



FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TROY, NY

Feeding the Hungry in Body and Soul

Spirit, Service, Community

PASTOR'S NOTE

A Holy Calling

Dear friends on the journey,

The month of October begins with Peacemaking/World Communion Sunday and a sermon titled 'A Holy Calling.'

The sermon is based on the first chapter of the second letter to Timothy, reminding Timothy that the call of God upon his life may bring challenges and frustrations but that it will ultimately deepen his understanding of God's grace.

This seems an appropriate reminder for us at First United, as well.

Each one of us has been called by God for some form of ministry, even the youngest in our midst. And it is exciting! But over time the enthusiasm can wear thin.

Like Timothy, we are invited to take stock of where we have been and what we have learned and then come back to the table of grace that first beckoned us, this time with deeper understanding and more heart-felt compassion.

My prayer for each one of us is that the month of October will allow that kind of fruitful time for us all – and for the congregation as a whole.

And the journey continues ...

In This Issue:

Page 1 – **Pastor's Note**

Page 2 – **Vibrant Worship and Spiritual Life:**
Worship Themes
Children's Ministry
Adult Formation

Page 4 – **Caring, Inclusive Community:**
Building Visionaries
Tenant Updates
Birthday Celebrations

Page 8 – **Passionate Mission and Advocacy:**
Re-Energize Mission
Committee
Haiti Project

Page 11 - Office/Pastor
Communications

Page 12 - Calendar

CONTACT US

Web: www.unitedprestroy.org
Email: info@unitedprestroy.org

Phone: (518)- 272- 2771
Fax: (518) 266-9483

Mailing Address:
First United Presbyterian Church
1915 5th Avenue
Troy, NY 12180

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

10:00am worship with nursery care available.

Re-Membering and Re-Imagining

Worship In October 2016

A Holy Calling

Peacemaking Sunday/

World Communion Sunday

October 2, 2016 (Communion)

Lamentations 1:1-6; 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Children's Time: Peacemaking Offering
Children remain in worship for communion

Extended Fellowship/Birthday Sunday

Life Together

Life in The Spirit/Ordinary Time

Indigenous People's Weekend

October 9, 2016

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7; 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Children's Time: How We Live Together
Children's Church: Reoriented Toward
Gratitude

Community Work Day – Sanctuary

Building and Planting

Life in The Spirit/Ordinary Time

October 16, 2016

Jeremiah 31:27-34; 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Children's Time: Thinking of the Future
Children's Church: A Voice for Justice

Adult Education: GreenFaith by MLMT

Greening the Faith

Life in The Spirit/Ordinary Time

October 23, 2016

Joel 2:23-32 and 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Children's Time: A Whole New World
Children's Church: Dance of Pride and
Humility

Pastor Gusti's Engagement Party
Potluck (reminder: we do not
have use of a stove or oven, but
we do have use of a refrigerator
and microwave)

Stewardship Season Begins Sunday, October 30

Worthy of The Calling

Reformation Sunday

October 30, 2016

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 and 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Children's Time: Our Presbyterian Heritage

Children's Church: Salvation for All

Adult Ed: Joe Paparone from 'Faith for a Fair New York'

Children's Ministry News

Thank you to all who donated to our very successful Backpack Food Drive. We will be providing them to local children who are experiencing food insecurity.

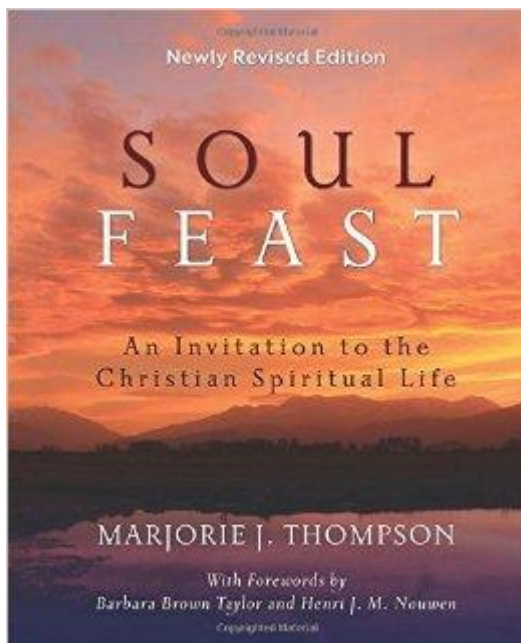
Our teaching team this month includes:

