



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@gmail.com



Accessible

Vol. 81 No. 7

The Reverend Sara E. Baron

November 2017

SUNDAYS

- 8:30 Community Breakfast Fellowship
9:00 Books available for Children and Adults
9:30 Second Cup Café
10:00 Sunday Morning Worship
Infant & Toddler Care available
Sunday School begins (10:20)
11:00 Coffee Fellowship
11:30 Second Hour Programs
—Needlework Ministry
—Adult Forums
—Ministry Team Meetings
7:00 Bible Study: "The Book of James"

Worship Text:

- Nov. 5 **All Saints / Family Sunday**
Joshua 3:7-17
Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23:1-12
Nov. 12 **Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday**
Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Psalm 78:1-7
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13
Nov. 19 **Giving Hope Sunday**
Joshua 4:1-7
Psalm 123
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30
Nov. 26 **United Methodist Student Day**
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm 100
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46



Celebrate on November 5th

This special 10:00 Worship Service will not only recognize the people who had inspired our faith and living, but also, it is a chance to remember that we are all called to be saints to one another. If you are not sure what a saint is, well then, we have a special treat just for you! Plan on being in worship Sunday, November 5th, as we celebrate the true meaning of sainthood and the gift God has given us in the lives of others.

Join the Chancel Choir for Advent!



We extend an invitation to anyone who might be interested in singing with the Chancel Choir for the Advent season, which begins December 3rd—1st Sunday of Advent.

Rehearsals are held Thursday evenings from 7-8:30 in Fellowship Hall. If interested, please contact our Music Director, Dominick Giaquinto, by November 2.



THANKSGIVING

Daylight Savings

Daylight Savings Time ends on November 5th. Remember to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed Saturday, November 4th, or at 2 am on the 5th.





From Our Pastor

Last month I challenged us all to consider this as a statement of faith: *God is enough; individually we are enough; together we are enough; we can live out of abundance and leave fear behind.* This month I want to consider some of the implications of the statement. It is so radically counter-cultural that it takes a while for the implications to sink in.

I've heard a few objections, some from inside myself and some from others. "But will we just be complacent then, not pushing anymore?" "But I/we aren't perfect yet, aren't we supposed to go onto perfection?" "But the world isn't perfect yet, aren't we supposed to be building the kingdom?" "Can't we do more?" "Have you seen the world these days, what seems like 'enough' in that?"

I've also heard a few sighs of relief, some from inside myself and some from others. "You mean we don't always have to push harder and do more?" "That could mean I could say 'no' to things I'm not interested in and have no passion for!" "Does this mean I also get time to do _____, that I really like, because I'm not filling my life with things I don't much like?" "So, trust, and faith, and all that stuff?"

Even beyond those initial responses, there are a lot implications. One is that God is God and we aren't, and we don't have to take responsibility for EVERYTHING that's wrong with the world. Another is that we are NOT fundamentally broken – and that one is mind blowing if you think about it. To push further, it suggests we have time to savor the goodness, in our lives and in our faith community. It seems possible that a lot of the busy-ness around us in life is people thinking they have to work harder (and harder) to be enough, and to be loved.

Our faith teaches that God's basic nature includes grace and mercy, that we don't have to do anything to earn God's love because God inherently loves all of creation, us included. Despite that, there seems to be a lot of frenetic energy from people trying to prove their worthiness for love. Maybe people are trying to receive love from each other, that's certainly a significant human need, but when people are frenetic they often can't build the relationships that feed that very need!

Enough-ness could have the power to slow a lot of us down, to give us time to reflect on what we love, and what we want, and to seek it. Enough-ness might have the power to speed others of us up, to give us the direction, energy and focus we've always needed to do the things we most think need to get done.

I skipped one of the most common objections, although it has been implied more than said: "If we don't try harder, we will die!" Someday, dearly beloved, we will all die and someday our faith community will die too. I hope that isn't for a very long time, but I feel confident it is statistically likely enough to claim as a truth that it WILL happen. However, being anxious about death doesn't actually delay death, and sometimes it hastens it. The best way to make sure we live lives of goodness, joy, connection, contribution, etc is by actually living them – individually and as a community of faith. We can't control the past, nor the future, but we can live well in the now.

Once again, I invite your reflections (and thank you to those who have offered them). Does this enough-ness speak to you? What excites you? What concerns you? Can you try it on and see if it fits?

Peace,
Sara



Dear Members of FUMC,

My names is Wales Brown and I am the coordinator of the Nurturing Fathers Program in Schenectady. On behalf of myself and the father's in the program, I'd like to thank you very much for the hospitality you have provided to our group during the 13 weeks.

