



THE

Spire

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

603 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12305 (518) 374-4403 / (Fax) 374-6060

Website: www.fumcschenectady.org E-Mail: fumcschenectady@yahoo.com



Accessible

Vol. 82 No. 6

The Reverend Sara E. Baron

October 2018

SUNDAYS

- 8:30 Downtown Community Breakfast
9:00 Books for Children & Adults
9:00 Children's Sunday School
9:30 Second Cup Café
10:00 Sunday Morning Worship
Infant & Toddler Care available
11:00 Coffee Fellowship
11:30 Second Hour programs
—Adult Forum
—Luncheon
—Intergenerational Activity
7:00 Young Adults Bible Study: *Book of Luke*

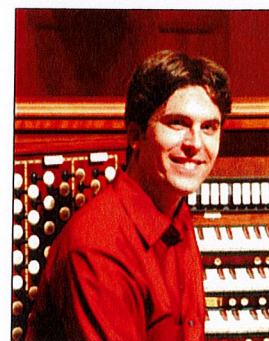
Worship Text:

- Oct. 7 **World Communion / Family Sunday**
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
Matthew 11:28-30
Oct. 14 Sacrament of Baptism
Leviticus 19:9-18; Mark 10:17-31
Oct. 21 Sacrament of Baptism
Isaiah 40:3-5; Mark 10:35-45
Oct. 28 Job 38:1-7; Mark 10:46-52

Second Hour Programs:

- Oct. 7 Luncheon: Sacrificial Meal
Oct. 14 Book Discussion
Oct. 21 Forum: "Clean Water in Peril"
Oct. 28 Reconciling Ministries Event

First United Methodist Church Schenectady, presents



Raúl Prieto Ramírez
Concert Organist

Sunday, September 30 at 3:00 PM

The concert is free of charge and everyone is welcome.....invited friends and family too!

Church Outing to Mosque: Tour & Open House

Saturday, September 29

Enjoy the Al-Hidaya Center Open House on Saturday, September 29th, 9am-12pm. There will be snacks and breakfast, perhaps some henna-painting or other cultural traditions. You are welcome to take a tour of the Mosque and ask questions to learn more about our neighbors. The special theme for the Open House centers on the Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca, Hajj. As is the Muslim tradition, women are asked to wear some form of scarf or head-covering, and all are asked to remove footwear upon entering. Al-Hidaya Center is located at 322 Troy-Schenectady Rd., Latham, east of the Rte 9 Traffic Circle.

World Communion Sunday

**October 7th
with Sacrificial Lunch**



Please see page 7 for details.



From Our Pastor

It is fairly common knowledge around here that I enjoy babies. I've found myself particularly excited over the number of babies who have been born to church families recently, and incredibly grateful that so many of the parents are comfortable with me cuddling, cooing over, and kissing their babies. Life can be very good as a pastor.

In October we are going to baptize two more babies into our church family, and promise together to surround and their families "with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God and be found faithful in their services to others." I've sat down with the families to explain how deeply the church wishes to keep its promises, and the families are grateful for the church's love and support.

This has helped to reflect on what we're offering to children and youth within our community. As I made the list, I was shocked at how wonderful it is!

- While babies and toddlers are welcome in our worship service, we also have rocking chairs in the Narthex if soothing is needed, and the Babyfold staffed and available when play is the best choice.
- We have Children's Time in worship, when the needs of kids take precedence.
- Starting this fall, we've moved Sunday School to 9AM, which does two great things. It allows both the children of our church members and the children who come to breakfast access to Christian Education. It also makes more space for kids in worship, so that they become familiar with the ebbs, flows, and themes of our worship itself.
- Starting in November, we're going to use Family Sunday's differently. Family Sundays remain the first Sunday of the month, and the 9AM Sunday School will not happen. Instead, for the 2nd Hour (after worship) there will be a chance for our children AND any adults who wish to, to play our Orff instruments together. We're hoping to work on an Advent arrangement together, to be played during worship in December. Instruction in sacred music is inherently good, and fun!
- Starting on October 4th, I'll be teaching Confirmation class again, this time to a MUCH larger class than I've seen in my time here. Young people will have the time and space to ask questions, and to experience worship in other faith traditions!
- Our Youth Group has been going strong for several years now, and our youth are pretty obsessed with Mission. Their last trip was to Henderson Settlement in August, with 6 youth and 2 adults in attendance. Our youth also like to do service projects back home, and often work in conjunction with the youth at Emmanuel Friedens.

