



THE

**Spire**

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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

Website: [www.fumcschenectady.org](http://www.fumcschenectady.org) E-Mail: [fumcschenectady@yahoo.com](mailto:fumcschenectady@yahoo.com)



Accessible

Vol. 83 No. 6

The Reverend Sara E. Baron

October 2019

## SUNDAYS

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

### Worship Text:

- Oct. 6 **World Communion / Family Sunday**  
Exodus 17:1-7; 1 Corinthians 11:17-26  
"Communion with Migrants & Refugees"  
Oct. 13 Job 14; Mark 12:18-27  
"Afterlife?"  
Oct. 20 Jeremiah 31:27-34; Luke 22:7-23  
"The New Covenant"  
Oct. 27 Psalm 84:1-7; Luke 18:9-14  
"Longing for God and..."

### Second Hour Programs:

- Oct. 6 Forum: "My Work With Refugees"  
Luncheon: Sacrificial Meal  
Oct. 13 Intersectional Justice Committee  
Oct. 20 Documentary: "Segregated by Design"

## Book Study

### "A New Day in the City: Urban Church Revival"

by Donna Claycomb Sokol & L. Roger Owens.

When: **Monday Nights** (4 weeks)  
**Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 21 & 28**

Where: **Gathering Room**

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

Sponsor: **Adult Education Team**

Please join us as we read and discuss "A New Day in the City: Urban Church Revival" by Donna Claycomb Sokol and L. Roger Owens.



"Donna Claycomb Sokol and Roger Owens share lessons they've learned on the job and from other urban pastors. Along the way, they challenge clichés about church leadership and strategic planning by showing what congregational renewal can look like and how it can become a reality. Each chapter features a set of practical guidelines for leading a congregation to address the questions that matter most."

This class is designed to provoke thoughts and discussion as it pertains to our congregation. Books, in paperback, are \$8.49 each through Cokesbury: <https://www.cokesbury.com/A-New-Day-in-the-City-1> or as an e-book for \$9.99 through Google Play. The paperback edition may be easier to use and take notes from, as we may refer back to previous passages during the discussion.

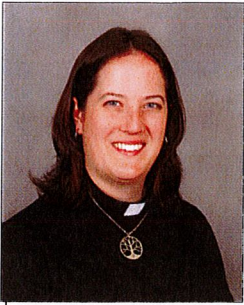
Please notify Elaine Troy or Sue Learner if you plan to attend.



## American Brass Quintet in Concert

**Sunday, October 27  
3:00 PM**

***See page 7 for details.***



## From Our Pastor

I have to admit, the “Body of Christ” metaphor really works for me. I love the description of communion that it is when the Body of Christ (church) receives the Body of Christ (communion elements) so we can be for the world the Body of Christ (working toward the kingdom, showing God's Love). Additionally, I am reminded on a daily basis that none of us individually have the gifts and skills needed to do our work in the world, but all of us together have plenty and are able to do what needs to be done.

Thus, it may not be surprising how much I love World Communion Sunday and the reminder that we, as one expression of the Body of Christ are connected to many other expressions of the Body of Christ and that we, all of us together, are the best expression of the Body of Christ out there. This lived itself out recently when I was asked to find a way to help an immigrant family in an immediate crisis. My knowledge and our resources did not meet the need. However, the connections we have to other faith communities, and the connections I've been blessed to develop with other faith leaders resulted in the family getting what they needed – and more. Other parts of the Body of Christ provided what was needed, and all it took for us to be of use was to reach out to them.

That's particularly helpful because no congregation can do all things. However, we can all do some things, and together, change happens! It is the same story as in our local church just on a different level.

