



UOL BULLETIN

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dedicated to our Church -- Devoted to its Youth

VOL. 65 NO. 3

JANUARY 2019

St. Vladimir Junior UOL Submitted by Natalie Swan

Greetings! Hope you have had a blessed fall season. At St. Vladimir's, we have been very busy. In September, we held an outing to Six Flags Great Adventure for their fright fest festivities. About 15 juniors came along to join in the fun.



On October 21, the juniors welcomed the Metropolitan at the parish anniversary dinner and helped clean up afterwards. On October 28, the juniors hosted their annual fall festival for the youth of our parish. At this event, the kids were able to decorate cupcakes, pumpkins, and participate in other fall activities.

(Continued on page 6)

Wilmington Retreat Submitted by Ann Duncan and Sonya Patronik

On Saturday, October 13, 2018, under the guidance of our spiritual father and pastor, Fr. Stephen Hutnick, the Senior UOL Chapter of Ss. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Wilmington, Delaware, presented their annual retreat attended by parishioners from Wilmington, Dover and Philadelphia. This year the featured speaker was the Very Reverend Archpriest Andrew Stephen Damick, pastor of St. Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church of Emmaus, Pennsylvania. Father Andrew is the well known author of several books including the popular "Orthodoxy and Heterodoxy." He is also the author of "Roads to Emmaus" blog and podcasts on Ancient Faith Ministries (<https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/roadsfromemmaus>).

The retreat opened with a continental breakfast prepared by UOL members followed by an Akathist for Our Youth. Fr. Andrew's first presentation was An Introduction to God - Encountering the Divine in Orthodox Christianity.

Fr. Andrew explained that God introduces Himself into a place of humility, and we must make ourselves available in a place of humility. What you bring to an encounter bears greatly on what will result from that encounter. Many times we want something from God. He is with us just because we are ourselves; we must consider if we are with God just because He is our God or am I with Him because I want something? Meeting God is not casual; we must prepare our hearts and minds. We must repent, that is, open ourselves to receive God.

Next addressed was the idea of knowing if you are connecting with God. If you only ask for things, you are just present with your ego. Consider someone who you love being with and are very happy in their presence. We grow and become better just by being with them. Likewise, are we happy just being with God and does that change us for the better? A synopsis of this session simply stated is, "You can't be full of God if you're full of yourself." God reveals Himself to individuals, if we quiet ourselves, standing in wonder and become humble. God is present anywhere humans allow Him to be.



When encouraging people to come to our church, find a way to communicate that it's not just the surface, such as music, icons, etc. A more successful approach is asking someone to come struggle with you as you search for God.

(Continued on page 7)

You are cordially invited to the...
72nd ANNUAL UOL CONVENTION at ALL SAINTS CAMP
Emlenton, Pennsylvania

AUGUST 1-4, 2019

1-4 СЕРПНЯ, 2019

"Train up a child in the way he should go:
and when he is old,
he will not depart from it."
Proverbs 22:6



"Привчай юнака до
дороги його, і він,
як постаріється,
не уступиться з неї."
Приповісті 22:6

Ласкаво запрошуємо вас...
72-гу ЩОРІЧНУ КОНВЕНЦІЮ УОЛ на ОСЕЛІ ВСІХ СВЯТИХ
Емлентон, Пенсільванія

UOL BULLETIN - The official publication of the Ukrainian Orthodox League of the United States of America. Circulated to all UOL Members.

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UOL Bulletin - Published six times annually - October, November, January, March, April /May 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 11 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 included in the UOL Bulletin.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR UOL PRESIDENT

John Holowko



Christ is Born! Chrystos Razdayetsya!

I sincerely hope that you and your families have a blessed Nativity season full of happiness and peace in the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Peace, if we could have inner peace, how much better we would all be. I also hope that you have touched someone with some kindness by act or emotional support. We all know how hard this time of year can be for very many, and if you don't, you should. You do not know what happens behind those closed doors. It is not always so obvious. I myself, have been there and am forever thankful for the people that have been there for me throughout the years.

