



Dear Ones,

It is the day that newsletter articles are due, and the pastoral staff is sitting in our respective offices, staring at our monitors as we try to come up with pastoral letters. The problem is not that there is nothing to say—quite the contrary, there are so many things happening that it is hard to know where to start. A new program year is beginning, brimming with possibilities and opportunities and hopes and challenges.

Our theme for the fall is “Living, Learning, and Growing as Disciples”, and we are looking at some of the practices of the earliest followers of the Way and at some of Jesus’ parables to reflect on how we can grow in our faith by following him. We have a whole schedule of activities and offerings, all of which are designed to help us connect to each other and to deepen our identity as the people of God.

- The churchwide education and spiritual development programs will kick off on September 11, when we return to the sanctuary for worship. (There’s a luncheon after worship in the Library Lounge!)
- A Creative Team has been working together to plan worship that is both traditional and new, spanning the generations to tell the good news in ways that allow us to hear the Word for the 21st century.
- The search for new music leadership continues, and in the meantime we are working hard to be sure that we have beautiful and meaningful music every Sunday. Talk to the pastors if you’d like to help out.
- Outreach to the college and university students is under way, and we will be starting a college and young adult worship service on Sundays at 5:00pm, followed by dinner.
- Our Monday Bible Study continues in the Library lounge at noon, and our Morning Prayer group is on Tuesdays at 8:00 am. Can’t make those times? Talk to a pastor about starting another group!
- A new group for mothers of young children will be meeting one Saturday per month (with child care!) to watch a video series on matters of faith and talk about their lives.
- We are continuing to expand our “second chance” employment with a new lobby receptionist and a new kitchen worker.
- We are planning for our first EVER Church Family Retreat at Stony Point, October 14-16. This is a chance for us to spend time together in a beautiful setting, working and playing and praying together. Let us know ASAP if you will join the group— we have to get numbers in soon!

May God grant us new eyes for seeing opportunities, new energy for service, and a new heart to support each other as we undertake this new journey together.

Blessings,

Pastor Kimberly



Greetings!

It has been a wonderful summer, although it has gone by too fast. We have missed those of you who are away for the summer and we look forward to all being together again soon.

In June I started to share with you an article by Carey Nieuwhof called “5 Ways to Embrace Infrequent Church Attenders”. The article is written for church leaders, but I thought it was good information for all of us to remember, and not just about infrequent attenders but new members as well.



Last month, number one on Carey’s list was *Develop Some Empathy*. There was a time that people would come to church every Sunday, but now people have jobs that creep into the weekend, have loved ones that live far away so travel on weekends to see them, or have family commitments that make Sunday morning the only time to spend together not yelling at each other to get out the door. These realities make it important for us to extend grace to each other instead of judgment. We are at a time when we as the whole church are worried about declining church attendance, but changing our mindset from anxiety to love has a remarkable way of extending welcome and being more of who we say we are as Christians.

So to continue the article, here is number two.

## 2. *Separate the Mission From the Method*

Somewhere along the way a lot of us end up confusing the mission and the method.

Your mission is to lead people into a relationship with Jesus, not to get people to show up for an hour in a box every Sunday.

Please hear me...I value our time together on Sundays as a church. And I think it’s presently one of our very best vehicles through which to advance the mission of the church (more on that in Part 4 of the series).

But our mission is *not* to fill seats on a Sunday. It’s to lead people to Jesus.

You should be obsessed with your mission, not with filling seats.

Truthfully, some of us are more in love with the method than the mission. If that’s you, repent. I have. I am.

That shift will create a whole new mindset in your team.

As Will Mancini said, that will help you run offence, not just defense on the issue of declining church attendance.

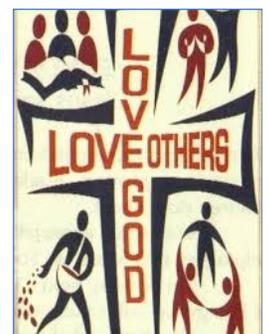
You’ll start to think of fresh ways to help people on their journey toward Jesus.

And—don’t miss this—if you really help people move into an authentic relationship with Jesus Christ, they might show up more regularly in your church on Sunday. Ironic, isn’t it?

