!
I pray you are staying safe and healthy. I have been forming new habits as I go out more often.

As I leave my house I think, “keys, wallet, mask, phone.” It’s sometimes challenging to create new habits. I know *you* are worth it.

Every time I put on a mask I think of you. I would feel horrible if I were to spread the coronavirus to one of you. So, I wear a mask, stay home more often than not and wash my hands.

As we move into the unknown, we as a church family have been studying the Exodus through our worship experience.

The Exodus is interesting in that it speaks to us personally and as a group. We all cry out for things to change, finally get up the nerve to make a positive change, and then when things get uncomfortable we long for what was, we wander a bit and finally accept the new normal.

You may be thinking I’m talking about the pandemic, but I’m also referring to our life as a church family.

We have a loving, friendly, accepting church family. We have a church family with all kinds of backgrounds and people. We also have a huge old building. I love our huge old building. I love it more than I ever thought I could. It seems right now we need to think about how to do church differently.

UUMC has always been a generous congregation that pays staff well to manage or lead min-

istries. One shift we will need to make as we move forward in our current context is to shift from a medium-sized staff to a larger group of volunteers.

It may be hard to imagine our church working well with volunteers.

So, let’s look to 1 Corinthians, Chapter 12. When you have a minute, I suggest you read the entire 12th chapter. It speaks clearly about Spiritual Gifts. Here is part of 1 Corinthians 12:4-11:

“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.”

We have the gifts to fulfill our vision of “Feeding God’s People: Body, Mind and Spirit.”

I just know we do! Paul reminds us that God has given us all we need. We just need to shift or change our way of thinking so that we can believe it.

I feel one of our downfalls is time. We have so many demands

for our time. It can get overwhelming to think of all the ways in which we need to split our time.

I feel one silver lining of the coronavirus has been the gift of time. We have had the time to wake up to what really matters and with whom and how we want to spend our time.

I pray that you have realized how important your church family is to you. I pray this has given you the push to shift your time and decide to spend time volunteering with your church family.

1 Corinthians 12 tells us we have all we need. Let’s re-evaluate our time and Spiritual gifts so our ministry flourishes.

On a practical note, I know there are seasons in life. I also know some in our church family have served their time for years and years and now it’s time for them to sit back and rest from their labor.

The best thing about this season in life is that we can pray for our younger church family members and ministry. Prayer is powerful and so very important. So, if you know your season is your season of prayer, thank you.

I’d like to encourage you in all seasons of life to remember UUMC. One way in which our church family will have a long legacy of ministry is through our endowment. If you are able, please think of the church endowment in your wills, investments and in your annual giving. When our endowment grows we are able to fund our ministry with the interest (not the principal) from the endowment.

I am so very grateful for you.
See **EXODUS**, Page 5

Grace's food moved to UUMC; grants awarded and sought



**Galyn
Murphy-
Stanley**

Hi all! So we've reached August – still busy, still a lot going on, but COVID lingers. *July happenings:*

July 2020 COVID-19 Emergency Food & Diaper Distribution

Date	Households	Adults	Seniors	Children
7/3	159	262	58	361
7/10	230	375	84	537
7/17	207	293	81	390
7/24	195	345	76	339
7/31	194	347	31	255
Total	985	1,622	330	1,882

- We were awarded an additional \$2,500 award from the Food Bank of CNY. This will be added to our other Food Bank awards and grants specifically for Emergency Food purchases.
- We have moved all of the Food Pantry foods from the Grace Episcopal Food Pantry into the storage rooms of the Food Center. Two of Grace's coordinators worked with us this past Friday with additional volunteers to follow in the near future. Syracusans who visited Grace to receive Emergency Foods will now come to the Food Center @ 324.
- I, with the assistance of the COVID re-entry team at SU, have constructed a plan for student (non-Syracuse resident) volunteers to begin working within the Food Center. Although we have started to include more volunteers into UUMC, SU, Le Moyne and Upstate students that may be coming from current COVID affected states needed some careful consideration.
- Upstate student support has withdrawn their need for a

