

THE CHIMES

Oct. 9, 2020

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Daylight saving time ends on Halloween this year. Set your clocks back an hour before going to bed the night of Oct. 31!

Remember to go to: <https://www.facebook.com/UUMCSyracuse/> for Sunday online Worship at 11 a.m.!

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

We'll celebrate 'The Tie That Binds' in next worship series

You're probably not thinking that far ahead, but we have only seven Sundays before Advent starts.

For six of them, we'll be in our next worship series, "The Tie That Binds." The one exception will be All Saints Day, Nov. 1.

The title is an excerpt from the beloved hymn "Blest Be the Tie That Binds," which we've sung at UUMC when a member or friend of the church moves away.

The "Tie That Binds" is God. We acknowledge that in the series' first Sunday, Oct. 11, with the theme "Formed." As the series creators put it: "We have been created by God, gifted by God, given life by God — formed by God's hand like clay by the potter. We open ourselves to be reshaped when necessary and we cele-

brate our common connections as God's children."

The other themes in the series are "Woven," (We are woven together with all of creation and God desires harmony for all); "Poured," (We answer the call to be his compassion poured out in the world.); "Lifted," (What random acts of kindness will you be caught doing that creates the ties that bind?); "Moved" (To be connected is to find a rhythm with those around you.); and "Anointed." (No one is excluded from God's grace.)

We've had both in-person (10:30 a.m.) and online (11 a.m.) worship services since Sept. 13.

An average of 35 to 40 people attend in the Sanctuary each week. There's live music performed in church by Organist Dennis Triggs.

Time to remember those we've lost in the past year

All Saints Day, the day we recall the saints who have left us in the past 12 months, is Nov. 1 this year.

If there is someone who died since last year's All Saints Day, Nov. 3, whom you'd like mentioned during the service, please send their name, relationship to you — family member, friend, etc. — and their date of death to the church office: office@uumcsyracuse.org by Oct. 25.

Thanksgiving Bags ministry will take a different form

Although the details for this year's Thanksgiving Bag Project are still being worked out, it will be modeled after our Friday Emergency Food Distribution, which happens outside UUMC on University Avenue.

The Thanksgiving Emergency Food Boxes will hold the Thanksgiving foods that have filled the bags historically.

Those boxes will be filled by staff and Food Center @ 324 volunteers.

See **MONEY**, Page 2

For an extrovert, not seeing others can be exhausting



Alicia Wood

I recently read an article from the Christian Century that made me realize why I'm feeling so tired all the time. I'm wonder-

ing if you are feeling this way too? After reading the article, I was once again reminded that I'm extrovert.

An extrovert is person who is energized by being around other people. On the other hand, an introvert is someone who prefers calm, minimally stimulating environments.

Introverts tend to feel drained after socializing and regain their energy by spending time alone.

The bottom line is I miss you. I "see" you on Zoom, the virtual Gathering Room and somewhat on Sundays. We aren't able to linger and really check with in with each other on Sunday morning as we used to.

Quite honestly, I'm still very nervous about the spread of COVID-19 so I don't hang around like I used to.

I need my batteries re-charged by the joy and excitement of people gathered and individual heartfelt talks. Yet, it's deeper than that.

We are called to both a relationship with Jesus Christ and to God's people. Jesus prayed and praised God, but he also sat with and talked with many different kinds of people.

In Jesus' hour of need just before he was betrayed and arrested, he went to Gethsemane to pray to God. Jesus did not go alone. He asked his disciples to come with him and stay awake with him while he prayed.

During COVID-19 we have had more time to work on our relationship with Jesus Christ, and I am SO very thankful for that! Have you taken time to build your relationship with Jesus?

I'm missing working on my relationship with God's people, all of you, as it once was. I know this, too, shall pass and with God's help we will all gather together again.

Ecclesiastes 3:1, 4-8 has brought *this* extrovert comfort today. "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace."

Peace be with you until we gather again,

Pastor Alicia

Money donations needed to boost Thanksgiving bags

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The Food Bank of CNY will assist us much more than in the past as our distribution has grown so significantly, to 300 households.

This year's distribution also will require buying specialized food the Food Bank cannot provide.

We look to the congregation to financially support this effort and provide a holiday card to each of our 300 households. More detailed information will follow as the event nears.

But financial support is always welcome. Checks should be made out to UUMC with Thanksgiving Project 2020 on the memo line and be sent to University United Methodist Church, 1805 E. Genesee St., Syracuse, NY 13210.

To donate online with a credit card, go to our website at uumcsyracuse.org. Scroll down the homepage and click on "Give to UUMC." You'll see a Thanksgiving Bags donation option.

