



UOL BULLETIN

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dedicated to our Church -- Devoted to its Youth

VOL. 71 NO. 5

APRIL - MAY 2025

Carnegie Sr. UOL News!
Submitted by Chris Mills
Sts. Peter & Paul Sr. UOL Chapter Reporter

Our members used their talents with many parish services and events such as our 121st Parish Anniversary Banquet, Kyiv Ukrainian Dance Group Annual Show, Thanksgiving Day Open House, St. Matrona's Annual Cookie Walk, and Christmas Community Dinners. Carnegie Sr. UOL has welcomed a few new members over the past month to our chapter!



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Souper Bowl Sunday in
Sts. Peter and Paul, Palos Park, Illinois
Submitted by Father Vasyl Sendeha

As the sun with its golden rays was kissing the shining dome of our church temple of Sts. Peter and Paul, anticipation filled the air as one after the other soup chefs were bringing their prized soup creations into the church hall kitchen. This Sunday was special; it marked the day of our much-anticipated "Soup-er Bowl Sunday" event hosted by our newly re-established Sr. UOL chapter. Our parish had joined hands once again to raise funds for the soup kitchen in Kiev, providing not just nourishment for our parishioners and guests, but also hope to those affected by the ongoing turmoil in Ukraine. As the Liturgy was concluding, the aroma of simmering vegetables, spices, and hearty broths traveled through the air, drawing families and friends together in the celebration of warmth and parish community. Our talented chefs, each with their own secret recipes, presented 23 soups for the enjoyment of many. Each pot steaming with flavor told a story of resilience, culture, and compassion.

There was a huge variety of soups, from aromatic red borscht, its vibrant red hue a reminder of the beetroot-rich lands of Ukraine; a creamy mushroom soup, rich with local wild mushrooms; and a spicy Tom Yum that warmed both body and soul; to Ukrainian green borscht made with green sorrel and chicken reminded many of their childhood in Ukraine and many others.

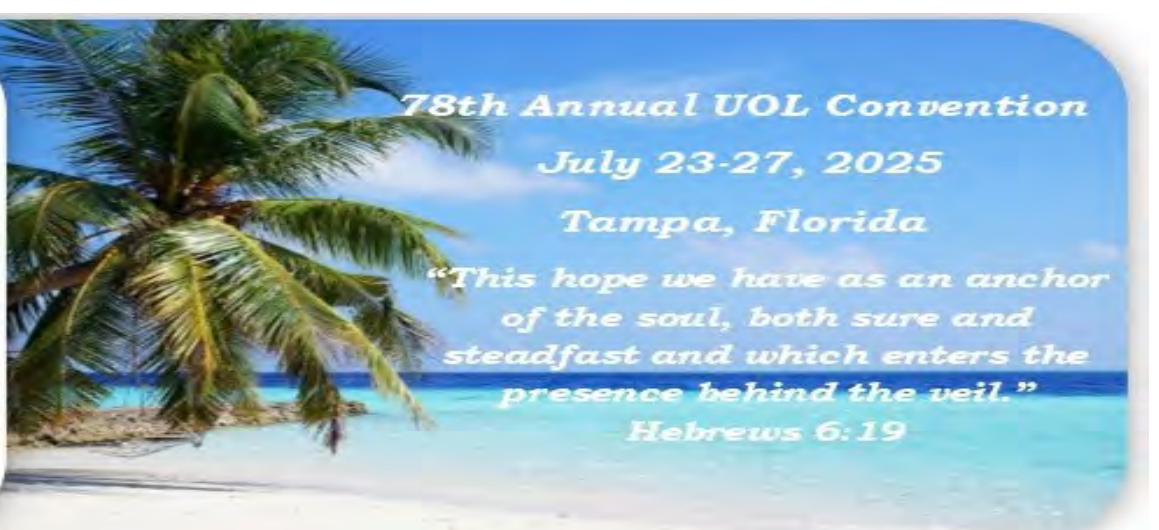


There was a suggested donation to participate at the event, but many gave above and beyond, overwhelmed by the sense of purpose behind the flavors. Children giggled as they slurped up noodles from a savory chicken soup, while their parents chatted with parish family friends, sharing laughter and stories, fostering connections that transcended the issues of the day.



