



FROM THE PASTOR

Old favorites and new opportunities for building relationships, serving the community and stretching our wings. It's all here and more. There is also a new "guest column" I hope will become regular -- "Reflections of a UCF Leader – a Board member or other church leader sharing what they do and why they do it. This month, we hear from Janet Press.

Take the time to read the newsletter and mark your calendar for many wonderful events.

in faith, Linda

FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR



It has been my great joy to welcome back all of the regular volunteers for our music ministries at UCF. While summer affords us all the opportunity to ease our schedules and stretch our legs somewhat, I find myself looking forward to getting back to work with our choirs. Making music together and sharing in the work of our ministry makes this truly special place for me and my family.

In October the choir will sing anthems of John Rutter, Carl Schalk, and K. Lee Scott that focus on the richness of the Earth's blessings and thankfulness and praise of God. We will also sing an anthem that is based on American Folk music - Come Thou Font. The tune is known as "Nettleton" owing to its supposed author, early 19th century American evangelist Asahel Nettleton. More likely, the tune is derived of one or more colonial era folk tunes. For whatever reason, fall is my favorite time of year to enjoy early Americana and American folk art - perhaps it is the association with harvest season and cool day trips in New England spent apple-picking. It isn't quite as ubiquitous as say, those Wegmans cinnamon brooms or pumpkin spice beverages, but folk art in autumn just seems like one of those comforting traditions to which I return every year.

We're already off to a great start, and I'm already looking forward to getting even better as we shake off some of the dust from summer and keep perfecting our ensemble. I'm reminded of a story where when one of the King's' Singers was asked what the group uses for warm-ups he responded, "Nothing. I don't suppose we ever cool down." Singing everyday certainly has its advantages. We, on the other hand, are just getting warmed up, but I'd say we've mostly picked up where we left off last Spring. Already there are some beautiful things happening with our sound, expression, and overall ensemble. I'm excited about the opportunity this year to further deepen our musical expression in our musical offerings to you. We hope you enjoy our ministry to you as much as we enjoy providing it.

Jared



EDUCATION

K-12 EDUCATION

The start of our new school year has brought changes and blessings. The biggest change is having our young people begin each Sunday in worship to share in our faith experience. This is a blessing as it brings our families together and builds our church community.

Classes for children in kindergarten through 5th grade, for our youth in grades 6 through 12 and for the adults have all gotten off to a good beginning with many in attendance. Several members have volunteered to help in the two Sunday School classes; these helpers are needed and appreciated. Thank you.

There are still many Sundays in the coming months that still could use some assistance, so please consider investing your time and talents in our young people. Contact Paula Marquart or Gail Sandle to schedule a date that would work best for you.

A big thank you also goes out to Sandy Gardinier for her generous donation of supplies to our Sunday School classes.

Another change for us will be the opportunity for our youth to join with the youth group from the Manlius United Methodist Church for an activity. They are hosting a Mystery Dinner on October 12. See Paula for more information.

Regardless if it is change that brings about blessings or that blessings are found in change, we are thankful for the support and involvement of our church family.

ADULT EDUCATION

Wednesday Bible Study

A self-directed group, who select their own curriculum, these people meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 2:00 PM in Women's Lounge.

"Does human trafficking touch your life?"

October 14

Biblical Reflection

led by Dr. Even

"Human trafficking is most commonly defined as: The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery."

Christian Medical and Dental Association

There are two events in the history of the people of ancient Israel which are formative for their identity and theology. Both are occasions when they were victims of human trafficking as a result of war – the early enslavement in Egypt that preceded the Exodus; and the period known as the Babylonian Exile. Be part of the discussion about what these experiences had in common with contemporary trafficking, what was unique, how they shaped a people, and how God's people are led to respond to these experiences in our own day.

October 21

What does human trafficking look like in Onondaga County?

led by Danielle Piro

This presentation is intended to inform community members, service providers, and any individual who interacts with youth on Human Trafficking and what it looks like in Onondaga County. We go over definitions, red flags, dynamics of trafficking, exploiter tactics and what McMahon Ryan's advocacy does. This presentation is interactive, with hopes that the participants will ask questions to get a better understanding of what we are seeing with our youth in the community.

