

THE ENVOY

A Newsletter of Emmanuel Friedens Church
American Baptist and United Church of Christ Congregation
218 Nott Terrace, Schenectady, NY 12307
Rev. Peter J.B. Carman, Pastor

Issue 327

June 2015

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Worship Hours
Sunday @ 10 am

Sunday Classes
(Sept-June)
11:15 am

Office Hours
9 am-3 pm M-F



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From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Emmanuel Friedens friends,



On a recent brief trip to Mexico, for a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America, I found myself on a Sunday afternoon in Mexico City in deep conversation with a new friend. I asked him a simple question: "What is one thing you would as a Mexican like to say to a North American Christian about the relationship between Mexico and the US?"

"Oh that is a very hard question," he responded. But his response was remarkably quick, and as best I can repeat, these were his words. Tacitly acknowledging the person being addressed was just me, he answered: "I would like to tell him: 'We are brothers, you and I, each of us in a world full of struggle and suffering. We need each other. I do not understand what motivates so many people to try to grab power-- and it hurts people. In the end there is only one nation.... and the only real power belongs to God.' He paused briefly. And then he continued. "Isolation hurts us. We need unity." And then, a little later, "I think we have a lot of work to do."

During the month of June each year Emmanuel Friedens Church supports **One Great Hour of Sharing**, an offering received across nine US denominations: an offering that does precisely what my new friend reminded me of— creating unity between peoples of different nations, cities and towns. It does so by responding to disasters and also by giving folk the knowledge and tools they need to strengthen communities and individuals. Both the money we receive and the hands on work it funds are shared throughout the US and throughout the world. It is an offering that funds a lot of important work: internationally it supports relief and development efforts, disaster response and long term assistance aimed at equipping and empowering local communities. It does this both through the work of Church World Service (also supported by the CROP walk we host each year) and through our denominational bodies, the American Baptist Churches

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and the United Church of Christ. And a portion of the funds come back to local communities like ours throughout the US.

In a time when all too often folk don't look beyond their own situation or needs, we desperately need opportunities to connect – across neighborhoods and across the world. One small step in that is contributing to causes like **One Great Hour of Sharing**. But we also need to get to know each other across the boundaries that divide us. The times when we form friendships, and really listen to those whose stories and community and history is different from ours. We are always surprised, always grow always are visited by grace.

We need each other. We are sisters and brothers. And in this hurting world we share, we have work to do. Lots of it. Joyful work. Challenging work. Together.

In Christ's Peace, Peter

Congratulations to Rev. Lynn Carman Bodden, on her recent call to serve as Interim Pastor of First Reformed Church of Scotia, beginning in September. Her present position in Guilford CT concludes at the end of July.

SPECIAL OFFERING IN JUNE



WHAT? The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, received both through the United Church of Christ and the American Baptist Churches. A major recipient is **Church World Service**, doing disaster relief and development since 1949.

WHEN? We will receive the offering through June.

WHAT DOES IT SUPPORT? In 2014 and the first part of 2015, it supported (to name a few): **Flood relief** in Argentina, Bosnia Croatia, and Colorado...and Penn Yan, New York, **Earthquake relief** in Nepal, China, and...California, **Refugee relief** in Nicaragua; **Conflict relief** in Gaza....

HOW DO I GIVE? Online OR through the Sunday Morning Offering: Please designate on the MEMO line of your check which denomination the gift is for, either OGHS-ABC (American Baptist) or OGHS-UCC (United Church of Christ).

Thank you.

CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

Our Welcoming, Open and Affirming Ministry

**Capital Pride and Festival, Saturday, June 13
@ 12 pm, Washington Park in Albany**

Emmanuel Friedens invites you to be a part of the largest Pride celebration in upstate New York! The Capital District Gay Pride Parade and Festival will be held on Saturday, June 13 in Albany's Washington Park. The parade steps off at 12 pm at the intersection of Robin and State Streets. Once again, our church will be walking in the parade as a group. After the parade, take time to check out all the ongoing activities throughout the park especially our exhibit table. Please arrive at the park by 11:30 am if you plan on walking. Look for the church group near the step-off point.

