



THE TELESCOPE

First United Methodist Church of Delmar

www.delmarmethodist.org

A note from Woody on the conclusion of his ministry

The Staff-Parish Ministry Team reports with regret that it has received the following message from our beloved Rev. Sherwood E. Carver:

A Word of Explanation and Affection As I Conclude My Ministry Among You

Over the last year, a progressive loss of physical stamina has made carrying out my part-time ministry of elder care difficult. Despite extensive medical review and testing, the physical reason for my increasing decline has not yet been identified. (My neck injury requiring the support collar was one small result of my underlying loss of strength and stability). With the endorsement of Staff-Parish and the prayerful encouragement of this caring congregation, I've carried on my ministry to the best of my ability. However, conditions now have developed to the point where it just isn't possible for me to continue to serve as pastor of elder care on our church staff.

The Staff-Parish team has been extremely helpful all through this time of my physical decline and continues to be supportive in making my departure as comfortable for me as possible. My colleagues, Rev. Janice and Rev. Bob, have been most generous in providing pastoral coverage and assistance that freed me from worrying about whether I would be able to respond to congregational needs. I'm very grateful to them.

For Carole and me, our relationship with the FUMC Delmar is the longest period of service in our entire ministry – almost 14 years here! We have felt lovingly embraced by this grand congregation and have so very many wonderful memories of relationships along the way. Wish us well! We're going through one of those stages of transition that life thrusts upon us. We will need to figure out where we should locate that would provide us with affordable housing and eventual long-term assistance as needed.

We certainly have appreciated having had this very meaningful and fulfilling relationship with you! – Rev. S. E. (Woody) Carver

Mary Marthas on March 12

Mary Marthas will meet on Thursday, March 12. A very special program has been planned. We are to meet at the church at 12:15 p.m. (*note new time*). The senior van will pick us up at 12:30 and take us to the Bethlehem Town Hall to hear the Bethlehem Senior Chorus. After the program the senior van will bring us back to the church for our

meeting and refreshments. For more information contact Barb Logan 439-4782, Aggie Clark 439-5578, Janet Gelzheiser 439-5928 or Shirley Milbert 475-1298.

RPMs Coffee House this Saturday – tickets available!

Yearning for a nice night out? This Saturday evening the RPMs, our Senior High ecumenical youth group, will present their annual Coffee House Benefit. The event will be from 7:30 p.m. – 10 p.m. at Delmar Reformed Church. It features Acoustic Hartland (featuring several from our congregation), an unlimited selection of coffee and teas, and a spectacular array of gourmet desserts. A HUGE silent auction of goods and services will also be offered.

Tickets (\$15 each, or two for \$25 – checks payable to RPM Seniors) are available through Church Office, **or** at the door. All proceeds will support the RPMs 2009 Spring Mission Trip to Washington, D.C. where they will assist the homeless and others in need.

Our Church in Mission

The Albany United Methodist Society **emergency food pantry** is now serving more people than at any other time in its history. There is never enough food on the pantry shelves to meet the need. Some of the first -time users are people who once were able to donate rather than receive. Please keep such people in mind when you are grocery shopping and purchase extras, according to your budget – a few cans or a few cases. Every week, a member of our Mission Team will be shopping for AUMS at Aldi's in Rensselaer, and will be buying canned goods by the case (\$6/case of canned vegetables, \$7-\$8/case of canned fruit). If you would prefer to donate money for the purchase of canned goods, you may do so in cash or write a check to FUMC and earmark it for AUMS groceries. During the week, please leave money or check in the church office. On Sundays, it can be placed in the money container on the AUMS grocery cart. Thank you!!

SUNDAY WORSHIP

March 8
2nd Sunday in Lent

9:30 a.m.

Sermon by:
Rev. Janice Palm
"What Can We
Give in Return?"

