

The Tidings

Pastor
Rev. Bill Mudge

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
Garry Perkins

Worship Chair
Pat Brewster

Christian Education
Angela Kinne

Church Council Chair
Ilah Sisson Walser

Church Office Phone
885-6886

Office Hours
Tuesday-Friday
9:00 a.m. – noon

E-Mail
bsumc@albany.twcbc.com

Web Site
ballstonspaumchurch.org

Sunday Worship
10:00 a.m.

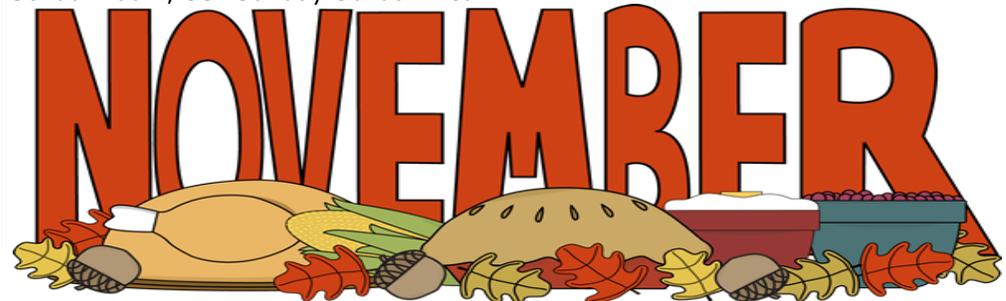
November, 2017

Ballston Spa United Methodist Church

101 Milton Avenue, Ballston Spa, NY 12020

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 11-1 Food Pantry | 9:30-noon |
| 11-1 Cub Scouts Committee Meeting | 7-8:30 PM |
| 11-2 Trustee Meeting (CH) | 7:00 PM |
| 11-5 Worship, All Saints Sunday with Communion | 10:00 AM |
| 11-5 Bell Choir | After worship |
| 11-6 Boy Scouts Meeting | 7:00 PM |
| 11-6 Soloist Practice/Voice Choir Rehearsal (P) | 5:00/6:00 PM |
| 11-7 Thrift Shop/Finance Committee Mtg. (P) | 9:30-noon/7:00 PM |
| 11-7 Cub Scouts Den Mtg. | 7:00 PM |
| 11-8 Food Pantry | 9:30-noon |
| 11-9 SPRC Meeting (CP) | 7:00 PM |
| 11-9 Cub Scouts Den Meeting | 7:00 PM |
| 11-12 Worship, Consecration Sunday | 10:00 AM |
| 11-12 Bell Choir/Fair Trade | After worship |
| 11-13 Boy Scouts Meeting | 7:00 PM |
| 11-13 Soloist Practice/Voice Choir Rehearsal | 5:00/6:00 PM |
| 11-14 Thrift Shop/Council Meeting (P) | 9:30-noon/7:00 PM |
| 11-14 Cub Scouts Den Meeting | 6:30 PM |
| 11-15 Food Pantry | 9:30-noon |
| 11-16 Worship Committee Meeting (CP) | 6:30 PM |
| 11-16 5K Thank You Dinner/Cub Scouts Den Meeting | /7:00 PM |
| 11-19 Worship, Baptism | 10:00 AM |
| 11-19 Bell Choir/ Boy Scouts Court of Honor | After worship/6-8 PM |
| 11-19 Church Conference at Saratoga Springs | 2:00 PM |
| UMC | |
| 11-20 Boy Scouts Meeting | 7:00 PM |
| 11-20 Soloist Practice/Voice Choir Rehearsal | 5:00/6:00 PM |
| 11-21 Thrift Shop/ Cub Scouts Den Meeting | 9:30-noon/7:00 PM |
| 11-22 Food Pantry/Prayer Shawl (P) | 9:30-noon/6:30 PM |
| 11-23 THANKSGIVING DAY! | |
| 11-26 Worship/"Hanging of the Greens" | 10:00 AM/after worship |
| 11-26 Bell Choir | after worship |
| 11-27 Boy Scouts Meeting | 7:00 PM |
| 11-27 Soloist Practice/Voice Choir Rehearsal | 5:00/6:00 PM |
| 11-28 Thrift Shop/Cub Scouts Den Meeting | 9:30-noon/6:30 PM |
| 11-29 Food Pantry | 9:30-noon |

