

# *The Network... a Publication of University Presbyterian Church*

## *May 2015*

### **Pastor's Column**

The month of May brings to us the gift of another important Christian holy day: Pentecost. Pentecost doesn't get anywhere near the kind of attention Christmas and Easter do. The stores don't hold special Pentecost sales. Pentecost is not an occasion for giving and receiving gifts. We don't decorate our homes for Pentecost or hold big family meals on that day. But there was a time in Christian history when Pentecost was a BIG deal.

Pentecost is when we celebrate God's gift of the Holy Spirit. And this gift has particular bearing upon the Christian Church because we trace the beginnings of the Church back to that day described in Scripture when the Spirit inspired the fearful disciples to boldly proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. And those who heard their testimony believed and began to follow the Way of Jesus Christ. Thus, we sometimes describe Pentecost as the "birthday" of the Church.

When we celebrate Pentecost, we are not just remembering an event from long ago, but we are giving thanks for the activity of God's Spirit with us right now. So, what new "birth" might God's Spirit be bringing about today? In your life? In the life of our congregation? These are challenging times for the people of faith--but they were also challenging times for those first disciples who hadn't a clue what it meant to follow Jesus or to be his disciples.

We have to assume, and even trust, that the same Spirit of creation and resurrection and new life, is still among us today. The issue is whether we will be attuned to the Spirit's presence and willing to go where the Spirit leads.

Shalom,  
Tracy

## **WORSHIP COLUMN ~ May 2015**

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>                      5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
9:00 am                      **Worship Service with Communion**  
10:00 am                      **Adult & Youth Education Hour**  
11:00 am                      **Worship Service with Communion**  
**Lectionary: Acts 8:26 – 40; Psalm 22:35-31; 1 John 4:7-21**  
**John 15:1-8**

**May 10<sup>th</sup>                      6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
9:00 am                      **Worship Service**  
9:30 am                      **Deacons Meeting**  
10:00 am                      **Youth Education Hour**  
11:00 am                      **Worship Service**  
**Lectionary: Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5: 1-6**  
**John 15:9-17**

**May 17<sup>th</sup>                      7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
9:00 am                      **Worship Service**  
10:00 am                      **Youth Education Hour**  
11:00 am                      **Worship Service**  
**Lectionary: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13;**  
**John 17:6-19**

**May 24<sup>th</sup>                      Day of Pentecost ~ NOTE: only 1 service begins today**  
10:00 am                      **Worship Service**  
**Lectionary: Acts 2:1-21 or Ezek. 37:1-14; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b;**  
**Rom. 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21; John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15**

**May 31<sup>st</sup>                      Trinity Sunday**  
10:00 am                      **Worship Service**  
**Lectionary: Isa 6:1-8; Ps. 29; Rom. 8:12-17; John 3:1-17**

**Please don't forget about our Hearts for the Homeless "DONATE YOUR SOLE" program. Drop off gently used shoes, boots, slippers and sneakers to the box in the Narthex of the Church. Your donations make a difference in the lives of men, women and children. Your generosity is always appreciated. Thank you!!!**

### Our Member's May Birthdays

- 1 Annette Arber
- 6 Jeffrey Grisante
- 6 Judy Betz
- 11 Shahnaz Morris
- 15 Geoffrey Buker
- 16 Lisa Patel
- 23 Cathy Siegel
- 24 Robert Hallborg

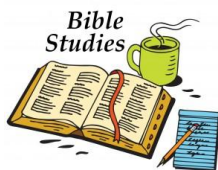


### Our Youth's May Birthdays

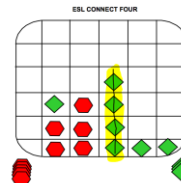
- 9 Emily Waldron
- 16 Elizabeth Waldron
- 31 Karly Masters

### Bible Study ~ Intergenerational-International with Rev. Stuart Buisch

There will be a bible class on on Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00 pm.



Everyone is welcome.



