

Pastor

Bob DeFelice

Minister of Music

Cathy King

Office Assistant

Katrina Tatura

Lay Member UNYAC

Linda Sheeran

SPRC Chair

Jackie Capone

Treasurer

Lynne Blake

Finance Chair

David Lotto

Trustee Chair

Gary Perkins

Christian Education

Church Council Chair

Ilah Sisson Walser

Church Office Phone

885-6886

Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.

Pastor's Office Hours

Mon., Thurs., hours may vary depending on weekly meetings and appointments

Office Phone

518-885-6886

E-Mail

bsumc@albany.twcbc.com

Web Site

ballstonspaumchurch.org

Sunday Worship

10:00 a.m.

The Tidings

July

7-02	Worship at Christ Episcopal Church	10 AM
7-05	Food Pantry	9:30-noon
7-06	Trustees Mtg.	7:00 PM
7-09	Worship	10:00 AM
7-11	Thrift Shop/Church Council	9:30-noon/7 PM
7-12	Food Pantry	9:30-noon
7-13	5K Thank you Breakfast/SPRC Mtg.	10 AM / 7 PM
7-15	Mission event	2-4 PM
7-16	Worship	10 AM
7-18	Thrift Shop/ Worship	9:30-noon / 7 PM
7-19	Food Pantry	9:30-noon
7-23	Worship	10 AM
7-25	Thrift Shop	9:30-noon
7-26	Food Pantry	9:30-noon
7-30	Worship	10 AM

S=Sanctuary, FR=Fellowship Room, P=Parlor, CH=Church House



July 2017
Ballston Spa United Methodist Church



Thoughts



July Birthdays

- 7-2 Sherrie Brewster
- 7-3 Molly Grentzer, Dillon Costanzo
- 7-4 Rebekah LeRoy; Chelsea Parry
- 7-7 Jenna Litchfield; Emily Litchfield
- 7-9 Kyle Fenton
- 7-13 Brandon Reid
- 7-14 Aspen Caswell; Scott Harrington; Clifford Miller Jr.
- 7-15 Brittni Doyle
- 7-17 Jeff Blake
- 7-18 Edward Glossner; Ann Heffernan; Thomas Wolsey
- 7-20 Katie Sheeran
- 7-21 Brianna Drake
- 7-23 Natalie Thomas
- 7-24 Courtney Karis
- 7-25 Maegan Conley; Marcos Vargas
- 7-27 Estelle Simmons; Kelly Schmidt
- 7-28 Benny Zlotnick Jr.
- 7-29 Linda Sheeran
- 7-30 Clara Dutcher; Beverly Westfall
- 7-31 Miriam Evans

August Birthdays

- 8-2 Joshua Simmons
- 8-6 Albert Schmidt Sr.
- 8-10 Heather Thomas
- 8-14 Kyle Poteralski
- 8-17 Jacob Thomas; Eleanor (Ellie) Rose De La Cruz
- 8-20 Katie Winslow
- 8-22 John Cummings
- 8-28 Brenda Beard
- 8-30 Steven Briggs; Jacob McAuliffe
- 8-31 Donna Lockwood

July Anniversaries

- 7-19 Debbie & Benny Zlotnick
- 7-21 Troy & Ruth Ann Caswell
- 7-22 T.C. & Shelli Wolsey
- 7-24 Jan & Jeff Clark
- 7-31 Karen & John Staulters

August Anniversaries

- 8-2 Christian & Melissa Morrison
- 8-7 Marcos & Sarah Vargas
- 8-8 James & Shelley Fenton; Edward & Joan Glossner
- 8-21 Brenda & Tim Beard; Grace & Aren Paster
- 8-24 Sherrie & Kevin Grentzer
- 8-25 Linda & John Sheeran; Jennifer & Steve Briggs; Nancy & John Cummings
- 8-29 Terri & Sean McAuliffe

Please let the Church Office know if there are any additions and/or corrections.

Greetings!

Well it's summertime and the heat and humidity are upon us. No doubt many of you are anticipating the time when you will be getting away; vacationing; kicking back; visiting with family and friends. Enjoy!