See? It is pretty impressive all laid out. I've also been thinking about why we do all of this. First and foremost, in all that we do, we aim to create a safe and supportive environment for young people. That may be obvious, but it isn't trivial. For many young people, the world is full of dangers, and we do all that we can to be a place of refuge.

We also aim to teach. Sometimes, with our youngest kids, the teaching is the safe and supportive environment – there is nothing that teaches a baby that God is good better than attentive loving care! As children grow, we seek to familiarize them with Bible stories as a foundation for faith development. We also encourage question asking all along the way. When it is developmentally appropriate, we also teach theology. We teach that God's love extends to ALL people. We teach that because of God's love for all people, God wants a world that supports all people. In all of this, we aim to make space for each young person and their needs. We aren't trying to indoctrinate, we are offering what we've come to know and value.

I suspect it is discouraging sometimes, especially for those who remember the days when the Sunday School classes overflowed, that we don't have more young people. It is OK to remember, and notice the difference. It is definitely OK to have enough love to share, and want to be able to share it.

Yet, we are doing wonderful ministry, and I know it is making a difference in people's lives. The babies in our community will be well cared for, as are their parents, and they are certainly a part of a community of love and forgiveness. I think there is a lot to celebrate, both in our young people and in what we are able to offer to them!

- Peace, Sara

In Memoriam

We extend our Christian support to the family and friends of:



† Elizabeth “Betty” Duel, our friend and member of over 25 years, who passed away on September 6th. Betty was our Church School and Youth Activities Director from 1989-1994.

Please keep her husband, Walter, and the family in your prayers. Cards / notes of condolence can be sent to Walter at: 68 Cuthbert St., Scotia, NY 12302.

From our Adult Education Team



Our Church Retreat at Sky Lake Camp and Retreat Center August 24-26 was a restful success. A total of 15 people took part this year. Barbara Thorington Green was our retreat leader, encouraging us to see God through nature and in ourselves.

We have tentatively reserved accommodations for next summer at Sky Lake, so please consider setting aside the last weekend in August, 2019, to join us for this peaceful, spirit-filled opportunity.

Would you like to help hurricane victims?



Do you feel helpless when you hear news of Hurricane Florence stalled over the Carolinas, producing up to 36" of rain over four days, leaving rivers overflowing and houses, businesses and fields flooded? As the waters recede, people are faced with a massive cleanup from the storm damage and flooding. Where do you begin and how?

United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is a global humanitarian aid and development organization of the United Methodist Church, known to be “fast in and last out.” In a crisis, UMCOR shows up and distributes hundreds of **Cleaning Kits/flood buckets**. A Cleaning Kit is a five gallon bucket containing gloves, respirator dust masks, concentrated household cleaner, dish soap, laundry detergent, sponges, a scrub brush, clothesline and clothespins, two dozen large heavy-duty trash bags, and more.

The Cleaning Kits are sent to all disasters in the United States. As of 2018, international shipping has been terminated because it is no longer the fastest or most effective way to respond to a disaster. Instead, UMCOR now provides funding through grants which allows the purchase of kit items locally. This stimulates the local economy, increases employment, and insures that kit items are culturally appropriate.

UMCOR assembles these kits and ships out hundreds after each storm. UMCOR responded to 44 disasters in 2017. The cost of the numerous items in one Cleaning Kit is \$75.00. Here is a direct way you can help hurricane victims. Donate any amount you are able to give to FUMC (*checks payable to FUMC*) with this notation on any check or letter you send: UMCOR -Cleaning Kits. Place it in the offering plate and it will be sent to UMCOR for this purpose.

Altar Flowers



We are grateful for Altar flowers given in September:

Sept. 2 in celebration of the wedding of Jane Baker & Jim Sprenger

Sept. 23 in celebration of the birth of Anthony Bruce Williams

**Thank you to those who donated garden flowers throughout the summer:
Patrick Belton, Sylvester Doyer, Ann Farrell, Sue Learner and Elaine Troy.**

If you would like to give the altar flowers for Sunday Worship, please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board or contact the office.

