

UNITED METHODIST HOUSE NEWS

Box 115 Chautauqua, New York 716 357-2055

May 2021



*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*

Message From Our Board President

Greetings United Methodist House friends! Wee're back! The Board of Trustees has been meeting via their "Brady Bunch" boxes over the past year, and we look forward to seeing one another in person this June. In this newsletter you will find dates and times of expected gatherings to ready the House for the summer 2021 season.

A year ago, I thought I was going to write my last article for this newsletter. We know the plans most of us had a year ago either disappeared, were put on hold, or have been long forgotten. Karen and Bob Douds thought they were about to spend their last summer as hosts at the UM House. Now in May 2021 we once again have these events back on our calendars. Praise the Lord!

I was elected to this Board of Trustees in July 2011 along with Rev Carolyn Stow and Lee Mount that year. All three of us have spent our maximum 9 years on the Board, and thanks to the pandemic we have all served an additional year! Over the past ten years, 34 talented people have moved on to and off this Board. And that does not count the many other volunteers who show up for workdays and special projects to lend a hand. I have many new friends thanks to my time on this Board. Thank you to you all! You have made my term as president a joy and pleasure.

Peace be with you-

Brenda Baird, President



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Host Couple Search Committee-

After a pandemic pause, the search committee resumed their task this spring to find a new host couple to begin the 2022 season. Thank you to Laura Corey for heading this committee and to the members: Carmen Perry, Brenda Baird, and Conrad Howard. As of press time, interviews have taken place and a decision is imminent.



Shower the Douds

Bob and Karen Douds will be spending their final summer as our hosts. Anyone who has encountered the Douds knows of their easy way of welcoming guests and the abundance of hospitality they so readily share. The current restrictions on gatherings (which change daily in NY state) have made it difficult to plan a big farewell party. Therefore, I would ask you to please put in writing your parting wishes, memories, and thanks for the Douds and their 12 seasons as our host couple. These should be mailed to Karen & Bob Douds, PO Box 115, 14 Pratt Ave, Chautauqua, NY 14722 anytime from June 1- August 20. And of course, if you are on the Chautauqua grounds this summer, please stop on the porch to give your regards to Karen and Bob in person!

Welcome to Summer at the United Methodist House!

It's looking like we will really be enjoying the UM House porch in a few short weeks. We are preparing daily for our summer move to Chautauqua to have everything ready for your visit. Whether you can stay for a week or just a couple of hours, we are excited to be with you! Sure, we have to make a few modifications.

You are asked to wear a mask in public and self distance yourself from others. Our guests will all have had the vaccine or a recent negative test. The Tuesday cookies will likely be bagged ahead of time for safety. Indoor attendance will be limited in quantity. But...HEY! ... the good news is: **WE WILL BE THERE!!!!** We hope your summer plans will include a bit of relaxation on the porch and that you too are excited about sharing smiles and conversation together.

See you on the porch,

Bob and Karen Douds, Hosts

Property Committee News

Come join us for our work weekend. It has been two years since we had a work weekend and there is a lot of work that we need to do to make the house ready for the summer season. The work weekends will be June 11-12 and 18-19. We usually start around 1pm on Fridays and 9am on Saturdays. The House will be available for workers to stay. Call Debbie to reserve a room. Please come either for one weekend or for both. We will have fun and good fellowship and it will be great to get the House ready for this Summer. Please call me if you have any questions 716-269-4564.

Thank you for your service to the United Methodist House

Conrad Howard, Property Chair

Spring Greetings from the Finance Committee!

Winter is over, spring is here, and (we hope) COVID-19 is in the rear view mirror! After the Non-2020 Chautauqua Season we enthusiastically look forward to 2021. Soon we will meet on The Porch to share our stories from this most unusual year, take in the somewhat revised Chautauqua programming and enjoy each other's company.

This past year has been a difficult one financially for the House, as it has been for many of us personally. After more than a year of empty rooms, we are nearly full this summer and hope for a strong Retreat Season come September.

The Board truly appreciates your continuing financial support of the United Methodist House, allowing us to supplement our rental income to preserve and improve the House. On behalf of the Finance Committee and the Board of Directors, I would ask you to prayerfully consider a financial gift this year.

