



# UOL BULLETIN

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

*Dedicated to our Church -- Devoted to its Youth*

VOL. 61 NO. 7

JUNE 2015

## 2015 UOL Lenten Retreat March 28, 2015 – “Behold the Bridegroom Cometh. . .”

Submitted by Marianne Carmack

On Saturday, March 28, 2015, the Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA welcomed clergy and faithful for a day of spiritual renewal, fellowship and prayer at the Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center in Villa Maria, Pennsylvania. An early morning light snow and lingering unseasonable cold weather didn't deter those who look forward each year to attending one of the UOL's most popular activities.

The day began with morning prayers, registration, a Continental Breakfast, and warm greetings from Stephanie Rimedio, retreat Co-chair and Michael Komichak, UOL National President. Morning and afternoon lecture and discussion sessions were led by The V. Rev. John Harvey, Dean of the Penn-Ohio Deanery and pastor of SS. Peter & Paul, Youngstown, Ohio and The Rev. John Schmidt, pastor of St. Elias Orthodox Church, Ellwood City, Pennsylvania. Their talks explored the meaning of each of the solemn



Each participant received a folder of materials, including a “Twelve Passion Gospels” booklet, “Faith & Life Orthodox Christianity Holy Week” pamphlet, and guidelines for parents on how to help their children experience Holy Week, Holy Week quizzes and activity sheets and information about UOL stewardship.

Father John Harvey began the first session with a discussion of the Bridegroom Services of Holy Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Here,

we behold Christ as the Bridegroom of the Church, bearing the marks of His suffering, yet preparing a marriage Feast for us in God's Kingdom. Then, Fr. John reflected on the Vespertal Liturgy served on Thursday morning commemorating the mystical supper and the service on Thursday evening of the Twelve Passion Gospels witnessing the solemn time of our Lord's Crucifixion. And, finally, he spoke about Holy Friday—the Royal Hours



days of Great Week, reflecting on the retreat's theme, “Behold the Bridegroom Cometh.”

At noon, everyone enjoyed lunch served in the center's dining room, the gift shop, walks around the grounds, and most especially, fellowship and lively discussion. The day concluded with informal conversation with speakers and clergy, confessions, Vespers (with responses led by Fr. John Nakonachny) and Pizza. During the afternoon break a screening of the UOL video was enthusiastically received along with a promotional handout emphasizing the UOL's role as stewards of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, both at home and abroad—a wonderful story of faith and commitment.

where various accounts and hymns concerning the crucifixion are read, the Vesper service during which Christ's body is taken down from the cross, and the Lamentations service that begins in a solemn manner, but ends with the anticipation of the Resurrection of our Lord.

Fr. Schmidt focused on Great and Holy Saturday—a day of hope and waiting. He spoke about the Vespertal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great, celebrating Christ's victory over death. During the service the priest changes into bright vestments in anticipation of Christ's Resurrection as the choir chants “Arise O God and Judge the earth, for to Thee belong all the nations.” The Old Testament story of Jonah in the belly of the whale is read at this service because

(continued on page 3)



**Hear Ye! Hear Ye! You are cordially invited to...**

**68<sup>th</sup> Annual U.O.L. Convention  
July 23-26, 2015**

**Hosted by  
Assumption of the Virgin Mary UOL Chapter  
Northampton, PA**

***“Put off the old, put on the new man. Be children of God.  
Walk in Christ the Light”***



**UOL BULLETIN** - The official publication of the Ukrainian Orthodox League of the United States of America. Circulated to all UOL Members. Non-members subscription rate \$30.00 Canada \$40.00

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UOL Bulletin - Published seven times annually - September, October, November, January/February, March, April and June.

**The absolute deadline for each monthly issue is the 1st of the prior month. Photos will not be returned.**

**Note to Contributors:** All articles submitted to the UOL Bulletin must be in 12 point Times New Roman (font), or typed and double spaced in 12 point type. Articles may be submitted via e-mail attachments. (Submit to: nsufler@aol.com). If submitting photos please be sure to obtain consents for photos to be includes in the UOL Bulletin.

The editor reserves the right to condense any material submitted. Material cannot be returned.

## MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR UOL PRESIDENT



Michael J. Komichak

*Put off the old, put on the new...*

Glory to Jesus Christ! Slava Isusu Khrystu!

At last year's UOL Convention in South Bound Brook, we spoke of the need for the UOL to embrace the Church as a whole by encouraging connections not just within parishes but between parishes as well. We also spoke of the need to broaden and increase the involvement of parishioners across the UOC of USA in the UOL's ministry. At this year's UOL Convention in Northampton, we plan to focus our discussions more concretely in two areas—one dealing with challenges facing the Senior UOL and one dealing with Junior UOL issues.

Among the questions facing the Senior UOL are: What can we do to help struggling chapters, or assist those trying to form new chapters, or embrace those individuals who find themselves suddenly without a chapter because their parish's chapter has chosen to become inactive? How can we extend our reach to those parishioners in the 80% of UOC of USA parishes that have no UOL, or harness the untapped volunteer potential of our Members-at-Large?

