

UNITED METHODIST HOUSE NEWS

Box 115 Chautauqua, New York 716 357-2055

May 2015



*The United Methodist House in Chautauqua
is open year round for retreats,
rest and renewal and family gatherings.
For information and reservations,
please call 716 357-4045*

From the Chair of the Board

As I thought of the start of another season at The Methodist House, I wondered how one of our newest Board members was feeling as she begins her second year “in residence” at Chautauqua. Rev. Carmen Perry has penned the following at my request. We appreciate her support and the team work accomplished when the House and Hurlbut get together. Welcome back everyone!

Brenda Baird

One of my favorite hymns is “Hymn of Promise.”¹ The words of the first verse are:

In the bulb there is a flower, in the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and dead of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

This winter at Chautauqua, we have definitely experienced the cold and dead of winter. For months, there were no sightings of squirrels or chipmunks, and there was only the occasional call of a crow. Likewise, Bestor Plaza, which fills with people in the summer, looked as though it was tucked under a white down comforter for the winter. Even still, the Methodist House showed signs that it is always a place for people to gather. The Methodist House was the site for families to reunite and to celebrate milestone birthdays, and the Methodist House offered clergy in the area a comfortable and inviting space to worship and fellowship with one another.

As I write this article, the cold and dead of winter is slowly fading into a memory. The squirrels have returned to look for their hidden treasures (that are still hidden beneath much snow). The sounds of different birds fill the morning and evening skies, and there is an excitement in the air that is beginning to bud. Repairs from the damage of winter are being made, and I can sense that when the 2015 season is revealed, it will be quite a time! I look forward to greeting and welcoming the chaplains and those of you who will be staying at the Methodist House this summer.

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Carmen L. Perry

Pastor, Hurlbut Memorial Community UMC

¹ Words: Natalie Sleeth, *The United Methodist Hymnal: Book of United Methodist Worship*, (1989) The United Methodist Publishing House: Nashville, TN, 707

Greetings from our United Methodist House Host Couple

We are looking forward to seeing YOU this summer

Ease into the relaxation of the United Methodist House

Laughter is shared

Caring is expressed

Old friends meet; new friends are made

Moments are stored in our memories forever

Every day is a blessing!

It is our joy to be returning for our seventh summer as hosts of the House.
We truly hope you will be a part of it.

Bob and Karen Douds

Report from the Property Committee

Greetings to all:

This message finds all of us at Chautauqua glad this winter is over. The House has seen its share of distress! The temperatures were often below zero, so it was necessary to keep the inside temperatures higher than usual. As a result our energy costs were higher.

We usually raise the thermostats for weekend rentals and lower them during the week, but it was so cold it was necessary to keep them higher to keep pipes from freezing.

The vent on the new water heater froze several times, needing a service call to thaw it. We had severe icicle problems this year, though we had all the heat ducts moved out of attic to reduce heat buildup in the attic. It helped some, but not enough. We had snow removed from upper and lower roofs several times, but we still had some leaks. A new roof is imperative before next winter. It will be costly, possibly as much as \$50,000.

Bids for a new roof have been requested. The Johnson Brothers do not do roofing, but have recommended 2 companies. I have received estimates from John Nelson roofing and Johnson and Johnson of Ashville, NY.

The main sewer line plugged up again this winter and required an emergency service call. This indicates the need for a cleanout in our main sewer line. We know it will cost as much as \$2,000. We hope to do this before the 2015 Season.

Maintenance costs for this winter were exceptionally high.

Remember, the work weekends this year are June 12th, and 13th, and June 19th and 20th if necessary. Please call Debbie Caruso at 716-357-4045 at Hurlbut if you wish to reserve a room. The Board meeting will be June 19th.

Dave Shuff, Property Committee Chair

From the Ministry Committee

We are delighted to announce the UMC chaplains for the 2015 season at the Methodist House at Chautauqua. They represent a variety of ways that our ordained elders and deacons serve our church and our God.

2015 Chaplains for the United Methodist House at Chautauqua:

Week One June 27 – July 4

Rev. Colleen Preuninger Chaplain, Syracuse University
316 Edwards Drive
Fayetteville, NY 13066

Week Two July 4 – July 11

Rev. J. Paul Womack Retired Pastor, Upper New York Annual Conference
1934 Jefferson Street
Chattanooga, TN 37408

Week Three July 11 – 18

Rev. Darrell Greenwalt, Pastor, Saegertown United Methodist Church, Western PA Annual Conference
PO Box 526
422 McGill Street
Saegertown, PA 16433

Week Four July 18 – July 25

Bishop Mark Webb Bishop, Upper New York Annual Conference
Upper New York Conference
324 University Ave 3rd Floor
Syracuse, NY 13210

Week Five July 25 – August 1

Rev. Oden Warman Retired Pastor, Western PA Annual Conference
6830 Wilson Road
Friendship, MD 20758

Week Six August 1 – August 8

Rev. Angela Gay Kinkead Dean of the Chapel, West Virginia Wesleyan College
35 Hart Ave
Buckhannon, WV 26201

Week Seven August 8 – August 15

Rev. G. Alan Benson Retired pastor, North Georgia Annual Conference
805 Hillcrest Ave

PO Box 861

Griffin, GA 30224

Week Eight August 15 – 22

Rev. David P. Harris Pastor, Palmyra First UMC, Eastern PA Annual Conference

23 Stafford Drive

Palmyra, PA 17078

Week 9 August 22 – August 29

Rev. Stephanie Gottschalk Missions Coordinator, Western PA Annual Conference

1220 State Ave

Coraopolis, PA 15108

Each week will provide enlightenment, enrichment, and an exposure to enhancing our spiritual growth. We look forward to seeing/ getting to know all of our guests this season, and hope that your Chautauqua experience will be inspiring.

