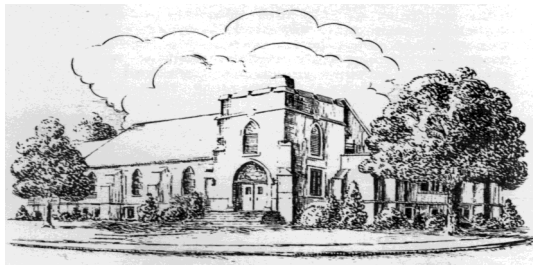


Circuit Writer September 2011

Eastern Parkway UMC
943 Palmer Avenue
Schenectady, NY 12309

*"On a journey
together."*



Kinney's Korner

Deborah and I enjoyed a wonderful week at Cape Cod in August! The weather could not have been better and we saw some things I had never seen before. We went on a whale watch where we saw at least 10 different whales and even saw two "breach" which we are told what we should call it when they literally leap out of the water. We rode some great bike paths and went much further, nearly 20 miles, than we had planned or even thought we had peddled. The traffic though was a completely different situation. Those of you who know are now shaking your head and smiling. Two hours bumper to bumper last Saturday not on Cape Cod but on the Mass. Turnpike is more than I can understand. A few extra lanes and it would seem things would move smoother, quicker, and leave less pollution in the air. The infra-structure of a state or a place is vital to the experience. It is the part we never really see but we notice when it does not perform in the manner we think it should. The frame to a house is similar. You do not think about the 2x4's or the roof beams until one or more begins to sag or cease to function and then we notice it very quickly.

In a sense I think the infra-structure of congregation is similar. We don't think about the infra-structure too often unless we are missing some parts of it. If we came to worship week after week and there was no bulletin & no projection then we would begin to notice. If the key board stopped working & the piano was out of tune we would begin to notice rather quickly. We don't notice these unless there is some difficulty.

We have a wonderful congregation here and people who have such a variety of skills and abilities it is truly amazing. We do need some people to consider sharing some of the gifts and talents they have with others to help form some additional infra-structure for this congregation and the people around us. Before that though I would like to thank the various committees and teams that have been very faithful and spent time and effort in the various areas of ministry that help make us into the congregation we are. Without your gifts and efforts we would not be where we are at this point in time. I do feel we could use some more people with some gifts and some time to help assist the congregation in three vital areas of ministry.

The first is in the area of Christian Education. We could use a few people who would be willing to share with some of the younger people of the congregation and even some of the adults. This would involve one or two hours during the week preparing for a class and then about an hour on Sunday following worship leading or assisting in a class. If you feel inadequate in this area please know we are willing to train and to walk with you and will not just show you a room with people and say go teach! We prefer to have teams teach so not all is on one person's shoulders. Please see Barb Lewis or myself if this might be an interest for you.

A second area is in the financial area of the Church. We need to form a Finance Committee who will be responsible to oversee and manage the financial ministries of this church. We need some people with an understanding of finances and a mixture of common sense. We are looking for 4 or 5 people who would be willing to meet once a month for about 1 - 2 hours and oversee and plan for these ministries. If this would be of interest please see Rev. Kinney.

[cont'd on page 2]



Open hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.

Some of what's
inside...

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"As a Reconciling Congregation, EPUMC affirms the sacred worth of persons of all sexual orientations and gender identities and welcomes them into full participation in the fellowship, membership, ministries, and leadership of the congregation."

The final area is that of worship. I would like to form a team who would be willing to work with me on the planning and the experience of our weekly worship along with special worship times during the year. I am hoping that people with a variety of gifts from music, to graphics, to dance, to meditative forms, to just plain joy will be willing to step forward and become a part of this team. This is brand new so I am not sure of the time commitment but would think a few hours a month and some time on Sunday should do this. I can envision some groups meeting as sub groups planning special aspects of worship from music to dance, from guided quiet times to times of joy filled celebration. If this peaks your interest please see me and we will arrange when we might be able to meet and start to see where we are.

I would again like to tell everyone thank you for a warm and gracious welcome to Eastern Parkway. I look forward to our time together and may God continue to watch over us and direct our ministries as we share our faith in a variety of ways. See You in Church!
Pastor Alan

SICM Update

Your donations to SICM make a difference and help many in our community! Thank you! Thus far in 2011, SICM has served 9,212 households and provided 262,719 meals.

The SICM Food Program needs volunteers! Your help is needed even just one morning per month (more days are welcome!) Various jobs are available, but the greatest need is for volunteers to lift and move food. For more information, contact Gail at 346-4445.

AIDS Walk is Saturday, September 24 at Washington Park, Albany. See back cover for more info!

Looking for more info about SICM? Check out the bulletin board by the church office for the latest SICM info or contact Cheryl Gerstler at cherlgerster@yahoo.com with your questions.

Outreach Work Area – Extending the Love of Christ to Those Outside Our Walls

A Future oriented Congregation

As we approach the end of Summer, thoughts turn to getting back to work in earnest. At Eastern Parkway this year that will include planning and programs not just for the coming months but also a time of evaluating what the mission of our congregation should be as look towards the future. As a part of that effort I welcome your thoughts about the Outreach Work Area. You can reach me by email at revdavid76@gmail.com or by mail at 422 Sand Creek Rd, Apt 317, Albany, NY 12205.

Outreach Work Area's Responsibilities

The Outreach Work Area is responsible for coordinating the ministries of the congregation that involve those outside of our walls, including: ministries with other denominations and faith groups, campus ministries, assistance and advocacy for the needy here and abroad, religion and race issues, supporting mission efforts of the denomination, and the status and role of women.

Somalia and Horn of Africa Crisis

It is heartbreaking to see the images of those affected by the lack of food in Somalia and other countries in the Horn of Africa. Some 12 million people are being affected by the civil strife and drought currently affecting that area. There are estimates that between 23.8 and 55% of the population of Kenya, Ethiopia, Somalia, and Djibouti are suffering from acute malnutrition. In two areas of Somalia deaths from the lack of food have reached the level for them to be officially classified as suffering from a famine. In the face of such widespread devastation an individual can feel powerless to make a difference but when each of us contribute what we can and our efforts are combined with those of others miracles can happen as surely as they did when Jesus fed the 5,000. UMCOR has already committed available resources to assist in an effort and is seeking additional contributions to an Advance Special so it can do more.

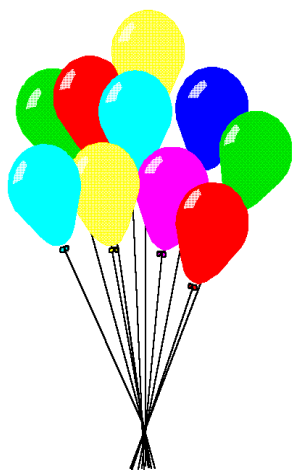
Your contributions may be made by placing a check in the offering plate on Sunday, sending a contribution to the church at the below address or contributing on line directly to UMCOR at <http://new.gb-gm-umc.org/umcor/>, the process is quick and allows you to give credit for your donation to the church. Contributions should be marked "Horn of Africa Crisis, Advance 982450". Contributions mailed to church should be sent to: EPUMC, 943 Palmer Avenue, Schenectady, NY 12309.

EPUMC Ministries Fair

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2011

Our mission as a congregation is to be, to nurture, and to send forth disciples of Jesus. The ministries of EPUMC are paths by which we demonstrate and develop our discipleship.

Some ministries feed the spiritual growth of our own church family (e.g., Christian education, music, member care), while others extend God's love to those beyond our walls (e.g., missions, Vacation Bible School).



Many of us are in ministry now. *All* of us should be. On October 16, you will have an opportunity to learn about the ministries of your church. We do a lot for a congregation of our size, and that alone is reason enough to celebrate. You will also have the opportunity to volunteer your time and talents to a ministry. If you don't find something to your liking, feel free to suggest a new ministry; we are at our best when each of us is passionate about our involvement in the life of the church.

The fair will begin at noon. After you have had a chance to tour the exhibits, you are invited to a light lunch in Fellowship Hall, courtesy of the Ministries Coordinating Team.

Please come to the fair!

Randy Roeser
Church Council Chair

<p>Family Sunday School Mtg Sunday, September 18, 11:15am</p> <p>There will be an informational meeting for all Sunday School families and Sunday School workers in the Sanctuary. Any member of the congregation is welcome to stay and hear more about what's happening with our Sunday School!</p>	<p>Sign-up sheets for coffee hour, greeters, altar flowers and other church needs and events are on the counter in the hallway outside of the Narthex.</p>	<p>Please check out the bulletin board in the hallway for community events as well as educational opportunities at both the Capital Region Theological Center and the Dominican Retreat and Conference Center.</p>
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September Scriptures

Sept 4

12th Sun after Pentecost

Exodus 12:1-14
Psalm 149
Romans 13:8-14
Matthew 18:15-20

Sock Project Sun

Sept 11

13th Sun after Pentecost

Exodus 14:19-31
Exodus 1b-11, 20-21
Romans 14:1-12
Matthew 18:21-35

Homecoming Sunday
Communion

Sept 18

14th Sun after Pentecost

Exodus 16:2-15
Psalm 105:1-6,37-45
Philippians 1:21-30
Matthew 20:1-16

Food Pantry Sun

Sept 25

15th Sun after Pentecost

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 178:1-4, 12-16
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

Lay Participants for September		Next Meeting Dates	
Lay Readers: <u>Sept 4</u> Rick Mausert <u>Sept 11:</u> Judy Lott <u>Sept. 18:</u> Diana Carter <u>Sept. 25</u> Louise LaBombard Chancel Committee: Rebecca Behrendt & Winnie Willson Cashiers: Sandy Goble, Sam Thompson and Tom Prater		Church Council Tues., Sept. 13 7 pm	
		Finance Team Tues., Sept. 20, 7 pm	
Office Hours The <u>church office hours</u> are Monday through Thursday, 9:00am-2:30pm and Fridays 9am – 12pm. <u>Pastor Alan 's office hours</u> are generally Tuesday through Friday, 9am-12pm and others by appointment. Everyone is welcome to stop in but it is best to call ahead.		Trustee Mtg Wed., Sept. 21 7 pm	
The Food Pantry alert for September is for canned meats. Cash donations are most welcome as the Food Program can purchase much more through the Regional Food Bank than anyone can buy at a local store for the same amount of money. For example, the Food Pantry can purchase items for 16 cents a pound at the Regional Food Bank. <u>The third Sunday of every month is Food Pantry Sunday at EPUMC.</u>		Stewardship Team Thu., Sept. 22, 7 pm	
		Worship Team Thurs., Sept. 29	
		SPRC Tuesday, October 25 7 pm	
		Circle B Tuesday, October 4 9:30 am	
		MCT Mtg. Tuesday, October 10 7 pm	

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Area hospitals are no longer making us aware of those admitted to the hospital even if you list EPUMC as your church. PLEASE ask a family member or friend to notify our office at 374-4306 or epumc943@yahoo.com if you require hospital care.

**GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT ~ FULFILLING OUR PROMISES ~
PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS, SERVICE ~ JULY 2011**

<u>Our Prayers</u>			<u>Our Presence</u>	<u>Our Gifts</u>	
David Spawn	Clara Marks	07/03	69	07/03	\$ 4959.25
Olly Clute	Dan Pachucki				
Devon LaPrade	Bill Paul	07/10	85	07/10	\$ 2589.00
Jeremias Franca	Kim Nash	07/17	58	07/17	\$ 982.39
Jene Spawn					
Inner Peace ~ World Peace		07/24	75	07/24	\$ 1008.39
<i>If you have prayer concerns, joys, prayers of thanks or celebration you would like included in this sec- tion, please submit them to the office at 374-4306 or epumc943@yahoo.com</i>		07/31	77	07/31	\$ 1699.77
			<u>Our Service</u>		
			Thanks to Marybeth Kalweit, Sue Re- hbein, Judy Lott and David Orr for maintaining our grounds this summer.	Food Pantry	\$ 99.62
				Sock Project.	\$ 78.15
				Camperships	\$ 100.00
				Peace with Justice	\$ 6.00

September Birthdays

02—George Rehbein; Richard Reitz	17—Louise LaBombard; Jonathan Smith	29- Jeremy Kerr
03—Ed Miller	18—Patricia Roeser	
08—Faye Dohring	22—Justin Chaires; Paula Griffin	
09—Erin Miller; Georgianna Murray	23—Julien Overton; Liz Stryker	
10— Emily Hebert; Steve Lott	24—Joy Dohring; Jeff Faulkner	
11—Holly Rexford	27—Evan Relation	
14—Eric Garis	28— Carol Rea	

September Anniversaries

07— George & Sue Rehbein
11—Rick & Kathy Mausert
20—Ed & Julia Miller
23— Gary & Jan Gridley; Paul & Connie Trigger

Basic Lay Speaking to be offered at First UMC, Delmar

This fall the Lay Speaking Ministries "Basic Lay Speaking Course" will be held at the First UMC, 428 Kenwood Avenue, Delmar, NY. This course is a foundational course for other leadership training courses. It covers the three main categories of Lay Speaking Ministries: Leading, Caring and Communicating.

The session will begin on Wednesday, September 28 from 6:30-8:30pm, skipping the week of October 15, for a total of five sessions. The fee for the course is \$26 which includes the book and the conference fee. Checks should be made out to UNYUMC. Interested persons are required to complete the Local and Certified Request Recommendation Form and it must be signed by your pastor and approved by your church's Administrative Council.

Interested parties should contact Denise Gisotti at golfing1020@yahoo.com.

September 2011

Eastern Parkway UMC

943 Palmer Avenue

Schenectady, NY 12309

Ph: 518-374-4306

Fax: 518-374-4308

epumc943@yahoo.com

www.easternparkway.weebly.com

October newsletter deadline is

Saturday, September 10.

Dated material

Deliver Promptly

Change service requested

Sunday Morning Schedule: 10:00 am - Worship

Nursery care is available from 9:45am –12 pm

Handicapped accessible

Hearing Assists

PASTOR

Alan D. Kinney

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:

Paul-Allan Carey, FSD

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Barbara J. Paul

OFFICE HOURS:

Mon-Thurs: 9am—2:30pm, & Fri. 9am-12pm

OUR MISSIONARY:

Jeremias Franca

AIDSWalk 2011

Saturday, September 24, 2011

Washington Park, Albany

Check-in—11:00 am ~ Opening Ceremonies—12:00 pm

Please pick up a registration form and sponsor sheet in the Narthex.

Funds raised will support the efforts of Capital Region AIDS organizations that provide needed services for AIDS prevention and care.