For many, this was more than just an event; it felt like a family reunion, a heartfelt gesture reaching out to others halfway across the world. As guests savored their soups, stories began to emerge about the soup kitchens in Ukraine as well as how the civilian population of Ukraine is helping soldiers on the front lines with food, clothing, and medical supplies.

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UOL Bulletin - Published six times annually - September, October, December/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.

UOL Awards

Are there members of the UOL that you think should be recognized?

At the UOL Convention, we honor UOL members with several awards: the Metro J. Baran Achievement Award, the Very Reverend Protopresbyter Stephen Hallick-Holutiak Senior Recognition Award and the Distinguished National Service Award. If you are aware of worthy nominees for these awards, please complete the application forms and submit by May 15, 2025.

At the 2023 UOL Convention it was decided that chapters and individuals can submit award nominations. All nominations must be signed by a Spiritual Father.

Here are brief descriptions of the awards that are presented by the Senior UOL:

Metro J. Baran Achievement Award – This award is presented “for outstanding service with the Youth of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.” Any layperson or clergyman may qualify and may be a League or non-League member.

Very Reverend Protopresbyter Stephen Hallick-Holutiak Senior Recognition Award

This award was designed to recognize a lay member of the UOL for their accomplishments in furthering the aims and goals of the League. This Award is presented to a UOL member in good standing during the year of consideration. NEB members are not eligible.

Distinguished National Service Award – This award recognizes a member of the Senior UOL who truly exemplifies a superior sense of dedication and devotion to the League and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and has contributed excellent and sustained service to the Ukrainian Orthodox League on a national level. The nominee must be a member of the League in good standing at the time to be eligible for consideration. Members of the NEB are eligible, but a member may not be nominated solely for service as a board member or as national president of the UOL.

The application for each award is available on the UOL Webpage or you can email Natalie to get an application form (nsufler@aol.com).

Applications must be submitted by the May 15th deadline to be considered. Applications can be submitted via email nsufler@aol.com or mailed to Natalie Bilynsky, 703 Pine Ridge Road Media, PA 19063.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR UOL

Matushka Laryssa Charest



Christ is Risen!

I pray this finds you well and having celebrated a Pascha like no other. I pray the day when everything is renewed has also renewed your commitment to your faith journey, our Church, and her ministries. Let's take a look at what the UOL has for that renewed vigor.

The deadline for our Annual Essay Contest is fast approaching. If you haven't participated before, challenge yourself to do so this year. If you have participated before, encourage others. Try to find one new participant!

Another fast approaching deadline is the LSSK scholarship applications. If you know any high school seniors or college students, encourage them to apply for the LSSK scholarship. Information on the Essay Contest and the LSSK Scholarship is available online.

Now, for the Convention. Can you believe we are only a few months away from our Convention in Florida? I am getting excited. Our schedule will include workshops of pertinent topics benefiting our chapters and/or parishes. Come, learn, and share the information you received with those that couldn't make the Convention. Your participation is wanted. We also have some social events scheduled that are looking to be unforgettable. From a toes in the sand event on Thursday to a trip to the Florida Aquarium, and a dolphin cruise to follow. You will not leave displeased. Registration information was emailed and sent via snail mail. You can also get all information on our website uolofusa.org. Send in your registration forms and pencil in some fun time in Florida with great church friends. The Convention is a great time to reinvigorate our faith and to reconnect with friends from afar all while making a difference in the life of our Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church. Coming to Convention allows you to see the people that are working toward the same goals as you are. Individuals that see the value of the UOL, are active in their parishes, and want to continue seeing the Church grow.

It is easy to leave the Convention and go back to our routines and forget that we are part of a bigger picture; an organization that breathes life into many of our parishes. Come to Convention and be reminded of the good the League has accomplished and bring ideas for the next 10 or 20 years. As I have said before, we are better together. Think of All Saints Camp, Youth Ministry, St. Sophia's Seminary, Seminarian scholarships, youth scholarships, St. Thomas Chapel, and our encampments. The UOL has played a huge role in the creation and enrichment of these ministries.