Also, please continue to reach out to our new immigration during this season—show an interest in them. Make the conscious effort please. Make them feel at home—we cannot complain about a lack of attendance or participation without demonstrating the warmth and love to make them want to come back and to be part of our parish family.

Speaking of doing good works of kindness and being there for others, included in this issue is a picture of clowns (don't be scared you Steven King fans), rather it is a picture of a group called "Call us Clowns" which is a non-profit organization that regularly visits children in Hospitals, Senior Homes, and Veteran and Firemen's homes. It is their mission to promote, preserve, and present the time-honored profession of clowning by providing therapeutic family humor, knowing that "laughter can be the best medicine." A picture is worth a thousand words sometimes—can you guess who the UOL member is in the middle?—none other than Danny Gulak. From what I understand, he will gladly do private parties with much time on his hands, when not serving meals at Eva's Kitchen. Please feel free to contact him directly. Thank you, Danny, for all you do!

Thank you to St. Mary's in New Britain. On a recent trip back from Boston, I had the opportunity to visit with Fr. Andrii and our UOL family there. Thank you for your warmth and kindness. It was a true joy to see the number of young children in Church that day and to see how you have them already participating in the Divine Liturgy as part of the Great Entrance procession. Their smiles provided a very nice memory. Your Parish Family is obviously doing some things right, thank you. As discussed in the last Bulletin, our Children, in order to stay within our Church, need to learn more about what we do; why we do it; and with a much stronger foundation to face the issues of today; so let us not act as "Sunday Robots" but for our children and adults act to find spiritual fulfillment in our services and the ability to seek answers and help within our Church. The Great Entrance, the Icons the children carried – many lessons therein.

Also connected to our last Bulletin was the Report of the **Communications Committee**. Did you read it? Have you discussed it amongst yourselves to seek out ways of improving? It is so easy do continue to do the same thing, expect different results, and then complain. You all know what it is called. Whether it be with local issues or larger issues such as communications with UOC of USA, when is the last time anyone discussed these topics locally or issues with the Consistory in a productive manner?

Mark Host, our member at St. Vladimir's in Parma, our prayers are with you as you take on your new challenge. Also, some good advice was noted there on Facebook. Stay strong!

This February 3rd, the UOL will once again be sponsoring its annual "Souper Bowl Sunday" to benefit St. Andrew's Society, an important part of the ministry of our Archdiocese that provides humanitarian assistance to Ukraine. Your generous support of the UOL's "Souper Bowl Sunday" will have a positive impact on the lives of our brothers and sisters in Ukraine. Since 2006, chapters of the UOL and individual faithful have participated and hosted soup meals. The last few years, and we hope this year, we had Parishes without Chapters participate. Please plan now on participating – just one straightforward way of helping others that need so much. More information is provided within this Bulletin.

Last month's Bulletin should have contained the Annual Fund Drive envelope—it did not because of an innocent error on the part of the printer—it is however included herein. Please keep in mind all the causes we support!

(continued on page 5)

It is with a heavy heart that we publish these answers from Fr. John Harvey. Fr. John served as Spiritual Editor of the UOL Bulletin for decades. He prepared answers to questions to be published in the Bulletin. All of the articles he wrote will be published in the Bulletin to honor his memory. Fr. John will be sorely missed! Our deepest condolences to Pani Debbie and Irena.

Memory Eternal! Vichnaya Pamyat!



Questions answered by

Fr. John Harvey of Blessed Memory

At times I have such vivid dreams filled with omens and portents. I feel that this is some kind of spiritual blessing although I don't feel exactly that I am a psychic. I have kept quiet about this until now, but I would like to hear your comments.

