

The Tidings

July 2018

Ballston Spa United Methodist Church



101 Milton Avenue, Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Pastor's Column

Dear Church Family and Friends,

I want to share a special thank you note that was recently sent to our church. I think you will be as delighted as I was to read about the ministries of our church. We are making an impact on people locally and in far off places. Sometimes we do this by pulling together as a team for larger events, and sometimes excellent ministries happen one-on-one.

Dear Pastor Warner,

Just a note to tell you what a fun time I had at your recent yard sale. I plan my vacation to visit Ballston Spa for the second week of June every year. I was not disappointed and was able to find many useful and fun items at your sale.

But the highlight of my trip happened Tuesday the 12th. I learned my step-daughter's church was in need of summer clothes for an upcoming mission trip to the Dominican Republic. Your Thrift Shop was open and the clothes are only \$2.00 a bag!! Wow! I want you know what a caring, thoughtful person you have running your Thrift Shop. I called her an angel, you know her as Thelma. She stayed almost 2 hours overtime! She brings volunteerism to a whole new level. Thank you Thelma and thank you Ballston Spa United Methodist Church.

Sincerely Dee Nixon-Ryan

Grateful to serve Christ's Church and all of you,

Pastor Kelly

Pastor

Rev. Kelly Warner

Office Manager

Susan Cramer

Custodian

Tom Chase

Music Ministry

Cathy King

Church Council Chair

Ilah Sisson Walser

Christian Education

Angela Kinne

Trustee Co-Chairs

Gary Perkins

George Mallette

SPRC Chair

Jackie Capone

Treasurer

Lynne Blake

Financial Secretary

Cherrie Sanders

Lay Member UNYAC

Linda Sheeran

Lay Leader

Debbie Thompson

PLEASE notify us of any address changes and/or if you no longer wish to receive this publication.

Mission and Outreach news

Thank You to All Who Made the June 24th Service and Potluck for Veterans a Success

We would like to thank all those who helped to make the June 24th Service and potluck to honor our Veterans a success: Pastor Kelly and Cathy King for the beautiful music and inspirational worship service; the many members and friends who donated \$\$ for the geraniums and flower basket to beautify our church and to give to the Veterans; Angela Kinne, Mary Drake, Heather Forster along with our Sunday School children, Ben and Jake Taylor, Anna Wilson, Jonathan Forster and other children and teachers for making and distributing thank you cards to the Veterans; Thelma Armer for arranging the geraniums on the altar; Lou Cook for obtaining 36 American flags to put in the flower pots, and George Mallette for marking off parking places for the Veterans from the Vet House and Guardian House.

Many thanks also go out to the numerous volunteers who contributed to the success of the potluck meal; such as Karen Groff, Helen Senecal, Donna Lockwood, Carol Markley, Melody Babcock, and all those who helped out before, during, and after the meal. Finally, thanks to all those who brought their favorite Red, White or Blue dish or non-food items to make the Potluck meal a success.

Betsy Sillars and Stan Lockwood



Music Notes

BSUMC traditionally features our young musicians, especially during the summer months. Their involvement on the third Sunday of each month for Family Sunday would be especially welcome.

The voice choir needs more singers, and the handbell choir needs more ringers. The ability to read music is not required for either group – just a desire to enjoy the fellowship of these groups and to “make a joyful noise to the Lord”! Interested? See Cathy King (518-584-2865).

Requests Anyone?

The song baskets are back! Thanks to Linda Sheeran, the song request baskets have returned to the back of the sanctuary. If you have a favorite hymn, please put your request in one of the baskets so it can be used in a future service.

Falling Leaves 5K Run October 6, 2018

It's not too soon to be thinking about our 12th Annual "Falling Leaves Run on Saturday, October 6, 2018. We have been busy getting the preliminary work done. We have also begun to solicit our race sponsors and will begin to request gift certificates to give out to the participants after the race.