### Saturday Game Night ~ May 9<sup>th</sup>

Hi everyone! Come on out for another Saturday Game Night on May 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. We'll start the evening with pizza and pop and then play all the favorites that people bring in. We are inviting Kenmore Presbyterian youth also, so come out and make some new friends. All ages are invited. We will need a head count so see Amy Erickson if interested. (876-6874)



## Greater Buffalo Counseling Centers

PRESENTS A FUNDRAISING CONCERT

May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015 - 3:00 PM at University Presbyterian Church

Featuring the legendary Jazz Saxophonist

### **BOBBY MILITELLO**

*"A TRIBUTE TO DAVE BRUBECK AND MORE"*

with

Bobby Jones (piano)

John Bacon Jr (drums)

Jim Colemon (bass)

Tickets at the door: \$15 | Students: \$10  
or contact Janet Mazaroppi for advance tickets

### **Who - What is Greater Buffalo Counseling Centers?**

For those who are not familiar with **Greater Buffalo Counseling Centers (GBCC)** it is a non-profit community organization that offers compassionate, supportive, low- (or no-) cost individual and/or couples counseling to the Western New York community. Volunteer counselors, backed with support of licensed psychologists and social workers, create a safe, welcoming environment to those who find themselves suffering from feelings of loss, anxiety, confusion or hopelessness. Counseling takes place here at UPC on each Thursday evening.

Until her death in 2007, **The Hon. Elloeen Oughterson**, UPC Church member, was a strong advocate for services in the field of mental health. She served several terms as a member of the GBCC Board of Directors, and was instrumental in arranging for the donated space at University Presbyterian Church in 1974. Elloeen often described GBCC as a premier organization in providing these counseling services to the community. Today GBCC continues its commitment to its core principles of acceptance, confidentiality and compassion.

Greater Buffalo Counseling Centers continues to benefit from the wonderful gift of donated space provided by University Presbyterian Church now for over 40 years! Without the support that this generous donation represents, it is unlikely that the work of GBCC could have continued.

If you would like more information about GBCC - if you might like to become a trained volunteer counselor or a member of the GBCC Board of Directors, please contact Janet Mazaroppi or Kathy Hallborg.

## FOOD PANTRY BY THE NUMBERS

These numbers only tell part of the story of this important and meaningful ministry. It is the people behind the numbers, those who receive this food and offer us their thanks and their blessings, and this congregation who provide such generous support, both in time and in donations, that are the essence and the real story that these numbers represent. Our thanks to all of you.

March		
Infants	0	
Children	61	
Adults	157	
Elderly	40	
Total	258	
Households	157	
Equivalent Meals	2322	

**Please Help Us Recruit New Volunteers – New Pantry Volunteers are always welcome! But right now we are in great need of more folks.**

- Can you give us an afternoon a month?
- Do you know someone who might like to join us?
- Come and bring a friend along.
- Ask a neighbor.
- Post a flyer at work or at your library.



### When would I work?

- On a Tuesday or Thursday from 11:30am to 4:00pm.
- One afternoon a month (or as many as you wish).

### What would I do?

- You would work with 3 or 4 other volunteers.
- You might guide a client through our "store" to help them choose their groceries.
- You might greet and "check in" our clients.
- You might help to stock shelves.
- If you and a friend would like to work together, we can schedule that for you.
- You will feel good about the time you spend with us, helping our neighbors.

**Our Food Drive on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> was a great success. We had Girl Scout and Cub Scout troops participate by collecting food items from Amherst neighbors. Additionally, Lynn Westcott's troop collected food items during Community Service Day. The University Presbyterian Food Pantry received a total of 291 bags of food items, one case of Girl Scout Cookies and a \$30.00 cash donation. We are grateful for our very generous neighbors. We also thank Crossroads Community Church for their donations of 30 bags of food which were graciously given to our Food Pantry.**

## **The Movement That Changed The Nation - Join Us for a Community-Wide Discussion of “Selma”**

The movie “Selma” is the story of how the movement led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. prompted change that forever altered history. It chronicles the tumultuous three-month period in 1965, when the movement focused on a dangerous campaign to secure equal voting rights in the face of violent opposition.

And then plan to join us to share your reactions with others in a community-wide discussion at St. Joseph’s University Church, Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> 7:00-8:30 pm. This event is sponsored by St. Joseph’s VOICE Buffalo Team. St. Joseph’s University Church is located at 3269 Main Street, Buffalo, next to UB campus. Parking is available in the back of the church.

For more information, check with members of the Community Committee: Marietta Bratton, Bonnie Dahl, Gladys Gifford, Janet Mazzaroppi, and Elaine Swaine.