So, come to Florida! Reconnect with old friends and make new ones. Listen and learn in our workshops. Refresh your mind with our great line up of social events and leave with a reinvigorated desire to better our parishes for the Glory of God!

I remain,

Yours in Christ,

Matushka Laryssa Charest

Super Bowl Sunday St. Vladimir, Philadelphia, Pa Submitted by Natalie Bilynsky

Super Bowl Sunday in Philadelphia started as a snowy morning. We were initially worried that we would not have sufficient soups and that our faithful might not make it to church that Sunday.

Well, we were thrilled that we had more soup than burners on the stove. With over 15 different soup selections, everyone had the opportunity to have lots of soup to warm up from the cold and still extra to take home for the big game.

Our wonderful group of Juniors and Young Adults helped with serving.

The day ended with the excitement of the Eagles winning the Super Bowl! E- A- G- L- E- S!! Eagles!!



2025 Ohio/WPA Annual UOL Lenten Retreat, Pulaski, PA

Submitted by Marianne Carmack

On, Saturday, March 15, 2025, The Ukrainian Orthodox League of the USA held its Annual Ohio/WPa Lenten Retreat at the River Valley Complex in Pulaski, Pa. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all who helped make this retreat such a meaningful and memorable event: To all who attended. It is your presence that makes this day worthwhile. You bring the energy, enthusiasm, joy of fellowship, insightful questions, and thoughtful reflections that truly enrich the experience. Your participation makes it possible for us to learn from one another and deepen our sense of community and fellowship. For those who came from our parishes in Sharon, Pittsburgh, Carnegie, Lyndora, and Youngstown, as well as from other Orthodox churches and Christian denominations, your presence was a blessing to us all “You are the salt of the earth”—shining the light of Christ’s teachings upon the world.

After welcoming everyone, Father Mykola Zomchak, Spiritual Advisor of the UOL of USA, opened the retreat with Morning Prayers, followed by a brief presentation given by Retreat Chair, Mrs. Marianne Carmack, reviewing the Agenda, the purpose and importance of the retreat and a Resource, Handout #1 “*The Language of Orthodoxy*,” outlining the foundation for the retreat by framing the Orthodox Christian life as a vocation—a sacred calling that shapes not only what we do but who we become. Through a simple six-step model—Choosing a Path, Finding a Mentor, Learning the Language, Training and Practicing Skills, Creating Identity, and Achieving the Goal “Theosis” (*Becoming more like God through His love and grace. In the Orthodox Church, it’s the goal of Christian life—to be united with God, not by becoming gods but by being transformed to reflect His Light and Holiness. This transformation happens through prayer, repentance, the sacraments, and faithful living in the Church, underscoring the importance of community and the role of the Church as the Body of Christ in supporting individuals on their spiritual journey.*) It offered a framework for understanding how identity and spiritual growth are cultivated through deliberate engagement with the life of the Church. This vision came to life through relatable analogies—artisans, teachers, athletes, and iconographers—making deep theological truths accessible and practical. It prepared participants to see that Orthodoxy is not simply a system of beliefs or rituals, but a transformative way of life.

This vision then found direct application in Fr. John Charest, Spiritual Advisor to the Junior UOL’s presentation, *Bringing in the Sheaves: Welcoming Newcomers to the Orthodox Faith*. Fr. Charest introduced the vital topic of parish hospitality and evangelization as a shared spiritual responsibility rooted in Christ’s call to preach the Gospel. *Far from implying a modern or foreign approach, this reflects the heart of Orthodox life, where the Gospel—the Evangelion (Gr. “good news”)—is proclaimed not only in word but in worship, community, and sacramental life.* Drawing from biblical imagery and pastoral experience, he outlined a comprehensive approach for how Orthodox communities can prepare to receive the growing number of seekers entering the Church today.

He emphasized the need for intentional roles, personal connection, structured catechesis (teaching of the faith), spiritual mentorship, and follow-through—showing that welcoming others is not just an external act but *a path of spiritual growth for the parish itself*. His message echoed the retreat’s earlier theme: *embracing our vocation also means helping others discover theirs—within the Body of Christ*.