The room is so nice and has provided a very nice place for us to meet each week. Linda has been so helpful and Martin always makes sure the room is ready. We are so grateful for the space you have provided us during the group process. It is truly a testament, as a community organizer, when others provide help and assistance and I can't thank you enough for our time at the church.....

*—Peace, Wales Brown &
Group Members, who Graduated this summer*

Gather for *Church Night* on November 14

All ministry work teams are invited to hold their monthly meetings on Church Night, held the 2nd Tuesday of the month. And everyone is welcome to attend the council meetings. The schedule is:

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

(Notices will go out to team members scheduled to meet.)



Altar Flowers

**To give altar flowers for
Sunday Worship, contact
Ann Farrell (867-7654).**



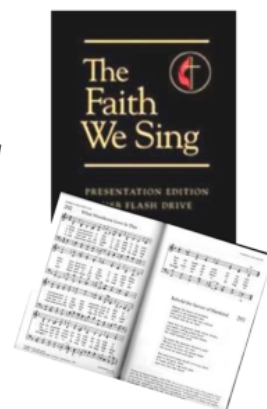
Welcome our New Members!

During Worship on Sunday, October 8th, the below new members were received into full membership in First UMC's church family. We welcome:

**Lettie Dickerson
Diane Kingsland
Roger Kingsland
Brian Maxwell**

NEW Hymnals

The new *The Faith We Sing* hymnals in the church pews are made possible through the Peter Huston Memorial. May we look at them and smile in remembrance.



2017-2018 Directories

Our new Membership Directories, which include members and friends, our many Ministry Teams, and events for this new church year, are available for pickup at church in the narthex/lobby.

E-Newsletter Available!

If you receive *The Spire* in hard-copy form and would prefer to get it by email, which does save valuable resources, please contact the office to confirm we have your email address. Thank you.



November 2017

First United Methodist Church, Schenectady

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:45 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal	2 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	3	4 10:00 AM –2 pm Youth Group
5 All Saints Sunday Family Sunday <i>Daylight Savings ends at 2 AM — Set back 1 hour</i> 9:30 AM Second Cup Cafe 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:30 AM 2nd Hour Programs 4:00 PM SICM's <i>Harvest for the Pantry</i> Fundraiser Dinner 7:00 PM Bible Study	6	7 2:00 PM Staff Meeting	8 1:00 UMCOR Flood Buckets & Hygiene Kits Assembled 6:45 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal	9 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	10 Veteran's Day (observed) Church Office Closed Public Schools Closed	11 10:00 AM –2 PM Youth Group
					Conference-wide Youth Fall Gathering @ Calvary UMC, Latham, NY	
12 Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday 8:30 AM Breakfast 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 3:00 PM SICM: Thanksgiving Concert @ Schenectady HS 7:00 PM Bible Study	13	14 9:30 AM SUS- TAIN Ministry: Sorting 2:00 PM Staff Meeting Church Night 6:30 PM Ministry Teams Meet 7:30 PM Council	15 12:00 - 1:00 PM SUSTAIN Ministry 6:45 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal	16 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	17	18 9:30 AM Youth Service: Help Pack Thanksgiving Boxes 4:00 PM Pizza Din- ner, Hot Chocolate at 50th Annual Gazette Christmas Parade (5:00 PM)
19 Giving Hope Sunday 8:30 AM Breakfast 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 11:45 AM Intersectional Justice Committee 7:00 PM Bible Study	20 7:00 PM Staff Pastor / Parish Relations Committee	21 2:00 PM Staff Meeting	22 8:30 AM Men's Fel- lowship Breakfast	23 Happy Thanksgiving! Church Office Closed Public Schools Closed	24	25 9:30 AM Youth Ser- vice: Serve Free Community Brunch @ Emmanuel Friedens 11:30 AM Youth Group: Movie
26 United Methodist Student Day 8:30 AM Breakfast 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 7:00 PM Bible Study	27	28 9:30 AM SUS- TAIN Ministry: Sorting 2:00 PM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Trustees	29 9:00 AM Stephen Ministers 12:00 - 1:00 PM SUSTAIN Ministry 6:45 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal	30 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.



Celebration Banquet

Saturday, November 4

The celebrating continues! Join in celebrating 75 years of ministry at Skye Farm Camp and Retreat Center at this special 75th Alumni Banquet, held Saturday, Nov. 4th, at 5:30 pm at Saratoga UMC! We'll look forward and talk about the changing landscape and the future of Skye Farm as we discern the challenges and the exciting possibilities for the next 75 years! All are welcome. Come and be part of the conversation while enjoying good food and some great fellowship!

