

# The Tidings

April, 2016

## Ballston Spa United Methodist Church

101 Milton Avenue, Ballston Spa, NY 12020

---

### Pastor

Rev. Patti Molik

### Minister of Music

Cathy King

### Asst. Minister of Music

Kathy Haege

### Office Assistant

Kelly Schmidt

### Custodian

Charity Buckbee

### Lay Leaders

Kerri Preston

David Lotto

### Lay Member UNYAC

Linda Sheeran

### SPRC Chair

Pat Brewster

### Treasurer

Lynne Blake

### Finance Chair

Donald VanVranken

### Trustee Chair

George Mallette

### Christian Education

Grace Paster

### Church Council Chair

Gary Wilson

---

### Church Office Phone

885-6886

### Office Hours

Mon., Tues., Wed. & Thurs.

9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

### Pastor's Cell Phone

281-4453

---

### E-Mail

[bsumc@albany.twcbc.com](mailto:bsumc@albany.twcbc.com)

### Pastor's E-Mail

[pastorpatti07@gmail.com](mailto:pastorpatti07@gmail.com)

### Web Site

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

---

### Sunday Worship

10:00 a.m.

4-3 Worship/Sunday School	10:00 AM
4-3 Preparation for Youth Dinner (FR)	after worship
4-3 Food Bank Outreach in Latham	1:00-3:00 PM
4-6 Hand To Plow (P)	6:30 PM
<b>4-7 Trustees (P)</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>
<b>4-9 Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser for Youth Mission Trip (FR)</b>	<b>4:30-6:30</b>
4-10 Worship/Sunday School	10:00 AM
<b>4-12 Finance</b>	<b>7:15 PM</b>
<b>4-13 Church Council (P)</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
4-14 Dinner from Front Street Deli (P)	6:30 PM
4-17 Worship/Sunday School	10:00 AM
4-17 Fair Trade Sale	after worship
4-21 Prayer Shawl (P)	6:30 PM
4-23 Safe Sanctuary Training (S&P)	9:00 AM-12:30 PM
4-23 Free Lunch (FR)	11:30 AM
4-24 Worship/Sunday School	10:00 AM
4-24 Embury Outreach "Hymn Sing"	3:00-6:00 PM
4-24 Prayer and Healing Service (P)	6:30 PM
<b>4-27 SPRC (P)</b>	<b>6:45 PM</b>

S=Sanctuary, FR=Fellowship Room, P=Parlor, CH=Church House,  
HSR=High School Room, SS=Sunday School Area





## LIBRARY CORNER

### Love to Stay-- Sex, Grace and Commitment By Adam Hamilton

Adam Hamilton talks about the Meaning and Mission of Marriage, the Changing Face of Marriage, and Eros, Agape, & the Vision of Marriage. Hamilton draws on an extensive survey of thousands of couples and singles, the latest research in the field, wisdom from the Bible, and stories from his own ministry and marriage to explore what it takes to create and sustain healthy, meaningful romantic relationships across the course of a lifetime.

As he mentions falling in love is easy but staying in love takes courage, hard work, and lots of grace. In his compelling, conversational style Adam Hamilton explores the ups, downs, and how-to's of marriage and how, with God's help, we can make love last.

He is senior pastor of The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas one of the fastest growing, most highly visible churches in the country. This book will give each of us, married or single, moments to think about our lives and relationships.

Gary Perkins

\*\*\*\*\*



### Birthdays

- 4-1 Karen Fogg
- 4-3 Tara Conley; Ruth Ann Caswell; Daniel Sansone
- 4-5 Jacob Hott
- 4-6 Neil Heffernan; Joshua Parlapiano
- 4-7 Andrew Paster
- 4-9 George Mallette; Ethan Paster
- 4-10 Christopher Sutton
- 4-12 Wayne Harrison
- 4-14 Paul MacMillin; Jennifer Sutherland
- 4-16 David Staulters; Shelli Wolsey
- 4-17 Eric Thompson
- 4-18 Anna Taylor
- 4-19 Mia Lawrence
- 4-21 Jennifer Taylor
- 4-25 Carey Shoen; Benjamin Skillings
- 4-29 Madison LeRoy
- 4-30 Derek Costanzo

