

# The Tidings

May, 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 Co-Chairs**

Pat Brewster

Jeff Lovelass

**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.

5-1 Worship/Sunday School	10:00 AM
5-1 Carwash to benefit Joshua in the church parking lot	11:30-1:30 PM
5-4 Hand To Plow (P)	6:30 PM
<b>5-5 Trustees (P)</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
<b>5-7 Annual Roast Pork Dinner and Bake Sale (FR)</b>	<b>4:00-6:30 PM</b>
5-8 Worship/Sunday School – Happy Mother's Day!	10:00 AM
<b>5-10 Finance</b>	<b>7:15 PM</b>
<b>5-11 Church Council (P)</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
5-12 Dinner at Recovery Sports Grill	6:30 PM
5-13 FOGGS (4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> grade) Youth Group (FR)	6:00-7:30 PM
5-15 Worship/Sunday School	10:00 AM
5-15 Adult Bell Choir	after worship
5-15 Fair Trade Sale	after worship
5-16 Gracious Notes (P)	6:00 PM
5-16 Voice Choir (P)	7:00 PM
<b>5-18 SPRC (P)</b>	<b>6:45 PM</b>
5-21 Community Free Lunch (FR)	11:30 AM
5-22 Worship/Sunday School	10:00 AM
5-22 Adult Bell Choir	after worship
5-23 Gracious Notes (P)	6:00 PM
5-23 Voice Choir (P)	7:00 PM
5-29 Worship/Sunday School	10:00 AM
5-29 Adult Bell Choir	after worship
5-30 Gracious Notes (P)	6:00 PM
5-30 Voice Choir (P)	7:00 PM
5-30 Memorial Day! The office will be closed	

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





Greetings in the Name of Our Savior,

We have by now all heard the news about the transition the church will experience July 1st. I pray that God will guide you and direct your steps as the District Superintendent, Rev Bill Mudge and Pastor Bob DeFelice come to minister God's love, grace, and spirit led direction.

I also pray that each and every one of you will quiet your heart and soul and listen to what God is saying to you, as an individual and as a member of God's family here in Ballston Spa. I believe that God has many things he wants to share with you as you figure things out and move forward. It must feel to some of you that this move is just another pastor change and things will always be the same. I do believe that this will not be true, that as you gather and learn and trust God that God will do a great work amongst you.

As your pastor who loves you, I believe you are being given an awesome opportunity to see God's work first hand. My words I leave with you are trust God and hear what God wants for you!

Be blessed,

Rev. Patti

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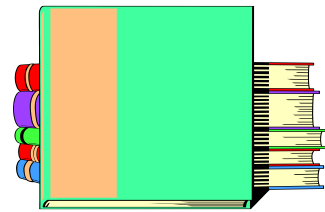
Thursday, May 5th

Service at Wiswall Park  
7:00 pm

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May 8, 2016



**LIBRARY CORNER**

**PRAYERS OF THE BIBLE  
By John McFadyen**

Early in their relationship with Jesus, his disciples observed the significance and sustaining influence of prayer in his life. Quite naturally, they asked him how they could tap into the power and personal enrichment prayer obviously provided for him. Jesus patiently taught them the process of prayer by providing them with a practical model.

Learning from the prayers of others remains one of the best ways to grow deeper in this essential communication link with the God who, surprisingly, desires our personal presence and fellowship with him.

John McFadyen provides an invaluable study in prayer—one which teaches, explains, and draws us deeper through practical understanding and personal use of all the recorded prayers of the Bible.

(Taken from book jacket)

Marilynn Peterson

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**Birthdays**

- 5-1 Greg Wilson
- 5-2 Georgia McMinn
- 5-6 Brenna Schmidt
- 5-7 Catherine Clark
- 5-8 Sean McAuliffe; Brandon Shoen; Danielle Wolsey
- 5-10 Kurt Shoen
- 5-12 George Wess
- 5-15 Kevin Keehan; William Pratt; Dennis Taylor
- 5-17 Nathaniel Coffey
- 5-20 Mikayla Kelley
- 5-21 Darci Doyle; Kyle Keehan; Melissa Taylor
- 5-23 Alex Benjamin; Douglas Chamberlain; Bill Haege
- 5-25 Griffin Leggieri
- 5-26 Amy Lockwood; Edward Sutton
- 5-28 Jenna Heffernan
- 5-30 Lance Evans; Stephanie Robinson

**Anniversaries**

- 5-1 Mike & Donna Conley
- 5-4 Bill & Darci Doyle
- 5-20 Barbara & Jim Cope
- 5-24 Mike & Louisa Heffernan

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

**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!

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**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.