To register, call 518-494-7170 or send email to Brandi@skyefarmcamp.org. Cost is \$40 (age 13 & up); \$15 (age 4-12); ages 0-3, no charge. More details at: www.skyefarmcamp.org.



Christmas Parade and Pizza Party!

Saturday, November 18

The 50th annual Gazette Christmas Parade will be held on Saturday, November 18th, at 5:00 pm and will pass right by our church! The theme for this year is "The Parade of Lights: 125 Years of Schenectady." And the floats, dancers, bands, vehicles, and parade attendees will be the biggest and the brightest! It's a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and group fun!

All church members and friends of all ages are welcome to gather at 4:00 pm for a pizza party dinner prior to the start of the parade at 5:00. We will again be serving hot chocolate to the public starting at 4:30 pm.

To sign up for the dinner and/or to volunteer to help with this event, you can sign up on a Sunday at Worship or contact the church office.



Book Study & Discussion

The November/December book study will be on *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson. It is a *NY Times* Bestseller and award winning book, including being named one of the "Best Book of the Year" by the *NY Times*, winner of the Carnegie Medal for Nonfiction, winner of the NAACP Image Award for Nonfiction, winner of a Books for a Better Life Award and numerous others.

Bryan Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system. One of his first cases was that of Walter McMillian, a young man who was sentenced to die for a notorious murder he insisted he didn't commit. The case drew Bryan into a tangle of conspiracy, political machination, and legal brinksmanship—and transformed his understanding of mercy and justice forever.



Just Mercy is at once an unforgettable account of an idealistic, gifted young lawyer's coming of age, a moving window into the lives of those he has defended, and an inspiring argument for compassion in the pursuit of true justice.

You can see Kevin Nelson (kmichael07@yahoo.com) in order to get a copy of the book for \$13, or you can get your own through a library or other source. The discussion will take place on Saturday, December 9th at 10 AM at the church.

Enjoy Needlework!

Everyone is invited to participate in Needlework Ministry (knitting, crocheting, sewing), which gathers most Sundays after Worship in Wesley Lounge. Handmade items are created then donated to those in need in our area. To learn more and/or needlework, stop in on a Sunday!



Calling all Men: Enjoy Breakfast!

All men are invited to gather for the next Men's Breakfast Fellowship held Wednesday, November 22nd, at 8:30 am at the Blue Ribbon Diner on upper State Street. Plan to gather on the fourth Wednesday of each month!

Annual Charge Conference Sunday, December 3

Mark your calendar! Everyone is welcome to gather after Worship on Sunday, December 3rd, in Fellowship Hall to attend our annual Charge Conference with the Reverend Holly Nye presiding.

A Stephen

Ministry Moment

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

~ Nelson Mandela ~

Enjoy Breakfast! Sundays 8:30 - 9:30 AM

Everyone is invited to come enjoy this community breakfast that is served prior to Sunday Worship from 8:30-9:30 am. The meal is free and served in Fellowship Hall on all but the first Sunday of each month. Hope to see you at the breakfast table!



An Invitation

For over a century, the Methodist Federation for Social Action, has been mobilizing clergy and laity within the United Methodist Church to act on issues of inequality related to Climate Justice, Racial Justice, Gender Justice, Economic Justice, Reproductive Justice, and Peace.

Working in conjunction with several UMC Boards and Agencies, MFSA supports and augments peace and justice ministries at the local, conference and national levels. As an independent organization, MFSA calls upon the UMC to expand its understanding of the radical call of the Gospel to be the inclusive, justice-seeking, risk-taking Body of Christ.

The work of the MFSA is funded solely by direct donations. The Federation does not receive funds from the United Methodist Church. FUMC includes a yearly donation to MFSA as a part of our Benevolences.

We have been invited to enter a covenant relationship with MFSA as a "Justice Seeking Congregation." The congregation will have an opportunity to accept this invitation during our Charge Conference on Sunday, Dec. 3, 2017.

By agreeing to the Covenant, we will be able to join other Justice Seeking congregations calling for sacred change and will receive access to a network of resources. The covenant asks us to: 1) continue our annual donation of at least \$200; 2) establish an annual MFSA Sunday during which a special offering will be received, and added to our yearly donation; and 3) to challenge "ourselves, our congregation and our church to expand its understanding of the call of the Gospel to be the inclusive, anti-racist/anti-oppressive, justice-seeking, risk-taking Body of Christ" as we carry out the MFSA Mission "to mobilize, lead and sustain a progressive United Methodist movement, energizing people to be agents of God's justice, peace and reconciliation."