For more information about the parade and festival, check out the website: (www.capitalpridecenter.org)

Dignity For All Award

The Welcoming, Open and Affirming Committee of Emmanuel Friedens Church each year offers the Dignity for All Award to graduating seniors in recognition of their valuable work on behalf of LGBTQ students and their right to obtain an education free from discrimination, harassment, violence and abuse. We offer this award to students who attend high schools within Schenectady County.

We were delighted to award the scholarships to the following recipients: Sierra Flynn from Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake, Emily Casey-Wagemaker from Niskayuna, Michaela Gagliardi from Schalmont, and Kendra Arcos-Pangione from Schenectady. It is truly a privilege to be able to honor these young people who follow their convictions and work so hard to advance social justice among their peers.

We extended an invitation to each recipient to attend our Pride Worship Service on June 21. We hope one or more will attend.

Class of 2015



Graduates

Brianna Tejada graduates on Saturday, June 27 from Scotia-Glenville High School where she is a member of the school's National Honor Society. Brianna leaves at the end of August to attend Kent State University in Kent, OH where she will be studying fashion merchandising.

Her summer plans include working, a road trip to Ohio to register for classes and a trip with her friends. Brianna is the daughter of Robyn and Mike Axon.

Davis Lent graduates on Friday, June 26 from Schenectady High School. He is graduating in the top 10% of his class. Davis is in the process of deciding what he wants to do next. Davis is the son of Debbie and Chuck Lent

Graduation is an exciting time.

It's both an ending

and a beginning;

it's warm memories of the past

and big dreams

for the future.

*Congratulations to
Brianna and Davis!*

CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS – HAPPENINGS IN THE SUMMER



SICM Summer Lunch Program Needs Volunteers

For over 20 years, Schenectady Inner City Ministry (SICM) has served summer lunches for Schenectady young people, 18 and under. With the help from volunteers, staff and SICM interns, nutritious lunches are served to kids, many of whom would not have a midday meal throughout the summer. At most of SICM's summer lunch sites, nearly 100% of the children in the Schenectady School District qualify for free or reduced price meals. SICM expects to feed an average of 1,500 lunches each day at 30 fixed sites and 15 sites served by two lunch wagons. SICM served over 65,000 lunches last summer.

Emmanuel Friedens supplies volunteers for this program every summer. Our site this year will be at the MiSci (Schenectady Museum – 15 North Terrace Heights) the week of July 6-10 (Monday-Friday) from 11:10 am to 1:00 pm. We will need 3 - 4 volunteers each day. Duties include: setting the lunch table, passing out the lunches, cleaning up after the lunches are served, and of course, just enjoying the kids. If interested in helping out one or more days, contact Pat McAllister (374-7069, hmcalls@nycap.rr.com), John Detwyler (346-3193, detwygeo@gmail.com), our Emmanuel Friedens SICM representatives, or the church office. Thank you.

**SAVE THE DATE
Sunday, July 12**



Our church picnic will take place this year on July 12—location to be determined. We will worship together at 10 am and then share a meal together. Look for food sign-up sheets soon.

The School of Wonder and Mystery

"Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory," Dr. Seuss

It is that time of year again for School of Wonder and Mystery (SW&M), where we try to make moments into memories! Our theme this year is *Let Your Spirit Soar*. We will be running this year's program for 2 weeks, thanks to the generosity of donors in our congregation and to Church Council, who decided to make SW&M a line item in our budget again! Thank you!!!!!! We will be running the program from August 17 through 28 from 9 am-1 pm. We will again offer free snack and lunch and will also have some small breakfast options. We will be visiting some local museums that focus on flight and also visiting the Heritage Home for Women once again. Our program this year is offered to children entering kindergarten through grade 8. Registration forms are available in the office.