I think this piece of advice from Carey can give us all a little peace. We don’t need to worry and stress over the attendance numbers. What we need to focus on is something that UPC does very well, love God and love others. We do that with our warm welcome and hospitality. We do that through our numerous Spiritual Formation offerings. We do that through our mission and outreach programs. We do that with our worship. Do we have room for improvement? Of course. But we are well on the way! Keep up the good work.

Peace,

Pastor Becky



# Opportunities for Service



## Save the Date! Food Packing Event Sunday, September 25, 1–4 p.m.

at St. Michaels Church, 296 Clinton St. Binghamton, NY 13905

sponsored by Children of Abraham (COA) in partnership with Kids Against Hunger

Help feed starving refugees fleeing violence, by making nutritional food packages (costing only 25¢ per meal) to send to Syrian refugee camps in Greece. You can sign up for a 45-minute shift or help by publicizing the event or donating money. More information at [interfaithbroomecounty.com](http://interfaithbroomecounty.com)

You can sign up for a shift at [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0D4AAFAF2AA2FC1-september](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0D4AAFAF2AA2FC1-september)



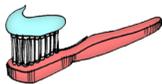
### Care & Share Distribution Project, September 14, 9:30 to 12:30 p.m.

WHERE: Library Lounge

TIME: 9:30 a.m. (place orders)  
10:30 a.m. (distribution starts)



All hands welcome!



### Coffee Fellowship Refreshments

Want to provide refreshments one Sunday? Sign up on the Lobby bulletin board. Tablecloths, napkins, plates and serving dishes are in the kitchenette, off the Library Lounge, for your use.

**Suggestions:** One person brings 2 bags of cookies and fruit and one person brings crackers, cheese or dip/chips and veggies.



### Foodbank/UPC's Mobile Pantry Distribution Wednesday, September 28, 9:30–1:30 p.m.

- **Welcome Team/Lead Guests:** Set up coffee, open sanctuary for seating, instruct guests about the process, call numbers and lead guests to distribution line.
- **Distributors:** Work with Foodbank staff to set up tables, create portions, and distribute food items. STRENGTH AND STAMINA NEEDED; DRESS APPROPRIATELY FOR WEATHER. 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Contact the office if you are interested in helping.

722-4219, [office@upcbgm.org](mailto:office@upcbgm.org). or send us a message on Facebook: UPCBinghamton



## **Mission and Outreach to the World**

**The Children of Abraham** will be holding a **Remembrance and Peace Vigil at the Islamic Organization of Southern Tier on September 11** in memory of all victims of terrorist acts from New York to San Bernardino, Paris, Brussels, Orlando, Istanbul, Africa and the Middle East. Faith leaders from the three Abrahamic religions — Judaism, Christianity and Islam — will speak at this event and pray for peace and solidarity.



**The candlelight vigil will start at 161 Grand Avenue, Johnson City at 6:00 PM**, and conclude at sunset. Participants will then have the opportunity to join the Muslims in their evening prayers at the IOST. Light refreshments will be provided.

### **Flood Relief in Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

Greg Patinka and Dave Ruston are helping with the flood relief efforts in Baton Rouge. Greg reports:

*Friday, August 26:* We are at the River Center shelter. There are no men's shoes, no men's blue jeans size 30, 32, 34,36 needed. Guys have on their clothes from last week, guys going to work have to wear the same stuff. The shelter started a laundry service, but it takes 24 to 48 hours to get stuff back.

It's really bad here, guys are living in their same clothes for the last week, and the only shoes are what's on their feet (most are wet). The men are going to their homes to clean up their houses, and coming back here for food and sleep. Yesterday we had some towels delivered so people can take showers. They had run out of towels for two days.

Yesterday 18 families arrived our shelter. We had maybe 3 families leave.

I spent the day picking up cots (broken ones) and cleaning up the area — this is an ongoing project. I've also been talking with the people who are in the shelter, which slows down some of our work but this is also part of our jobs. It seems as though some of our workers think that talking is all they need to do, leaving the cot project to only a few of us.

