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Financial Treasurer:	Carolyn Russell	office@uccdga.org
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Organist:	David Kraft	
Custodian:	Amber Bixby	

WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday
DECEMBER 7, 2025



THE
**UNITED
CHURCH**
CANANDAIGUA



Order of Worship for
DECEMBER 7, 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.

ORGAN PRELUDE: “Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland” (BWV 659) by Johann Sebastian Bach

HANDBELL PRELUDE: “Carol of the Bells” The United Church Bell Choir

WELCOME AND GREETING TO OUR ONLINE CONGREGATION

OUR PREPARATION

Focus of the Day: We long for Christ as the perfect King who will bring eternal peace to our broken world.

INTROIT: (11:00) “O Come Let Us Adore Him” The United Church Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: We gather longing for the perfect King

People: The one who will bring peace to our broken world

Leader: We come seeking Christ who provides for the afflicted

People: And establishes righteousness forever

Leader: Come, Lord Jesus, come and reign

People: Let us worship the King we long for

***HYMN #159:** “Sing We Now of Christmas”

***OPENING PRAYER:** Gracious God, we gather longing for the perfect King who will bring peace to our broken world. Open our hearts to receive your Word and show us how to serve as your hands and feet while we wait for Christ’s return. We pray this in Jesus’ name, who taught us to pray... (singing)

***HYMN #632:** “The Lord’s Prayer”

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

***GLORIA PATRI: #807**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH THE WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Romans 15:4-13 (page 1125) {A.B. page 1254}

SPECIAL MUSIC: (11:00) “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen” The United Church Bell Choir

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE: (11:00)

ANTHEM: (11:00) “Christmas is Coming, Let the Church Bells Ring” by Joel Raney
(words on insert) The United Church Choir and Bells

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 3:1-12 (page 957) {A.B. page 1054}

Sermon
“Longing for the Perfect King”
(Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19)
Pastor Wade Allen

OUR RESPONSE IN FAITH

***HYMN #167:** “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” CCLI Song #5673056, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY: “Interlude on Picardy” by Henry Coleman

***DOXOLOGY: #809**

COMMUNION

***HYMN #162:** “The First Noel”

CCLI Song #31047, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: “Noël: Où s’en vont ces gais bergers” by Michel Corrette

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

Our prayers and sympathy are with Natalie Clark, whose father, Roderick Simonds, passed away on November 21st. Please keep the family in your prayers during this difficult time.

Our prayers and sympathy are with the Hildebrandt family on the loss of Kyle’s father, Thomas, on November 23rd. Please keep the family in your prayers during this difficult time.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Health concerns: Jackie Brown (Linda Bailey's sister), Preemie baby of Katie (cousin of Karen Roaix), Julia Nayar (niece of Karen Gardner), Scott Smail (friend of Kathleen Boniak), Sheila Henderson, John DiVincenzo (friend of Steve Simpson), unborn daughter of Laura & Conner Fry (heart issues, relatives of VanIseghems), Wendy Stoddard, Braeden Flynn, Shirley Kem, Phil Greene (Sharon Meyer's brother), Pastor Debbie Kamm (pastor at Dundee Baptist), Kathleen (Wanda Munt's daughter), Emma Sanford (granddaughter of Karen), Shane Collins (from LeTourneau), Brooke Covey (friend of Parsons), Daniel Zimmerman (nephew of Wendy Bacon), Rodney Newfrock (friend of Elaine Allen), Jack Bigos, Everest & Carly Ferrante (family of Ardelle Bigos), Deanna and Brexten Stocker (friends of Ardelle Bigos), Karen Mount, James Sheppard, Linda Gilbert, Jessica Canham (Sharyn's daughter), Mary Jane Laird, Tom Babcock (friend of Jenny Caron), Erik Keating (son of Al and Dawn Rossi), Louise Huck, Catherine Kurzdorfer (Adam Thorman's mother), Marcus (friend of Sandi DiCicco), Denise Loy (friend of Kory Massey), Steve Sedlock (Nancy Tharp's brother), Clancy Cragle (Michelle's grandfather), Jack Schermond

