



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE BELL

1 Gilligan Road, East Greenbush, New York 12061-1715

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 7 September 2009

From the Pastor's Desk. . .

"I'm gonna sing, sing, sing, I'm gonna shout, shout, shout,
I'm gonna sing, I'm gonna shout, praise the Lord!
When those gates are open wide I will stand at Jesus' side
I'm gonna sing I'm gonna shout praise the Lord!"

We sang this song at worship on August 30- along with "When the Saints go marchin' in" and "Swing Lo, Sweet Chariot". I have sung these together with a number of congregations- and at the annual conference session last June. It is great fun to be able to sing out, without books, with everybody knowing the tunes and the words (mostly). But I started thinking about these three songs we enjoy singing: they are all about the end of life! How can such music be so lively and fun? I think that these songs have been- and are- a way to affirm life, to affirm faith, to affirm hope in the face of difficult times, in the face of all the forces that push us toward the end of life, affirming that even in death we can find joy.

There is a coaster on my desk (a pretty fancy one) that says on the face: "It is good to have an end to journey toward, but it is the journey that matters in the end." Although we all are moving toward the time when we will see that sweet chariot swinging low, we are also on a journey, and the journey does matter. As the coaster says, it's not all about the end: how we live, how we face today really does matter. And it's not so much about a final judgment, about an accounting, but about making a difference today for the sake of today.

Another song we sang at worship recently goes: "I'm gonna live so God can use me- anywhere Lord, any time..." As we begin a new journey together- as pastor and people in partnership in the Gospel, as a new program season begins in the Church, I hope we can live every day like that! Let us be about our Father's business.

Bless!

Bob



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

RALLY SUNDAY IS SEPTEMBER 13TH!

Calling all children, youth and teaching volunteers! The first day of Sunday School is September 13th. We are busy preparing for another exciting year! If you are interested in teaching, please let Heidi Gran know, 783-8465 or hjgran68@gmail.com.



We will be continuing the new curriculum we tried out in the spring, it was a great success.

We have a few new ideas for missions including a pet food drive. Also, the Sunday School will be getting T-shirts! We will be having a T-shirt design contest, so let those creative juices start flowing! See you on September 13th!

OF INTEREST TO THE YOUTH

Welcome Back United Methodist Youth Fellowship

Attention all youth grades 6-12, get ready and get excited for the start of the 2009-2010 year. We are already making plans for some extraordinary activities and mission opportunities. It all starts on **September 13th, Rally Day**; with our annual fund raising **Car Wash**. We need help from all the youth after church at the playground entrance to make this a success. Be sure to bring or wear clothes and shoes that can get wet and soapy. **A note to the congregation:** Make sure to drive your filthy cars to church on this day so that we can make them clean again.

We are planning an overnight retreat to **Skye Farm** sometime early fall. For those of you who participated last year, you will remember the fun times we had canoeing, roasting marshmallows and singing by the fire, and the exhilarating ropes course at Adirondack Extreme. We plan to do it all again and then some. Hopefully, those of you who missed out last year will get a chance to attend this year.

Mark your calendars for **Friday October 30th** as we will be hosting a **Mystery Dinner**. Come to upcoming meetings to find out more, and to help plan this mysterious fund raiser.

Get ready for **YAC (Youth Autumn Celebration) on November 6th and 7th**. This is a fun overnight event for all Troy Conference youth in grades 8-12. The time together is spent in small and large groups. Singing, games, discussion, and sharing are all a part of this event. This will be the last one ever, since we will be combining conference for all of upper New York State. If you haven't attended one yet, don't miss out.

This year we will be **combining the Jr. and Sr. high youth as one group** to allow for more participation and greater thought contribution. Meetings will be held in the youth lounge from 5pm to 7pm on most Sundays. The first meeting will be announced on Rally Day.

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MORE YOUTH INFO

This is sure to be a wonderful year filled with fun times, sharing and growing in God's love, and serving others. **Welcome back** to all our former members. If you have thought about joining Youth Group and never have or if you were once a member and would like to come back, it's never too late. You are always welcome to all meetings and events. For more information or questions, contact your leaders, Laura Clark laura104@yahoo.com 674-5283, and Rachel Giso rgiso@fairpoint.net 766-0421, or last year's president, Amber Biechman abiechman@yahoo.com.



