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Helen Senecal

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

The Tidings

October 2019

Ballston Spa United Methodist Church



101 Milton Avenue, Ballston Spa, NY 12020

October Musings

Fall greeting to all of you!

Many of you may be aware that I will be leaving in a few days to serve as the Spiritual Director for a women's Walk to Emmaus retreat weekend. This will be held at Skye Farm, one of our outstanding United Methodist campgrounds. There will be worship and learning, eating and fellowship, and s'mores around the campfire.

But one of the best gifts of "retreating" - or getting away from your everyday responsibilities - is often the chance to enjoy silent times. In the quiet times, bodies get rested. In stillness, you can better consider how satisfied you are with your life. And when you are open and waiting in your soul, God will draw near.

I have been re-reading one of my favorite small books this summer called "Stories of Prayer for a Healthy Soul". I want to share some of the things that I have read and enjoyed, in hopes that they might bless you as they have me.

"Listen and hear my voice; pay attention and hear what I say." Isaiah 28:23

"A spiritual life requires discipline because we need to learn to listen to God, who constantly speaks but whom we seldom hear. When, however, we learn to listen, our lives become obedient lives. The word "obedient" comes from the Latin word audire, which means "listening." Jesus' life was a life of obedience. He was always listening to the Father, always attentive to his voice, always alert for his directions. Jesus was "all ear." That is true prayer: being all ear for God. The core of our prayer is listening, obediently standing in the presence of God. By Henry J. M. Nouwen

"We know how to talk to God, but we struggle with listening - for a variety of reasons. As in any loving relationship, however, two-way communication with God is crucial. He is, after all, a relational God, and he delights in speaking with - as well as listening to his children. His voice is so important in our lives. Whether it is convicting us, ministering to us, directing us, or refreshing us. Simply put, God speaks. Are you listening? By Lani Carroll Hinkle

PRAYER

Lord, teach me to pray.
It sounds exciting, put like that.
It sounds real. An exploration.
A chance to do more than catalog

and list the things I want,
to an eternal Father Christmas.
The chance of meeting you,
Of drawing closer to the love that made me
and keeps me, and knows me.
And, Lord, it's only just begun.
There is so much more of you,
of love, the limitless expanse of knowing you.
I could be frightened, Lord, in this wide country.
It could be lonely, but you are here, with me.

Sometimes, Lord, often -
I don't know what to say to you.
But I still come, in quiet
for the comfort of two friends
sitting in silence.
And it's then, Lord, that I learn most from you.
When my mind slows down,
and my heart stops racing.
When I let go and wait in the quiet,
realizing that all the things I was going to ask for
you know already.
Then, Lord, without words,
in the stillness
you are there...
And I love you.
Lord, teach me to pray.

By Eddie Askew

Pastor Kelly

Mission and Outreach News

Falling Leaves 5K Race & Kids Fun Run -- October 12, 2019

Only two weeks before our 13th Annual Falling Leaves 5K Run on Saturday, October 12th at 10:00 a.m. The 5K Committee is busy making the final preparations before the event. We ask church members and friends to help in making the 13th Annual Run a success again this year by either participating in the Run or volunteering to work on October 12th. It's never too late to volunteer to help with traffic Safety, food preparation and distribution, race registrations, t-shirt distribution and making baked goods.

Please promote our run to your friends and relatives as a community and family event on a scenic course through the beautiful Village of Ballston Spa with many gift certificates given out after the run. Last year local businesses donated over \$1,500 in gift certificates for the participants. **Our charity of choice again this year is the Veterans and Community Housing Coalition, with the funds earmarked for the two houses for homeless veterans in Ballston Spa.** Over the past three years we have been able to give back over \$22,000 to this charity. Registration by October 9th is \$25, and day of race is \$30. The Run begins and ends at Kelley Park near the Village Pool. Registrations can be made on Active.com or by sending a check to the Ballston Spa United Methodist Church at 101 Milton Ave., Ballston Spa, NY 12020. More information and registration forms can be accessed at www.ballstonspaumchurch.org/falling-leaves-5k-run.html





Fair Trade Sale

The next Fair Trade sale will be October 20th after worship service just outside the Connections Cafe. Decaf and regular coffee and tea will be offered.

Regional Food Bank Trip

We will be heading to Latham to sort the abundance of donations at the Regional Food Bank on October 6th. Dress comfortably and bring a bag lunch to church. We will gather downstairs after Coffee Hour to eat, and then carpool to leave by 12:30. Afterwards we will stop for ice cream and fellowship at Stewart's. All ages are strongly encouraged to help. The sign-up sheet will be located on the Mission Table in the Connection Café. Contact: Linda Sheeran – 518-885-1729, or lsheeran6@gmail.com.

Rummage Sale Coming

Please mark your calendars for a rummage sale at the church on October 19th, from 8 am to 3 pm. Items are always needed so when you are doing your fall cleaning please consider donating your treasures to us. Your donations may be dropped off on Monday, October 14th or Wednesday, October 16th between 4 and 7 pm. Help is always needed, so please sign up in the Connections Café before or after worship 288.

Special Mission Opportunity!

From Bill Mudge

"So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight." Acts 1:6-9 NRSV

In a few weeks, we will carry the Gospel message "to the ends of the earth"! I will be traveling on your behalf halfway around the world to Kenya and Uganda to witness to the life giving, life changing love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord - and you are going with me! Don't start packing a duffle bag, I am inviting you to go with me in a spiritual support capacity. I believe that God has some deep lessons to teach me as I travel, I need your prayers. I believe that God is going to do powerful things in and through our team as we preach and pray and learn from the Body of Christ in Kenya and Uganda, I will bring these lessons and blessing back to our family.



Bill Mudge

The trip will cost around \$4,500.00 but I hope to raise significantly more than that! The pastor that will be hosting us, Rev. Davis Mutovou is, in my opinion, the Apostle Paul of Uganda. Davis trains pastors and plants churches all over Uganda and now Kenya! If we raise enough money, I would like to provide Rev. Mutovou with a replacement for his dying automobile. The team in ministry with Davis also publishes and distributes theological books to every student so that they have resources for preaching and teaching - that publishing fund needs to be replenished too. This is an exciting opportunity; will you pray about joining me in this mission?

In Grace and Peace, Pastor Bill Mudge

A message from our District Superintendent Debbie Earthrowl:

Some of you may recall that we received an offering at Bill's farewell service that went to that publishing fund. How awesome to know that the funds have already been helpful. Let's continue that powerful witness through our dear friend and pastor who continues to also offer ministry and support to our district.

If you would like to be part of this ministry by offering financial support, you may send funds to our Adirondack District Office, P.O. Box 590, Glens Falls, NY 12801. Checks may be made payable either to Rev. Bill Mudge or Baldwinsville UMC, with "Uganda mission" in the memo line.

Thank you so much! What a great opportunity to be part of the Methodist movement in another part of the world! Then, we'll try to schedule an opportunity for Bill, and maybe others on the mission team, to come to the district to share their learnings with us

Redbird Mission Collection Begins



The Mission team at Endwell United Methodist Church is again coordinating the collection and delivery of shoeboxes for the Red Bird Mission, located in Beverly, Kentucky. The Red Bird Missionary Conference is one of three United Methodist missionary conferences in the United States. It is the most comprehensive mission effort of the United Methodist Church, providing outreach and services that minister to the whole person (spiritual, physical, social, and economic).

In December of 2018, four volunteers drove two 26-foot trucks to the mission in Kentucky. They transported over 2,700 shoeboxes, over 60 bedspreads, 110 sheet sets, 300 bags of clothing, as well as numerous books, school supplies, and cleaning supplies.

The need is even greater this year. Our goal for 2019 is to transport at least 3,600 shoeboxes and other supplies to the Red Bird Mission the first week of December. We are asking participating churches to drop off their filled shoeboxes to one of two locations: **The Upper New York Conference Center**, located at 7481 Henry Clay Boulevard in Liverpool or the **Endwell United Methodist Church**, located at 3301 Watson Boulevard in Endwell between November 1st and November 26th. Also, arrangements to have items picked up can be made by e-mailing Dave at Dalexander4@stny.rr.com or you can drop off your items at a church in your District. We are looking for churches in the Upper New York Conference that are willing to be collection sites for their respective districts. If your church is willing to be a collection site, please e-mail Dave and your district office. A storage site in Endwell, New York has been secured to store items for the trip. We have already received over 70 shoeboxes and numerous bags of clothing.

There are two different styles of shoeboxes-adult and children. Items needed for the adult shoeboxes include: a comb or brush, shampoo, hand lotion, deodorant, a toothbrush and toothpaste, chap stick, a full size bar of soap, a washcloth, disposable razors, shaving cream, nail care supplies, socks, a pair of work gloves or mittens, and a winter hat or scarf.

Items needed for children's shoeboxes include: two or three small toys, two or three items needed for school, a comb or brush, shampoo, hand lotion, a child's toothbrush and toothpaste, chap stick, a bar of soap, a washcloth, a small flashlight, socks, a pair of mittens, and a winter hat. Christian bookmarks, wristbands, and other spiritual items are also appreciated.

The Red Bird Mission would like the items put in **clear, plastic** shoebox sized storage containers with locking lids. Please **do not wrap** the boxes. They would like the boxes **labeled** with the intended recipient-man, woman, boy, or girl. The mission also needs **new** pillows, **new** bedspreads, **new** sheet sets and **new** blankets for full and twin beds, and **new** bath towels. Books, school supplies, toys, and cleaning supplies are also in need.

Donations of money can be made payable to the Endwell United Methodist Church to help cover the cost of the truck rental, fuel, and lodging and meals for the volunteers who will deliver the shoeboxes and other donations to the Red Bird Mission in Kentucky the first week in December. All funds will be deposited into a dedicated account for this mission. A suggested donation is at least \$1 per shoebox. Please **do not put money inside the shoeboxes**. Place the money in an envelope and attach it to the shoebox.

Please consider being a part of this vital mission. If you have questions please contact Dave Alexander at [607-743-8955](tel:607-743-8955) or Endwell United Methodist Church at [607-754-5735](tel:607-754-5735). Blessings, Dave Alexander, Coordinator

Church Happenings

Please Help Us Out

We are required to keep records of life events of our parishioners. At this point everything important is in paper files. We have a new software program to help keep track of these important issues. It needs to be correct. We are asking that you complete a form giving us this information (and yes, the year of your birth is important!) so it may be put into the system correctly. After the program has been populated you will receive a print-out of what we have so you may check our information. This form can be located in the sanctuary by the bulletins and in the Connections Café. When completed it may be either placed in the collection plate, placed in the Office Manager's mailbox in the Connections Café, or returned directly to the church office. If you have

completed the form, thank you. If not, please do so this week. Your help in getting us the information is greatly appreciated. Thank you for all of your help. Sue Cramer, Office Manager

Voice and Bell Choir News

Don't you just love our music program?! Would you like to become a part of it? Additional singers and ringers are needed and welcome. No experience necessary. There will be voice choir practice every Thursday night at 6:30 pm in the Connections Café with the exception of October 31 and November 28. Bell choir practice is after church in the sanctuary every Sunday except October 27 and November 3. Please join us!

District News

2019 Annual Church Conference Coming Soon

Our District Superintendent, the Rev. Debbie Earthrowl, will be presiding at all of the conferences again this year. Ours is scheduled for Sunday, October 13th at 11 am. She is looking forward to spending time with you.

Rev. Debbie will also be meeting with the SPRC (Staff Parish Relations Committee) immediately following the church conference.

Safe Sanctuaries training to be held Oct. 20 at South Glens Falls UMC

The standard Safe Sanctuaries training will be held from **2 PM to 5 PM Sunday, Oct. 20** at the South Glens Falls UMC, 15 Maplewood Parkway South Glens Falls (12803) Please arrive by 1:45 AM to register. The training will follow the curriculum developed by the Upper New York Annual Conference Safe Sanctuaries Team, educating those involved in ministries who work with children and vulnerable adults on risks and prevention strategies related to abuse.

The training will be facilitated by Arlene Schmidt and Stephanie Strom.

Please register with Carrie Boyer in the District Office adirondackdistrict@unyumc.org or (518) 480-4866.

District Workshop Day: Oct. 19 in Plattsburgh

The Adirondack District Leadership Team will be holding a second District Workshop Day, "Informed to Transform," on Saturday, Oct. 19 at the Plattsburgh UMC, 127 Beekman St., Plattsburgh. We will begin with registration at 8:30 AM and a time of worship at 9 AM. There will be three 75-minute blocks of workshops, and lunch will be served. The day will conclude with worship and Holy Communion at 2:30 PM.

The cost will be \$10. Pastor Kelly will again be doing trainings for Staff Parish and for Stewardship.

As the day draws nearer, we will be posting workshop descriptions and a schedule.

If you have questions, or ideas on topics for workshops, please be in touch with Carrie Boyer at the District Office, adirondackdistrict@unyumc.org or (518) 480-4866.

Skye Farm Work Day is Oct. 19

WHO? All are welcome - campers, parents/guardians, grandparents, retreat participants, church goers, retired folks, and more!

WHAT? Volunteer Work Day - Projects such as: clearing trails, cleaning, simple demolition, opening/closing cabins and program spaces, painting, setting/cleaning up program equipment, basic building, raking, organizing - if you have specific skills, please call ahead and we'll do our best to accommodate!

WHY? Help prepare the sites to be ready to welcome summer campers, families, and retreat participants, so they will be ready to learn that there is a God, God loves them, and God wants a relationship with them! You can be God's helper in transforming lives.

World Communion Sunday is Oct. 6

United Methodists will join Christians of different traditions to celebrate World Communion Sunday on October 6, 2019. In The United Methodist Church, congregations will also join together to receive a Special Sunday offering that helps students from around the world reach their full potential through scholarships, training and mentoring. The World Communion Sunday offering is one of six special offerings received throughout the year. Look for a special envelope in your bulletin that week; we hope you can support disadvantaged students wanting education and training.

**Early Response Team Disaster training and Team Leader Training
Nov. 2 and Nov. 3**

A basic Early Response Team (ERT) disaster training course will be offered **Saturday**, Nov. 2 at the Shenendehowa UMC, 971 Route 146, Clifton Park (12065). The class will start at 8:30 AM with registration and coffee and will conclude at 5 PM. The course will be facilitated by Rev. Carl Shepard and Marybeth (Beth) Ingalls. Both are experienced in disaster relief and are approved United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) ERT Trainers. We guarantee you will be blessed by these two people and well prepared for the field by the end of the day. If



you are able to attend, please register at www.bit.ly/2019CliftonPark The website provides additional information prior to the registration submission.

In addition, Mike Block and Marybeth, both from the conference center Mission HUB, will hold a Team Leader Training (TLT) on **Sunday, Nov. 3** from 1 PM to 5 PM at the same location. This class will help you become not only qualified but also competent to lead an UMVIM team for disaster response, medical missions, youth trips, and even international mission trips. This course also includes fund-raising ideas and a suggested timeline for team preparations, especially for large groups taking trips within a year.

If you have questions, please contact Mike Block mikeblock@unyumc.org or Carl Shepard umccarl@twc.com

I'll Get There!

A little girl, late for Sunday school, was running as fast as she could toward church. As she ran, she prayed, "Dear Jesus, please don't make me late for Sunday school." Just as she was within sight of the church, she tripped and fell, bruising her knee and dirtying her clothes. Undaunted, the little girl got up and started running again, this time praying, "Dear Jesus, please don't make me late for Sunday school, but please don't push me, either."



- 10/1 Carter Natale
- 10/2 Gary Wilson, Cassandra Totten
- 10/3 Gary Ziele Jr.
- 10/6 Eric Arnold, Christine Thompson
- 10/12 Gordon Willey
- 10/14 Gary Persons, Jonathan Warner
- 10/15 Ron Solotruck, Kim Ferguson, Mike Cramer
- 10/19 Nancy Cummings, Justin Sanders
- 10/21 Brooke Doyle, Trisha Heffernan
- 10/23 Katie Cummings, Braiden Schmidt
- 10/25 Mary Ann Sardina, Debbie Costanzo, Connor Melton, Isabella Austin
- 10/27 Marcie Wilson
- 10/28 Kristopher Kidwell
- 10/29 Sarah De La Cruz, Emily Grentzer, Madeline Morrison

10/31 Annabelle Morrison



- 10/2 Janet & George Mallette
- 10/4 Donna & Stan Lockwood, Carey & Kirk Shoen
- 10/17 Dolores & George Wilson
- 10/28 Sue & Mike Cramer

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



October is Pastor Appreciation Month

When was the last time you said thank you to your pastor, or shared how a message affected

you? Or did something special for your pastor?
Take this month to show your appreciation. Please

write her a note to let her know how much you
appreciate all she does.



Newsletter Deadline:

**The deadline date for the November issue of The Tidings newsletter is October 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

October 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

Ballstonpaumchurch.org

"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors."