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**Staff Parish Chair**  
*Joyce Garlock*

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**Trustee Chair**  
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**Youth Group  
Leaders**  
*Melissa Taylor*  
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any address  
changes and/or if  
you no longer wish  
to receive this  
publication.**

# The Tidings

**November 2019**

**Ballston Spa United Methodist Church**



**101 Milton Avenue, Ballston Spa, NY 12020**

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## November Musings

Autumn Greetings to all,

I take great delight in this season when maple leaves display their vibrant colors, the air is crisper, and creatures scurry about preparing to hibernate. I feel energized in autumn, always ready to take a walk and enjoy the glory of God's Creation. When the frigid temps, snow, ice and sleet of winter come along, I am not at all ready (or willing) to take walks.

I was musing about that this week when I came across a reading called "Walking 101 for Christians". I have read through it more than once now, finding it to be a simple but solid reminder of what my life, and yours, is meant to be about as followers of Jesus. (This reading comes from Knowing God 101: A Guide to Theology in Plain Language, p.238, by Bruce Bickeland Stan Jantz.)

*"Walking is basic.* We aren't instructed to fly through the Christian life; we aren't told to dash or even jog. It's a walk - slow, steady, deliberate, and doable. If God had wanted something more flamboyant or drastic, God could have arranged it.

*Walking has a beginning.* Start at point A. For us, that's at the point of inviting Jesus Christ to be our Savior. A person who is brand new in Christ knows little about him, but that is where we all have to start.

*Walking requires effort.* Your mind can think about walking, but unless your leg muscles go to work, you aren't going to budge. The same principle applies in walking the Christian life. Want progress? Then you'll need to expend some energy.

*Walking takes you on a journey.* Once you harness your energy, you start moving closer to where you want to go. Maturity will not happen all at once; you learn and grow day by day. It is a process.

*Walking takes you to a destination.* When you walk, you get someplace. A Christian's destination is to become like Christ. In the process of getting to our destination, we will glorify and enjoy God and be used by him for good in His world."

This kind of walking, moving forward on my spiritual journey - now that is something I am very excited to do all year long. You won't see me out walking around Juniper Drive much when winter settles in - nope! But you can find me nestled inside my home - or down the road at the Ballston Spa UM Church, hopefully with several of you, sharing in the journey together, growing closer to God.

Walking with Jesus, and all of you,

*Pastor Kelly*

## Mission and Outreach News



### ***Community Supports the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Falling Leaves 5K Charity Run ---- In Excess of \$7,000 to be Donated to Veterans & Community Housing Coalition***

The Ballston Spa UMC would like to thank its 31 sponsors and also those local businesses that provided a total of 50 gift certificates valued at over \$1,700 as door prizes for the 170 race participants. Because of their generosity, we expect 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. **Since the inception of the Falling Leaves 5K Charity Run in 2007, we have been able to give back over \$54,000 to local charities.** Although the number of race participants is down slightly this year due to competition from

another nearby race on the same day, the 13th Annual 5K was successful because of the significant number of repeat runners we have who enjoy the community atmosphere in scenic and friendly Ballston Spa. We greatly appreciate their unwavering support!!

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, Edward Jones Investments (both the Ballston Spa and Saratoga Springs Offices), and Rainbow International Restoration 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, Recovery Sports Grill, Coldwell Banker Prime Properties—Joyce Garlock, 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, Malta Animal Hospital, Mangino Chevrolet Buick GMC, Mayfair Jewelers, Next Door Kitchen & Bar, O'Brien Pharmacy, RuthCaswell.Arbonne.com, and T-Shirt Graphics as Elm Leaf Cluster Sponsors at \$100. Businesses providing gift certificates for the runners were as follows: A Bead Just So, Anna's Flowers, Ballston Spa Country Club, Beverly's Eatery, Biscossi's Pizza Time Restaurant, Briarwood Florist, Corina's Jewelry & Fine Crafts, Curtis Lumber, Daisy Dry Goods Antiques and Gifts, Dehn's Flowers, Double M Haunted Hayride, Dunning Street Station Bar & Grill, Fleet Feet-Malta, Galway Golf Club, Gore Mountain, Inspirational Touch Massage Therapy, Art Work by Kimberly (Kilaarts), Lakeridge Restaurant, Mom & Pops Diner, MyGym, Nomad Coffee & Crepes, Ovations Salon, Pizza Etc., Pizza Works, Ribbon Café, Route 50 Diner, RuthCaswell.Arbonne.com, Sanders Meat Market, Straight Edge Barbershop, Sunset Grill, Target, 13 North Restaurant, the Village Barber, and the Whitehouse Restaurant, . Also, Stewart's Shops provided bagels and Price Chopper/Market 32 and Target provided gift cards to purchase water, fruit, and other refreshments and paper products 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. Our local Ballston Spa and area businesses are very supportive of the Falling Leaves 5K and our run would not be possible without their generous donations.**

