

THE CHIMES

May 8, 2021

Inside this issue:

From Pastor Alicia: Social awkwardness on path to normalcy	2
UUMC to host ACTS fundraiser May 24	2
Outreach: Spring is time for grant reports and applications	3
People & Prayers	4-5
Sunday breakfast volunteers needed	5
CDC guidelines for safe interactions	7
June birthdays	8
Finance Corner	8

**Pentecost is Sunday,
May 23. Be sure to
wear red, whether
you're coming to in-
person worship or
worshiping with us
online!**

Articles for *The Chimes*
can be sent to:
media@uumcsyracuse.org

Alicia Wood, Pastor
Tom Boll, Editor

Change is on the way for communications and more

Spring is here, even though the weather has not warmed up, and with it change is happening at UUMC.

As promised in the April Chimes, you will be seeing changes in UUMC communications as Marcie Bartnick, social media specialist/administrative assistant, takes over for media specialist Tom Boll, who is retiring.

There will be one more edition — in June — of *The Chimes* in the current format.

The weekly eblast will continue in its current form every Friday until the July 2 debut of a new combined Chimes/eblast.

The new e-newsletter will continue to be weekly. The primary section will feature a new in-depth article

each week, with the remainder of the newsletter following the traditional format and information that members are accustomed to.

Members who receive the paper Chimes by mail each month will continue to receive it monthly in a simplified format, with all the important information to keep abreast of UUMC developments.

Other changes include:

- **An in-person song leader beginning May 23, Pentecost**
- **New head custodian starts work (see story below)**
- **New tables on East Genesee Street, now with umbrellas**
- **Work starting soon on first-floor bathrooms**
- **Baptisms held and scheduled**

UUMC's new head custodian



John Hughes has begun his duties as head custodian at UUMC.

John grew up in North Syracuse and graduated from North Syracuse High School.

John Hughes After high school he was in the U.S. Army from 1970 to 1984 and was stationed in Germany.

See **HEAD**, Page 2

10 get university degrees

Ten persons, many of them involved in the Connections youth adult group, are earning university degrees, and most, sadly, are leaving UUMC to share their talents elsewhere.

Sungsu Lee has earned two degrees over the past seven years — a Ph.D. in neuroscience and an M.D., both from Upstate Medical University. His wife, **Janice Lau**, is graduating from Wayne State University, Detroit, with an M.D. They See **DESTINATIONS**, Page 6

On our way back to normalcy comes social awkwardness



Greetings,
I've been feeling kind of awkward lately. Well, socially awkward.

Alicia Wood For me, this past year has been a series of head games.

First, we needed to stay away from everyone. Stay home. Your thoughts went to, "You never know who is carrying COVID."

Then, we could go out in limited ways but wear a mask, stay 6 feet away (which is a socially awkward distance to have a conversation with a friend).

Next, yellow, orange and red zones developed, and we needed to retreat once again to our homes, spending time only in our COVID bubble.

Hallelujah! The vaccines were developed and a system of distribution emerged!

To get our vaccines, we stood in lines — in which people wore their masks wrong and did not stay 6 feet apart — with the hope to one day see the light at the end of the COVID pandemic tunnel.

Now, more than a year later, in Onondaga County 52.7% of us

are half-vaccinated, meaning at least one dose has been administered of the COVID vaccine.

We are so excited to get our lives back to normal! Only new habits have crept in.

We feel socially awkward when eating near people who are not in our designated COVID bubble.

We feel socially awkward to have a casual conversation with a stranger in the grocery store or (Heaven forbid) put their grocery cart away for them, or open up the door for someone at the store because we are closer than 6 feet.

AND we are anxious to gather in a group such as worship even though we have longed so very much for it!

Our (or maybe my) new pandemic Sunday morning habits included making a cup of coffee and sitting in front of my TV, on my comfy couch, to watch our worship service.

Now, some of us worship in person, trying not to "make a joyful noise" out of our mouths and trying not to hug or shake hands.

We love being together but, ironically, we are socially awkward around people we care

about and have known for years.

Even though I love people and am an extrovert, I find this period of time, this reopening, so strange.

1 Corinthians 13 for many of us reminds us of how to love in a marriage, but Paul gave this advice about love to the Christian community in Corinth.

He said, "Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

As we begin to live into our new normal, let's remember Paul's words to the community so that we might love each other with patience and kindness.