A full copy of the proposed Covenant is on page 8 in this month's newsletter and is also posted on the bulletin board in the church main hallway.

The Sunday School Scoop

November 2017



Nov. 5	All Saints Sunday <i>Family Sunday</i> — Instead of Sunday School, children and youth remain for the full service to Worship with their families
Nov. 12	10:20 am —Sunday School; Theme is Story & Art : "Jesus and the Children"
Nov. 19	10:20 am —Sunday School; Theme is Music : "Jesus Loves Me" (Play)
Nov. 26	10:20 am —Sunday School; Theme is Science : "Totem Poles"

2017 Youth Fall Gathering / "Inward"

This year's Youth Fall Gathering/"Inward," sponsored by the Conference Council on Youth Ministries, will focus on the theme: *God Is*. This overnight special event will include Worship with band(s), workshops, speakers and lots of fun, food and fellowship! T-Shirts and snacks may be available for purchase; meals and lodging included.

Dates: Friday, Nov. 10 (6:45pm) to Saturday, Nov. 11 (4:00pm)
Where: Calvary UMC, Latham
Cost: \$40 /person (incl. Sat. breakfast & lunch)
Invited: Youth 14 and older
Signup: Contact the church office for a registration form or go to: www.unyumc.org/ccym.



November Youth Schedule

All youth ages 13 to 18 are invited to these upcoming group activities:

- ☉ Saturday, Nov. 4
10:00 am-2:00 pm: Youth Fellowship
- ☉ Saturday, Nov. 11
10:00 am-2:00 pm: Youth Fellowship
- ☉ Saturday, Nov. 18
9:30 am-1:00 pm: Youth Service: Pack Thanksgiving Boxes
- ☉ Saturday, Nov. 25
9:30 am: Youth Service Project-serve community brunch @ Emmanuel Friedens
11:30 am: Youth Fellowship - Movie

Stockade-athon

The annual Stockade-athon foot race will be held Sunday morning, Nov. 12th. The course is the same as last year with the race starting at 8:30 am across State Street at Veteran's Park. Some area streets will be blocked off again including at State St. and Nott Terrace where an officer will let you through to get to church.

Watch the news and newspapers for details including temporary street closures.

Supplies Needed

The Sunday School program needs supplies and would like your help. If you have or would like to buy any of the supplies listed below, please place them in the narthex basket or bring them to the office labeled. Thank You!

Items needed:

sturdy paper plates
toothpicks
color wheel
glue sticks





Justice-Seeking Congregation

*Taken from "...MFSA...Justice-seeking. People of Faith" brochure
(Methodist Federation for Social Action)*

Covenant

As a Justice Seeking Congregation and justice seeking people of faith, we call ourselves, our congregation and our church to expand its understanding of the call of the Gospel to be the inclusive, anti-racist/anti-oppressive, justice seeking, risk-taking Body of Christ. We will live out our belief that to be faithful witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ is to be involved in the transformation of the world.

We believe transformation is possible and hold these values as we seek sacred change in our congregations, communities, denomination and our world.

Ground Action in Faith

We will ground all we do in the justice imperative of the Gospel in a way that inspires communities and activates members' spiritual desire to do justice in the world. Inspired by the advocacy of Jesus for the least, the last and the lost, we will participate in God's ongoing creation by engaging in justice seeking in our community, the church and in the world.

Give Voice to Prophetic Christian Tradition

We will give voice to the prophetic message of a holistic Gospel that honors the dignity and value of every human life. We will deepen its understanding of the prophetic tradition by listening attentively and carefully to those on the margins of the church and of society. We will speak and act in ways that honor truth over fear and integrity over comfort.

Offer Radical Welcome; Practice Inclusivity

We will strive for full inclusion in our own congregation and community. We will be agents of God's reconciliation and inclusion in our church and world.

Address the Interconnectedness of Oppressions

We will work nonviolently to end economic injustice, institutional racism, sexism, homophobia, militarism, ableism, and the degradation of the environment. These commitments will guide our congregation's selection of issues and organizing strategies.