S=Sanctuary, FR=Fellowship Room, P=Parlor, CH=Church House, MSR=Middle School Room, SS=Sunday School Area





On Sunday, October 29, 2017, Pastor Bob will offer his final sermon to the Ballston Spa United Methodist Church.

We would like to offer our gratitude, thanks and prayers to Pastor Bob and Shelia as they begin life's next journey.

Our thanks for his leadership and guidance as we worked to move forward at BSUMC. His weekly, inspirational messages are reminders of the importance of faith and Christianity for each other, our community and our world.

Pastor Bob and Shelia, wherever your next steps take you, please know how much those of us at the Ballston Spa United Methodist Church appreciate you both.

Blessings,
Staff Parish Relations Committee.



Birthdays

- 11-1 Ronald McCumber
- 11-3 Mary Drake
- 11-5 Joanne O'Connor
- 11-6 Keenan Leggieri; Emily Skillings
- 11-7 Conrad Dorau, Jr.
- 11-8 Andy Wess
- 11-9 Adam Sibley
- 11-12 Aren Paster
- 11-16 Debra Winslow
- 11-17 Dolores Wilson
- 11-21 Ruth Persons
- 11-22 Helen Senecal
- 11-23 Marion Capasso, Janet Mallette
- 11-27 Kevin Blake, Jerry Litchfield
- 11-29 Robby Phelps
- 11-30 Claire Trumbull



Anniversaries

- 11-4 Darryl & Heather Leggieri
- 11-5 Ed & Mary Sutton
- 11-9 Bill & Kathy Haeg
- 11-19 Kimberly & Ronald McCumber

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

A Blast from the Past...



Star of David

Lately there has been some interest in the east Stained glass window on the front of the building, stemming from a person passing by asking about the symbol of the Star of David on the window. This gentleman thought that our building must have been a synagogue in the past. As we all know, it was not.

When our present building was built in 1893, the east window was made of a variety of textures of glass, which was very different from the stained glass seen in European churches of the time. The "Star of David" or six pointed star was of the Tiffany type, having two layers of glass on top of each other, as stated in the 1993 History of our church by Ruth Roerig.

It was common to have Jewish symbols on Christian churches of the time. This was usually done to reference the Old Testament of the Bible. Christians and Muslims have used it in different times through history as well.

The Star of David has been recognized as a symbol of Judaism. It first began to be used as a symbol of Judaism in the late middle Ages. It wasn't until the 1890s when the Zionist movement in this country needed a symbol and it has become the symbol of modern day Israel. It can also be called the "Shield of David".

The meaning of the star is explained in many ways. It can be related to the number seven which repeats many times in the Bible. It is represented by the six points plus the center. It represents the six days of creation plus the seventh day at rest. It can also represent the seven Archangels of God. As the menorah was the main symbol being used by the Jews, it can also represent the seven branches of the menorah. It has also been thought to mean that God has complete rule of the universe since the star points in all directions (north, south, east, west, up and down). The star pointing up represents God and the star pointing down represents Jews and everything on earth. Some believe it is a pagan symbol, as some pagan groups used it.

It is interesting to note that Orthodox Jews do not recognize this symbol because of its very early association with magic and some forms of dark arts. Jewish lore also links the symbol to a magic shield supposedly owned by King David that protected him from his enemies.

In the Christian tradition, the six pointed star is the "Creator's star". The points represent the six days of creation. They are also said to represent the six attributes of God- power, wisdom, majesty, love, mercy and justice. The floor of the Sistine Chapel in Rome and the floor of the Westminster Abbey in England both have the stars on the tiles of their floors. The Catholic Church has been using it for centuries. Many churches around the world have used the star in their architecture as well. It will continue to be a Christian symbol as well as Jewish symbol in the future.