About our presenter: Danielle Pira graduated from Manhattan College in 2016 with her Bachelor's degree in Psychology. She relocated to Syracuse following graduation and began working at Elmcrest Children's Center. Danielle was a Case Manager for a program working with adolescent males receiving specialized sexual abuse services. In January of 2018, Danielle accepted a position as a Youth Advocate within the Anti-Trafficking Program at McMahon Ryan Child Advocacy Center. In this position, Danielle carries a direct service caseload and provides intense case management to youth who are at risk of or identified as trafficked or exploited. Danielle also provides training on Trafficking and Exploitation to community service providers.

October 28

Does human trafficking touch our lives? Join the conversation as we pull together all that we have heard.

Join us each Sunday at 8:45 AM for this informative and important topic.

OUTREACH

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR HURRICANE FLORENCE RELIEF

We will continue to receive contributions to this offering until October 21. Proceeds will be divided equally between American Baptist and Presbyterian (USA) disaster relief efforts.

PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

On Sunday, October 7, 2018 we will be receiving the Peace and Global Witness Offering (formerly known as the Peacemaking Offering). It supports peacemaking and reconciliation efforts of the church at every governing body level and provides an opportunity to witness to God's gift of peace in the world. A portion of this offering is retained by UCF to contribute to a local cause of our choosing, doing peacemaking work in our community. This year we have selected My Father's Kitchen as the recipient for the work they are doing with the homeless in Syracuse. Their reconciliation efforts and witness of God's love to the homeless is an important mission in our community. Thank you for your prayerful response.

Outreach Committee

REFLECTIONS OF A UCF LEADER

As a nurse, I took care of many long-term patients who had limited resources...and I don't mean money. I would ask if someone could visit them or bring a meal and many had no one. However if they belonged to a church, they had meals, childcare and visitors. This sense of community speaks strongly to me as a way we look after one another in many ways. So, being part of the UCF gives me a sense of community and contribution.

Recently a new Board member said she had no idea of all that happens in our church. Here are several pieces of the pie:

Working in Staff Support (Personnel), there is the opportunity to support those who provide the framework for our church community....spiritually, religiously, musically, and day-to-day functioning. As a team, Staff Support takes the lead in running searches for employees, including placing ads, interviewing, doing reference and background checks, as well as listening to the needs of staff.

As you know we have been busy lately with office changes. We welcome Pam O'Malley as the Interim Administrative Assistant. We are grateful to her for stepping forward. As you may have read in this week's bulletin, the Board had thoughtful discussion about suspending, in this instance, our policy of not hiring anyone who is a church member. We care about every member of the UCF. We all want to protect her time in worship (Reminder: Pam works M-F, not Sunday!) This is the degree of concern and discussion the Board undertakes... and ours is just one committee represented there.

As a part of the Fellowship team, we enjoy the opportunity to provide a place for people to catch up. Providing fellowship really can be very simple...or as elaborate as you like. The important thing is we have some casual time together. So, coffee and a snack – Done! Please consider signing up and ...maybe co-chairing with me! Let's talk!

As part of the Steeple Coffee House Team, I am thrilled about how much the music community loves us! We

have an attentive audience, great treats, and we pay the musicians well! For me, it's a date night and I get to see friends and connect with the music community.

So, why do I do these activities? I enjoy them. I feel fulfilled. I like being part of a community that depends on me and cares about me. I like to be involved. So, if you are wondering where you might fit in or where you might be useful, ask a Board member or the Pastor. We all would love to have to have you be a part of any project that speaks to your way of being in the world!

Janet Press

COMING SOON

REFRESH DESSERTS – IT'S NOT TOO LATE

The Board is excited about our congregational conversation, as we hope, dream and work toward the future of our vital ministry. These have been positive experiences for participants. There are three desserts scheduled this month. Sign up and be part of the conversation.