- student Food Pantry at UUMC. They are working toward creating a small pantry within their own space.
- Brown Memorial has received multiple wire shelving racks from Temple Concord, and we received several more rolling carts. A few volunteers have often brought us veggies from Temple's food garden.
- We have gotten our donation of milk up to a sum where every guest gets a half gallon with each Emergency Food Box. Often we have several to give out at Sunday breakfast.
- We shared COVID educational material created by artist Carrie Mae Weems in many of our Food Boxes and still post yard signs Friday and Sunday mornings.
- We received another large food donation from the Kia foundation for our Pet Food Pantry.
- I've applied for another Music for the Mission grant for COVID relief. Hope to hear soon of a \$1,000 award for foods.
- Great thanks to Joyce & Sean Flynn for calling in a contact

at the Food Bank and Mary Slack, who were got multiple pallets of donated boxes for our food distribution.

- Barbara Fought is creating a wonderful short video, "The Story of a Food Box" about our Friday efforts. It will be on UUMC's Facebook page soon.

Moving Forward: You've probably all learned that the SCSD children will be out of their physical classroom more often than inside this fall and early winter. Our high schoolers will be exclusively learning remotely and the younger children, K-8, will be in a school two days a week. As we use SCSD as our guide we will keep the same Emergency Food Distribution and to-go Sunday breakfast method until the close of 2020. We hope in January we will be able to bring ourselves and our guests inside to our Food Center and breakfasts.

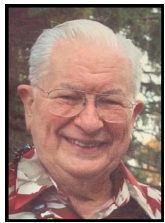
We still need facemasks and banana boxes (yes, even with the large donation). Please reach out with any questions or concerns

Peace,

— Galyn Murphy-Stanley,
Outreach Coordinator

People & Prayers

DEATH



• Longtime member **Ralph Best** died July 10 at the age of 93. His family will hold a memorial service when it is safe for all to attend.

BIRTH

From Beth Drew:

- **Graham Freeman Drew** was born July 15 in Danbury, Conn., to **Will and Stacey Drew**. All are doing fine.

PRAYERS REQUESTED:

For Those in Military Service:

- **Chance Lawson, Austin Payne, Ian Enderle, Nic Weah, Asani Mauridi**

Sunday, July 12

- **Barb Weaver:** Please continue to pray for **Bob and me**, and for our grandson-in-law **Josh** as he continues to recover slowly.
- **Carol Boll:** The family of **Lori Zepp**, who was killed along with her husband in a motorcycle accident.
- **Kenna LaPorte:** For my father's continued recovery. For the completion of my dissertation.
- **Carolina Cordero Dyer:** For the **Mitchell family**, who lost their beloved **Mark** yesterday
- **Barbara Fought:** For caregivers, first responders and medical professionals.... all who may be getting weary
- **Martha Sutter:** For my wonderful mother-in-law, who turns 100 this week.
- **Susan Bates:** My family and those struggling with health

issues.

- **Kim Kromer Murphy:** For **Jeanne**
- **Barbara Fought:** Let's pray for the family of **Ralph Best**, who went to be with God this week. He always had a smile and was such a positive person.
- **Kim Cromer Murphy:** Pray for safe travels this week
- **Jayne Humbert:** Continuing prayers for **Peter Swords**
- **Jeanne Finlayson-Schueler:** Prayers for new moms
- **Jackie Sadowski:** Prayers for 27-year-old **Virginia**, who is going through many health challenges

Sunday, July 19

- **Barbara Fought:** Let's pray for the family of **Ralph Best** in their grief and especially for his sister, **Marg**.
- **Alicia Wood:** Pray for **Beth Quick's** new adventure!

Sunday, July 26

- **Alicia Wood:** Prayers for our leadership and congregation as we move forward into the journey.
- Prayers for **Angela Palmieri** as she sprained her ankle this week and needs to use a walker for 2 weeks.
- **Kenna LaPorte:** Continued prayers for my mother and father, as my dad recovers. Continued prayers for my journey to complete my dissertation.
- **Barb Weaver:** Please continue to pray for our grandson-in-law, who will have a long recovery from his injuries.
- **Susan Bates:** My niece **Virgin-**

ia and her family.