By Karen Staulters, Historian



5K Summary for 2017

Community Supports the 11th Annual Falling Leaves 5K Charity Run

The Ballston Spa UMC would like to thank its many sponsors and also those local businesses that provided 37 gift certificates worth almost \$1,700 as door prizes for the almost 200 race participants.

Because of their generosity, we expect that we will be able to donate over \$7,000 to the Veterans & Community Housing Coalition (VCHC) to be earmarked for the two residences in Ballston that provide housing and services for homeless male and female Veterans.

Race sponsors included: the D.A. Collins Companies (including Jointa Galusha, LLC and Palette Stone) as our Presenting Sponsor at \$1,500; LaMarco Physical Therapy, P.C., Saratoga Organic & Hydroponic Supply and Druthers Brewing as Oak Leaf Cluster Sponsors at \$500; Armer Funeral Home, Ballston Carpet & Tile, Ballston National Bank, Pizza Works, E. Stewart Jones Hacker & Murphy Law Firm, LLP, Edward Jones Investments, Recovery Sports Grill and Henry's Tavern as Maple Leaf Sponsors at \$250; and Agway of Ballston Spa, Alexander Blueline, Allerdice Building Supply, Augie's Family Style Italian Restaurant, Baker's Auto Service, Ballston Spa Country Club, Ballston Spa Veterinary Clinic, Front Street Deli, Harold R. Clune Electric, The Iron Roost, Joyce Garlock --Coldwell Banker, Lance Evans Memorials, Malta Animal Hospital, Mangino Chevrolet Buick GMC, Mayfair Jewelers, Next Door Kitchen & Bar, O'Brien Pharmacy, RuthCaswell.Arbonne.com, T-Shirt Graphics, and Wilson Property Maintenance as Elm Leaf Cluster Sponsors at \$100. Businesses providing gift certificates for the runners were as follows: Anna's Flowers, Ballston Spa Country Club, Bead Just So, Bella Nani Salon & Spa, Beverly's Restaurant, Coffee Planet, Corina's Jewelry & Fine Crafts, Curtis Lumber, Daisy Dry Goods Antiques and Gifts, Doheny Oil Corp., Double M Haunted Hayride, Dunning Street Station Bar & Grill, Fleet Feet-Malta, Gore Mountain, Inspirational Touch Massage Therapy, Lakeridge Restaurant, Lewis House B&B, Make Me Fabulous, MyGym, Pizza Etc., Route 50 Diner, Russell's Deli, Ruth Caswell, Arbonne Products, Sanders Meat Market, Straight Edge Barbershop, Stylish Creations, 13 North Restaurant, the Whitehouse Restaurant, and the Village Barber. Also, Stewart's Shops, Price Chopper/Market 32, and Target provided bagels, water and other refreshments for the runners after the race.

We encourage church members and friends to please remember and support these sponsors and

local businesses whenever you can over the next year.

We would also like to thank the many BSUMC volunteers that helped with the race and also those that participated by registering to run. We would also like to thank members of the American Legion, VFW and the staff and veterans of the VCHC Program who volunteered the day of the race. Without everyone's help the race would not have been another great year for the 11th Annual Falling Leaves 5K.

Finally, we also thank the many organizations that made our race possible by helping put on the race on October 7th: including the Village of Ballston Spa, especially Jeff Gawrys and the DPW crew; the Village Fire Police, the Village Police Force; David Forbes of the Town of Milton; and the Ballston Spa Ambulance Corps.

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



Thank you dinner

The first "5K Thank You Dinner" is scheduled for 6:00 PM, Thursday, November 16th at Henry's Tavern on Front Street. Please contact Stan Lockwood (518-885-1552) or Melody Babcock (518-490-2015) if you are interested so we can give the restaurant an idea of the number of people who will attend.