Clear, heartfelt, and deeply relevant. Father John spoke to our real concerns with both theological depth and practical wisdom, offering a message that was not only informative but inspiring. His stories and examples brought the material to life. Whether reflecting on the symbolism of wheat or the simple act of greeting someone at the door, Father John reminded us that welcoming others is not just a task—it’s part of our identity as the Church.

What made the talk effective was the balance of honesty and encouragement, the tools offered are designed to give us confidence in fulfilling our role and purpose. Offering a vision that was both grounded and uplifting, *“it illuminated how our journey through Great Lent mirrors the path of the catechumen, as we too are called to repentance, renewal, and transformation.”* Finally, Fr. Charest’s discussion called us not only to guide others but to examine our own hearts and return to God.

Together, these sessions prepared the ground for the next layer of reflection: “Who Spoke Through the Prophets,” an exploration of the prophets and their role in the Orthodox liturgical and spiritual tradition during Great Lent—a specific example of how “The Language of Orthodoxy” speaks to us as it merges the Bible with Tradition and its divinely inspired architecture of the Church’s revelation of Salvation.

Participants received a guide to promote self-study through the season of Great Lent. The readings from Genesis, Isaiah, and Proverbs appointed by Church Tradition for the 6th Hour and Vespers/Presanctified Liturgies during Weeks 1 through 6 of Great Lent are the focus of the guide. There are profound reasons why we are called to hear these timeless Old Testament messages at these services.

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MESSAGE FROM THE JUNIOR UOL PRESIDENT Mia Zetick



Christ is Risen!
Христос Воскрес!

On behalf of the Jr. National Executive Board of the UOL, I hope everyone had a joyous and blessed Great Pascha season. I wish it was spent in prayer and spending time with loved ones.

The Junior Board has decided to dissolve our Great Lent Giveaway, and shift to a consistent cause to donate to every year. While we are still figuring out details, we would greatly appreciate any donations. The Board is determined to continue to give back to our community.

The 78th annual Convention will be here before we know it! We are so excited to be travelling to Tampa, Florida. The Convention will be held from July 23 to July 27. There will be so many fun events for juniors, so please encourage the juniors in your parish to attend. I hope to see everyone there!

After taking some time, I feel it is right to say a few words about the tragic passing of one of our juniors and friend, Julian Naumenko. Julian was a pillar of our church and our community of juniors; a role model and inspiration to all. Whether you needed a laugh or a shoulder to lean on, he was there. He lit up any room he was in. I, along with all the juniors, will forever cherish our summers, conventions, coffee hours, and childhoods spent with Julian. One of my fondest memories of him was our week spent together at All Saints Camp. During that week I got to know him on a deeper level through faith and friendship. I will forever be grateful that I had the privilege to grow up beside him and had the ability to call him my friend. Though he is not here with us physically, I know he is with us every step we take. His lasting impact will never be forgotten. Julian and his family will forever be in my prayers. Memory eternal!

As always, please feel free to reach out to me with any questions, comments, or concerns at 2676255686 or at miazetick@gmail.com!

In Christ,
Mia Zetick

UOL Presents Vestments to Newly Ordained Father Alexis Clodfelter

The National Executive Board of the Senior UOL has initiated a new project to support newly ordained clergy. The Vocations and Clergy Support Commission will present a set of vestments to all newly ordained priests.

On March 22nd, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA ordained our newest priest, Father Alexis Clodfelter. At the ordination, Father Alexis was presented with a set of vestments from the National UOL by Karen Ferraro.



**UOL and Saint Andrew's Society
Continue to Serve the Needy of Ukraine
Submitted by Protodeacon Ihor Mahlay**

The Ukrainian Orthodox League, faithful UOL-ers and parishioners of our Metropolia, have recently hosted the Soup-er Bowl Sunday fundraisers in support of food distribution in Ukraine at this critical time for the people of Ukraine.

For 35 years, Saint Andrew's Society has supported charitable outreach in Ukraine. For over a decade, the UOL has promoted and assisted the Society's projects to the needy and disenfranchised elderly by supporting the soup kitchens and food distribution. Last year, in 2024, through the efforts of the UOL and our parishes, over \$20,000 was raised in support of this humanitarian work. Over \$150,000 has been collected by the initiative of the UOL specifically for this ministry throughout these last years.