The work all of us are about is co-creating the kingdom of God with God and with each other. The kingdom is both a present reality – we can see it in glimpses of goodness all around us – and something that is to come in completion in the future. The kingdom is the world as God would have it be – when all people can survive and thrive, when we treat each other as precious kin, when we move beyond competition and realize we can do the most with cooperation. Building the kingdom takes a multifaceted approach, to say the least. It involves deepening our trust in God, it involves letting go of some of our anxieties about our own lives, it involves prayer, worship, and action. Sometimes it is about listening, sometimes it is about protesting, lots of it is about building and maintaining good relationships, and often it isn't clear what is needed most and how to best act.

To be a follower of Jesus is to commit to using our lives for the building of the kingdom. To be reasonable about it is to realize that sometimes we're gonna do harm to the building of the kingdom and sometimes we're gonna do good, and hopefully God and others will minimize our damages and maximize our contributions.

In our particular Body of Christ, we have many ways of building the kingdom, and we have two imperative support systems for our work. In order for us to be wise about how and when we act (or don't!), we need the chance to learn and grow in our understanding of the world and our understanding of God's dreams. Also, in order for us to be fed and whole, ready to act, we need rest and beauty – which is often fulfilled by the gifts given to us by our music ministries. The capacity to DO would crumble without the support of learning and of music. They direct us and feed us.

And there it is – another beautiful thought about the Body of Christ – it needs to be fed not only with bread and cup but with wisdom, connection, rest, and beauty. May we be fed, and may we be able to feed the needs of the world.

- Peace, Sara

## In Memoriam

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



† **Mary DiNola**, our friend and longtime member of over 60 years, who passed away September 3. Please keep her daughters, Marianne Baratier and Donna Cummings, and the family in your prayers. Cards and notes of condolence may be sent to Marianne and the family at: 7 Knowler Ct., Altamont, NY 12009.

## 2019-2020 Directories

New Membership Directories for 2019-2020 will be available for pickup on a Sunday starting October 6h! The directories include a list of our various ministries, programs and events for this new church year. Look for yours on the ministry table in the narthex/lobby!



## E-Newsletter Available!

To receive *The Spire* via email, which saves resources, please contact the church office. Thank you.

## Altar Flowers

**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 church office.**



## Comfortable Days

As summer draws to a close and a crisp breeze fills the trees, we bask in the glory of comfortable temperatures and the glow of autumnal sunshine it is my profound hope that the summer months offered you rest, relaxation, and rejuvenation. While it may not be apparent to you as you read this, I am writing this in the midst of an upper eighties heat wave with oppressive humidity; and the juxtaposition of my setting against by topic is not lost on me. Nor, for that matter, is the irony of the fitting correlation between by intended message and the current environs in which I find myself.

While the conditions outside the walls of our beautiful building improve with each passing moment, conditions within steadily decline. For nearly two decades, this congregation has been spending at a deficit against endowments left to the furtherance of the ministries and missions of this church. Projections based on our current rate of spending are that the endowments will run out at the end of next year. Let me be clear, on or about December 31, 2020, this congregation will no longer be able to fulfill the financial commitments it currently holds. The ministries, missions, musics, and moments currently offered are unsustainable and there is no way that on or about January 1, 2021, will the same opportunities be possible.

While this may seem like a missive better suited for the bleak and barren dead of winter, I find it quite suited for the changing of the seasons we are in the midst of. From the falling of the colored leaves to the start of a new academic year, from the bounty of the harvest to the preparations made for winter, we find ourselves in a season of change and opportunity. We too, at First United Methodist Church are faced with a new and wonderful opportunity. We have the opportunity to shape the future of this church.

This opportunity is not without pain and sacrifice, nor is it without hardship or strife. This opportunity is not without struggle or strain. This opportunity forces each of us to examine down to our core what we truly hold dearest in this church and what the legacy that we wish to leave future generations will be. No great endeavor is accomplished such perseverance.

We will endeavor to persevere. We will do this not because it is easy, or because we want to; but because we need to. We will do this not because we have been asked to but because we are tasked to. We will do all these things because to honor the memory of those whose endowments have built this church; we must allow the work of building the Kingdom to continue.