Fair Trade

The Fair Trade sale for this month will be November 12th and we will have coffee, tea, hot chocolate and dark chocolate candy bars for those with a sweet tooth. Thank you to those who support this mission which helps third world farmers make a living and provides training to assist their efforts.



HELP SUPPORT FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY THIS THANKSGIVING

First Presbyterian Church is once again organizing an **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Bag Ministry** and we invite you to be a part. **Last year we provided over 200 dinners** to families in need. Families sign up through our local food pantries: Baptist, Episcopal, Methodist.

Here's how you can help:

Take one or more of our bags, fill it with items needed for a basic and healthy Thanksgiving meal, and a \$10 gift card to a local grocery store OR an 8-14 pound frozen turkey to go along with it. A suggested list is attached to each bag along with other important instructions.

Deliver the bags and turkeys to the First Presbyterian Church on COLLECTION SUNDAY, November 19 from 11:30 am—2 pm. Your donation is tax deductible if you save your receipts and attach them to a signed tax receipt that will be available on that day.

Volunteer to help at the First Presbyterian Church on DISTRIBUTION MONDAY, November 20 from 3—6 pm. Contact the church to volunteer.

THANK YOU for your help as we seek to be a blessing to those in need this Thanksgiving!

Questions can be directed to:

First Presbyterian Church
22 West High St.
Ballston Spa, NY 12020
518-885-5583
ballstonpres@gmail.com



Skye Farm News!

A special **Anniversary Banquet** to celebrate 75 years and share the future vision for Skye Farm will be held on **Saturday, November 4th** at Saratoga United Methodist Church, 175 Fifth Ave. Saratoga Springs, NY.

For questions and further info: please call Skye Farm at 518-494-7170 or visit the website: www.skyefarmcamp.org



Library Corner

Heaven is For Real – Todd Burpo

When Colton Burpo made it through an emergency appendectomy, his family was overjoyed at this miraculous survival. What they weren't expecting, though, was the story that emerged in the months that followed—a story as beautiful as it was extraordinary, detailing their little boy's trip to heaven and back.

Colton, not yet four years old, told his parents he left his body during the surgery and authenticated that claim by describing exactly what his parents were doing in another part of the hospital while he was being operated on. He talked of visiting heaven and relayed stories told to him by people whom he had met there whom he had never met in life, sharing events with descriptions and obscure details about heaven that matched the Bible exactly, though he had not yet learned to read. He tells of meeting long departed family members. He describes Jesus, the angels and God. He also said that nobody is old and nobody wears glasses. (Taken from the book jacket).



Women's weekend of Ballston Spa UMC!

Rest and Renewal

November 3-4, 2017,

Friday, 6 pm-Saturday, 4 pm

**Ogden Lodge at Skye Farm,
Warrensburg**

Spiritual Leader: Pastor Kelly Warner

Take a much-needed break from all the responsibilities and roles you have (work, kids, volunteering), and restore your mind, body, and soul.

Enjoy indoor and outdoor activities, inspirational messages from women of the Bible, worship, fellowship, may be some extra sleep... and a campfire complete with s'mores.

Please feel free contact Linda Sheeran (885-1729 or lsheeran6@gmail.com) with any questions you may have.



A lesson worth remembering this Thanksgiving

BY READER'S DIGEST EDITORS

When Mrs. Klein told her first graders to draw a picture of something for which they were thankful, she thought how little these children, who lived in a deteriorating neighborhood, actually had to be thankful for. She knew that most of the class would draw pictures of turkeys or of bountifully laden Thanksgiving tables. That was what they believed was expected of them.

What took Mrs. Klein aback was Douglas's picture. Douglas was so forlorn and likely to be found close in her shadow as they went outside for recess. Douglas's drawing was simply this:

A hand, obviously, but whose hand? The class was captivated by his image.

"I think it must be the hand of God that brings us food," said one student.

"A farmer" said another, "because they grow the turkeys."

