

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2017



# UNITED CHURCH

## **TURN OVER A NEW LEAF THIS FALL**

### **Or Simply Enjoy Traditional Treasures**

As we go to print, we are looking forward to our program year start up, seeing people we missed over the summer due to our different travel and vacation schedules, high energy and activities and events dear to our hearts. As always, there are also some new or adapted offerings to keep us vital and engaged. This newsletter is chock full of information and opportunities so be sure to take the time to read it and mark your personal calendars, iPhone reminders etc. so you don't miss anything. Some things to look for:

**September 9:** The **Steeple Coffee House** season opens two weeks early this year.

**September 10:** We return to our regular fall schedules, including worship, Bible Study, Adult Forum, Young Person Education and music and choir rehearsals. We celebrate our ten years together in ministry with a **hymn sing** of favorites about ministry, community and calling, followed by a **party** in Fellowship Hall under the direction of Alice and Carl (so we know it will be awesome). Come for the music and stay for the party.

**September 16 (Saturday) Fayetteville Festival/ Blessing of the Animals at 1:00pm.** Be part of this celebration of all the non-profits in Fayetteville and help make our warm and active congregation more visible in the community.

**October 1: Church in the World Sunday** returns. **We gather at 9:30am in the Sanctuary** – **note the one-time time change** –for a communion service and head into the world after worship to serve our neighbors. Offerings and sign-ups will soon be available and we are adding opportunities to work for our neighbors while remaining in the building for those whose mobility means they would prefer to stay in this setting. Plan now to be part of this important and rewarding event. (Music resumes on October 8; Education resumes on October 15.)

**October 25: Social Justice Sunday** sponsored by the Worship and Spiritual Life Committee. This year, we welcome the Rev. Craig French, one of the spotlight leaders for the Alliance of Communities Transforming Syracuse (ACTS). He will also be speaking at the Adult Forum.

On these days and all the days in between, fellowship, study, music, worship, caring and serving –joyfully, with humor and fun! Be sure to make life at and with UCF part of the glorious foliage of your fall.

In faith,

Linda



### **From the Director of Music Ministries**

Another wonderful and busy summer in Central New York has passed. In between spending time with friends and family and making plans for the new program year, we have had more than a few friends join us in making music during worship. Starting with John Price at the outdoor service, we've been blessed to have a men's quartet of voices, some instrumentalists and a memorable Sunday where we incorporated a modern music work into the worship. It has been a joy to keep the work going all summer with all of you.

Dr. Even, the rest of the staff and volunteers, and myself have worked on planning for our next program year together. I'm looking forward to getting back to work with many of you in a few short weeks. As always, we're hoping to add a few members to the choirs - this includes the UCF Choir, the Handbell Choir and the Joyful Sign choir. In addition to our celebrations on Christmas and Easter, we'll also be looking forward to choral services again this year. Our first Choral Service is on November 5th and will reflect the texts for All Saints and All Souls Day. If you would like to be a part of the choir, but do not have time to commit to the entire season, I'd like to remind you that we'll always welcome singers for whatever duration suits your availability.

Working with the many talented people at UCF makes this a terrific place to call home as a musician, and a church member. I'm looking forward to another year of excellent music making, great conversations, and deepening friendships with all of you. Thanks for all of your hard work and see you soon.

- Jared

### **FALL 2017 ADULT FORUM**

**September 10** We begin with our traditional opening to the season. Once again, **Ambassador Goodwin Cooke** will share his insights. His topic will be "President Trump's Foreign Policy." Ambassador Goodwin Cooke earned his Bachelor's degree in 1953 from Harvard College and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the US Marine Corps that same year. He served as an engineering officer and battalion adjutant from 1953-1955, with an overseas posting to Okinawa, Japan. He began his career with the US State Department in 1956, serving as a foreign service officer until 1981, with postings to Pakistan, Yugoslavia, Italy, Belgium, Canada, and the Ivory Coast/Cote d' Ivoire. In his final posting, he served as US Ambassador to the Central African Empire/Republic.

Since leaving the foreign service, Ambassador Cooke has been a professor at The Maxwell School of Syracuse University. He is now Professor of Practice Emeritus, International Relations. In this capacity, he has developed a course on Nations and Nationalism that addresses some of the issues and dilemmas which lie behind the world's bloodiest conflicts.

**September 17 "Love your neighbor as yourself"** is UCF's 2017-2018 theme for ministry and mission. Participate in this Board-led discussion when deacon-elders share their insights and thoughts that led to this choice, hear where they hope we go and provide your feedback and input.