Willow Brost, Ministry Team Chair

**With gratitude, we thank
those who have made possible the ministry of
The United Methodist House at Chautauqua
in the year 2014**

Benefactors of \$500 and Up

Chautauqua Catholic Community, Bob and Karen Douds, M. Fletcher and Elsie O. Gornall Fund of the Erie Community Foundation, Dr. Richard P. and Karen Heitzenrater, Robert E. & Mary Kemmerer, Frances J. Lopus, Timothy J. Mattocks, Archie E. Moran, and Carolyn F. Wilson

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Gifts to our Endowment Fund

Rev. Larry R. and Brenda Baird, W. Drew and Susan Heitzenrater

Gifts to the House Restoration Fund

Susan V. Abdella, Kay B. Brown, Rev. J. Fay and Ruth Cleveland, W. Drew and Susan Heitzenrater, Rev. Harry L. and Margaret Stoll, George D. and Joanne Vineyard, Robert F. and Katherine Williams

Gift in Memory of Rev. H. Pat Albright

Rev. Robert F. and Nancy Richards

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Gifts in Memory of Rev. Gerald H. Murphy

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Gifts in Memory of Rev. Jack Spencer

Rev. Robert F. and Nancy Richardson

Gift in Memory of Pat Dwyer Taylor

Douglas and Susan Grove-DeJarnett

Gifts in Honor of Bob and Karen Douds

Rev. James D. Hammerlee, Morton and Iris November

Gift in Honor of Judie Peterson

Rev. James D. Hammerlee

The kindness and generosity of our many donors throughout the year is most sincerely appreciated. It is with deepest gratitude that we thank each and every 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.

Judie Peterson, Financial Secretary

Reservation Information for the Chautauqua Season

Reservations for the Chautauqua Season may be made by any United Methodist or “Member” of the United Methodist House. “Members” are those who have financially contributed to the UM House in past years. Reservations can only be made by calling (716) 357-4045 after 9 am on **the first Monday of October, 10/5/15**, (United Methodists and Members) or after 9 am on the first Tuesday (everyone.) Reservations will be taken over the phone on a first come – first served basis. Messages for reservations will not be accepted.

Individuals may rent a room or the suite for only one week each season. A waiting list will be maintained in the event of cancellations. A week during the Season is from 3:00 pm, Saturday to 10:00 am the following Saturday. A reservation will be confirmed only if a \$200 deposit is received within two weeks. The balance is due in full before April 1. In the event of a cancellation, any funds paid will be returned only if the room can be re-rented.

Weekly Room Rental Rates – Chautauqua Season

| | | |
|-----------------|---------|---|
| Boehm Room | \$575 | (This room is slightly smaller) - 2 people in twin beds |
| All other rooms | \$675 | (Four rooms) - 2 people in twin beds |
| Wesley Suite | \$1,250 | (Two room suite) - 4 people in twin beds and 2 people in convertible chair/beds |

Reservation Information for the Retreat Season (Off-Season)

Reservations for the retreat season are invited at any time up to 3 years in advance by calling (716) 357-4045. The retreat season is from Labor Day through May.

Retreat Season Rental Rates for the entire house (United Methodist groups)

\$100 per day (day use only)

\$425 per two-night stay

Retreat Season Rental Rates for the entire house (Non-Church groups)

\$600 per two-night stay

Available Dates in 2015

5/15-5/17, 11/20-11/22, 11/27-11/29, 12/4-12/6, 12/11-12/13, 12/18-12/20

Available Dates in 2016

3/11-3/13, 3/18-3/20, 3/25-3/27, All of April, 5/13-5/15, 5/20-5/22, 11/18-11/20, 11/25-11/27, 12/9-12/11
12/16-12/18

Available Dates in 2017

2/3-2/5, 3/3-3/5, 3/10-3/12, 3/17-3/19, 3/24-3/26, 3/31-4/2, 4/7-4/9, 4/14-4/16, 4/21-4/23, 4/28-4/30, 5/5-5/7
5/19-5/21, 9/8-9/10, 9/15-9/17, 10/6-10/8, 11/17-11/19, 11/24-11/26, All of December

House Rules

Like all fine historic accommodations, the UM House is 100% non-smoking!

Only "seeing eye" pets are allowed.

As in all United Methodist facilities, alcoholic beverages are prohibited.

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Hospitality

United Methodist House

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The United Methodist House at Chautauqua

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

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. Reservations for the Retreat Season (September – May) are taken at any time. Reservations for the Chautauqua Season are available starting on the first Monday of October

of the previous year. For information and reservations call (716) 357-4045.

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