

FROM THE PASTOR

We have a busy and exciting fall ahead of us. We'll start our opening day of the fall season with a Hymn Sing followed by fellowship. Be sure to try out new things: a new format for Adult Studies; an additional Sunday School class and slightly new format. There are articles in the newsletter about these things – be sure to read the ones that impact your household.

There will be "Refresh Desserts" hosted by various members with conversation facilitated by elders. Watch for announcements and be sure to sign up for one to share your ideas about new ideas for ministry.

People have been working very hard all summer to jump-start our programming and people are needed to make everything come alive. Because some very active households moved away due to family or work needs, we have need for new folk to step up, with presence and with the sharing of all our gifts, time, energy and treasure. We are grateful for those who already have taken on a new role. As you read the articles and review the calendar look for the places where your passions and the needs of the ministry meet. We use the word "volunteer" most often, but it is good to remember that as "disciples of Christ", we have already agreed to serve, giving of ourselves fully. It takes all of us to be involved –with our prayers, our presence, our hands, hearts and treasures to sustain and enhance our vital ministry.

In faith, Linda

P.S. The series on Christian spirituality in community will resume once we are fully staffed.

P.P.S. A "pretty" newsletter will return next month. I thought it was important to get the information for fall start up out.

FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

Welcome back to all of the many volunteers in our combined music ministries. Though many of our choir singers, handbell ringers, and Joyful Sign 'signers' take the opportunity to travel during the summer, a number of them joined us over the summer for some special music offerings, a handbell workshop (organized by the Manuels - thank you), or just to say hello and visit after the service and lend their singing voice to the congregation.

As we all get caught up over the next few weeks, we'll also get back into the routine of rehearsals and playing and singing in worship on Sunday. As a reminder, our weekly handbell choir rehearsal is on Thursday evenings from 6:30 - 7:30. The adult choir rehearsal takes place on Thursday evenings from 7:30 - 8:30. Both of these choirs are open for participation and no audition or prior experience is necessary. If you are interested in joining either or both of these ministries at UCF, please feel free to get in touch with me anytime after the service or send me an email at jared.shepard@gmail.com. The Joyful Sign choir rehearses on Thursdays before the handbell rehearsal and it is organized by Barb Morison. If you are interested in joining the joyful sign choir, please contact either me or Barb and we'll be happy to get you involved.

Our plans for the music ministry this fall begin with singing hymns with the residents at Maple Downs on September 30th. In December we'll be ministering a special program on each of the first three weeks of Advent with Advent Lessons and Carols at Immaculate Conception Church on December 2nd, Brass and Bells

with the Syracuse Chorale on December 9th, a Choral Service on December 16th and the special music for our candlelight service on Christmas Eve.

I am looking forward to doing great music ministry work with all of you once again. We have excellent, wonderful, talented people in all of our music ministries, and it is a great source of joy and wellness in my life to get to work with them every year. And when you see one of our music ministry volunteers, please say hello and tell them what their ministry means to you.

Jared

THIS FALL!

BABIES AND TODDLERS

Nursery Care

We begin this fall with our new nursery care worker, along with a weekly volunteer, providing care from 15 minutes before the service, until 15 minutes after the service. Parents: Please note: While elementary age children may take advantage of that care during the summer months, K-12 children and youth should go to their grade appropriate activities –worship or Sunday school -- during the program year. This is for their safety and faith development, as well as the safety of our growing population of infants and toddlers.

K-12 EDUCATION AT UCF RESUMES ON SEPTEMBER 9

Sunday School resumes on September 9. There will be more information coming shortly, but the **immediate change is that ALL K-12 Children and Youth start their morning in worship.** This helps them stay connected with the activities of the church and learn the shape of worship. Following the Assurance of Pardon, they will go to their classes led out by their teachers. Parents will be receiving class lists and other information soon.

The Worship and Spiritual Life Committee received with regret the news that Jared and Liz will be unable to continue in their volunteer roles as the Children's Music Leaders. We are looking at options for non-weekly alternate ways of providing opportunities for young people's musical leadership in worship. If you have an interest in supporting K-12 musical development (vocal, instrumental, signing etc.) please speak to Dr. Even.

FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF ALL MINORS There will be a sign-in sheet each week. Parents/grandparents are asked to sign in and provide their cell number so that if your child needs you, you can be texted to return to the nursery or classroom. Thanks for your help with these things.

ADULT EDUCATION RESUMES

Wednesday Bible Study Resumes September 5 at 2:00 pm

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month in Women's Lounge. We will continue reading the Old Testament with the Book of Ruth being our next challenge. If anyone has any questions please contact Jackie Meyer (315.632.4267; jmeyer@twcny.rr.com) or Diana Norcross (315.446.6723; diana.norcross25@gmail.com)

Sunday, September 9 at 8:45 AM The Unending Search

Come one, come all and join us in THE UNENDING SEARCH! Our Sunday morning offering has taken on a new name (The Unending Search) and a new format. Over the next four months we will examine four

separate topics, one each month for three Sundays of the month. We will look at our topics through Bible study, topical speakers and discussion. Join us for the first session Sunday morning from 8:45 AM To 9:45 AM!