**September 24 In My Father's Kitchen,** founded by **John and Leigh-Ann Tumino** IMFK is a faith-based organization offering assistance to homeless people through direct outreach. John and Leigh-Ann build relationships with chronically homeless individuals and meet the unique needs of homeless people not yet ready to leave the streets and who refuse to stay in emergency shelters. IMFK provides food and basic necessities on a consistent and compassionate basis until a homeless individual is comfortable accepting help and working with community agencies to secure housing. IMFK is one of the recipients of the Great Commission monies UCF donated in 2017.

**October 1 Church in the World Sunday** After a 9:30 communion service in the sanctuary, we will go into the world to serve the neighbors whom Jesus commands us to love. *Adult Forum resumes on October 15*

**October 8 Columbus Day Education Holiday** *Adult Forum resumes on October 15*

**October 15 Church in the World Reports** Hear from all the folks that went into the world or prepared projects here at UCF about the ministries in which they participated and what the experience was like.

**October 29** We welcome **Rev. Craig French** former pastor of University United Methodist Church in Syracuse. Rev. French is a "spotlight leader of the **Alliance of Communities Transforming Syracuse (ACTS)**. **ACTS** is a grassroots, interfaith network advocating for social justice., striving for a more just and fair community that improves the quality of life for all in Onondaga County. They gather as people of faith and conscience in working to effect the systemic change necessary to rectify the social, economic, educational, and political inequities that exist in our community. Some of the foci of their action include: a Transportation coalition, Pre-K Expansion, Community Violence and Youth and Criminal Justice. They were instrumental in effecting change in how juvenile offenders were treated at Jamesville Correctional Facility. Rev. French will also be preaching this morning for the Worship and Spiritual Life Sponsored "Social Justice Sunday."

**November 5 Spirit of America** As part of the *Spirit of America* project, InterFaith Works developed this past summer, we will hear from a New American (former refugee) about his/her personal experiences as a refugee and a New American. You can find additional information about this program on InterfaithWorks' website ([www.interfaithworkscny.org](http://www.interfaithworkscny.org)) including Website, Facebook links and a video link of two young refugees telling their personal stories; Interfaith Prayer Service for Refugees; and a fact sheet about InterFaith Works and its refugee resettlement program.

**November 12 The U.S. State Department.**

**November 19 Making Advance Medical Care Decisions** Our own Janet will educate and lead us in a discussion about medical care planning. We all have ideas about our own deaths and how we would prefer they occur. However, many of us have not discussed these preferences with our loved ones or our health care providers. Join us to discuss how to fill out a MOLST form. What is a MOLST form? What does M-O-L-S-T stand for? Who should have one? What does the form mean? Empower? How do you make your wishes known? Janet is certified in Thanatology

**November 26 Thanksgiving Weekend Education Holiday** *Adult Forum resumes on December 3.*

**December 3 Haiti Update** led by our own **Scott and Gloria**. As we anticipate the Brass and Bells Concert benefitting our education ministry in Haiti, hear about our shared education ministry in Haiti, accomplishments, needs and the most recent trip to Haiti this fall. Scott and Gloria may bring other participants in this collaborative ministry with them.

**December 10 Tradition and Theology for Advent and Christmas** (Part I of II) Dr. Even will lead a discussion of the origins of Advent and Christmas traditions, how and where they came to be and how theology, politics and culture may have affected their practice.

**December 17 Tradition and Theology for Advent and Christmas** (Part II of II) Dr. Even will lead a discussion of the origins of Advent and Christmas traditions, how and where they came to be and how theology, politics and culture may have affected their practice.

**December 24/December 31 Christmas/ New Year's Education Holiday** Adult Forum resumes on January 7, 2018

**The Wednesday Bible Study group** meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 2:00 to 3:00 pm in the Women's Lounge. This year we are studying the Old Testament and will begin with Numbers in the September 6th meeting.

We are a group of people with varying amounts of knowledge about the Bible who share ideas, resources and experiences in a warm and friendly environment. We welcome new participants at any time. If you have questions please contact Diana or Jackie.

### **From the Outreach Committee**

**Where does your Mission money go?** This year your Outreach Committee has designated \$500 to go to the Blessings in a Backpack program administrated locally by Bellevue Heights United Methodist Church. Blessings in a Backpack is a national program that provides food to school-aged children on weekends. Syracuse, having a very high poverty rate, has many children who have their meals at school 5 days a week but may have nothing to eat on weekends. Bags are packed with a can of pasta, a cereal box, granola bar and drink box and are sent home on Friday afternoon with a child. Our \$500 will feed 5 children on weekends for one year at Delaware School in Syracuse. This is one way your mission dollars are making a difference in the lives of children in our community.

## **PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING**

The annual PEACE offering will be received on October 8, 2017 during worship. This offering is designated for promoting the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world, transforming cultures of violence into communities of peace.