The Sunday School Scoop



Sunday School begins October 14 (9:00—9:45 am)

The Children and Youth Ministry team is developing new programs for children in Grs. K—6. We will not have Sunday School like we did last year. Instead we will have something different!!

From 9:00-9:45 every Sunday, except the first Sunday of the month, there will be special activities for children in the Gathering Room. This is the big room on the left when you enter from Chapel Street. The activities will be related to the theme of the day's worship service and will vary according to the children's interests. There might be crafts, games, stories, and songs. Parents are welcome to stay in the room too and participate with their children during this time.

The first Sunday of each month, children's time during worship will be based on Bible stories enriched by the use of special figures which will help to make the stories more meaningful. We expect that the whole congregation will enjoy this.

Volunteers needed for our Program



Do you enjoy kids? Do you appreciate the love of this community?
Do you want to be sure we are passing on our stories and our values?

Children and Youth have TWO ways that they're looking for help from those who answer "yes" to any of the above questions. They are looking for people willing to:

1. Get trained in the "Children and Worship" Stories, so that those can be told in worship, with various story tellers. This is a great way of telling Bible Stories, and we're lucky to have the resources. We even have an amazing trainer in Elaine Troy. If you would be willing to learn this method, please let Elaine Troy or Jan Huston know about your openness!
2. Be present! On Sunday mornings from 9:00-9:45AM we will be needing extra adults with caring hearts and a sense of joy in children to be present with our kids. We already have people willing and able to lead activities (although we'll take more if you are willing!), but we do need others who can be a helping hand and a gentle presence. If this is you, please let Elaine Troy or Jan Huston know about your openness!

October's Church Night

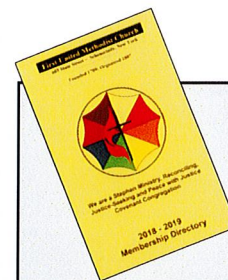


All Ministry Teams are invited to meet on this month's *Church Night* held October 9th, the second Tuesday of the month. Everyone is welcome at the council meetings. The schedule is:

6:30 pm Ministry Teams
7:30 pm Church Council

E-Newsletter Available!

If you'd prefer to receive "The Spire" via email, which saves resources, please contact the office to confirm we have your email address. Thank you.





2018-2019 Directories Available

New Membership Directories for 2018-19 are now available for pickup on a Sunday! The directories include a list of our various Ministry Teams and programs, and events for this new church year. Look for yours on the narthex/lobby table!



October 2018

First United Methodist Church, Schenectady

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | 1 2:00 - 4 PM Pastor "Drop-in" Office Hours 4:00-8 PM SUSTAIN Ministry: Sorting | 2 Council Reports due 2:00 PM Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Nominations Committee | 3 6:45 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal | 4 6:15 PM Confirmation Class 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal | 5 1:00 PM Handbell Cleaning | 6 11:30 am Youth Group |
| 7  The Lord's Table World Communion / Family Sunday 9:30 AM Second Cup Cafe 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:30 AM Sacrificial Meal / Luncheon 7:00 pm Bible Study | 8 Native People's / Columbus Day Public Schools Closed 2:00 - 4 PM Pastor "Drop-in" Office Hours 7:00 pm Staff Pastor Parish Relations Com. 7:00 PM Study Series | 9 2:00 PM Staff Meeting <hr/> Church Night 6:30 PM Ministry Teams Meet 7:30 PM Council | 10 9:00 am Stephen Ministers 11:30 AM-1:30 PM SUSTAIN Ministry 6:45 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal | 11 6:15 PM Confirmation Class 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal | 12 | 13 10 AM-1 PM UMW Caring Card Ministry Project 11:30 am Youth Group |
| 14 8:30 AM Breakfast 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Second Cup Cafe 10:00 AM Worship 10:20 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:30 AM 2nd Hour Programs —Book Discussion 7:00 PM Bible Study | 15 Spire articles due 2:00 - 4 PM Pastor "Drop-in" Office Hours 6:30 PM Adult Education / Carl Lecture Team 7:00 PM Study Series | 16 2:00 PM Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Nominations Committee | 17 12:00 Women's Luncheon 6:45 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal | 18 6:15 PM Confirmation Class 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal | 19 | 20 10 AM-1 PM Albany District UMW Fall Mtg. @ Alplaus UMC 11:30 am Youth Group |
| 21 8:30 AM Breakfast 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Second Cup Cafe 10:00 AM Worship 10:20 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:30 AM 2nd Hour Programs —UMW Program 7:00 PM Bible Study | 22 2:00 - 4 PM Pastor "Drop-in" Office Hours 4 - 8 PM SUSTAIN Ministry: Sorting 7:00 PM Study Series | 23 2:00 PM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Presentation on General Conference 2019 7:00 PM Trustees-virtual meeting online | 24 8:30 AM Men's Fellowship Breakfast 6:45 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal | 25 6:15 PM Confirmation Class 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal | 26 | 27 9:00 AM-3 PM UM Volunteers In Mission Training 9:30 am Youth Service: Serve Free Community Brunch 11:30 AM Youth Group Fellowship |
| 28 8:30 AM Breakfast 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Second Cup Cafe 10:00 AM Worship 10:20 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:30 AM 2nd Hour Programs 1:00-4:30 PM Reconciling Ministries Event 7:00 PM Bible Study | 29 2:00 - 4 PM Pastor "Drop-in" Office Hours 7:00 PM Study Series | 30 2:00 PM Staff Meeting | 31 6:45 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal | | |  |