Oct. 9	Nora McDowell	Martha Juenger
Oct. 16	Nora McDowell	Lois Lanoue.
Oct. 23	Diane Chandler	Claudia Schwendeman
Oct. 30	Diane Chandler	Kristine Wohlfahrt

We are so grateful to our teaching team but could really use a few more volunteers. Please consider joining our team and working with our youth on Sundays. Also if you are interested in working with Pastor Gusti in forming a youth activity group please let Sue Steele know 588-9492 or sjwsteele@aol.com

Kids' Korner

With our newly opened-up sanctuary, we have developed a special space for youth to gather in the rear, during part of the worship service if needed. This space is for children older than nursery age and includes quiet activities such as clip boards, puzzles, games, art supplies, so they may listen and participate in worship and remain active together.



'Soul Feast' Small Group Begins Monday, October 10, 7pm

Pastor Gusti and Dana Parker invite others to join us in a monthly small group study of *Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life* by Marjorie Thompson.

This will be a long-term commitment of meeting once per month for 9 months to work through the material together.

Space is available for up to 8 participants. Books are provided by a generous donor.

Contact the church office to sign up.

Business of Stated Session Meeting – September 26, 2016

The Session met in Stated Meeting in the back of the sanctuary on Monday, September 26th. Items discussed include:

- *What it means to maintain 'a lasting treasury,' according to the wisdom of 1 Timothy 6
 - *Reception of Aline Wilson into membership by letter of transfer
 - *Positive Treasurer's report. Stewardship Season Begins October 30 – November 20.
 - *Discussion of how the congregation is moving through The Developmental Tasks of Transitional Ministry. Many of us are still 'Coming to Terms with History,' but we think implementing the recommendations of the Building Visionaries will help us complete this task in the coming year.
- Other developmental tasks include 'Discovering a New Identity' and 'Strengthening and Developing New Lay Leadership.'
- *Enthusiasm over a potential new logo (in draft form) submitted by Katy Davis and 'test-run' in the October newsletter and worship bulletins.
 - *Approval of Rev. Donna Elia as guest preacher on Sunday, November 27, 2016
 - *Approval of suspending the Personnel Policies in order to allow Casey Lanoue to provide paid childcare at session meetings.
 - *Reception of resignation of Louise LaPoint as Ruling Elder Commissioner to Albany Presbytery in order that she may attend a Leadership Training at Peace Village.
 - *Election of Peg Drew as the Ruling Elder Commissioner to the October 1st Stated Meeting of Albany Presbytery

The Session will next meet in Stated Session on Monday, October 23rd, 6:30pm, in the back of the Sanctuary.

All are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

Building Visionaries Update

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 19, 6:30pm

The Building Visionaries Team regrouped last week to discuss the following updates:

✓ Re-Purposing the Sanctuary

Pews have been removed

Fellowship space has been established

Kids Korner has been established

Bill Moyer will research sound system options to address the increased Reverberations

Sue Steele will contact an electrician to conduct an assessment of our Sanctuary electrical needs

Pastor Gusti and Trudi will assess adult ed and fellowship space options

✓ Heating System

Don Drew and John Husson have contacted several contractors for assessments. No decisions have been made to-date

✓ Sale of Non-Sanctuary Property

Peg Smith and Fred Miller have decided they will most likely work with a broker on this project. Next steps TBD.

✓ Neighborhood Forum

No report

We also received and accepted the resignation of John Husson, with regret.

TENANT NEWS

We welcome a new tenant, Bibi Jaana Noory, who operates Jaana & Co., an interior design enterprise. She will be occupying the office to the left of the ramp entrance.