TABITHA IN OCTOBER

"We must care for our own health in order to best serve those we care for." What a novel idea! Rachel McClean, owner of Terra Organic Spa on Highbridge St. will be coming to speak with Tabitha Women on Wednesday, October 10th at 7:00. Ms. McClean's business is 100% women owned and she is active with the Syracuse "Women TIES" (Together Inspiring Entrepreneurial Services) organization. All UCF women are invited to join us for what promises to be an enjoyable and informative evening! Cindy Rosbrook (682-7982).

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

SAVE THE DATE! Friday November 16th @ 6:00pm.

Your Membership Committee will be having a "Get your stomachs ready for Thanksgiving" pot luck! Just kidding, although there is always enough to overindulge! Perhaps "Grazing in Gratitude" is more appropriate as we enjoy the blessings of good food and great fellowship! Mark your calendars now- sign up will be appearing in the hall at the end of October. Mary Jane Woodcock (637- 5804) and Cindy Rosbrook (682- 7982) will be happy to field any questions.

BROWN MEMORIAL DINNER



Sunday, November 18th 3pm we will be joining with Brown Memorial Methodist Church in Syracuse to provide a dinner that is open to the west side community. We will cook the dinner at UCF and serve at Brown Memorial. This is the church leading the ongoing mission to the west side Syracuse community.

TAKE NOTE



October 21 is the day we will dedicate the pledges we all will have submitted by then to the work and support of our church, staff and programs. We have been talking about sharing a common, **hopeful vision** for what this church can and should be—how we can serve, support and spread the love of God to our neighbors near and far, among ourselves and our children. The money necessary to fulfilling this hopeful vision is what comes from each of us when, combined, can allow us to be far more effective than any of us could individually. Please pledge and pledge generously to help build our community and realize our Hopeful Vision together.



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

CONSIDER SHARING YOUR CARING

“Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially those who are the household of faith.” Galatians 6:10 Your Congregational Care Committee endeavors to do just that- specifically for our homebound, ill, and grieving in our United Church household! Our next meeting is Tuesday, October 9th at 1:00pm. Come and learn what we do! Cindy Rosbrook (682-7982)

ILL AND RECOVERING:

Joyce Carter
 Carol Colby
 Marjory Mahony
 Lois Spitzer

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
 Debi, Linda DeHority's sister
 Jim Ellenberg, friend of Rick Penhall
 Bernie, Julie Higgins's uncle
 Susan Higgins, Jim Higgins's mother
 Connie Caldwell, friend of Kevin Sweder
 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

OCTOBER CALENDAR**OCTOBER 2018**

- 2 Wednesday Bible Study 2:00 PM Women's Lounge
 Outreach Meeting 7:00 PM Women's Lounge
- 7 Worship 10:00 AM World Communion
 Peace and Global Witness Offering Dedicated (See article for beneficiaries)
 K-12 in Worship
- 8 Columbus Day/Office Closed
- 9 Worship and Spiritual Life 7:00 PM Women's Lounge
 Refresh Dessert 7:30 PM at the Bornings'
- 10 Tabitha 7:00 PM Women's Lounge
 Refresh Dessert 7:00 PM at the Gilmores'
- 13 Stu Woodcock Memorial Blood Drive 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM Fellowship Hall
- 14 Worship 10:00 AM
 Adult Education *The Unending Search* (See article for October Series)
- 16 Board Meeting 7:00 PM Women's Lounge
 Refresh Dessert 7:00 PM at the Footes'
- 17 Wednesday Bible Study 2:00 PM Women's Lounge
- 18 Men's Covenant Group 7:00 AM Women's Lounge
- 21 Worship 10:00 AM Stewardship Dedication Sunday
- 23 Newsletter Deadline 9:00 AM
- 28 Worship 10:00 AM



Bible Adventures Third Graders Receive Bibles in Worship

UNITED CHURCH OF FAYETTEVILLE



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Al Arras, Board Moderator

Bob Craft, Treasurer

Scott Manuel, Asst. Treasurer

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