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**Fair Trade** items will be offered for sale following the worship service on May 15th. 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 items for your own use or as gifts and also through your support of the church coffee hour following Sunday worship services.

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Adult voice choir will resume on May 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 in the parlor.

Children's voice choir will be on a break until further notice.

ABC (Adult Bell Choir) will resume on May 15<sup>th</sup> after worship in the sanctuary.

CBC (Children's Bell Choir) will be on a break until further notice.



**The Song Basket Returns!**

Beginning May 22, the song basket will return to the piano in the sanctuary. If you have a hymn that you would like to sing, whether new or old, traditional or contemporary, please put the name of the song in the song basket.

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**Calling All Musicians**

Choir rehearsals begin again on Monday evening, May 16 at 6 pm in the parlor. Everyone who would like to lift their voice in song is welcome.

The Adult Bell Choir will have a brief organizational meeting after church on May 15. If you are interested in being part of this vibrant group, which rings God's praise all summer, please meet with Cathy King near the piano in the sanctuary right after church. If you cannot be present on May 15, but would like to ring, please let Cathy know so she can be sure to assign bells to you.

Cathy King is looking for volunteers to help provide special music for summer services. Instrumentalists and vocalists of all ages are needed. Please let Cathy know what Sunday you can help.

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**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



## 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.

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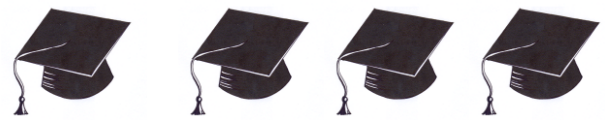
The Sunday School children will be hosting a **car wash on May 1st**. It will be held from 11:30am- 1:30pm in the church parking lot. Suggested donation is \$5.

All proceeds will benefit Joshua, our sponsored child from Uganda. Please help us help Joshua and his family.

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Our "5K thank-you" dinner for May will again be at **The Recovery Sports Grill** (at their Malta location) on **Thursday, May 12th at 6:30**, if you are interested in attending please contact Stan Lockwood at 885-1552 or Melody Babcock at 490-2015.



## Graduate Information Needed

Do you have a 2016 graduate in your family? If you know someone that is graduating from High School or College in 2016, please send their info to Grace Paster ([gracepaster@gmail.com](mailto:gracepaster@gmail.com), 884-0424). All graduates will be recognized during church on June 12 (Recognition Sunday), as well as in *The Tidings*. Please include name, school or college, date of graduation, degree earned, future plans.

Thank you!!

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Please join us June 12<sup>th</sup> for  
**Recognition Sunday!**

**This is a special celebration of  
our Sunday School year.**

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PLEASE **PRAY** FOR:

Our **College Students**, as they prepare for Finals, and/or Graduations- Jonathan Blake, Kevin Blake, Nathaniel Coffey, Emily Groff, Pat McAuliffe, Jenn Taylor, and Brian Wainwright.

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## 2016 Mission u- Learning for the Transformation of the World

When & Where: July 15-17 at Cazenovia College, or July 21-23 at Asbury Camp and Retreat Center, or \*Sept. 9-11 at Silver Bay YMCA on Lake George

Studies offered: "The Bible and Human Sexuality" (2 sessions) and "Climate Justice"

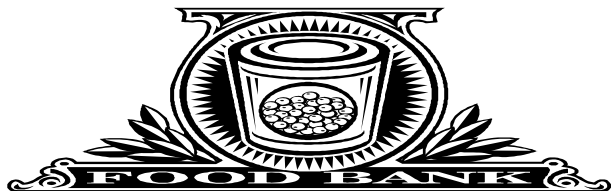
Cost: \$80 plus Room and Meal Options

\*Deadline for Registration: August 1, 2016

For more information: [www.unyac.org](http://www.unyac.org), or pick up a brochure from the Welcome tables