I helped a guy find a pencil, that was about a 15-minute job. We started by looking at the "store shop area" (that's the tables of donations), or if it's not there then we go out to the warehouse, that's a room where the donations have to be organized.

I helped a blind guy to the bathroom, and found out he has not been getting out of his bed much. So after dinner I took him out for a walk, but he couldn't walk to the door so we used a wheelchair to get him outside. His wife can walk but said she wanted to go out too. This gentleman was a teacher before going blind. Both of them are in their 70s. He got tired, so we got him in the wheelchair again, but he didn't want to go back in so we took a walk around, with the gentleman talking a mile a minute.

### **How Can I Help ?**

Donations can be sent to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.  
More information is at [pda.pcusa.org](http://pda.pcusa.org)



Some of the artwork created by the children at the Baton Rouge River Center flood shelter.

## **Mission and Outreach to the World**

### **Musical Instrument Donations**

The Nyamuame family home and abroad, on behalf of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC) at Whuti-Anloga, is looking for musical instruments, especially brass instruments, to revive our church worship.

Our youth are powerful force of the church and are very talented with so much passion for music. However, their musical talent is slowly dying due to lack of musical instruments. Some of the instruments, especially the brass instruments, are broken. They have to be taped before they can function at all, and even then there are air leaks on the broken parts.

We are appealing to the members of the congregation and friends in the community to donate used instruments to be sent to Ghana to revive the youth's interest and faith in the church. This church is pastored by Elikem's father and is located in the Southeastern part of the Volta region, Ghana.

Instruments needed: Trumpets, pocket trumpets, cornets, flugelhorns, and trombones. We need both students' and professional used ones.

If you can help, please speak to Elikem or to one of the pastors. Thanks!



## **Mission and Outreach in Our Local Community**



Our summer was enriched and our mission extended by the Urban League Summer Camp program, which provided child care for elementary-school-aged children weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. At their end-of-summer party, they thanked UPC for giving their program a welcoming place to call home and gave us a group picture as well as many handmade thank you cards from the kids. We will display them at an upcoming coffee hour so you can all see their heartfelt thanks for our hospitality.

# **Mission and Outreach in Our Local Community**

## ***A beautiful new hot box for our Community Kitchen***



Thanks to the generosity of the good people at Lourdes and our friends at the Rescue Mission, we now have a commercial-grade warming cabinet for our Community Meal program! We'll be able to keep food warm on trays until it is served, bringing us one step closer to our dream of restaurant-style service, where everyone feels welcome and cared for!



*Left to right:* Mike Ross, Executive Director of Binghamton Rescue Mission; Dennis Mullen, CRO, Ascension/Lourdes; Wayne Teris, MD, CMIO; Pastor Kimberly

Vikki Collazo, Director of Donor Relations for Binghamton Rescue Mission, and Pastor Kimberly. So excited about the new possibilities that this gift will create!

### ***In other news...***

We hosted two barbecues for the community, the Tuesday after Memorial Day and the Tuesday after July 4th. Great food, great fun, and a real community spirit!



Special thanks to Meals Coordinator Wayne Wint, and Community Meal Service Teams Five (the VINES team) and One (UPC members).

## **Mission and Outreach in Our Local Community**

### **View from the Welcome Desk, a.k.a. Reception or Front Desk, by Marilyn Myers**

I've been at the Welcome Desk on Mondays, 10-1, for several weeks. I answer the phone, greet the mail man, direct people to the right person or room and smile with everyone who comes in our doors.



I thought you might like to learn about some of the highlights of my days, as I proudly wear my nametag saying Office Support.

A 30ish young woman stopped by, or maybe I should say danced by, to tell someone, anyone, that she had passed her GED exam and would be going to SUNY-Broome in the fall. I shook her hand with abundant congratulations.

A middle-aged man came to the counter with a \$10 bill. He said to take five dollars out as a thank you gift for using our church phone to find a place to live. So I made change and smiled my best smile in response.

A man approached the counter to get a voucher from Pastor Kimberly to order his new glasses tinted for an eye condition. Another man was nearby and said he had lost his glasses. The first man turned and offered his old glasses which turned out to work just fine.