"It looks more like a policeman, and they protect us." "I think," said Lavinia, who was always so serious, "that it is supposed to be all the hands that help us, but Douglas could only draw one of them."

Mrs. Klein had almost forgotten Douglas in her pleasure at finding the class so responsive. When she had the others at work on another project, she bent over his desk and asked whose hand it was.

Douglas mumbled, "It's yours, Teacher."

Then Mrs. Klein recalled that she had taken Douglas by the hand from time to time; she often did that with the children. But that it should have meant so much to Douglas ...

Perhaps, she reflected, this was her Thanksgiving, and everybody's Thanksgiving—not the material things given unto us, but the small ways that we give something to others.



Outreach to the Regional Food Bank coming again this fall!



25th Annual Roast Beef Dinner and Bake Sale

Saturday, December 2
4:00 – 6:30 pm

This will be the 25th year offering a delicious family-style roast beef dinner that includes mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, coleslaw, sweet potatoes, pickles, rolls, pie and a beverage.

Adults -- \$13.00

Children up to age 16 -- Free

All Take-outs -- \$13.00

Assorted Baked Goods will be available to purchase

Sign-up sheets will be available for donations of pies and baked goods.

Please come support this church fundraiser and enjoy good food and fellowship!



MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL ECUMENICAL YOUTH GROUPS

This Fall there are an Ecumenical Youth Groups that meet Sunday afternoons at Christ Episcopal Church. Middle School group meets from 2-4 p.m. and High School group meets from 3-5 p.m. The overall time is opportunity for fun and fellowship between the two groups.

Contact Laura Marino if you have any questions: marinolaura@yahoo.com, at 518-581-2456, or check the youth group's website radicalyouth.org



Young Adult Addresses

If your young adult has moved away from home due to college or military service, for example, and would like to periodically receive mail from their church family, please feel free to share their address with Linda Sheeran at lsheeran6@gmail.com Cards and/or packages will be sent throughout the year.



Rummage sale

As you go through fall chores of organizing, sorting and clearing out unused/unwanted items, please keep in mind that good, useful household items always are needed and welcomed for the Rummage Sale. Even though the sale is some months away (March 2018), the organizers are beginning to accept sale items as we now have the ability to store them well in advance of the sale.

So, if you, your family, your friends have goods to donate for this fundraiser, please be in touch with one of the organizers: **Melody Babcock, Debbie Thompson, George and Janet Mallette** to make arrangements for you to bring in those items.

No electronics please.



Nov 5, 2017 - Daylight Saving Time Ends

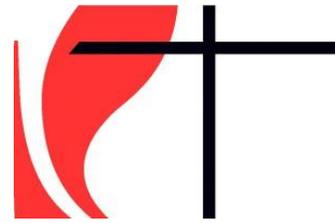
When local daylight time is about to reach Sunday, November 5, 2017, **2:00:00 am** clocks are turned **backward** 1 hour to Sunday, November 5, 2017, **1:00:00 am** local standard time instead.

Sunrise and sunset will be about 1 hour earlier on Nov 5, 2017 than the day before. There will be more light in the morning.



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!



2017 Charge/Church Conference

The 2017 Charge/Church Conference of the Ballston Spa United Methodist Church will be held on Sunday, November 19 at the Saratoga Springs United Methodist Church.

The conference will begin at 2:00 and will be followed by a worship service from 3:00 to 4:00. The Charge/Church Conference is the annual meeting of the church that includes, but is not limited to, voting on the following items: recommendation of the pastor's compensation for 2018; election of people to serve in various positions; and recommendation of Certified Lay Servants, Certified Lay Speakers and Certified Lay Ministers. Everyone is encouraged to attend and voting will be done by the members of the church who are present.



*Happy Thanksgiving!
To You And Your Family*

Calendar is attached.



Newsletter Deadline:

The deadline date for the December issue of *The Tidings* newsletter is November 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 - Nursery Care Available

Ballston Spa United Methodist Church

101 Milton Avenue
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

November Tidings

"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"