

---

**Pastor**  
Rev. Bill Mudge

---

**Minister of Music**  
*Cathy King*  
**Office Assistant**  
*Katrina Tatura*  
**Lay Member UNYAC**  
*Linda Sheeran*  
**SPRC Chair**  
*Jackie Capone*  
**Treasurer**  
*Lynne Blake*  
**Finance Chair**  
*David Lotto*  
**Trustee Chair**  
*Garry Perkins*  
**Worship Chair**  
*Pat Brewster*  
**Christian Education**  
*Angela Kinne*  
**Church Council Chair**  
*Ilah Sisson Walser*

---

**Church Office Phone**  
885-6886  
**Office Hours**  
*Tuesday-Friday*  
9:00 a.m. – noon

---

**E-Mail**  
*bsumc@albany.twcbc.com*  
**Web Site**  
*ballstonspaumchurch.org*

---

**Sunday Worship**  
10:00 a.m.

# The Tidings

## December, 2017 Ballston Spa United Methodist Church 101 Milton Avenue, Ballston Spa, NY 12020

---

12-1 Parade night	7 PM
12-2 Roast Beef Dinner	4-6:30 PM
12-3 Worship	10:00 AM
12-3 Bell Choir	After worship
12-4 Soloist Practice/Voice Choir Rehearsal (P); Boy Scouts	5:00/6:00 PM/7 PM
<b>12-5 Thrift Shop/Finance Committee Mtg. (P)</b>	9:30-noon/ <b>7:00 PM</b>
12-5 Cub Scouts Den Mtg.	7:00 PM
12-6 Food Pantry	9:30-noon
12-6 Cub Scouts Committee Meeting	7:00 PM
<b>12-7 Trustee Meeting (CH)</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
12-7 Cub Scouts Den Meeting	7:00 PM
12-10 Worship, Sunday School Children's Party; Bell Choir	10:00 AM After worship
12-11 Soloist Practice/Voice Choir Rehearsal	5:00/6:00 PM
12-11 Boy Scouts Meeting	7:00 PM
<b>12-12 Thrift Shop/Council Meeting (P)</b>	9:30-noon/ <b>7:00 PM</b>
12-12 Cub Scouts Den Meeting	6:30 PM
12-13 Food Pantry	9:30-noon
<b>12-14 SPRC Meeting (CP)</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>
12-14 Cub Scouts Den Mtg./Weigh in for LEGO Derby	7:00 PM/7:30 PM
12-17 Worship/ Fair Trade; Bell Choir	10:00 AM/after worship
12-18 Soloist Practice/Voice Choir Rehearsal	5:00/6:00 PM
12-18 Boy Scouts Meeting	7:00 PM
12-19 Thrift Shop/ Cub Scouts Den Meeting	9:30-noon/7:00 PM
12-20 Food Pantry	9:30-noon
<b>12-21 Worship Committee Mtg. (P)</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>
12-21 Cub Scouts Den Meeting	7 PM
12-24 Worship/ Bell Choir	10:00 AM/after worship
<b>12-24 Christmas Eve Service</b>	<b>7 PM</b>
<b>12-25 Merry Christmas!</b>	
12-26 Thrift Shop	9:30-noon
12-27 Food Pantry	9:30-noon
12-31 Worship	10 AM

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





## Birthdays

12-1 Marian Phillips; Cherrie Sanders  
 12-4 Louisa Heffernan  
 12-6 Melody Babcock  
 12-7 Michael Conley  
 12-10 Jean Keehan; Henry Lotto; Grace Lotto  
 12-14 Heather Leggieri  
 12-15 Dan Fenton, Glenn Harrison  
 12-16 Mark LeRoy  
 12-23 Kesandra Husselbeck  
 12-24 Mary Jane Hale  
 12-31 Shelley Fenton

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



On behalf of the Nominating Committee, we would like to thank everyone who has served in a leadership role during this past year. Our Church Family has been graced by your willingness to serve. Each person of our congregation has given something to the overall life of our Church, by your presence, your gifts, and your service.

Value each other and express that gratitude by treating each other with gentleness and caring. Be ready to serve in whatever capacity you can. You serve by being a part of this congregation, by greeting one another in Christian love, by serving in a leadership role, by attending meetings as part of a committee, by baking for a bake sale, by serving coffee or pies at a dinner, by cooking or washing dishes, by teaching Sunday School, and the list goes on to fill volumes. We are all here to make God's kin-dom here a better place. In that we are all kin, relatives in the family of God. Thank you for being here and serving.



## From Pastor Bob and Sheila

We want to thank everyone for all that you did for us on our final Sunday with you. The lunch was wonderful; the flowers were beautiful; the VISA, Speedway and Northway Golf Center gift cards will be put to good use; and Philip Gulley's "Hometown Tales" is a wonderful addition to my library. We are grateful for your kindness and we wish you all the very best.