There are many "God blesses" for our morning coffee, a self-sustaining set up where lobby guests bring in the needed sugar and creamer, and sometimes even coffee. Wayne Wint, our community meal coordinator, often has a supply of baked goodies from local restaurants to meet the early morning hunger for sweets.



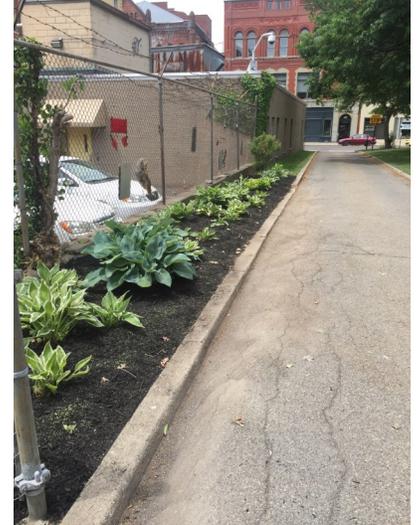
Forms can be complicated, especially if you have poor reading skills or eyesight. Sometimes DSS forms and health insurance need another helpful eye and mind to fill in the blanks. Several persons have asked for assistance.

The most dramatic incident was a burst valve in a urinal in the first floor men's room last week. Water was pouring out at a fast clip. Next thing I knew the plumber and Dave Schneider, our long-time sexton, had been called. Eugene Favor, our building manager, was putting on boots and stripping off extra clothing, and calling to one of our regular lobby persons to take off his shoes and come help. Jamel Allen, our part-time custodian, happened by the building on his day off and stayed to work. Soon some manner of order was restored and Dave was setting out fans and mopping while reminiscing about a worse break years ago.

Most days are a lot calmer, so I get some time to organize my genealogy files or proof-read an article for the newsletter. This job is one link in our becoming an even more welcoming community. I am willing to coach another one or two of you to try out this particular opportunity, actually an opportunity to do mission right here in our downtown setting.

—Marilyn Myers

# **Our Church Family: Property Management**

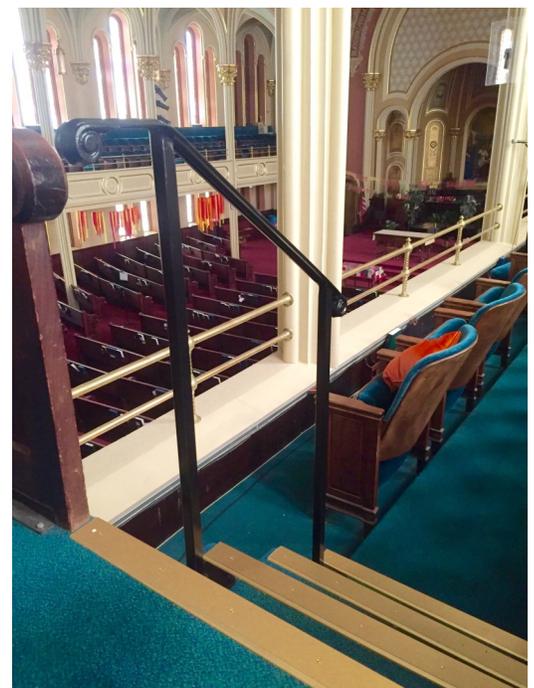


## **Gardening Day**

We had a gardening/clean-up day Saturday, June 4, to spruce up our outdoor spaces. Many thanks to Maida Thomas, David Ruston, Greg Patinka, Lyron Crawford, Andre Cooper, Becky and Ken Mebert, and Pastor Becky. We have enjoyed the wonderful flowers and hasta beds all summer.

## **Safety Improvement**

A new railing has been installed on the short stairway leading from the south balcony to the choir loft. The choir members are calling it "the Bobbi Hickling honorary railing." We are glad Bobbi is feeling much better! This railing will help prevent any other accidents.



# **Our Church Family: Property Management**

## **Evergreen Church Initiative**

Good news! Our investments in energy efficiency upgrades are showing more benefit. Besides being more comfortable, our NYSEG gas budget billing amount has been lowered by \$460.00 per month! Our electric bill will be reevaluated in September so Vanessa will let us know if we see a savings there as well.