The first topic will be *The Environment*.

*September 9th - Bible study/ discussion, "Humans and Creation" led by Dr. Even
Please read Genesis 1: 26-28 and Genesis 2: 7, 15 and Mark 16: 14-20 in preparation.

*September 16 – "The Indigenous People's Relationship to Onondaga Lake" led by
Sandy Bigtree and Philip Arnold

*September 23 – Jeff Brown, Esq. general counsel and public affairs officer for the Onondaga County Water Authority (OCWA).

CHURCH IN THE WORLD SUNDAY RETURNS!

Welcome to the fall program at UCF. The Outreach Committee is planning a "Church in the World Sunday" for September 30th. After an abbreviated worship service we will have some activities available that involve being and working in our community for a couple hours. No special skills or talents required just a desire to be in the community showing our love for our neighbor. Various opportunities both indoors and outdoors and in the church will be available.

Watch for more specific information and those (very helpful) sign up boards in early September. Looking forward to seeing everyone as we begin the 2018-19 program year at UCF and continuing mission work wherever we are led.

Outreach Committee

ONE OF UCF'S FAVORITE EVENTS The Harvest Brunch is coming soon! Watch for sign ups!

COMING SOON

REFRESH DESSERTS

The Board is excited to initiate some congregational conversation about hoping, dreaming and working toward the future of our vital ministry. Marti V. recruited a number of host households to provide a welcome and dessert at a variety of times and days, while someone from the Board will be present to invite ideas and discussion. Sign up sheets will soon be available. Please do honor hosts' requests for the maximum number of people so that hosts and guest are comfortable and a good time is had by all –as is usually the case when UCF folk get together. (There will only be that many places to put names – one person per line.)

THE 13TH SEASON OF THE STEEPLE COFFEE HOUSE

opens on Saturday, 22 September 2018, featuring one of our all-time favorites, **Loren Barrigar**. The following Saturday, 29 September, SCH will host Grammy-award winner **Clay Hess** with his band. It is a stellar beginning and will be a great kick-off for the SCH 2018-19 season!

As is SCH practice, discounted advance sale tickets will be available for purchase at UCF after the Sunday morning service preceding an SCH event.

Participation in staffing SCH events is appreciated! If you are interested in working with the SCH team (provide desserts, help with set-up or tear-down, help in the kitchen, deliver posters around the F-M area or other event-related needs) please contact Cindy Burke (315.637.9240; LeMuv@aol.com).

STU WOODCOCK MEMORIAL BLOOD DRIVE – Saturday October 13.

The 7th annual Blood Drive in memory of Stu Woodcock is Saturday, October 13th from 8-1 in Fellowship Hall. Please consider donating!!! If you have any questions please contact Tori Andruczyk at 585-738-1048 or 1-800-RedCross.
Mary Jane Woodcock

TAKE NOTE

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Board has called a Special Congregational Meeting for Sunday, September 9 at the beginning of worship for the purpose of electing people to fill vacancies on the counter team and nominating committee, created when people moved away.

HELP STILL NEEDED

FELLOWSHIP IS OUR 'AFTER PARTY'! We get together, catch up, and our community grows! It is very simple to assist with this important gathering! there are frozen baked goods and instant lemonade and instant iced tea in the kitchen, .ready to be watered. If you prefer to be more elaborate , that is also fine. Let's just make sure we share the opportunity to serve our church community! Please sign up for fellowship! Interest, questions, availability-- contact Janet (315.637.5589; jpress1102@gmail.com).

STEWARDSHIP FOR 2019

Very soon you will receive a mailing asking you to prayerfully consider the amount you can share with those in fellowship and sitting beside you at United Church in order to do the work of this church. That work includes taking care of our beautiful church, providing music, preaching the Word, teaching our children, guiding our youth, providing opportunity for spiritual growth and deepening of our faith as we face uncertain times. Our work also includes reaching out to the hungry, to those who are alone, to those who are lost and to those to whom we can demonstrate Christ's love. We are working to maintain our firm foundation—the one made of bricks and mortar and the one formed by our faith. Prepare to declare what you will contribute to help United Church become stronger and more faith filled in 2019.

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION NEEDED –SEE OUR EDUCATION PLANS

SUMMER WRAP UP

Other than planning for fall (and there has been a lot of that, what has been happening at UCF this summer?

WELCOMING NEW STAFF

The Staff Support Committee (SS) has been busy this summer.