**Welcome
Back!**

The youth would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new minister, Pastor Bob Lowenthal and his family. We look forward to working with you, learning from you and sharing our youthful energy with you.

Youth 2011 Being Planned

Youth 2011, the National Youth Gathering for The United Methodist Church, will be held July 13 through 17, 2011 at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind., and again in Sacramento, California, July 27 through 31. Right now the church is doing the planning for the gathering. To make that happen, applications are being sought from youth interested in serving on the 2011 Event Design Team. This should be a big, exciting event, a very special few days in 2011. If you are interested in more information and/or would like an application for the design team, contact the church office.

CHURCH NEWS

Worship at First United Methodist in September



Sunday morning worship will be a busy time period this month. **September 6**, the first Sunday of the month will be the date for our regularly scheduled service of Holy Communion. The next week, **September 13** is the first day of Sunday School for the 2010-2011 school year. We will have a Rally Day celebration during the worship service. Then on **September 20**, we will have a special time of welcome for our new pastor. Part of the morning worship will be an exchange of covenants between the congregation and Pastor Lowenthal. Pastor Bob is scheduled to preach for all four of the Sundays in the month. If you would like to get an advanced look at what is planned for Sunday worship, send your email address to the BELL editor and get on the list of those getting an email update each week.

Who is Bob Lowenthal?

Here is your chance to get a good answer to that question. The first of two of a series of "Meet and Greet" get-togethers will be held at the home of Sam and Violeta Dulay on Tuesday, September 15 at 6:30pm. A second gathering is planned for Tuesday, September 29 at 7:00pm at the home of Ray and Sue Lemka. Enjoy some light refreshments, join in some lively conversation and learn some more about our new pastor and his wife. You are invited to attend either of these gatherings. Please call the church office at 477-9693 to add your name to the list so that our hostess can better plan for these special events. Additional dates for "Meet and Greet" will be announced in the near future. If you would like to host a morning, afternoon or evening gathering at your home, please call the chair of our Membership and Evangelism Committee, Olive Felio at 286-1924.

MUSIC IN THE CHURCH

Cherub Choir

The Cherub's are made up of children age 3 to grade 3. Yes, 3 year olds can surprise you sometime. They rehearse Thursdays from 6:00 – 6:30 pm and sing in church once a month and for special occasions. The first rehearsal will be September 17th for registration and to be fitted for robes.

Chancel Choir

Youth in grades 4 to 8, or higher if desired, make up this choir. They rehearse Thursdays from 6:30 – 7:00 pm and sing at least once a month and for special programs. Occasionally they sing with the Sanctuary Choir. The first rehearsal will be September 17th, to be fitted for robes and to start working on anthems for the fall. Both the Cherub and Chancel Choirs are under the direction of Cynthia Reineke.

The EmBELLishments



This year the bell choir will begin rehearsals on Tuesday, September 1st; 6:45 – 8:00 pm. We play several times a year, with all three choirs, and also do outside performances. There are also opportunities to attend workshops, conferences and concerts. We are looking for new people to either play regularly or to substitute. If you have any questions, please speak to any member or myself. You may leave a note in my folder in the church office, email me at Turtle5210@excite.com or call 368-6514.

- Cynthia Reineke, Director

Sanctuary Choir – Love to Sing?

We cordially invite new members to join! This is a great time to make a start on being a “church musician.” Must be a soprano, alto, tenor, or bass – or, something in-between. (Perfect pitch and ability to pun, quip and jest are desirable, but not required.) rehearsals are held Thursday evenings at 7:30pm beginning September 10, 2009. More singers are needed in the tenor, baritone and base sections! C'mon men, and show your vocal talent! Kindly direct all inquires to Helen Gustafson at 463-5104.

“It is the best of all trades to make songs, and the second best to sing them.”

-- Hilaire Belloc

Retired Pastor Stan Moore turned 91 on Saturday, August 22

Former District Superintendent Bill Barney sends along this word.. .

At Bill's request, Stan Moore has given Bill Barney permission to convey the following: “Stan is currently diagnosed with an illness that is no longer treatable. He tries to keep up his usual vigorous schedule of being up and out every day, still living at home and is being lovingly supported by his family and by friends from Hospice.”