Texts:
[Genesis 17:1-7, 15, 16;](#)
[Mark 8:31-38](#)

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'A Christian community, growing together in faith and in service to God'

Church Calendar

Thursday, March 5	6:30 p.m. – Bell Choir (201) 4-7 p.m. – Calling Hours – Eleanor Morton (Lounge) 7:30 p.m. – Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
Friday, March 6	11 a.m. – Funeral Service – Eleanor Morton (Sanctuary)
Saturday, March 7	9 a.m. – Men's Ministry Team Breakfast (Fellowship Hall) 9:30 a.m. – Confirmation Class, Session #2 (Lounge) 1-3 p.m. – Calling Hours - Murray Mayes (Lounge) 3 p.m. Mayes Memorial Service (Sanctuary) 7:30 p.m. RPMs Annual Coffee House Benefit (Delmar Reformed)
Sunday, March 8	9:30 a.m. – Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. – Fellowship Hour with Fair Trade Sale 11 a.m. – Jr. Choir/Intermediate/Youth Choirs (219/Choir Room/216) 11 a.m. – "I Believe in Jesus" (218) 11 a.m. - Theological & Social Issues (Lounge) 7 p.m. - Women's Study Group (Library)
Monday, March 9	10:30 a.m. – Playgroup (Nursery)
Tuesday, March 10	8 a.m. – Men's Breakfast (4 Corners) 10 a.m. – Treasure Cove (Lounge) 7 p.m. - Upper Room (Lounge)
Wednesday, March 11	10:30 a.m. – Bible Study (Delmar Place) 10:30 a.m. – Playgroup (Nursery)

Let's hold one another in prayer – especially our confirmands

Let's especially lift up those youth who are in our Confirmation Class this year. This is a great group of youth who will be exploring their faith in the coming months. We are not only considering what the church and those in the church believe, but we're also considering what difference being someone who believes in a God of love makes in the living of our lives.

Be ready! Someone might just ask you what you believe and how it makes a difference in your life. Would you have an answer? Would you sit with someone and listen, really listen, to the questions someone might have? Caroline Weiss, Mike Turi,

Kevin Rudolph, Ali Rathjens, Nick Mashuta, Dani Lang, Robbie Held, Ian Foley, and Jessie Fleck are the team of confirmands. Thanks. And Shalom! – *Rev. Janice Palm*

Habitat for Humanity: March 21

Our last build day was quite productive – our crew drywalled a bathroom with greenboard, put up Tyvek wrap, a ledger board and flashing, ran three courses of siding, and capped-off a handrail. Our next build date is Saturday, March 21. We may be finishing the Sefcu house on Odell Street. If you'd like to join us, please contact Kevin Conley (kconley1@nycap.rr.com or 475-9034). On the build day, please wear sturdy shoes, bring gloves, lunch and water. We typically meet at the build site at 9 a.m., but if you would like to carpool, please let Kevin know..

Telescope going on vacation

Have something for the *Telescope*? Plan ahead, because the editor is going on vacation and thus **there will be no issue for March 18**. Anything you need published before we resume on March 25 should be submitted in time for next week's issue (dated Wednesday, March 11). Deliver it to the Church Office by this Friday morning, March 6, or submit it by email to shafferdf@aol.com no later than this Sunday evening, March 8.

Our Church Family

Our prayers and sympathy for the family and friends of Eleanor Morton, who passed away Sunday, March 1. Calling hours will be 4-7 p.m. Thursday, March 5 in the Lounge. A funeral service will be held Friday, March 6 at 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

In our thoughts and prayers: Harold Roeth (Jacque & Maureen Roeth), Keith and Elsie Faustel (Karen Tedesco), Kyle Wahl (Tom Stephany), Karen Boughton (Linda Blattner & Kim Ryan), Barb Wiley, Jonathan Carpenter (Kevin Conley), Maud Denham, Tiffani Hughes (Byron & Barbara Wilson), Lynn Mallory, Chuck Payne (Ray Bell), Ken Huddleston (Karen & Kyle Jones), Nick Dubroff (Sally and John Ten Eyck), Sam Kunis (Dana Burns), Denise Knaack, Mary Storm, Susan and Marge Stewart (John Stewart), Sharon O'Connor (Lynda Conway), Priscilla Wing (Dori Hallenbeck), Kevin Rice and family (Nancy and Steve Rice), Louise Marshall, Geneva Long, Jean Drew, Clara Cabesas (Marian and Bill Jewell), Capt. Sean Quinn (John and Sally Ten Eyck), Chris Sheridan (Dick & Jeanne Herrmann), Bernice Drozd (Karen Ward), Edwin Busch (Joan House), Noah Hyde (Mil Harmon), Viva Klim.