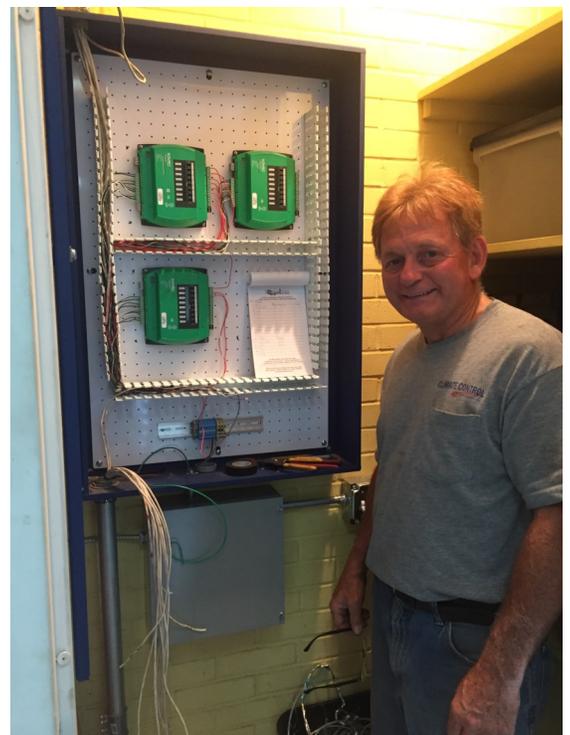


## **New Windows!**

Speaking of energy efficiency upgrades, the Terrace Room window is being replaced this week. It looks beautiful and will make the Terrace Room much more comfortable and save a lot in heating costs this winter.

## **Thermostat Project**

The team from Climate Control has been here much of the summer running wire and installing the new thermostat controls. We will be able to turn the heat on in plenty of time before it gets cold. The hook up between the heat and the controls will be happening in September. We will keep you posted on when the project is expected to be completed.



## **Our Church Family: News from Session**

### **SESSION HIGHLIGHTS**

*by Cynthia Burger, Clerk of Session*

At their meeting on June 13, 2016, the Session Members:

- Met with the Reverend Robert Peak, our liaison from the Presbytery Committee on Ministry;
- Approved the Mission Team's request to offer UPC cloth tote bags to the congregation for \$5.00 each as a fundraiser for the Care and Share program;
- Endorsed an application for a Cluster Grant from the Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley to assist with the expenses to send youth to Triennium in July;
- Agreed to establish a team to create a plan for music leadership for UPC;
- Approved purchasing signs reading "Blessed Ramadan to our Muslim Neighbors" to be placed on our front lawn; and
- Received an update on our application for a loan from PC(USA) to continue our energy efficiency upgrades.



*Left to right: Pastor Becky, Clerk of Session Cynthia Burger, Elder Sally Hunt, Pastor Kimberly.*

As part of our worship service on August 7, Sally Hunt was ordained as a Ruling Elder. We then installed five Ruling Elders to serve on Session.

Our current Session members are: George Cummings, Linda Griffin, Marilyn Myers (through 6/2017); Cynthia Burger, Lou McKeage, Dave Ruston (through 6/2018); Ann Garcia, Marie Hepworth, Sally Hunt (through 6/2019).

We thank the outgoing members of Session for their service to the church: Andy Chadwick, Bill Donohue, Suzie Northrop-Raboy, and Patty Wilson.

## **Our Church Family: Education & Spiritual Formation**

### **All-Church Retreat October 14–16 at Stony Point**

We are planning for our first EVER Church Family Retreat at Stony Point, October 14-16. Stony Point is a Presbyterian conference center in the Hudson River Valley, with access to beautiful walking trails, an abundant garden, an art studio, and places to gather for worship and prayer. Join us for a chance to get to know your church family in new ways, as we spend time together in a beautiful setting, working and playing and praying together. Let us know ASAP if you will join the group—we have to get numbers in soon!