I am also looking for volunteers to help throughout the duration of the program. Please call/ text (694-6589) or e-mail me (clloves21@hotmail.com), if you are interested in volunteering. Many thanks to Faye Saville, who has agreed to coordinate all lunches and kitchen volunteers. If you wish to volunteer in the kitchen, please contact Faye Saville. I am also currently looking for Counselors in Training. If you are, or know someone who is entering grades 9 -12, who would be interested in this position, please contact me for an interview. Lastly, I am so excited to be running this year's SW&M again. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to do so.

Thank you again! ... Charlie Lent

IN THE NEWS



Rev. Peter Carman, Laurie Bacheldor, June and Vern Scoville and Hazel Wilson

A celebration of community service and recognition for Schenectady County volunteers was held on May 21 at the First Reformed Church in Schenectady. This event was sponsored by the Senior & Long Term Care Department of Schenectady County. Among the individuals being honored that day were two Emmanuel Friedens members.

Vernon Scoville, was again honored as Schenectady County's Senior Citizen of the Year. He (and June) represented Schenectady at the State event that occurred on May 5 at the Egg in Albany.

Hazel Wilson was also recognized on May 21. Hazel is one of a handful of office volunteers who volunteers on Friday afternoons at the department's front office. She assisted the department every Friday for over two years. Hazel is also an active participant in the department's Tapping into the Arts Program where she is a regular student of improv comedy. She has a wonderful sense of humor and will be debuting in her first Tapping into the Arts performance on Wednesday, June 10 at an Area Agencies on Aging' State Conference at the Desmond in Latham. She will perform as an older woman who recalls standing next to President Lyndon Johnson in 1965, when he signed the Older American's Act.



Laurie Bacheldor, Manager, Senior & Long Term Care Services with Hazel Wilson

Congratulations on Your Retirement—Marian Shearer retired from her position as Associate Conference Minister for the New York Conference, United Church of Christ (UCC) in March. There was a reception held for Marian at Journey UCC on Saturday, March 14 to celebrate Marian's long tenure on the staff and to wish her well in her future.



Marian with Rev. David Gaewski, Conference Minister, NY UCC

NOTES OF THANKS

Emmanuel Friedens received the following notes/cards:

I want to thank everyone for the gracious reception and generous gift on my last day at Emmanuel-Friedens. Moving and settling in has been a long process, and I am just now getting my feet on the ground here in Waterville. I have a fine choir of 20 people, a splendid organ, and best of all, a congregation sings with the same spirit that you do. I am enjoying my additional duties as office manager, but Maria, where are you? I really need you ! I miss you all and wish you every success in your continuing journey with Peter. All my Best Don Kerr

It's the thoughtfulness of people like you that makes the world so bright. Thanks for making our little corner of the world a happier place to be. Love, Church Women United, Nancy Bellamy, Vice-President

Dear Members of Emmanuel Friedens Church, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your donations to the Spring Basket project that SICM coordinated as part of our Days of Service in April. The basket project yielded over 200 baskets that were distributed to the children who use the Emergency Food Pantry. Your contributions made it possible to make Easter and Springtime a little brighter for these kids. On behalf of SICM and those we serve, I thank you for your generosity and compassion. Peace and blessings, Janet H. Mattis, Community Outreach and Internship Coordinator

Dear Maria, Dave, Vern and Everyone at Emmanuel Friedens, Juts two little words but they say it all! Thank you. Thank you very much for allowing us to host our pancake breakfast at your church again! You have a great facility and our families truly enjoy this annual event. Diane Lanci and Our World Montessori American's Month

