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Church Staff

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00am to 1:00 pm 585-394-0503

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Pastor of Youth & Adult Ministries:	Mark Slomski	mark.slomski@uccdga.org
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Director of Care Ministries:	Christy Allen	christy.allen@uccdga.org
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Organist:	David Kraft	
Custodian:	Amber Bixby	

WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday
MARCH 23, 2025



THE
UNITED
CHURCH
CANANDAIGUA



Order of Worship for
MARCH 23, 2025



Welcome! The United Church is a Presbyterian/American Baptist congregation. We hope you enjoy your visit and let us know if we can help you in any way.

PRELUDE: "O Hear, My God, My Prayer" (Ach Gott, erhöre mein Seufzen)
by Johann Ludwig Krebs

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

OUR PREPARATION

Focus of the day: God desires real spiritual fruit rather than mere rule following.

INTROIT: (11:00) "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God" (Hymn #447)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: We gather today not as people who have earned our place,

People: But as those welcomed by God's grace.

Leader: We come not to point fingers or cast judgment,

People: But to open our hearts to God's transforming love.

Leader: We gather not to simply follow rules,

People: But to bear fruit in relationship with our living God.

All: Let us worship the One who calls us to authentic faith and restores us through Jesus Christ.

***HYMN #557: "Open My Eyes, That I May See"** CCLI Song #68003, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

***OPENING PRAYER:** Gracious God, in a world marked by tragedy and pain, we come seeking your wisdom and truth. Help us to move beyond quick judgments and easy answers, turning our hearts toward you in authentic repentance and trust. We pray this through Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray together, saying ... Our Father, who art in heaven... (using debts and debtors)

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

***GLORIA PATRI: #807**

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH THE WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 63:1-8 (page 568) {A.B. page 643}

SPECIAL MUSIC: (8:45) "Lamb of God" Paris/ arr. Larson
(words on insert) Nancy Burt-Preece and Joy Van Riper

ANTHEM: (11:00) "Medley: Change My Heart and Lord, Be Glorified" by John F. Wilson
(words on insert) United Church Choir

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 55:1-9 (page 733) {A.B. page 811}

SPECIAL MUSIC: (11:00) "Praise You in This Storm" by Bernie Herms and Mark Hall
(words on insert) The Cause Worship Band

Sermon

"When Bad Things Happen: Jesus on Tragedy and Truth"

(Luke 13:1-9)

Pastor Wade Allen

OUR RESPONSE IN FAITH

***HYMN #547: "O for a Closer Walk with God"** CCLI Song #178034, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY: (8:45) "Offertoire" by Alexandre Guilmant

OFFERTORY: (11:00) "Be A Light!" Hayes (words on insert) Youth Choir

***DOXOLOGY: #809**

***HYMN #569: "Living for Jesus a Life That Is True"** CCLI Song #20687, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "Fugue in A Minor" by Johann Sebastian Bach

** indicates an invitation to stand for those who are able and comfortable doing so.*

Our prayers and sympathy are with Jinilee Hildebrandt, whose stepfather, Donald Kunes, passed away on March 19th. Please keep the family in your prayers during this difficult time.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Health concerns: Rita Ebersol (fractured femur), Brooke Covey (friend of Parsons), Jennie (friend of Nancy Bowllan), Sara Scharr, Rodney Newfrock (friend of Elaine Allen), Czarny Bigos, Maverick, and Deanna Stocker (family of Ardelle Bigos), Stephen Cole, Karen Mount, James Sheppard, Linda Gilbert, Jessica Canham (Sharyn's daughter), Mary Jane Laird, Denice Bailey Tautges, Tom Babcock (friend of Jenny Caron), Erik Keating (son of Al & Dawn Rossi), Louise Huck, Catherine Kurzdorfer (Adam Thorman's mother), Carolyn Verspoor, Marcus (friend of Sandi DiCicco), Denise Loy (friend of Kory Massey), David Sanford, Jovannie Ramirez (Karen Roaix's grandson), Steve Sedlock (Nancy Tharp's brother), Clancy Cragle (Michelle's grandfather), the Herin Family (relatives of Kathie Meredith), Jack Schermond