Saint Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Society, founded in 1990 by the faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA is the religious and charitable organization of the Church. As an integral ministry of the Church, the Society's philanthropic mission focuses on providing humanitarian assistance to the needy of Ukraine and supporting church-related projects in Ukraine. Since its founding, the Society has raised and disbursed over 1.5 million dollars towards the support of religious, educational and humanitarian projects.

During the most recent three years, all have been united in assisting the people in Ukraine devastated by a genocidal war. Because of COVID and now the war, the Society has shifted this particular program from offering hot food in cafeteria centers to providing food parcels not only to the elderly, but to all displaced people.



The Society has funded other outreach efforts and projects during the last 3 years of the war in Ukraine. We have coordinated our efforts with our Metropolia, with parishes (both here and in Ukraine), and with civic organizations or individuals with whom we have personal and trustworthy relationships. We feel that in this format our humble efforts can confidently reach the intended recipients, often in places where other aid would not be offered. Our funding may not be of large sums, but they are significant and impactful to those receiving support.

An overview of our primary efforts and funding during the last 3 years includes:

- purchases of ambulances and other medical transport,
- financial support of internally displaced refugees,
- support of facilities for handicapped and or orphaned children,
- rebuilding a hospital in Trostyanets and medical supplies to medical centers,
- food and clothing purchases for families with destroyed homes,
- financial support of families for deceased or injured soldiers

Your continued support is critical at this time. Please consider donating. Donations for the "Soup Kitchens" and food distribution in Ukraine may be written out to:

Ukrainian Orthodox League
% Oleh Bilynsky Financial Secretary
703 Pine Ridge Road
Media, PA 19063



(Carnegie chapter - continued from page 1)

Before we got started with our pysanky sessions, we sponsored a new social event for the parish at the end of December. A "Christmas Fun Night" with many events for all ages was held. A potluck Lenten dinner started the evening. After dinner, several activities were conducted. We had an ugly Christmas sweater contest, made Christmas cards, played various games, and a favorite type of game "Name that Christmas item."

While we still had Christmas decorations up, we pulled out our trusty kistka's to start making pysanky for our 57th Annual Ukrainian Easter Egg Sale, which



will be on Sunday, April 13, 2025. Our faithful writers will also be conducting five pysanky workshops in the area and our own parish. It is always a joy to share our faith and culture with people in the area.

The beginning of February saw our chapter conduct our Annual UOL Souper Bowl Sunday Luncheon. We had a record 16 different soups, made by parishioners, for everyone to sample as part of the luncheon. The event is always a fun time for everyone comparing and asking which soup you liked best!

Our "Lenten Prayer Pal" is getting underway for everyone who wishes to participate and provide some extra prayers for each other during this time. Our members, in addition to our chapter and parish events, are also active on the All Saints Camp Committee and National UOL. We are excited to continue participating in all our normal activities, welcoming new members and looking forward to some egg-citing happenings this Spring!

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Sts. Peter and Paul Organizes Successful Souper Bowl Soup Giveaway

Submitted by Fr. Mykola Zomchak

With the blessing of Fr. Mykola and under the leadership of our parish UOL Chapter President, Anna Anderson, the Senior UOL chapter of Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church organized a successful Souper Bowl soup giveaway that brought warmth and joy to many.



Thanks to the generous product donations from our parishioners—and the loving hands of those who prepared the delicious soups—we offered a variety of homemade favorites: potato, vegetable beef, chicken noodle, and traditional Ukrainian borscht. The Junior UOL

helped distribute the soups, adding energy and kindness to the event.

A total of 139 quarts of soup were given away. Each individual received a quart of soup, a roll, and a Rice Krispie treat as part of their package.

There was no charge for the soup—only a basket for freewill donations—and thanks to the generosity of all who attended, we raised over \$1,000 in support of the soup kitchens sponsored by the St. Andrew Society.