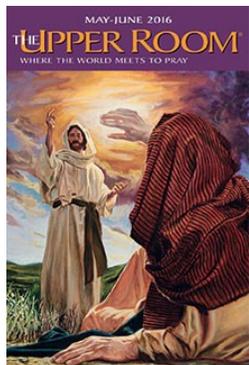
# **Our Church Family: Education & Spiritual Formation**

## **Presbyterian Youth Triennium, July 19–23**

A group of 25 youth and adults from the Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley joined over 5,000 others from across the nation and around the world at the Presbyterian Youth Triennium, held at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. Our presbytery's delegation included members of five congregations: First Presbyterian Church of Gilbertsville, Garrattsville Presbyterian Church, Northminster Presbyterian Church in Endwell, UPC Binghamton, and Union Presbyterian Church in Endicott.



Pastor Becky served as one of the five adult chaperones in our delegation, accompanying Jazmine Meade and Jullian Wanjama. College student Shawn Landon served on the PYT Work Crew, providing much-appreciated help and support to the PYT leadership team.



## **Upper Room Subscriptions**

We are reviewing our group subscription to the Upper Room. The group rate at church allows us to get the Upper Room for \$1.25 a copy instead of the full price of \$2.65. If you would like to still receive the Upper Room from us, please let us know. If you would like to start receiving the Upper Room, we have a few extra copies every month and we will add you to the list. You can call the office at 722-4219 or email [office@upcbgm.org](mailto:office@upcbgm.org). If you would like to contribute to the price of your copy, you can put your donation in the envelope marked Upper Room in the office. Please see Marian Palmer with any questions.

## **Our Church Family: Education & Spiritual Formation**

### **Windows of faith: New opportunities for growth in faith and community**

*We have a terrific schedule of opportunities for faith and learning for adults and children this year! Here are the offerings that are starting in September—we hope that you will join us for any or all of them!*

#### **Sundays**

##### ***Seasons of the Spirit. Starts Sept. 11 and 18***

**Lectionary Bible Study (Adults) at 9:00 am:** Led by class members on a rotating basis .It will discuss the scripture passage of the day, following the revised common lectionary.

**Sunday School classes at 11:25 am** [for preschool (3- and 4-year-olds), elementary-aged children, and middle/high school-age youth]: Taught by Pastor Becky, Marilyn Guinane, and Linda Griffin. (Children are encouraged to join us for worship and there is a quiet corner with books and children’s worship sheets in the sanctuary. Nursery care is available for infants through age four if that is better for your family. Call the office to ask about childcare during other classes.)

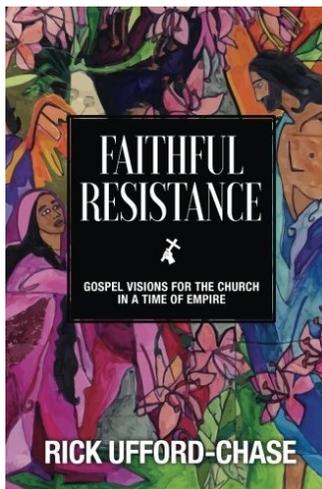


#### **Mondays**

##### ***Introductory Bible Study, 12:00–1:00 p.m. (Ongoing)***

We started reading the Bible in September of 2015, and we are about to start the 4th book (Numbers). We are reading to learn what we missed in Sunday school and what gets lost in preaching—to understand the Bible as the story of God’s people and their relationship to God and the world. We don’t always find answers, but we always learn from the text and from each other! You’re welcome to bring your own lunch. Come and see—it would be good to have you with us.

##### ***Evening Book Study, 6:15– 7:30 p.m. (Starts 9/19)***



***Faithful Resistance: Gospel Visions For the Church in a Time of Empire***  
by Rick Ufford-Chase.

“Is it possible for a church that has been at the heart of Empire for as long as we have to make a course correction and move intentionally from the center of Empire to the margins?” Rick Ufford-Chase has touched the deep longing that exists in so many of us who are Christian in the United States, and responded with ideas that offer a future we know God has in store for us but can’t seem to imagine is really possible. This is a book we should read and discuss with friends who share our longing and are ready to take a risk. If this book stays in our heads, it fails and we fail. If we use it as a springboard for daring, it is quite likely to change everything about being church in the heart of Empire.