Cancer: Chris Alexander (Carolyn Russell's brother), Joy Mickelsen Oliver (friend of Joy Van Riper), Daniel Zimmerman (nephew of Wendy Bacon), Sarah Hough (daughter of Dianne Beaumont), Walter Enright (friend of Ardelle Bigos), Jon VanBlargan, Laura Fiorito (daughter of Charles and Patti Cagwin), David Gerstner (Nancy's husband), Ruth Krop (friend of MacKenzie Brown), Tane Robinson (friend of Ryan Marshall), Christina Tharp (daughter of John and Nancy), Douglas Cook (Jen Eveleigh's brother), Rod Gifford (cousin of Joyce Laursen), Martha Ashley, Beth Smythe, Keith Laursen (Joyce's brother-in-law), Sasha (friend of Megan French), Mark Schreier (Virginia Holroyd's friend), John Tornow (friend of Elaine Allen), Susan Hennessy (Jen Eveleigh's sister), Rich Crowley (Steve & Beth Smythe's friend), Tom & Monica Yurik (Bruce & Deb Gardner's friends), Deb Dawson (Steve Smythe's niece), Roderick Simonds (father of Natalie Clark), Rob Stults (cousin of Wade & Christy Allen), Dawn Miller, David Pagoda (Eveleigh family friend), Jim Davis (Scott's father), Stephen Carges (Paula Traber's brother)

Recovering at home: Alice Smith-Mather (missionaries' daughter), Karen Roaix

Comfort and Peace: Alex Clark (son of Rob and Natalie), Harriet Morgan (Megan French's grandma), Mary Zimmerman (Wendy Bacon's mother)

MILITARY SERVICE: JJ Callard (USN), US Army LT1 Andrew Marlin (Tyler Bosecks husband) home from deployment, LTJG Nick Castiller (USN), MAC Adam Thorman (USN), E6 Cody Wells (USN) home from deployment, TSgt Timothy Peck (USAF)

MISSIONARIES: Carlos Bonilla & Mayra Giovantti - the BGs (Central/South America), Christy Lafferty (Nicaragua), Shelvis & Nancy Smith-Mather (S Sudan refugees in Uganda), Ryan & Alethia White (Berlin)

Highlights for This Week

- We need some **homemade cookies** for our **School Teacher Appreciation Sunday reception**, which is next **Sunday, March 30th** after the 11am service. We ask that these cookies be brought to the fellowship room kitchen **before** the late service next Sunday. If you can bake some cookies, please **sign up on Deb's office door**. Thank you!
- **Ministry Involvement Day** - Next Sunday, March 30, 2025 at 9:45am - High School students and adults are invited for breakfast and to learn more about the growing ministries of our church and find opportunities to use your gifts. Please bring a dish to pass.
- It's **Campership** season! Our church believes that the Christian Summer Camp experience is so valuable that **we will pay ½ the week's tuition to one week at any summer Christian camp**. It's simple: Pick a summer Christian camp, register your child, and then **send the registration confirmation to Deb**....and our church will pay half the cost. If your family needs a full campership, please let Deb know. Camp information and brochures are available on the welcome center desk.
- **Homeschool Connect - * NEW *** - Homeschool students (and their parents) are invited for a fellowship connect during the school year! Tim Hortons (near the lake), 1:30p-2p, April 7 and May 19.
- **Our Greeter/Coordinator for March: Steward Dan Frye**. Please contact Dan if you need help signing up.

Nursery Care

Nursery care is offered during both services and the Sunday school hour. Room 10 (the infant nursery) is used during the early service, Room 11 (the toddler/preschool nursery) is used during the Sunday school hour, and both rooms are open during the late service.

Children's Time

Children's Time meets after the Children's Sermon upstairs in room 26. **Children aged Kindergarten through 5th grade** are invited to participate. Parents, please pick up your children **promptly** after the service.

Are You Visiting Us Today?

If so, WELCOME to the United Church, we are so glad that you have chosen to worship with us. We invite you to check out our Welcome Table found in our Welcome Center, and to pick up a tan bag (with the United Church logo on it) for yourself/your family to take home and to learn a little bit more about us.

