



Broome County Council of Churches (BC3)
3 Otseningo Street
Binghamton, NY 13903

Connecting Congregations

November 2014

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13903

Connecting Congregations



November 2014

BC3 Calendar of Events

www.broomecouncil.net for updated calendar

Monday, November 3
Peace with Justice — 12:00 noon

Wednesday, November 5
Staff Meeting — 2:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 11
CLOSED
Veterans Day

Friday, November 14
Lives of Commitment -- Kick-off Breakfast
7:00 a.m.

Monday, November 17
Bible Study — 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 19
Food Coalition — 9:30 a.m.
Board of Directors — 12:00 noon

Tuesday, November 25
Program Directors meeting — 8:30 a.m.
FIA Orientation — 12:00 noon

Thursday, November 27
CLOSED
Thanksgiving Day

Jail Ministry - Reentry Volunteer Opportunities

Re-entry Volunteer -- Two Day Training Course

Offered by the NYS Department of Corrections
and Community Supervision Volunteer Services Department
Saturdays, October 25 & November 1 -- 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

The *Broome County ABLÉ Re-entry Program* works with formerly incarcerated men and women as they return home to our community from NYS Correctional Facilities. We assist participants in meeting the challenges they face, with the ultimate goals of enhancing public safety, reducing recidivism, and rebuilding lives and community.

Over the past three years, *Broome County's ABLÉ Re-entry Program* has been rated #1 in NYS, by the *Division of Criminal Justice Services*, by consistently demonstrating an 88% success rate – reducing the number of individuals who return to jail or prison.

The *Cornerstone Group* is an ecumenical faith association currently working with the *NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision*; *Broome County ABLÉ Re-entry Program*; and the *Broome County Council of Churches* to become a NYS certified training partner. This will allow trained mentors to enter NYS correctional facilities to work one-on-one with men and women prior to and after their release.

We invite you to attend this amazing, fast-paced, interactive 2 days of learning with lots of invaluable "stuff"! You won't start coaching for a while – well after holidays and snow storms – but the training opportunity is now!

**Coffee and bagels will be served upon arrival, and a full lunch with an afternoon "sugar" break are included.

Please reply to Jeff Pryor, Broome County Reentry Coordinator at **607-778-1364** or jpryor@co.broome.ny.us whether or not you will commit. Upon receiving your "Count Me In," directions will be provided to our Binghamton training location.

We need a solid head-count for the trainer ASAP, so your prompt response is greatly appreciated.

SEE ACCOMPANYING FLYER

Jail Ministry Christmas Project

Each year area volunteers, businesses, civic groups and faith communities have been involved in our Jail Ministry Christmas project. We provide for some of the ongoing needs such as clothing, hygiene kits, food and shelter referrals and family intervention for inmates as they are discharged. In one program, we provide gifts of children's books to the families of the inmates at Christmas. We also have a program whereby we give a small gift bag to each inmate containing a few items, which many on the outside simply take for granted. It is our way of telling the incarcerated and their families that their community has not completely given up all hope for their change. This is an especially difficult time for the inmates, only about 10% have actually been sentenced and many more are simply waiting for news concerning their case.

If you could help in any way with donations of *playing cards, word puzzle books, full size hygiene items (we do have enough bar soap however), pocket packs of tissues, stamps, single trip bus passes, sweat suits, socks, underwear, hats, gloves, gently used or new children's books* we would be most grateful. Volunteers are also needed to help decorate gift bags, sort items and wrap and/or deliver the children's book.

You may contact the Broome County Council of Churches at (607) 724-9130 or the Jail Chaplain's office at (607) 778-6518.

"Connecting compassion with needs; inspiring growth with dignity"

Please post this newsletter or pass it on to members of your congregation.

Secure donations can be made online at
www.broomecouncil.net

To submit items or to receive *Connecting Congregations*, contact:

Keating Wilson

Broome County Council of Churches,
3 Otseningo Street, Binghamton, NY 13903

Fax: (607) 724-9148, E-mail: kwilson@broomecouncil.net,

Phone: (607) 724-9130 x303

Congregations may submit items at no charge. All others will be asked for a \$10 donation per article, per month. If you are a non-congregational organization and would like to submit an item please send billing address and contact. Please do not prepay. You will be invoiced after the item has been placed in *Connecting Congregations*.

We reserve the right to edit and cut as space allows.

Directions to BC3

Coming East from Vestal, Endicott or Endwell areas, take the Vestal Parkway East. Follow the signs for Conklin Avenue, go past the Crowley's plant. After you pass the Rite Aid Drug Store, the next street on your LEFT is Otseningo Street. Go to the end of Otseningo Street.

Coming East down Main Street in Binghamton, Main turns into Court Street. Stay on Court Street and turn right on Route 7 **South** over the Tompkins Street Bridge. The first light is Webster. Take a right onto Webster and continue to the T (a short block). Take a right onto Otseningo Street and there we are!