### **POT LUCK LUNCHEON**

**Join us for a pot luck luncheon on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at Noon to gather with members and friends to share a meal and welcome spring.**

**Please join us in bringing in food items of salads, casseroles, fruit, & cheese trays, finger foods, hearty appetizers or any favorite dish you would like to share with everyone.**

**Dessert will be an Ice Cream Sundae Bar.**

**Ice cream, toppings & syrups will be supplied. Yummy!! and Good!!**

**The Session**  
**University Presbyterian Church**  
**Minutes from the Stated Meeting of April 15, 2015**

**REQUIRED INFORMATION**

1. The Session of University Presbyterian Church, met at the church, 3330 Main Street, Buffalo, New York, on April 15, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was present. Rev. Tracy Daub moderated and opened the meeting with prayer.
2. Present: Rev. Tracy Daub, Alexander Robertson, Barbara Lyons, Ginna Coon, James Smyton, Dennis Erickson, Janet Mazzaroppi, Jerilyn Hickey, Bonnie Dahl, Gladys Gifford, Lucinda Hickey  
  
Excused: Elaine Swaine, Marietta Bratton  
Guest: Kerry Traynor – Consultant preparing the application for Historic Building Status
3. The minutes from the March 18, 2014 meeting were approved with the correction that Elder Bonnie Dahl's name be removed from and Elder Lucinda Hickey's name be added to membership of the newly formed Worship Committee.
4. The next Session meeting will be May 20, 2015 at 7:00 pm.
5. A motion was made to adjourn at 9:00 pm. The meeting was closed with prayer by Rev. Daub.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

No report. Elder, and Treasurer, James Smyton reviewed the Budget Performance noting that although the performance against the year-to-date budget was poor (approximately \$1,500 worse than anticipated) there were some seasonal/timing considerations, e.g. the high cost of fuel for the winter months, snowplowing costs, etc. Other details: pledges were above budget while unpledged income was considerably behind (\$5,308) the planned amount.

**CLERK'S REPORT:**

The schedule of extra Elders required for 'balance purposes' (25 for each meeting) to attend Presbytery Meetings May 2015 – March 2016 was circulated. UPC Elders are invited to attend May 2015, November 2015 and March 2016 meetings.

A letter addressed to Session from Mr. Robert Dewitz was read. The letter detailed omissions from the Annual Reports for 2012, 2013 and 2014 of the Merrill Lynch accounts. Specific questions were: why the fund value is omitted, what happened to the \$116,655.57 (the amount not accounted for) over the past three years and how the money was spent. Elder, and Treasurer, James Smyton explained that this accounting of Merrill Lynch funds was an omission which would be corrected in future reports, also that he will contact Mr. Dewitz and explain the expenditures which included payment of the annual deficits and sanctuary window replacements. Session members thanked Mr. Dewitz for his letter and for bringing the matter to Session's attention.

## **MODERATOR'S REPORT:**

Rev. Daub reviewed the Pastor's Report for the period 3/18/15 through 4/14/15.

## **DEACON'S REPORT:**

No report.

## **PLENARY**

**Feasibility Team Report** – team members reported on their meeting with the developer Chris Montante. There is general consensus by the team that repurposing the building to apartments or other uses is not practical and that renting space is the more reasonable, near-term option. Accordingly, it is necessary to prepare a Marketing Document/Brochure/Proposal which will contain appropriate drawings, details of available space, rental costs, etc. It is also necessary to engage an architect to prepare drawings and to assist in the design of a suitable footprint and accommodation for the church activities. Other actions include retention of a Property Manager, a financial analysis, an analysis of the areas which can be rented and a determination of lease/rental costs. The team will also contact our tenant CATS to discuss their needs, issues or desires regarding their space. Additionally, the Shared Use Agreement (not lease) with CATS has expired and will be renegotiated subsequent to the referenced meeting.

## **COMMITTEES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

**Feasibility Team** – see Plenary above.

Application for inclusion in the National Registry of Historic Places: Kerry Traynor, the consultant retained to prepare the formal application for National Register nomination, provided a detailed description of the requirements, process, timetable and benefits of registration as follows:

- The application is an academic paper which will contain a physical description (architecture, etc.), significance, historic context and other documentation for the church.
- The application will be made to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in June for a September meeting (there will be a review with questions in the interim) with national registration by the end of 2015.
- Benefits are tax credits (approximately 20% federal/state) in the event that any capital improvements are made to the building. Registration also affords eligibility for certain grants exclusively earmarked for historic sites.