We are so happy that you joined us today and look forward to seeing you again soon!



Ministry Involvement Day

Save the Date! **March 30, 2025 at 9:45am** - Please join us for a ministry involvement day during the Sunday school hour. Join us for breakfast and to learn more about the growing ministries of our church and find opportunities to use your gifts. High school students and adults are invited.

Please bring a dish to pass.



Youth Club

Our after school ministry for 2nd-8th Graders

Wednesdays, after school - 6:30pm

Our night includes: Recreation, Worship, Bible study, and Family Time (dinner)

Parent volunteers for March 26

Snack: Abdallah

Kitchen Clean up: Davis, Ennis, Kurtz, Thorman

Any questions? Please see Deb Marshall



Parent/Child Library

The Parent/Child Library is full of books for all ages on **LENT/EASTER** which is the emphasis for the months of March and April! You may **borrow a book/books** off either the display shelf or the regular book shelf. All families are welcome to use the Parent/Child library *at any time*. Please **sign the book(s) out** and return within 4 weeks. Any questions? See Deb Marshall



Nursery Volunteers

We are in need of **more nursery volunteers** - **especially** for the **early service**. You can serve one time every 3 months, every other month, or once a month. If you are interested in volunteering in the nursery, **please see Louise VanIseghem or Deb Marshall**. All volunteers will need to complete a simple background check.

Kids Kits

This month we are collecting items to fill Kids Kits for Church World Service.

To fill the bags we have been given we still need:

11 boxes of 12 colored pencils

6 pairs of blunt, rounded tip scissors

6 12" rulers

6 hand held pencil sharpeners

5 boxes of 24 crayons.



Missions

Faith and Action

Answered Prayers

"Thank you so much for your emails and grace during this very hectic season"

is the message to the United Church from Rev. Susan and Rev. Shelvis Smith-Mather, our missionary family to South Sudan.

Alice Smith-Mather's (age 4) February neurosurgery now has increased blood supply to her brain's right hemisphere and she is now recovering at home! Praise God!

Alice has Moyamoya disease. Surgery was required to correct Alice's arteries not growing properly on the right side of her brain. Surgeons in Atlanta continue leading her medical team. The family remains in the US as Alice's brain responds to an increased blood supply. Pray for Alice's healing. Pray for the family to experience grace during this very hectic season.



North Carolina Hurricane Relief Mission Trip, April 13-18

The planning continues and the mission trip team is getting excited to share the United Church's love for others with the western North Carolina community as they continue to recover from Hurricane Helene. There are two ways we are asking the congregation to help:

1. **Become a prayer partner.** We would like a prayer partner for each person going on the trip - we'll match you up. This entails praying specifically for the individual before and during the trip and providing three notes to them to be opened during the trip. Email Sonya Brooks (sonya.brooks99@yahoo.com) if you would like to participate. **Of course, we would like everyone to be praying for the group and the people we will be helping!**
2. Another way to help this effort is by providing **gift cards** for the Seabees Outreach group to use in their work. The stores, in order of priority, that have been requested are: 1-Home Depot, 2-Ingles(regional grocery store), 3-Target, 4-Walmart. Any gift cards can be given to the church office. Thank you for any assistance!



In honor of World Water day, March 22nd, we lift up the work of Living Waters for the World and that of the returning Mexico Mission Team for their "rehab" of the Cedralito purified water plant installed in 2011. The photo here was taken years ago at the Cedralito plant. The boy in the center is Angel Canche, who was our translator last week in Cedralito!

Be a Light!
(11:00 Offertory) Hayes

You are the Light.
You are the light.
You are the light of the world.

You shine like a lighthouse high upon a hill.
Do not hide it.
Let your light shine!

Be a light
Be a light
Shine wherever you go.
Be a light
Be a light
Light your world with a glow.

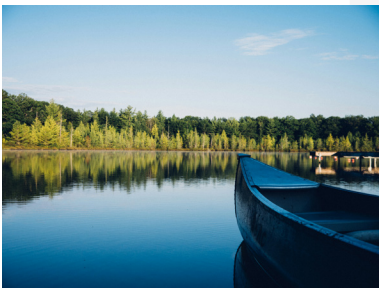
May your actions reflect the light inside of you.
May you be loving in everything you do.
May you always live a life that is kind and true.
Be a light that shares God's love.
Be a light that shares God's love!

