



THE TELESCOPE

First United Methodist Church of Delmar

www.delmarmethodist.org

Stewardship campaign focuses on ‘Dreams, Choices and Rewards’ – and how each feeds the next

What are your dreams for the church for next year? Your Stewardship team is building this year’s campaign around the dreams each of us has for our church and its ministries.

The Education ministry team, for example, told us that one of their dreams is an electronic sign to advertise what educational opportunities are available. Another is to provide a course that addresses the issues around children and positive electronic conversations. Other dreams are a course for adults with questions of



faith, and a course on Spiritual Gifts.

A dream of the Friendship Club is to have over 100 people at its gatherings. The Mission team has a dream of providing avenues that enable every member to be involved in missions. A dream of the congregation has been to provide another worship service to reach out to folks who are not yet part of the church.

These dreams cannot be realized without each member of the congregation making a choice to support the church. We ask that you choose to support the dreams of all the ministry teams by increasing last year’s pledge. Your card can be sent to Church Office or placed with the Sunday offering; address the envelope to Financial Secretary and mark it “Confidential.”

Advent study to focus on peace

This Advent, we will offer a study focused on our theme of PEACE. We’ll meet Mondays Nov. 29-Dec. 20 at 7:30 pm, or Tuesdays, Nov. 30-Dec. 21 at 9:30 am (same program; two different times). Please sign up by Nov. 18; e-mail Rev. Iona at associate@delmarmethodist.org.

Church Calendar	
Weekly schedule	
Sundays	9:30 am – Worship (Sanctuary) 10:45 am – Fellowship Hour 11 am – Junior /Intermediate Choirs/Youth Singers (219/Choir Room/218) 11 am – Theological & Social Issues (Lounge) 11 am – Bible Study with Rev. Kanuck (207)
Mondays	10:30 am – Community Playgroup (Nursery)
Tuesdays	8 am – Men’s Breakfast (4 Corners) 10 am – Treasure Cove (Lounge) 2:30 pm – Farmers’ Market (parking lot) 3 pm – “Coffee Talk” (Perfect Blend) 7 pm - Upper Room (Library)
Wednesdays	10:30 am – Bible Study (Delmar Place) 10:30 am – Playgroup (Nursery)
Thursdays	6:30 pm – Bell Choir (Room 201) 7:30 pm – Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
Other events of note	
Sun., Nov. 7	11 am – New member information class
Mon., Nov. 8	7 pm – Staff-Parish Relations team (207)
Tues., Nov. 9	7 pm – Trustees (207)
Thurs., Nov. 11	1 pm – Mary Marthas (Lounge)
Mon., Nov. 15	7 pm – Finance ministry team (207)
Tues., Nov. 16	7 pm – Administrative Council (207)
Wed., Nov. 17	6:30 pm – Membership & Evangelism (207)
Nov. 20, 21, 27	RPMs wreath making
Sun., Nov. 21	10:45 am – Harvest Dinner (Fellowship Hall)
Mon., Nov. 22	7:15 pm – Education team (207)
Church calendar on-line at: http://calendar.yahoo.com/delmarmethodist	

Our Church Family

In our thoughts and prayers: Eleanor Riddell, Gerrit Milbert, Gail Garson, Jean Richardson (Hyacinth Mason), Paul Vandemark, John Vadney, Joan Kapral, Rob Heineman, Patti Hardy (Pam Skripak), Rev. Bill Barney, Susan Mincher (Ellen and Bob Kanuck), Cassie Riordon & Jay Edgar (Marc Edgar), Carol Housekmecht (Karen Seward), Mary Jane Hughes (Lynda Conway), Marco Bonato (Jane Lang, David Rathjens), Ray Scheesley (Ten Eyck Family), Gil & Elsie Faustel (Karen Tedesco), Jim King (Julie Bushart), Mary Storm, Chris Sheridan (Dick & Jeanne Herrmann), Edwin Busch (Joan House).