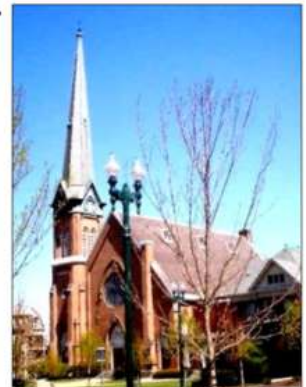
We understand that work against injustice in any one of these areas brings us closer to justice in every one of these areas. As such we will work at the intersections of oppression, refusing to pit oppressed persons and groups against one another. We understand all experiences of marginalization and injustice are interconnected because the struggle for justice is tied to concepts of power and privilege. We recognize that injustice works on multiple and simultaneous levels.

Because experiences of injustice do not happen in a vacuum, it is imperative we: develop the most effective strategies to create space for understanding privilege; organize in an intersectional framework led by marginalized communities; and build effective systems of resistance and cooperation to take action for justice.

We will focus on collaboration and relationship building.

Benefits

- ▶ **Claim boldly the hope of a New Creation**
- ▶ **Connect with other activist congregations**
- ▶ **Display a mounted MFSA plumb line**
- ▶ **Access tools for education and action**
- ▶ **Share liberation and justice liturgy**





Alternative Giving Suggestions

The Intersectional Justice Committee is encouraging all to consider "alternative giving" for Christmas and other celebrations. Most of us have too much "stuff" while many in the world are suffering without the basic necessities. Alternative (or additional) giving allows us to honor others by giving a gift in their name to a cause or organization which seeks to improve the lives of others. This year we are focusing on 5 alternatives. Displays will be available at church. You can also learn more about each option by talking with a member of the Intersectional Justice Committee.

Church World Service: *Blanket program*— A \$10 blanket supplies warmth to someone experiencing a crisis.

FUMC SUSTAIN (Soap) Ministry — Soap and other basic hygiene products are not covered by food stamps. Any size donation will help with the hygiene of needy Schenectadians.

Heifer International — "The gift that multiplies." Animals and training in their care are given worldwide. Recipients give the first offspring to someone else, thereby spreading the gift. Any donation is helpful, but you have the option of "buying" specific animals.

Home Furnishings Program of Schenectady County — This organization recycles furniture by giving donated furniture and other household items to people in need who have been referred by agencies in the county.

Community Breakfast Program is held at our church every Sunday except the first Sunday of each month to provide a good breakfast and hospitality to people of Schenectady.

Checks can be made out to FUMC with a notation of the agency to which you are donating. Or you can donate directly to the agency. Cards, which you can give to the person you are honoring, will be available in Wesley Lounge on Sundays.



We hope you will consider this meaningful way to share love at Christmas.



In Our Community...

► Home Furnishings Program—50th Anniversary!

This program works with agencies to help people in need with home furnishings. Items HFP needs include: small dressers & kitchen sets, twin & queen sheets & blankets, large pots & pans. To donate, call 518-346-2444.



Also, the HFP will hold a

50th Anniversary Celebration Saturday, Nov. 4, 5:30-9 pm at the Renaissance Restaurant, Eastern Ave.; all welcome. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door and include buffet dinner with dessert, program, and raffles and prizes. For a reservation, checks can be sent to HFP here at the church, or to HFP at 2215 Nott St., Box 139, Niskayuna, NY 12309.

► Election Day Ziti Dinner—

St. Joseph's Church, our neighbors across State St., will hold a ziti dinner on Election Day, Nov. 7th, 11:30 am—7 pm. Cost is \$8 for adults; \$5 kids under 12. Enjoy ziti & meatballs, tossed salad, rolls, dessert & drink. Take-out service available by calling 518-225-4626 after 11 am.

► Schenectady Inner City Ministry (SICM)—

Harvest for the Pantry Dinner—This year's fundraiser dinner will be held Sunday, Nov. 5th, 4-7 pm at First Reformed Church, 224 N. Ballston Ave., Scotia. The dinner (roast chicken, Cuban shredded steak or vegan chili) & silent auction will benefit SICM's Emergency Food Program. Come for an evening of fun and fellowship, while supporting the food pantry at the same time! Tickets=\$30, of which \$25 is eligible for G.E. matching. Concert of Thanksgiving by the Music Company Orchestra, a 70-piece orchestra, will be held Sunday, Nov. 12th, at 3 pm at Schenectady High School. A free-will offering will be received with proceeds going to support SICM, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary in March 2018. Canned/non-perishable food items will also be received for the SICM Food Program. For more information on the above, call 518-374-2683.

