

# THE CHIMES

Sept. 4, 2020

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**Remember to go to:**  
[https://  
www.facebook.com/  
UUMCSyracuse/  
for Sunday worship!](https://www.facebook.com/UUMCSyracuse/)

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

Alicia Wood, Pastor  
Tom Boll, Editor

## Sept. 13: worship in sanctuary; online service moves to 11 a.m.

As previously announced, in-person 10:30 a.m. Sunday worship resumes Sept. 13.

Online worship will continue so that people not ready to come out can still participate, but it will move to **11 a.m., a new time, that day.**

For in-person worship, if at all possible, please arrive early to maintain proper flow since our ushers will seat you.

As you enter the building through the Peale entrance, the only entry point, you will use hand sanitizer and enter your name and phone number for contact tracing.

Masks are required while in the church building. If you forget, the church will supply one. There will be a

second hand sanitizer at the top of the stairs in front of the display window.

We will not use our name tags during this time. The railing and elevator will be sanitized during worship and after everyone exits. This may happen between each use as much as possible.

Pews will be clearly marked for social distancing. The Bibles and hymnals will be removed, so if you have them, please bring your own from home.

If you do not own a Bible or hymnal let the pastor or an usher know and one will be given to you to take home and bring back each Sunday.

See **NEW**, Page 8

## What will the promised land look like for congregation?

Last Saturday, select members of UUMC met at Clark Reservation State Park for an all-day meeting to discuss the future of UUMC.

The meeting was facilitated by Mac Sabol.

Focusing on the difference between change (events that happen to us) and transition (how we adapt to external change), we were skillfully guided through a discussion and understanding of change and transition.

Later, Exodus was used to frame how we as a congregation would be  
See **WHAT**, Page 2

## 150th anniversary celebration kicks off after Labor Day

This month starts our 150th anniversary celebration.

As announced in the August Chimes, we're asking the congregation to commemorate the occasion by performing 150 acts of kindness, and letting the church office know ([office@uumcsyracuse.org](mailto:office@uumcsyracuse.org)). You can have your name attached or be anonymous.

In addition, we've been contacting former pastors and members and current members to  
See **HISTORY**, Page 8

## Remember, everyone has a story worth listening to



Alicia Wood

Greetings,  
Everybody has a story. I present as a happy and positive person but have had sad and dark times in my past.

I have had many happy and funny ironic times too. I'm sure each of you has a story to tell from your childhood or your adulthood or about parenting. Everybody has a story.

Many times our stories tell our story about who we are and why we are who we are.

I think we make up stories about our pets to explain their strange habits and facial expressions. I know my cat has quite the personality. Some of it is true, and some of it is made up from my imagination.

I'm wondering about your

story. What's your story? What has made you who you are?

Jesus had a story. We heard about his coming in Isaiah. We learned his story included that he was born because of God and his humble and faithful mother Mary.

After his birth his family fled to Egypt to escape the death threat from King Herod because Herod heard of Jesus' story, about who Jesus was born to be.

Jesus told stories about people in his parables. He even told the story of how he would die and then come again.

Our country seems so divided right now. My prayer is that we all remember everybody has a story.

When we don't understand someone, let's ask ourselves, "I wonder what their story might be?"

If you have the chance, ask

the person about their story.

I have been listening to a lot of stories lately through the Poor People's Campaign.

This is an organization the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. started in the 1960s and that was rebirthed around 2010.

The Poor People's Campaign believes stories are powerful and hold the answers to changing our society and community for the better where the common good is the priority. A way of living in which all stories have worth and all lives are valued.

This month let's make a goal to *listen* to people's stories, to remember each person has a story that makes them who they are. Then, let's pray for that person for three days because ... everybody has a story.

Peace,

Pastor Alicia

### What is your Dream for UUMC?

**CONTINUED** from Page 1

led to the promised land — in short, what was our Dream so eloquently spoken by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Devoid of oftentimes dry and bureaucratic typical "strategic planning" exercises, this required those present to discuss what their dream was for UUMC.

I had gone to the meeting prepared to discuss threats to UUMC, rental vacancies, building needs, use of endowments to help plug budget deficits.

But I came away believing, as I believe those present believed, that this day of learning and discussion is where we needed to begin.

We will, to be sure, have to deal with immediate and practical concerns.

And we need to make the circle wider to involve the whole congregation on what was started on Saturday.

So, what is your Dream for UUMC, and what will the promised land look like?