UPCOMING DENOMINATIONAL EVENTS

- ⇒ Biennial Mission Summit 2015, An American Baptist Gathering held on June 26-28, Overland Park/Kansas City, KS. Theme, "Share the Journey" Registration ends June 12. Check the website for complete information, www.americanbaptist2015.com; Peter Carman will be attending the meeting.
- ⇒ Unexpected Places. That's the theme for the UCC General Synod 2015. This June 26-30, 2015, it's in Cleveland, Ohio! Check out the website for more information, synod.uccpages.org
- ⇒ Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America — Summer Conference, July 6-11, 2015 held at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, VA. This year's theme is *No Longer Strangers— Crossing Borders for Peacemaking*. For more information, check out their website: www.bpfna.org/gather/summer-conference; Peter Carman will be attending the meeting.
- ⇒ **AB Girls Convention 2015** will be held July 16-19 at Houghton College in Houghton, NY. The conference is open to girls completing grades 4-12. Registration and health forms are available in the church office. registration form along with a non-refundable registration fee of \$25 must be submitted by July 3. Balance of \$150 is due at registration on July 16.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & ACTIVITIES



Just a reminder! The Christian Education and Activities (CEA) and Children and Youth Committees have decided to endorse three camps this year; Pathfinder, Camp Fowler and Camp Scully (day camp). There are materials available in the church office but visiting the websites will provide more specific information (see below).

It has been the policy of the CEA Committee to pay 1/2 of one week's tuition for a camp. Funding can be provided in advance or as a refund, just let us know. In addition, the Capital Area Baptist Association (CABA) offers scholarships for Pathfinder. If you would like to use our funding or if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact a member of the CEA/Children & Youth Committees. PATHFINDER: www.vpccministries.org, CAMP SCULLY: <http://campscully.squarespace.com>,

End of Year Sunday School Pool Party

Who's Invited: All children and youth Sunday classes, teachers and parents

When: Sunday, June 28 after church, 12-3 pm (Rain date: Sunday, July 5)

If you plan on attending, RSVP by Sunday June 21 to Marilyn

bisgrove@nycap.rr.com or 374-7626

Pizza for lunch and bring snacks to share



Adult Sunday Classes:

June 14: History of music/hymns in the church. Which hymns do you like?

Class led by Jeff Fletcher

June 21: Peter Carman will lead the class. **(Last Class)**

Classes resume in September.

Youth Group's Annual Rummage Sale— Saturday, May 16

The church's youth group's annual rummage sale was a big success! We raised \$863.00 for the youth group funds. The day was full of community activity in and out of the church. All that attended found some great bargains.

A big thank you for all who donated all of the great items. The bedding items were especially popular. This sale is a wonderful way to give back to our community and help the youth with activities and their donations. Our set -up/clean-up crew, pricers, and sales people were outstanding this year (Faye Bailey Marilyn Bisgrove. Marilyn Cesare, Abbey McCormick-Foley, Karen Foley, Gail Jefts, Jocelyn McKinney June Schermerhorn, Jackie Scholten and the Youth Group). And thank you to all the bakers.

... Nancy Spencer

And thank you to Nancy Spencer and Sheila Freres for all their hard work in organizing and working the sale.

**Start cleaning out your closets...the clothing sale is right around the corner!
We are accepting donations now for the Fall—Rm 119.**

Emmanuel Friedens Church
218 Nott Terrace
Schenectady, NY 12307

The Weeks Ahead in Worship

Sunday, June 14: Children's Sunday
Worship service will be lead by children and youth
Guest Organist and Choir Director: Iteke Prins

Sunday, June 21: Pride Sunday
Guest Organist : Margaret Randall

Sunday, June 28:
Preaching: Rev. Phillip Grigsby
Guest Organist : Margaret Randall

As a Welcoming and Affirming/
Open and Affirming Church, Emmanuel Baptist Church and Friedens United Church of Christ welcomes and affirms all persons without regard to sex, martial status, age , race, sexual orientation, or abilities, inviting all into membership, mission, and leadership.



Please take notice!!

Summer worship schedule for the months of July and August, our service begins @ 10 am in the Chapel

A Vision for Our Journey

*Captivated by Jesus' life and teaching,
Committed to
Growing hearts and minds;
Learning openness, courage and love;
Serving with our neighbors;
Pursuing God's justice and peace;
Inviting others to share the journey!*

STAY CONNECTED



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