We are in the season of PENTECOST / IN KINGDOMTIDE (green) - Ordinary (numbered) time when we focus on the mission of the church.

Video Study: The Challenge of Paul

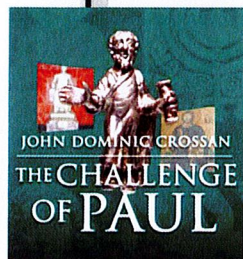
When: **Monday Nights** (5 weeks)
Oct. 8—Nov. 5

Where: **Wesley Lounge**

Time: **7:00-8:30 PM**

Led by: **Rev. Jim Sprenger**

*Everyone is welcome to gather
for this exciting free study.*



The Challenge of Paul is a series of short videos by New Testament scholar John Dominic Crossan. The video series consists of short (15-18 minute) videos and will be accompanied by printed discussion guides. Dr. Crossan will present such topics and issues as the search for the historical Paul, how to read a Pauline letter, and Jewish covenant vs Roman Empire, among other topics. It is anticipated that two videos will be presented at each session.

To sign up, look for slips in Sunday bulletins or contact the church office.

Advent Devotional Booklet



Advent is coming, and we've had a request to make our own devotional again! This year's theme will be "Openings" and sign-ups will start on October 14th.

If you will not be in worship, but want a chance to sign-up, please contact the Office!



Calling All Women!

► Enjoy Women's Luncheon!

The next Women's Fellowship Luncheon will be on Wednesday, October 17th, at 12 noon at the Glen Eddy in Niskayuna. All church women – friends as well as members – are encouraged to attend, so come if you can and let's enjoy time together. Lunch costs \$16, and there is no tax or tip. So that we can let the Glen Eddy staff know how many people to expect, please RSVP by Oct. 15th, (although even at the last minute is ok) to Nancy Walden at nwalden@gleneddy.com or 518-280-8065. Be sure to put the date on your calendar and plan to come. Hope to see you there!

► Attend United Methodist Women Events!

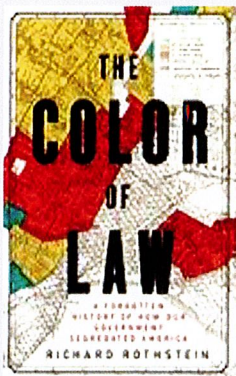
All women are welcome at these events:

- Caring Ministry / Card Project—We'll meet in the Gathering Room on Saturday, October 13th, from 10:00 am to 1 pm to make greeting cards for our Caring Ministry program.
- Annual Fall Meeting—This special gathering will be held Saturday, October 20th, at Alplaus UMC, 1 Brookside Pl. Theme is *Stomping Out Hunger*.
- Adult Forum: "Clean Water in Peril"—On Sunday, October 21st, after Worship, we'll welcome guest speaker, Elizabeth Moran, Water and Natural Resources Director at Environmental Advocates of New York, who will present a forum, open to all in Fellowship Hall. She is the author of the reports, *License to Dump*, on fracking waste entering NYS, and *Tapped out: New York's Clean Water in Peril*.

For more information on the above events and others, contact Shirley Readdean or the office.