There have been examples of chapters disbanding because a key leader stepped down and a willing replacement could not be found to assume the responsibility. There are examples of parishes unwilling to form a chapter because no one sees the need for another overlapping organization which could be viewed as being in competition with existing parish groups for scarce resources. Of course, there are examples of healthy, successful, growing chapters as well. But, it is worth asking the question: Is the UOL's primary and largely exclusive division into chapters too restrictive, too locally focused, too burdensome administratively, too fragile, too one-size-fits-all? Is there a way to grow the UOL outside of the chapter structure?

The current Member-at-Large (MAL) membership category allows for participation outside of chapter membership, but it does not adequately meet these challenges. Can an enhanced MAL program address some of our structural and systemic problems by strengthening connections and increasing volunteer involvement outside of the current structure? What would such an enhanced "super" MAL program look like? How could it be organized? Should all Members-at-Large be gathered into a single group led by an NEB officer or appointee? One might, instead, imagine forming an MAL "group" in each Deanery, taking advantage of the relative geographic proximity of group members. Other organizing principles readily come to mind that are not based on geographic distance. Should we establish MAL groups based on interest, comprised of people sharing a common interest in community service, or college and young adult ministry, or education, or vocations? Should we, in certain cases, take into consideration members' gender or primary language? One could envision an MAL "women's group," for example. How about an MAL group of people who share a common skillset, such as teaching or charitable fund raising? Of course, regardless of organization, every group would have the primary purpose of supporting the Church and training and nurturing the youth of our Church.

The Junior UOL has recently experienced a sharp decline in membership. One practical consequence is the realization that—based on current circumstances—the Junior League can no longer support a six-person Junior Executive Board.

Some of the decline within any particular Junior chapter might be attributed to local parish cyclical factors. However, we must also consider ways to make participation in the Junior UOL more attractive to potential members. One proposal is for the Junior UOL to forge a much stronger partnership with the Consistory Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, thereby leveraging connections with non-UOL parishes and with other pan-Orthodox youth organizations.

Is a special emphasis on Members-at-Large the way ahead for the Seniors? Is the realignment of the Junior UOL a good idea? We will be talking about these issues at this summer's Convention and making plans for the possible implementation of any changes. We need your input. Come to the Convention and join the discussion!

Yours in Christ,  
Michael J. Komichak



## ASK FR. HARVEY

Questions answered by Fr. John W. Harvey

*I hear that there are restrictions on the days you are permitted to have a wedding in church? Why would that be as, to my knowledge, you can have a baptism, or confession, or Holy Unction just about at any time?*

Wedding coronations are such joyous occasions that fasting seasons and weekly days of abstinence are really improper as a backdrop for such rites. The solemnity of Great Lent and the pre-Christmas fast period are automatically out as wedding dates. The two lesser lenten periods in the summer can be utilized only with the express permission of your local hierarch. Again, before you hire that hall for your reception, be sure that the dates are acceptable and compatible with church practice! Bishops do take into consideration the circumstances you present, but even if permission is given, they may stipulate that the reception be of a more muted character. If the church, as a whole, is engaged in a solemn preparation for a feast by prayer and fasting, it is not in character that your wedding should be the wild, blowout celebration of the century.

Wednesdays and Fridays have been days on which the cross and crucifixion have been commemorated down through Christian history. As we abstain from meat products, in remembrance of the sacrifice of Jesus for all of us, weddings are also proscribed. Remember we follow the day as did the Jews of old and so a day is considered from one sunset (or time of vespers) to the next sunset. Friday would extend from say 5:00 PM on Thursday night to the same time Friday night and this whole time period would be closed to marriages. Friday evening would be a possibility, unless you consider the following.

Another closed day is Saturday afternoon and evening, because it is the liturgical preparation for Communion the next day and a time when marital relations should be withheld. You may say, but aren't most weddings in our churches contracted on Saturday afternoons? True, but we have bent to the cultural norm of the American scene, which sees Saturday night as party time. Let us look at this logically. If there is a wedding and rip-roaring reception and dance, chances are that after the wedding night, the bridal couple and many others will sleep in and omit liturgical prayer. Doesn't this contradict what we have done in the wedding? Hands tied, the couple follows the cross in procession, both yoked in matrimony and leading one another to the heavenly kingdom. On the very first day of their marriage journey to shun the Liturgy and Communion is contrary to their actions of a day before.

What then is an acceptable time for an Orthodox Christian wedding? Traditionally, Sunday afternoon is the best choice. Both ideally attend Liturgy in the morning, with their bridal party and commune. A nice start indeed to a life of Christian commitment together! Afternoon and evening for wedding coronation and a fine reception, so what could be better. Consider the hard edged scramble couples usually must go through to get a hall for a reception on the premium night of Saturday. Couples sometimes must wait a full year in advance to get a date at their chosen hall. Sunday is usually open and easy to arrange. The church does not want to be obstructionist, but if we truly believe, let us try to comply with the guidelines as given and conform to the spirit of the law.