Cancer: Donna White (Linda Bailey's sister), Robbie Bass (Linda Bailey's nephew), Daniel Cage (friend of Wade Allen), Karen Linder (niece of Joyce Laursen), Sue Whybra and Rod Gifford (cousins of Joyce Laursen), Kathy Cool (daughter-in-law of the Pecks), Sophie Snyder (friend of Amelia Cunningham), Chris Alexander (Carolyn Russell's brother), Joy Mickelsen Oliver (friend of Joy Van Riper), Sarah Hough (daughter of Dianne Beaumont), Walter Enright (friend of Ardelle Bigos), Jon VanBlargan, Laura Fiorito (daughter of Charles and Patti Cagwin), Christina Tharp (daughter of John and Nancy), Douglas Cook (Jen Eveleigh's brother), Keith Laursen (Joyce's brother-in-law), Sasha (friend of Megan French), John Tornow (friend of Elaine Allen), Susan Hennessy (Jen Eveleigh's sister), Rich Crowley (Steve and Beth Smythe's friend), Tom and Monica Yurik (Bruce and Deb Gardner's friends), Deb Dawson (Steve Smythe's niece), Dawn Miller, David Pagoda (Eveleigh family friend), Jim Davis (Scott's father), Stephen Carges (Paula Traber's brother)

Military Service: Nicholas DelVillano (Frye's son-in-law) USAF stationed in Germany, 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), Leodegario Hernandez & Maria Angela Bautista (Bacalar, Mexico pastoral couple).

We want your Feedback!

Thank you for the feedback we have received. We want to continue to hear from you, so please share your thoughts or questions on the Feedback Pew Cards or contact us at feedback@uccdga.org.

Highlights for This Week

- **Today is the last chance to order poinsettias!** There are order forms in the bulletins as well as a stack on the Welcome Center desk.
- **Angel tree gifts are due back today!** You can leave them by the trees or in Deb's office.
- **Today's loose offerings** will go toward the Steward's Assistance Fund, helping support those in our church family in need. Thank you for your generosity.
- **Christmas Mall Trip** - Saturday, December 13 - 11:30am-8:30pm - 6-12 grade students. **Registration deadline is December 7!** Volunteer sign up is placed in the Welcome Center (we need drivers, chaperones, meal makers... etc.)
- **Christmas Pageant Practice** is this **Saturday, December 13**, from **9:30-11:30am** in the sanctuary. This is a **MANDATORY practice** for all kids (3 years old through 12th grade) who want to be involved in the Christmas Pageant.
- **Parents**, we need **some people to stay** and **help clean the nursery** during the Pageant practice. Coffee and donuts will be provided for those who stay to help. Thank you!
- The children's **Christmas Pageant** will be on **Sunday, December 14th at 10am** in the **Sanctuary**. Please feel free to invite family and friends to see it! (It should also be on our livestream page at 10:00) **All kids in the pageant, please arrive at 9:30am to get into costumes** (in the Fellowship Room). After the pageant, all are invited to have birthday cake for Jesus (also in the Fellowship Room).
- **Our Greeter/Coordinator for December: Gail B.** Please contact Gail if you need help signing up.

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 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!**



Children's Time

There is no **Children's Time** today. Kids are invited to grab worship aides at any time during the service. They are found near the Main entrance.



Nursery Care

Nursery care is offered during the late service. We use Room 10 (infants) and Room 11 (preschool) during the 11:00 am service. All volunteers in the nursery are background checked. **The nursery is open for parent use** (diaper changes, feeding, etc) **during the early service.**



Save the Date for the Christmas Cantata!

The choir is hard at work preparing for this year's Special Christmas Presentation being performed **during the worship service Sunday, December 21st.**

The Christmas Card Connection

This December, help share the love of Christ by **sending Christmas cards** to those in our church family who would be especially uplifted by a kind note—our Senior Companions and friends living in senior living communities.

Cards and address lists, provided by the Stewards' Ministry, are available in the Missions Room. Pick up a few, add a heartfelt message, and mail your Christmas greetings.

More Holiday Dates to Put on the Calendar

Watch the Lamplighters and bulletin board for more details...

Saturday, December 13 Pageant rehearsal (9-10:30 am) and Mall Trip (6-12 graders)

Sunday, December 14 Christmas Pageant (10:00) and Birthday cake for Jesus

Sunday, December 21 Christmas Cantata (one service only at 11:00 am)

Wednesday, December 24, Christmas Eve service at 7:00 pm

Sunday, December 28 Prayer Service (one service only at 11:00 am)

December 24-January 2 Office closed for holiday (staff working from home)



Missions Let the light of Christ shine through you in service to others...

