

Pastor
Rev. Kelly Warner

Office Manager
Susan Cramer

Custodian
Tom Chase

Music Ministry
Cathy King
Mark Warner
Terri Knowlton

Christian Education
Marcy Wilson

Church Council Chair
Ilah Sisson Walser

Financial Secretary
Cherrie Sanders

**Lay Leader/Worship
Chair**
Ruth Persons

Staff Parish Chair
Joyce Garlock

Treasurer
Lynne Blake

Trustee Chair
To Be Decided

**Youth Group
Leaders**
Melissa Taylor
Cherrie Sanders

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

The Tidings

January 2020

Ballston Spa United Methodist Church



101 Milton Avenue, Ballston Spa, NY 12020

January Musings

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Bartholomew T. Churchmouse. I live in the Ballston Spa United Methodist Church. It's important for me to share what I have seen this year.

During the year, a need was recognized for a new audio-video system. People couldn't hear in the sanctuary, and truth be told, I couldn't either. Except for the high screech when Pastor Kelly was under the speaker. A group of people saw the need and decided to do something about it. And if I may be so bold as to use a quote, "It was good".

A need was recognized for a new sign to attract people to come to church. Again, a group of people saw the need and decided to do something about it. Now there is a new sign and each week I look forward to reading the message placed on it. And again, "It was good".

A need was recognized for a new computer...and software to put on it, for the church office. People came together. A new computer was purchased. The new software was purchased. The Office Manager was very grateful. And again, "It was good".

The Sunday School Rooms are showing lots of activity. The children have baked, and crafted, doing for others and having a good time doing it. And, "It was good".

One of my most favorite things about living here is the music. The choir and the bells always bring joy and gladness to my heart. And, "It was very good".

Now people are coming together to work out a solution for the church to become handicapped accessible. Following your past performances, I'm sure it will be good.

You are a church of compassionate people, looking for ways to make things good. I am proud and happy to make the Ballston Spa United Methodist Church my home.

Bartholomew T. Churchmouse

Mission and Outreach News



Fair Trade Sale

The January Fair Trade sale will be on Sunday, January 12, 2020 and will include coffee, tea, hot cocoa and dark chocolate bars. Many thanks to those who support this ministry.

“Adopt A Family” Mission



From Mary Drake: Gifts are delivered to Family and Children Services, I thought I was going to have to make two trips. Four children are going to have a wonderful Christmas, and the parents will be able to have a nice dinner with the grocery store gift cards they are receiving. I WANT TO THANK THE CONGREGATION OF THE BALLSTON SPA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH for your generosity in making this mission a big success.

5K Thank You Dinner

The January 5K Thank You Dinner will be Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 6:00 PM in the Connections Cafe. We will order two or three platters from Augie's Italian Family Style Restaurant and will also provide salad greens and bottled water. The cost will be \$13 or \$14 depending on the number attending. Please sign up and make payment to Stan Lockwood (518.885.1552) or Melody Babcock (518.490.2015) by Sunday, January 12th if you wish to attend. Anyone can attend these dinners which we organize as a way to say thank you to the generous sponsors and supporters of our Falling Leaves 5K Run.

Church Happenings

Poinsettias for the Altar

Thank you to all who placed poinsettias on the altar. This enhances our enjoyment and remembers the loved ones, past and present, who mean so much to us.



Annual Roast Beef Dinner and Bake Sale

The Annual Roast Beef Dinner and Bake Sale was held on Saturday, December 7 in the Fellowship Room. The dinner was well attended and made \$1,913. The accompanying bake sale made \$115. Thank you to all who donated their time and talent to make each of these a success.

Results of Consecration Sunday

We received commitments from 36 people. The total amount of their commitment is \$71,376.00. We received eight new givers and nine people increased their pledge from last year.

Thank you to everyone who have committed to giving for 2020.
Cherrie Sanders, Financial Secretary

Sunday School News

The Sunday School performed the Christmas Pageant on December 15th. It was a job well-done. There is nothing as heart-warming as children telling the story of Jesus. Thank you to the students and their teachers.



Youth Group Activities

The Youth Group have had an exciting month, full of fun, food and fellowship. They worked on the First Friday festivities and had two group get-togethers with movies, games and snacks. On January 7th from 6 to 8:30 is pajama and pancake night. We will also watch the movie “Abominable”. Bring the youth to join the fun and bring a friend!

Audit Will Soon Begin

After January 1, 2020, members of the Audit Team will begin to contact BSUMC church treasurers to arrange a time to review their books.

Team Highlights

Starting this month there will be short Team Highlights during the third Sunday of the month's service. This will let everyone know what is going on with that team or committee and who is involved in it. It will be a good way to be informed about what is happening in our church.

Council on Finance and Administration offers handbooks on website

Your Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CF&A) has been working on developing the CF&A section of our Conference website. Some new arrivals on that section of the web-page include handbooks. The topics covered by these various handbooks is:

- Clergy Tax
- Finance and Standards
- Payroll
- Clergy Compensation
- Internal Church Audits
- Ministry Shares
- Two-part Handbook with multiple resources

You can locate these handbooks on the Conference website (unyumc.org), selecting "Finance" under "Resources" and then select Conference Council on Finance and Administration (on right-hand sidebar).



1/2	Stan Lockwood
1/2	Tyler Parliapiano
1/4	Stephen Kidwell
1/5	Lynne Blake
1/5	Shawn Taylor
1/7	John Staulters
1/8	Pat Brewster
1/8	Jim Cope
1/11	Heather Mason
1/12	Billy Mason
1/14	Shirley MacMillin
1/16	Debbie Miller
1/17	John Cummings
1/20	Thelma Armer
1/22	Sherry Grentzer
1/24	Marilynn Peterson
1/24	Riley Schmidt
1/24	Jake Taylor
1/25	Sebastian Trumbull
1/30	Debbie Thompson

1/31 George Wilson Jr.

Acting Like Jesus

Hal Brady of Dallas, Texas, tells the story of a "young man who came to a pastor and said he wanted to be a Christian. The pastor instructed him to read the Book of Acts as preparation for this important decision. Weeks passed, but the young man did not return. The pastor began to think he had made a serious mistake in his suggestion. Finally, almost a year later, the young man appeared. When the surprised pastor asked where he had been, the man said, 'you told me to read the Book of Acts. Every time I started to read it, it told me to do something. So, I stopped reading and went and did it. I have just been too busy to get back.'"

Brady adds: "That's the idea – thinking and acting like Jesus!"

Skeletons in church

Q: Why can't skeletons play music at a church?

A: They have no organs.

The Greatest Comedian in the Bible

Q: Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?

A: Samson. He brought the house down.

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



Newsletter Deadline:

The deadline date for the February issue of The Tidings newsletter is January 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

January 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.