*I may not be the most observant person, but I finally noticed something that has raised my curiosity. I remember Roman Catholic priests and Lutheran pastors blessing the congregation in the sign of the cross with an open palm. Upon closer inspection, I realize that Orthodox priests bless with their fingers crinkled up in a certain way and have further noticed that Christ in the icon is giving a blessing in the selfsame manner. Obviously there must be a certain meaning expressed by this action, so what is this all about?*

(continued on page 5)



**UOL Convention 2015**  
**Submitted by Martha Misko**

This is it! It's the final countdown to the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual UOL Convention! Come join us in Northampton, PA for rewarding and fun-filled days during July 23-26, 2015! The Convention Committee of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary UOL Chapter has been planning a great variety of spiritual and social events. Lodging accommodations will be at the **Best Western Plus, Lehigh Valley Hotel** at a very reasonable rate of \$89.00 per night. Remarkably, the rate is less than the \$99 per night rate at the same hotel during the 2005 UOL Convention! Business sessions and evening activities will also be held at the **Best Western**.

The early registration discounted rate of \$195 for Seniors and \$185 for Juniors includes –

- Thursday – Educational workshop; Hospitality Night hosted by the Assumption of the Virgin Mary UOL
- Friday – Welcome Brunch; *Dine and Dance at the BW* evening event
- Saturday – Breakfast; Lunch; *UOL Grand Banquet and Ball*
- Sunday – Farewell Brunch

The 2015 modified format will begin Thursday evening with opening business sessions and the ever-popular Hospitality Evening. On Thursday afternoon, there will be an educational workshop on iconography, *The Kingdom of Heaven is Here!*, presented by Very Rev. Bazyl Zawierucha and Michael Kapeluck.

Our Friday evening event *Dine and Dance at the BW* will feature a fabulous buffet dinner as well as dinner and dance music provided by DJ Scott Bateman. And rumor has it that there will be a few special guests who are likely to ask our UOLers to become part of their show!

And, of course, the *UOL Grand Banquet and Ball* will be held on Saturday, July 25. Following a sumptuous dinner and the UOL Annual Awards and special recognitions, the *UOL Ball* will take place featuring dance music provided by the *Josef Kroboth Band!* The evening is sure to be a memorable celebration of our Convention days!

We will conclude our 68<sup>th</sup> Convention with Hierarchal Divine Liturgy at the Assumption of the Virgin Mary Church, Northampton, PA to be followed by the Farewell Brunch in the church hall.

There's still time to enter the UOL Basket Raffle Competition! Get your creative juices flowing! We invite all chapters, Junior and Senior, to join the competition! Have your Chapter create a basket of goodies (value of \$50.00 or more) to be raffled at the Convention. Special recognition and prize will be awarded to the Chapter whose basket collects the most entries!

Make your plans now! Come to Northampton in July!

**Convention Registration and Individual Event Tickets:**

Register by June 16, 2015 for Discounted Rate  
 Registration materials can be found at  
<http://www.uol.orthodoxws.com>  
 Contact Helen Crayosky  
 610-262-4575  
[iluvhearts@rcn.com](mailto:iluvhearts@rcn.com)

**Hotel Reservations**

Best Western Plus, Lehigh Valley Hotel  
 300 Gateway Drive  
 Bethlehem, PA 18017  
 Call 1-610-866-5800 to reserve your room by June 30, 2015  
 for the UOL Convention rate of \$89/room/night + tax.

**Yearbook Advertising**

Submit ads and greetings by June 10, 2015  
 Yearbook ad contract materials can be found at  
<http://www.uol.orthodoxws.com/>

**Questions?**

Contact Martha Misko or Linda Winters  
[Martha.misko@rcn.com](mailto:Martha.misko@rcn.com) or 610-262-5292  
[Linda.m.winters@verizon.net](mailto:Linda.m.winters@verizon.net) or 610-837-3076

**Make your plans now! Come to Northampton in July!**

**NEWS FROM THE  
 JUNIOR UOL  
 PRESIDENT**

**Kateryna Kocelko**



Glory to Jesus Christ!

Summer is already here, and I can't believe how fast this year has gone. It feels like we just were together in South Bound Brook for the annual Convention last year, and it's already time for the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual UOL Convention in Northampton, PA. Be sure to contact me at [kdkcutie25@yahoo.com](mailto:kdkcutie25@yahoo.com), if you are interested in receiving the Pysh Travel Grant to help pay for your travel expenses to Convention. Our spring national executive board meeting was held in Northampton, PA. I would like to thank the entire parish for being wonderful hosts. The entire board had a great time.

With Convention around the corner, I would like to remind everyone to turn in their completed progress reports. Please try to get those turned in as soon as possible. If you have lost your forms or need another, feel free to go on the UOL website and print another or contact one of the board members for another copy.

All chapters should have received their raffle tickets, and I hope everyone is selling them all! This is the Junior UOL's largest fundraiser, so make sure your parish is a part of it by selling your tickets. Maybe one of the tickets you sold will be a winner. The winner is picked Saturday night at Convention. Please return your ticket stubs and a check for the tickets your chapter sold to the fundraising chairperson Christopher Holowko before Convention. Please contact Christopher if you have sold all of your tickets, and he will make sure you get more to sell. In the off chance you don't sell all your tickets, please return the unsold tickets to Christopher as well.

Also at Convention we have our annual Cultural Contest. Everyone, both Junior and Senior members, is invited to participate. This contest provides a great way to showcase your talents while representing our Ukrainian heritage. If you have any questions or need more information email Sarah Hershey at [shershey19@gmail.com](mailto:shershey19@gmail.com).

