

Pastor*Rev. Kelly Warner***Office Assistant***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.

The Tidings

June 2018

Ballston Spa United Methodist Church



101 Milton Avenue, Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Pastor's Column

Spring greetings,

The newsletter that you are about to read is a labor of love, filled with lots of stories and articles about our church's ministries and missions. We send out these Tidings to our church family and friends because we value "keeping the connection" among us. This month's edition is a bit longer because we are including news from May and June. We have done this because we have had an important transition in the life of the church.

It is my pleasure to share with you that we have a highly skilled and delightful new office assistant. Sue Cramer, a member of our church, will now offer her administrative skills, and so much more, to all of us. You will discover she has a great "can-do" spirit! She proved that this week, with the calm, positive way she gathered all that was needed for this extra-large Tidings, then got it printed and out right on schedule during her first full week as our paid staff! Just - wow!

I want to share with you a short, true story from my life. I have been thinking about it recently with Sue coming on board here in the office. It was a beautiful, much-awaited spring 10 years ago when I went for my annual physical check up. At the end of the exam my doctor scribbled something on her pad, ripped it off and handed it to me with this set of instructions: "I am referring you to a specialist. You have hooded eyelids and need surgery to lift them. This will make a wonderful difference in your vision." I had no clue at that point in my life that such a condition existed, let alone surgery to repair it. All I can say is that my doctor's promise came true; it did make a "wonderful difference" to once more see and savor 100% of the world around me, rather than just 60%!

It is my prayer, as your pastor, that each one of us can find the places where God most wants us to use our gifts. I hope we can do so fully (at 100%) and make a "wonderful difference" in the church, and the wider world.

Please warmly welcome Sue as she begins to serve God and all of us in her capacity as our Office Assistant. Say hello also to her husband Mike. They are proud parents and devoted grandparents. I have also just learned that she is left-handed like me and we share the same birthday!

Pastor Kelly

"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance of what we do not (yet) see!"

Hebrews 11:1

Mission and Outreach news

Service to Honor our Veterans

The Sunday worship service to honor our Veterans is now scheduled for -- **Sunday, June 24th**. Immediately following is a Red, White and Blue potluck meal. During the service we plan to recognize the Veterans who reside in the Vet House and the Guardian House in Ballston, as well as our own BSUMC Veterans. All church members and friends are invited to attend both!! Sign-ups are available for the potluck, and those wishing to help with this event. To beautify our church for the day, we will be ordering 3 dozen red geraniums from a local nursery to decorate the altar area and centerpieces for the tables in the fellowship room. After the service, the plants will either be given to the Veterans Homes, BSUMC Veterans or planted in front of the church and church house. You can put money in an envelope in worship marked June 24th Flowers with their name on it. Any questions, please contact Betsy Sillars (518.885.5850) or Stan Lockwood (518.885.1552).



Music Notes

To help separate the business of the church from the experience of worship, centering music is being played or sung after the announcements to help us quiet our minds and open our hearts. We hope this reflective music helps you transition to a holy place.

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. If you or someone in your family would like to provide instrumental or vocal music, please contact Cathy King (cathys.notes@gmail.com or 518-584-2865).

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.

On occasion, members of the voice choir are going to sing a contemporary song as the postlude at the conclusion of the Sunday service. If the song is familiar to you, please feel free to sing along!

An outdoor service in the parking lot has been scheduled for August 19, weather permitting. The handbell choir has been requested to ring that day. If you would like to be part of the handbell choir for this special service, please let Cathy King know.

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).

Fair Trade

The next Fair Trade sale will be Sunday, June 17th after worship service in the North Entryway. We will have coffee, tea, dark hot chocolate for sale, as well as organic dark chocolate bars. We only have a few Extreme Dark and Panama Extra Dark bars, and will not have any more chocolate until fall. We also now have hazelnut coffee.

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

5K Dinner

Our 5K Dinner in June will be from the Front Street Deli in Ballston Spa on Thursday, 21st. We will order off the menu, but will eat at the Connections Café at our church at 6:00 PM. Please join us for dinner that evening. Anyone is welcome to participate as we continue to support those local businesses that are either sponsors or donate significant gift certificates to our Falling Leaves 5K. We will order off the menu and pay in advance (menu item, plus tax and tip) by Monday, June 18th. 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.