On the subject of clairvoyance the church has always been very conservative and reluctant to approve or encourage, with good reason. In the 1970's a lady in Bulgaria became known as a seer and her pronouncements attracted Communist officials, some clergy and many peasants. She became quite a controversial figure (and still is after death). Many of her predictions did not come true, which puts her under the Old Testament ban of false prophet. To be a true prophet or seer, 100% of sayings must come true.

Locally I know of a lady, who really exuded a spiritual aura which attracted a whole coterie of followers. Some of the things that the Lord supposedly directed her to say caused great hurt to some people and the result was not a spiritual plus. I am not doubting her good will, but The evil one can feed us delusions to entrap us or those with whom we speak.

Scripture warns us that even if an angel of light appears to you in a vision you must be very careful and test the spirits. I am afraid, most of us are not that discerning to do that job well and so we might easily fall into prelest.

Prelest is a tool of Satan. If one can misguide or confuse folks it is of an advantage to the evil one. We might think that the Holy Spirit is directing us, but it could be some evil spirit putting forth a delusionary message.

Several monastic saints were clairvoyant, although they certainly did not desire to be. Such messages were usually given to penitents or those who came for advice and for their betterment.

In your case, although you may consider this to be a spiritual gift, it may just be the evil one pumping you up to delude you and others. With even a small success, you might be led into the murky world of prelest.

It is better for you to pray that this supposed "gift" be taken from you and that you be left in spiritual peace.

As you read these wonderful answers please remember Fr. John Harvey of Blessed Memory in your prayers. Vichnaya Pamyat!



72nd Annual UOL Convention
All Saints Camp, Emlenton, PA
August 1 - 4, 2019

The 2019 UOL Convention Committee wishes you a very blessed Nativity. As we celebrate Nativity and face the cold winter, this is the perfect time to think about summer.

Let's imagine it is Saturday, August 3rd, 2019. You wake up in your lovely room at the Foxburg Inn. Or perhaps you decided to have the full All Saints Camp experience and you wake up in your cabin. It is a sunny warm August Saturday and you have the full realization that you will be able to relax in the company of your fellow UOL members.

The day awaits with wonderful opportunity. Opportunities abound for all.

Perhaps you are interested in participating in a workshop. You typically come to the Convention and enjoy the speakers and workshops offered. There is a place for you at the UOL ASC Convention – you can partake in the workshops schedule that day.

Perhaps you are athletic and want to partake in the multiple sporting events. You join a game of kickball or volleyball. Later that afternoon you decide to take a swim in the pool.

Perhaps you have had a particularly busy work week and need the time to decompress. Sitting in one of the wooden camp chairs around the Dining Hall is a perfect place to relax and replenish enjoying the mountain air.

On Saturday of the UOL Convention you will have the opportunity to live the ASC experience.

Saturday afternoon you will get ready for the UOL Banquet and Ball. The Ball will be formal and held at the Grove City Country Club. The Banquet, a celebration of the achievements of the past year will be similar to past Conventions, including formal dinner with a delicious menu. The Grove City Country Club has a beautiful patio overlooking the golf course. Following the banquet all will get a chance to celebrate and dance the night away.

As you are thinking about the UOL Convention this is the time to start thinking of ways that you can support the Convention planning. This year fundraising for the Convention is taking a different approach. The Convention committee is hoping to have sponsors for activities to help defray the packet price.

Please consider serving as a sponsor for the following items:

Thursday Dinner	\$500
Friday Brunch	\$250
Friday Entertainment	\$500
Saturday Breakfast	\$350
Saturday Cookout	\$400
Banquet & Ball	\$1000
Sunday Brunch	\$400

If you or your chapter are considering sponsoring an event please contact Michael Nakonachny Convention Chairperson.

Interested in learning more about the Convention Hotel, please review the Foxburg Inn description within this article. Book early, as there are a limited number of rooms for those that want the luxuries of a hotel, ask for the UOL rate.

Look forward to seeing you at the 2019 Convention!!

MESSAGE
FROM THE JUNIOR
UOL PRESIDENT

Alexis Naumenko



Христос Рождается! Christ is Born!

On behalf of the National Junior UOL Board, I would like to extend a heartfelt and warm greeting to everyone during this Nativity Season. The Nativity Season is a special time that is filled with love, joy and care. I encourage each and every one of you to take the time out of this busy, but wonderful time of the year, and show appreciation and affection towards one another.

For many, a start to a new year means New Year's resolutions. Every year on or before January 1, many of us commit to a new beginning of sorts. Sadly, after making this list, we forget about all the changes we would like to make in just a few days or weeks. Some say that resolutions are pointless, but for many, New Year's resolutions are motivators. They give us a boost of positivity and happiness.

So if you are working on your New Year's resolutions, I would encourage you to include the idea of how you can help revitalize your parish UOL. Think about ideas of how to grow your chapter so that it can blossom into a strong UOL. This year, my resolution is to help all the UOL chapters, both Senior and Junior, grow into strong and sufficient chapters that will be active locally and nationally.

As the Nativity season comes to an end we look forward to Great Lent, a season of "bright sadness." Great Lent brings us the Great Lent Giveaway ("GLG"). This year's recipient of the GLG collection will be Heifer International. Heifer International is a global nonprofit organization working to eradicate poverty and hunger through sustainable, values-based holistic community development. This project is being organized by our Financial Secretary, Madeline Zetick, as well as the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry. More information on this project will be released soon. We look forward to your support of this initiative.

May the Nativity of Christ bring you and yours love, peace and joy!

As always, for guidance and support, please feel free to contact me at alexis-naumenko20@gmail.com or via telephone (215) 290-7878.

Yours in Christ,
 Alexis Naumenko

Friendly reminder: if you have not submitted chapter **membership forms and dues, please do so** at your earliest convenience to Financial Secretary, Madeline Zetick (267-406-8231 / zetickm@gmail.com).

Christian Caregiving and Missions Commission

Submitted by Karen Ferraro


At our 2018 UOL Convention, a suggestion was made to show brotherly love to new immigrants attending our parishes by helping them acclimate to life in the United States. The Christian Caregiving and Missions Commission is creating a project based on this suggestion and is seeking volunteers to develop a pilot program that can be rolled out to our parish communities.

Initial thoughts include helping these individuals with:

- Finding employment
- Navigating healthcare options
- Learning the English language or translating documents
- Explaining the local school system to parents
- Help finding a car or a place to live
- Guidance on purchasing a cell phone or acquiring internet service
- Help with filing Federal and State Income Tax returns

Willing to help with planning? Contact Chairperson Karen Ferraro, kalmtrio@comcast.net


The
FOXBURG INN



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 www.foxburginn.com

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We hope you will join us at our magical location alongside the Allegheny River. There are twenty-four spacious, state of the art garden or river view rooms, offering an at home feel to take your mind off the stresses of life.

2018 L.S.S.K. Scholarship Recipients

Submitted by Anna Anderson

At the Annual UOL Convention that was held in South Bound Brook, NJ in conjunction with the 100th Anniversary of the UOC of the USA, the Lynn Sawchuk-Sharon Kuzbyt Memorial Scholarship Committee awarded scholarships to outstanding Junior UOL members whose dedication to the Church and the League went above and beyond the norm.

The scholarship was established in 1975 to perpetuate the memory of two lovely, dynamic young women whose untimely deaths left an indelible mark in the life of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. In the last 43 years, the UOL has awarded 150 Scholarships totaling over \$180,000.

The Scholarship Committee considers the following criteria when reviewing applicants: being a current or past member of the Junior UOL; enrolled in or about to enroll into a program of advanced education; a record of outstanding performance in the service to the Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church and the UOL; academic performance in high school; involvement in extracurricular activities and being of high and moral character. This year we awarded scholarships to two deserving young men with scholarships totaling \$5,000.

Jeffrey Senediak, of Youngstown, OH, is the son of Mike and Carol Senediak. Jeffrey exemplified the characteristics for consideration for the L.S.S.K. through his high academic accomplishments by holding a 4.0 all the way through high school which included many college advanced courses. This outstanding academic performance earned him the position of Valedictorian of his senior class. He was involved in many school activities including National Honor Society, Spanish Club, Interact, PTA and Health Professions Affinity Community. He was a member of the baseball and basketball teams, as well. He was elected as vice president of his senior class. In his church life, he faithfully served (and continues to serve) as an altar server, attended Church School regularly and was a member of the Junior UOL for 6 years. In that time, he served as treasurer, vice-president and president. As president, he spearheaded different charitable projects including raising money for a local Youth Crisis Center. Jeffrey volunteered his time to bake pies and serve meals at the local food kitchen. His outstanding service to his church and community made him an excellent candidate for the L.S.S.K. scholarship.

Jeffrey is attending Youngstown State University majoring in Mechanical Engineering.

Orest Mahlay, of Parma, OH is the son of Father Deacon Dr. Ihor and Pani Matka Irene Mahlay. Orest was deserving of the L.S.S.K. scholarship by showing great dedication and service to his Church in many ways. He was active as an altar server, Reader, choir member, and Junior UOL member for 8 years where he served as treasurer, vice-president and president arranging meetings and outings for the Juniors. Orest was instrumental in reviving the coffee hour at St. Vladimir's Cathedral so parishioners could once again enjoy fellowship with one another. Orest helped in the church kitchen, with parish fund raising and with maintenance around the church. He was part of the Ukrainian dance group even serving as a student instructor.

On the National level, Orest attended All Saints Camp each year. He also faithfully served as the president of the Junior UOL National Board for two years. While remaining so very active in parish life, Orest showed exemplary academic excellence at school. With a stellar GPA, he earned high academic honors. Orest played in the school band all through his high school career. Between his academic excellence and exemplary dedication to his Church, Orest was an excellent candidate for the L.S.S.K. Scholarship. Orest attends Georgetown University.



Orest Mahlay accepting LSSK Scholarship at UOL Convention in South Bound Brook, NJ.

Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA
Christian Caregiving and
Missions Commission
Announces

“Souper Bowl” Sunday
February 3, 2019



Sponsor a “Souper Bowl Sunday” Fundraising event
at your parish or just make a donation!

Proceeds benefit St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Society for soup kitchens in
Ukraine serving the most needy

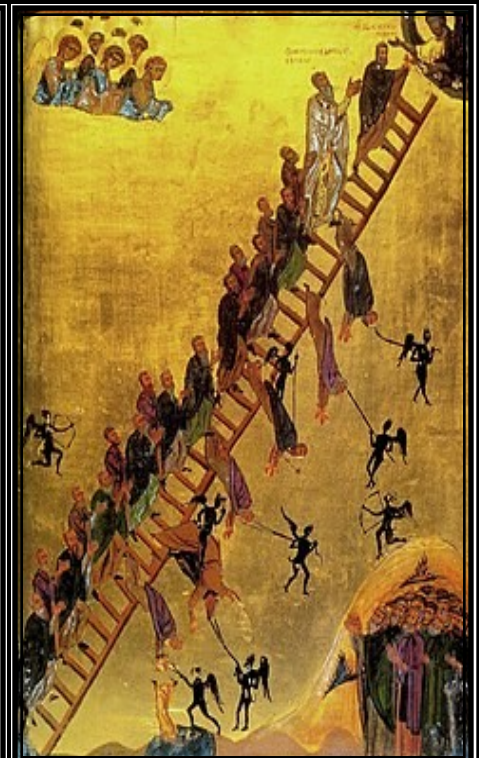
Please send fundraiser proceeds and donations payable to:
Ukrainian Orthodox League
c/o Mr. Jack Roditski, Financial Secretary
252 Cambridge Drive
Ramsey, NJ 07446-1259

Questions? Contact Senior UOL Christian Caregiving and Missions'
Chairperson,
Karen Ferraro, kalmtrio@comcast.net

Lenten Retreat April 13, 2019

Focusing on the
Ladder of Divine
Ascent and our
spiritual journey one
step at a time

Retreat registration:
Adults \$45 (late fee \$10)
Adolescents \$25 (late fee \$10)
Children (under 12) \$7
Registration includes all
meals, breakfast, lunch and
dinner.