Lastly, I would like to remind everyone about the 2015 Great Lent Giveaway. This year it benefits The Ukrainian Refugee Fund. The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry partners with the Junior UOL for this project. Even though Lent may be over you still have time to collect monetary funds. Each week during Lent a lesson was released and I hope everyone was able to use them, if not you still have time to go and read them. The deadline for the funds is at Convention, so you still have time. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact me at [kdkcutie25@yahoo.com](mailto:kdkcutie25@yahoo.com).

I would like to take this time to thank all of my board members, Christopher, Katherine, Juliana, Sarah and Andrea. Without the help of my board members, the Junior UOL would not have been able to accomplish the things we did this year. I am very blessed to have them, as well as our Spiritual Advisor, Father Vasyl Sendeha and our Senior Advisor, Tabitha Bentley.

I pray that everyone has a safe summer, and I hope to see everyone in July in Northampton!

In Christ's Love,  
 Kateryna Kocelko

(Retreat- Continued from page 1)

Jonah is seen in the Church as a Type of Christ. As Jonah was three days in the belly of the great fish, and was then safely deposited back onto land, so our Lord was three days in the tomb before His glorious Resurrection. The Vespers Divine Liturgy of Holy Saturday concludes the services of Holy Week, and brings the church to the eve of Great and Holy Pascha.

Many thanks to speakers Fr. John Harvey and Fr. John Schmidt, for the continued support of Fr. John Nakonachny and Pani Mary Anne Nakonachny, who have championed the retreat since its inception, and Fr. Daniel Rohan, Fr. Andrew Gall, and Fr. John Haluszczak for their support.

This year's committee included: Fr. John Harvey, co-chairs Stephanie Rimedio and Pauline Witkowsky, and Marianne S. Carmack. Finally, thanks to Christine Mills for her help during planning the retreat (it was invaluable) and Mickey Komichak for his support and help prior to the retreat and demonstrating the importance of this ministry by participating in the retreat itself, "walking the talk" speaks volumes. Exciting plans are already being made for UOL Lenten Retreat 2016 at Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center on March 19, 2016. We hope to see you there! It's something you're not going to want to miss.

### All-Night Jr. UOL Lock-In Submitted by Alexis Naumenko

The past year has been a year of rejuvenation for our Jr. UOL chapter. We welcomed many new members and had an amazing year of activities. How did we do it? Persistence, continuously having activities for youth, positive attitude and the big one – HOPE and never give up. Today, I am going to share with you about some of our chapter's activities, but most especially, our very first, and definitely not last, all-night Jr. UOL lock-in.

I am very happy to say that, in the past year our chapter has accomplished a lot! We grew twice in size, held multiple charitable drives, such as: Thanksgiving Food Drive, where we were able to collect over 700 lbs. of food that was donated to Philabundance (the largest food bank in Philadelphia); OCMC coin collection; Souper Bowl collection to benefit St. Andrew's Society; and craft kits for foster kids of Philadelphia. We held several fundraisers: Christmas Cookie Walk; weekly coffee hours; Palm Sunday salad fest and palm cross project. We also sponsored many parish activities: children's fall fest; paska baskets for our shut-ins; annual egg-hunt; care packages to college students; various youth trips and much, much more. The outings of the past year have really drawn us closer together. We had an amazing outing to Dorney Park, a Temple basketball game and what has become a tradition, the bowling alley.

But the highlight of the year – was the lock-in. Everyone loved having the lock-in because it was a chance to not only stay up all night, but there were games, pizza and a chance to hang out with a lot of friends.

Our day and a half was packed with activities. We started off by baking prosfora and creating commemorative lists of our family members that were then commemorated during proskomidia at the Lazarus Saturday Liturgy. We continued with preparing baked paskas for our annual paska sale, by decorating them with blue and yellow ribbons in support of Ukraine. They looked great! While the girls worked on paskas the boys put their efforts into compiling 65 art kits for the foster children of Philadelphia. The kits were donated to Northern Children's Services of Philadelphia, a local organization



that supports the healthy development of children, while stabilizing their families to build stronger communities.

We played many games, but the best one - was human foos ball, an All-Saints camp favorite! Our day ended with evening prayers, a movie and a good nights sleep. Well – when you are having friends for a sleepover – you are definitely not going to sleep, let's just say we stayed up pretty late.



On Lazarus Saturday, to make sure everyone was awake in time for the Liturgy, we held a mini marathon on a beautiful but a very brisk morning. Everyone participated in the Divine Liturgy, whether by serving, singing or reading.

Our Saturday afternoon ended with making over 300 crosses which were all distributed on Palm Sunday and helping at the annual spring clean-up. The boys did the yard work – the girls took care of the temple.

All-in-all it was an awesome event! A BIG thank you goes out to our advisors, Ms. Dori Nemeth and Dr. Rebecca Druash-McNulty, for their support in all that we do and to our spiritual advisor, my very own tato, Fr. Taras.

Thank you to all parishioners who donated mattresses and supplies for the lock-in. You are a great support! Kudos to all of my church friends, members of the St. Vladimir Jr. UOL chapter, for your commitment, help and support throughout the year.