— Vito Sciscioli

### Help Chuck McBride celebrate his birthday by sending a card to the church by Sept. 23

Chuck McBride, a longtime member of our Sunday School class for adults with disabilities, has a birthday coming up.

When Ginny Dewey interviewed Chuck for our 150th Anniversary project, he said that one of his favorite things is to celebrate his Sept. 25 birthday by having a class party — which can't happen this year — and by receiving birthday greetings from people at church.

Since neither of those is possible, we are hoping to collect many, many cards for Chuck that Joyce Flynn will pick up and deliver to him for his birthday.

Please send a birthday card for Chuck to the church by Sept. 23: 1085 E. Genesee St., Syracuse NY 13210.

# Food Center new normal: moving massive amounts of food



**Galyn  
Murphy-  
Stanley**

As we approach the end of this unpredictable summer, what has remained the same for these five plus months is our new normal at The Food Center @ 324 University Ave.: Our distribution of massive amounts of food to a tsunami of people each week.

Our Food Bank orders now come in an 18-wheeled truck from the Food Bank vs. a box truck.

We work outside vs. inside with a new cast of volunteers and guests.

Frequent money opportunities are available for COVID relief efforts as are the ongoing expenses in feeding, sanitizing, purchasing supplies and specialized COVID packaging for to-go food items.

Look at the tables to see how much we've grown and what has become our new normal.

We will continue to work in the manner we have been until the end of 2020.

At that time we will decide our reopening strategy based on

## August 2020 COVID-19 Emergency Food & Diaper Distribution

Date	Households	Adults	Seniors	Children	Total	Bagel Breakfast
8/7	206	384	45	352	781	48
8/14	241	513	68	352	966	57
8/21	198	340	128	315	911	51
8/28	256	407	92	587	1,086	56
<b>Total</b>	<b>901</b>	<b>1,644</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>1,639</b>	<b>3,744</b>	<b>212</b>

**Diapers Distributed: 3,350 to 67 families**

## Growth of Emergency Food Distribution in 2020

Month	Households	Adults	Seniors	Children	Total	Bagel Breakfast
January	220	341	47	168	535	30
February	124	190	19	106	315	24
March (COVID-19 Guidelines 3/20)	Not Available	391	20	392	803	50
April	439	876	14	683	1,573	115
May	909	1,296	274	1,512	3,082	70
June	794	1,225	230	1,214	2,669	41
July	985	1,622	330	1,882	3,834	150

the current COVID protocol.

We can expect that our numbers will continue to increase as will the amount of foods that we will move.

We hope to begin having more volunteers to support our efforts through the week, accepting donations again as well as

welcoming folk back for worship.

On this Labor Day weekend I hope you enjoy a few days of no labor. Enjoy the end of our summer, hopeful for more normal days ahead.

— Galyn Murphy-Stanley,  
Outreach Coordinator

## Clothes Closet to open by appointment

UUMC's Clothes Closet will resume operation after Sept. 7. Donations may be dropped off 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, but on-

ly after you call Mary in the office and make an appointment. Guests may shop for clothes 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays, also only by appointment.

# People & Prayers

## DEATH

- Longtime member **Peter Swords** died Aug. 25 at the age of 21.
- **Tom Owens**, husband of **Ann Owens** and stepfather of **Angela Palmieri**, died Aug. 22 at the age of 72.

## PRAYERS REQUESTED:

### For Those in Military Service:

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

### Sunday, August 9

- Prayers for **Kim Kromer Murphy** and her family as they grieve the loss of her stepfather.
- **Stephanie Hitztaler**: Prayers for a good friend who is struggling with finding a long-term position in her field, and who is struggling in a difficult living situation in a city that is still under lockdown.
- **Connie Myers**: All those awaiting COVID test results.
- **Kenna LaPorte**: Please continue to pray for my father, who continues to struggle in his rehabilitation process.
- **Ted Finlayson-Schueler**: Those struggling with editing problems.
- **Susan Bates**: Those struggling with health problems.
- **Stephanie Hitztaler**: Prayers for my dad, who is still so weakened from COVID-19, and for my mom's cousin, **Ann**.
- **Kim Kromer Murphy**: Please pray for **Sue** and her husband, **Terry**. Terry is in the ICU with COVID. His father, who was in the same situation last

week, went home to be with God on Tuesday.