Programs of the Broome County Council of Churches (BC3):

Broome Bounty
CHOW Hunger Relief
Encounter Weekly
TV/Radio Program
Faith in Action Volunteers



HOPE Ministry
Hospital Ministry
Jail Ministry
Ramp It Up
Senior Living Ministry



Broome County Council of Churches
3 Otseningo Street
Binghamton, NY 13903
607-724-9130
www.broomecouncil.net

**Follow us on Facebook
and Twitter (@BCCouncil)**

*Due date to submit items for the
December 2014 issue of
Connecting Congregations:*

12:00 noon on Monday, November 17

*Please make certain the announcements are for the
month of November or later.*

Would you like to receive *Connecting Congregations* via e-mail? We can provide this to you in PDF format.

--We are beginning to work into full color --

Your emailed pdf document will spring to life!

Email Barbara at bcook@broomecouncil.net

The items in this publication are provided as a service to the event organizers.

The Broome County Council of Churches is not responsible for the actual content of the activities nor do these notices necessarily reflect the opinions of the Broome County Council of Churches.

Tabernacle United Methodist Church

83 Main St, Binghamton

Tabernacle UMC is hosting Soffiyah Elijah
Executive Director of the
Correctional Association of New York

Friday, Nov. 21 — 6:30 p.m.

Soffiyah Elijah, is an accomplished advocate, attorney, scholar and educator. She is the first woman and person of color to lead the Correctional Association, which inspects prisons across the state and advocates for a fairer criminal justice system. See <http://www.correctionalassociation.org/>

A dynamic and inspiring speaker, Ms. Elijah will address the full scope of the Correctional Association's work. Some highlights of her lecture include brutality, mental health, the aging prison population, solitary confinement, and the Domestic Violence Survivor Justice Act.

This lecture is a wonderful opportunity for anyone who is curious or passionate about the ongoing issues within our prison system and their impact on our communities.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Freewill offering accepted

For more information, contact Ilona Horvath, (607) 729-7371, email rbmmih@netzero.net

Save the Dates

'Lights On The River'

'Reaching Owego For Jesus! Outreach' in Owego, NY

Friday, December 5

Choruses for CHOW

At Sarah Jane Johnson UMC

Saturday, December 6

11th Annual Holiday Traditions Craft Show

at Binghamton University's West Gym

Black Friday, November 28

3:00 p.m. -- 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 29

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Over 150 Unique Arts & Craft Booths throughout the West Gym & Lobby Area

2-Day Admission \$ 4

A Food Donation for CHOW is Appreciated

CHOW to benefit on Wednesday Nights in November

CHOW TO BENEFIT FROM "CHARITY PINT NIGHT" DURING NOVEMBER

The Water Street Brewing Co. has designated CHOW as its charity recipient for its Charity Pint Night events during the month of November 2014.

Each Wednesday, November 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th, from 4 p.m. until 11 p.m., for every pint sold, \$.50 will be donated to CHOW. In addition, CHOW barrels will be located in the Water Street Brewing Co., located at 168 Water St., Binghamton, to receive donations of non-perishable food items.

The need for food is especially high during this time of year, so this event will be very timely.

CHOW Needs

CHOW

(Community Hunger Outreach Warehouse)

Spaghetti Sauce, Cold Cereal, Hot Cereal, Macaroni & Cheese, Pasta, Vegetables, Fruit.

HOPE

(Help Out People in Emergencies)

!! DIAPERS !! ANY SIZE !!

Shampoo, Conditioner, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Baby Formula.

(anything that is used for personal hygiene) (Unopened items only, please.)

The shelves are very bare out there.

Vestal Center United Methodist Church

478 West Hill Road, Vestal, NY — 748-0004 — vestalcenterumc@gmail.com



Trunk or Treat with Us!

Halloween Night
A Halloween Alternative



Friday, October 31 — 5:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.

A family friendly, safe & fun night.

Free — hot dogs, chips, donuts, drinks
Bonfire

Harvest Ham Dinner

Saturday, November 8 -- 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

For more information call 748-0004

Nimmonsburg United Methodist Church

918 Upper Front Street, Binghamton -- across from BCC -- 607-724-5421



Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, November 15

9:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

& Saturday, November 22

3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Holiday Gifts and Decorations, Hand Crafted Items, Collectible Dolls, Jewelry, White Elephant Store, Sewing and Craft Supplies, Hand Knit Items, Homemade Baked Items

Join Us for Lunch

Saturday, November 15 -- 11:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.

Homemade soups, sandwiches, Sloppy Joes with coffee, tea, iced tea and lemonade to drink!

Harvest Dinner

Saturday, November 22 — 4:00 — 7:00 p.m.