We sincerely thank the many BSUMC volunteers that provided baked goods or helped with the race, and also those that participated by registering to run/walk. We would also like to thank the staff and veterans of the VCHC Program who volunteered or walked/ran the day of the race. Finally, we would also like to thank the many organizations that made our race a success by assisting us to put on the race October 12<sup>th</sup>: including the Village of Ballston Spa, especially Jeff Gawrys and the DPW crew and Chief of Police-David Bush; David Forbes of the Town of Milton; and the Saratoga Sheriff's Office. Without everyone's help the race would not have been another successful year for the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Falling Leaves 5K.

**5K Race Committee:** Gary Wilson, Lynne Blake, Stan Lockwood, Betsy Sillars and Alaina Greco



### **Fair Trade Sale**

The next Fair Trade sale will be November 10th after worship service just outside the Connections Cafe. Decaf and regular coffee and tea will be offered. Dark chocolate bars will be available. Thanks to all who support this mission ministry.

### **Regional Food Bank Trip**

Thank you to Dorothy Collins, Alaina Greco, Jan and George Mallette, Cherrie Sanders, Justin Sanders, Carrie Sheeran, John and Linda Sheeran, and Mark Warner who volunteered at the Regional Food Bank in Latham on October 6th. It was a pleasure working together, and all for a great cause. How lucky we were that Guptill's was still open. Ice cream and fellowship was enjoyed by all!

### **Rummage Sale Was a Success**

Our Rummage Sale that was held on October 19<sup>th</sup> raised \$974.77. Thanks to all of the people who gave so generously of their time, talents, and treasures to make this a success.

### **"Adopt A Family" Mission**



It's time again for the "Adopt A Family" Mission. This is something we do every year to provide a Christmas for a local family. There is a tree in the Connections Café with the names of four children and their parents on tags. Please take a tag to fill a child's Christmas wish. Gifts are due back by Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. They should be unwrapped with the tag attached to the gift. There are boxes by the bulletin board in which to place the gifts. If there are any questions, please see Mary Drake. Thank you in advance for helping four children have a better Christmas.

### **Ballston Spa Ecumenical Thanksgiving Bag Ministry**

Once again, the First Presbyterian Church of Ballston Spa would like to invite you to participate in the Ballston Spa Ecumenical Thanksgiving Bag Ministry. We ask for people to fill the Thanksgiving Bags. We will provide empty bags that have an attached list of suggested items to fill the bags. They will be available Oct. 21. COLLECTION SUNDAY will be Nov. 24, 11:30 am - 2 pm - this is when people can bring in their donated bags and items. DISTRIBUTION MONDAY will be Nov. 25, 3-6 pm - this is when we will distribute the bags to those who signed up to receive a bag.



Thank you all for your participation in this ecumenical ministry.  
*Justina Danison*, Church Administrator  
First Presbyterian Church of Ballston Spa

### **Thank You!**

Dear Friends,

The dear people you just helped with your gift to UMCOR may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be – *Thank you!*

Since 1940, UMCOR has served as the humanitarian agency of The United Methodist Church, providing disaster response and relief to areas impacted by natural and man-made disasters around the world.

And through your financial support, you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships as UMCOR responds to increasingly-frequent and destructive storms – sharing 100% of donated funds with those in need!

Together, may we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women, and children of all ethnic, racial, cultural, and national backgrounds and to demonstrate genuine love for our neighbors.

Grace and Peace,  
Thomas G. Kemper, General Secretary  
Roland Fernandes, COO and General Treasurer

## Church Happenings

### 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 November 28. Bell choir practice is after church in the sanctuary every Sunday except November 3. Please join us!



### November First Friday and Saturday

Join us on Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> from 5:30 to 8 pm and Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2 to 5 pm for some free poster painting classes. This will be held in the Fellowship Room. All supplies are provided and there will be light refreshments. All are welcome!

### 5K Thank You Dinner

The first 5K Thank You Dinner will be Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup> at Henry's Tavern and will begin at 6 PM. Sign-up sheets will be available in early November so we can contact the restaurant on Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> regarding the number of diners. We will order off the menu the night of the dinner. Please contact either Melody Babcock (518.490.2015) or Stan Lockwood (518.885.1552) with any questions.