A heartfelt thank-you to everyone who cooked, donated, served, and supported this effort. The Souper Bowl was a beautiful example of what we can achieve when we work together in faith and love.



(Palos Park - continued from page 1)

Our parish has become more than a place to worship and to enjoy a good meal afterwards; it has become a haven where families find safety, a sense of community amid chaos, and the loving embrace of true Christians of the Orthodox Faith.



Each dollar raised that day would provide a day's worth of meals for those in need, a small beacon of light in dark times.

As the event wrapped up, and the last bowls were enjoyed, our junior UOL members began to clean up, but not before taking a moment to reflect on the day's impact. The laughter, the food, the warmth — it was a reminder that even amid hardship, we could come together, share our blessings, and uplift others. As the sun was getting ready to cover the towering trees of forest preserves, people slowly made their way home, clutching their empty soup pots as tokens of a day well spent. The funds raised far exceeded expectations, and everyone left with a sense of fulfillment, knowing they had helped contribute to something bigger than themselves. The soup kitchen in Kiev would thrive a little longer, fueled by the compassion of strangers united by a single meal. It was a day of expression of hope, resilience, and a heartfelt reminder that together, we could create change, one bowl of soup at a time. It's been a blessing of our parish to be able to raise each Souper Bowl Sunday at least \$2,000.00 for 14 years in a row. Sr. UOL members at our parish were a vital part of this initiative just as many other UOL chapters around the USA. Let us remember that we are all interconnected, and even the smallest act of kindness can create ripples of hope far beyond our reach.

(UOL Retreat - continued from page 3)

This resource opens with a thematic introduction that explains the harmony of these three books. Genesis unveils our origin and fall, Isaiah delivers God's urgent call to repentance and healing, and Proverbs offers practical wisdom for how to live faithfully each day. Together, these Scriptures form a threefold rhythm: *who we are and how we fell, why we must repent and how God restores, and how we walk wisely in response.*

To help participants engage more fully with this rhythm, the resource outlines **six key spiritual reasons** why these readings are central to Great Lent. These included visualizing the full arc of salvation history, awakening us to repentance, guiding moral life in a broken world, integrating spiritual devotion with ethical action, preparing us for Pascha, and leading us on the path of Theosis.

Beyond explanation, the handout offers **weekly narrative reflections**. These reflections bring the readings to life in a modern age, inviting readers to walk with the early figures of faith—Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaiah, the wise—while seeing themselves in their choices, struggles, and transformations. The goal is not just to understand Scripture, but to enter it and be changed by it. To ground the readings historically and spiritually, an **appendix on the Old Testament prophets was included**.

This resource designed largely for self-study and reflection, after a brief review of its content, was used as a **guided group exercise focused on the Isaiah narrative** to foster deeper understanding through personal discovery and sharing personal insights. Akin to a case study, each group read the Isaiah narrative and discussed questions, for example, *“What is God saying to you through this narrative?”* and *“How does this reflect your own spiritual journey?”* among others. Participants were encouraged to explore Isaiah's message of redemption as something personally relevant and spiritually urgent. Each group shared their insights and reflections with the full assembly. **Fr. Yurii Bobko**, pastor of Sts. Peter & Paul, Lyndora PA, debriefed the exercise, thoughtfully affirming each group's contributions and drawing together key spiritual themes. He highlighted the depth and relevance of Isaiah's message, reinforcing its central role in the liturgical life of Great Lent and helping us see more clearly how the prophet's voice still speaks to us in the rhythm of the Church's weekly services.

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(UOL Retreat continued from page 5)



“Who Spoke Through the Prophets” invites us to return to the beginning—not out of nostalgia, but to rediscover who we were created to be. It helps us understand that Lent is not just about what we give up, but who we are becoming. In that way it is a guide for the journey home.

Finally, **Fr. Mykola Zomchak’s** powerful call to action in *You Can Lead a Horse to Water, But You Can’t Make It Drink* brought the entire model full circle—reminding us that each of us must make the choice to respond, to follow Christ intentionally, and to commit ourselves to the path of spiritual growth.

His message echoed the themes woven throughout the retreat—vocation, community, hospitality, spiritual renewal, and personal responsibility. Each talk, each prayer, and each reflection prepared the soil, and Father Zomchak’s words became the invitation to act.