### Anniversaries

- 4-5 Christine & Eric Thompson
- 4-7 Jeff & Judy Wainwright
- 4-11 Sheri & Jerry Litchfield
- 4-14 Richard & Melody Babcock
- 4-16 Dick & Peggy Traver
- 4-20 Dan & Jilly Sansone
- 4-29 Jeffrey & Lynne Blake
- 4-30 Kristen & Lance Evans

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

Greetings in the Name of the one who loves us eternally,

As I type this letter, I am watching the results of hatred in the world. Once again the world has experienced such extreme hatred by a few people who want to cause great acts of death and injury. You might be saying to yourself, what is the world coming to? I believe that every generation of people has asked this same question. You see, evil has been with us since sin entered the world in the Garden of Eden.

Hatred is not new to us, it just seems to get more exposure than it has in the past. Technology has us right there experiencing the results immediately. Sometimes before the population of people can process what just occurred.

Jesus taught us that humankind will make decisions that will result in such actions as long as we have evil in our hearts. Let us remember that Jesus came to this world and died for all peoples. So the questions might be: If Jesus came to save us from this sin, why do things like this continue to happen. I can tell you this, it happens because God gave us the ability to have free will.

A form of evil will be in the world until Jesus returns and reigns for a millennium. I know some of you might say that I don't believe this!! My words of encouragement would be, **read the end of the Book and pray!** I would suggest that while we are alive, we continually share God's love, grace and salvation with all whom we encounter.

Let's take a stand, church; for the sake of peace in the world, and help direct others to find peace in their hearts that only comes from knowing Jesus personally.

Until next time,

Rev. Patti

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Extra Hands and Feet**

"Money is really another pair of feet to walk where Christ would walk; money is another pair of hands to heal and feed and bless the desperate families of the earth. In other words, money is my other self. Money can go where I do not have time to go, where I do not have a passport to go. My money can go in my place and heal and bless and feed and help. An individual's money is an extension of oneself."

Dr. Bruce Larson (excerpt from Better Families newsletter, 1998)

**Does the office have your e-mail address?**

Contact the office at [bsumc@albany.twcbc.com](mailto:bsumc@albany.twcbc.com) so we can add you to our mailing list. Please let us know if you'd like to receive **The Tidings** electronically. Also, remember to visit our website ([www.ballstonspaumchurch.org](http://www.ballstonspaumchurch.org)) and find BSUMC on **Facebook** so you can keep up-to-date on all of the good things happening at our church!

\*\*\*\*\*

**BSUMC EMAIL PRAYER MINISTRY**

If you are interested in being a member of our BSUMC email prayer ministry, please contact Peggy Traver at [pchurchmouse@earthlink.net](mailto:pchurchmouse@earthlink.net).

Anyone may also submit prayer requests in this way, but be certain to get permission from the individual or family concerned.

\*\*\*\*\*



**Fair Trade** items will be offered for sale following the worship service on April 17th. We will have dark chocolate candy bars, hot cocoa, tea including chai and coffee.

Thank you to all members for supporting the BSUMC Fair Trade efforts through the purchase of these fair trade items for your own use, or as gifts, and also through your support of the church coffee hour following Sunday church services.

\*\*\*\*\*

**MUSIC NOTES**

- ♪ Adult voice choir will be on a break until further notice.
- ♪ Children's voice choir will be on a break until further notice.
- ♪ ABC (Adult Bell Choir) will be on a break until further notice.
- ♪ CBC (Children's Bell Choir) will be on a break until further notice.



Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup> is our next **outreach to Embury Apartments in the Wesley Community**; 3-4 pm is set-up. 4-5 singing and 5-6 fellowship with refreshments. BSUMC is welcome to join us for any part of this outreach. Call Shirley or email for directions. 490-2006, [sandrew1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:sandrew1@nycap.rr.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Upper Room Thrift Shop & Food Pantry**

The Thrift Shop has lots of good used clothing of all sizes available for \$2.00 a bag, as full as you want to get it. It is open every Tuesday from **9:30 am to noon**. Just come in the front door of the Church House and go up the stairs. Good used clothing in all sizes is accepted. Thank you to all who donate to the thrift shop. For those who are donating clothing we ask if it is possible to try to give seasonal items as our storage is extremely limited in the shop.

The Food Pantry is open every Wednesday from **9:30 am to noon**. Our new entrance is now open, up the ramp and in the side door of the Church House, so come and receive a good variety of food. Visits are limited to once a month.

We are fortunate to have such a giving community that helps provide the pantry with all kinds of food. They sometimes give money in memory of someone. We use that to purchase from the Regional Food Bank in Latham at a good price. We also receive a grant once a year from the Food Bank.

The items we usually need are cereal, canned vegetables, spaghetti sauce and personal care products. Donations for the food pantry and thrift shop can be brought in any time the office is open. Thanks to everyone who has helped in any way to make these projects such a success. Thanks also to those who work in them.

\*\*\*\*\*



A sincere thank you to our church family for the outpouring of sympathy and support in the loss of Jerry's brother. We appreciate it all more than we can say.

Jerry and Cathy King

# What's New in Sunday School?

The kids enjoyed learning about Lent through a variety of different activities. We'll be going back to our *Deep Blue* curriculum for the remainder of the year.

Joshua, our sponsored child from Uganda, will be turning 8 years old on April 29<sup>th</sup>! We sent him some small gifts, as well as a \$50 monetary gift. This might be used to help his family purchase livestock, furniture, or other needed items. The Sunday School program pays \$38 monthly for this amazing sponsorship. This amount covers things like clothing, food, medicine, and schooling for Joshua. It is so important for the children to bring in an offering when they can so that this worthwhile ministry can continue. We'll also be holding a car wash on May 1<sup>st</sup> to benefit Joshua!

In youth news, we had a wonderful Holy Week lock-in during the weekend of Palm Sunday. We explored Holy Thursday, celebrated communion, learned about Jesus' arrest and the events of Good Friday through an interactive Stations of the Cross. We also folded the palm crosses that everyone received on Palm Sunday and made fast work of stuffing over 200 Easter eggs for the egg-hunt on Easter morning.

Now that April is here, we're gearing up for our big Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser on April 9<sup>th</sup>. We're looking forward to our mission trip to Niagara Falls on June 26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>.

We have amazing children and youth at BSUMC. Talk to them, get to know them, find out what they're up to, and be blessed by them.

Blessings,  
Grace Paster

\*\*\*\*\*



## Spaghetti Dinner **Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup>**

**4:30 - 6:30 pm**

Middle & High School Youth will be hosting a **SPAGHETTI DINNER** to raise funds for Mission Trip 2016

Dinner will consist of spaghetti & meatballs, salad, garlic bread, beverages and a dessert.

Adults: \$8.00 Kids 10 & under: \$5.00

***Come and enjoy a night of fellowship and support the youth in mission!***

# Sunday School Car Wash Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, after worship



**All proceeds will benefit  
JOSHUA,  
Our sponsored child from  
Uganda**

\*\*\*\*\*

## SAVE THE DATE

Roast Pork Dinner  
Saturday, May 7  
4:00 -- 6:30 PM

This is a family-style dinner of roast pork loin, mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, green beans, dinner roll, pie and beverage.

Dinner cost: Adults \$ 12 -- Children (age 4 - 16 years old) are Free.

This is a church fundraiser and we'll need help making it successful. Clipboards will be available for signing up whether it's peeling potatoes, setting tables, serving the meals or cleaning up at the end. There will also be a Bake Sale!! Money donations to help defray the costs are graciously accepted!!

Questions? -- see George or Janet Mallette

\*\*\*\*\*



Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 will be our third dinner to "pay back" those local restaurants that have so generously supported our Falling Leaves 5K with either a sponsorship or gift cards in the past.