### Praying Our Way Through Great Lent 2015 Psalter Reading Project Submitted by Janice Meschisen

PS. 50:17 "O Lord, You shall open my lips and my mouth will declare Your praise."

Great Lent 2015 was a little more meaningful this year for 52 people throughout the diocese who participated in a Psalter Reading Project. This project, sponsored by the UOL, "It Takes a Deanery Committee," was represented by 15 parishes, and 9 deaneries. It was both an intra-deanery and an inter-deanery event in which no one had to leave the comfort of his own home. Reading times were at the convenience of participants.



What better way to connect people and deaneries than through prayer? The Psalter is a very important prayer book of our Orthodox Church. Psalms form the framework for all our services: the Hours, Vespers, Compline, and Matins. Even the Divine Liturgy is rich in psalms.

The Psalter is divided into 20 sections, called Kathismata. In the beginning participants were assigned a group number correlating to a particular Kathisma. Readings were done for 20 days, Monday - Friday. Every day each participant would read one Kathisma, along with before and after prayers. Each succeeding day readers would move on to the next Kathisma, so that over the course of 20 days they had read the entire Psalter, individually. With all groups combined, the entire Psalter was being read two and a half times a day! Glory to God!

Besides reading the Psalter, each participant was given a Prayer Partner to pray for, in addition to praying for their entire group. A few special needs were also prayed for along the way. Prayers for partners were continued to at least Pascha. Any questions that surfaced during the readings were addressed to Fr. John Haluszczak, Spiritual Advisor to the Senior National Executive Board.

For their perseverance and dedication to the project, a name drawing was held at the UOL Retreat in Bethlehem, PA on March 28, 2015.



The names of all participants were included. Winners were: Jane Yavarow, Boston, MA; Lisa Ryan, Carnegie, PA; Toni Marie Klavin, Palos Park, IL; Connie Markiw, Carnegie, PA; Mauri Druash-Gladys, Pittsburgh, PA; Chuck Woloschak, Youngstown, OH; Sonia Szewczuk, Philadelphia, PA; and Helen Baverov, Trenton, NJ.

In responding to a survey at the completion of the Psalter project, participants indicated that it was a beneficial Lenten experience. Some remarks made were: "It made Lent more relevant to me."; "It was a wonderful connection to be able to pray for people I knew and for others I did not know."; "It made me want to try harder to understand the Psalms to be closer to God."; "It guided me to what readings to read everyday and I knew others were reading also and praying with me and for me."; "Praying the Psalms at this time also made the verses pertaining to Holy Week and Pascha more relevant and meaningful."

The overwhelming, positive reaction from participants indicates that this project should be repeated. God willing, it will, along with, perhaps, other, similar, Lenten projects. So stay tuned to all your parish and UOL communications!

PS. 18:15 "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be always pleasing before You, O Lord, my helper and redeemer."



All Saints Camp  
110 All Saints Road  
Emlenton, PA 16373  
(724) 867-5811



Could you spare?  
Could you donate?  
**PEROGIES!**

All Saints Camp is looking for parishes who would be willing to donate Perogies for UOC of USA Encampments.

If you are able to help, please contact Fr. Tim Tomson  
(frtim1@aol.com | 412-331-2362) with the amount you are able to contribute and availability date. Our campers thank you in advance for a wonderful meal!



911 for All Saints Camp  
By Chris Mills (cmills63@comcast.net)

The Work Weekend at All Saints Camp went well in starting the repair of the French Drain around the Millennium Building. While the trench has been dug and the walls have been tarred, much work needs to be completed by mid-May when the first encampment arrives. Foam sheets need placed on top of the tar, piping needs placed and new gravel and dirt filled back in to the area. We need your help to finish the project in time for the camping season!! The inside of the building will need to have the floors mopped, along with the windows washed. If you are able to help out this coming weekend, or the next, please contact Hans Harasimchuk at 440-212-4976 hmharasimchuk@gmail.com or Michael Nakonachny at 440-503-3151 mjinako@bryantstratton.edu. **THANK YOU** to those who were able to come out this past weekend and get the project started!



(Ask Fr. Harvey - continued from page 2)

How blessing styles developed in the Western and the Eastern churches is not that important. The sign of the cross is the sign of victory and at it even the demons must tremble, so the manner in which it is done is basically just a variation on a theme. What is so neat about the Orthodox form of blessing is that it adds yet another potent element. You mentioned fingers being crinkled up and that is one way of describing it, but what is so interesting is that visually the fingers form a monogram. The monogram is IC XC, which is the Greek alphabet letter combination signifying Jesus Christ. So in the action of blessing, the cross being made is fortified visually with the Name of Jesus Christ, the Name of power by which all in heaven, earth and below the earth must bow the knee. Looking at the hand, the second finger extended forms the I, with the third finger crooked forms the C. The X is made up of the thumb and the fourth finger crossing one another, while the fifth finger crooked forms the final C. In the icon, Jesus blesses with His own Name. He Himself is the victorious One, Who by His glorious Resurrection destroyed the power of Death and will in the end be revealed as the ultimate victor over all evil and the evil one and his minions in particular. A simple hand blessing not only conveys the blessing given, but then also expresses God's supremacy in this world and the power He has given to His ministers over the actions of Satan.