St. Francis Center for Renewal
395 Bridle Path Road
Bethlehem, PA

For more information contact:
Oleh or Natalie Bilynsky at
nsufler@aol.com call – 610-892-7315

2019 UOL Essay Contest Topics

Pre-K and Kindergarten: Draw a picture of something you like to do with your family.

Grades 1 and 2: One of the Nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit is Compassion. Write 2 to 3 sentences explaining what compassion is and draw a picture of someone showing compassion to something or someone.

Grades 3 and 4: In Proverbs 1: 8-9 the Bible says, "Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching..." Write 50 to 100 words explaining what this passage means to you.

Grades 5 and 6: One of the seven acts of Spiritual Mercy is to forgive all who injure us. Write 100 to 150 words on how you were taught to do this and how you continue to follow that teaching.

Grades 7 and 8: In Proverbs 20:11 the Bible says, "Even a child makes himself known by his acts, by whether his conduct is pure and upright." Write 150 to 200 words on how this relates to this year's convention theme from Proverbs 22:6: "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it" and accepting responsibility for one's actions.

Grades 9 and 10: In John 1:4 the Bible says, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth." Write 200 to 250 words on how this relates to this year's convention theme: "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." – Proverbs 22:6.

Grades 11 and 12: Please write 250 to 500 words on the following topic. As you look forward into the upcoming years and getting ready for college, how do you plan on using what you have learned from your parents and from church teachings in your new environment? How do you plan on staying involved in the church?

Adults 18 and over: Write 500 or more words on the following topic. This year's convention theme comes from Proverbs 22:6: "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." We have been taught about the Seven Capital Sins and their Opposite Virtues, which are: 1. Pride/Humility 2. Greed/Kindness 3. Lust/Chastity (body and soul) 4. Envy/Charity 5. Gluttony/Liberality 6. Anger/Patience 7. Sloth/Diligence in service and praise of God. In today's world where pride, love of money and a self-centered universe are the norm, how do we use these virtues as a guideline for training up our children?

CONTEST GUIDELINES AND RULES

1. **Entries must be postmarked by April 30, 2019.**
2. **NO NAMES ON THE FRONT OF ANY ENTRY.**
3. All entries must include the following information: **(PLEASE USE THE COVER PAGE SUPPLIED)**
 - a. Participant's first and last name
 - b. Age and grade in school
 - c. The name and address of participant's parish, including city and state
 - d. Drawings no larger than 12" x 18" and **NO** name on the front of drawing. Please attach a **COVER PAGE** or use the **BACK** of the drawing for the information listed above. **All drawings MUST be mailed.**
 - e. Written entries must be on 8 ½" x 11" papers. Include a cover page with the identifying information listed above. Entries for 9th grade and above must be typed or printed.

Please do not take pictures of any entries. If you must send a hand printed essay, please mail it or scan it and then email it.