Fair Trade/Equal Exchange items can brighten your holidays

November will bring two opportunities to buy unique and delightful fair-trade goods for your home, or to use as gifts, or both!

First, on **Sunday, Nov 14**, during Fellowship Hour our Church and Society team will offer fair trade coffee, tea, chocolate, nuts or cranberries. And there's a new chocolate bar – "chocolate caramel crunch," which sounds too good to pass up. FUMC Cookbooks will also be on sale for \$10, *a great gift idea for Christmas or anytime!* All proceeds to benefit the Capital Region Food Bank

Then on **Thanksgiving weekend** there will be a Fair Trade Fair at Delmar Reformed Church. It will be held on Friday, Nov. 26 from 9 am – 3 pm and on Saturday, Nov. 27 from 9 am – noon. It features handcrafted gifts, accessories and housewares, fairly traded from around the world. Your purchases will help artisans and their communities build a better future. Many vendors represented, including Ten Thousand Villages, Mayan Hands, Mango Tree Imports, Bead for Life and more. Contact: 439-9929 or FTBethlehemNY@gmail.com.

Important mission needs

► The **Emergency Overflow Shelter** is operated by the Capital Area Council of Churches to provide overnight lodging for individuals who cannot access other homeless shelters because of mental health issues. Our church will be responsible for the hot evening meal every Saturday from Nov. 7 until mid-April, when the shelter closes. Our Mission Ministry Team is seeking volunteers to provide casseroles, vegetables/salads, desserts, and beverages for the 19 individuals and staff members. A sign-up list will be posted in Fellowship Hall. Please contact Nanette Mayes at 767-9636.

► The **Overflow Shelter** also needs a number of items, including cleaning products (Pine Sol, bleach, laundry detergent); paper towels; toilet paper; trash bags; paper cups and dishes; plastic utensils, and new men's socks and underwear. A collection box for donated items is in our church office hallway, near the Nursery.

Volunteers are needed to help with meals, make beds, do laundry, sign in guests, etc. (Call the Shelter at 426-1227.) Financial gifts may be sent to the church office; make checks out to FUMC, indicate for Overflow.

► On Monday, Nov. 15, our church will be providing lunch for the 30-35 seniors who participate in the **Bethlehem Seniors Lunch Program**, which offers a weekly congregational meal

for seniors who are shut-ins. Volunteers are needed to prepare a spaghetti squash casserole with Nanette Mayes' recipe. If you can help, please contact Nanette at 767-9636.

Heifer Carnival – with gifts that address the world's needs

If you could have any gift you wish, what would it be? Peace on Earth, an end to hunger, preservation of the environment, education for a child? These gifts are available – one small piece at a time. Heifer International works toward dreams like these through people like you.

If you're looking for a different way to honor the people close to you, attend the Living Gift Market, aka Heifer Carnival, on Sunday, Dec. 5, 12-2 pm, in Fellowship Hall.

The Carnival "sells" the opportunity to make gifts of food- and income-producing animals like pigs, bees, chicks and heifers. The animals go to hungry, rural families working to improve their lives, and are delivered with technical training in animal care and concern for the environment. Whole communities are changed through your gifts. Along with training, Heifer provides a female animal or starter flock to each family, and one or more male animals to the community for breeding purposes. Veterinary services, extension advice, and organization support ensure lasting benefits.

The Carnival is a free, fun, family experience. Various tables with games, books, puzzles, and arts & crafts will be sponsored by the RPMs and other youth groups. The Balloon Man, Heifer videos, and more will also be featured. So, think about the important people in your life and pay tribute to them while helping to make the world a better place.

Our church has long been a contributor to Heifer International – and this Christmas season you'll have **another opportunity to pitch in**, by making gifts to Heifer as an alternative to (or in addition) to poinsettias. Watch for order forms that will help you make this choice.

Phase Two organ upgrade campaign a harmonious success!