# **Our Church Family: Education & Spiritual Formation**

## **Tuesdays**

### ***Morning Prayer, 8:00-8:30 a.m. Starts Sept. 13***

When your days are full and your mind distracted, how do you keep Christ in the center of your week? One way is the discipline of daily prayer! We will gather on Tuesdays in the chapel to explore this ancient Christian practice and learn new ways to open our selves in prayer. We are faithful to a covenant that keeps our gathering to 30 minutes, so that those who need to get to work can depart in peace.

Come and share this time with others on the journey. No prayer experience necessary.

## **How to Join a Class**

For worship, Sunday morning classes, Monday noon Bible study, or the Tuesday prayer group, just show up. For other classes, contact the office so that we can plan on the right space and order enough books. [office@upcbgm.org](mailto:office@upcbgm.org) or 722-4219

Other adult education opportunities may be offered throughout the year. Watch for announcements in the bulletin and newsletter.

## **Saturdays**

### ***Moms of Faith, 3:30–5:00 p.m. First Saturday of the Month (Starts Oct.1)***

We seek to nurture our own spiritual lives so we can develop our children's faith. We will watch a video and discuss how it affects our daily lives and our faith.

NOOMA is a series of short films that explore our world from a perspective of Jesus. Jesus lived with the awareness that God is doing something, right here, right now, and anybody can be a part of it. He encouraged his listeners to search, to question, to wrestle with the implications of what he was saying and doing. Jesus started discussions about what matters most, because for Jesus, God is always inviting us to open our eyes and join him.

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## ***Join our Six Week Exercise Class to learn Six-Steps+More to Better Balance***

- ◆ Learn simple and fun exercises for daily in home practice
- ◆ Increase energy, flexibility, confidence, mobility, reduce fall risk.

The cost: \$12 per person to purchase Dr. Betty's book, [How to Prevent Falls: Better Balance, Independence and Energy in 6 Simple Steps.](#) (required to take the class)

**Program created by: Dr. Betty Perkins-Carpenter, Ph.D. nationally renowned expert on fall prevention, and former Olympic Diving Coach**

Dates and Times: Wednesdays 9:00-10 a.m. 9/28-11/22

Location: United Presbyterian Church, 42 Chenango St., Binghamton, NY.

**To register: and for more information contact Rita Fluharty**

Ph: 607-778-2411 or email: [rfluharty@co.broome.ny.us](mailto:rfluharty@co.broome.ny.us)

Sponsored by: Better Balance for Broome Program of the Broome County Office for Aging and CDPHP  
**Instructor, Rebecca Mebert, certified by the OFA to teach this class**



# **Our Church Family: Joys and Concerns**

## **Joined the Communion of Saints**



Mary Louise "Marilou" Wheeler, 90, passed away peacefully (on her terms) with her loving family by her side on Saturday June 25, 2016. Born to Paul and Nellie Traub, Marilou was a lifelong resident of Binghamton, NY. She attended Syracuse University prior to marrying Mark F. Wheeler in 1947. A dedicated and loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, Marilou lived a full life. She was an accomplished bridge player and quilter. Marilou was a charter member of South Hills Presbyterian Church and a thirty year volunteer for Meals on Wheels. She joined Good Shephard

Fairview Home Auxiliary when her mother became a resident, becoming president for several years. Marilou was active in TROA and RotaryAnns. Upon retirement, Marilou and Mark enjoyed traveling worldwide to such places as Australia, New Zealand, Germany, and Norway. Marilou was predeceased by spouse, Mark and grandson, Scott Michno. She is survived by children, Nancy Michno (Hamilton MA), Mark (Kelly) Wheeler Jr. (Syracuse, NY), Kathy (Dave) Kost of Kirkwood, NY and Beth (Greg) Valachovic of New Port Richey, FL. Marilou also leaves behind her sister, Ann Cobb; grandchildren, Susan (Michno) Windsor, Kyle (Meagan) Kost, Alissa Kost, Alexandra and Matthew Torto and great-grandson, Jameson Kost.