For this dinner, we will order food selections in advance, but will eat in the church parlor due to the small dining area at the Front St. Deli. Menus will be available from either Stan Lockwood (885-1552) or Melody Babcock (490-2015) so that diners can decide what they would like to order. We request that food orders and advance payments be made by Tuesday, 4/12. We again hope to have 15-20 members join us for this dinner.

Dessert and bottled water will be provided, but attendees can bring their own soda or tea if they wish.



Thank You, Thank You

# 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL



## Change of Appointment

With the announcement of the changing of my appointment from us to Adirondack Community Church. Let me share with you a moment.

The District Superintendent met with key leaders in the church to discuss moving forward for BSpa UMC. These key leaders were chosen by me, they are the current SPRC members: Pat Brewster, Jeff Loveless who are co-chairpersons; Thelma Armer, Joan Glossner, Marci Wilson, Kerri Preston and David Lotto who are the Lay Leaders; the other members of the team that met with the Rev. Mudge are: Don VanVranken, chairperson of the finance committee; George Mallette, chairperson of the Trustees; Helen Senecal, Coordinator of the Food Pantry; Melody Babcock, Coordinator of the Thrift Shop; Deb Thompson, Coordinator of the Summer Lunch program; absent were Gary Wilson, chairperson of Church Council, Grace Paster, Children and Youth Ministries Director, Linda Sheeran, the Lay Member to Annual Conference and Kelly Schmidt administrative assistant. This team will work very closely with the DS as the months move forward.

Many of you might ask, why these people? I chose these people as they have very important roles in the leadership of the church, both as leaders within the church and leaders in our community outreach programs. I know that this time is very hard for the congregation as we all adjust to change once again.

Some of you might be asking why the congregation cannot have a say in what happens with the pastor. My best answer to this is: The United Methodist Church is not a congregationally based church, which means that the congregation has input on who will be their pastor, the UMC is an Episcopacy-directed church. It has always been this format, since the beginning with John Wesley. So the Bishop and his leadership have the authority to make appointments of pastors. That is the polity of our denomination as United Methodists.

My prayer is that we will all be open to God's direction for us as a church and where God is leading the church in the future. Please be in prayer with me as God is faithful and will not leave us or forsake us.

We will continue to keep you updated as things progress with this process.

As we serve together,

*Rev. Patti*

\*\*\*\*\*

We couldn't have asked for a better day! It was a bright, sunny, and warm Spring-like day and the people entering the Fellowship Room at 8 AM were lined up out to the back alley. Hopefully all the preparations would pay off!

Before saying anything else, it is important to thank all who contributed items for the Rummage sale. Wow! You really offered some wonderful items! Many, many thanks to Dotty Clark, Barbara Murray, Hilda Carey, Heather Leggieri, Pastor Patti, Ruth Persons, Aggie and Don VanVranken, Jeff Loveless, Meredith Mouser, Katie Loveless, Danielle Coffey and Keith Dickerson for all their time and effort. A special thank you to Melody and Richard Babcock, Debbie Thompson, Gordon Willey, and Janet and George Mallette for organizing the sale. And our thanks to Diane Solotruck, Pat Brewster, and Stan Lockwood for working the Bake Sale table with more thanks to those who baked some yummy goodies!

Yes, this is a fundraiser and the money goes for current expenses. However, this can also be an out-reach ministry of our church and that is part of our success, too! When all the money was counted Saturday night, we had a total of \$2,055.40. On Sunday we added another \$77.70. The grand total is \$2,133.10!! Excellent!!