We are going to be different. We have been through a lot this past year. It will take time to learn how to be in social gatherings again.

Yet, I'm so glad that we can be socially awkward for a while... together.

Peace,
Pastor Alicia

Head custodian loves outdoor activities

CONTINUED from Page 1

He worked as a custodian for the Jamesville-DeWitt School District from 1988 to 2012.

From 2012 to 2020 John was a tractor-trailer driver.

John lives in Kirkville with his wife, Barbara, whom he married in 1984, and who works part time at the Fayetteville Library.

He has a son, Gary, and a stepdaughter, Heather. A sister teaches in the Auburn School District.

In his spare time John likes to bowl, and he enjoys outdoor activities such as camping, fishing and golfing.

UUMC to host ACTS event

The Alliance of Communities Transforming Syracuse will have its next fundraising event at UUMC on May 24.

The program starts at 6:30 p.m. and includes guest speaker Sarhia Rahim, ACTS Youth Council member; folk music by singer/songwriter Colleen Kattau; and presentation of Community Social Justice Leadership Award

See **CATERING**, Page 8

Time to submit reports on grants and seek new ones



**Galyn
Murphy-
Stanley**

Spring brings grant writing season. I have spent the last month submitting final reports on grants awarded to us in the spring of 2020, at the beginning of COVID relief efforts, as well as submitting new applications for the upcoming year.

Grant writing has become an important part of my job. Grant awards bring us additional funds that ensure we have the money to do the work we'd like to do for the people of Syracuse as well as attention from a wider network who often feature, celebrate and support our efforts.

If you are aware of any funding opportunities and/or grant awards that may be applicable to our efforts please let me know: outreach@uumcsyracuse.org.

- On the weekend of April 16, several gathered to complete the joining of Grace Episcopal Church food pantry into our Food Center @ 324 University Ave. Five appliances, clothing, books and some miscellaneous items were loaded into a U-Haul rental truck and moved into UUMC's basement. Four refrigerators and freezers have become part of our Food Center and will provide much needed, additional cold storage for our Emergency Food distributions allowing our guests more foods, more diverse products and storage for donated fresh foods. Books and clothing will be sorted and put out to the people of Syracuse ASAP. The U-

April 2021 Emergency Food & Diaper Distribution

Date	House holds	Adults	Children	Seniors	Families	Bagel Breakfast	Diapers Distrib.
4/2	235	433	455	117	143	(4/4) 72	7,500
4/9	200	360	330	94	113	(4/11) 70	NA
4/16	203	378	338	92	115	(4/18) 62	NA
4/23	222	392	391	96	137	(4/25) 50	NA
4/30	225	416	349	75	140	See in May	
Total	1,085	1,979	1,863	474	648	254	7,500

- Total individuals who received food from UUMC's Food Center: **4,316** (Food distributions & breakfasts)
- Babies who received diapers on April 2: **150**. This equals **7,500** diapers distributed.
- Additionally, **150** bundles of women's sanitary items created by the women of UUMC went to the mothers of these babies; **150** cans of infant formula donated by the Rescue Mission and **150** packages of wipes donated by the Diaper Bank of CNY went to those mothers
- Total guests who visited UUMC for Sunday breakfast: **254**.
- We had VERY little pet food through the month of April. What little we shared was not enough to record. We are working with our donors to resolve this problem.

Haul truck was then filled with miscellaneous recyclable garbage from UUMC and one broken Fridge from Grace, which was then dumped at OCRRA's Ley Creek site. This was a huge combined effort that brings closure to this transition and cleans up both our churches a bit.

- On Sunday, April 25, five medical students joined faculty member Dr. George Stanley (also my husband) to offer assistance to our breakfast guests in registering for a COVID vaccine as well as blood pressure evaluations and general conversation

about health care access for Syracusans living in poverty. This is an ongoing effort to provide a bit of health care support for our guests as well as rapport building for the students. Many connected with the medical students in differing ways. We will continue this effort into the autumn.

Please know that we are always looking for ways to include our congregation, our community and network into our efforts to meet the needs of our city. You are always welcome! Please reach out to me at

outreach@uumcsyracuse.org with

See **A YEAR**, Page 5

People & Prayers

DEATH

Mac Sabol, a member of the UUMC choir and who was one of our song leaders for our online services, died May 4. His memorial service is 6 p.m. May 11. You must register in advance by calling or emailing the church if you wish to attend. That information is on page 8 in the address area.