John Daniel Falotico  
FUMC Schenectady Church Council Chair  
Firefighter/Paramedic



# October 2019

## First United Methodist Church, Schenectady

Calendar updates on website: [www.fumcschenectady.org](http://www.fumcschenectady.org)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> <i>Council Reports due</i> 1:00 PM Staff Meeting	<b>2</b> 6:30 pm Nominations / Lay Leadership Committee 6:45 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b> 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 12:00 noon Youth Group
<b>6</b>  <b>The Lord's Table on / Family Sunday</b> <b>10:00 AM Worship</b> 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:45 AM 2nd Hour Programs: —Forum: "Work with Refugees" —Sacrificial Luncheon 7:00 pm Bible Study	<b>7</b> 2:00 - 4 PM Pastor "Drop-in" Office Hours 7:00 - 8:30 PM Adult Education Class: Book Study	<b>8</b> 1:00 PM Staff Meeting  <b>Church Night</b> 6:30 PM Ministry Teams Meet 7:30 PM Council	<b>9</b> 11:30 AM-1:30 PM SUSTAIN Ministry 3:00 pm Music Committee 6:30 pm Nominations / Lay Leadership Committee 6:45 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal	<b>10</b> 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 12:00 noon Youth Group
<b>13</b> 8:30 AM Breakfast 9:00 AM Sunday School <b>10:00 AM Worship</b> 10:20 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:30 AM 2nd Hour Program 11:45 am Intersectional Justice Committee 7:00 PM Bible Study	<b>14</b> <b>Indigenous / Native People's Day</b> Public Schools Closed 2:00 - 4 PM Pastor "Drop-in" Office Hours 4:00 - 8 PM SUSTAIN Ministry: Sorting	<b>15</b> <i>Spire articles due</i> 7:00 PM Children & Youth Ministries Team	<b>16</b> 6:30 pm Nominations / Lay Leadership Committee 6:45 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal	<b>17</b> 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 10:00 AM Book Discussion 12:00 noon Youth Group
<b>20</b> 8:30 AM Breakfast 9:00 AM Sunday School <b>10:00 AM Worship</b> 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:30 AM 2nd Hour Program: —Forum: Documentary 3:00 PM SiCM Benefit Concert @ First Reformed, Sch'dy 7:00 PM Bible Study	<b>21</b> 2:00 - 4 PM Pastor "Drop-in" Office Hours 7:00 - 8:30 PM Adult Education Class: Book Study 7:00 pm Staff Pastor Parish Relations Comm.	<b>22</b> 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Joint Church Gathering @ Burnt Hills UMC 7:00 PM Trustees	<b>23</b> 8:30 AM Men's Fellowship Breakfast 6:30 pm Nominations / Lay Leadership Committee 6:45 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal	<b>24</b> 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 9:30 am Youth: Serve Free Comm. Brunch 10:30 am FUMC UMW Annual Meeting 12:00 noon Youth Group
<b>27</b> 8:30 AM Breakfast 9:00 AM Sunday School <b>10:00 AM Worship</b> 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 3:00 PM Concert: American Brass Quintet 7:00 PM Bible Study	<b>28</b> 4:00 - 8 PM SUSTAIN Ministry: Sorting 7:00 - 8:30 PM Adult Education Class: Book Study	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 6:45 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal	<b>31</b> 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal		

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

# Sunday School News!!



## Good News!

Sunday School started on September 22; 9:00 to 9:45 am, and is held every week except on the first Sunday of each month. It is held upstairs in the Sunday School room. All elementary grade children are encouraged to participate.

## More Challenging News!

Our Sunday School teachers need backup help. Sometimes one or more of our teachers or helpers are not available. A few people who are willing to substitute on an occasional basis are necessary to sustain this very important program of the church. A substitute would work with one of the regular teachers and would have a lesson plan with a craft project. To volunteer or to learn more about the program, please contact Elaine Troy, Amanda Taylor or Jan Huston.