- **Nelson Price**: The family of **Linda Young**, Deborah Bradshaw's sister. Linda's husband died this week.
- **Jeanne Finlayson-Schueler**: **Penny Stringfield's family** — a close friend was murdered in Binghamton Friday night
- **Holly Austin**: Prayers for **Jeanne F-S**
- **Nelson Price**: For all those facing new challenges of food, financial challenges, and school.
- **Sharon Smith**: Pray for our church's future
- **Margaret Leonard**: My brother, **Fred**, who has major health issues

### Sunday, August 16

- Prayers for **Shirley Miller**, **Jayne Humbert**, **Karen Quick**, **Ann Owens**
- **Kim Kromer Murphy**: Please continue to pray for **Sue and Terry Bodi**. Terry is still in the ICU with COVID. Sue tested positive, but is now out of quarantine, and is at this moment at worship with her congregation in Florida.
- **Carolina Cordero Dyer**: Praying for **Lisa**, as she navigates the difficulty of cancer, may she find peace and courage.
- **Stephanie Hitztaler**: Prayers for my father, who suffered extensive lung damage from COVID-19 and continues to struggle for every breath.
- **Melissa Faley**: Please pray for the **Allen family**, who lost their 19-year-old son, **Jalen**, in a car accident last night.
- **Barbara Fought**: Let's pray for

those going off to college, especially for the first time. And for the parents who miss them so much.

- **Barb Weaver**: Please continue to pray for **Bob and me**, and for our grandson-in-law **Josh**
- **Sharon Smith**: Please remember Blessings in a Backpack and donate if you can, thank you!

### Sunday, August 23

- For **Diane Swords** and the entire **Swords family**, on the death of **Peter** on Tuesday.
- **Kim Kromer Murphy**: Please pray for the family of **Terry Bodi**, who died from COVID this past week.
- **Jacquelyn Sadowski**: **Ann Owens**, on the death of her husband.
- **Barbara Fought** Prayers for a friend's sister, **Arun**.
- **Susan Bates**: Those struggling with health issues.
- **Alicia Wood**: Prayers for **Ann Owens** and **Angela** as they deal with the grief of losing **Tom Owens**
- **Martha Sutter**: For our SU students, that they make wise decisions as we begin residential classes tomorrow.
- **Melissa Faley**: Prayers for the **Allen family**, as they deal with the loss of **Jalen**.
- **Stephanie Hitztaler**: Continued prayers for my father, for my friend **Sejal**, my mom's cousin, **Ann**.

### Sunday, August 30

- **Angie Van Deusen**: Prayers for me as more people find out my joy of getting engaged  
See PEOPLE, Page 5

## People & Prayers

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- **Daniel Christen:** Praying for ALL
- **Barbara Fought:** My dear friend **Christie** is in the hospital in Phoenix with severe abdominal pain and my friend's sister, **Arun**, is hospitalized in Connecticut and may lose bones in her face... so would appreciate prayer.
- **Holly Austin:** Prayers for our pastor after a hard week.
- **Holly Austin:** Prayers for the future of our church
- **Barbara Fought:** As **Alicia** mentioned in the message, let's pray for parents separated from their children

### JOYS, THANKS & PRAISE

Sunday, August 9

- **Jeanne Finlayson-Schueler:**

Happy 50th Anniversary to **Kris and Robin Best**

Sunday, August 23

- **Stephanie Hitztaler:** Yes, thank you to all who blessed us with your beautiful voices today!
- **Kim Kromer Murphy:** Thank you for the opportunity to sing God's blessings.

Sunday, August 30

- **Susan Bates:** A joy! **Liz** celebrated her birthday on Tuesday.
- **Martha Sutter:** Thankful for the wonderful legacy of **Peter Swords**.
- **Martha Sutter:** Thankful for all who make this weekly service possible and to **Barbara** for welcoming new guests. Also to **Tom Boll** for his weekly updates!

## October birthdays

- 4 – Janet Mandigo, Nelson Price, Phillip Wellner, Dan Shworles  
5 – Renee Threatte, Lonnie Threatte  
10 – Mary Woodburn  
11 – Carol Boll  
15 – Elizabeth Magowan  
16 – Nathan Miller  
22 – Michael Toe  
25 – Colin Simmons  
26 – Katrina Tillapaugh  
Barbara Cook  
27 – Rosemary Chappell  
30 – Koketso Ratala

## College graduates

**Collen Magowan** graduated from Binghamton University summa cum laude with a BS in biology, BA in French and a minor in global studies.

**Katrina Tillapaugh** graduated from SUNY Geneseo in December. She has accepted a position with AmeriCorps and is working in Missoula, Montana, on veterans' issues.