Marilou is resting in Vestal Hills Memorial Park, Vestal. The family received friends at Allen Memorial Home, on Thursday, June 30. Expressions of sympathy in Marilou's memory may be made to Good Shepherd Fairview Home Auxiliary, 80 Fairview Ave, Binghamton, NY 13904 or United Presbyterian Church of Binghamton.



After our worship on Sunday, July 3, we remembered Marilou with a hymn sing of her favorite old-time hymns that, as Kimberly said, "I never let her sing these in worship."



# **Our Church Family: Joys and Concerns**



## **Healing**

Hip: Gloria Westgate, Bette Auchinachie  
Martha Budd, still in ICU  
Jackie—testing  
Doug’s father-in-law  
Ann, Dick—knee replacement  
Tom Layton Jr.—car accident  
Janet—bone cancer  
Katie—self-harm

## **Grieving**

f/f of Leslie Donovan (Donohues)  
Suzie Northrop—death of her mother  
Grace, and all grieving George

## **Travel Mercies**

Greg & David—Red Cross service in Louisiana  
Jean Hill, Marilyn Myers

## **Preparing for Marriage**

Peter & Jackie  
Autumn & Amanda  
Harley & Jack

## **Gratitude**

Donohues—Stony Point visit  
Youth testimony, fond memories

## **Other Concerns**

Louisiana, Italy, Myanmar  
Chris & Meghan—fertility issues  
All who are starting school  
Celebrating M-E Little League champs

## **Ongoing**

Penny, Brian, Lorraine Mehal, Ted Donovan, Duane Swenson, Shirley, Dianne Henry, Denise, Audrey Micha, Jim Spencer, and Nikolas Arden

## **Hospice**

Naomi LaCroix (Dana’s mom)  
Steve McGonegal

## **Living with Cancer**

Alice Brooks, Rob, Joyce LaRose, Sean Donohue, Jenni, Dave Hickey, Zoé, Muriel Williams, John, Karen, Esteny, Bill, Mac McCall, Margaret Johnson, Arthur, Maryse, Eugene’s mom Carol, Jen Edwards, John Cairns, Janet, Jeanie, Josh

## **August & September Birthdays**

- 8/2 Karen Schede  
8/4 Marion Adams  
8/5 John Wilson  
8/10 Judy Westcott  
8/11 Philip Westcott  
8/12 Donna O’Connell  
8/14 Linda Hessian  
Leonard Hoover  
Janet Rice  
8/19 Doris Folejewski  
James Spencer  
8/23 Ed Hickey  
8/24 Joan Rocke  
8/28 Gail Covert  
Elizabeth Rose Jurena  
8/30 Cindy Burger  
8/31 Isaiah Sanders  
9/4 Ethan Nyamuame  
9/5 Betty Pash  
9/7 Mark Shumeyko  
Robin Eccleston  
9/9 Morgan Chadwick  
9/10 Barbara Cronkhite  
9/14 Jessica Rossi  
9/17 Duane Smith  
9/18 Martha Budd  
9/20 Adam Planck  
David Stehli  
9/22 George Wheeler, Jr.

## **Do we have a current email address for you?**

Starting the first week in September, we will be sending a weekly email that includes prayer concerns, the scripture for the coming Sunday, and some reflection questions that you can use to prepare for the study & worship we will be doing together. Please be sure that we have a current email address for you so that you don’t miss out on this new ministry!



UNITED PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF BINGHAMTON

42 Chenango Street  
Binghamton, New York 13901  
Address Service Requested  
Website: [www.upcbgm.org](http://www.upcbgm.org)  
Phone: (607) 722-4219  
E-mail: [office@upcbgm.org](mailto:office@upcbgm.org)



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*Our mission is to follow Jesus Christ by doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with God.*

## **September Lectionary Readings, Year C**

### **Sunday, September 4:**

Jeremiah 18:1-11, Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18, Philemon 1-21, Luke 14:25-33

### **Sunday, September 11:**

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28, Psalm 14, 1 Timothy 1:12-17, Luke 15:1-10

### **Sunday, September 18:**

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1, Psalm 79:1-9, 1 Timothy 2:1-7, Luke 16:1-13

### **Sunday, September 25:**

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15, Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16, 1 Timothy 6:6-19, Luke 16:19-31