In Christian love,  
 Pastor Bob and Sheila



Bishop Mark Webb has appointed Pastor Kelly Warner as the pastor of BSUMC, effective January 1<sup>st</sup>. Pastor Kelly has most recently been serving at the Hartford UMC (for 3 ½ years) but before that she served as our interim for 2 months. Some of you may remember her service among us from that time period.

We would encourage our congregation to be in touch with Pastor Kelly and her family. Your cards and notes, or e-mails are ways to help them feel welcomed. Feel free to also share a bit about what you like about the church, or how you are involved. Pictures are a great idea too! Her contact info:

216 Fort Edward Road, Ford Edward, NY, 12828  
[warners@roadrunner.com](mailto:warners@roadrunner.com)  
 tel: 518-636-3756.



## LIBRARY CORNER

***Full Measure; Modern Short Stories on Aging  
 Edited by Dorothy Sennett***

The short tale is one of the best ways to become more understanding of and sensitive to older people. Dorothy Sennett has assembled here a marvelously rich and diverse anthology of some of the best stories written about aspects of aging. (book jacket)



## Holiday Play

**Saratoga Springs United Methodist Church  
presents**

**a Victorian Evening of Dickens and Carols  
Saturday, Dec. 2, 7:00 P.M.**

**175 Fifth Ave. (corner of Henning Rd.)**

Join us for a relaxing and enjoyable evening of music and theater, as we present a dramatic reading, in costume, of Charles Dickens' beloved Christmas Carol. There will be wassail at the entrance, music throughout, special scenery and trappings to help create a Victorian London setting for this favorite tale of the miserly Scrooge and his discourse with the three Spirits: Past, Present, and Future. This is a version created by Mr. Dickens himself for just such events, usually presented in parlors of his day. Families with children are encouraged to attend. There will be a toothsome (look it up!) take-home surprise at the end! Admission at the door is by free-will donation, suggested donation \$10.00.

Please come and help us to begin the Christmas season with this endearing and entertaining tale from one of the true storytelling masters of all time.



## The Community Choir of Ballston Spa presents And It Came to Pass Emmanuel By Jay Rouse and Rose Aspinall

A compelling musical triumph that invites you on a journey that ultimately leads to worship of the Christ Child. The Christmas story blends seamlessly with original narrative, melodies and Christmas favorites.

Sunday, December 10 at 6:00 p.m., hors d'oeuvres at 5 p.m. First Baptist Church of Ballston Spa.



## 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Roast Beef Dinner and Bake Sale

**Saturday, December 2  
4:00 – 6:30 pm**

This will be the 25th year offering a delicious family-style roast beef dinner that includes mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, coleslaw, sweet potatoes, pickles, rolls, pie and a beverage.

**Adults -- \$13.00**

**Children up to age 16 -- Free**

**All Take-outs -- \$13.00**

Assorted Baked Goods will be available to purchase

Sign-up sheets will be available for donations of pies and baked goods.

Please come support this church fundraiser and enjoy good food and fellowship!



Fair Trade sale for December will be Dec. 17th. Coffee, tea, hot chocolate and (yes) dark chocolate bars will be available for sale. Thank you again for all church members and friends that continue to support this important mission.

**5K -- There will NOT be a 5K Thank You dinner in December, however, the dinners will resume In January 2018.**



## Give 2 hours of your time to the Regional Food Bank!

**Sunday, January 14, 1 - 3 pm**

Contact: Linda Sheeran at [lsheeran6@gmail.com](mailto:lsheeran6@gmail.com) or 885-1729





## Thank you letter from Veterans and Community Housing Coalition

Dear Stan and Committee,

On behalf of the homeless Veterans that we serve, I thank you for the very generous donation of \$7,750 from the proceeds of the Falling Leaves 5K.

Your continued support has made such a major impact on the stability of the programs that we offer to the homeless veterans we serve.

The event was an inspiration to all of us. I realize the tremendous time and effort it takes to put on such an event. But as always it went off without a flaw. Our veterans who volunteered were so emotional that the United Methodist Church members appreciated their service to our Country and demonstrated that appreciation through this event.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Veterans. Please know you all truly make a difference.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Hage-Perez

Executive Director

*Thank you! You never cease to amaze me!*



**5K photo of Gary Wilson, Lynne Blake and Stan Lockwood presenting the proceeds of the Falling Leaves 5K Charity Run to Cheryl Hage-Perez and Leigha Rosenberger of the Veterans and Community Housing Coalition (VCHC).**



## Alternative Gift Giving Ideas for Christmas

1. The **Holiday Gift Alternative Program of the Regional Food Bank** offers donors an opportunity to provide a special gift in lieu of giving a more traditional holiday present. For a minimum donation of \$5 per card, the Regional Food Bank will send a holiday gift card to the designated recipient notifying them of the unique gift made in their name. Seven card options are available, with the inside message being, *"In recognition of your generous spirit and in keeping with the true meaning of the holiday season, a financial gift to feed the hungry has been donated to the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York."*

Details at:

<http://www.regionalfoodbank.net/holiday-acknowledgement-cards/>

2. **The Most Important Christmas Catalog in the World by Heifer International** offers you the power to choose a life-changing gift based on the experience and mission of Heifer International. Choose from a wide variety of animals to give in the name for your loved one to a family on the other side of the world. A Share of a Pig for as little as \$10 or to a Tree Seedling for \$60, or a Llama for \$150 just to name a few.