## Youth News

All youth (ages 13-18) are invited to gather for:

- **Youth Group Fellowship**—Come enjoy fun and fellowship together each week at church on Saturdays at 12 noon.
- **Youth Service**—On Saturday, Oct. 26th, plan to meet at 9:15 am to serve a free community brunch at Emmanuel Friedens Church, our neighbors on Nott Terrace. Then, stay for a fellowship activity!



## World Communion Sunday October 6th

### Worship, Forum and Sacrificial Luncheon

October 6th is 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. During the meal, a presentation by Nancy Mohammadi will be given entitled, "My Work With Refugees." Everyone is welcome. Sign-ups helpful through the office.



## October's Church Night

All Ministry Teams are invited to meet on this month's *Church Night* held October 8th, the 2nd Tuesday of the month. And everyone is welcome at the council meetings. The schedule is:

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

*(Notices will go out to teams meeting.)*

## Enjoy Fellowship... before & after Worship

- **Downtown Community Breakfast** is served 8:30-9:30 AM in Fellowship Hall weekly except on the first Sunday of each month, free of charge.
- **Books for Children & Adults** available during breakfast from 9-9:30 AM in Fellowship Hall.
- **Coffee Fellowship** is held in Wesley Lounge following Worship. Come gather among friends!

## Book Discussion rescheduled for October 19

Our book discussion series resumes with "White Trash: The 400-Year Untold History of Class in America" by Nancy Isenberg. All are invited to participate by picking up a copy of the book and gathering at 10:00 am on Saturday, Oct. 19th (re-scheduled from Sept.) to discuss it!

Isenberg upends assumptions about America's supposedly class-free society—where liberty and hard work were meant to ensure real social mobility. Poor whites were central to the rise of the Republican Party in the early 19th century. Marginalized as a class, white trash have always been at or near the center of major political debates over the character of the American identity.

## 2nd Hour Program: Documentary on Oct. 20

On Sunday, October 20th, we will hold a Second Hour film screening and discussion on the film "Segregated by Design" (a 13 min. video), which is based on the book "The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America." This program will be held after Worship in Fellowship Hall. All welcome.



## Music Notes

*Please save the dates!*

Our 2019-2020 Concert Series begins on October 27, with the American Brass Quintet. Please make note as this is a change from what was announced in the spring. The next concert in the series will be March 29 with Elizabeth Pitcarin playing the famed "Red Violin". We'll conclude with organist Isabelle Demers on May 10. All concerts are free and begin at 3:00 pm.

Anyone wishing to become a patron for the Concert Series should contact Dominick Giaquinto, Diane Kingsland or Shirley Readdean.

## Joint Church Meeting



On Tuesday, October 22, everyone is welcome to gather with other United Methodist Churches at 6:30 pm for a joint meeting at Burnt Hills UMC, 816 Route 50, as churches in welcoming all of God's people into the United Methodist Church.



## UMW News

The United Methodist Women (UMW) of First UMC will hold our annual meeting on Saturday, October 26th, at 10:30am in the church Library. We'll discuss plans for the next year, elect new officers, select projects, and pledge our support to mission. All welcome.

## Ministry Moment

**"We were born to make  
manifest the glory of God  
that is within us."**

~ Nelson Mandela ~

## Sunday Bible Study led by Pastor Sara

Topic: Through the Eyes of the Stranger

Day: Sundays

Time: 7:00-8:30 PM

Room: Wesley Lounge

*All are welcome*



## Like to do Needlework?

The Needlework Ministry program (knitting, crocheting, sewing) creates hats and scarves for various causes as well as prayer shawls/blankets. If you wish to participate and want to learn more, including how to knit or crotchet, please contact Eileen Deming or Alice Nash.