From Jaana: "I'm so excited to be in the building, it's just a great space, I'm grateful to have found it. A Little bit of info-- I'm an interior designer, and I've launched my own business early this year. I specialize in residential interior design and nursery design! I'm also a textile designer, I'm designing my own fabrics and creating a collection of home furnishings, custom pillows etc! Lots of fun stuff! I intend on using the space as my little design studio, where I can work, write and create! Feel free to visit my website to get a better idea of everything, I designed and built it myself!! :)
I'm so thrilled to finally have a space. I truly loved it the moment I saw it!
Website: www.housecrush-ny.com

Please Donate to the Deacon's Fund

The Deacons would like to remind folks that your donations help us to not only provide for some of our own congregational needs, but also provide financial support to numerous non-profit agencies that offer a variety of services to those in need. Deacon's Fund envelopes can be found in the pews and donations can also be sent to the office, earmarked 'Deacon's Fund'. Thanks very much for your continued support.

Introducing NY Connects

NY Connects is a point of entry into the long term services and support system for older adults and people of all ages with disabilities. NY Connects programs are locally based where anyone- individuals, concerned family members or friends, or helping professionals- can go for help in finding the information, services, and supports that they need. Anyone who needs information on long term support and services or assistance with accessing these supports and services may contact NY Connects, such as: older adults, adults with a disability, children with a disability, caregivers and friends or neighbors. You can call Rensselaer County NY Connects at 270-2767.

October Birthdays



9 Susan May

31 Melissa Dzikunu

Continuing our HUNGER Mission Theme

The FUPC Mission Committee is continuing its focus on **hunger** issues and support of select **hunger** advocacy organizations, both local and national. Since we are in the height of the growing season, it seems appropriate to start the new program year with **Capital Roots**, who works to reduce the impact of poor nutrition on public health in the Capital Region. This is done by organizing community gardens, improving access to healthy food, offering nutrition and horticulture education, and coordinating urban greening programs, all in local counties.

Some FUPC members already volunteer with Capital Roots on a regular basis and we're certain they would be happy to tell you about their experiences there. (You can also find out more at the website: www.capitalroots.org). For others of us, perhaps this is something you'd like to consider doing, but haven't gotten around to it just yet - please read on for some "possibilities" you might want to consider.

***Tour of the Urban Grow Center (UGC)** – targeting this for late September - we need to know: The number of folks who would like to participate and Your preferred weekday (no weekends)

Tip: Did you know that you can buy fresh vegetables at the UGC on weekdays?

***Volunteer** – this can be accomplished as a part of an FUPC group or as an individual

"Group" Opportunities:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| -Work Parties | -Street Tree Program |
| – held both in the spring and fall | – a one-day planting held throughout the Capital District |
| – date(s) still to be decided for this fall | – to be scheduled in October |
| -Squash Hunger Gleanings – | -Produce Project Farm |
| – take place a bit later when farms invite Capital Roots to pick surplus crops | –year round job training and school credit program for city teens |
| –requires a bit of travel | -Thursday and Saturday mornings from 9:00 a.m. – noon |
| – great family volunteer opportunity | |

Tip: Did you know that you can buy fresh vegetables on Tuesdays at the Project Farm Stand?

"Individual" Opportunities:

- Garden Mentor
 - share your gardening knowledge by helping an inexperienced gardener
- 8th Street Urban Farm (Troy)
 - assist in maintaining flower and shrub borders
- Healthy Places
 - program consists of five projects (one example is the Veggie Mobile)
 - all are considered innovative public health projects
- Administrative
 - assist with office mailings, phone calls, seed sorting, and data entry
- Communication/Education/Events – three annual events to promote fundraising and visibility.

If any of the above appeal to you, please contact Lois Jensen (home phone is 274-3578, or e-mail at hiker8@gmail.com) so your name can get on the correct list(s).

Do You Have Extra Garden Produce??

Please remember the Oakwood Community Center (OCC) if you have more produce from your garden than you can use. The Food Pantry is allowed to distribute it - please consider helping these folks obtain fresh summer foods!

Contact Linda O'Malley at: omall50@nycap.rr.com to arrange a drop-off time at the OCC.

Thank you!