Bible Study on Sundays

The Young Adults Bible Study is focusing on the Book of Luke. The study, led by Pastor Sara, is held on Sunday evenings from 7:00-8:30 in Wesley Lounge. All are welcome.



September/October BOOK DISCUSSION

Book:

*The Color of Law:
The Forgotten History of How
Our Government Segregated
America* by Richard Rothstein

When: Sunday, October 14, at 11:45 AM

Where: Gathering Room at church

Led by: Kevin Nelson, Chair
Intersectional Justice Committee

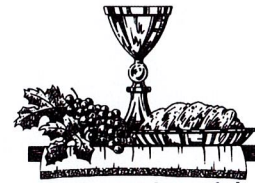
This “powerful and disturbing history” exposes how American governments deliberately imposed racial segregation on metropolitan areas nationwide (*New York Times Book Review*.) All welcome. Contact Kevin at kmichael07@yahoo.com for details about ordering a book, or you can get your own through other source.

Presentation on General Conference 2019

Tuesday, October 23, at 6:30 PM

The stance of The United Methodist Church regarding policy, Disciplinary language as well as recognition of LGBTQA members as clergy has been a big issue for General Conference over several years. This has become a critical concern resulting in the institution of a task force entitled The Way Forward to study the Church's action and reporting at a special session of General Conference in the interim prior to its regular meeting. How the church will look in the future may be decided in this special session. Over the years, members and clergy of FUMC have been delegates, observers, advocates and served in progressive movements to change the divisive climate.

To help us be more informed, about where we are, Sara Baron, Kevin Nelson and Shirley Readdean will bring us up-to-date on Tuesday, October 23, at 6:30 PM in the Gathering Room. Bring dinner if you wish.



World Communion Sunday October 7th with Sacrificial Lunch

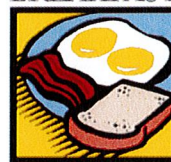
October 7th will be World Communion Sunday when communion is celebrated by Christians all over the world. FUMC will follow the worship service with a sacrificial lunch. This light lunch will help us recognize the hunger which many people endure both in this country and in other parts of the world. Everyone is welcome. Sign-up on a Sunday or contact the office.

This year, instead of doing the Letters Campaign, we encourage people to contribute to local food pantries or other areas where climate disasters affect our neighbors close to us.

A Stephen Ministry Moment

“You must be the change
you want to
see in the world.”

~ Mahatma Gandhi ~



Calling All Men!

All men are invited to gather each month on the fourth Wednesday for the Men's Breakfast Fellowship held at 8:30 AM at the Blue Ribbon Diner on upper State Street. The next gathering will be October 24th. Contact Bob Coppola with any questions.

We're Welcoming; What's Next?

Sunday, October 28, 2018

1:00 – 4:30 pm

First United Methodist Church

603 State Street, Schenectady

Is your worshipping community welcoming, affirming, reconciling, but it feels like more should be done?

Have you done great things to celebrate your LGBTQIA+ members and friends, and now it's time to share your success with other like-minded worshipping communities?

Are you part of the LGBTQIA+ community who would like to find a spiritual home but has never felt welcome at the communities you visited?

Come join us October 28th for an honest discussion of the successes and challenges of our worshipping communities in affirming and celebrating our LGBTQIA+ siblings, and contribute to ideas for taking our inclusiveness to the next level!!

We will start with a light lunch from 1:00 – 2:00 pm, with the program starting at 2pm to include time for fellowship and conversation, and an opportunity to learn from the past and present and to dream for the future.

For additional information, to register for the program and to request child care during the program, please call the First United Methodist Church of Schenectady at 518-374-4403 or email fumcschenectady@yahoo.com.

Participating congregations include Eastern Parkway United Methodist Church, Emmanuel Friedens Church, First United Methodist Church of Schenectady, Messiah Lutheran Church, Trinity Presbyterian Church and Trinity Reformed Church.