His talk was both heartfelt and practical. It addressed the challenges we face in living out our faith with integrity. And it reminded us—grace is offered, but transformation is not automatic. *In the Orthodox understanding, this transformation requires our cooperation with grace—a synergy between God’s initiative and our free will.* It is a choice we must make.

Father Zomchak reminded us that you can lead a horse to water, but you can’t make it drink. This simple image mirrors our spiritual life. God brings us to the well of grace, but the decision to drink—to allow that grace to change us—is ours. *Yet even that act of drinking is never done in isolation, but in response to divine love already at work within us.*

His message focused on six essential themes: Forgiveness, Non-Judgment, Mercy, Generosity, Gratitude, and the overarching truth—It’s Your Choice. Forgiveness brings healing. Judging others harms our spirit. Mercy and generosity connect us to God’s likeness. Gratitude changes our focus. Discouragement—perhaps the devil’s most dangerous tool—can stop us from living fully in grace. Great Lent is the perfect time for renewing our commitment—to make choices—to drink deeply from the well, to embrace the life God offers, and to become what we were created to be: vessels of mercy, light, and love.

Father Zomchak’s talk was a deeply relatable and pastoral message. He reached people where they are, using stories, analogies, and humor to make spiritual truths feel real and accessible. Rather than offering abstract ideals, he showed how forgiveness, mercy, gratitude, and generosity can be lived out in daily life—whether at home, work, or in traffic. He challenged listeners to grow—calling them to let go of anger, gossip, and judgment—he wrapped

that challenge in encouragement and reminded them that grace is always available. In a noisy and divided world, the talk stood out for its clarity and coherence, was uplifting, grounded, and focused on what Lent is truly about: transformation. The grace is flowing. The well is full. The call is personal. Let us choose to drink—and live.

Another highlight of the day was Missy Sheptak, who on behalf of All Saints Camp Committee, reported timely and exciting news about this year’s All Saints Camp program—a vital and vibrant ministry—and its future projects and development. Missy’s enthusiasm and passion for this ministry and its future is contagious.

The day concluded with a prayerful and moving Great Vespers served by Father John Charest and Father Deacon Evan O’Neil, with the responses led by Anna Anderson, Choir Director of Sts. Peter & Paul in Youngstown, Ohio

Once again on behalf of the UOL of USA Annual Ohio/WPA Lenten Retreat, we extend our heartfelt thanks to all who helped make this retreat such a meaningful and memorable event.

Most especially, we wanted to express how thankful we are for our speakers: Fr. John Charest (Carnegie, PA) and Fr. Mykola Zomchak (Youngstown, PA) who along with Fr. Yuriy Bobko (Lyndora, PA) and Fr. Deacon Evan O’Neil (Carnegie, PA) inspired us with their words, spiritual guidance and presence; for Anna Anderson, Choir Director in Youngstown and those who sang a prayerful and moving Great Vespers.

We are also grateful to Joseph and Zenia Goodge for generously hosting the retreat at the River Valley Complex in Pulaski, PA (it’s an amazing facility), and Matushka Laryssa for her support and Karen Ferraro, Chris Mills, and Anna Anderson for their promotional skills sending out and posting retreat information.

Fr. Mykola Zomchak, Fr. John Charest, Shirley Duffy, Zenia Goodge, Susan Perankovich and Marianne Carmack (who designed and developed the handouts and group discussion exercise) are the backbone of the retreat. They do whatever it takes to make everything work from the beginning to the end and Sue Payton—who goes above and beyond to make sure you have a wonderful lunch. It was a blessing to be together with all of you.