## Book/Bible study

The book is "*Women Rise Up: Sacred Stories of Resistance for Today's Revolution*" by Katey Zeh. Each chapter features a woman from the Bible. The book was chosen in honor of the 100th anniversary of the adoption of the 19th Amendment, which secured the right to vote for white women. We will meet via Zoom 6 to 7:30 p.m. Sundays, Sept. 20-Nov. 22. The book is \$14.95 on Amazon Smile or Barnes & Noble. To enroll, email [Connie Myers](mailto:Connie Myers) at [connie.myers.co@gmail.com](mailto:connie.myers.co@gmail.com).



**Black Lives Matter banners on our East Genesee Street entrance were moved up in hopes of protecting them after vandals had damaged them with black marker and written on our corner sign and a display case near the Peale Entrance on University Avenue. But vandals struck again, tore one partially down and threw eggs on both. This happened the night of Aug. 31. Since the first incident, vandals marked up our corner sign on two other occasions.**

# From Zachary Zimmerman: I'm off to college at Swarthmore

*Editor's Note: Zachary is the son of Dr. Mark and Deirdre Zimmerman, medical missionaries in Nepal whom UUMC helps support.*  
KATHMANDU, Aug. 25

Dear Friends,

The time has at last come upon us for me to leave for college, and on top of all the regular stresses, new experiences and roller coaster of emotions this process brings to every family, this year we have a global pandemic thrown in to spice things up even further.

As I'm sure you have all come to realize, one of the hardest things about the pandemic is the uncertainty that all plans are put under by the constantly shifting situation, which for us include Nepal's and the U.S.'s situations and precautions.

Will Swarthmore allow students on campus? Will the Kathmandu airport open to commercial flights? Where will I stay in the U.S. before I move in? How am I going to get all my stuff back to the U.S.?

Thankfully, the answers to these questions and a multitude of others have trickled in over the past few weeks.

Swarthmore is opening for a short first semester of about 11 weeks, but is only allowing freshmen (my year) and sophomores back onto campus for a mix of online and in-person (socially distanced) classes.

Here in Nepal, after about 2 weeks of being close to fully open, corona case numbers have spiked and the government's plans to open the airport mid-August were scrapped and lockdown has been re-imposed.

However, this only came after weeks of rumor mongering,

officials "leaking" pieces of information, government spokespeople contradicting one another and a state of general confusion.

This, in turn, meant we only found out about the official decision not to reopen the airport 12 hours after we had booked tickets for a few days after it was supposed to reopen.

Thankfully this does not mean that I will not be going. The World Food Program runs biweekly charter flights from Kathmandu to Malaysia and as the son of development workers I am eligible for a seat.

Therefore the plan is for me to fly tomorrow, the 26th of August, through Malaysia, on to South Korea, through Atlanta to Philadelphia. It's a circuitous route to be sure, but I am just grateful to be going.

Many of my Nepali friends can't leave for college as it is impossible to get a visa.

I am also grateful for another advantage that my Nepali friends would not have even if they were going, which is that I have family on the other end of the long journey who will host me for a few days before I move onto campus.

Getting to have meaningful goodbyes with my friends is significantly harder due to this new lockdown, but I will be able to meet five or six of my closest friends (in a socially distanced way) before I leave, which again, I am very grateful for.

The biggest challenge (if perhaps the least important) is packing. There are several limits including flying alone (which limits me to my two suitcases), and the shortness of the term, which means I have to pack up and move everything again in late No-

vember.

These mean that cramming in as much of my wardrobe and other essentials as possible looks to be quite the task, and I am already coming to terms with the somber fact that perhaps some of my excess coats, jackets, shirts and shoes will not make the trip.

All in all, the whole experience is a strange mixture of excitement and nervousness as I face this new chapter and leave the nest, so to speak.

At times during this almost surreal summer I've been quite sad, even angry, at the many celebrations, events and memories that would have, should have, taken place as my friends and I graduated from high school and began the next stage of our lives.

But in that regard and in other ways too, there is also much for which to be grateful.

Friends who have braved the risks of the pandemic and lockdown to ensure I left knowing how appreciated I was and how missed I would be.

Parents, who despite full-time jobs, spent night after night making sure the flights and the payments and the shopping and a million other things were taken care of when I landed.

My Aunt Jill and her family, who are happy to let me crash land in their house and look after me when I arrive. The many of you who have reached out just to see what my plans are and wished me the best. I will go into this next chapter looking ahead with anticipation because I know what a stable foundation I have behind and below me.