Perhaps when you find yourself sitting around the camp fire; or staring off into the ocean; or marveling at the glorious sunrise or sunset; or when you are gathering with loved ones, a moment will come when you say to yourself ... "I wonder what God is calling me to do when I get back to church?" Call me crazy, but I sure do hope that happens.

There is great importance and value in finding a place to serve in the church. Not only is it important to the church and the lives that will be on the receiving end of your efforts, but it is also of great value to the one who is serving.

Jesus said, "Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor." (John 12:25-26, *The Message*)

I know and appreciate the outpouring of generosity by many of you who are already actively serving within the church. Yet there are others who have not found that place where they will be a blessing to others and in the process, feel blessed as well. So I want to encourage everyone to consider where you can enjoy serving others because the church is made strong when dedicated disciples volunteer to serve by putting the needs of others before their own needs.

Now, please get back to the majestic sunrise or sunset; or to enjoying the flames rising from the camp fire; or to staring out into the vastness of the ocean; or to spending a little while longer communing with loved ones. As you do, please remain open to the leading of the Holy Spirit because before you know it, you will know what you are being called to do.

Blessings,

Pastor Bob



God's Blessings on Our 2017 Graduates

Julia Blake graduated with a Regents with Advance Designation with Honors diploma from Ballston Spa High School on June 22. Julia received the Soccer Booster Club, Elks Lodge, and President's Awards. She will attend Marist College in Poughkeepsie, NY, and will major in Applied Mathematics.

Kevin Blake graduated Summa Cum Laude with Honors from Hartwick College in Oneonta, NY in May with a BA in Biology and English. Kevin was selected as the NESAs Eagle Scout NASA Astrobiologist for 2017. The expedition is scheduled to take place July 9 - 20 in Yellowstone National Park.

Brennan Coffey graduated with a Regents diploma from Burnt Hills High School on June 22. He graduated from the Capital Region Career and Technical School- Electrical Trades program on June 6th. Brennan received the Tommy Jansen Memorial Scholarship Award. He will be attending Hudson Valley Community College to pursue his Associates Degree in Electrical Construction and Maintenance to eventually become a licensed Electrician.

Nathaniel Coffey graduated from SUNY Adirondack in May with an Associate's Degree in Creative Writing. He will be attending Plattsburgh University in the fall to study Communications.

Katielynn Evans graduated from Ballston Spa High School on June 22. She received the Spirit of LOTE (Language Other Than English), Excellence in History, and President's Awards. Katielynn will be studying Animal Science at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY.

Emily Groff received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Early Childhood Studies from Empire State College in March 2017. She plans to get her Master's Degree in Montessori Teaching in Colorado in the summer of 2018.

Keenan Leggieri graduated from Ballston Spa High School on June 22. Keenan was co-president of the National Honor Society and in the top 10% of his class. He will be attending Binghamton University majoring in Computer/Electrical Engineering.

Allanah Matthews graduated from Ballston Spa High School on June 22 with an Honors diploma. She will be attending the University at Albany, studying Biomedical Engineering and Linguistics.

Julia Orr graduated from Saratoga Springs High School on June 23.

Shawn Taylor was promoted to Petty Officer 2nd Class with the US Navy and is currently on Active Duty.

Danielle Wolsey graduated from Ballston Spa High School on June 22 with an Advanced Regents diploma. Danielle received the President's Award for Academic Excellence. She will be attending the

University of Albany in the fall, majoring in Biology, and minoring in Environmental Science.

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29: 11



Library Corner WHEN JESUS SAT DOWN TO TEACH

By Dr. Stanley A. Fry

Many of the teachings of Jesus were grouped together in chapters 5-7 of the Gospel of Matthew, commonly called The Sermon on the Mount. This book provides a clearer understanding of what Jesus was calling upon the people to do, and it clarifies what Jesus believed about the coming of the Kingdom of God and the meaning of his death. (Taken from book jacket)

Dr. Fry is a retired Methodist Minister from our Conference. He is the author of three other books.