**All entries must be submitted in English.
ALL ENTRIES WILL BE JUDGED FOR CONTENT, CREATIVITY
AND NEATNESS.
NO ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER April 30, 2019**

**Please send entries to
Teresa Linck: 413 Juniper Lane, Cheshire, CT 06410
Teresa Linck at: tlinck.essays@gmail.com**

**Ukrainian Orthodox League's
Annual Drive for
UOL Projects, Lynn Sawchuk-Sharon Kuzbyt Scholarship,
and
Metropolitan John Scholarship Funds**

Donations to UOL Projects will be used for

- *Publication of the *UOL BULLETIN*
- *Supporting the Youth Commission's activities
- *Outreach through the Christian Care-Giving and Missions Commission
- *Continuation of the Education Commission projects and services
- *Public Relations and other administrative necessities

Donations to the Lynn Sawchuk-Sharon Kuzbyt Scholarship fund will

- *Provide Scholarships to current or former Junior UOL members who are leaders in their parishes and communities and committed to their faith
- *Nurture the future leaders of our Church
- *Foster the UOL's motto: "Devoted to its Youth"

Donations to the MJSF Scholarship Fund will

- *Provide tuition assistance to seminarians at our St. Sophia's Seminary
- *Encourage candidates to the Holy Priesthood
- *Provide tuition assistance to our clergy and seminarians for higher education

Please take a moment and use the enclosed envelope to make your donation today!!

(UOL President - continued from page 2)

Your UOL Board will be meeting in Philadelphia this month on the 26th. Please, if you have any ideas or matters that you believe should be brought to the Board's attention, please contact one of us.

Yours in Christ,

John Holowko

The Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA
Dedicated to our Church – Devoted to its Youth

Saturday, March 30, 2019
8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

2019 UOL Pan-Orthodox Lenten Retreat

Senior/Junior Retreat Program and Activities
(Ohio/Western Pennsylvania)

Don't just go to Church, Be the Church!

*Why Here, Why Now, Why Me
Looking from the Inside Out, Looking from the Outside In
It's only a matter of time, Living a Life that Matters*

Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center
2067 Evergreen Road
Villa Maria, PA 16155 Phone: 724-964-8836

(Philadelphia Juniors - continued from page 1)

On the same day, the juniors held the pancake flip, which is a pancake breakfast that is a fun and creative way to raise money for the parish.



Lastly, our parish members are now participating in Philabundance. Philabundance is a non-profit food bank that gives food to less fortunate families in our city. We have asked everyone to donate non-perishable items to our church, which will be delivered to the Philabundance headquarters. As the holidays approach, our parish juniors will continue to be busy with our annual church bazaar, cookie walk, college student care packages and family fun night!

To conclude, our Philly chapter would like to wish you a blessed holiday season filled with peace, love and happiness!

Can You Find the UOL Member?



Can you guess which clown is a UOL member and puts smiles on little children's faces in hospitals? (answer in President's article)

Consider Hosting the UOL Convention and Your Chapter Can Fill in the Blank



- 2019 Convention All Saints Camp
- 2020 Philadelphia
- 2021 _____
- 2022 Pittsburgh-Carnegie

Your Chapter can host the 2021 UOL Convention!

UOL Bulletin Pictures

Join in the fun! Take your UOL Bulletin with you and take a picture reading your Bulletin. Submit pictures by sending to nsufler@aol.com

Maplewood Senior UOL Submitted by John Holowko

Maplewood Senior UOL Chapter volunteers at Eva's Kitchen during the holidays. Eva's Kitchen was founded in 1982 to help feed the hungry. To begin the feeding ministry, the first meal of hot dogs and beans was served in the basement of St. John's Cathedral to 30 individuals. In the early 1990's an expanded kitchen was built on Main Street with capacity for 240 people. To help feed the growing number of homeless and working poor, an expansion in 2011 increased the capacity to 400. Each year the Maplewood Chapter makes it a point to visit during the Holidays to volunteer.



St. Sophia Seminary UOL Chapter Elects Officers

Submitted by Daria Pishko Komichak

On Sunday, November 11, the seminarians at St Sophia Seminary met with their advisors, Father Vasyl and Pani Dobrodijka Oksana Pasakas and National Board Liaison, Daria Pishko Komichak along with Mickey Komichak



to kick off their UOL year. The meeting began with an overview and update especially for the new seminarians so they could learn more about the UOL and be active participants in organizing their first official UOL chapter activities.