Your traditional turkey dinner

Adults -- \$10 - Children 5 and over -- \$5

Children under 5 eat for free

Children of Abraham

All interested persons are invited to be part of the next Children of Abraham event to be held at Vestal United Methodist Church. Refreshments will be available prior to the event beginning at 1:30 p.m. on Nov. 2. Please enter at the rear of the church off the parking lot. Rabbi Kronish has been involved in inter-religious dialogue for many years in Israel. His presentation will be followed by small group conversations on the topic of inter-religious dialogue both in our community and in Israel and Palestine. SEE ACCOMPANYING FLYER

Part-time Pianist Needed



Elizabeth Church Manor of United Methodist Homes

needs a pianist for two services
Wednesdays and Sundays at 2:00 p.m.

Please contact the Rev. Janet Abel, 722-3463, extension 263, if interested. The position has a small stipend.



Activities in Owego

228 Main Street, Owego

office@fbcowego.org

• November 8 (Saturday) — **Owego's 'Holiday Showcase'** ... There will be a Christian Witness/Outreach -- 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on the M&T property at Lake & Front Streets. A number of Churches will be participating.

• November 23 (Sunday) — **Owego Community Thanksgiving Service** -- 7:00 p.m. at Owego United Methodist Church. The new Pastor, Rev. Thomas Valenti, of Saint Patrick's will be speaking, a community choir will be singing.

• November 25 (Tuesday) - **Monthly Owego Prayer Meeting For REVIVAL** -- 7:00 p.m. at the Sword & The Spirit Christian Fellowship, Montrose Turnpike; we often conclude with Communion.

• November 29 (Saturday) — **Family Holiday Movie Night!** 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at the Historic First Baptist Church Of Owego ... *'Fury To Freedom'*, the true story of Raul Ries and his conversion to Christ, will be showing.

Ross Memorial Presbyterian Church

6 Morris Street, Binghamton, NY — Southside



Halloween Safe House

October 31st -- 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Music By *Ridin' The Rails* -- 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Snacks, Drinks and Candy

Stop in at any time during your night of trick or treating. We will be open for everyone to stop in for a bathroom break, snack break or just to relax and hang out!

OUR DOORS ARE OPEN FOR ALL WHO NEED A SAFE PLACE TO BE ON HALLOWEEN!

Bring a Friend and enjoy the night....

The Haven After School Program at Trinity Memorial

Trinity Memorial Church, 44 Main Street, Binghamton, NY

Dinner and Theatre!!!

Friday, November 14 -- 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.



The Haven After School Program and Binghamton High School present
a delicious Spaghetti Dinner and
It's A Wonderful Life



Trinity Memorial Church Dining Room

Price: Adults- \$8, Students-\$5, a Family of Four- \$20

Special Price: \$10 Dinner and *It's A Wonderful Life*-

Helen Foley Theatre, Binghamton High School

Tickets are available: Haven Staff & Board and at Trinity Memorial Church office.

What Haven Is

Haven is an after school program that has provided a safe place for BHS students to go for the past ten years. Haven is a 501 (c) 3 not-for profit charitable organization and is nonsectarian.

Hearing Loss Association of America



The Lord said to me, gather the people to me, that I may let them hear my words. Deut 4,9.

Help Needed! The Binghamton Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America is compiling a list of area churches with assisted listening devices for those with hearing loss. For example: PA, Loop, Infrared, FM, visual signing etc.

Please provide this information to: Binghamton Chapter HLA. Lynn Finch, 843 state route 369, port Crane, 13833, or 607-648-4533, or lmfin@citlink.net

A copy of the compiled list will be available.

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous

Having a hard time controlling the way you eat? Severely overweight? -- Underweight? -- Bulimic? Obsessed with food or weight?

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous, "FA", offers help and hope for people who suffer from food obsession, overeating, bulimia, and under-eating. The program is based on the Twelve Steps of AA.

Everyone is welcome to this FREE meeting, including those who think they may have a food problem or those who are concerned about someone who may. FA is open to all women, men, and teens who want to stop eating addictively.

Visit www.foodaddicts.org or call 607-595-7381 for more information. FA meets locally:

Mondays & Thursdays -- 7:00 p.m.

Wilson Hospital, Johnson City
Picciano Building, 4th floor conference room 2

Fridays -- 10:00 a.m.

Union Presbyterian Church, 200 Main St, Endicott

Samaritan Counseling Center - a non-profit counseling center

www.samaritanendicott.com

Spiritually Sensitive Counseling Services for Individuals of all ages, Couples, Families & Groups

Available for Group Presentations

Call 607-754-2660 or

Toll Free 1-877-825-0678

Offices in Endicott, Owego & Windsor

Most Insurance, Visa/MC Accepted

www.SamaritanEndicott.com

For Sale -- Glass Punch Bowl

The Vestal Center United Methodist Women has a very large, beautiful glass punch bowl with plate and ladle for sale. Perfect for receptions or large events. Asking \$100. Call Joyce Ellis at (607) 785-5148 if interested.