

Council Calendar of Events

December 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Wednesday, December 4th, 2019						
Staff Meeting Noon						
Wednesday, December 18th, 2019						
Executive Committee Meeting Noon						
Tuesday, December 24th, 2019						
Program Directors' Meeting 8:30 AM						



Seasons Greetings from the Council

The Council of Churches wishes you and your family a

*Merry Christmas
& Happy Holidays!*

The Council of Churches office will be closed from
December 25th, 2019 to January 1st, 2020
We will resume regular business hours on
January 2nd, 2020.

Volunteer Opportunities

Called to Serve?

We have many volunteer opportunities at the Council! For more information please visit our website :

broomecouncil.net/volunteer/volunteer-application-form/

Or call our Volunteer Coordinator and Director of Human Resource Management

Jessica Iacovelli at: (607) 724-9130 x 312

We would love to have you join our team!

Know a Hero?

The Southern Tier American Red Cross serving Broome, Chenango, Tioga, and Tompkins Counties is calling for your nomination of everyday people who have exhibited extraordinary courage to save the life of another.

+ Know a Hero? +

The Southern Tier American Red Cross needs your help in finding local heroes for its 11th Annual Real Heroes Breakfast in April 2020.

This event honors those who have in the past year exhibited extraordinary courage to save the life of another.

There are 12 Hero Categories: *Blood Donor, Good Samaritan (Adult and Youth), Good Neighbor, Education, Lifeline, Fire Rescue, Workplace Safety, Law Enforcement, Medical, Military and Animal Rescue* (for an animal that helped to save a life).



For more information or to receive a nomination form, email Susie.Chadwick@RedCross.org or call 607-785-7207.

Submission deadline is January 17, 2020.

Thanks!!!

Community Night At Boulevard

Boulevard United Methodist Church

(Located at the corner of Floral Avenue and Grand Boulevard)
113 Grand Boulevard
Binghamton, NY
(607) 797-5675

You are invited to dinner:

Sunday, December 15th, 2019 at 6:00 PM

(Donations accepted)

Following the Dinner, at 7:00 PM, there will be two events:

- ◆ Children/Youth (5-11) - in The Lighthouse Room...DVDs and Music!
- ◆ Adult and Older Youth - in Sanctuary...Alex Frantz & Friends will present a Christmas Organ Concert!
- ◆ Desserts will follow



(These programs are a joint-venture of the Boulevard United Methodist Church and He's Alive Ministries.)

Faith in Action Volunteers

Faith in Action Volunteers is pleased to announce that **Bill Austin, a Ramp It Up volunteer**, was chosen as the **2019 recipient of the Arthur Orr Award for Exemplary Volunteer Service from the Klee Foundation**. Bill received his award at a reception held on November 6th at the Binghamton Club.

In order to receive the award, nominees must be **“a volunteer who works behind the scenes and mentors others, who does not seek recognition, but whose dedication and service is critical to the success of the organization.”** Bill fulfills all these requirements, and more. He has been volunteering for Ramp It Up for four years and does just about everything from organizing the trailer to securing the necessary building materials to actually building the ramps. Not only does he have the knowledge and skills needed to build ramps, but he has the heart for the program. His commitment to serving those with mobility constraints and to mentor youth is a testimony to how valuable and important volunteers are in our community. Bill brings independence and hope for the future to our neighbors in need.

We are grateful to have Bill on our Ramp It Up team and appreciate all that he gives to the program.

Congratulations, Bill, from all of us at *Faith in Action* and the Council of Churches!



Left to right: **Dr. Joe Sellepach (Executive Director of BC3)**, **Bill Austin (Ramp It Up Volunteer and Arthur Orr Award Recipient)**, and **Amanda McIntyre (Executive Director of Klee Foundation)**.



Bob Bundy and Bill Austin “on the job”

Vestal Center United Methodist Church



Christmas Craft Show & Bake Sale (including Welsh cookies)



Saturday, December 7th, 2019

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

at the

Vestal Center United Methodist Church

478 West Hill Road



All Things Christmas!



Hospital Ministry

Merry Christmas!

As this wonderful season comes upon us I think of a hymn I dearly love: "We Three Kings of Orient Are." I often relate this hymn to prayer.