Great Opportunity!!! VIM Training Saturday, October 27th

Register by Oct. 6

UM Volunteers in Mission team leader training will be offered Saturday, Oct. 27th, 9:00-3:00 here at First UMC, Schenectady. Training will be led by Sylvia Reimer, an experienced team leader and member of the Upper NY Conference UMVIM steering committee. She and her husband, Marvin, have been participating in UMVIM teams since 1991. They have led both domestic and international teams. They were GBGM medical missionaries in Zimbabwe for 3 years. Sylvia will be assisted in the training by Jan Huston and Cindy Schulte, who are also experienced team leaders. The \$30 cost covers lunch and books. This training is valuable for anyone interested in being either a team leader or a more effective team participant. Having a trained team leader not only promotes more effective teamwork, but is essential to obtain team insurance, grants, or scholarships for team members. For more information, to help with logistics, or to obtain a registration form, contact Jan at hustonjp24@gmail.com. Forms are also in the hall near the library and in the office. Registration is due by Oct. 6 to arrange for materials and the lunch.

Enjoy Fellowship before Worship

Everyone is invited to gather for:

- Community Breakfast served 8:30-9:30 am in Fellowship Hall weekly except on the 1st Sunday.
- Books for Children & Adults are available 9-9:30 am during the breakfast in Fellowship Hall.
- Children's Sunday School 9-9:45 am in the Gathering Room weekly except on the 1st Sunday.
- Second Cup Café held 9:30 am in the library. Stop in for coffee and/or to read the newspaper!



Mark Your Calendar! FUMC Hosts Training

Racial Justice Training, conducted by Citizen Action, will be hosted by our church on Saturday, November 10, 2018, from 10am - 4pm.

For details or to register for the training, please go to: Schenectady Leadership Development Training (<https://actionnetwork.org/events/schenectady-leadership-development-training/>) It is part of a series of free trainings that Citizen Action is holding in Schenectady throughout the Fall.



Special events will benefit Schenectady Community Ministries (SiCM), which is made up of several area churches, organizations and individuals, of which, First UMC is a member. For more information on the below events, contact SiCM at 518-374-2683 or go to: www.sicm.us.

► Knights of Columbus Charity Golf Classic

This event will be held on Monday, October 8th, at the Edison Club in Rexford, NY. Registration is at 10:30 am; box lunch at 11:00; starts at 12:00 noon; buffet dinner after. Cost is \$130/person; \$500/foursome; dinner only is \$40. Register by Oct. 1.

► Harvest for the Pantry Dinner

This annual fundraiser dinner will be held on Sunday, October 28th, 2:00-5 pm, at First Reformed Church, 224 North Ballston Ave. in Scotia. Proceeds will go to the SiCM Emergency Food Pantry, located on Albany Street. This year's event will include a Can-Do Sculpture competition, which uses canned foods to create sculptures. Tickets are \$35; signups taken online at: www.eventbrite.com.

► Concert of Thanksgiving

The Music Company Orchestra will present a benefit concert on Sunday, November 4th, at 3:00 pm at First Reformed Church, 8 North Church St., Schenectady. Music will include Egmont Overture, music from West Side Story, Blue Tango. Free-will offering supports SiCM programs. Please bring a canned/nonperishable food item for Thanksgiving Dinner for the SiCM Food program, such as: cranberry sauce, pumpkin, yams, string beans, corn, stuffing.

KEEPING OUR COVENANT PROMISES - AUGUST 2018

PRAYERS - PRESENCE - GIFTS - SERVICE

OUR PRAYERS

Christian support is extended to:

The family & friends of Roland Neil, who passed away on September 13th (Alice Nash's friend)

The family & friends of Elizabeth "Betty" Duel, a friend and member, who passed away on Sept. 6th (see pg. 3 for details)

The family & friends of Herb Heiben, who passed away recently (Rev. Jane Baker's uncle)

Our Christian support is also extended to:

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Rev. Leon Adkins, Jr. | June Dieffenbach | Courtney & |
| Andrea Bailey | Liz Fogle | Jack McEwan |
| Jan Butts | Jen & Merrick Fuller | Clare Racicot |
| Janet Collis | Jan Guzior | Shirley Rivest |
| Ross Corbett | Emily Hart | Rev. Bill Rowe |
| Ron Cromer | Randolph Henry | Rev. Jan McClary Rowell |
| Shirley Daniels | Mary Neville | Bob Slater |

And to: Belinda Forbes, our Nicaragua missionary; Volunteer in Mission teams; and victims of natural disasters.

We celebrate with:

Joanna (Furbeck) & James Williams, parents, on the birth of their son, Anthony Bruce, on September 6th. Congratulations!

Andrea Bailey and Bill Price on their 50th year of church membership, celebrated on Homecoming Sunday. Thank you!