## American Brass Quintet *in Concert*

**Sunday, October 27 at  
3:00 PM**

The American Brass Quintet will open FUMCs 42nd Concert Series on Sunday, October 27th, at 3:00 pm with a program of Renaissance and contemporary music written or arranged for five brass instruments. This will be an exciting concert, with music and a combination of brass instruments that we have not had here before. The performers are five superb musicians, all of whom are on the faculties of The Juilliard School and Aspen Music School, and who hold teaching positions at various other music schools, such as SUNY Stony Brook, UConn, NYU and the Hartt School. They play with various ensembles and orchestras as well as Broadway shows, have appeared as guest soloists with various orchestras in the United States and Europe, and have made many commercial recordings, including 60 made by the ensemble itself. We can look forward to hearing Kevin Cobb and Louis Hanzlik, trumpet; Eric Reed, horn; Michael Powell, trombone; John D. Rojak, bass trombone.

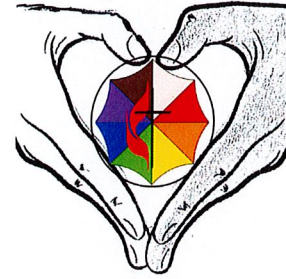
ABQ's program will include the following:

- Three madrigals by Luca Marenzio and three by Claudio Monteverdi, all arranged for ABQ's combination of instruments.
- *Luminosity* by Jessica Meyer.
- *Fixated Nights* by Trevor Gureckis.
- *Fanfare Quintet* by Jennifer Higdon
- *Frost Fire* by Eric Ewazen.

Don't be afraid to hear new music written by unfamiliar composers. ABQ won't disappoint you. It is one of today's premier chamber ensembles. Thanks to its acclaimed performances, diverse programming, commissioning, extensive discography and educational mission, it has received many awards and honors. It has been called "the high priests of brass" (Newsweek), and the American Record Guide has said "of all the brass quintets, the most distinguished." It knows how to please its audiences!

We hope you'll come on the 27th to hear some exciting music, greet the musicians at a reception in Fellowship Hall after the concert and perhaps purchase some of their CD's. So come and bring friends and family. Remember, the concert is free!

## Gratitude Through Giving



### Stewardship Campaign 2020

"FUMC shaped who I am, how I raised my children, it was important to my family and I wouldn't be 'me' without it!"

—Junice Wusterbarth  
Member of FUMC for 83 years

For two hundred thirty years, First United Methodist Church has served as a beacon in the community of Schenectady and beyond. Its congregation supports diversity, inclusiveness and progressive thinking: all welcome.

Through its Worship, Concert Series, community service, education and mission trips, FUMC has served as a vital presence in the community and around the world.

Whether you are a regular attendee or someone who hasn't had the opportunity to worship with us in a while, please consider making a pledge or donation of gratitude during our 2020 Stewardship Campaign. We ask you to reflect on what FUMC means or has meant to you and how you might help our rich traditions continue. Perhaps you would consider making a donation in memory or in honor of someone whose life made an impact on you.

In the coming weeks you will see and hear more details about this year's "Gratitude Through Giving" Stewardship Campaign. During that time, we ask that you give prayerful consideration to your participation in this campaign.

Our logo for this year's campaign symbolizes prayer, love, and outreach of the church to the world (the hands); the presence of Christ and the Holy Spirit in our midst (the cross and the flame of the UMC) and the inclusiveness of all people (rainbow around the cross and flame inspired by FUMC's rose window).

## Concert benefits SiCM

The Music Company Orchestra will present a Concert of Thanksgiving Sunday, October 20, at 3 pm at First Reformed Church, 8 North Church St., Schenectady. Free-will offering supports SiCM programs. All are welcome. Please bring dry or canned food items to help fill the food van for the SiCM Emergency Food program.



## Calling All Men!

All men are invited to gather on the 4th Wednesday for the Men's Breakfast Fellowship held at 8:30 am at the Blue Ribbon Diner on upper State St. The next gathering will be held on October 23. Contact Bob Coppola with questions.