Paid Nursery Caregiver

On SS's recommendation, the Board agreed to add a staff position –that of a paid nursery caregiver. While a church volunteer is still required each week to maintain appropriate levels of child safety, Lauriette Fallico will be a constant presence on Sunday mornings from 15 minutes before worship to fifteen minutes after the conclusion of worship.

Lauriette recently moved from Clay back to F-M, where she grew up. She is the mother of a college-

age daughter and high school age son now enrolled in F-M Schools. For almost all the time since they were born, she was a stay-at-home mom. As a mother, aunt and school volunteer, Lauriette has experience with typical and special needs children.

Administrative Assistant

After saying goodbye to Fulya this summer, the Staff Support Committee engaged in an intensive search and interviewed at least a half dozen candidates – having ready many more resumes. We offered the position to Beth Mallara, who comes to us with much experience working in various office support positions at SU. She writes: "I grew up in Mattydale. I have a 17 year old daughter, and a Maltese mix named Snowball. We also have 2 rabbits, named Barley and Little Juan, whom we love very much! I like to spend time with my daughter going to the movies, the YMCA, going for walks, and to festivals."

Beth will begin her official office hours on September 4. The office hours from September through June will be 8:30-12:30, Monday through Friday. Be sure to greet her. (Also – as we begin orienting someone new, when sending articles for inclusion in the newsletter or bulletin, please be sure to tell her your name and role (Your email address isn't always a clue☺)



THANK YOU FROM FULYA I appreciated reading everyone's kind thoughts and wishes. And thank you for the love offering as well – it was an unexpected but much appreciated gift.

HANDBELL WORKSHOP



Merci Beaucoup, Fred Gramann!

The sounds of laughter, handbell music and camaraderie filled the halls of the Kathy Willyard Music Wing at United Church August 20th. Noted American Church of Paris Director of Music, Fred Gramann, gifted UCF's handbell choir and friends with a mini workshop. Ringers learned new techniques for making music as a team

while honing current skills. They also had fun while getting a variety of sounds out of the bells! Many thanks to Fred for sharing his gifts with us!

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2018

- 2 Worship 9:30 AM Communion
 Children in Worship
- 3 Labor Day/Office Closed
- 6 First choir rehearsal of the season
- 9 Worship 10:00 AM Hymn Sing (First Day of Fall Schedule)
 Church School resumes (See article for K-12 schedule)
 Adult Education *The Unending Search* – a new format begins at 8:45AM. (See article)
 Choir 9:30 AM
- 11 “Refresh” Dessert at 2pm, Hosted by Vasiliades
- 12 “Refresh” Dessert at 7pm, Hosted by Penny Appleby
- 16 Worship 10:00 AM
- 18 “Refresh” Dessert at 2pm, Hosted by Bugnacki at church
- 22 Steeple Coffeehouse
- 23 Worship 10:00 AM
 Fall brunch 11:00 AM
- 25 Deadline for Oct newsletter
 “Refresh” Dessert at 2pm, Hosted by Raymonds
 “Refresh” Dessert at 7pm, Hosted by Benders
- 29 Steeple Coffeehouse
- 30 Worship 10:00 AM-10:30 AM and then INTO THE WORLD
 Children in Worship
 10:30 AM Into the World –Service Opportunities and Sign Up Information Coming Soon

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

ILL AND RECOVERING:

Joyce Carter
Chris Vasiliades

THOSE UNABLE TO BE AT WORSHIP:

Bruce Hotchkiss (at home)
Betty Mitchell
Carl Myrus (at home)
Olga Schmidt (The Crossings)
Irene Sheptak-Regni (at home)
Ken & Lois Spitzer (at home)

PRAYERS FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Marlene Bagg, sister-in-law of Carl Borning
Casey Cronin, grandson of
 Dave & Gail Sandle
Debi, Linda DeHority’s sister
Jim Ellenberg, friend of Rick Penhall
Bernie, Julie Higgins’s uncle
Susan Higgins, Jim Higgins’s mother
Bruce Jenkins, friend of Richard Brundage
Melissa, Doug Merchant’s daughter
Sandra O’Connel, sister of Debbie Bender
Judy O’Shea, Kathy Bohnsack’s friend
Debbie Rockwell, sister of Kim Cherry
John Rudinger, cousin of Trudy Baylis

NEW BABIES

Maisie Rose Maggio, born on August 5. Nicole and Steve and older siblings, Phoebe, Steven and James are all doing well.

Ripley Speirs, granddaughter to Betsy Nash and little sister to Penny arrived on August 18.

The Sympathy of the Congregation is extended to Barb, Mike and Grace Dugan on the death of Barb's aunt, Nancy Thaleimer, in Florida on Monday.

Calling All Parents Of College Students! Please email Gloria Manuel with your child's new college address ASAP so we may continue our Pen Pal Ministry! <sgmanuel40@gmail.com>



UNITED CHURCH OF FAYETTEVILLE

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UNITED CHURCH STAFF:

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