The congregation has enthusiastically supported a solicitation to honor and thank the music leaders of the FUMC – Joe Farrell, Lynda Conway and Ken and Susan Loiacono – by pledging the \$40,000 necessary to complete the required upgrade of the pipe organ in the Sanctuary. The Chancel Choir led this effort by raising more than half of the campaign's goal.

– *The Organ Upgrade Support Team*

Thanksgiving baskets for AUMS

Our church has set a goal of providing Albany United Methodist Society with 25-30 "baskets" of turkey and trimmings for families in inner city Albany.

We'll be collecting donations through Sunday, Nov. 21 – the date of our **annual Harvest Dinner**. Priority items are turkeys (\$ or gift cards to grocery stores), canned vegetables, canned fruit, stuffing, and candied yams. Other items are: cranberry sauce, jars/cans/pkgs. of gravy mix, instant mashed potatoes, cans of fruit, boxes/pkg. of cake (& frosting), brownie/cookie mix or prepared desserts.

Items may be left in the box located below the literature table outside the Nursery.

Please be generous in assisting these families. Economic hardship will become increasingly more painful for them in the months to come.

Gifts for those without

During Advent, we have an opportunity to provide gifts for the AUMS Christmas toy "store." For some, ours may be the only Christmas gifts they receive. Our toy/mitten tree will be in the Sanctuary **from Nov. 28 – Dec. 13**. This will be the collecting area for toys, as well as other gift items (such as gloves, mittens, scarves and caps) for children and teenagers.

Please bring an unwrapped new toy appropriate for ages newborn-12 y/o, for teenagers: a \$20 gift certificate for Target, Kohls, or Walmart for the AUMS annual toy distribution. AUMS will offer your gifts in its "store," where parents who cannot afford to purchase gifts may select items at no charge. And please think about providing name brand items; remember that advertisers reach children in poverty as well as our own children.

Be an Angel for AIDS/HIV patients

Our "angel tree" for the AIDS/HIV clients in the residential programs of Support Ministries will be set on the table outside Fellowship Hall **from Nov. 28 -Dec. 12**. We ask that purchases be kept to \$20-\$25. Our "angel tree" will be hung with cards listing individuals' names and their gift requests. Directions are located on the table for the purchase of these gifts. Other than gift cards, your gifts should be left under the tree in the Hummel Chapel. Gift cards and monetary donations should be brought directly to the Church Office during the same time period. For more information contact Lisa Ball (439-5514). Thank you for caring – and for sharing.

From Rev. Janice: *Looking forward....*

As we look to this month's Sunday Celebrations, we look forward to a variety of worship services celebrating our gifts of stewardship that come in the form of prayer, service, presence, witness and financial support.

The first Sunday in November, **All Saints Sunday**, we lift up the saints of this church who have gone on to greater glory. We will pause in remembrance of and with thanksgiving for those who have been in our midst and have died in this last year. *We will celebrate the gifts of generations of people who make a difference in the life of the church and the community, and just as importantly consider how we might live out God's call to us.* On this first Sunday we will also celebrate and lift up the receipt of our pledges of financial support for 2011. To cap all of this, we will celebrate Holy Communion.

On **Nov. 14** we will be accepting New Members. Included among these folks are those transferring from another United Methodist Church or another denomination, those professing their faith for the first time publicly, and those confirming their faith once professed for them. As a prelude to accepting new members, we will celebrate the baptism of Jackson Dolen. *(If you have yet to let Rev. Kanuck know of your desire to become a member, do contact him at 439-9976 ext 226 or rkanuck@nycap.rr.com. We are planning a gathering of folks at 11 am on Nov. 7 in order to answer questions and provide an overview of the church.)* God is creating a new heaven and new earth, a reign of harmony and wholeness for all creation.

Moving toward Thanksgiving Day— the Sunday before, **Nov. 21**, has traditionally been celebrated as **Harvest Sunday**. *The Sanctuary will be filled with lots of songs of thanksgiving from our choirs.* Following the worship service a harvest meal will be provided in Fellowship Hall. This year, during the harvest dinner, we anticipate we will have an update on our financial stewardship campaign for 2011's budget. Come hungry for worship, fellowship, and harvest!