It was a very troubled time 2100 years ago. The King's Wise men knew there was more to life, so they went on a journey.

We, too, are on a journey. Each day, God helps us to overcome the obstacles we face while giving hope to patients, families, and staff in the midst of life's darkest moments. I am thankful for that same hope and peace the wise men found in Bethlehem.

I am challenging you to bring that same hope to patients and families by volunteering with the Hospital Ministry.

Please call me at 763-6003 and ask for Chaplain John.

Please remember, we have an All Faiths Worship Chapel on the 4th floor at Wilson and the 1st floor at Binghamton General.

- Chaplain John



Truth Pharm Comfort Club

United Presbyterian Church
42 Chenango Street
Room 202
Binghamton, NY 13901
(park and enter in the back)
ADA accessible



Truth Pharm Comfort Club Meets
1st Tuesday (Dec. 3rd) and 3rd Thursday (Dec. 19th)
each month 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Contact: Celena McDonnell at (607) 752-6049 Cell

A grief group for immediate family members who have lost someone to substance use related causes.

Parents, children, siblings, grandparents and significant others are welcome. Minimum age to attend is 16.

“Because we each have become a member of a club no one wants to be a member of, the least we can do once we are here is to offer each other comfort.”

Choruses for CHOW

Choruses for CHOW

Music is an outburst of the soul

15th Annual BENEFIT CONCERT
Sunday, December 8TH
at 3:00 p.m. at St. Cyril's
148 Clinton Street in Binghamton

Come listen to the voices of
The Southerntiersmen Barbershop Chorus
The Endwell Community Chorus
The Southern Tier Christian Community Choir
and more

For Tickets Call: Dc. Ed Blaine at 372-1730 or the Broome
County Council of Churches at 724-9130.
Donation: \$10.00 Advance - \$12.00 at the Door
Non-perishable food items welcome

Our Lady of Sorrows Community Meal

Mary's Meal Tuesday, December 10th

Doors Open 5:00 pm, Meal Served 5:30 - 6:30 pm
801 Main Street, Vestal, NY

Free community meal for those in need of food or companionship. If you have any questions, please call 607-222-5616.



Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church

Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church
44 Main Street
Binghamton, NY

Two Concerts are Coming Soon!



Friday, December 6th, 2019
7:30 PM

The Trinity Ringers

Will perform festive pieces celebrating the music of the season.



Christmas Eve, December 24th, 2019
10:30 PM



The Trinity Choir, Soloists and Orchestra



Will offer “Magnificat” by J.S. Bach.

Candlelight Eucharist service follows immediately at 11:00 PM. The Rev. Glenn Mahaffey will preach and Timothy E. Smith is Organist-Choirmaster.

The Church is located at 44 Main Street in Binghamton, across from Binghamton High School. There is plenty of parking behind the church off Oak Street.

All are invited to attend!



Connecting Congregations December 2019

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



Follow us:
@broomecouncil
607.724.9130

Visit our Website: <https://broomecouncil.net>

OUR PROGRAMS

- CHOW[®]
- Broome Bounty
- *Faith in Action*
- Ramp It Up
- Senior Living Ministry
- Hospital Ministry
- Jail Ministry
- Encounter

ABOUT US

- Mission
- Strategic Plan
- History
- Bylaws
- Annual Report
- Blog
- Staff
- Job Openings
- Secure Donations
- Board of Directors
- Policy & Procedures
- Together Newsletter
- Connecting Congregations
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Congregational Directory
- BCCC Flyer



“Connecting compassion with needs; inspiring growth with dignity”

To submit items or to receive Connecting Congregations, contact:

E-mail: admin-dev@broomecouncil.net
Phone: 607.724.9130 x 303

We are in the process of reviewing our publishing and distribution costs. This may result in a price increase for announcements and inserts for non-congregational advertising.

**Deadline for the January 2020 issue:
Friday, December 20th, 2019**

Subscribe to our colorful email edition of “Connecting Congregations”!
We can provide this to you in PDF format.
Send your email address with your request to Barbara at: bcook@broomecouncil.net
or view our newsletter on our website.
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.