Thanks for your support!

— Galyn Murphy-Stanley
Outreach Coordinator

RESTART gets storage space at The ROAD

One of the most humbling experiences we can have is to serve others.

RESTART provides the opportunity to experience such service to people moving out of homelessness.

This outreach ministry not only extends a helping hand to others, but it also allows volunteers to appreciate all that they have and what they can share with
See **RESTART**, Page 6

Decisions necessary to make food distribution sustainable



**Galyn
Murphy-
Stanley**

Looking forward to October, UUMC’s Outreach team, representatives from Grace Episcopal Food Pantry and UUMC Leadership committees will join this week to make decisions and plans regarding the sustainability of our current Outreach ministry efforts, focusing especially on our Food Distribution, Bagel Breakfast, Clothes Closet and Little Free Library.

Additionally, we will plan COVID-safe and schedule adjustments to our holiday meal events and “Bringing in Christmas.”

After a sobering conversation with the Food Bank of CNY, it is abundantly clear that we need to move into a methodology that allows us to provide, network and support ourselves and our community in this heightened manner for a very long time.

The model we currently use to meet our and our community’s significant needs will likely be with us for a very long time.

We will work together to move from a reactive approach to one that is sustainable far into the future.

Expect new information on our changing Outreach efforts through this month.

For more information on our nation’s efforts to provide emergency access to foods, The New York Times and The Washington Post ran several articles during September (which, I just learned,

September 2020 Emergency Food & Diaper Distribution

Date	Households	Adults	Children	Seniors	Bagel Breakfast	Pet Food
9/4	248	387	571	87	52	4
9/11	247	419	400	36	58	1
9/18	273	440	487	68	55	2
9/25	321	436	440	73	64	2
Total	1,089	1,682	1,898	264	229	9

Diapers Distributed: 14,250 to 285 families

- Total individuals served with Friday’s Emergency Food Distribution: **3,844**
- Total individuals who received foods at UUMC: **4,073** (Friday Distribution & Sunday Breakfast)
- Total individuals who received seasonal flu vaccine from Walgreens pharmacists: **30**
- U.S. Census registered approximately **25** individuals
- NAACP registered about **10** individuals to vote
- Mike Fixler of Temple Concord has been making weekly donations of fresh produce from the temple’s garden for our Friday morning guests
- An Upstate third-year medical student created **300** personal hygiene bags for our Bagel Breakfast guests
- Several folks have visited our clothing closet to gather clothing for their families and/or clients. These visits are scheduled by appointment.
- Donations of clothing for our clothing closet and books for our “Little Free Library” have picked up. Please continue making these donations as there is a high demand. Please contact UUMC main office at 315-475-7277 or outreach@uumcsyracuse.org to schedule a drop-off time.
- RESTART has re-settled itself on Onondaga Hill and has begun receiving donations geared to folk who are restarting their lives. Please contact Evelyn Disinger at edisinger235@gmail.com or Jackie Sadowski at jsadowski1@twcny.rr.com for more information on furniture or household item donations. (See RESTART article on Page 2)

was “Hunger Awareness” Month). Check the link below for one story that begins in Troy, New York.

You will learn that America’s national hunger crisis is stunning-

ly significant, our responses and needs are currently parallel and predicted to surpass that of the Great Depression.

See **NY TIMES**, Page 5

People & Prayers

DEATH



Aaron Wood, son of member **Gary Wood**, died Oct. 2 at the age of 50. Here is a link to his obituary: [OBITUARY](#)

PRAYERS REQUESTED:

For Those in Military Service:

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

Sunday, September 6

- **Barbara Fought:** Please pray for those families in grief: **Soufleris, Swords, Owens, Richards, Struchen**
- **Barbara Fought:** I would appreciate prayers for my friend **Christie**, hospitalized in Phoenix, Arizona. She is discouraged.
- **Nelson Price:** For the families of persons who have died in military service.
- **Jayne Humbert:** **Rita Soufleris** and family
- **Leanna King:** My stepfather died Aug. 18. Please say a prayer for our family. Thank you
- **Martha Sutter:** Prayers for **Rita Soufleris**. Her husband, **George**, died on Friday.
- **Lou Roberts**
 - All those affected with fires
 - Students, teachers, and all those in education, and wild-fires.
 - Empathy for all.
 - **Angela:** **Jeanne Finlayson-Schueler**
 - **Barbara Fought:** Carolina's friend, **Lisa**. **Kim's family**, grieving the death of her nephew. West Coast fire victims. **Renee**.
 - **Kim Kromer Murphy:** I ask for continuing prayers for my family, with our recent losses of family.
 - **Connie Myers:** Continuing prayers for students, families, teachers and all who are navigating hybrid or remote schooling
 - **Martha Sutter:** All those on the West Coast suffering with the fires and for the responders fighting the fires.
 - **Barbara Fought:** Pray for **Alice Makul's family** at the death of her nephew. And for healing for **Jayne Humbert**, who had surgery and is now back home.
 - **Carolina Cordero Dyer:** Continued prayers for **Lisa** to find peace with her illness
 - **Renee Davis:** Please pray for me and my family during these stressful times. Thank you
 - Pray for **Pastor Alicia**, who has upcoming evaluation meetings with her district superintendent and the District Board of Ordained Ministry
 - **Erika Vitthuhn:** Please pray for **Maria Storto and her family**. **Maria** is having difficulty with