If Stan's many friends, former parishioners and colleagues would like to send a birthday greeting or words celebrating his loving life among us, now would be a good time. Notes and cards will reach Stan Moore at 47 Wilshire Dr., Albany, NY 12205-2125

MORE CHURCH NEWS

Endowment Committee



Church members and friends have donated an additional \$545 to the Endowment Funds since the beginning of 2009. Many thanks! Anyone interested in making a lasting contribution to the church through the Endowment Funds can contact either Pastor Lowenthal or Peter Larson.

Trustees Give Parsonage Update

The Trustees have executed a conditional purchase contract to acquire a new parsonage. The home is located at 23 Kriss Crossing in East Greenbush. Kriss Crossing is off of Hayes Road, across from the Church. The home is three bedrooms, two baths, living room dining area, kitchen etc. on approximately one half acre. The house is approximately 3 years old and is in excellent condition. It should provide easy maintenance in the future. The purchase price is \$265,000. The contract has been accepted by the seller however the transaction involves a "short sale", meaning the seller owes more than the purchase price. This has thus involved us in a process of obtaining approval from the seller's lender to accept the proceeds of the offer as payment in full of the current mortgage. Needless to say it has involved us in the bureaucracy of Fannie Mae. We are continuing to await their approval of the transaction. We expect this may occur by the end of September. At that time we will make a presentation to a Church Charge Conference as required by the Discipline seeking the congregations' approval to undertake the transaction. At that time more information will be presented regarding the new property and how we intend to finance it as we then put the current parsonage up for sale.

ECO-TEAM TO ORGANIZE NEW GROUPS

Last spring, a group of 5 or 6 got together to determine what we could do to help with global warming. Using the workbook, Low Carbon Diet – a 30-day program to lose 5000 pounds, by David Gershon, we learned many ways to reduce our carbon footprint as families. Although at the beginning all of us felt we were doing a good job of conservation, after we worked through the book we discovered many other ways to help. We became increasingly aware of how much energy we waste, and how we can be better stewards of our world.

We are all enthusiastic to share what we learned, by starting 1 or 2 new groups this fall. It is fun, challenging, and a great family activity. If you are interested in joining a group, contact Matie Flowers at 477-5645, or the church office at 477-9693. Become an eco-friendly family!

What's A Rooster?



A few have asked that question after seeing that name in the weekly bulletin. A *small* group of men of the church that gather on Monday mornings at 6:30am for devotions and study, that's a Rooster. We meet to begin our work week on a very positive note. We have some of the character of the "old" Wesley class meetings. All men of the church are invited to participate. Speak with George Herrick if you would like more information.

Note of Thanks

Dear New Church Family,
How thankful we are for each and all of you! The welcome here has been terrific! Flowers, picnic, meals and more --- . We look forward to our times together in our new community in the church and beyond.

Peace and love, *Bob and Joy*

CHURCH NEWS CONTINUED

September 2009 Meeting Schedule for Church Committees

<u>Next Meeting Date</u>	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair and Contact</u>	
Sep 9	Administrative Council	Mattie Flowers	477-5645
Sep 22	Trustees	John Peterson	283-4685
Sep 20	Education	Laurel Kelley	283-0473 & Ellen Scalzi 434-2799
Sep 20	Membership and Evangelism	Olive Felio	286-1924
Sep 27	Worship	Jenny Sardi	479-0865
	Pre-School	Colene Phoenix	931-4079
Sep 20	Missions and Social Responsibility	Carrie Larson (temp.)	732-2098
	Endowment	Peter Larson	732-2098
Sep 14	Stewardship and Finance	Aaron Howland	477-6493
Sep 30	Staff-Parish Relations	Len Finke	477-7365
	Parsonage Committee	Mary Smith	477-4648
	Memorials	Lois Heyer	477-6236
	Memorial Gardens	Linda Marschner-Gronostaj	479-5702
Sep 13	SOS Planning Committee	Erin Sterantino	732-4958
	Committee on Lay Leadership	Robert Lowenthal	477-9693

Much work in the church is done in various councils, boards and committees. With the exception of Staff-Parish Relations Committee, all meetings are open. If you are interested in the work of the church in a specific area, attend a committee meeting and see what is happening. **Just to be sure**, check with the committee chair to be sure the meeting date has not been changed.