Food Cart & Card Ministry Location

The black collection wagon is in the Missions Collection Center in the south side of the newly remodeled Fellowship Room. We continue to collect needed food staples for **CCIA (Canandaigua Churches in Action)** and the **Salvation Army food pantry**. Our donations continue to be needed. Thank you for so generously sharing out of what God has provided for you. The **hand-made cards** that benefit Missions are also available there. Pop in after church to select some. Questions? See Mary Lou or Cathy B.



Winter Wear Drive

THANK YOU for the generous donation of warm coats and gloves. 4 bins of winter wear have been taken to the Clothing Closet at 120 N Main St and are MUCH needed and appreciated! This collection will continue through the winter months.

Christmas Angel Tree

Christmas Angel Tree presents are due back today! If you're a bit behind, please return your wrapped gift to the church by Wednesday!!! We'll deliver the gifts to St. Mary's Thursday at noon. Thank you for your generosity!!!



Silent Auction

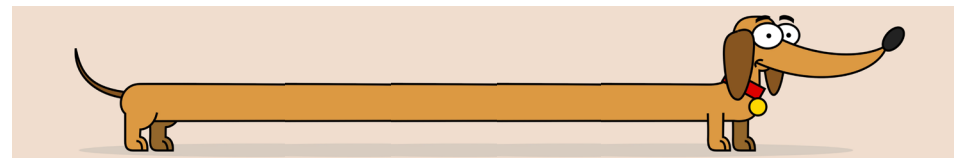
The Silent Auction to support mission trips is coming **June 7 through June 14, 2026!**

Stewardship and Pledging

Stewardship season is nearing the end! Pledge forms for 2026 are available on the Welcome Center desk. They can be returned to the offering plate or the box in the Welcome Center or you can mail them into the office. You can also submit a pledge form digitally by following this link:

<http://bit.ly/48BcbNw> or scan the code to the right.

We have a goal of getting **125 families** to return pledge forms, **as of this week, we've received 84!** Watch the main office and the Sunday bulletins for our progress towards this goal! **If you requested a box of envelopes**, you can find them in the Welcome Center starting this week. If you would like envelopes, but did not yet request them, please ask in the office.



(meet Oscar, the dog, our stewardship mascot)

Hanging of the Greens

Thank you to All that came out to decorate for Advent! Our Sanctuary is beautiful! We made quick work of a large task. A special thank you to those who prepared ornaments for the kids to decorate and those who made cookies and frosting for our cookie decorating station. The kids really enjoyed it. Thank you to the Cause for sharing their



evening service with us and leading us in carols. Whether you decorated the tree, or put the garland up on the balcony or found other places to deck the halls, we hope enjoyed fellowship and you felt the spirit of Christmas.

**Merry Christmas
The Decorating Team**

Caroling at the Light Parade

Several of our choir members joined with **choirs from many Canandaigua churches** to sing Christmas carols at the downtown Light Parade on November 29th. It was a very cold night, but the beautiful voices ushering in the Christmas season warmed everyone's hearts! **(even the Grinch!)**



Notes & Doodles:



Please Print Legibly

Name: _____

I would like to order _____ Poinsettias at **\$11.50 each**.
They are given in Memory or Honor (circle one) of:



1.

Honor/Memory of: _____

Given by: _____
2.

Honor/Memory of: _____

Given by: _____
3.

Honor/Memory of: _____

Given by: _____
4.

Honor/Memory of: _____

Given by: _____
5.

Honor/Memory of: _____

Given by: _____
6.

Honor/Memory of: _____

Given by: _____
7.

Honor/Memory of: _____

Given by: _____

Place this in the offering plate **WITH** your cash in an envelope or check made payable to
“The United Church”.

List in the memo section “Poinsettias”. You may also mail it in or bring to the church office.

ORDERS MUST BE IN NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7.

You may pick up your poinsettia(s) after church on Christmas Eve or on Dec 28th. Thank you!

Christmas is Coming (11:00 service)
by Joel Raney

Christmas is coming
Let the church bells ring
People celebratin’ the birth of a King
Shout-in Hosanna till the heavens ring
Christmas is comin’, let the church bells ring!

Christmas is comin’, Mary’s baby boy
Bringin us a message of comfort and joy
Glory hallelujah, what a wonderful thing
Christmas is comin’ let the church bells ring!

Glory filled the heavens
Music filled the night
Shepherds heard the angels sing
Wise men saw the light

O come, O Come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the son of God appear
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel

