

UNITED METHODIST HOUSE NEWS

Box 115 Chautauqua, New York 716 357-2055

Spring May 2011

*The time of resurrection!
Earth tells it everywhere!
the passover of gladness...
the joyful life of God!
From death to life eternal...
from sadness unto joy!
our Christ has brought us over
with songs of victory!*

the president's message...

We are welcoming many delegates to the Upper New York Annual Conference who have never visited Chautauqua Institution in the western part of the state. Chautauqua sits on the western side of Chautauqua Lake and it is best known as a center of education, religion and the arts. Begun in 1888, the United Methodist House has served thousands of guests coming to Chautauqua over the decades and continues its ministry of hospitality today! Hopefully, you'll come to know and treasure it as generations before have done.

The United Methodist House is one of the denominational houses at the Chautauqua Institute in southwestern New York State. The most visible part of the house is its broad porch furnished during the summer with wicker chairs suggestive of its 19th Century origins.

On the main floor of the United Methodist House are a parlor with historic but comfortable furnishings; a fireplace newly installed in 2010; a chapel open for prayer and meditation when it is not used for worship services or lectures; and a kitchen.

Upstairs, the house has six twin-bedded rooms and a four person suite and an upper porch. The house is surrounded by gardens, and new in 2010, the house has wireless Internet service.

Rooms are for rent during the nine week summer season when the house serves as a center for worship, fellowship and learning as well as United Methodist hospitality. It is at the heart of Chautauqua, a moments walk to the library, Bestor Plaza and other places where Chautauqua's world famous programming takes place. For anyone not familiar with the Chautauqua Institution, the place to start is www.ciweb.org. For more about the house, try www.umhouse.com.

After the summer, the retreat season begins for the next 43 weeks. The UM House is available as a retreat and renewal center for individuals, families and church groups. In addition to the family fellowship or church programming that they arrange for themselves, visitors in fall, winter and spring can enjoy the brilliant foliage, snow sport or lake scenes that make Chautauqua memorable.

Plan yourself or with your church group to spend some time at the United Methodist House. (Reservations can be made by calling the Hurlbut Memorial United Methodist Church at (716) 357 4045.

This article is my last one as President of the United Methodist House. Although my tenure (one year) was a short one, I should add my thanks (to those of previous presidents) to the hard working members of the Board of Directors. This Board is not an "honorary" one but rather is a "working" group which keeps the many activities of the House under control and moving in a positive direction, all with just three meetings a year. Thanks to these members who indeed are guided and directed by the spirit of the Lord.

Submitted by Bruce Burr,
President of the United Methodist House at Chautauqua

Property Committee Report

With all the turmoil going on in today's world, isn't it a relief to be at Chautauqua and enjoy all the peace and quiet? Life at Chautauqua can be hectic during the season but it is still quite calm and relaxing. We are so lucky to have this wonderful place to come to year after year.

As I am writing this the temperature is 38 degrees, but the sun is shining. It is wonderful to see the sun and feel its warmth. We are getting ready for the summer season at the United Methodist House. The Property Committee has been fairly busy over the winter. We have replaced one window on the Waugh side of the house, because a large icicle fell on it and broke it. The ladies of the committee are working at finding new rugs for the upstairs to be installed in June before the summer season. We are getting bids for repairing the patio, there are many broken stones and the mortar joints are coming loose creating a safety hazard. Our painter will have the upstairs completely repainted by the end of May. We will be looking at replacing the mattresses and the refrigerators in the guestrooms and looking at what can be done in the kitchen with our refrigerators.

Of course, the one project we are waiting to be finished is the residing of the Waugh side of the house. This will be on the addition only. When the siding is completed the house will present a unified look to passerby's. One of the ongoing problems we have had since the major renovation has been the buildup of icicles on the Waugh side of the house. Our contractors have brought in someone to look at this and have discovered that while we have a wonderful ventilation system in the attic to keep the air moving and keep icicles off the building, it is not working to capacity. The inlet vents are too small and will be enlarged during this work. Hopefully, this will solve this problem forever.

Also, keep in mind the workdays the first two Saturdays in June. The dates are June 4th and 11th. We work on Saturday from around nine until we decide we've had enough. We stop for lunch around noon. The house will be open for those who wish to stay overnight and enjoy the house. If you wish to do so, contact Debbie at Hurlbutt and she will take your reservation. We all enjoy these workdays, catching up with each other, meeting new friends and getting the house in shape for the upcoming summer season. I hope YOU can make it this year and help with the work.

Last summer season, the house had WI-Fi installed for everyone's convenience. So far it has been a great success with allowing users to keep up with their emails and other things. That about covers everything, so see you on the porch.

Chuck Bolan, Property Chair

United Methodist House Workdays Each June, the Property Committee schedules two Saturdays for volunteers to come and help get our House ready for the Season. The work isn't hard and the fellowship is fun! One bonus is that volunteers can stay over in the House as long as there is room! Why not put **June 4th or June 11th, 2011** on your calendar and plan to come up and stay over Friday or Saturday night and give us a hand. We scrub the porch chairs and windows, we wash curtains and re-hang them and we run all the silverware and dishes through the dishwasher. If it's nice weather, we clean out leaves from the shrubbery and weed and prune and sometimes plant flowers! We arrange the chairs in the chapel, dust and place the hymnals and Bibles under the chairs so all is in readiness when the summer season begins.

Everyone brings a lunch and lots of times, people bring goodies to share or if it's cold, we make soup! There's always coffee and sweet rolls to start the morning! (around 9:00AM) We're usually done around mid-afternoon.

United Methodist House Workdays

Saturdays
June 4 and June 11, 2011
Starting at 9 am

Bring a rake...a
duster...clippers...tools...etc....
...and a servant spirit
**Bring a lunch....beverages and
goodies provided**

United Methodist House Trustees

Class of 2011
WNY Trustees
Avion Brooks
Bruce Burr
Rev. Matt Golibersuch

Class of 2012
Chautauqua Community
Trustees
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Retreat Season Hostess
Cindy Shuff

Summer Host Couple
Karen and Bob Douds

Newsletter Editor & Assistant
Nancy Richards
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Web Site: umhouse.com

Ministry Committee

"A year round center for retreats and renewal at Chautauqua Institution offering a positive radiant expression of United Methodist Christianity. Providing for spiritual refreshment, quiet renewal, friendship and fellowship!"

The Ministry Committee is one facet of the United Methodist House (UMH) network on the grounds of Chautauqua Institution. The Ministry Committee is committed to fostering a spirit of hospitality and extends a warm welcome to all who come to the UMH.

The Ministry Committee oversees the personnel administrative affairs of the House including the selection of, and working with, the Host Couple. Karen and Bob Douds are examples of the spirit of hospitality and invitation that the House offers to the Chautauqua community – whether you are staying at the house, passing by or just visiting for a spell.

Other considerations of the Ministry Committee are the extending the message of faith, supporting a climate of continual learning and caring for and about one another. This committee ensures there are Bible studies available to the Chautauqua community and lively discussions to accompany them! There is outreach to the Chautauqua faith community such as hosting new pastors involved in a committed program to ensure their success in their chosen careers and faith walks. This committee also provides for a Chaplain of the Week throughout the season who brings their message to the members and visitors to the House through the Sunday service, a Tuesday noon "chaplain program", a "chaplain chat" Thursday evening or you can find them just rockin' and rollin' (in the rocking chairs, that is!) engaged in discussions that come with sitting and relaxing and having a stimulating (or relaxing) conversation with your porch neighbor.

The aspect of fostering relationships is a focus and you'll see through the work of the UMH where there is a continuing message of spiritual refreshment, quiet renewal, friendship and fellowship year round. The retreat season offers the same and many groups find the quiet beauty of the grounds in the off season enjoyable as well although the warmth of the fireplace and the couch may be preferable to the snowy porch! All are welcome at the United Methodist House and we hope to see *you* soon!

Laura Corey Ministry Committee

The rooms at the United Methodist House for the 2011 Summer Season.

Week 9 Otterbein Room 2 twin beds and a bathroom.

You can check with Hurlbut Church at Chautauqua, NY (716) 357-4045 or hurlbut@netsync.net

For house reservation information.

We would be glad to include your name on a waiting, if we have cancellations we would call you first.

for the 2011- 2012 Retreat Season available weekends at the United Methodist House

November 2011 November 25-27, 2011

December 2011 December 2-4, 2011 December 9-11, 2011 December 16-18, 2011

January 2012 January 20-22, 2012

February 2012 February 24-26 March, April 2012 All weekends

May 2012 May 4-6, 2012,

September 2012 September 21-23 November 2012 November 2-4, November 16-18, and 23-25

WE HAVE A WEBSITE!! Look us up on the Web at: www.umhouse.com

*The United Methodist House at Chautauqua
A year-round center for retreats and renewal at Chautauqua
Offering a positive radiant expression of United Methodist Christianity.*

Greetings from our United Methodist House Host Couple

Spring is here! The grass is greening, buds are on the trees and there is a wonderful feeling of newness in the air. We even have a precious new baby in our lives as we welcome Cecelia born April 7 when our son, Ryan and his wife, Jill, were blessed with their first baby (and our seventh grandchild)!

While the newness is welcome after a cold and very snowy winter, one thing we want to be old (built in 1888) and the same is our beautiful United Methodist House! Our Board of Directors and Property Committee are ceaseless in their efforts to keep the House fresh and expertly maintained; it wears its years quite well! All it needs to be perfect is YOU; your visit this summer will be a highlight for us!

We are already busy preparing for the summer. We'll get that coffee pot perking and the tea kettle steaming and look forward to welcoming all who will stop by our porch for a visit or stay with us for a week. If you have not been to the House, it will be our great pleasure to welcome you and show you around. If you are returning to welcome back friends!

Karen and Bob Douds Summer Host and Hostess

Experiences from a Chaplain of the Week.

Chautauqua and the United Methodist House are known as places of hospitality. With that in mind, how is this for a hospitable welcome to begin my first experience as chaplain of the week at the United Methodist House. When I arrived on Saturday, I was greeted by a huge storm that included a water spout on the lake. When I was finally able to get back to my car after the storm, I notice that the rear window was shattered. Could it have been the storm? No, it was a golf ball, which lay on the ground by the car. Some golfer must have tried to get one more hole in before the rain and hit a slice that came into the adjacent parking lot and found my window. Thanks to the big blue tarp provided by Karen and Bob Douds, the gracious hosts of the United Methodist House, my rear window was covered until it was repaired the next day. That was the beginning of a fantastic week as chaplain. I was prepared for the three leadership responsibilities that include the Sunday morning worship in the house chapel, a Tuesday box lunch discussion, and the Thursday vesper service in the chapel. Oh yes, the chaplain is also responsible for vacuuming the front porch each morning. The large, welcoming front porch is the main gathering place for guests. In past years I enjoyed meeting colleagues and fellow United Methodists on the porch. As chaplain, I had the joy of welcoming everyone to this sacred space that overlooks the amphitheater. On Tuesday, the porch was filled for the box luncheon discussion. We had a lively conversation on "How the Biblical People Did Theology", thanks to notes on the theme from the late Dr. Harrell Beck, professor of Old Testament at Boston School of Theology. Even though I waited more than a few years for the honor of being chaplain, the timing was perfect for me, because the chaplain for Chautauqua for this week in July was Barbara Brown Taylor. Meeting her and listening to her preach every day was as powerful as the storm that welcomed me to this very special place.

Rev. Barry Lewis
Week #5 July 24 – July 31, 2010

CHAPLAIN SELECTION GUIDELINES

Nine Chaplains are selected each year to serve for one week during the summer season. The selection of Chaplains is based primarily upon the information provided on the application forms. Attention is given to preaching, pastoral gifts and experiences without regard to sex, race, age or location. Every effort is made to be inclusive and to seek those who will provide interesting and inspirational leadership. However, first priority is given to United Methodist Ordained Clergy. Any qualified person may request an application form from the Hostess, Members of the Board of Trustees, or the Coordinator of Chaplains. Applications are invited and encouraged primarily from those who have not previously attended or experienced Chautauqua.

Interested parties may contact Rev. Larry P. Homitsky:

P. O. Box 100086

Pittsburgh, PA 15233

(412) 231-4900 office

(724) 272-3486 cell

Email: churchunion@stargate.net

Annual Meeting of the United Methodist House Each summer, we gather for the traditional tureen supper on our porch after the annual meeting. This year, we will have the meeting in the chapel at 4:00 PM. At this meeting we will have the Election of the Board Members and Officers.

Please save this date! **If you are coming for the meeting, there will be tickets for you to pick up at the Will Call office. You will have to call the House ahead of time to make reservations so your name(s) will be on the list.** See you on the porch! (We provide meat, beverages and dishes/silverware. Please bring a generous casserole or salad or dessert to share.) Thanks!

DONATIONS FOR 2010 With gratitude, we thank those who have made possible the ministry of The United Methodist House at Chautauqua

January 1, 2010 - December 31, 2010

Benefactors of \$500 and Up

Estate of Rev. Harold K. Babb, Chautauqua Catholic Community, Robert and Karen Douds, Attorney M. Fletcher and Elsie O. Gornall Fund of the Erie Community Foundation, Rev. and Mrs. James D. Hammerlee, Dr. Richard P. and Karen Heitzenrater, Rev. Hoyt L. and Martha Hickman, Edward and Frances Lopus, Alfred E. and Kathleen J. Lopus, Timothy W. Mattocks, Rev. Robert F. and Nancy Richards, and Warren First United Methodist Church

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**The 2011 Annual Meeting
of the United Methodist
House
July 13, 2011**

Meeting at 4 pm dinner to follow
All are welcome and invited to attend.

**United Methodist House
Board/Committee Meetings
June 3, 2011**

**1:00 pm Committees Meetings
3:00 pm Full Board Meeting**

**August 29, 2011
End of the Season
Full Board Meeting**

A shared supper will follow the
board meetings on both dates.

January 1, 2010 - December 31, 2010 (Continued)Friends up to \$49

Susan V. Abdella, James. L. and Estelle Aberle, H. Pat and Betty Albright, Helen B. Anderson, Margaret W. Campbell, George M. Jr. and Catherine Cassidy, Harold C. and Pamela Christie, Clymer United Methodist Women, Barbara J. Crouse, Mary L. DelPrince, Ronald. H. and Barbara Dixon, Julie M. Dougherty, Dr. Roger A. and Carol Forden, Rev. Mary P. Friederich, Evangeline J. Grim, John F. and Marilyn Henning, Ewen J. and Nancy Hill, Miriam S. Laundry, Barbara R. Manhardt, Rev. F. Victor and Barbara Metivier, James A. and Judith Metzger, Carl D. and Helen Miller, John E. and Dorothy Moran, Lee and Elaine Mount, Donna J. Noell, Dr. & Mrs. Jacob F. Palomaki, Sharon R. Parker, Mr. & Mrs. Frederick J. Rowland, William J. and Mary Jane Russell, Robert J. Jr. and Ann Saxton, Mary Elizabeth Sceiford, Patricia E. Snyder, Katherine L. Stearns, Robert G. and Betsy Stutes, Patricia A. Sundell, Ann H. Surrette, Paula Voell, Helen Voell, E. Philip Wilson, E. Kendall and Natalie Witte, and Elizabeth H. Woyczynski

Gifts to Endowment Fund

Dr. & Mrs. John H. Peterson and Rev. Robert F. and Nancy Richards

Gifts to House Restoration Fund

Rev. John H. & Mary Ann Hartley, Rev. Hoyt L. and Martha Hickman, David G. and Cynthia Shuff, and Harry L. and Margaret Stoll

Gift in Honor of Bob and Nancy Richards 50th Wedding Anniversary

Karin C. Arbuckle

Gift in Honor of Wayne Furman

Dr. and Mrs. Jacob F. Palomacki

Gift in Honor of Donna Miller

Rev. and Mrs. James D. Hammerlee

Gift in Memory of Rev. Harold K. Babb

Given by his brothers Ronald, Thomas, Dennis and Daniel Babb and the daughters of his deceased brother Bennie, Karen Murray, Tricia Babb and Nancy Babb

Gift in Memory of Marilyn Furman

Rev. Robert F. and Nancy Richards

Gift in Memory of Buzz Hussey

Rev. Donald E. and Shirley Struchen

Gift in Memory of Alfred Irwin

Rev. and Mrs. James D. Hammerlee

Finance Committee

Thank you for the faithful support we receive from those who have stayed with us, served with us, or who just love the house!

Don Weaver,
Treasurer and Finance Chair.

"God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19.

The kindness and generosity of our many donors throughout the year is most sincerely appreciated. It is with deepest gratitude that we thank each one of you who make possible the ministry of the United Methodist House in Chautauqua. If we have inadvertently missed anyone, please forgive our mistake and let us know so we can say thank you and correct our records.

Chaplains 2011 Chautauqua Season

The Rev. Larry Homitsky, under the direction of the Ministry Committee has announced the following roster of chaplains for the coming season. We know you will want to welcome them and their families as many are making their first visit to Chautauqua! Plan to spend some time visiting on the porch, attend some of the popular Tuesday lunch "Chats" or the Thursday evening programs. Morning worship is each Sunday at 9:30 AM.

- Week #1 June 25- July 2, 2011 Rev. Sarah Daniels Roncolato- New Horizon Charge, Meadville, Pa.** Sarah and her husband David bicycled from Georgetown to Pittsburgh on the Great Allegheny Passage, 354 miles over 6 days!.
- Week #2 July 2- 9, 2011 Rev. Richard E. Barton – Finger Lakes District Superintendent, Dean Upper NY Cabinet.** Dick and Gloria recently crusaded to Alaska and learned about the native cultures. They will be traveling to Europe later this summer and attending the World Methodist Council meeting in Durham, South Africa.
- Week #3 July 9- 16, 2011 Rev. Bill Gottshalk-Fielding- Director of Connectional Ministries, Upper NY Conference.** Bill and his wife, Dori, have recently moved into a new home where they were challenged to build a bookcase to house over 1,000 volumes of a family library.
- Week #4 July 16- 23, 2011 Rev. Robert G. Stutes- Bellville UMC, Bellville, Texas** A 2007 CLSC graduate, Bob and his wife Betsy are no strangers to Chautauqua! They brought their children, Jeremy and Whitney to Chautauqua when they were young, and were able to return in 2010 with their grown son, some 15 years later! Bob also brought a group of senior adults from his church to visit and has only missed One year since 2005. This will be like another home-coming for them!
- Week #5 July 23- 30, 2011 Rev. Paul D. Taylor- Bethel UMC, Pittsburgh, Pa.** Paul was first a lawyer, having graduated with a DJ from W. Va. University. But then he returned for a M. Div from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and has since served churches in W. Pa. Conference with his wife Loretta. He has served Calvary UMC in McKeesport, and Garden City UMC in Monroeville, Pa. and Lower Burrell. They are looking forward to getting to know all about Chautauqua and meeting other United Methodists on the porch!
- Week #6 July 30- August 6 Rev. Betty Ann Buckley- Alpha Ministries, Edenton St UMC, Raleigh District, North Carolina Annual Conference.** Betty Ann's ministry is all about study tours and travel to mission sites. She has traveled to the Holy Land, Greece, England, and Scotland and is eager to be a chaplain at the UM House! She will be joined by her mother, Shirley Buckley. A person well known to United Methodists from W. Pa. Conference where her late father, Jack, served as a District Superintendent. Even though she calls North Carolina home, she is a true daughter of Pennsylvania! She has stories to tell about riding a segway through Raleigh to learn N.C. history!
- Week #7 August 6- 13 Rev. Dr. Wendy J. Deichmann- President, United Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio.** Dr. Deichmann has been a pastor at Orchard Park UMC and on the faculty and Dean of United Seminary before becoming its President. She calls the Upper NY Conference and the Niagara District as her "home conference" and is eager to return to Chautauqua in a pastoral capacity where she'll have the opportunity to meet such interesting people! Her 18 yr old son is hoping to be able to join her! But, in any case, she'll be close to home and we look forward to renewing friendships on the porch!
- Week #8 August 13- 20 Rev. Dr. John Miller, Retired, WPA conference.** Although John and Diane call Kennerdell home now, they spent over 20 years at Olmsted manor outside of Kane, Pa. where John led the development of that amazing retreat center. He graduated from Gove City College and then received this Masters of Divinity degree from Duke University before finishing his theological education at Drew University, Madison, N.J. Diane has had a career of service to the church through the Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministry. She has authored a study guide for the India-Pakistan Mission Study and is currently the W. Pa. Conference coordinator for the Volunteer in Ministry Program. They have three children including Adam a Veterinary Md who lives near-by in Warren, Pa., and look forward to returning "home" to this beautiful region.
- Week #9 August 20- 27 Rev. Beth McKee- Chaplain, Wesleyan Senior Living, Elyria, Ohio.** Rev. McKee is a member of the East Ohio Annual Conference with special interests in health-related pastoral care. She enjoys playing the guitar and her interest in traveling, hiking, and biking has taken her to 7,000 ft on Mt. Rainier as well as to the Transportation Museum in Brooklyn, NY. She is looking forward to a week's immersion in the "Chautauqua Experience!"
- Week #10 August 27- 28 Rev Dr. Donald G. Scandrol- District Superintendent, Pittsburgh District, W. Pa. Conference.** The final service of the summer will be led by Pastor Don, who will be joined by his wife Barbara for the closing day of the Season. They'll join us for the "Three Taps" Party on the porch of our House and look forward to being with us, even if it's just a "taste" of Chautauqua!

Welcome to the United Methodist House!

The United Methodist House is centrally located at the heart of the Chautauqua experience! The United Methodist House is available year-round for church and family groups! For information and reservations call 716 357-4045 or email us at hurlbut@netsync.net.

The United Methodist House at Chautauqua

A year-round center for retreats and renewal at Chautauqua
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Providing for spiritual refreshment, quiet renewal, friendship and
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