Mike Corey, Treasurer & Finance Chair

Rooms Are Available for the 2021 Season

As this newsletter goes to press there are a few rooms available for this coming season. Please contact Debbie Caruso at (716) 357-4045 to confirm availability and make a reservation.

Week 2 7/3-7/10/21 (Heck Room) \$775.00/week (2 single beds, 1 bathroom)

Week 3 7/10-7/17/21 (Otterbien) \$775.00 Week (2 single beds, 1 bathroom)

Week 7 8/7-8/14/21 (Wesley Suite) \$1,350/week (4 single beds, 2 bathrooms, 2 pull out twin sofas)

Week 8 8/14-8/21/21 (Boehm Room) \$675/week (2 single beds, 1 bathroom, the room is a little smaller than the other single rooms)

Week 9 8/21-8/29/21 (Wesley Suite) \$1,350.00 /week (4 single beds, 2 bathrooms, 2 pull out twin sofas)

Reservation Information for the Chautauqua Season

Any United Methodist or “Member” of the United Methodist House may make reservations for the Chautauqua Season. “Members” are those who have financially contributed to the UM House in past years. Reservations may only be made by calling (716) 357-4045 after 9 am on **the first Monday of October** (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 \$675 (This room is slightly smaller) - 2 people in twin beds

All other rooms \$775 (Four rooms) - 2 people in twin beds

Wesley Suite \$1,350 (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-United Methodist groups)

\$600 per two-night stay

Available Dates

There are no available dates before January 2022

**With gratitude, we thank
Those who have made possible the ministry of
The United Methodist House at Chautauqua
In the year January 2020 January 2021**

Benefactors of \$500 and Up

Roger Brumagin, Barbara Burr, Thomas and Narda Funk, Robert E and Mary Kemmerer, The Erie Community Foundation, Ernest and Lois Lawrence, Michael and Nancy Lott, Gerald P. Maloney, Lee and Elaine Mount, Michael and Mary Paine, Christine and Gerald Siess, Rev Donald and Shirley Struchen, Shirley Struchen, Bishop Peter and Linda Weaver, Douglas and Patsy Wilson, Howard and Carol Wright,.

Sustaining Members \$250-\$499

Rev Larry and Brenda Baird, Lenore Dachenbach, David Green, Karen Greenwaldt, Karen Hale, Laura Lou Harbert, Russ Harris, Barry and Andrea Lewis, Craig and Kathy Lopus, Robert and Carol McKiernan, John and Kathleen Pearson, Nancy Richards, Janice Runyon, Rev Douglas and Celia Thompson, Susan Watkins, Nancy Williams, United Methodist Women of Warren Pa.

Patrons \$100-\$249

Marilyn Borowsky, Harold and Pam Christie, Clarence United Methodist Church, Rev J Fay and Ruth Cleveland, Lyle and LaVerne Cook, JoAnne Coombs, Michael and Laura Corey, Martha and Douglas Dayton, Ray and Shannon Dorman, Bob and Karen Douds, David and Beverly Anne Doupe, Gary Enderle, Victor and Cynthia Erickson, Linda Fraser, Pauline George, Hazel Getman, Doug and Susan Grove-DeJarnett, Hamburg United Methodist Women, David and Sandra Hammond, Elizabeth and Michael Hansen, Sam and Beverly Hazen, Drew and Susan Heitzenrater, Marilyn Henning, Austin and Sara Hale Henry, Keith and Katherine Heston, Virginia and Gerald Homung, Jonathan and Destyn Hood, Kenneth and Beverly Humbert, John and Juanita Jackson, Ardelle Johnson, Bruce and Mary Urban Keary, Alice and David LaGraves, Ann Marie and Duane Lenhardt, Barbara Manhardt, Garner and Louise McNett, Robert and Gloria Merenick, Anna and James Neutrelle, Christine Nieman, Iris November, Jonathan and Mary Odin, Judie Peterson, Jackje and George Purvis, Chris and Susan Redmond, Roswell Park Hospital, Shields Family, David and Cindy Shuff, Thomas and Margaret Sleeman, Loy and Lynn Thompson, James and Jolene Tubbs, Ronald and Patricia Wasilak, Don Weaver, Howard and Nancy Wilcox, Rosemarie Woodbridge.

Donors of \$50-\$99

Willard and Nancy Anderson, Catherine Cassidy, Martha Anne Fisher, Roger and Carol Forden, Nancy Groff, Robert and Sue Kaiser, Susan Kasten, Judy Loveless, Marian and David Lubba, Victor and Barbara Metivier, Norma Morey, David and Penny Morse, Anne Nevins, Mary Lu and James Newell, Kathy Petko, Evangeline Van Tries, Thomas and Kathy Woodske, Joanne Young.

Friends up to \$49

Virginia Archer, Janet Campbell Kuhl, Janice Eichberg, Lisa Marchal, Mary Beth Parrinello, Doris Triola, Philip Wilson, Dianne and Philip Zimmerman.

Gifts to the Endowment Fund

Thomas and Narda Funk, Nancy Richards,

Gifts to the House Building and Restoration Fund

Virginia Archer, Virginia and Gerald Homung, Nancy Richards, David and Cindy Shuff,

Gift in Memory of Dr. Bruce Burr

Roger Brumagin, Barbara Burr, Bob and Karen Douds, David and Beverly Anne Doupe, Robert and Mary Anne Kemmerer, Nancy Richards, Rev Douglas and Celia Thompson,

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Gift in Memory of Joyce Enderle

By her husband Gary B. Enderle

In Memory of Janet Fitts

Jonathan and Destyn Hood

In Memory of Jack Getman

Hazel Getman

Gift in Memory of All the Good Times at the UMH

Willard and Nancy Anderson

Gift in Memory of Roxie Hinkler

Roger Brumagin

Gift in Memory of Lewis "Pete" Peterson

Judie Peterson

Gift in Memory of Rev Bob Richards

Narda and Thomas Funk, Nancy Richards, Rev Douglas and Celia Thompson, Carol and Howard Wright.

Gift in Memory of Rev Donald Struchen

Nancy Richards, Shirley Struchen

Gift in Memory of Vincent Triola

Doris Triola

Gift in Memory of Rev. George Tutwiler

Keith and Katherine Heston, Nancy Richards, Shields Family, Philip Wilson

Gift in Honor of Debbie Caruso

Robert and Mary Anne Kemmerer

Gift in Honor of Karen and Bob Douds

Iris November, Nancy Richards, Rev Douglas and Celia Thompson,.

Gift in Honor of David and Cindy Shuff

Roger and Carol Forden

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, and we welcome you to share in the hospitality found here as often as possible. If we have inadvertently missed anyone, please forgive our mistake and let us know so we can say thank you and correct our records. May many blessings be yours.

Debbie Caruso, Financial Secretary

About the United Methodist House

The United Methodist House is located at 14 Pratt Ave, directly behind the Chautauqua Amphitheater. It was built in 1888 as a Methodist Episcopal Headquarters for approximately \$4,000 (\$100,000 in today's dollars). The original trustees included Chautauqua founders John Vincent and Lewis Miller. Over the years the house has been lovingly maintained, repaired and enlarged thanks to the financial support of many persons.

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.

Meeting Schedule

Spring Work Days, June 11-12 & 18-19.
Board Meeting Sat. June 12 at 1 pm at the Methodist House.
Board Meeting Wed. July 14 at 3 pm.
Annual Meeting: Wed, July 14 at 4pm.
No open pot luck dinner this year.

Newsletter Article Deadlines

Sept 1, Dec 1, May 1

United Methodist House Trustees

Class of 2021 (Upper NY)

Brenda Baird bbaird52@aol.com
Lee Mount leelaine@twcny.rr.com
Carolyn Stow pastor.carolyn.stow@gmail.com

Class of 2022 (Chautauqua Community)

Mike Corey corey@mikecorey.com
Conrad Howard pamconradhow@yahoo.com
James Metzger bj12m@hotmail.com
Chuck Smith pastorchuck65@gmail.com
Cindy Hinsdale auntcindy2005@hotmail.com

Class of 2023 (Western PA)

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Barry Lewis bl643lewis@yahoo.com
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Suanne Block suzanneblock@unyumc.org
Dennis Swineford servall57@gmail.com
Deb Caruso debbiecaruso99@gmail.com

Host Couple

Karen and Bob Douds douds2@comcast.net

Retreat Season Hostess and Financial Secretary

Debbie Caruso debbiecaruso99@gmail.com

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United Methodist House

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Chautauqua, New York 14722



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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.

UMHouse.com

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