Love,  
Zachary



**Zachary Zimmerman, 3 days old at Patan Hospital in 2002, with parents Deirdre and Mark. At right, he's with the midwife who delivered him. He was at Patan Hospital for his pre-flight coronavirus test before leaving Nepal for college.**

## UUMC members' acts of kindness — We're aiming for 150!

All these acts were reported by UUMC members. All asked to be anonymous. Email the church office with yours — [office@uumcsyracuse.org](mailto:office@uumcsyracuse.org) — they can be by adults and children.

**Helping find a lost key:** A few days ago, I noticed my elderly neighbor out looking through the grass in her front yard. When I spoke to her, she told me she had dropped her car keys on her way into her apartment. I started looking with her. But no luck! Pretty soon we were joined by another neighbor, and then another! We found the key, and more importantly, we enjoyed being good neighbors to one another. I think acts of kindness are contagious!

**Sharing a shopping cart:** As I was returning my cart at Aldi, I noticed a man walking toward the carts who was struggling to walk with his cane. I took my cart over to him and offered it. He took it gladly and tried to give me my quarter. I responded that I didn't want my quarter and asked him to just please "Pass it on." He answered, "I surely will. We're all in this together, aren't we?" Boy, did that exchange make my day!

**Visiting GrandNana:** My 5-year-old grandson and I had baked cookies, and then picked flowers from my wildflower garden. We surprised my homebound 89-year-old mother, his GrandNana, by taking them to her. Her eyes lit up when she saw him!

**Getting food for families:** I picked up groceries at The Food Center @324 for two families, grocery shopped for a shut-in, took two housebound immigrant boys on a nature outing and called a grieving widow at the loss of her husband.

**Lost ID returned:** I found an ID card for an employee of the Syracuse City School District on the sidewalk at University Avenue and Harrison Street. I drove down to the SCSD office at 725 Harrison St. and handed it to a security guard so its rightful owner will get it.

## Finance Corner

### Pledging Update

2020 total pledges: \$217,360  
Total Pledges Received \$137,929  
Non-pledge contributions \$23,905  
UUMC PPP Loan (CARES Act)  
\$36,365

SUMM PPP Loan (CARES Act)  
(Pastors' Salaries) \$31,888  
Trustees Bathroom Renovation  
Fund \$14,310  
Blessings in a Backpack \$1,600

### 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

## History, remembrances

**CONTINUED** from Page 1  
speak about UUMC.

You will be seeing evidence of those efforts during worship on Sundays.

Also, beginning Sept. 11, the weekly eblast email will have a separate attachment of 150th anniversary information, including reprinting of the late Rosemary De-Hoog's Chimes articles on the history of the church when she was church historian, personal remembrances, important U.S. and world history events by decade during the life of the church and more.

Any get together celebrating our 150 years as a congregation will not be scheduled until it's safe.

### Church offices reopens; appointment required

Mary Slack will once again be staffing the church office Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., starting Sept. 8.

But if you need to come to UUMC you **must** contact Mary for an appointment first.

Upon entering, you must follow the protocol of wearing a mask, using hand sanitizer and entering your name and phone number.

## New offering box will replace plates

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The floor will be marked with arrows to maintain proper flow. We won't be able to pass the peace or share hugs or handshakes.

The liturgist will use the pulpit and Pastor Alicia will use her own microphone. We will not have bulletins so that we do not transmit germs. We will not have an offering time but ask that you drop your donation off in our new offering box before or after worship as you enter or leave the sanctuary or mail it in during the week.

As the usher seats you they will ask if you have a prayer request that will be written down and shared with the pastor so she may include your request during the prayer time. We will also ask for additional prayers to be called out during our prayer time so all prayers are included.

Bathrooms are more challenging to sanitize, so we are asking that the bathrooms be used only for emergencies. The restroom can be used by only one person at a time except family members.

We will not be able to welcome children forward for children's time but Pastor Alicia will talk with them from their pews.

We will not be able to sing in worship. Singing is actually one of easiest ways to spread the COVID-19 virus. We will have a recorded song leader. We can sit back and really listen to the music and words to our hymns in a new way.

We won't be able to have our gathering time following worship. We cannot eat or drink in the church building.

We will continue to follow the directives of New York State for large group gatherings and directives from the bishop's office.

This is a very different and challenging time. Pastor Alicia is so sorry worship will be different for now but she wants to keep everyone safe and healthy. We pray this is short term, but we will worship this way until restrictions are lifted.

A video will be created to show us how Sunday in-person worship will go and will be shared by Friday, Sept. 11.



# Scenes from our Friday and Sunday Outreach Food Programs





