**ASC SUMMER RAFFLE**  
DRAWING HELD AT FAMILY FEST  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2015



CERAMIC STAMPED TILES HANGING  
MATERIALS (TERRA COTTA CLAY & IRON OXIDE STAIN)  
ARTIST ULYANA WOZNAK  
DONATED BY DAVE AND ULYANA WOZNAK

\$3 PER TICKET  
OR  
4 TICKETS FOR \$10

CONTACT CHRIS MILLS (CMILLS63@COMCAST.NET),  
CINDY HALUSZCZAK (TETAKSENI@AOL.COM)  
OR ANY ASC COMMITTEE MEMBER FOR TICKETS TO  
PURCHASE OR SELL AT YOUR PARISH.  
THANK YOU! ASC COMMITTEE

**Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!**

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Annual Fund Drive which includes UOL Projects, the Lynn Sawchuk -Sharon Kuzbyt Scholarship Fund and the Metropolitan John Scholarship Fund!

The following is a list of contributions made to our Fund Drive.  
Thank you for your support!

**Total contributions were: \$5,876**

**UOL Projects: \$750**

- Assumption of the Virgin Mary Senior UOL, Northampton, PA
- Bettyann and Janet Woyewoda
- Catherine Shaffer
- Irene Pashesnik
- John Roditski
- Lewis Branson
- Michael and Martha Misko
- Peter & Karen Konchak
- Rev. John and Pani Mary Anne Nakonachny
- St. Demetrius Senior UOL, Carteret, NJ
- St. John Senior UOL Sharon, PA
- St. Vladimir's Senior UOL, Philadelphia, PA
- Teresa Linck *in Honor of Andrea Linck*
- Walter Stepowyj

**LSSK: \$2,625**

- Anonymous *in Memory of Wasyl Pysh*
- Assumption of the Virgin Mary Senior UOL, Northampton, PA
- Bettyann and Janet Woyewoda
- Catherine Shaffer
- Daria Pishko-Komichak and Michael Komichak
- Eugenia Arson
- John Roditski
- Irene Pashesnik
- Kuzbyt Family
- Michael and Martha Misko
- Olga Sawchuk
- Peter and Karen Konchak *in Memory of Lynn Sawchuk*
- Robert Hedesh
- Rose Boykas
- St. Demetrius Senior UOL, Carteret, NJ
- St. John the Baptist Senior UOL, Johnson City, NY
- St. John's Jr UOL, Johnson City, NY
- St. Vladimir's Senior UOL, Philadelphia, PA
- Steve and Alice Sivulich
- Tamara Chebiniak
- Teresa Linck *in Memory of George & Anna Tizio*
- Walter Stepowyj
- Sawchuk Family

**MJSF: \$2,501**

- Anonymous *in Memory of Metropolitan John*
- Assumption of the Virgin Mary Senior UOL, Northampton, PA
- Bettyann and Janet Woyewoda
- Bishop Daniel
- Daria Pishko-Komichak and Michael Komichak
- Irene Pashesnik
- John Roditski
- Lewis Branson *in Honor of Joseph Crescenz*
- Michael and Martha Misko
- Peter and Karen Konchak *in Memory of Father Frank Estocin*
- Rev. George Hnatko
- St. Demetrius Senior UOL, Carteret, NJ
- St. John the Baptist Senior UOL, Sharon, PA
- St. Vladimir's Senior UOL, Philadelphia, PA

**Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!**

**St. Thomas Pilgrimage  
Submitted by Alexander Shevchuk**

As long as I can remember, St. Andrews Church in South Bound Brook, New Jersey, has been the focal point for a pilgrimage by the faithful, during St. Thomas Sunday. This first Sunday following Resurrection Sunday (called Khomyrna [Thomas's] or Providna [Seeing-off]) is a commemoration of the dead (provody) where the faithful gather in the cemetery by the church, bringing with them a dish containing some Pascha foods. Some of the faithful leave a "paska" and/or colorful Pascha eggs on their loved ones graves. This event brings Ukrainians from all parts of America together once a year, to South Bound Brook, New Jersey. It is a tradition that has followed the wave of Ukrainian Orthodox immigrants after World War II to America. It was a place where people of the same background met to rekindle old friendships and sometimes make new ones. St. Andrews is a place where the old world meets with the new. Though time changes people in many ways, good and bad, the traditions held by those who came before us are able to be observed and passed on from one generation to another.

Due to the expansion of the cemetery, the pilgrimage has grown from a one day to a two day affair. From families and friends gathering together to enjoy Pascha foods at the grave sites, the event also has vendors selling foods and Ukrainian memorabilia in a hall that was not there when the first pilgrimages were held. The large modern hall resembles growth and foresight



by those who spearheaded that and shows that progress is definitely evident at St. Andrews.

Events such as a barbeque at the seminary on Saturday and an ice cream social on Sunday have become featured activities for the younger folk accompanying their parents to St. Andrews Cemetery. Mingling with the seminarians and enjoying one another's company makes for a relaxing atmosphere and something to look forward to next year.