This year the portion of the offering that UCF can designate to a local "peace making effort" will go to Alliance of Communities Transforming Syracuse (ACTS)

ACTS is a grassroots, interfaith network advocating for social justice in Central New York. They are voices striving for a more just and fair community that improves the quality of life for all. Their current efforts include: expanding availability of pre-kindergarten classes, improving access to healthy foods, quality legal representation for those awaiting trial, and fair and rehabilitative treatment of youth by the criminal justice system. Please prayerfully consider your PEACEMAKING offering.

## **Church in the World Sunday**

Sunday, October 1, 2017 will be our second "Church in the World" Sunday. After a short worship service together you are invited to go out in the community in Christian love to help others for a couple hours. The Outreach Committee has identified several ways we can be of help in our community from yard work, picking up trash, hands on repair work, cooking, to packaging items for distribution. There will be projects available for all ages and abilities that you can sign up to do. Put on your jeans and work gloves and join us in sharing Christ's love outside the walls of United Church on Sunday, October 1st. Sign up begins September 10<sup>th</sup>.

## **STEEPLE COFFEE HOUSE**

SCH events resume on Saturday, 9/9/17, which will feature two of our favorites, LOREN BARRIGAR AND MARK MAZENGARB. Rumor hath that Mark's wife will join them for some of the numbers. This event, being on 9/9, kicks off the 2017-18 season a bit earlier than usual to ensure we include them in the year's schedule--they leave CNY shortly thereafter to go on tour.

As has become SCH custom, advance sale tickets will be available for purchase after service on Sunday, 9/3/17 for \$15/person (\$20 at the door on 9/9). The season schedule will be available at that time also (if you already have one, you will want to replace it with an updated one).

The SCH schedule for September/October 2017:

|       |                        |
|-------|------------------------|
| 9/9   | Barrigar & Mazengarb   |
| 9/23  | The Atta Boys          |
| 9/30  | Genesee Ted/Dove Creek |
| 10/14 | Big D Orchestra        |
| 10/28 | Vectors Lite           |

Volunteer SCH staff welcome and needed. It's a great outreach event with which to be involved! Post flyers around the F-M area, provide event kitchen coverage, organize for desserts, provide desserts, letter event sign.... For more info, contact Cindy or see me after Sunday service....

**SAVE THE DATE-** *The UCF Harvest Market Booth at FAYETTEVILLE FESTIVAL will be Saturday, September 16th from noon to 5pm at Beard Park in Fayetteville- Donations of baked goods, home grown produce, canned goods, crafts etc. will be appreciated to stock the booth and can be dropped off in the UCF kitchen by 7pm Friday 9/15 in the area marked Harvest Market. Volunteers to man the booth are also needed Saturday 9/16 from noon to 5pm. Please see sign up sheet outside the sanctuary. Join us with your beloved pet at the Festival at 1pm for the Blessing of the Animals with Dr. Even. Please call Tracy for donation pick up or more information. Thank You!*

### **Fellowship Committee**

Dear Church Family,

As the new co-chairs of the fellowship committee, Tracy and I look forward to providing opportunities to build community, enjoying eats and drinks together! As our partners, we will be asking for your support as we continue our long tradition of providing a time for fellowship following worship. For now, we would like to **Thank Martha K.**, for her many years of service to us all it took two of us to take on her responsibilities!! We would also like to remind you that our **HARVEST POTLUCK BRUNCH is September 24th**. Please plan to join us and let us know you will be there by signing up. In faith, Janet and Tracey

### **Hymn Sing and Party**

On **Sunday, September 10th**, we will be honoring Reverend Linda Even for her 10 years of ministry in our Church. This is also her 25<sup>th</sup> year since ordination. These are two major milestones, so let us celebrate with a party after our 10AM church service. Any questions may be addressed to Carl or Alice.

### **Worship and Spiritual Life Committee**

"Worship and Spiritual Life meetings will be held on the following Monday nights for the fall - Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 13, and Dec. 11. at 7 pm in Women's Lounge. This is a change from our usual second Tuesday of the month evenings."

### **Become a Liturgist.....**

Are you thinking about becoming more involved in the church and wondering how best you might do that? Becoming a liturgist may be a good way to focus your efforts even if you are short on time. There are no meetings to attend and preparation is minimal. For more information please contact Jackie or Diana.

## Stewardship

***Love your neighbor as yourself***—has been the theme for a year in our life together as chosen by the Board. Throughout the year, Dr. Even has been preaching and groups have been exploring the concept of neighbor, who are our neighbors, and how we might relate and interact with them. As we approach the time of year when we each determine the best stewardship of our time, talent and money, let us continue to think of our neighbors and how our stewardship decisions and actions and our ministry in this place impact them and our relationships. Let us each prayerfully prepare to make anew our commitment to the work of Jesus Christ in this world.