Team members are engaged in reviewing old Session, Trustee minutes and other documents in support of the application and will also be collecting oral histories from long term church members.

**Fellowship** – no report.

**Food Pantry** – report, no Session actions.



**Ministry to Community** – no report. The committee requests that Session approves a UPC sponsored mission event (concert) to be held at the church on September 19, 2015, the recipient to be Friends of the Night People. The event cost will not exceed \$500 and will be a performance by musicians from The Colored Musicians Club of Buffalo. A motion was passed to fund the concert for up to the requested \$500.00.

**New Beginnings** – no report.

**Personnel** – no report.

**Presbyterian Women** – no report.

**Property** – no report.

**Stewardship/Endowment** – no report.

**University Students Ministry** - no report.

**Worship and Education** – no report.

**Nominating** – no report.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Community Soup** – Rev. Daub reported that the event which took place on March 29, 2015 was a success with \$598 given to the Community Academic Center to provide MP3 players to immigrants in the process of learning English.

Rev. Daub proposed and is in the process of forming two task groups to support this project: one will solicit applicants and the other will perform community outreach to have people support the activity.

**Membership Roll Review** – Elders reported on the results of their contacts with the non-active members. The roll and church directory (in preparation) will be revised accordingly.

**Active Member Assessment** – Elder Ginna Coon reported the results of her review of the membership directory to assess the number of active church members. The results highlighted that UPC is a ‘small church’ and as such does not need and cannot support the building. UPC has a total of approximately 94 active members of which only 63 attend church regularly. Additionally, a significant proportion of the active membership is very senior. Elder Ginna Coon also provided a list of member names which at this point was retained for information only.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Greater Buffalo Counseling Centers Inc. (GBCC)** – Elder Janet Mazzaroppi, on behalf of GBCC, requested permission to host a fundraising concert at the church on May 31, 2015. Performers will include the Militello Quartet and Bobby Jones, tickets (\$15 general, \$10 students) will be sold at the door and GBCC will cover the cost of the Custodian. A motion was passed to permit GBCC to host the concert as requested.

**Point of Order** – with reference to church member Tom Somerville’s intent to participate in the Ride for Roswell and his solicitation of sponsors during coffee hour at the church, Elder Bonnie Dahl reminded Session that activities such as this must be approved by Session. Any solicitation of money from the congregation made by an individual for an activity which is not a function of the church must be approved prior to the activity. Motions were approved as follows:

- That Session must approve any solicitation of funds on behalf of another charity.
- That Session approves Tom Somerville’s fundraising in support of his Ride for Roswell.

**Presbytery Day** – Presbytery’s Discipleship and Nurture Ministry Team will present ENGAGE on Saturday April 25, 2015 at North Presbyterian Church in Williamsville. Elder Jerilyn Hickey will attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexander Robertson,  
Clerk of Session

## Discover Duffield

Save the date: Sat., May 16, 2015 2:00 pm -10:00 pm

Come join us at camp for a day full of free fun!

Relive old memories, see what changes are planned, and enjoy the fun activities!

Free dinner, live bands, and loads of fun in God's glorious playground!!

**Camp Duffield is now accepting registrations for the summer program.**

- July 5-11 Challenge Camp for Developmentally Disabled Adults
- July 12-18 First Timers Camp (Chipmunks) 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> graders spend a half week at camp experiencing it all but they need to bring a parent to experience it with them!.
- July 12-18 Music/Science Camp (3rd-8th graders)
- July 19-24 Night Owls (9th-12th graders)
- Aug. 9-15 Single Parent and Blended Family Camp

We are looking for campers as well as counselors.

\* There are some scholarships available if needed.

**See or call Pat Cookfair-Casseri for more information 440-9833**



This month's interview is with our  
Administrative Assistant Denise Winiarski

Denise was Buffalo born and raised. Two sisters followed and her family was complete. She had a wonderful mom and dad and a stepfather who was a super great man. Unfortunately, all of them died much too young.