EMPTY
BOWLS

the bowl serves
as a visible reminder
that people go to bed
hungry each night



Attend the 11th Annual Empty Bowls Project fundraiser in Troy on Sunday, October 2, 2016 at the Italian American Community Center on 5th Ave. The event raises awareness for the issue of hunger while filling empty bowls and bellies with great soups and stews!

Help Needed for Haiti Mission

As some of you are aware, my husband (Michael) and I went to Haiti last April on a humanitarian trip with a local nonprofit organization, To Love A Child (TLC). This organization serves multiple locations in Haiti but focuses primarily on one rural village and a very poor orphanage in Port Au Prince. (TLC also has a focused mission presence in Africa.) While I did have a sense of what I might experience by living the Haitian lifestyle for a week, I still had not correctly anticipated the extreme poverty present everywhere. The lack of the basics that we all, including those considered poor in America, take for granted is astounding; in the rural areas water comes from a mountain stream/spring or rain gutter, with possibly one spicket in a city home, food is cooked over a charcoal brazier, with flush toilets and electricity a rarity, no matter where one lives.

TLC provides many, many services and supplies to the village and orphanage, with the priorities of what is needed being determined by the (native) leadership of both groups. So that you will be able to learn more about the TLC program, Pastor Gusti and the FUPC Mission Committee have given me permission to invite the TLC Director to make a presentation during an Adult Ed time - this will be scheduled sometime in early 2017. (You can also find this organization at www.toloveachild.net)

I am writing this article now because Michael and I will be returning (with TLC) to Haiti this fall, in early November. And there are many, many items we would like to take with us – and are hoping that **YOU** would like to donate some of them!!!

A few examples:

- old (or new!) prescription or magnifying reading glasses
- ziplock plastic bags
- girls and boys clothing
- maternity supplies
- medical supplies – bandages, cough syrup, antacids, pain relievers, etc., to mention a few

To make it simple and easy should you wish to help this mission, I do have detailed, very specific lists and will post those in mid September at FUPC – they will also be distributed in the Sunday bulletins for a short time.

On a final note...have you ever wanted to **buy an oxen**?! TLC now has a “**Go Fund Me**” opportunity (via the internet) seeking financial donations to buy the village a team of oxen and plow. These animals will be used on their own farms as well as provide a source of income for the village when rented to neighboring farmers. TLC is still needing about half of the purchase price to make this dream come true for the village – please consider making a donation!

Do feel free to contact me (home phone is 274-3578, or e-mail is hiker8@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

A sincere Thank You!

Lois Jensen

*St Mary's Hospital
Seton Health Auxiliary*

FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2016

at Boscov's in Colonie or Clifton Park

A \$5.00 ticket will allow the ticket holder to participate
and purchase items from 9 am to 11 pm and receive
on most purchases, a 25% discount!

If you would like to participate, please send for
your tickets by filling out the form below.
The upper portion of your ticket is necessary to
receive your discount. The bottom portion should
be deposited in the box near the entrance for
more prizes, to be drawn November 21, 2016.

Tear here and return this section to Hazel Evans to receive your ticket:

I wish to purchase _____ tickets for the Boscov's Friends Helping Friends
event.

_____ Please complete the ticket stub(s) and deposit at Boscov's for
me.

Name _____

Address _____

Return slip to: Hazel Evans
52 Biscayne Blvd.
Troy, N.Y. 12182



Office/Pastor Communications

To reach the Church Office:

The Church Office is open 9am – noon, Monday – Friday.
Please call Anne Liljedahl at 518-272-2771 during those hours. She will return any messages you leave as soon as possible within those hours.

You may also email Anne at info@unitedprestroy.org

To reach Pastor Gusti:

The quickest way to reach Pastor Gusti is by calling her cell phone: 518-390-3929.
She will make every effort to be available by cell phone from 9am – 9pm every day but Friday.

If you need to leave a message,
she will make every effort to call you back the same day,
or on Saturday if your Friday phone call is not a pastoral emergency.

The second best way to reach Pastor Gusti is by email at gusti@unitedprestroy.org
She will make every effort to check her email at least once a day (except Fridays) and to respond within 24 hours.