Annual Conference 2017- "Together in Prayer: Trusting that God is Enough"

The 11th Annual Conference of Upper New York opened with Worship on Thursday, June 1, 2017.

Bishop Mark J. Webb encouraged us to focus on our "Why" more than our "What" or "How" as we move forward. He urged us to "Trust that God is Enough", and used several biblical examples of those who had overcome hardship by trusting in God. He also explained that the best way to discover our future is to make a commitment to be "Together in Prayer."

The Plenary (Business) Session started with the **Budget** being moved to the Consent Calendar, which meant it was passed without discussion. In the spring, separate Budget presentations were made throughout the Conference, and presented in

narrative form, making it easier for folks to understand.

The **Board of Pensions** recommended that the 2018 past Service Annuity Rate for pension payment to retired clergy be set at \$638 per qualified service year prior to 1982- a 2% increase over the 2017 rate. They also recommended that retired and disabled clergy be able to claim their church pension, or disability income, as a housing exclusion. Both resolutions were supported. The **Conference Commission on Equitable Compensation (CCEC)**, which *Lynne Blake* serves on, made four recommendations, all which were supported.

The UNYAC was recognized by the **General Board of Global Ministries** for supporting 32 missionaries, more than any other Conference in the Northeastern Jurisdiction. We also gave \$317,805 to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) and \$390,449 to Advance gifts/Special Sundays.

The day ended with a **Memorial Service**, remembering clergy and clergy spouses who passed since last year's Conference. Rev. Natalie Hanson's sermon focused on the way that compassion can play as much of a role in leaving behind a legacy as job titles and other accomplishments.

The Rev. Dr. Kenda Creasy-Dean, an ordained UM pastor and professor at Princeton Theological Seminary, started us off on Friday, June 2, with a **Study** entitled "Love Made Me an Inventor: Why an Entrepreneurial Church Matters to Young People". Her second study, "Doing a New Thing: The Church of No excuses," was held in the afternoon. She focused on new spiritual communities and how churches can be open to change, and adapt. Kenda used visual images such as a caterpillar transforming into a butterfly, and a lobster losing its shell as it outgrows the old one.

Plenary started with the **Trustees**, reporting that the new Conference Center came in \$12,000 under budget, and is also able to now serve as a UM Mission Hub. Six churches have closed, Rensselaer UMC being the closest to us. Negotiations are still in progress regarding the future of Camp Findley, located in the southwestern corner of New York State.

James Cogman, who is currently pursuing his Masters in Divinity at Yale University, also got us singing with *This Little Light of Mine*. He attributes his present and future success to the help he receives from the **Black College Fund**.

The General **Council on Finance & Administration (CF&A)** joyfully announced that UNYAC paid 100% of their General Church apportionments for the first

time in UNY history. We celebrated by singing *Build Your Kingdom Here*.

Scott Johnson, past Conference Lay Leader, spoke about his serving on the **Commission on a Way Forward**, a committee formed by the Council of Bishops to help resolve the division on the topic of sexuality in the United Methodist Church, "an incredibly challenging task," Scott notes.

The day ended with the **Service of Blessing and Anointing**, a time to recognize retired clergy, the deacons and elders to be commissioned or ordained the following day, and the new church appointments. Everyone was invited to receive an anointment with unscented olive oil and a blessing for their season of life or ministry.

Our last day, Saturday, opened Worship lead by the **Young People**. Three young adults shared their struggles and also their conversations with God, encapsulating the theme, "Trusting that God is Enough."

The **New Faith Communities** director honored the growing number of ethnic local churches. The newly-formed **Anti-Racism Task Force (ARTF)** shared its purpose and gave personal testimonies.

The day concluded with the **Service of Commissioning and Ordination**.

On a personal note, it is truly a pleasure to serve as your Lay Member to Annual Conference. This year, I had the privilege of...

* delivering three **Cleaning/Flood Buckets** to the Mission Hub.

* handing Rev. Bob Long a total of \$235 for his Bike Ride to benefit an **Africa University Scholarship**.