► Mayan Hands Fair Trade Sale—

On Friday, Nov 10 (10-3) & Saturday, Nov. 11 (10-6), Alplaus UMC, 1 Brookside Place in Alplaus, will hold a Mayan Hands Fair Trade Sale, which offers high quality clothing and unique items for the home. These sales help support women in 9 Guatemalan villages earn a fair return. To learn more, go to: www.mayanhands.org.

KEEPING OUR COVENANT PROMISES – September 2017

PRAYERS - PRESENCE - GIFTS - SERVICE

OUR PRAYERS

Christian support is extended to:

The family & friends of David Jacob, our former member and friend, who passed away on Sept. 30th; cards/notes of condolence can be sent to his wife, Alberta, at: 200 Veteran's Ln., Doylestown, PA 18901

The family & friends of the Mildred Cobb, who passed recently (Joan Fasser's mother)

Christian support is also extended to:

Jan Butts	Courtney & Jack McEwan
Ross Corbett	Mary Neville
June Dieffenbach	Claire Racicot
Jen & Merrick Fuller	Shirley Rivest
Sandy Buschak-Jackson	Bob Slater

We celebrate with:

Christopher Rambo, Jr. & Shannon Reifenburg, who were married on October 13th. Congratulations!

Julia Clunn & Michael Chipp, who were married on October 8th in Virginia. Congratulations!

Malcolm & Jean Boggs, who are celebrating their 71st wedding anniversary. Happy Anniversary!

Our newest church members, who joined during Worship on October 8th. Welcome!

OUR PRESENCE

Date	Worship
September 3	55
September 10	82
September 17	72
September 24	101

OUR GIFTS

Date	Amount
September 3	\$ 3,999.85
September 10	2,035.00
September 17	3,964.00
September 24	10,180.00

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Those served this month.

Children (infant-17)	28
Adults (18-64)	150
Elderly (65+)	<u>85</u>
Total	263



OUR SERVICE

- Date
- 9/1 & 9/9—Youth, under leadership of Ally Klein, painted the welcoming mural on stairwell wall
- 9/8-10—Participated in Mission “U” study @ Silver Bay, NY
- 9/10 —Musical offerings at Worship included guest baritone David Read, through FUMC’s Dalton Fund
- 9/16 —Book Discussion held on “The Acts of Jesus: What Did Jesus Really Do?”
- 9/19 —Church Library work day held with books returned to shelves, etc. following the painting of the room
- New Members Class held; open to all
- 9/23 —Carl Lectures held with guest John Dominic Crossan on “God...Jesus and Violence; free and open to all
- 9/24 —Homecoming Sunday celebration, with all welcome, included guest John Dominic Crossan, guest musicians, and a special recognition to those marking 50 years of FUMC membership
- 9/27 —Served supper at the City Mission of Schenectady
- 9/30 —Youth Service: Youth served free Community Brunch
- Participated in the Albany District UMW gathering @ Amsterdam UMC
- Sept. —Distributed personal care items to those in need through our SUSTAIN Ministry
- Held collections for UMCOR towards relief efforts after the devastating hurricanes in the south (\$1,705)
- Continue to prepare and serve the Downtown Community Breakfast on Sundays, free and open to all
- 2nd hour programs included: Needlework Ministry, Sunday School Orientation; and Homecoming Luncheon

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



Happy Birthday!

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

Nov. 1 Roger Kingsland	14 Ernie Readdean	18 Nancy Quackenbush	25 Bob Petticrew
2 Jennifer Collins	16 Martin Manley	20 Laurel Rockwell	26 Zach McCloskey
7 Brenda Arley	17 Brooke Bardwell	22 Steve Barry	29 Nancy Walden
10 Shelley Frisoni	18 Michael Lonergan	23 Elizabeth Harnden	30 Josh McFarland
10 Stephanie Kempf	18 Brendan Lynn	25 Abigail Messick	



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:
Nov. 29; articles due Nov. 15



'Like' us on Facebook

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

We have an active Facebook page...share joys and concerns, events, photos, inspirational quotes!



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

**Rose
Window
encircles
Altar Cross**



Mark your calendar! The Sanctuary will be open 2:00-3 pm on Wednesday to Friday, December 6-8, for all to have an opportunity to see the sunlight shine through the beautiful Rose Window and encircle the cross on the Altar.

Mark Your Calendar!!

Coming in early December:

Sunday, Dec. 3

**First Sunday in Advent
Annual Charge Conference**

Wednesday-Friday, Dec. 6-8

Rose Window Reflections

Saturday, Dec. 9

Book Discussion

Sunday, Dec. 10

Christmas Caroling

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