You may also call Pastor Gusti at the church office: 518-271-2771.
She will make every effort to check her office voice mail at least once a day (except Fridays) and to respond within 24 hours.

To reach our Bookkeeper (Carlie D'Annunzio)

Carlie works 4-8 hours per week, usually on Thursdays.
You may leave a message for her at the church office: 518-271-2771.
She may also be reached by email at carlie@unitedprestroy.org

To reach our Property Manager (Maddalone Associates)

If you notice an area of the facility that needs to be addressed (a leak, a running toilet, peeling paint, etc) and it is *not* an emergency, please call the church office at 272-2771 or email info@unitedprestroy.org
Your message will be relayed to Janine Ralbovsky, our account manager at Maddalone, and she will respond at her earliest convenience.

If you notice a facility issue that is a genuine emergency (fire, roof caving in, etc), please call Janine directly at 346-8600, ext234

CALENDAR

Saturday, October 1

Sunday, October 2 –

10:00am
Worship
10:00am
Nursery Care
11:15am Fellowship Time
11:30am Deacon's mtg
7:30pm - NA – FH

Monday, October 3

10:00am- LVORC-CR
11:00am-Eco-baby-Rose rm.

Tuesday, October 4

9:30 LVORC
2:30pm Troy Children's Chorus-
RR,FH

Wednesday, October 5

10:00am- Albany Presbytery
Board of Trustees mtg.-RR
4:00pm - Teach the Preacher,
McCarty Rm

Thursday, October 6

9:30 LVORC-RR
10:00am LVORC- CR
2:00pm – LVORC-CR

Friday, October 7

3:00pm TCC – RR,FH

Saturday, October 8

Sunday, October 9

10:00am- Worship
10:00am - Nursery Care
11:15am – Fellowship
11:45am – Adult Formation
7:30pm - NA – FH

Monday, October 10

10:00am- LVORC-CR
10:00am-RR
2:00pm – LVORC-CR

Tuesday, October 11

9:30am LVORC-
2:30pm Troy Children's Chorus-
RR,FH

Wednesday, October 12

4:00pm - Teach the Preacher,
McCarty Room

Thursday, October 13

9:30am LVORC-
10:00am Eco-baby-RR
2:00pm – LVORC-CR

Friday, October 14

Saturday, October 15

Sunday, October 16

10:00am – Worship
10:00am – Nursery
11:15am – Fellowship
11:45am – Adult Ed
7:30pm - NA – FH

Monday, October 17

10:00am- LVORC-CR
10:00am Eco-baby-RR

Tuesday, October 18

9:30am LVORC-
2:30pm Troy Children's Chorus-
RR,FH
6:00pm- Faith Journeys Grp-
McCarty rm.

Wednesday, October 19

4:00pm - Teach the Preacher,
McCarty Rm

Thursday, October 20

9:30am LVORC-
10:00am- LVORC-CR
10:00am – Ecobaby-RR
2:00pm – LVORC-CR

Friday, October 21

Saturday, October 22

8:00am TCC-RR,FH

Sunday, October 23

10:00am
Worship
10:00am
Nursery Care
11:15am Fellowship Time
11:45- Adult Formation
7:30pm - NA – FH

Monday, October 24

10:00am – LVORC0 CR
10:00am Eco-baby-RR
2:00pm – LVORC CR
6:30 pm – Session Meeting-RR

Tuesday, October 25

9:30am LVORC- RR
1:30pm Book Study-McCarty
Rm
2:30pm Troy Children's Chorus-
RR,FH

Wednesday, October 26

4:00pm - Teach the Preacher,
McCarty Rm

Thursday, October 27

9:30am LVORC-
10:00am – LVORC CR
2:00pm – Worship Team –
McCarty Room

Friday, October 28

Saturday, October 29

Sunday, October 30

10:00am – Worship
10:00am – Nursery
11:15am – Fellowship
11:45am – Adult Ed
7:30pm - NA – FH

Monday, October 31

10:00am- LVORC-CR
10:00am Eco-baby-RR