UOL Bulletin Pictures

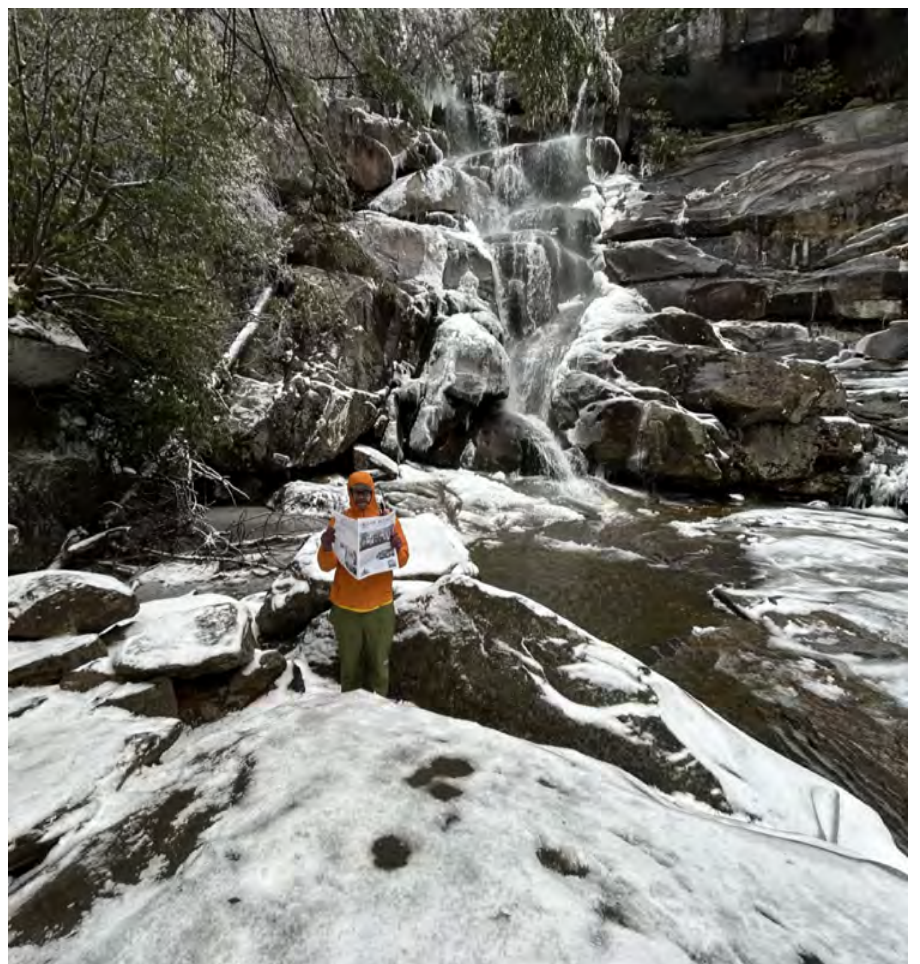


Anna Anderson reading the UOL Bulletin in Colorado.



Oleh Bilynsky reads the Bulletin on the Argentina side of Iguazu Falls.

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



Michael Nakonachny enjoys the UOL Bulletin while walking the Appalachian Trail.



Fr. Oleh and Elizabeth Kravchenko (as well as bunny Lola) read the UOL Bulletin in front of Independence Hall in Philadelphia.

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.

UOL Bulletin
c/o Natalie Bilynsky
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Please consider sending a Tribute today

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

Send your tribute today!

78th Annual UOL Convention
Tampa, Florida
JOIN US In sunny Florida for the 78th Annual UOL Convention July 23-27, 2025
We will be staying at the Godfrey Hotel and Cabanas, right on water of Tampa Bay. Each room has a balcony overlooking the water. Enjoy beautiful sunsets with UOL friends! \$109/night King \$114/night Double
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78th Annual UOL Convention July 23 - 27, 2025
Commemorative Yearbook Advertising Form
Table with 3 columns: Ad Type, Price, and Notes.
List of terms and conditions for advertising.
Please make checks payable to "78th Annual UOL Convention"
Mail all money and/or forms by June 1, 2025, to:
UOL Convention YEARBOOK
c/o Chris Mills
641 N. Allerton Court Moon Township, PA 15108
Video Yearbook Info: Video Deadline May 1, 2025
By submitting your video yearbook greeting, you grant the 78th Annual UOL Convention Committee and the Ukrainian Orthodox League rights to use the content and your image for publication.
Best Practices, Instructions for filming & Submitting:
List of instructions for video submission.
Name: _____ Email: _____