PRAYERS REQUESTED:

For Those in Military Service:

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

Sunday, April 11

- **Ellyn Gale:** Prayers for **Peter Gale**
- **Caleb Goldberg:** Prayers for a full-time job to open soon.
- **Ann O.:** Prayers for my friend, **Judy McGarvey**, who is fighting cancer.
- **Sharon:** Prayers for **Darren, Aunt Mary and Uncle Dick.**
- Prayers for **Sue Bates' family** that are suffering with health issues.
- Pray that our daughter, **Missy**, does not have cancer
- **Jackie:** Prayers for **Esther Pardue.**
- **Bruce:** Prayers for **Carol Moyer**, my dad's sweetheart.
- **Jayne:** Prayers for the world as we come out of COVID.
- **Kim Kromer Murphy:** Prayers for those dealing with cancer.
- **Stephanie Hitztaler:** Prayers for my mother and the rest of my family as we continue to grieve the loss of my father.
- **Barb Weaver: Don and Linda F.** in their grief in losing their beloved dog.

- **Jeanne Finlayson-Schueler:** Prayers for family with COVID.
- **Kim Kromer Murphy:** Prayers for those who have lost loved ones, including beloved pets.

Sunday, April 18

- **Debbie Daby:** Prayers for **Jim Tallman**; his sister **Kathy** died.
- **Bruce Moyer:** Prayers for my dad's sweetheart, **Carol Moyer**
- **Sharon Smith:** Prayers for **Phil**
- **Erika Vitthuhn: Barb W. and family and Maria Storto and family**
- **Connie Myers:** For **S.** facing surgery, tomorrow, for cancer.
- **Stephanie Hitztaler:** My mom, as she grieves; also, for all those (including myself) looking for employment.

Sunday, April 25

- **Karen B.:** Spiritual healing, family healing and unity. Emotional and physical healing.
- Prayers for my family's health and happiness
- Prayers for **Nelson and his son-in-law**
- Prayers of health and safety for **Ed**
- **Kellie & Lynn:** Prayers of healing for **Denise**, who was in a car accident and is recovering at home.
- **Sue Bate:** Prayers for her family and people with health issues
- **Jackie:** Prayers for **Esther Pardue**
- **Potter Family:** Prayers for the people of **India and other countries** still suffering.
- **Sharon:** Prayers for **Darren, Phil, Aunt Mary and Uncle Dick**

- **Karen B.:** Prayers for family unity
- **Tom B:** Asks for prayers for **Carol**, whose **Aunt Miriam** died on Wednesday (age 93)
- **Angela:** Prayers for my dad, who has health issues

Sunday, May 2

- **Jackie:** Prayers for **Mac Sabol's wife and family**
- **Martha:** Prayers for **Mac Sabol's wife and family**
- **Kim Kromer-Murphy:** Prayers for **Mac Sabol's wife and family**
- **Sharon Smith:** Prayers for **Darren, Phil, Dick and Mary**
- **Caleb Goldberg:** Prayers for success and speedy recovery from surgery on May 25
- **Jackie:** Prayers for **Esther**
- **Barb:** Prayers for **India and essential workers**
- **Nelson:** Prayers for **Alice Makul and family**
- **Sue and Liz:** Prayers for **Sue's family (Pat is in the hospital)** and those with health issues
- **Barb:** Prayers for **Kevin's mom, Lois**, who has been transferred to assisted living
- **Gail:** Prayers for **Barbara Silverman**
- **Erika Vitthuhn:** Prayers for **Barb W., Carus Olcott** and for the world we live in. Amen.
- **Edwin:** Prayers for the full inclusion of **LGBTQ people** in the UMC.

THANKS, PRAISE & JOY

Sunday, April 11

- **Martha Sutter:** Praise for **Katie Flynn's 7-year anniversary** on Easter.

See PEOPLE, Page 5

A year of transitions for Food Center @324

CONTINUED from Page 3 any questions or, if you'd like to be added to our volunteer listserv which will make you aware of UUMC's, our Food Center's and other volunteer opportunities within our network.

May brings graduation and transition for many of us.