Sunday, September 13

- **Sue Bates:** My friend **Ann** with lung cancer
- **Angela:** For my Grandma
- **Jim:** For kids who died in a car accident.
- **Mike Rodda:** Family of **Nancy Hagerty**, who died in July
- **Bruce Moyer:** For all of us during these times.
- **Gail Tyndall:** For **Barb Silverman** and her mom, **Cathy** and
- **her car** and we pray that everything will go smooth

Sunday, September 20

- All best wishes for **Dennis Trigg**
- **Sue Bates:** Those with health issues
- **Lee Potter:** Those suffering with fires out west
- Healing prayers for **Dennis Trigg**
- **Deborah O'Connor-Slater:** **Mary Ann** in Oregon. Thanks for moderately good air.
- **Ann Owens:** **Judy McGarvey**, seriously ill
- Please pray for the family and country and for **Ruth Bader Ginsburg**
- Healing prayers for **Richard** and his back
- **Erika Vitthuhn:** Pray for my mom and **Bob**, who are traveling up north to visit Bob's daughter in their new camp
- **Jessica Clark:** Praying for the people dealing with wildfires and people that lost their houses and then pray for the people that they don't have enough food or water for them
- **Sharon Smith:** Pray for those struggling with addiction
- **Margaret Leonard:** My brother, **Fred**, is starting chemo Monday for 5 days. He is also Pastor Alicia's uncle.
- **Barbara Fought:** For those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.
- **Gwen Tillapaugh-Fay:** Peace, grace, love, joy, for ALL!

Sunday, September 27

- **Jim:** Prayers for **Kaydence Ev-** See PEOPLE, Page 5

People & Prayers

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- **anescense Nichols**, who died last week.
- **Del and Barb**: Acceptable election
- **Holly**: Prayers for our frustration with the foster care system; bless **Katrina** through her custody hearing
- **Sue B.**: Those with health issues
- **Jackie: Kathy & Lou Roberts**, prayers for Lou
- Prayers for **Starke**, who is in the hospital.
- Prayers for **Barbara Silverman**
- **Kim Kromer Murphy**: Prayers for our young neighbors, that they will come to know God.
- **Erika Vitthuhn**: My grandpa
- For **Ted Finlayson-Schueler**, who has back pain.
- **Sharon Smith**: Pray for my friend struggling with addiction
- **Stephanie Hitztaler**: Prayers for our country during this time of great uncertainty, tension and illness.
- **Nelson Price**: Prayers for those who have lost loved ones.

Sunday, October 4

- Prayers for the family of **Aaron Wood, Gary Wood's** son, who died Friday. He leaves a wife and two young daughters.
- **Jackie Sadowski**: For our country
- **Lee and Ed Potter**: For all the people suffering from

the pandemic

- **Gayle T.: Barbara Silverman**
- **Stephanie Hitztaler**: Our country
- **Kim Kromer Murphy**: for justice and support for the poor
- **Robin Searles**: Prayers for Pastor **Justin Hood** and Skaneateles UMC to move our congregation forward!
- **Robin Searles**: I broke my leg, so prayers for my spouse who has to wait on me!
- **Erika Vitthuhn**: For my mom with family and for **Maria Storto**
- **Susan Bates**: Please pray for my high school friend **Ann**, who had surgery on Friday for lung cancer.

JOYS, THANKS & PRAISE

Sunday, September 6

- **Pastor Wood**: Joy for my the 40th wedding anniversary today of my parents, **Ray and Peg Leonard**.

Sunday, September 20

- **Rita Soufleris**: Many thanks to all for your prayers, visits and loving concern.
- **Kim Kromer Murphy and Martha Sutter**: Congrats to Alicia's parents on 40 years!

Sunday, September 27

- **Gwen Tillapaugh-Fay**: Happy news! Our son, **Connor**, has gotten engaged to **Haley Weiss!**

Sunday, October 4

- **Nelson Price's** birthday

November birthdays

- 5 — **Lynn Steenberg**,
Ed Tillapaugh
- 6 — **Monica Shworles**
- 7 — **Phyllis Wright**
- 10 — **Michael Grome**
- 15 — **Jim Virgo**
- 16 — **Jenny Hicks**,
Brian Finlayson-Schueler
- 19 — **Robin Best**,
Connie Wilson
- 24 — **Krystina Nilsson**
- 25 — **Roger MacDonald**

Thanks from Bellevue
for 'Blessings' support

Dear Members of University
UMC,

I cannot find the words to express my thankfulness for your five years of generous support for the children of Delaware School.

In in this year of fear and job losses, your generosity, compassion and faithfulness are amazing.

The children have been picking up our food on Fridays along with their breakfasts and lunches, but by Oct. 5 they will be in school to receive their "blessings."

God bless you!

Sincerely yours,

Jeanie Brown

Bellevue Heights UMC

Editor's Note: UUMC members and friends have donated \$2,705 to Blessings in a Backpack this year.

NY Times article

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<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/09/02/magazine/food-insecurity-hunger-us.html>

In Peace,

— *Galyn Murphy-Stanley*,
Outreach Coordinator

Finance Corner

Pledging Update

2020 total pledges: \$217,360
 Total Pledges Received \$170,344
 Non-pledge contributions \$26,310
 UUMC PPP Loan (CARES Act)
 \$36,365

SUMM PPP Loan (CARES Act)
 (Pastors' Salaries) \$31,888
 Trustees Bathroom Renovation
 Fund \$27,825
 Blessings in a Backpack \$2,705

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



RESTART eases anxiety of families transitioning from homelessness

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 those in need.

Now that RESTART has found a new storage space at The ROAD on Onondaga Hill, it is easier to prepare for deliveries to people getting ready to move into new apartments or homes.

Originally the project's volunteers planned to provide a bed and a few household items to recipients, but as time went on and donors offered more furniture and items, the group could provide more. This led to the need for a larger storage area and better shelving.

In August one volunteer group headed to the new facility to clean out the designated room. A fundraising request went out to the Syracuse City United Methodist Churches, and due to generous donors RESTART bought supplies for new shelving.

Once volunteers built six shelving units, another crew modified the partitions, making it easier to bring furniture into the building while two groups got busy unpacking boxes. Another group rented a truck and moved the furniture into the new space.

With a larger room in which to store the furniture, it will be



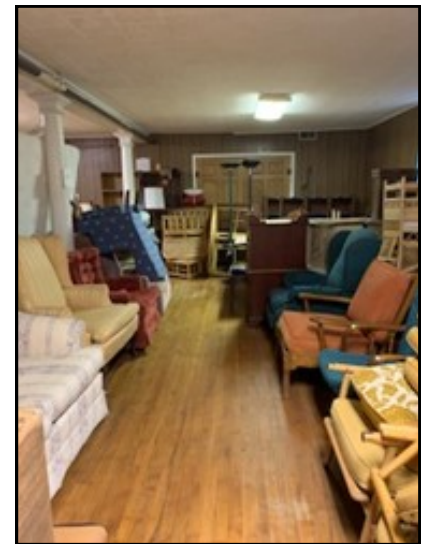
RESTART has a new home for storage at the site of The ROAD.

easier to tag needed items for deliveries. Now there is ample space for carrying the furniture to the truck on delivery days.

RESTART will begin making more deliveries once the COVID-19 situation is safe for the volunteers. Right now deliveries are made as long as recipients agree to pick up the items outside of their new homes instead of volunteers going inside.

Pickups and deliveries are made one day during the first and last week each month with emergency deliveries occurring as needed. Each delivery helps someone or a family begin again as they transition out of homelessness.

As author Martha Begley Schade says, "You know, every-



one needs a place they can call home! They need people and a place to go which is theirs, a safe haven. A place to feel protected, where you can be yourself and unwind. A place where you are accepted. A safe roof over your head."

RESTART adds to that feeling by taking away the anxiety of having that place and roof without a comfortable bed with sheets and blankets, dishes and silverware for serving meals, pots and pans for preparing meals, and towels and shower curtains in order to bathe.

— Nancy Williams
 St. Paul's UMC/RESTART Team

Scenes from our Friday Emergency Food Distribution Including Flu Shots and Diapers















A Walgreens pharmacist administers a seasonal flu shot.



A Walgreens pharmacist gathers information before administering a seasonal flu shot.



Scenes from Sunday In-person Worship that resumed Sept. 13