Sponsored by: the Upper New York Conference United Methodist Women and the United Methodist Church





## Summer Outreach at the Regional Food Bank- July 17, 2016

Volunteers are in short supply during the summer months, so your helping hands are of extra value at the Regional Food Bank. So please join us on Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 1-3 pm. Bring your bag lunch to church. We will eat together in the Fellowship Room, then carpool to Latham. Once again, we will plan on stopping at Guptill's for ice cream on our way home. All ages are welcome, with children accompanied by a parent. Wear comfortable shoes, and a BSUMC shirt, if you have one. Thanks, in advance, for giving of your time. Questions? Contact Linda Sheeran at 885-1729 or [lsheeran6@gmail.com](mailto:lsheeran6@gmail.com).

## Testimonies from the Regional Food Bank Outreach in April

"Our experience working at the Regional Food Bank was amazing! We worked with several other volunteers, some who had volunteered before. There was so much food to sort and it broke our hearts to see some foods that couldn't be distributed. This Food Bank reaches many participating shelters, so it was a good feeling of accomplishment when we were done. The two hours went by so fast. We're definitely volunteering again!"  
*Jan and George Mallette*

"I thought going to the Regional Food Bank was a lot of fun. It was great to be able to help."  
*Cherrie Sanders*

"I always enjoy serving at the Food Bank. It's always a lot fun to help the community."  
*Kes Husselbeck, Gr. 12(returning volunteer)*

"It was fun working with new people, and that it was going to help tons of people out."  
*Allison Liuzzo, Gr. 9*

"I had a lot of fun packing food for people who needed it."  
*Meghan Liuzzo, Gr. 12 (returning volunteer)*

Note: This makes for good service hours for school, i.e. Government class, Honor Society.

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## Quiz: Test your knowledge of General Conference

PORTLAND, Ore. (UMC.org) - Just how much do you know about The United Methodist Church's big legislative gathering that sets Church policy? This 10-question quiz lets you check out what you know. Go to <http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/general-conference-quiz> to take the quiz.

## Upper New York Annual Conference- June 2-4, 2016

### Planting God's Future in Hearts and Neighbors: Called to Give Thanks

"The days we spend together will allow us to grab hold of who we are in relation to God, one another, and the world around us, as we fully understand the awesome privilege and responsibility we have to boldly be the Church of the 21 century."

Bishop Mark J. Webb

Highlights will include:

- \* The Rev. Adam Hamilton, pastor at Church of the Resurrection, Leawood, Kansas and author of many books ( for example, *When Christians Get It Wrong*, *Making Sense of the Bible*, *Love to Stay*) will lead us for three 90-minute teaching sessions;
- \* The Africa 360 campaign will be celebrated, and come to a close;
- \* Resolutions (Restoration of Funding for Campus Ministries, and UNYUMC Responds to Gun Violence, to name just two of the nine) will be discussed and voted on;
- \* Reports, Budgets, Worship, Fellowship, Displays, and Cokesbury will round out our time together.

Our attendees this year will include Rev. Patti Molik, Ruth Persons (a first-timer!), Shirley Andrews, Ilah Walsler, and Linda Sheeran.

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## HAND TO PLOW

Have you arrived at church early the past several Sundays? Or do you arrive in time to see them emerge from behind the sanctuary? Who are the people that go behind the sanctuary at 9:45 AM?

It is the Hand To Plow group! The people who are going through the Hand To Plow training have started a prayer group. We meet every Sunday prior to church for about 5 minutes. We are learning how to pray for others, our church and church leaders.

The past several Sundays we have been praying:

- that everyone who comes to church that day will have a good experience,
- for guidance on what or who we should pray for during the week,
- that the Holy Spirit will guide us to the next steps we (Hand To Plow) need to take,
- the leaders of the church,
- the transition our church is going through, and
- that no negativity will enter God's house.

It is part of learning how to pray for others, our church and church leaders. As we get our foundation firmly built, we will reach out to the different committees/groups in the church to find out what they would like us to pray for them.

If the committee you are on has something you would like us to pray about, please let us know!