*of exchanging **greetings** from Pastor Yohang Chun, Rev. Bob Long, Pastor Patti Molik, Rev. Bill Mudge, Pastor Kim Reed, Pastor Kelly Warner, Bishop Webb, and Rev. Rich Weihing; from Gary DiLallo (Certified Lay Minister), Shirley Andrews (New Faith Community Leader at Wesley Community Senior Center), Arlene Schmidt (Safe Sanctuaries Trainer), and Elizabeth Mickel (Chris Mickel's mother).

*of making **new friends** across the Conference.

If you have any questions or concerns, please, feel free to contact me. I would be happy to talk with you.

God's love & peace,

Linda Sheeran

885-1729 or lsheeran6@gmail.com

For more information, and interesting videos, go to **www.unyumc.org**



11th Annual Falling Leaves 5K – Run for Charity

It's **not** too early to start thinking about our 11th Annual Falling Leaves 5K Run on Saturday, October 7th. The 5K Committee is busy finalizing the paperwork and approvals necessary to run the event and will next be soliciting sponsors, and obtaining gift certificates to give out to the race participants at the completion of the 5K.

Later this summer, we will also be advertising the Run and in September, we will be requesting assistance from church members and friends to help the day of the race and also to provide baked goods and fruit for the runners. Without your help the race would not be the success it has been since its inception in 2007.

Further, participants are needed to register to run or walk the 5K to ensure its continued success. Please promote our Falling Leaves 5K amongst your family, friends and co-workers. Participants can register on Active.com or by sending in their registration form with payment by October 4, 2017.

This year, we have again selected the **Veterans and Community Housing Coalition** as our charity of choice with the proceeds earmarked for the Vet House and Guardian House for male and female homeless veterans, respectively. Last year, we were able to donate over \$7,400 to our Veterans.

If you have any questions or wish to help out in any way, please contact anyone on the 5K Committee.

5K Committee: Gary Wilson, Stan Lockwood, Lynne Blake, Alaina Greco and Kim Ferguson

5K breakfast

We have scheduled a breakfast on **July 13**, at 10:00 am at the Iron Roost on Front Street. I will contact the owner & have them set aside some seating for us, so tell the hostess that you are with the 5K Group. Please, let **Melody Babcock at 490-2015** or **Stan Lockwood at 885-1552** know if you plan to attend, so the restaurant can plan ahead. Thanks to all who support these "dinners".

Fair Trade

Although there will not be any Fair Trade sales this summer, we wish to thank all BSUMC members and friends who support this mission effort.

Not only does Equal Exchange (the democratically organized worker-owned fair trade cooperative that packages the products and works with the small farmers) give back to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) about \$15,000 annually based on the amount of Fair Trade coffee that Methodist churches sell each year, Ballston Spa UMC has also given back to UMCOR each of the two years out of Fair Trade sales. This year we will again give back another \$250 to Domestic & International Disaster Assistance. (From Stan Lockwood)



75th Anniversary of Skye Farm

Set in the tall pines of the Adirondack Park, on over 400 acres overlooking beautiful Sherman Lake, this camp is the place to make memories that will last a lifetime. Ages 6 to 18 are invited to spend a week or more at one of the 30 exciting summer programs- Campolodean, Night Owls, Gamer's Club, Outrageous Waters, to name just a few. We know camp in not cheap, so please feel free to request a Camp Scholarship.

Contact: **Linda Sheeran at 885-1729** or lsheeran6@gmail.com.

Skye Farm Open House – July 8, 2017, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Physical Address: 1884 East Schroon River Road, Warrensburg, NY 12885

Contact: **518-494-7170** or info@skryfallcamp.org
Come check it out!

Skye Farm Camp Nostalgia – August 20 – 23, 2017, for Ages 18+

Come relive your childhood, doing all the fun activities the younger campers do, plus some adult-friendly options. Activities geared for adults like Yoga, Blacksmith Forge, Cooking Competition, and much more. What camp experience would be complete without a campfire under the stars, telling stories, garnished with the all-time favorite, the s'more.

Register at: **855-414-6400** or registar@skryfallcamp.org

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and so not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Matthew 19:14



Summer Children's Message

For the months of July and August we are looking for a few folks to share a moment with the children of our church family. A simple message, shared with love is all that is needed. Please contact **Linda Sheeran at 885-1729** or lsheeran6@gmail.com.

Regional Food Bank, Latham, NY August 6, 2017, 1 – 3pm

The Regional Food Bank has been helping to feed the poor and hungry in our communities since 1982. It is the only organization of its kind in northeastern New York. The Food Bank collects large donations of food from the food industry and distributes it to charitable agencies serving hungry and disadvantaged people in 23 counties. From Plattsburgh to Newburgh, in urban, rural, and suburban communities, the Food Bank provides over 30 million pounds of food a year to 1,000 agencies.

Here is a wonderful opportunity to 'be the hands and feet of Jesus', as we sort donations at the Regional Food Bank. Please bring a bag lunch to church on Sunday, August 6th. We will meet in the Fellowship Room downstairs after Coffee Hour to eat before we leave. We will carpool to Latham, work our 2-hour shift and then stop at Guptill's for ice cream on the way back. Everyone is welcome, including families with children. Wear comfortable clothing and closed-toe footwear. Sign up in the parlor, or contact Linda Sheeran at 885-1729 or lsheeran6@gmail.com.

*If you are unable to make this date but still wish to help, individuals can now sign up for volunteer shifts directly through their website. Regional Food Bank individuals:

<http://www.regionalfoodbank.net/volunteer/>

"Christ has no body on earth but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion for the world is to look out; yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good; and yours are the hands with which He is to bless us now"
~Saint Teresa of Avila



An Invitation

We would like to give a hearty welcome to the Rev. Dee Webber, a member of the Board of Directors of the United Methodist Economic Ministry at a gathering on Saturday, **July 15th** from 2 to 4 pm in the Fellowship Room. Dee is coming as an Ambassador of UMEM, a ministry in Salem, Maine, which we have been supporting for some time.

She will make a short presentation so everyone can hear directly about the ministries and the far reaching affects in that area of Franklin County, northern Maine. We will have the opportunity to talk and ask questions.

Of course, in true Methodist tradition there will be light refreshments to enjoy. Please mark your calendars now, and plan to make the time to attend this event. It is an opportunity given to us and we will share the invitation to other local United Methodist Churches. For further information, contact **Ilah Sisson Walser.**

July 15th from 2 to 4, Fellowship Room. See you there!



Upper Room Thrift Shop & Food Pantry

The Thrift Shop has lots of good used clothing of all sizes available for \$2.00 a bag, as full as you want to get it. They are open every Tuesday from 9:30 am to noon. Just come in the front door to the Church House and go up the stairs. They accept all good used clothing in all sizes.

The Food Pantry is open every Wednesday from 9:30 – 12:00 am. You come to the back door of the Church House to receive a good variety of food. You can come and receive the food once a month.

We are very lucky to have such a giving community that helps provide the pantry with all kinds of food.



Does the office have your e-mail address?

Contact the office at bsumc@albany.twcbc.com so we can add you to our mailing list. Please let us know if you'd like to receive **The Tidings** electronically. Also, remember to visit our website (www.ballstonspaumchurch.org) and find BSUMC on **Facebook** so you can keep up-to-date on all of the good things happening at our church!



Our Webpage and Facebook page are being updated!

Take a look if you have a chance at www.ballstonspaumchurch.org and www.facebook.com/Ballston-Spa-United-Methodist-Church.

If you have recent pictures, items or ideas that you would like to share. Please contact Karen Groff at groff3@aol.com



Newsletter Deadline:

The deadline date for the September issue of *The Tidings* newsletter is August 15th. You may e-mail your article to bsumc@albany.twcbc.com, drop it off, or mail it to the office. Anyone may submit an article for the newsletter.



Sunday Worship 10 AM

Ballston Spa United Methodist Church

101 Milton Avenue
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

July Tidings

“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”