There are more fundraisers scheduled throughout the year that need to be supported for their ministries. Let's join together to continue to help spread God's love. Blessings to all.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Africa 360 Service with Rev. Bob Long- April 10

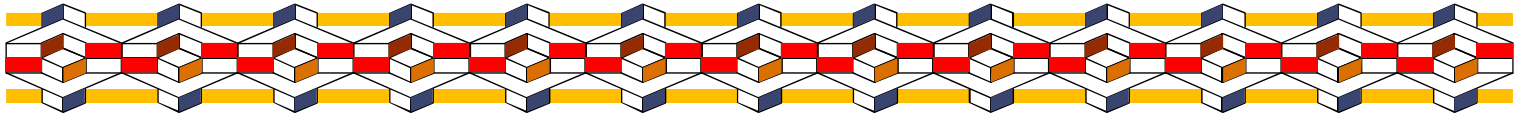
Hear Rev. Bob Long share about his experiences at Africa University and his infamous fundraising bike rides from Schenectady to Annual Conference in Syracuse. Located in Old Mutare, Zimbabwe, Africa University is the first fully accredited United Methodist-related educational institution in Africa. The university offers bachelor and master's degree programs in six faculties of learning: agriculture and natural resources, education, health sciences, humanities and social sciences, management and administration, and theology. The Institute of Peace, Leadership and Governance offers post-graduate diplomas and master's programs. Bishop Mark J. Webb has challenged each church in the Upper New York Annual Conference to give \$1000 for Africa 360, a combined effort to eliminate malaria, and educate the next generation of leaders. Please make your check payable to Ballston Spa UMC with Africa 360 in the memo line.



## 2016 Summer Camp & Retreat programs registration is now open

Set in the tall pines of Adirondack Park, Skye Farm is the place for you! Skye Farm Camp & Retreat Center boasts over 400 wooded acres with a gorgeous view of Sherman Lake. Financial assistance is available. Contact Linda Sheeran at 885-1729 or [lsheeran6@gmail.com](mailto:lsheeran6@gmail.com). For further camp information check out [www.skyefarmcamp.org](http://www.skyefarmcamp.org).

\*\*\*\*\*



## Experts Discuss "Human Sexuality and Biblical Interpretation"

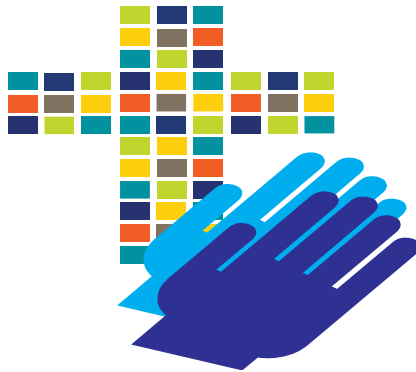
More than 150 people attended – and more than 300 live-streamed – the Upper New York Conference Human Sexuality Task Force’s forum on “Human Sexuality and Biblical Interpretation” March 5 at the Liverpool First United Methodist Church.

The event featured guest speakers the Rev. Dr. Bill T. Arnold, professor at Asbury Theological Seminary in Kentucky, and the Rev. Dr. Althea Spencer Miller, professor at Drew Theology School in New Jersey.

“It’s important to have conversations like this one that help us more deeply engage,” Upper New York Area Resident Bishop Mark J. Webb said “We are in an important time, not just in The United Methodist Church but in the life of the Christian Church.”

To view or download a video of the human sexuality forum, visit [www.vimeo.com/158023055](http://www.vimeo.com/158023055).

\*\*\*\*\*



## Participate in Day of Prayer on April 23

On April 23, members of the Upper New York Conference will observe a 24-hour day of prayer for the 2016 General Conference session, which meets May 10-20 in Portland, Oregon.

In a statement late last year, the Council of Bishops “invited each of the annual conferences to host a 24-hour prayer effort on a specific date with the intent of creating a groundswell of prayer in the days leading up to the General Conference.” The event serves as “a meaningful way to focus spiritually on the experience, as well as to surround the delegates and church leaders with prayer for a General Conference that inspires us in our mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

Protestant prayer bead strands – which will be created, prayed over on April 23, and presented to each delegate and visitor to the 2016 General Conference session – will also be a part of the day.





**Newsletter Deadline:**

The deadline date for the May issue of *The Tidings* newsletter is April 21st. 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**

---

Ballston Spa United Methodist Church

101 Milton Avenue  
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

---

*April Tidings*

*"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"*