The UOL plays a vital role during this special weekend by first and foremost taking on the duty of collecting the parking funds and selling the commemorative ribbons that we wear while enjoying the weekend pilgrimage. While it can be a difficult job, volunteering for parking duty can also be quite memorable. What makes the volunteering for parking duty successful is that the local UOL chapters of Coatesville, Carteret and Maplewood return year after year to help make the monies collected for the



seminary pledge. If you were unable to volunteer this year, we hope to see you next year. We can always use more volunteers!

**ALL SAINTS CAMP**  
Ukrainian Orthodox Church  
of the USA

All Saints Camp  
110 All Saints Road  
Emlenton, PA 16373  
(724) 867-5811

*A newly paved road awaits you at  
**All Saints Camp** this summer! A  
new roof for Cabin 8 and Pool  
House and Dining Hall Restroom  
renovations as well  
have been completed.  
**Hope to see you at camp!***

[www.allsaintscamp.org](http://www.allsaintscamp.org)

Have you joined?

**When you join the All Saints Booster Club:**

- ◊ You will receive: "ASC Lucky Calendar" - A chance calendar that gives you the opportunity to win a **minimum** of \$25 a day (more on special days listed in the calendar)! You receive a three digit number that is your number for the **entire year of 2015**. If your number matches the number of the "Evening" Pennsylvania Daily Lottery (3 digit number drawing) you win the prize listed on the calendar for that day! You don't need to live in Pennsylvania to play!
- ◊ A special drawing to be held for 2015 winners!
- ◊ **Please see any ASC Staff or send** your \$25 check made out to "All Saints Camp Boosters" to the address below to join the ASC Booster Club. Your Lucky Calendar will be provided to you!

Thank you for supporting All Saints Camp!  
*Hope you are a winner!*

Christine Mills  
641 N. Allerton Ct.  
Moon Twp., PA 15108  
[cmills63@comcast.net](mailto:cmills63@comcast.net)

**Serving Christ in Rhode Island - 2015 High School Mission Trip!**

Are you looking for adventure? Searching for a way to deepen your faith by serving others? Looking for new Orthodox friends? Want to explore the great New England States? Then this trip may be for you!

August 1 - 8, 2015 the High School Mission Trip will take place in Woonsocket, RI. The team will serve in many different capacities. As you may have heard, one of the UOL parishes, St. Michael's in Woonsocket, was severely damaged by fire in early 2014. They just recently returned to the church building. The team will aid St. Michael's as they continue to recover from the fire. The team

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE U.S.A.  
**HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP**  
 WOONSOCKET, RI  
 St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church  
**AUGUST 1-8**  
 Cost: \$525  
 Plus travel to Woonsocket  
 Applications Online: WWW.UOCYOUTH.ORG  
 Deadline for applications: June 1, 2015  
 Ages: 15-18  
 THE TEAM WILL BE:  
 Helping restore the church  
 Volunteering in local community outreach  
 Pilgrimage to Icon Museum

will also help with the community Heritage Days program and additional local outreach. They will also have the opportunity to experience the historical areas of Boston and Rhode Island.

Past team member Danielle Walewski of Carnegie, PA says of her experience,



*"I had the amazing opportunity to be a part of the High School Mission Team to South Bound Brook, NJ, the home of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. None of us wanted to say goodbye, but we*

*left knowing that in just eight short days we had accomplished many projects and had made great friends in the process."*

Multiple year participant and National Jr UOL Board Member, Andrea Linck, has this to say about her time on the team, "Going on the UOL High School Mission Trip for the second time was a very moving experience for me. I am so very thankful for the opportunity to do what I feel and view as God's work. After seeing all the homeless at the Emmaus House in New York, I realized how fortunate I am and I am truly grateful to my parents, my family and my church family."



Applications are available at the Office of Youth Ministry website at [www.uocyouth.org](http://www.uocyouth.org). Applications will be accepted until June 1st. For additional information or questions contact the OYM Office at 412-977-2010 or [uocyouth@aol.com](mailto:uocyouth@aol.com).

**ALL SAINTS CAMP**  
 Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA  
**Work Weekend**  
**May 29-31, 2015**  
 Lend a helping hand!  
 • Millennium Building Repairs  
 • General ASC grounds keeping and gardening  
 • Repairing doors, windows, screens  
 • Cleaning, organizing and set-up cabins  
 Please contact:  
**Michael Nakonachny**  
 (440) 503-3151  
[mjnako@bryantstratton.edu](mailto:mjnako@bryantstratton.edu)  
**Hans Harasimchuk**  
 (440) 212-4976  
[hmharasimchuk@gmail.com](mailto:hmharasimchuk@gmail.com)

**ALL SAINTS CAMP**  
 Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA  
**All Saints Camp Wish List**  
 Do you have any of the following items (gently used/new)?  
 Bring or send the items with a friend to camp!  
 • Highchairs (4)  
 • Booster seats (8)  
 • Pack n Plays (4)  
 • Jogging Strollers (2)  
 • Shower curtain liners  
 • Gallon Pitchers w/lids (Rubbermaid type)  
 • Rugs  
 • Crock pots (2)  
 • Over the door hooks  
 • Large water thermos (2)  
 • Water Dispenser  
 Wish list contacts:  
**Chris Mills** at [cmills63@comcast.net](mailto:cmills63@comcast.net)  
 Or  
**Natalie Kapeluck-Nixon** at [uocyouth@aol.com](mailto:uocyouth@aol.com)  
 Please contact one of the following individuals listed to the right, prior to bringing or sending your items to ensure we do not have over stock issues.  
 Thank you!