The last Sunday, Nov. 28, is the **first Sunday of Advent** season. There are four weeks in Advent. This year each week we will lift up an aspect of peace in preparation for the Coming of the Prince of Peace: Jesus. *Come hear what Isaiah has to say to us this first week: ...they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Come & see our sanctuary space change each Sunday of Advent.*

Shalom,

Rev. Janice

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

Annual 'Hanging of the Greens' to be held on Saturday, Dec. 4

On Saturday morning, Dec. 4 the families of the church will gather to help get our church decorated for Christmas. The children will have a chance to make ornaments - and we will all share a brunch and have a chance to sing carols to help us get into the spirit of the Christmas season. We'll gather in Fellowship Hall at 9 am to make and prepare decorations. At 10 am we'll share a potluck brunch (please bring your own place setting; coffee and juice will be provided). Then from 10:45 am to Noon we'll decorate our Church and sing carols. So we know how many crafts to prepare, RSVP to Jen Bailey (439-9976 or education@delmarmethodist.org) by Nov. 21.

Learn origami; fold peace cranes

Would you like to fold a few cranes to be hung in our Sanctuary? Would your team like to fold some cranes? Let Rev. Palm know. There will be a station set up during fellowship times to learn origami and to fold. This opportunity to offer your gift of folding will be available over several weeks (Nov. 7, 14 and 28, and Dec. 5 and 19)!

Mary Marthas to gather Nov. 11

The next meeting of the Mary Marthas will take place on Thursday, Nov. 11 at 1 pm in the Lounge. Please bring information on a favorite book for our winter reading. (You will not need to give a book report, but please tell us enough to entice us to read your book.) We welcome new members or anyone interested in this small, friendly and supportive group. For information call Aggie Clark, 439-5578, Janet Gelzheiser 429-5928, or Shirley Milbert, 475-1298.

Women-in-the-Middle

Our November breakfast meeting for W-I-M will be held on Saturday, Nov. 20 at Tool's at 8:30 am (8 am for early birds). Please reserve a seat with Linda Graf at giraffeart@msn.com or 439-6659 by Thursday Nov. 18.

Friendship Club to celebrate holiday season on Friday, Dec. 3

Our holiday Friendship Club gathering will be on Friday, Dec. 3. We start with hors d'oeuvres at 6 pm, followed by soup and salad. The meal will be completed with some wonderful desserts. Please bring a soup bowl along with the rest of your place settings. If you haven't signed up for what you are bringing, please call Connie Tilroe at 439-7571 and she will let you know what we need. Hertha Thayer (453-0450) will take all other reservations. The minimal charge is \$2 if you bring something and \$7 if you don't.

There will be Christmas music and some sing-along carols. We will also have a visit from Elizabeth ("John the Baptist's mother"), who will tell her part of the Christmas story. Please remember an unwrapped toy for the AUMS toy store. It's always a thrill to see the generosity and creativity of our group.

RPMs offer beautiful wreaths

The RPMs - our ecumenical youth group - have launched their annual handmade wreath fundraiser! Wreaths are 10" in diameter and can be purchased either fully decorated or with only a festive bow. The cost is \$30 for a wreath with a bow; \$35 for one fully decorated. Supplies are limited, so get your order in soon! To order, contact Beth Hickox at beth.hickox@gmail.com or 596-2116.

JUMP fun coming up

JUMP (Junior United Methodist People) is an FUMC youth group for anyone in middle school. Friends are always welcome. On Nov. 14 we'll have a meeting at 5:30 pm in the Lounge. On Dec. 11 we'll do holiday baking at 10 am in the Kitchen. Julie Bushart, JUMP leader, can be contacted at jules385@verizon.net or 439-7341.

Seeking altar angels

Several "behind the scenes" assistants are needed to help with weekly changing of the altar cloths, flowers, etc. Choose your month -- all training provided! Contact Dana Burns (475-7292, dmburns@att.net) for more information.