Although we have a 5K Committee, many volunteers are needed to make the run a success and we thank everyone who has worked on the run in some capacity in prior years. We also thank those who have run or walked the Falling Leaves Race before and encourage all church members and friends to either participate in the Run or volunteer to work on October 6th. Further, please speak to your friends and relatives about our Falling Leaves 5k, and promote our event as a community, family event on a scenic course through Ballston Spa with many gift certificates given out after the run. Last year, local businesses donated \$1,600 in gift certificates for the participants. If you have any questions about the 5K, please contact one of our committee members: Gary Wilson, Lynne Blake, Stan Lockwood, Betsy Sillars or Alaina Greco.

5K Meal Events in July

There will be two 5K Meal Events in July. The first will be a breakfast outing at the **Iron Roost** on Thursday, July 12th at 10:00 AM. The sign-up is due by Monday, July 9th. The second will be dinner at the **13 North Restaurant** on Route 9 at 6:00 PM on July 19th. The sign-up is due by Tuesday, July 17th.

To sign-up, please see Melody Babcock (518.490.2015) or Stan Lockwood (518.885.1552) after church, or call them if you would like to attend.

All are welcome to participate as we support those local businesses that either are sponsors or donate significant gift certificates to our Falling Leaves 5K. Dinners will resume after the October 6, 2018 5K Run.

Fair Trade

The next Fair Trade sale will be in September.

Thank you to all members and friends who support this ministry which enables small farmers in third world countries to make a viable living.

Congratulations

Linda McMillan and Joseph Reyes were married by Pastor Kelly in an outdoor ceremony on Saturday, June 9. One especially meaningful part of the celebration was the reading of I Corinthians 13 from the Bible that Linda was given at her confirmation at the Ballston Spa United Methodist Church. What's more amazing is that the date inside the cover was the same date as her wedding day! God's ways are mysterious and marvelous!

Rummage Sale News

Many thanks to our new crew of volunteers that organized our June Rummage Sale: Mary Drake, Dave and Marcia Edwards, Emily Groff, Dorothy Collins and Mark Pollack. They decided not to price individual items, and instead let people make donations. This was a step of faith, and to everyone's delight over \$1500 was raised! Another source of joy was the chance to forward our leftover items to another small church for their upcoming rummage sale. Word in the pews is that someone from this new crew has already said they want to coordinate next year's event!

Skye Farm is Waiting to Welcome Your Child, and Camperships are Available

S'mores! Water Fun! New Games! There is so much for kids to enjoy at summer camp and there is still time to register. Check out their website at www.campsandretreats.org, or pick up a brochure from the Welcome Tables. Questions? Contact Linda Sheeran at 518-885-1729 or lsheeran6@gmail.com

Summer Children's Message

Here is a great way to get better acquainted with our younger church family- you can spend a few minutes with them offering the Children's Message in worship. This time can be as simple as sharing a little story about yourself, sharing a hobby of yours, or relating a favorite Bible verse or story to your life. Please prayerfully consider signing up for just one Sunday this summer. It will be time well spent! Contact: Linda Sheeran- 518-885-1729 or lsheeran6@gmail.com

Sunday School celebration

On June 17th the children in our Sunday school program were recognized in worship with certificates and gifts. Some of our youngest ones sang and signed "Our God is an Awesome God". Teachers were warmly thanked and given gifts, as well as our wonderful Sunday school superintendent Angela Kinne. Pastor Kelly talked to the children about

Father's Day (during the children's message), gave them a special sheet to fill out about their dads, and at the end of worship the youth group distributed Chex mix gifts for fathers.

Looking ahead, we learned that there will be a new, dynamic Sunday school curriculum for the fall called Whirl. We heard the exciting news that we will move beyond a single classroom model to a younger and an older group of students. This means more volunteers are needed to be teachers and floaters. This growth is exciting and it is an answer to our prayers!

We also had a guest speaker, Eva Millard, who owns the newly-opened We Rock the Spectrum Gym. The children and congregation collected over \$100 to provide a scholarship to a family in our church. Eva told the congregation that her place offers a fun, safe environment for kids of all abilities. There are ten pieces of equipment, including a zip line, which helps kids in the areas of strength, movement and sensory processing. She said it is a great place for those who are autistic, but it is also a welcoming place for all kids and their families.

When the service ended there were special treats in the Connections Café. There was a "cupcake" cake celebrating the Sunday school and a very huge chocolate chip cookie. It was a joyful time of mingling for all.

God's Blessings on Our 2018 Graduates



Brooke Doyle graduated from Pitt Community College in Greenville, NC in December 2017 with an Associate's Degree in Human Services/Substance Abuse. Currently she is working at Holly Hill Hospital in Raleigh, NC as a Mental Health Technician.

Jonathon Blake graduated Summa Cum Laude from Marist College in Poughkeepsie, NY in May with a double major – a BS in Applied Mathematics, and Business Administration, with a concentration in Finance. Jonathon was the recipient of the Award for Excellence in Mathematics and the Award for Academic Excellence in Business Administration. He will be moving to New York City to start his new job in July.

Emily and Jenna Litchfield graduated from Broadalbin-Perth High School on June 23. They will both be attending Fulton- Montgomery Community College to study Health Sciences. Jenna plans to

become a physical therapist and Emily will be studying nursing.

Haley Parlapiano graduated with honors from the Honors Business Program of Hudson Valley Community College in Troy, NY in May.

Joshua Parlapiano graduated from Ballston Spa High School on June 21.

Albert E. Schmidt Jr. graduated from Ballston Spa High School on June 21 with an Advanced Regents with Honors Diploma with Mastery in Science. He will be attending Schenectady County Community College in the fall, majoring in Biology.

Grace Marie Thompson graduated from Ballston Spa High School on June 21. She received the first Meghan Russell Scholarship for a senior going on to college to pursue a career in the mental health field. Grace will be attending Houghton College in Houghton, NY in the fall where she will major in psychology, and play softball for the college team.



Scouting

In February 2018, both Scouting units sponsored by our church renewed their Charters. Their new leadership is:

Boy Scout Troop 1: Troop Committee Chair - Glenn Harrison

Scoutmaster – Rick Roby

Cub Scout Pack 1: Pack Committee Chair – Kate Superdock

Cub Master – Tom Superdock

In March 2018, nine Webelos crossed over from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts in Troop 1.

This spring, two boys who have no scouting experience joined the troop for a total of 11 new scouts joining Troop 1.

Twin Rivers Council's Turning Point District recently held a Recognition Dinner in Glens Falls.

- Pack 1 received the Advancement Award for the highest percentage of Cub Scout advancement of all District packs.
- Rick Roby received Scoutmaster of the Year Award.

Respectfully submitted by Glenn Harrison,
Charter Organization Representative

Spring Sprucing Up

Parents of little ones sometimes sing a catchy song to motivate their children to pick up their toys. One popular "Barney" song was "Cleanup, cleanup, everybody everywhere. Cleanup, cleanup, everybody do your share."

The month of June has been a time of cleanup of the lawn at the parsonage and around the church and its parking lot. For all those who volunteered, the church family says thank you!

Here is some other interesting gardening-related news. Some of the red geraniums from our June 24 worship service were planted in front of our parsonage and the church. Linda Sheeran selected the garden area by the parking lot and gifted us with some bright, new annuals. She also put a cheerful outdoor flag by the office door. One other tidbit you may find meaningful is that the lovely pink rose bushes blooming near the front entrance stairs are a gift in memory of Gordon Wiley's wife.

Isn't it wonderful to know about the devoted saints who quietly offer their labor and love on behalf of the church? Not only do we enjoy the results, our local community appreciates the care and beauty as well.



SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM OFFERS FREE LUNCH FOR THE EIGHTH YEAR

Volunteers are needed for the Ballston Spa Summer Lunch Program, weekdays, 9 am – 12:15 pm, July 5 – August 17, 2018. The members of The First Baptist Church of Ballston Spa and Ballston Spa United Methodist Church are actively preparing for their 2018 Summer Lunch Program. This program is designed to provide free lunches to children of families in need and has served the local Village of Ballston Spa for the past seven years.

Volunteers are needed to make, pack, and distribute lunches. It's only a few hours a day, but it is making a difference in these children's lives.

Sign up online at SignUp.com:
<http://signup.com/go/yRCnrTQ> or follow the link on the church website: bspabaptist.org. **SignUp** will take you through step by step. Easy! You will be

able to select the specific spots and dates you want to fill, and **SignUp** will send you automated confirmation and reminders.

If you prefer not to sign up online, contact the First Baptist church office Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday - Tel: [518-885-8361](tel:518-885-8361)
Email: bspabaptist202@gmail.com
Contact: Karen Jones & Deborah Thompson
Justina Danison, Office Administrator

Regional Food Bank
Sunday, August 19, 2018
(Same day as the Outdoor Worship and
Cookout) 1 - 3 pm

Summer vacation is a tough time for the Regional Food Bank and for those who experience food insecurity. The need for food distribution is especially high, due to kids not having school lunches, but the number of volunteers is low. You can help! Come for the Outdoor Worship on Sunday, August 19, and enjoy the cookout that follows. Then, head to Latham to give two hours of your time for those who are food-dependent. Car-pooling is available. A stop at Guptill's for ice cream and fellowship on the way home will round out this very special day. Contact: Linda Sheeran at 518-885-1729, or lsheeran6@gmail.com

News from your Nominations Team

On June 12th a newly-formed parsonage team was unanimously affirmed prior to our monthly Church Council meeting. Beginning to serve effective immediately are Joyce Garlock, Kelly Schmidt and Mike Cramer. Elected that evening as Chair of our Worship team is Ruth Persons.

Please thank these Christian servants the next time you see them in church and be sure to ask them what is happening in their area of ministry. The Nominations team will continue to meet over the summer and into early fall. They will pray and discern together who among us has the gifts, time and passion to fulfill our church's ministry needs.

Highlights from Annual Conference 2018

The Ninth Session of the Upper New York Annual Conference was held May 30 - June 2, in Syracuse. To view "The Best of Annual Conference" and for daily notes, wrap-up and worship/study videos, go to www.unyumc.org.

It is always a challenge to figure what is the most important, or what we at BSUMC would find the most relevant without sharing everything that happened. Here are just a few highlights of the 3-day conference:

Recommendations:

- * To increase awareness of Accessibility, the weekend of February 1-2, or another weekend chosen by each church, is to be designated as Disability Awareness Weekend - (our church will be celebrating this on July 1, 2018.)
- * To better practice the art of "radical hospitality", our districts and/or our Conference will be hiring people who are the first point of contact staff who are bilingual whenever possible.

Resolutions:

- * Leadership Training for clergy and laity will be provided on how to stop and prevent sexual assault, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct.
- * The UNY's annual Parsonage Report will reflect a church's last date of lead testing, and the question "Is lead present?" will have "yes" and "no" boxes. If "yes", those locations will be listed, including lead in paint and water.
- * In statistical church reporting, a "non-binary" column will be added to the membership gender section to allow for the reporting of members who do not identify as male or female.

Reports:

- * The Commission on a Way Forward, a group formed to discuss the issues of human sexuality in the United Methodist Church, sent their report to the Council of Bishops. A full report will be made public on July 8, outlining the three church plans discussed.
- * The Conference Leadership Team "strongly encourages" every UNY congregation to use the VitalSigns Dashboard starting September 1, 2018. This is a computer tool used to help congregations track their progress of goals, such as worship attendance, small group attendance, professions of faith, etc.

Bible Study:

Rev. Dr. L. Gregory Jones of Duke Divinity School said sometimes we don't know where we're going or why we're going there. "Each one of us has a 'back to Egypt' (a place of familiarity) part of our souls. We get a glimpse of what God is calling us to do, and we get uncertain." But, God calls us to live boldly, as Paul the Apostle did.

If you would like to hear more, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for voting me to be our Lay Member to Annual Conference.

Linda Sheeran 518-885-1729 or
lsheeran6@gmail.com.

Have You Read This One From Our Church's
Library?

MYSTERIES OF THE BIBLE
Ed. Alma E. Guinness

This is an interesting and informative volume that summarizes the chief epochs in biblical history and literature . . . told in a clear and uncomplicated style.

Bruce M. Metzger

Encourage Faith Formation While on Vacation

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise" (Deuteronomy 6:5-7).

The Scripture from Deuteronomy reminds us that our task of faith formation is not just a weekly-during-the-school-year task, but a year-round daily task.