Denise attended two Catholic elementary schools until 8<sup>th</sup> grade and then attended Kensington High School. After her graduation she and her family moved to the Town of Tonawanda and Denise worked at several different jobs until in 1976, where she found her calling and began a 30+ year career working for AAA. Denise started as a counselor preparing Triptiks and answering phones. And states she loved her job. Over the years she moved up within the organization, eventually becoming an office branch manager. During that time she raised a son, Nick who is her pride and joy.

Downsizing hits many of us. In 2007, Denise became one of those statistics. After 31 years it was her turn. Even though she knew it was going to happen, she was devastated. However, she rallied and took a certification class in Medical billing; working in that field for 2 years eventually realizing it wasn't for her. Next, Denise found another position by divine intervention. Her grandchild was being baptized and the bulletin that day, listed a position for a Church secretary. She applied and was very happy when she was hired. She said it was fun and she learned a lot more about the Catholic Church. Unfortunately, she left after getting a callback to work at AAA. However, there is some truth to the adage... "You can't go home again". It was just too different and she ended up leaving after 11 weeks. However, during the last 3 weeks with AAA she found another opportunity with University Presbyterian and has now been here for 3 years. She really likes her job and feels she is learning a lot about the Church and how extraordinary the members of this church are. Everyone helps out and there are a lot of friendships within the members.

Thirteen years ago she met her husband and was married within 5 months of meeting and dating. They felt it was meant to be. Her hubby, David, was a widower and has 5 adult children. Blending families has its challenges, but she and David have managed to make it work. Between the 2 of them, there are 6 children, 8 grandchildren and a new little one expected in July.

When time allows, Denise loves to read and mystery stories are her favorite. She likes listening to books on tape especially, when driving to and from work and during vacations, which are not as frequent as she and her husband would like.

Helping out with baby-sitting is taking up some of their time now. The latest grand ones are a set of twins that will be 6 months old by the time you read this.

Denise states she has great friends and spends as much time as possible getting together for a movie or attending the local theaters.

She feels very lucky to have a wonderful family, great friends and a job that offers her the opportunity to learn, grow, make a few mistakes ☺ and enjoy her days.

# THE NETWORK CALENDAR

## May 2015

<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>5:30 pm – 6:00 pm</b>	<b>Taizé Service</b>
<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Breakfast group meets at Family Tree</b>
<b><u>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup></u></b>		<b><u>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</u></b>
	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service with Communion</b>
	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Deacon's Meeting</b>
	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Adult &amp; Youth Education Hour</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service with Communion</b>
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12 – 4 pm</b>	<b>Food Pantry</b>
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Bible Study w/Rev. Stu Buisch – Holzwarth Room. All are welcome!</b>
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12 – 4 pm</b> <b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>Food Pantry</b> <b>Choir Practice</b>
<b>Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Family Game Night w/Pizza. Bring your favorite board game and join us!</b>
<b><u>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup></u></b>		<b><u>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</u></b>
	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>
	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Adult &amp; Youth Sunday Education</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12:00 pm</b>	<b>Presbyterian Women's Meeting</b>
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12 – 4 pm</b> <b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Food Pantry</b> <b>Network of Religious Communities</b> <b>Annual Appreciation Dinner at Salvatore's Honoring ~ Barbara Lyons</b>
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12 – 4 pm</b> <b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>Food Pantry</b> <b>Choir Practice</b>
<b><u>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup></u></b>		<b><u>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</u></b>
	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>
	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Adult &amp; Youth Sunday Education</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12 – 4 pm</b>	<b>Food Pantry</b>

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm Session Meeting – Holzwarth Room

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> 12 – 4 pm Food Pantry  
7:30 pm Choir Practice

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Day of Pentecost  
10:00 am *Worship Service – One worship service  
on Sundays starts Today*

*Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Office is Closed for Memorial Day Holiday*

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> 12 – 4 pm Food Pantry

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> 12 – 4 pm Food Pantry  
7:30 pm Choir Practice

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> Trinity Sunday  
10:00 am Worship Service  
3:00 pm Bobby Militello Concert –GBCB sponsor

## 1<sup>st</sup> week of June - Preview

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> 12 – 4 pm Food Pantry

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> 12 – 4 pm Food Pantry

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> 5:30 pm Taizé Service

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am Breakfast Group Meeting @ Family Tree  
Restaurant – Welcome

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
10:00 am Worship Service w/Communion