THRIFT SALE



The Thrift Sale is upon us again Friday, September 25: 5-8pm and Saturday, September 26: 10am – 1pm (Bag Day). Set up begins after church, 11:45am on Sunday, September 20. We need help getting set up, such as tables and classrooms; then sale items can be put out. Help during the week is welcomed from 9am to 3pm plus Tuesday and Thursday evening, 5-8pm. Thursday is the last day to bring things in. Cashiers, baggers, floor help on Friday night, floor help and cleanup on Saturday at 1pm. Trucks are needed also at 1pm for hauling items away. Signup sheet is in the foyer.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

UMW Monthly Meeting is Monday, September 14 at 7pm. We will be back from vacation and back to business. This will be a business meeting and we will have much stuff to do including the final planning for our Thrift Sale. All women in the church are welcome

Albany District UMW

The Albany District UMW **Fall meeting** will be held **Saturday, October 3, 2009** at the Cobleskill UMC. Theme for the day: "Food Faith and Fellowship".

Registrations go to Janet Sand, 144 Settles Mountain Rd, Cobleskill, NY 12043 (518) 234-3945. The deadline is September 27. Luncheon \$7.50 includes \$1. Registration fee. Cobleskill UMW requests non-perishable food items, children's toys or books and gently-used children's clothing for their food pantry.

Car pooling suggested (due to limited parking)! Fellowship and great leaf-peeping! All are welcome and don't forget to invite your pastor!

GARDEN STUFF

Sharing The Growing Experience Continues

“Sharing the Growing Experience” had a great summer and will be continuing as the summer and fall weather allows. The Goff Organic Garden abuts our church property, making it an exciting and worthwhile community service and outreach mission project conveniently located close to our church grounds.

“Sharing the Growing Experience” provides a needed community service of locally raised organic produce during the spring, summer and fall to local families. Our 2 plots (each 20' x 40') in the Goff Organic Garden, we have planted, weeded, harvested and delivered to Concerns U. By helping to feed those in need during these times of economic stress this project imparts an important source of pride and community.

“Sharing the Growing Experience” welcome all, all ages and all gardening experience. There are places to sit in the shade when you need a break. Any amount of your time to this community service and outreach program would be appreciated, your help is priceless. Please let us know any of your ideas for this and hopefully next year. Coordinators: Susie Calyer (Susiecalyer@yahoo.com or 858-1102), Carrie Larson (cjlarson@nycap.rr.com) and Linda Marschner (lindamarschner@yahoo.com).

Church Memorial Gardens – Thanks, Plans, Help!

The Original Sign - thanks to Dick Pearce has been redone. All the thistles and some old shrubs were removed from the front of the sign and some new ground cover was planted. Some low growing colorful plants will be added to really show off the beautiful sign.

The Memorial Island - thanks to Violetta Dulay continues to be planted with a 'see' of color. Thanks to all who help keep the weeds from blocking our view.

The Memorial Courtyard - thanks to a donation by Ruth and Bob Ostrander has some new shrubs and perennial.– stop in and see what is new and take a moment to enjoy. Thanks to the Gronostaj 'boys' for helping to mow and trim and keeping it looking nice.

The Herb Garden - thanks to all that donated perennial herbs has really taken off since last year. This garden is located outside of the kitchen door. Also, last fall some garlic was planted and will be planted again this year. Check out the garden and enjoy some garlic and other herbs as you need them.

The Fellowship Hall Entrance - thanks to Carrie Larson for her help in keeping the weeds under control.

The New Sign and the Sunday School Entrance will soon be redone. We are looking for help and/or ideas for improvements - as always your ideas and talents are needed and appreciated.

Thanks to all who donate plants, pull weeds, water and any other way keep our Church Memorial Gardens looking their best for all to share and enjoy.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

School Help

Gardening activity is also going on at the Goff Organic Garden in the fall during the school year – which involves working directly with middle school age students in a Goff Garden Club. This is a regular after- school program. Volunteers should have a passion for gardening or a passion to learn more about it and they should like talking and working with middle school students of varying abilities. Volunteers are usually assigned a task and to work with a small group (3-5) of students. **If specifically interested in volunteering for this Program, please contact Nancy Scott, the Goff Middle School Teacher directly. The Goff Middle School phone is 477-2731, her school email scottna@egcsd.org or at her home phone 286-3784.**

You Can Become a Missionary without Traveling Far Away

By being present to build relationships with the women, men, youth and children who come in and out of Emmaus United Methodist Church (715 Morris St., Albany, NY 12208 518-482-0486) seven days a week, you can share faith, encourage souls, and spread joy. You can walk with someone along the journey of faith by listening, caring, sharing, and loving in your own unique way. Emmaus (UMC) Intervention Project with Recent Immigrants and Refugees provides the organized structure. You provide the spiritual grace. You can be the human face of the Lord's presence with people who have suffered, survived, dreamed, worked, and prayed for a better life in the US. Please find time to get to know a recent immigrant or refugee who comes to Emmaus for community, hope, and help. Details in the church office or by contacting Emmaus UMC.

SPECIAL EVENTS

A Special SOS Program



SOS - Ernie & Linda Share Their Mission and Music

On September 27th, we will celebrate the return of “Super On Sunday” programs for the new year. And for this special occasion we will have a couple of very special guests. They are coming to talk to us about a major change to soon take place in their lives and also to bring us some real fun music.

Ernie and Linda Shultis, who have lived in the Saugerties, NY area since 1985, are missionary appointees with North America Indigenous Ministries (NAIM). They ministered in Klemtu, British Columbia, Canada, a remote Native American village during the summer of 2008. They

will share with us that evening about their calling to missions and their time in Klemtu. That's the informative part of the program. Then there is the music.

Ernie and Linda, both accomplished musicians, will tell us a great story, “The Touch of the Master's Hand” (the old violin song). Finally, with a bit of arm twisting, Ernie's latest email to the church said, “IF you're positive that the bagpipes won't cause indigestion or frighten the little children, then I'll bring them as well.” Everyone should come ready to sing a tune or two while Ernie plays.

See you on the 27th at 5pm for Ernie and Linda's presentation which will be followed at 6pm by our pot-luck supper.

East Greenbush To Host Emmaus

The Walk to Emmaus, “a transforming experience of Christian community”. That’s a line from an informative brochure on the table in the church foyer. Any member of our church family should consider participating in the walk if you, paraphrased from the brochure, have a desire to strengthen your spiritual life; may have unanswered questions about your faith, understand that being a Christian involves responsibility and/or are willing to dedicate your everyday life to God in an ongoing manner. In short the Walk to Emmaus is for active Christians who want to rekindle their faith or renew their vision.

Have an interest, even just a “possible” interest, have questions about the Walk that you would like answered, hesitant because you don’t consider yourself a biblical/religious scholar, want someone to give you a reason you should participate? – speak to Pastor Bob, his wife, Joy or to Len Finke, Matie Flowers Jean Sheviak or any of the others in our church who have taken the Walk.

Our church will host the program for men on October 1-4 and for women on October 15-18. The number of spaces on the weekend that our church can fill is limited. Some have already signed up but there is still room for you. Call the church office today for more information.



The BACK TO SCHOOL Coffeehouse is on the calendar for **Friday, September 18** from 7:00 to 9:30pm. “Be there or be square.” This is a much anticipated event each fall. Here’s a chance to hear some of the talent in our church family make music like you don’t usually hear on a Sunday morning. And you might even get a chance to join in singing a song or two. Come and be part of the festivities. Refreshments – of course! Donations accepted. Monies received will go to support one of our local missionary projects.

Lessie G. Williams to Lead Worship

All Methodists from the Upstate New York Area and New England are invited to take part in a special worship service celebrating John Wesley Methodists, Sunday, Sept. 27, at 2 p.m. The service will be held at Faith United Methodist Church, 811 North Brandywine Ave., Schenectady, N.Y. Guest speaker Lessie G. Williams, an evangelist, musician, singer/songwriter, and recording artist from North Carolina will sing soul filled Gospel music and deliver the message for the day. Her message promises to be transforming and moving, with the help of the Holy Spirit. We will fellowship together after our worship in the fellowship hall with refreshments and conversation. Invitations are being sent to the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Churches and the African Methodist Episcopal Churches in the five-conference region. This celebration is sponsored and planned by the Troy Conference Commission on Religion and Race. If you have any questions, contact Joy Lowenthal at 477-9631.

Fall Assembly Scheduled

The Capital Area Council of Churches will hold its Fall Assembly Banquet on Tuesday, September 29 at the Schuyler Inn in Menands. Join the CACC as they explore the connections between “Family, Faith and Public Service”. The Rev. Christopher DeGiovine, Dean of Spiritual Life at the College of St. Rose, will be the keynote speaker. Registration begins at 5:30pm, dinner at 6:30pm followed by Assembly and the program. Details in the church office.

MORE SPECIAL EVENTS

AIDS WALK 2009

Join us to celebrate the lives of persons with HIV/AIDS and help raise the money for needed local services. Last year AIDSWalk 2008 garnered much support. The event sponsored by the Community AIDS Partnership, a program of the CARES, Inc., raised over \$200,000 for HIV/AIDS services. You can be a "walker" or a "donor" or both. 1pm is check in time at the Washington Park Lakehouse. For answers to your questions or for more details, please see George Herrick following morning worship. He will also take you check made out to "Community AIDS Partnership/CARES".

Peace and Justice Fair in Saratoga

Help promote PEACE by attending the Peace and Justice Fair on Sunday, September 20, 2009, 1200 noon to 4:00 pm at 24 Circular Street, Saratoga Springs, NY (the Presbyterian-New England Congregational Church. Celebrate and Learn! Music, family fun, lunch vendors, 30 exhibitors and workshops. Rain or shine; fee admission – all are welcome. For more information call (518) 584-6091 or visit www.peace-ing.org

Special UMW Program in October

Calvary/Newtonville UMC Women's special meeting on **Tuesday, October 6th, 2009**. A Native American Study based on the theme of Potlach (pot-luck supper) in the Calvary UMC, Latham gathering room at 6:30 pm. Speaker for the evening is David Cornelius.

Bring a dish to pass, a favorite family recipe and a story to share at the table (Great-grandma's chili recipe or Mom's salad, etc.) A fun night of story-telling and sharing for all! For information call Jeanne Chesney (518) 785-5920.

Tying Up Loose Ends

- ◆ Remember when trying to use email to send something to the church, be sure to use the complete email address: mail.egumc@verizon.net. The "mail." is part of the address.
- ◆ Be sure to send any change of address you may have, temporary or permanent, to the church office. Help us be better stewards of dollars, time and supplies.
- ◆ Watch the weekly Sunday bulletins and the next BELL for information about our fall stewardship campaign. The Stewardship and Finance Committee will be meeting September 14 to discuss plans for our financial future.
- ◆ People are needed to volunteer to server coffee and juice during Fellowship hour following Sunday morning worship. A fancy presentation is not a requirement. Willing hands are. See the sign-up sheet in the foyer.
- ◆ If you are interested in being a Liturgist for one of our morning worship services, please call the church office and add your name to the list. Instructions will be provided for those new to the job.
- ◆ Does anyone have a wood chipper that our Garden Crew could use in the fall to make our own wood chips for "mulch"? Please contact Linda Marschner if you do.
- ◆ If you want to keep informed of the progress of the new emerging Upper New York Conference, go to this special web site www.uppernewyork.org.

A Problem Looking For A Solution

A check of the calendar indicates that the Troy Conference Walk to Emmaus weekends for both men and women will be held here in our church in October. The weekends require the preparation of all meals for all participants on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Here's the problem. Our kitchen does not currently have enough refrigeration space to accommodate the weekend food preparation plans. We need to borrow, rent or buy a unit that can increase our refrigeration (not freezer) capacity. Any suggestions on how to solve our dilemma? Please contact George Herrick at the church office ASAP with your suggested solution.

Invitation to Meet The Bishop

Bishop Marcus Matthews of the New York West Episcopal area will meet with clergy and laity in Troy and Wyoming Conferences this October. The bishop, who will become the resident bishop of the new Upper New York Episcopal Area on July 1, 2010, will visit with the laity of Albany and Embury Districts on Monday, Oct. 19 at 7 p.m. at Christ United Methodist Church, 35 State Street, Troy, N.Y. All the laity of our church are invited to attend to meet with and talk with our "soon to be" Bishop. Check with the church office if you are interested in carpooling to the meeting.