## Annual Charge Conference Sunday, November 10

Mark your calendar! Everyone is welcome to gather Sunday, November 10, for Worship followed by our annual Charge Conference, held in Fellowship Hall. The Reverend Holly Nye will preside over the meeting.

## Electronic Giving Available

FUMC has an electronic donation system where pledge payments, donations to church benevolences, student loan payments, and other donations can be made. To learn more or signup, go to [www.fumcschenectady.org](http://www.fumcschenectady.org) or read the QR code above. The website contains a button that will take you to the electronic donations signup page. Questions? Contact the church office.



## Volunteers-in-Mission and Early Response Team Training

Two wonderful Volunteers-in-Mission (VIM) opportunities are available right in our area!

Many of you have participated in VIM activities and know how rewarding they can be. You may have heard about teams doing heavy rebuilding & hard work after disasters. That's one kind of VIM team. Many are less strenuous! There's something for everyone!!

Our youth, with Sylvester Doyer and Cliff Davis, did disaster recovery in NC in August. Other teams in the past have done similar work in NC, MS, WV, NJ, and more. Every Monday for several years Jim Troy, Jane Baker's late husband Dan, and Pete Huston went to Middleburgh, NY, with other United Methodists to rebuild after Tropical Storm Irene and Hurricane Sandy. In 2015 this church sent a team to Hogansburg, NY, near the Canadian border to build a ramp on a Methodist Church. Most of the members of that church are Mohawk Indians. They were very hospitable and shared their culture, food, and friendship. Twice we have sent intergenerational teams to Mission Central in PA to help sort disaster supplies. Since 1987 members of this church have participated in 11 teams to Nicaragua. Activities have included building homes after a hurricane or just because they were needed, health care, health education, building a community center, learning about coffee growing, singing and playing with children, building a place for high-risk pregnant women, and always forming friendships. One of our friends who goes to Emmanuel Friedens had spent several years working in Nicaragua and introduced us to Belinda Forbes and her wonderful agency – Acción Médica Cristiana. Our teams have been privileged to be able to work with her. And now our church is fortunate to have a covenant relationship with Belinda.

On Saturday, Nov. 2, at Shenendehowa UMC specialized training will prepare a person for being part of an Early Response Team (ERTs). ERTs go in soon after a disaster as self-contained teams to do the initial clean-up – mucking out, dealing with mold, putting tarps on homes, etc. Team members must be 18 years old. Training will begin with registration at 8:30am and conclude at 5pm and includes lunch. The course will be facilitated by Rev. Carl Shepard and Marybeth Ingalls. Both are experienced in disaster relief and are approved United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) ERT trainers.

VIM team leader training will be on Sunday afternoon Nov. 3, 1:00-5pm, at Shenendehowa and is free. This class will be taught by Mike Block and Marybeth Ingalls, both from the conference center Mission HUB. It will help a person to become qualified and competent to lead an UMVIM team for disaster response, medical missions, youth trips, and international mission trips. It includes fund raising ideas and a suggested time line for team preparations, especially for large groups taking trips within a year. Persons who have participated with VIM teams as well as those who are interested in learning more are invited to attend.

Registration is due by October 15th. Additional information and registration material are at [www.bit.ly/2019CliftonPark](http://www.bit.ly/2019CliftonPark). If you have questions, contact Mike Block at [mikeblock@unyumc.org](mailto:mikeblock@unyumc.org) or Carl Shepard at [umccarl@twc.com](mailto:umccarl@twc.com).