Here are examples of ways to continue faith formation in the summer:

- ♥ Attend other congregations when you travel. Bring back a worship bulletin for Pastor Kelly. On the front of the bulletin complete these sentences, "We saw....." "We heard....." "We thank God for....."
- ♥ Prepare vacation boxes for your family. Include Christian coloring sheets, word searches, etc. Also pack crayons and paper for drawing pictures of "where you see God" then give these to your Sunday School teacher.
- ♥ Get a stuffed animal and attach a small journal to it. Take this "travel animal" with you on your trip. Record in your journal where you were and what blessings you experienced in that place.
- ♥ Pick a service project that parents and children can do together during the summer months. Suggestions could include such things such as providing food for a food pantry or taking toys to a homeless shelter for families. You could send money to a service project or send cards to people who are sick or lonely. At the end of the summer take time to name the blessings you received through the service projects.

♥
MaryJane Pierce Norton is the former Associate General Secretary for Discipleship Ministries at the Discipleship Ministries. (Updated 4/2018)

Looking Ahead in Worship

July 1. Disability Awareness Sunday (with offering)

I Samuel 9:1-13 - "Mephibosheth: Promises Made, Promises Kept"
Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion

July 8. Ecumenical Worship service held at the Presbyterian Church. Pastor Kelly will be doing the Children's Message

July 15. Family Sunday. Praise Team Music

July 22. Matthew 7:7, Mark 11:23 - "When Our Prayers Go Unanswered"

July 29. Fanny Crosby Hymn Celebration. Blessing of our Prayer Shawls

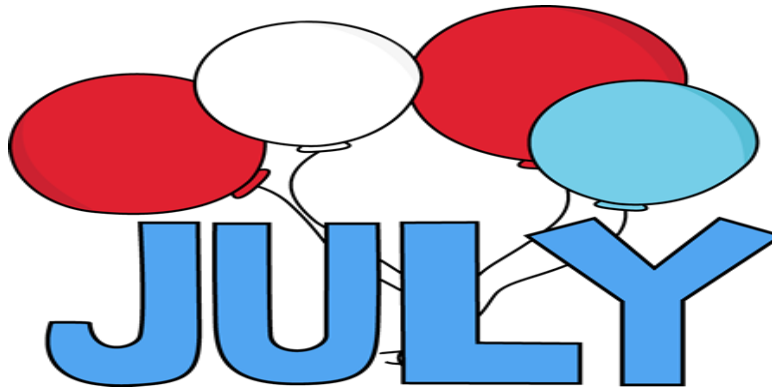


- 7/2 Sherrie Brewster
- 7/3 Molly Grentzer, Dillon Costanzo
- 7/4 Rebekah LeRoy
- 7/7 Jenna Litchfield, Emily Litchfield
- 7/12 Pastor Kelly Warner, Sue Cramer
- 7/14 Aspen Caswell, Scott Harrington
- 7/15 Brittini Doyle
- 7/17 Jeff Blake
- 7/18 Edward Glossner, Ann Heffernan
- 7/20 Katie Sheeran
- 7/21 Brianna Drake
- 7/23 Natalie Thomas
- 7/25 Maegan Conley
- 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



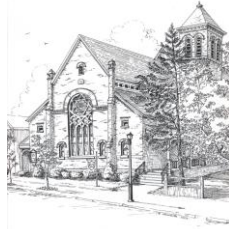
- 7/19 Debbie & Benny Zlotnick Jr.
- 7/21 Troy & Ruth Ann Caswell
- 7/22 T.C. & Shelli Wolsey
- 7/24 Jan & Jeff Clark
- 7/31 Karen & John Staulters

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



Newsletter Deadline:

The deadline date for the August issue of *The Tidings* newsletter is July 20th. 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
Sunday School 10:15 AM**

Ballston Spa United Methodist
Church

101 Milton Avenue
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Address Service Requested

July Tidings

Church Office Phone

518-885-6886

Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Pastor Kelly Warner

Tuesday – Thursday (all day)

Email

bsumc@albany.twcbc.com

Web Site

Ballstonspaumchurch.org

“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.”