- **Ann Owens:** Pray for **Angela Palmieri**, who fell yesterday and badly sprained her ankle. She is very upset that she can't come to church this afternoon.
- **Carolina Cordero Dyer:** That our friend **Lisa** continues to have clarity and strength in her journey
- **Barbara Fought:** Please pray for **Bill Richards**, who is in hospice care. He's a friend of 50 years of **Nelson Price**.
- **Carol and Tom Boll:** Prayers for the family of **Gary Van Dusen**, a former colleague from The Post-Standard who was struck by a vehicle and killed while walking his dog in Norwich.

Sunday, August 2

- **Barbara Fought:** Please pray for the family of **Bill Richards**, who died yesterday. He was a work colleague and longtime friend of Nelson's
- **Connie Myers:** Prayers for schools at all levels as they make plans and families as they make decisions
- **Kim Kromer Murphy:** Please pray for **Sue**, whose husband is hospitalized with COVID, and whose father-in-law is in the ICU with COVID. Sue herself is a nurse, and she is quarantined at home, still COVID negative.
- **Holly Austin:** Prayers for the two little toddlers who came into foster care this week who stayed with my husband and me briefly. They've got a hard road ahead and have been through so much.

See PEOPLE, Page 5

People & Prayers

CONTINUED from Page 4

- **Julie Oscars:** That God helps UUMC rent/lease the office space and provides for the financial needs of the church.
- **Ann Owens:** Prayers for my friend **Judy** as she continues with her cancer treatment.
- **Kim Kromer Murphy:** Prayers for **Robin**, who is struggling emotionally
- **Julie Oscars:** Prayers for **Pastor Alicia** for her strength and getting rest

JOYS, THANKS & PRAISE

Sunday, July 15

- **Alicia Wood:** Prayer of celebration of **Margo Koten's** 90th and **Lee Potter's** 85th birthdays!

Sunday, August 2

- **Stephanie Hitztaler:** Prayers of thanks — my parents, both survivors of COVID-19, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary yesterday! Our family from all over the country gathered on Zoom to congratulate them.

UUMC, SUMM received Payroll Protection Plain aid

COVID-19 has challenged our church, our community and our country in ways none of us could have imagined. Shutdowns of virtually every aspect of our society have caused changes in how we live and how we worship, but through all of this turmoil, our employees have been reliable and essential.

Our UUMC staff have provided their important parts of the online worship opportunity, maintained our beautiful building, provided sustaining food for our neighbors, dramatically expanded the Food Center @324 University Ave. facilities, and are accomplishing beyond our normal expectations.

Early in the pandemic the UUMC Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) decided to continue staff payroll at the levels that each employee was accustomed to receiving. Obviously, this was a faith-filled decision during these difficult financial times for our church.

In April, the U.S. Congress and the president provided the CARES Act that contained The

Payroll Protection Plan (PPP). The PPP is intended to assist small business and churches to maintain staffing at levels enjoyed prior to the pandemic shutdown. The PPP offered loans that covered employee pay for eight weeks, and if the monies were spent on those employees, the loan would be forgiven as a grant.

UUMC (\$36,365) and the Syracuse United Methodist Ministries (SUMM) (\$31,888) both applied for PPP funds and were blessed with enough funding to partially pay our employees from early July through October and our portion to SUMM for the pastors' compensation package in August. All funding must be spent in the 2020 calendar year.

So, although we have not had in-person worship, the UUMC staff continues to work hard at a time when volunteers are not able to assist as before.

Thank you to Rachel Kgama and Pastor Alicia for their persistent effort to secure the PPP funding.

— *John Hunt, SPRC Chair*

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
- 18 – Mike Rodda
- 23 – Dithole Thebe
- 28 – Kristofer Alestalo
- 29— Stephen Shepherd

Exodus: Change is hard

CONTINUED from Page 2

I am grateful for this appointment at UUMC. I have grown and changed in ways only God knew could happen. I am grateful for the Spiritual Gifts given to each and every one of us. And I am grateful that we are wrestling with change.

The Exodus teaches us change is not easy but is a part of the way we prepare ourselves and the generations to come about the journey of faith.

Peace be with you until we meet again,

Pastor Alicia

Leaders to meet Aug. 29

CONTINUED from Page 1

A meeting of UUMC leaders has been rescheduled for Aug. 29. They are meeting to plan a way forward for UUMC to meet the challenges of finances, the building and new ministries.