**St. John's 88th Annual Ukrainian Days Weekend Festival**  
**BE UKRAINIAN FOR A DAY!**  
 Ukrainian Food, Pastries, Arts & Crafts, Outdoor Grill  
 Games for Children & Church Tour 1:30 Each Day  
**SATURDAY JULY 18**  
 1 - 8 PM  
 3 PM St. John's Ukrainian Choir & Folk Dancers  
 Bill Flynn and Cool 100 Live Broadcast  
 4:30 PM Live Band "The Groove"  
**SUNDAY JULY 19**  
 11 AM - 6 PM  
 Please join us for Divine Liturgy Church Service at 9 AM  
 11 AM Festival Starts  
 2 PM Live Band "The Groove"  
 FREE ADMISSION BOTH DAYS  
 Route 17 to Exit 71; Follow the Signs to the Church Complex on St. John's Parkway off Harry L Drive in Johnson City  
 For Additional Information Visit Our Website at [stjohnuoc.org](http://stjohnuoc.org)

**ASC Family Fest!**  
**September 4-7, 2015**

Weekend Rates  
 Adults \$85.00  
 Students (12-22) \$65.00  
 Children (6-11) \$45.00  
 Children (0-5) No Charge

www.allsaintscamp.org | www.uocofusa.org | cmills63@comcast.net

**UOL CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Day ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Representing: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Chapter/Parish)

**PACKET PRICES:**  
**Early Registration Discount (Postmarked before June 16, 2015)**

- \_\_\_ Clergy \$195
- \_\_\_ Senior Delegate/Guest \$195
- \_\_\_ Junior Delegate/Guest \$185
- \_\_\_ Pre-Junior \$100
- \_\_\_ Family Registration\* \$750

**Registration Prices (received after June 16, 2015)**

- \_\_\_ Clergy \$220
- \_\_\_ Senior Delegate/Guest \$220
- \_\_\_ Junior Delegate/Guest \$195
- \_\_\_ Pre-Junior \$120

\*The Family Early Registration packet price is for 2 adults and 2 juniors. Additional Junior family members beyond the two included in the Family Packet are only \$175 each.

**Hotel Reservations**

Best Western Plus, Lehigh Valley Hotel  
 300 Gateway Drive  
 Bethlehem, PA 18017

Call 1-610-866-5800 reserve your room by **June 16, 2015** at the UOL Convention rate of \$89/room/night + tax. A limited number of rooms are available.

Reserve your room early!

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**UOL Tribute**

A donation to the Tribute Fund is an acknowledgment of a Milestone, Memorial, or Accomplishment, or is a Special Recognition of an individual or group. Your much-appreciated contribution is used to support and further the Mission of the Ukrainian Orthodox League. All donations are published in the UOL Bulletin.

Donor	Tribute
Rose Boykas	In Blessed Memory of my dear friend Eugene Leshchyshyn of the Holy Ascension Parish Clifton, New Jersey. Memory Eternal!

**To submit your Tribute:**

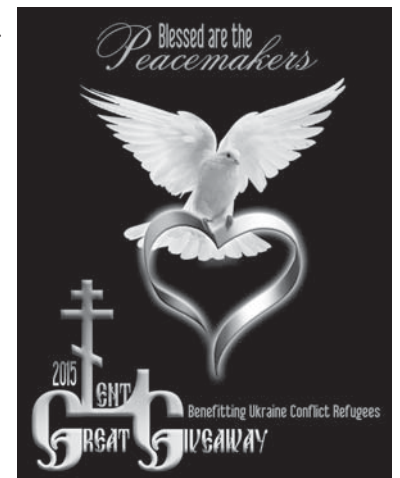
Submit a card that includes your Name and Address, the Name of the Person to Receive the Tribute, the occasion of the Tribute (for example In Memory or To Honor), and the Name and Address of the person to whom an acknowledgement card should be sent.

For a contribution of \$20 or more, the name and occasion is printed in the UOL Bulletin. UOL Tributes should be submitted to: Natalie Bilynsky 703 Pine Ridge Road Media, PA 19063. Please make check payable to Ukrainian Orthodox League.

**Great Lent Giveaway**

The 2015 Great Lent Giveaway – “Blessed are the Peacemakers!” benefits refugees of the Ukraine conflict. The Great Lent Giveaway is a combined project of the Jr. Ukrainian Orthodox League and the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry. This year the youth of the church are called to raise awareness concerning the refugees and wounded soldiers from the Ukraine conflict. Each Jr. UOL Chapter and parish youth group is asked to raise funds to aid these individuals and also to teach about their plight.

Donations can be sent to the Junior UOL Financial Secretary.



UOL Bulletin  
 c/o Natalie Bilynsky  
 703 Pine Ridge Road  
 Media, PA 19063

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