You are the light.
You are the light of the world.
When you see darkness, shine your light around.
You are the answer.
Let your light shine!

Be a light.
Be a light
Shine wherever you go.
Be a light
Be a light
Light your world with a glow.

May your actions reflect the light inside of you.
May you be loving in everything you do.
May you always live a life that is kind and true.
Be a light that shares God's love.
Be a light that shares God's love!
Shine!
Be a light that shares God's love!

Save the date for Camp Sunday, April 27th. Kids will have the opportunity to hear from representatives from some of our church family's favorite camps during the Sunday school hour. Parents can talk directly to camp reps following the 11am service. Don't forget that our church offers **Camperships** (we pay half of one week of Christian summer camp). Camperships are NOT need based; they are for any kid who is regularly involved in Sunday school, Youth Club, or The Cause. Questions? See Deb Marshall.



LILY ORDERS



Please Print Legibly

Name: _____

I would like to order _____ Lilies at **\$12.00 each.**
They are given in Memory or Honor (circle one) of:

- Honor/Memory of: _____
Given by: _____
- Honor/Memory of: _____
Given by: _____
- Honor/Memory of: _____
Given by: _____
- Honor/Memory of: _____
Given by: _____
- Honor/Memory of: _____
Given by: _____

Place this in the offering plate WITH your check made payable to "The United Church Stewards".
List in the memo section "Easter Lily". You may also mail it in or bring to the church office.

ORDERS MUST BE IN NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, APRIL 6.

Please pick up your lily after church on Easter Sunday. Thank you!

Lamb of God

(8:45 Special Music) Paris/arr. Larson

Verse 1

Your only Son no side to hide
But You have sent Him from Your side
To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God

Verse 2

Your gift of love they crucified
They laughed and scored Him as He died
The humble King they named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God

Chorus

Oh Lamb of God sweet Lamb of God
I love the Holy Lamb of God
Oh wash me in His precious blood
My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God

Verse 3

I was so lost I should have died
But You have brought me to Your side
To be led by Your staff and rod
And to be called a lamb of God

(Chorus)

Till I am just a lamb of God.
In the palm of His hand

Medley: Change My Heart and Lord, Be Glorified

(11:00 Choir) by John F. Wilson

Change my heart, O God,
Make it ever true
Change my heart, O God,
May I be like you

You are the Potter,
I am the clay.
Mold me and make me,
This is what I pray

In my life, Lord be glorified,
Be glorified
In my life, Lord be glorified
Today

In Your church, Lord,
Be glorified, be glorified
In Your church, Lord,
Be glorified today

Praise You in This Storm

(11:00 Special Music)

Bernie Herms and Mark Hall

Verse 1

I was sure by now
God You would have reached down
And wiped our tears away
Stepped in and saved the day
But once again I'll say amen
And it's still rainin'

As the thunder rolls
I barely hear You whisper
Through the rain
I'm with You
And as Your mercy falls
I'll raise my hands
And praise the God who gives
And takes away

Chorus

And I'll praise You in this storm
And I will lift my hands
For You are who You are
No matter where I am
And ev'ry tear I've cried
You hold in Your hand
You never left my side
And though my heart is torn
I will praise You in this storm

Verse 2

I remember when
I stumbled in the wind
You heard my cry to You
And raised me up again
But my strength is almost gone
How can I carry on
If I can't find You

I lift my eyes unto the hills
Where does my help come from
My help comes from the Lord
The Maker of heaven and earth

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Cards for Rita Ebersol

Following a recent fall that broke her femur, Rita's family is requesting **cards and notes** from her church family! Please send to:

Rita Ebersol
c/o Nanette Friedman
101 Camelot Dr.
Rochester, NY 14623



Daffodil Pickup

If you ordered flowers from the American Cancer Society through Sue and Sandi, they are in! Sue will be **in the Welcome Center today** after the early service, between services and after the 11:00 service to hand them out.