Because the Syracuse City School District is not resuming all in-person classes, our Outreach program will continue to operate outside on Fridays and Sundays through the end of the year,

Finance Corner

Pledging Update

2020 total pledges:	\$217,360
Total Pledges Received	\$121,153
Non-pledge contributions	\$20,550
UUMC PPP Loan (CARES Act)	\$36,365
SUMM PPP Loan (CARES Act)	
(Pastors' Salaries)	\$31,888
Trustees Bathroom Renovation Fund	\$24,625
Sounds of the Spirit Visual Fund	
Donations received	\$95,991
Expenses paid	\$88,891
Current balance	\$7,100

Emergency financial appeal begun to keep alive UNY Camp & Retreat Ministries

COVID-19 pandemic has cause Casowasco, Aldersgate, Asbury, Sky Lake and Sky Farm to cancel the entire camping season plus many church, family and group retreats and gatherings.

These cancellations have resulted in a loss of over \$1 million in revenue.

Though each site has begun to reopen, the pandemic will continue to limit what is possible for many months to come.

These ministries have entered a time of scarcity and uncertainty.

The UNY Conference is making an emergency financial appeal that's being called "Manna in the Wilderness Campaign."

Please make whatever gift you can to help keep our camp and retreat sites and ministries alive.

You can designate your gift to a site or to Camp and Retreat Ministries:

<https://campsandretreats.org/donate>. You can also mail it to: Camp and Retreat Ministries, 7481 Henry Clay Blvd., Liverpool NY 13088.



University United
Methodist Church

Feeding God's People: Body, Mind and Spirit

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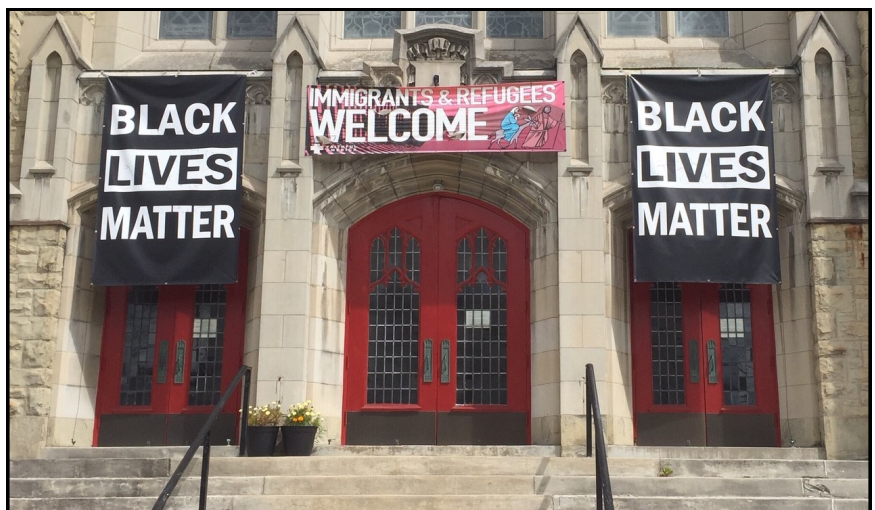
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Put
Stamp
Here

Return service requested

Dated material



Black Lives Matter banners on our East Genesee Street entrance were raised to prevent further vandalism. Below left, white boxes of fresh produce from Food Bank of CNY supplement grocery boxes of food such as one held by Outreach Coordinator Galyn Murphy-Stanley during our Emergency Food Distribution on Fridays.



Scenes from our “Holy
Ground: A Day of Renewal
and Reconnection”
July 26, 2020





















Scenes from our Friday and Sunday Outreach Food Programs







**WASH
YOUR HANDS,
COVER
YOUR FACE,
KEEP A SAFE
DISTANCE
& GET TESTED!**

PEACE, Inc.
1000 ...
100 ...

PARKING FOR
VOLUNTEERS



A cart from Temple Society of Concord, received after they became a part of The Food Center @ 324 University Ave.











“Back from the Brink”
Marking 75th Anniversary
Of Hiroshima Atomic Bombing
Aug. 6, 2020