## Membership Care and Development

**Congregational Care Committee** will be meeting **Tuesday, September 19 at 1:00pm in Beard Lounge**. Our goal is to minister to the ill, homebound, and bereaved of our church family. If you have sympathetic ears and a compassionate heart, we would welcome you to come and learn about what all we do. For more information, contact Cindy

**Tabitha Women** will be reconvening on **Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm** sharing our summer experiences and maybe some tall tales. Tabitha is a delightful group of eclectic women-women with gigantic hearts and curious minds and marvelous senses of humor. We do mission projects, bible studies, cooking extravaganzas, movie nights, book reviews, field trips, etc. and primarily good old fashioned fellowship! And here are the strenuous requirements to participate: Be a women worshipping at UCF! If you've never "tried" us, please consider stopping by! Need more information? Contact Cindy

## LEADERSHIP CHANGES/LEADERSHIP NEEDED

There are many committees and groups in the church, not directly coordinated by a Board member.

\*Last spring, we thanked **Martha K.** for her six years of service leading our fellowship efforts. We now welcome co-chairs **Tracy** (weekly Sunday morning fellowship) and **Janet** (major events) as they provide oversight of this beloved part of our life together. Be sure to sign up early and often.

\*Last spring we thanks **Kathy B.** for her six years of service as chair of the Memorials Committee. We welcome Jane A. as the new chair of the Memorials Committee.

\*This summer, **Adam** and **Stephanie** indicated they needed to step back from coordinating the Adult Forum as their attention shifted to Stephanie's search for a full-time job and this transitional period in their lives. We are grateful for their leadership in Adult Forum these past four years. Dr. Even agreed to coordinate Adult Forum through the fall, as we seek new leadership. We are grateful to Jackie who agreed to set up chairs and coffee throughout the season. Stop in and help her as you are able and be sure to come to Forum (Its schedule appears elsewhere in the newsletter.) **If you are interested in being the Adult Forum coordinator(s), please speak to Dr. Even and Education Elder Kevin S.**

**SHARE A MEAL WITH LINDA** As we resume our fall programming, Linda is looking forward to sharing meals with you. The Administrative Assistant is handling this aspect of my schedule, so please contact her.

**Breakfast at 8:00am or earlier if you wish at Mac's Local Yolk**

Tuesday, September 5

Wednesday, September 6

Tuesday, September 12

Wednesday, September 13

**Lunch at 11:30am at Hullars or King David's in Fayetteville (your choice)**

Thursday, September 28

**DR. EVEN AGREED TO SERVE ON THE PRESBYTERY LEADERSHIP TEAM** Because the leadership team meets on the fourth Thursday of the month, (Thursdays are, as you know, my Sabbath) I have declined previous invitations to serve. I accepted a two year term (which technically began in June. On that particular week of the month, my Sabbath will be on another day, most likely determined by the demands of the particular week. I will serve on the Preparation for Ministry work group – which oversees the preparation of individuals preparing to serve as certified lay ministers or Ministers of the Word and Sacrament. This is a role I have taken in both of my previous presbyteries.

**Blood Drive**

The 6<sup>th</sup> annual blood drive in memory of Stu Woodcock will be held on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, from 78:00 am – 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. All types of blood are needed, as well as double red blood cell donations. Please contact Mary Jane or [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).



**Sunday, September 3**

**The Lord's Supper**

9:30 am Worship  
10:30 am Fellowship

Monday, September 4 – office closed for Labor Day

**Sunday, September 10**

23<sup>rd</sup> day in Ordinary Time  
8:45 am Adult Forum  
8:45 am Bible Study  
9:30 am Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship  
11:00 am Fellowship

**Sunday, September 17**

24<sup>th</sup> day in Ordinary Time  
8:45 am Adult Forum  
8:45 am Bible Study  
9:30 am Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship  
11:00 am Fellowship

**Sunday, September 24**

25<sup>th</sup> day in Ordinary Time  
8:45 am Adult Forum  
8:45 am Bible Study  
9:30 am Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship  
11:00 am Fellowship

**Sunday, October 1**

**The Lord's Supper**

9:30 Church in the World Sunday  
9:30 am Children in Worship  
10:00 am Church in the World Activities

**Sunday, October 8**

27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8:45 am Adult Forum  
8:45 am Bible Study  
9:30 am Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 am Children in Worship  
10:00 am Worship  
11:00 am Fellowship

**Sunday, October 15**

28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8:45 am Adult Forum  
8:45 am Bible Study  
9:30 am Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship  
11:00 am Fellowship

**Sunday, October 22**

29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8:45 am Adult Forum  
8:45 am Bible Study  
9:30 am Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship  
11:00 am Fellowship

**Sunday, October 29**

30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8:45 am Adult Forum  
8:45 am Bible Study  
9:30 am Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship  
11:00 am Fellowship



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*September/October 2017*

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