Roast Pork Dinner Update

Many thanks to everyone who donated pies, baked goods, money donations and their time to make the dinner successful. We had a good turn-out for the dinner - served 145 dinners plus those that helped at the dinner. The Bake Sale did very well, so many thanks for a great variety of baked goods. The final count of the dinner is \$2,094!

Our next dinner will be October 13 when we offer a Roast Ham Dinner!! Please mark your calendars for this fundraiser!!

Blessings to all,
Janet and George Mallette

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

During Easter there was an appeal to contribute extra giving towards the Current Expenses of our Church. Your generosity was wonderful. Thank you for your part in giving over \$1200.

As we move forward into a new era in our church, we can be successful with a congregation which works together. Having a vibrant Pastor who leads us towards new and renewed ministries gives us a new sense of community working together, worshipping together, praying together, and giving together.

Your continued support and giving will make our congregation and outreach stronger. We are living into our mission statement by our actions.

Again, thank you on behalf our leadership team of the Finance Committee and the Church Council.

Ilah Sisson Walser
Church Council Chair

Graduate Information Needed



Do you have a 2018 graduate in your family? If you know someone that is graduating from high school or college this year, please send their information to Linda Sheeran at lsheeran6@gmail.com or call 518-885-1729.

All graduates will be recognized during church on June 17th, Recognition Sunday, as well as in the Tidings. Please include name, school or college, date of graduation, degree earned, future plans, and any special recognition you would like to mention. Thank you!

Thank you

We want to thank you for the love you've shown to our mom, Patty LeRoy, and to all of us, over the years.

Our Mom and Dad moved to Ballston Spa, along with Charlene, in 1967, and started attending BSUMC. Mark and Tricia were baptized there. Mom started teaching Sunday School in 1974 (maybe sooner) and never stopped. She loved children and loved teaching them John 3:16 and the Books of the Bible! Then Jenny joined us in 1990.

Mom loved and was dedicated to all of you, her church family. And we thank you for the love and joy you've given her!

God bless you all!

Charlene, Mark, Tricia and Jennifer

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." John 3:16

Memorials for Patty LeRoy will go to Skye Farm scholarships.



2018 Camp Registration open for youth and family!

Click <http://campsandretreats.org/summer-camp-2018> to browse all of our 2018 summer programs and to register. Don't forget to take advantage of our Sibling (\$20 per camper), and Refer-A-Friend (\$40 for the referring friend) discounts! Our church can also help sponsor your child. Register today at (toll free) 855-414-6400 or info@campsandretreats.org

Youth Group News March

It was a busy and fun two hours at our March youth group gathering. First came mac & cheese for lunch (thanks Mr. Taylor) and then a fun icebreaker. Everyone then settled down and got into two groups; the younger kids made over 50 colorful, homemade Easter cards and the older kids stuffed a lot of treats into Easter eggs for our egg hunt on April 1st. When they were done they helped "finish off some of the extra candy". The liveliest part of our time together was brainstorming future activities. The kids filled the whole whiteboard with possibilities. They also learn that when you invite someone to Youth Group BOTH of you get a surprise from the Dr. Seuss hat!

Be sure and ask the kids about youth group when you see them in church! Meanwhile, here are dates and times of future events:

June 3 -Grillin' and Chillin' Wear comfortable outdoor clothes, 12 – 2:00 PM.

REMEMBER if any youth brings a friend - both of them get to choose surprises from our Dr. Seuss hat!

Maybe some of you know the Johnny Appleseed grace that Cherrie Sanders helped the youth group sing!

*Oh, the Lord is good to me
And so I thank the Lord
For giving me the things I need,
The sun and the rain and the apple seed
Oh, the Lord is good to me!*



Youth Group May

The 4th-8th grade youth group kicked off their last meeting with a taco lunch and cookies, followed by planting flowers in small pots to be distributed after the Mother's Day worship service. We wrapped it up with a high energy balloon-stomping game that had the youth laughing and a little winded... not all balloons pop easily, we learned!

Melissa Taylor

Thrift Shop

Wow! Have you seen our thrift shop? It is so bright and cheery thanks to all the repairs and painting George Mallette did. We appreciate the ladies who helped restock it.

We have had many customers come in and they are always grateful to fill a grocery bag for \$2.00.

Thank you to all our volunteers who staff the shop every month. We always welcome new volunteers and clothing donations.

Food Pantry

The Food Pantry at the Ballston Spa United Methodist Church is truly blessed with our Post Office. Each year, notices are left in your mail boxes stating that non-perishable food will be picked up that Saturday.

The Postal carriers deliver the mail and pick up grocery bags! Our church and others are allowed to take as many bags as we can fit into vehicles. Helen Senecal makes these arrangements, and it is then taken back to our pantry and unloaded.

One year, we filled the floors of the Food Pantry, lined the office and the pastor's office!

It is a huge help to our Food Pantry budget, as less money needs to be spent on canned products.

God bless the United States Postal Service and its employees!

PRAYER SHAWL STORIES

Last month, when the Pastor led the blessing of the Prayer Shawls, she was surprised to see two of her own gracing the chancel rail. Pastor Kelly had given two partially completed projects and some yarn to the Prayer Shawl group.

A member of the group had finished them and presented them for the blessing.

The interesting part of the story is the timing, it happened on the Sunday when the focus of the sermon was about working together. What a perfect example of that focus. One person started the project; another finished it with loving care from both.

The same thing happens when someone donates yarn and another works the yarn into a Prayer Shawl and then we all add our prayers. These Prayer Shawls surround the

person who receives them with the combined care of this congregation in the love of God to add comfort and strength to their lives.

A small gesture? Not really, it is as huge as the love of God which is limitless. We are the hand of Jesus, doing good for all.



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: bspabaptis.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, 202 Milton Ave. Ballston Spa, NY 12020
Tel: [518-885-8361](tel:518-885-8361)
Email: bspabaptist202@gmail.com
Contact: Karen Jones & Deborah Thompson
Justina Danison Office Administrator

Dear Friends in Mission:

Thank you for partnering with the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Through your gift, you are helping to provide humanitarian relief when war, conflict, or natural disaster disrupts life to such an extent that communities are unable to recover on their own.

UmcOR is able to provide comfort to those impacted by disasters like earthquakes and storms, food for the hungry, and healthcare to those who otherwise would have none. The financial gift you gave will go directly to the people who need it most.

You can find out more about UMCOR's work by visiting our website at www.umcor.org.

Grace and Peace,
General Board of Global Ministries

Dolly Available?

Does anyone have a dolly (hand truck) they are willing to donate to the church? We would like one for general use and particularly for rummage sales.

Car Wash

Now through June 24, 2018 buy car wash tickets on line at <http://www.hoffmanhelpinghands.com/fundraise/rs/BSUMCcarwash>. These car wash tickets never expire! Purchase on-line and print out your car wash coupons immediately.
Exterior only: \$10 Full Service car wash: \$27

Nominations news

At our June 12th Church Council meeting we will elect people to serve on a newly formed parsonage team. There will also be a nomination for worship team chair. All church members are invited to join us as we discern and elect new leaders for church.

Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC)

We realize not every congregant is aware that the Ballston Spa United Methodist Church (BSUMC) has a Staff Parish Relations Committee and if they are aware, is not fully cognizant of the role SPRC plays in the church's administration. We are primarily responsible for building strong relationships between the staff and the congregation and between the congregation

and the district superintendent. Finding a balance between building relationships and handling administrative tasks can be difficult, so the ministry of the committee is crucial for this aspect of a vital and effective congregation. The staff at BSUMC consists of 4 principles; the Music Director, the Office Assistant, the Custodian and the Pastor.

SPRC is responsible for hiring, contracting, evaluations, promoting, retiring and dismissing staff personnel who are not subject to appointment by the bishop. In addition, SPRC will assist with any issues that may arise among parishioners. It should be noted, that ALL conversations are strictly confidential.

Members of the SPRC committee are fully aware that discussions that take place during a meeting as well as conversations that take place with a congregant are always strictly confidential.

If you would like to know more about the role the Staff Parish Relations Committee plays at BSUMC, please reach out to any one of these current members:

Jackie Capone, Chair	Deb Thompson
Danielle Coffey	Linda Sheeran
Tom Forster	Thelma Armer
Joyce Garlock	Joan Glossner



Ninth Session of the
Upper New York
Annual Conference
May 30- June 2, 2018
Onondaga Community College
Syracuse, N.Y.

Our theme this year is: "Together in Prayer: Boldly Living Our Call". This will be **May 31 – June 2** at Onondaga Community College, Syracuse, NY.

Upper New York Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb describes what to look forward to at this year's Annual Conference. In addition to Conference "business," this event will offer the opportunity to strengthen one's relationship with Jesus, others in the Conference, and the world around us through worship, fellowship, and exciting study sessions. To view the video, go to www.unyumc.org.

Contact: Linda Sheeran, Lay Member to Annual Conference- 518-885-1729 or lsheeran6@gmail.com.

Pastor Kelly will attend with our church's Lay delegate Linda Sheeran.

To Ballston Spa Methodist Church,

I would like to thank you for the beautiful Easter lily you gave me. I am really enjoying it.

Janice Green
Paul & Shirley MacMillan too!



6/1 Gary Perkins
6/2 Benjamin Taylor; Mason Caswell
6/3 Karen Parlapiano; Makayla Hodsoll; Kim McCumber
6/4 Joyce Garlock
6/9 Diane Solotruck
6/1 Katie Keehan
6/11 Katie Warner; Emily Clark; Janice Green
6/15 Michelle Greco
6/18 Dorothy Collins
6/20 Christopher Shoen
6/21 Jeremy Litchfield
6/22 Mary Townley
6/25 Jim Sheeran
6/26 Julia Blake
6/27 Lee Lockwood
6/28 Jan Clark
6/30 Frank Townley

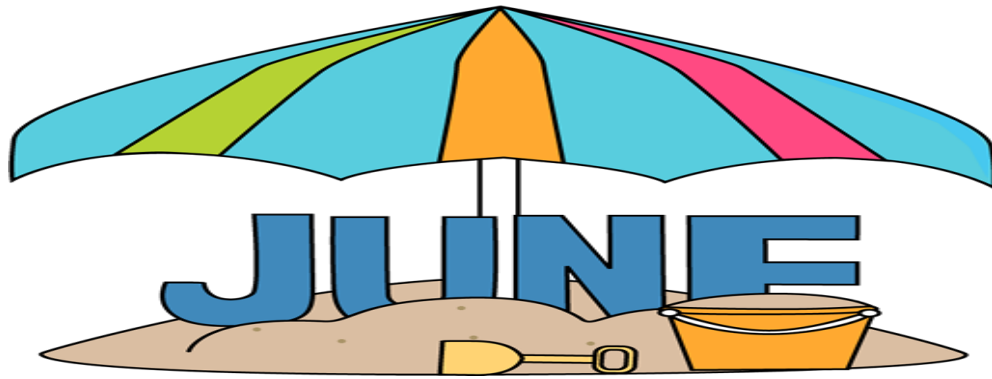


6/6 David & Trisha Heffernan
6/19 Albert & Kelly Schmidt
6/29 Marcy & Gary Wilson

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

June 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Sun. School Mtg., 9:15 (SS) Worship 10:00 AM Holy Communion Skye Farm Director Bell Choir Rehearsal 11 AM Youth Mtg. 12-2 PM	4 Rummage Sale Drop Off 4-7 PM Voice Choir 6 PM (P)	5 Thrift Shop, 9:30 – noon Finance Mtg., 7:00 PM (P)	6 Food Pantry, 9:30 – noon Rummage Sale Drop Off 4-7 PM Trustees Mtg., 6:30 PM (CH)		8 Rummage Sale Drop Off 4-7 PM	9 Rummage Sale 8 AM to 3 PM
10 Worship 10:00 AM Last day of Sunday School Bell Choir Rehearsal 11 AM	11 Voice Choir 6 PM (P)	12 Thrift Shop, 9:30 – noon Council Mtg., 7:00 PM (P)	13 Food Pantry, 9:30 – noon Worship Team, 6:30 PM (P)			16
17 Worship 10:00 AM Family Sunday Sunday School Celebration 9:15 AM Fair Trade Bell Choir Rehearsal 11 AM	18 Voice Choir 6 PM (P)	19 Thrift Shop, 9:30 – noon Nominations 6:30 PM (P)	20 Food Pantry, 9:30 – noon Prayer Shawl, 6:30 PM (P)	21 5K Thank you Dinner at Front Street Deli 6 PM Graduation at SPAC		23
24 Worship 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Blessing Veterans' Recognition followed by Pot Luck dinner Bell Choir Rehearsal 11 AM	25 Voice Choir 6 PM (P)	26 Thrift Shop, 9:30 – noon	27 Food Pantry, 9:30 – noon	28 SPRC Mtg., 6:00 PM (P)	29	30
Looking Ahead; July 8 Ecumenical Service at First Presbyterian Church					CC = Connections Cafe CH = Church House FR = Fellowship Room P = Parlor S = Sanctuary SS = Sunday School area	



Newsletter Deadline:

The deadline date for the July issue of *The Tidings* newsletter is June 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

June 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.”