The Rev. Jane Baker and the Rev. Jim Sprenger, who were married in the sanctuary on September 2nd. Congratulations!

OUR PRESENCE

| Date | Worship |
|-----------|---------|
| August 5 | 54 |
| August 12 | 33 |
| August 19 | 45 |
| August 26 | 41 |

OUR GIFTS

| Date | Amount |
|-----------|------------|
| August 5 | \$3,536.50 |
| August 12 | 1,550.00 |
| August 19 | 566.00 |
| August 26 | 1,178.30 |

Community Breakfast

Those served this month:

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Children (Infant-17) | 20 |
| Adults (18-64) | 121 |
| Elderly (65+) | 64 |
| Total | 205 |



OUR SERVICE

- 8/5 —Youth Car Wash held to raise funds for their VIM Trip to Henderson, Kentucky
- 8/13 —Musical offerings at Worship included guest recorder, Richard Ruggiero, through FUMC's Ida Dalton Fund
- 8/14 —Collected & donated 300 boxes of markers for our children in need through Schenectady Clergy Against Hate
- 8/19-25 —Youth Volunteers In Mission Trip to Henderson, KY, where they helped with relief efforts
- 8/22 —Served meal at the City Mission of Schenectady
- 8/24-26 —Church Retreat offered program entitled "Experiencing 'God' in Our Everyday Living;" open to all
- Aug. —Distributed personal care items to those in need through our SUSTAIN Ministry program
- Continue to prepare and serve the Downtown Community Breakfast on Sundays, free and open to all
- 2nd hour programs offered: Youth Car Wash; Investment Committee; and Intersectional Justice Committee
- FUMCers helped in many areas at church over the summer, including: electrical, music at Worship, Food Bank pickups, maintenance projects; cleaning & sorting, office help, gardening & landscaping, altar work

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors — Be Invitational!



Happy Birthday!

Warm wishes are extended to our birthday celebrants: (Call the office with your birthday!)

OCTOBER

October 1 Chris Barry
1 Lisa Lane
2 Vicki Barry
3 Dominick Giaquinto
3 Jan Lucente
4 Kevin Nelson
5 Ron Cromer
6 Mike Mosier

7 Jill Seymore
8 Aaron McCormick
8 Eric Mosier
8 Shondel Neil
12 Connie Layman
13 Lettie Dickerson
13 Lee Tupper
14 Rebecca Stanford

15 Chris Rambo, Jr.
16 Julia Clunn
19 Becky Fox
21 Cassie Guzior
26 Sarah Rounds
30 Mitch Haverly
30 Tony Turner
31 Carolyn Micklas



The Spire

**First United Methodist Church
603 State Street
Schenectady, New York 12305**

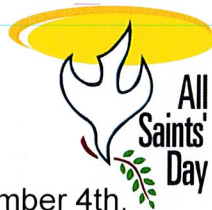
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. Postage Paid
Albany, NY
PERMIT 773

Serving Schenectady for over 200 Years

NEXT SPIRE MAILED:

October 24; articles due Oct. 15

Celebrate our Saints



On Sunday, November 4th, we'll celebrate *All Saints Day*, which will not only recognize the people who had inspired our faith and living, but also, is a chance to remember that we are all called to be saints to one another. Let us celebrate together the true meaning of sainthood and the gift God has given us in the lives of others.

Invitation

Would you simply enjoy a visit or would you like to talk and have someone listen to your concerns? If for any reason you would like a personal visit from the pastor or a lay caregiver, please call 374-4403.



Mark Your Calendar!!

Coming in early November:

Sunday, November 4

**All Saints / Family Sunday
SICM Thanksgiving Concert**

Saturday, November 10

Racial Justice Training

Tuesday, November 13

Church Night

Saturday, November 17

Pizza Party & Parade



'Like' us on Facebook !

<http://www.facebook.com/FUMCSchenectady>

***We are a church that loves to learn and yearns to
be a gift of God to our communities.***

Websites and E-Mail Addresses

First United Methodist Church—

E-Mail: fumcschenectady@yahoo.com

Website: www.fumcschenectady.org

Upper New York Annual Conference—

Website: www.unyumc.org

Albany District Office—

E-Mail: albanydistrict@unyumc.org

Website: www.unyumc.org/districts/detail/2