# KEEPING OUR COVENANT PROMISES - August 2019

## PRAYERS - PRESENCE - GIFTS - SERVICE

### OUR PRAYERS

#### Christian support is extended to:

The family & friends of Mary DiNola, a friend and longtime member, who passed away September 3 (details on pg. 3)

The family & friends of Joy Read, who passed away on September 3 (David Read's mother)

Raj Persaud & family, whose grandmother passed away August 19 (Raj is our new part-time sexton)

The family & friends of Justin McLoughlin, who died in a work-related accident (David Haverly's friend & college roommate)

#### Our Christian support is also extended to:

Jan Butts	Jan Guzior	Rev. Bill Rowe
Shirley Daniels	Barb Haverly	Dick Smith
June Dieffenbach	Bill Isles	Marylois Tupper &
Liz Fogle	Courtney &	Family
Roark Frisoni	Jack McEwan	José Velasquez
Jen & Merrick Fuller	Mary Neville	Joe & Barbara Waring
Greenwood Family	Shirley Rivest	Doug Wood

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

#### We celebrate with:

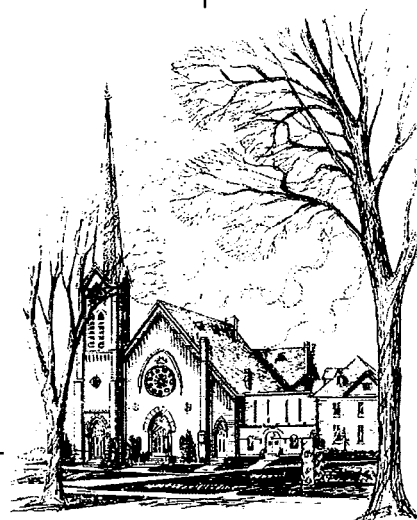
Anne & Terry Phillips, who celebrated their 50th year of church membership on September 29th. Thank you!

### OUR PRESENCE

Date	Worship
August 4	41
August 11	47
August 18	49
August 25	40

### OUR GIFTS

Date	Amount
August 4	\$6,498.00
August 11	1,342.65
August 18	1,220.00
August 25	1,840.00



### OUR SERVICE

- 8/5 —Held church outing to Valley Cats baseball game with all welcome
- 8/10 —Celebrated 100th birthday of Rudy Dehn, whose ministry at FUMC extends over 75 years
- 8/19-25 —Youth Volunteers In Mission Trip to North Carolina where they helped with flood relief efforts
- 8/23-25 —Church Retreat offered creative experiences for a deeper connection to the Holy; open to all
- 8/31 —Youth Service: Youth served free Community Brunch
- Aug. —Community Breakfast prepared & served on Sundays, free & open to all. # served=186; # volunteers=9
- Open our doors this month to community groups, including: Saturday Night Church AA; MVP; Home Furnishings Program; Schenectady Photographic Society; Morning Wakeup AA; Living Resources
- FUMCers served in many areas at church over the summer, including: gardening & landscaping; music, preaching & assisting at Worship; pastoral & caring ministry; work at Community Breakfast & SUSTAIN Ministry programs; electrical & maintenance projects; cleaning & sorting, office help, altar work, etc.

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



## ***The Spire***

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

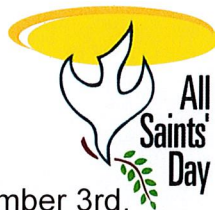
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***Serving Schenectady for over 200 Years***

### **NEXT SPIRE MAILED:**

October 24; articles due Oct. 15

## **Celebrate our Saints**



On Sunday, November 3rd, 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, call 518-374-4403.



**'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.***

## **Mark Your Calendar!!**

**Coming in early November:**

Saturday, November 2

**Early Response Team Training**

Sunday, November 3

**All Saints Sunday**

**VIM Team Leader Training**

Sunday, November 10

**Annual Charge Conference**

## **Websites and E-Mail Addresses**

**First United Methodist Church—**

E-Mail: [fumcschenectady@yahoo.com](mailto:fumcschenectady@yahoo.com)

Website: [www.fumcschenectady.org](http://www.fumcschenectady.org)

**Upper New York Annual Conference—**

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