Daria and Mickey presented the UOL Promotional CD and then spoke of the activities and responsibilities of individual chapters and members. The seminarians were interested in learning about all of the advisor's experiences and agreed that they would be willing to be responsible for their chapter's organization and look forward to involving more of the local community in their activities.

The officers elected were Subdeacon Yurii Bobko, President, Subdeacon Ihor Protsak Vice President, Subdeacon Mykola Zomchak, Treasurer, Oleg Kravchenko, Secretary, Yaroslav Bilohan, Corresponding Secretary and Ivan Venhryn, Assistant Treasurer.

The first meeting of the chapter was held on Sunday, December 2 with 12 members in attendance. President Yurii Bobko welcomed the new members who had joined them since the last meeting. After reviewing the agenda, the initial goal was to assign projects to members for the upcoming semester to be researched and reported on at the next meeting.

Those projects included: a CD of Christmas Carols being developed for sale to benefit St Sophia Seminary and its UOL Chapter, Souper Bowl Sunday to be held on Sunday, February 3 to benefit the St Andrew Society, and the "Meet the Seminarians Picnic" to be held on Saturday, May 4, the weekend of the St



Thomas Sunday Annual Pilgrimage, among other ideas. The Chapter is also planning to attend the UOL's Lenten Retreat in Bethlehem, PA on April 13.

Since their meeting, their Christmas CD has officially launched and is available for purchase through the UOC of USA bookstore online at

<https://www.uocofusa.org/stsophia.html>

With such a strong start, the chapter is looking forward to a successful year!

(Wilmington Retreat - Continued from page 1)

After a tasty lunch served by UOL members, a session of Stump the Priests was held in the church hall. The three panel priests were Fr. Damick; Fr. Mark Kozak of Assumption of St. Mary, OCA parish in Philadelphia; and Fr. Mina of St. Mary Coptic Orthodox parish in Newark, Delaware. Many thought-provoking questions were asked and the panel gave instructive answers. Fr. Kozak is well known to Ss Peter & Paul members as he served our parish before being assigned to his current church in Philadelphia. It was wonderful to hear Fr. Mina's contribution to the retreat.

Next came the afternoon conference, Fr. Andrew's presentation of The Mystery of Worship - Why Go to Church? Humans have a desire to connect. We bear a likeness to what we worship. Idolatry is the chasing of fantasy; worshipping idols makes us similar to idols. Worshipping God makes us similar to God.

For years, worship involved blood, such as the sacrifice of animals. The life of all is in its blood and the giving of blood is for making atonement of the soul. The blood had a sacrifice and became holy by sitting on the altar. It was also sprinkled on people, both Jews and pagans. Christians have the body and blood of Christ.

In the Bible, there was no spontaneous worship. Those who break from our ritualistic worship are just following pop culture. In the sermon, the person presiding over the service entreats all to act like those who came before--the apostles, saints, etc. Mankind was not created to be alone, as when God created Eve to be with Adam. Likewise, we do not worship alone; we worship together.

After each session there was time for questions and answers to clarify the information provided. The day wrapped up with Vespers and travelers' blessing. All who attended were left with much information to ponder and a renewal of faith!



St. Sophia Seminary UOL Chapter

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Congratulations to our son, Steven Thomas Sawchuk who was tonsured to the office of Reader in the Orthodox Church by His Grace Metropolitan Antony. Steven has served at the altar of Sts. Peter and Paul in Carnegie for over twenty years. May God grant him the blessing to serve the Church and our parish for many years to come.
Mnohaya Lita!

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St. Vladimir Senior UOL Chapter Philadelphia, Pa
January 26, 2019
6:00-10:00 pm
An event for all ages—the whole family is invited!
Includes dinner, dancing and non-alcoholic beverages.
For more information - contact nsufler@aol.com

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