Details at: [www.Heifer.org/catalog](http://www.Heifer.org/catalog)



## Light in the Darkness

**A Service of Comfort and Hope For the Longest Nights of the Year**

**Thursday, December 21, 2017, 7:00p.m.**

**First Presbyterian Church**

**22 West High Street, Ballston Spa**

Christmas can be a painful time. The constant, inescapable refrain about the happiness of the season reminds many people of what they have lost or have never had. Broken or lost relationships, employment and financial insecurity, poor health, depression – all of these can be more difficult as the nights lengthen and the cold intrudes. Recognizing that Christ came to comfort those who struggle with sadness and pain, First Presbyterian Church will host a community service of scripture, prayer, music and candle lighting to invite God's Word to shine light into our darkness. Everyone, regardless of church background (or no religious affiliation) is welcome.





## Ecumenical Youth Group Great Chili Cook-off and Desert Auction of 2017

**Sunday, December 10, 2017 Christ Episcopal Church of Ballston Spa  
11:30 AM – 1 PM**

### **Want bragging rights that you have the best chili ever?**

Enter the Great Chili Cook-off of 2017 to participate. Winner receives a prize basket as well as bragging rights. No fee to enter.

All proceeds go to the Ecumenical Middle School and High School Youth Groups for the greater Ballston Spa Area.

To enter, send e-mail that you will be participating to: [m2mattice@outlook.com](mailto:m2mattice@outlook.com)

We will also be hosting a desert auction at that time. If you would be willing to donate a home-made desert (cookies, pies, pastries, cakes).

Please let us know. All donations welcome.

To come and eat your hearts out it will be a \$5 donation per person at the door. We will have some kid friendly food for those little ones not quite up to chili.



### **Rummage sale**

As you go through fall chores of organizing, sorting and clearing out unused/unwanted items, please keep in mind that good, useful household items always are needed and welcomed for the Rummage Sale. Even though the sale is some months away (March 2018), the organizers are beginning to accept sale items as we now have the ability to store them well in advance of the sale.

So, if you, your family, your friends have goods to donate for this fundraiser, please be in touch with one of the organizers: **Melody Babcock, Debbie Thompson, George and Janet Mallette** to make arrangements for you to bring in those items.

No electronics please.



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

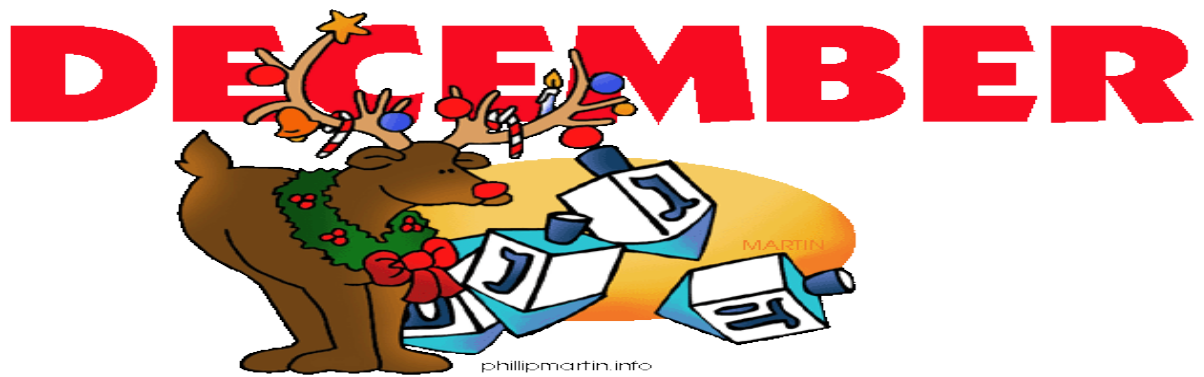
Contact the office at [bsumc@albany.twcbc.com](mailto:bsumc@albany.twcbc.com) so we can add you to our mailing list. Please let us know if you'd like to receive **The Tidings** electronically. Also, remember to visit our website ([www.ballstonspaumchurch.org](http://www.ballstonspaumchurch.org)) and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

.....



Calendar is attached.





### Newsletter Deadline:

The deadline date for the January issue of *The Tidings* newsletter is December 15th. 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

*November Tidings*

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