### Mark Your Calendars for the December First Friday Event!

Every holiday season for over 30 years, the Ballston Spa Business and Professional Association has presented the Ballston Spa Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting in the village. This is being held on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. The parade, tree lighting and downtown activities (including here at the BSUMC!) draw hundreds of spectators from all over the area. Last year's parade included over 40 floats, several marching groups, and 8 fire companies. Following the parade, Santa, with help from the Eagle Matt Lee Fire Company, leads everyone in a countdown as the Christmas tree in Wiswall Park is lit for the season. Throughout the village, high school musicians and singers perform on the sidewalks while shops, museums and restaurants are open with festive music and activities. As always, there will be activities here at the church so come join the festivities! More information will be coming soon!

## District News

### Early Response Team Disaster training and Team Leader Training to be held in Clifton Park on 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](http://www.bit.ly/2019CliftonPark) The website provides additional information prior to the registration submission.



United Methodist Church



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 a 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](mailto:mikeblock@unyumc.org) or Carl Shepard [umccarl@twc.com](mailto:umccarl@twc.com)

### **Church Finance Training**

Calling all Treasurers, Financial secretaries, Finance Committee Chairs, Pastors, and anyone contemplating filling one of these roles!!!

#### **Saturday, November 9**

9AM - Noon at Adirondack Community Church, Lake Placid OR

3PM - 6PM at Saratoga Springs UMC

Rev. Sue Ranous, Ordained Deacon, CPA, and chair of our Conference Committee on Finance and Administration, is coming to our district to offer church finance training.

Topics to be addressed include:

- Financial standards for local churches
- How to prepare a financial statement
- Bookkeeping simplified
- Payroll for non-clergy employees
- 1099 vs. W-2
- Clergy taxes
- EZRA preparation
- Audits
- Restricted vs. non-restricted funds

This is a great opportunity to get up-to-date on current IRS and UMC requirements, and to find some more efficient ways to be good stewards of the finances of our churches.

Please register with Carrie Boyer. Call (518) 480-4866 or send an email to [adirondackdistrict@unyumc.org](mailto:adirondackdistrict@unyumc.org)



Veterans Day is a U.S. legal holiday dedicated to American veterans of all wars, and Veterans Day 2019 occurs on Monday, November 11. In 1918, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, was declared between the Allied nations and Germany in World War I, then known as "the Great War."

Did you know? Red poppies, a symbol of World War I from their appearance in the beloved poem "In Flanders Fields" by John McCrae, are sold to raise money for veterans or worn in the lapel as a tribute.

*Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.*



11/1 Ronald McCumber  
 11/3 Mary Drake  
 11/5 Joanne O'Connor  
 11/6 Emily Skillings  
 11/7 Conrad Dorau, Jr.  
 11/9 Adam Sibley  
 11/16 Debra Winslow  
 11/17 Dolores Wilson  
 11/21 Ruth Persons  
 11/22 Helen Senecal  
 11/23 Marion Capasso  
 11/23 Janet Mallette  
 11/27 Kevin Blake  
 11/27 Jerry Litchfield  
 11/29 Robby Philps  
 11/30 Claire Trumbull

*Happy Anniversary*

11/5 Mary & Ed Sutton  
 11/9 Kathy & Bill Haege  
 11/19 Kimberly & Ronald McCumber

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

### Whew!

On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, a Sunday school teacher asked her class of children what they would be thankful for during the coming celebration. One of the boys eagerly responded, "I'll be thankful I'm not a turkey."

Seeing our Father in everything makes life one long thanksgiving and gives a rest of heart.

-Hannah Whithall-Smith



### Heaven Bound

He was one of those lads who seemed to keep getting into mischief. It frustrated his mother greatly. Finally, one day when he was being particularly troublesome, his mother posed this question to him: "How do you ever expect to get into heaven?"

The lively boy thought a few seconds, then said, "Well, I'll just run in and out and keep slamming the door until St. Peter says, 'For heaven's sake, Jimmy, come in or stay out.'"

-From the web site, *You Make Me Laugh*



The worst moment for the atheist is when he is really thankful and has no one to thank.

-G.K. Chesterton





**Newsletter Deadline:**

**The deadline date for the December issue of The Tidings newsletter is November 20<sup>th</sup>. You may e-mail your article to [bsumc@albany.twcbc.com](mailto: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

*November 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](mailto:bsumc@albany.twcbc.com)

**Web Site**

[Ballstonspaumchurch.org](http://Ballstonspaumchurch.org)

*Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.*