Dr. Seuss tells us; *"If you get a chance, take it. If it changes your life, let it. Nobody said it'd be easy, they just promised it would be worth it."*

We've had a year of transitions. Much wasn't easy. But we learned how to fight COVID, how to support each other better and a few other things along the way. We are coming up from under. Keep vaccinating yourselves and help others to receive vaccinations. We will grow stronger together. Masks up!!

— Galyn Murphy-Stanley,
Outreach Coordinator

Volunteers needed for Sunday breakfasts in summer

Our fabulously successful Sunday Community Breakfast ministry needs more volunteers through summer Sundays.

Volunteers will fulfill leadership roles, meal preparation/packing duties, distribution of meals, meeting with community guests and management of outdoor tents/umbrellas.

Food and other supplies will be gathered through the week and will be housed at UUMC ready for each Sunday's workers/breakfast. Volunteer organization will be managed through the week.

Time is 8-10:30 a.m. every Sunday. This event takes place outside at the corner of East Genesee Street and University Avenue as well as indoors in UUMC's Narthex. Generally, 70 breakfasts are shared with community members weekly.

We hope that UUMC will continue to host our Community Breakfast through the summer, without interruption. Our coordinators would like to travel and enjoy the summer on occasional weeks. We are looking for more volunteers to stand in and support our community breakfast during our absence.

Please contact Galyn at outreach@uumcsyracuse.org or Joyce Flynn at jhflynn56@gmail.com or Katie Flynn at kkflynn44@gmail.com for more information.



A guest picks up his Sunday breakfast and coffee on our corner.

People & Prayers

CONTINUED from Page 4

- **Barb Weaver:** I am thankful for **Pastor Alicia and my UUMC family.**
- **Stephanie Hitztaler:** So thankful for family and friends; thank you to all who make our online services so meaningful. Your efforts are so appreciated.
- **Barbara Bova:** Thankful for sharing services online.
- **Jana Telfer:** Heartfelt thanks for another uplifting time of worship.
- **Aimee deBerjeois:** Thanks to **Ted, Danny, Morgan and Martha.**

Sunday, April 18

- **Kim Kromer Murphy:** Prayers of thanks for family
- **Connie Myers:** The outdoors and the wonderful parks
- **Stephanie Hitztaler:** Gratitude for the beautiful spring unfolding around us.

Sunday, April 25

- **Ann O.:** Prayers of joy for my friend **Judy**, who is doing well with cancer treatments and nephew **Cody**, who has returned from deployment in the Navy and has been reunited with his wife and infant daughter.

- **Karen:** Happy birthday wishes to **Bruce Webster**
- **Jane:** Joy for spring
- **Potters:** Vaccine is enabling renewed family and community life

Sunday, May 2

- **Pastor Alicia:** Happy birthday to **Sue Bates**
- **Jane:** Joy for spring
- **Ann O.:** Thankful the results of recent medical tests were good.
- **Jeanne Finlayson-Schueler:** Grateful that **Sophie's family** is recovered from their bouts with COVID.

Destinations for graduates include Rochester, Norway, Plattsburgh



Janice Lau & Sungso Lee

CONTINUED from Page 1 will be moving together to Rochester, where he begins a psychiatry residency at Strong Memorial Hospital and she starts a family practice residency at Highland Hospital.



Nneka Eke

Nneka Eke completes work on her Ph.D. in political science at Syracuse University this summer.

Another person earning a Ph.D. is **Kenna LaPorte**, who came to Hutchings Psychiatric Center for an internship and has been attending UUMC for two years. Her degree is in clinical psychology from Fielding Graduate University. She will continue to teach at SUNY-

Plattsburgh, while looking for fulltime work in her field.



Kenna LaPorte



Jules Colantonio

Jules Colantonio, who was one of the unseen persons in the balcony on Sundays changing the slides pre-pandemic, has earned a B.S. in environmental resources engineering at SUNY-ESF. After a summer of camping and travel, she will be seeking a job as a forest engineer.

Paola Marin-Veites lived down the street from UUMC and wandered in one day in 2019 to learn about Methodism. A native of Mexico, Paola finished a mas-



Paola Marin-Veites

ter's in biomedical and health informatics at SUNY-Oswego in December and is headed to Norway to the University of Science and Technology to earn a Ph.D. in artificial intelligence in public health applications.

Two others with new degrees in the medical field will be staying in the area, so we will continue to see them.



Seth Austin

Seth Austin is earning a nursing degree from Crouse Hospital and plans to work locally as a la-
See **TWO**, Page 8

Choosing Safer Activities

Accessible link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/participate-in-activities.html>

	Unvaccinated People	Your Activity	Fully Vaccinated People
		Outdoor	
Safest		Walk, run, wheelchair roll, or bike outdoors with members of your household	
		Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated family and friends	
		Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people	
Less Safe		Dine at an outdoor restaurant with friends from multiple households	
		Attend a crowded, outdoor event, like a live performance, parade, or sports event	
		Indoor	
Less Safe		Visit a barber or hair salon	
		Go to an uncrowded, indoor shopping center or museum	
		Ride public transport with limited occupancy	
		Attend a small, indoor gathering of fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people from multiple households	
Least Safe		Go to an indoor movie theater	
		Attend a full-capacity worship service	
		Sing in an indoor chorus	
		Eat at an indoor restaurant or bar	
		Participate in an indoor, high intensity exercise class	

Get a COVID-19 vaccine



Prevention measures not needed

Take prevention measures

Fully vaccinated people: wear a mask
Unvaccinated people: wear a mask, stay 6 feet apart, and wash your hands.

- Safety levels assume the recommended prevention measures are followed, both by the individual and the venue (if applicable).
- CDC cannot provide the specific risk level for every activity in every community. It is important to consider your own personal situation and the risk to you, your family, and your community before venturing out.



cdc.gov/coronavirus

CS324153E

Finance Corner

Pledging Update

2021 Total Pledges	\$204,940
Total pledges received:	\$80,769
Non-pledge contributions	\$15,211
Easter Offering	\$75
UUMC PPP Loan (CARES Act)	\$36,365
SUMM PPP Loan (CARES Act)	
(Pastors' Salaries)	\$31,888
Trustees Bathroom Renovation Fund	\$13,969
Sounds of the Spirit Visual Fund	
Donations received	\$95,991
Expenses paid	\$88,891
Current balance	\$7,100

June birthdays

5 – Angela Tillapaugh
 7 – Audrey Benton,
 Jerome Weah Jr.
 11 – Caroline Tompkins
 15 – Rachel Boll
 16 – Rev. Edwin A. Potter,
 Charles Chappell III
 17 – Sophie Fisher,
 Leah (Threatte) Bojnowski,
 Stephanie Hitztaler
 19 – Rev. Dr. Kris Best
 22 – Ted Finlayson-Schueler,
 Martha Sutter,
 Deborah Bradshaw
 25 – Steve Bacon
 28 – Aaron Sarkodie-Mensah
 29 – Elisa Skeeter

Catering is also available

CONTINUED from Page 2 to ArtRage Gallery. You can attend in-person in the sanctuary or by Zoom.

Catering by King David's is available and can be picked up at UUMC 5-6 p.m. Orders must be placed by May 19. You must eat outside or in your car. For ticket prices and more information, go to this online address: bit.ly/MAYACTS.

UUMC is a founding member of ACTS, which has its office in our building once again.



University United
Methodist Church

Put
Stamp
Here

Feeding God's People: Body, Mind and Spirit

1085 East Genesee Street, Syracuse, NY 13210

Phone: 315-475-7277 Fax: 315-475-8995

www.uumcsyracuse.org

Email: office@uumcsyracuse.org

www.facebook.com/UUMCSyracuse

Twitter: @UUMCSyracuse

Return service requested

Dated material



Two graduates to stay in Syracuse area



Joviet Cooper

CONTINUED from Page 6
bor and delivery nurse.

Joviet Cooper has earned a degree, with honors, in applied science/certified medical assistant from Bryant and Stratton. She now is working people with developmental disabilities and is hoping to get a job soon as a medical assistant.

Bell Johnson is joining the law firm Arnold and Porter in



Bell Johnson

Washington, D.C., after earning a J.D. at the SU College of Law and an M.A. in international relations at SU.

Caleb Goldberg has been worshipping with us for the past few months. He graduated in December from the University of Valley Forge in Phoenixville, Pa., with a B.S. in graphic design.

— Barbara Fought

College graduates will be recognized during our worship service on May 16.

Easter Sunday

April 4, 2021



Earth Day Neighborhood Cleanup

April 24, 2021