The Hand To Plow Team: Shirley Andrews, Linda Sheeran, Deborah Thompson, Sheba Azarm, Kerri Preston and Ruth Persons

# Healthy Living Covenant Discipleship

The "Healthy Living" Covenant Discipleship meetings continue on the last Tuesday of the month. We meet at Shirley Andrews' home from 6:30 until 8 pm. Please bring your Bible and textbook to every session. We are happy to report that a new discipleship group has been formed by one of our disciples who belongs to the Galway UMC. At present it meets in the leader's home. This is called "Leaders Raising up Leaders". The movement of the Holy Spirit has been powerful in our group and we give God all the praise and thanks for how He is working among us to "Make Disciples for the Transformation of the World".

Love and Joy in the Holy Spirit, Shirley Andrews

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## Outreach to Embury Apartments in the Wesley Community

Our last "Hymn Sing" at Embury is scheduled for Sunday, May 15, (Pentecost Sunday). We are focusing on hymns and songs about the "Holy Spirit". I want to take this opportunity to thank the following people who have helped me make this amazing outreach so fruitful. These folks helped with set up, fellowship table, electronic devices, interacting with the people and clean up. What a joyous team we have. They are: Patty LeRoy, Jennifer Sutherland, Marti Desiato, Marilyn Peterson, Sharyl Backus, Carla Snyder, Cherrie Sanders, Janet Mallette, and at Christmas time we enjoyed the flute, played by my friend, Margaret LaFrance.

As you all know, God is in the fruit making business. One of the exciting things that God has done for me through the Hymn Sing activities has been to form the "Wesley Community Choir". Seven Embury ladies are meeting every other Tuesday with me from 3:30 - 5pm to continue singing, enjoying being in a small discipleship group setting to bring Christ to others. Our new choir is now scheduled to do "Hymn Sing" events at the Wesley Nursing Home. The dates are Sundays at 2 pm: May 29, July 10 and August 7.

More about God's Vineyard: Up front I want to thank Pastor Patti for helping me realize my dream for "church planting". It has been wonderful to have her support, prayers, advice, and encouragement for the last 2 years. I so regret that she is leaving as she is a strong, biblical leader with God's vision for "Making Disciples for the Transformation of the World". Our loss is Lake Placid's gain. So many of us will miss your guidance and love, Pastor, yours too  
Dave!

On May 8, Mother's Day, I will lead a trial run of the new church plant at Wesley Community in Saratoga. I recently completed the church planting weekend with Dave Masland called "New Faith Communities". We will be called "Wesley Community Worship Center" meeting in Woodlawn Commons. We will officially launch Sunday 10 am worship on June 12 and continue weekly after that. As a Certified Lay Minister, I will be called Worship Leader/Preacher. I'm asking God to help me utilize the Embury people who want to come along to serve God with me. They just have to walk across the driveway to get to Woodlawn Commons. God's plan so far has been amazing and exciting. This is a dream come true for me as I continue to help God "Make Disciples for the Transformation of the World".

May God richly bless your dreams, Shirley Andrews

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## FINANCE CORNER

May is the fifth month of the Gregorian Calendar and it is named for Maia, a Roman goddess. In our culture, we tend to think of the coming of May as the end of winter. April showers bring May flowers and for BSUMC, the end of the first financial quarter. For this year, we are faced with the loss of our current Pastor so there are additional factors to consider. When pastor transitions take place, it is not unusual for congregants to leave and we are experiencing some of that at this point. Having said that, we also can hope to anticipate a slow but steady increase in our weekly attendance over the next several months, with some effort on our part, as new people come to hear the new pastor.

The recent decline in attendance has had a negative impact on the operating income and expenditure plan. After the first quarter, we find ourselves about \$3,500 in the red for the current fiscal year. This is not particularly alarming at present because we anticipate that the upcoming fund raising efforts, as well as an anticipated decrease in pastoral salary and health insurance expenses, will help us to maintain a reasonably healthy bottom line. However, it is important that we recuperate during this transition and renew our efforts to do God's will in our church and in our community.

On another positive note, through the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, our church has spent about \$2,400 on benevolences.

Yours in Christ,  
Donald VanVranken





**Newsletter Deadline:**

The deadline date for the June issue of *The Tidings* newsletter is May 19th. 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

*May Tidings*

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