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

Pastor:	Wade Allen	pastor@uccdga.org
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Choir Director:	Georgia Sperano	gsperano@rochester.rr.com
Organist:	David Kraft	
Custodian:	Amber Bixby	

WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday
DECEMBER 21, 2025



THE
**UNITED
CHURCH**
CANANDAIGUA



Order of Worship for
DECEMBER 21, 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: “Pastorale” from Sonata No. 1 by Alexandre Guilmant

WELCOME AND GREETING TO OUR ONLINE CONGREGATION

Focus of the Day: We gather as one congregation to celebrate the birth of Christ through the gift of music, worshiping together in unity and praise.

OPENING PRAYER

***HYMN #146: “Joy to the World! the Lord Is Come”** CCLI Song #24016, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

OFFERTORY: “Noël Vosgien” by Jean Bouvard

***DOXOLOGY: #809**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

CANTATA: “Sing We Noel” by Joel Raney (words on the insert)

Vocals: The United Church Cantata Choir

Instrumentalists: David Kraft, piano; Ben Boseck, violin; Joy Van Riper, cello;
Ken Poole, string bass; Bethany Cripps, oboe; Karen Gardner, clarinet;
Madison O’Brien, flute & piccolo; Will Hope, percussion.

***HYMN #152: “Angels We Have Heard on High”** CCLI Song #27721, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: “Fantasia in G Major” (BWV 572) by Johann Sebastian Bach

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

Health concerns: Jack Bigos, Maverick Ferrante (surgery 12/23) (Ardell Bigos’ grandson), 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), 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), 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), 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 CPT 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!

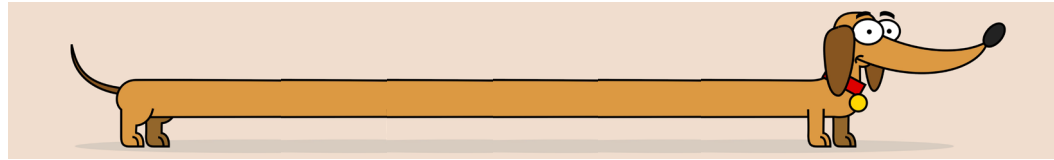
Thank you for the feedback we have received. We want to continue to hear from you, so please share your thoughts or questions on the Feedback Pew Cards or contact us at feedback@uccdga.org.

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 102!** 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)

More Holiday Dates to Put on the Calendar

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

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)

Intergenerational Women's Retreat

Saturday, January 31, 10AM-1PM at The United Church - Women of **all ages** are invited to connect through faith, fellowship, and food! During our time together, **we will engage with biblical stories of women and how these stories may guide us in our journey today.** More details to come, but you can expect a time of learning, engagement through breakout sessions, and open discussion over lunch. **Register now in the Welcome Center (or online) to help us prepare for your attendance!**



Highlights for This Week

- Important date reminders:
 - **Sunday, December 28** - one service at 11am to pray for our New Year (no early service, no Sunday school)
 - **Sunday, January 4** - return to two services at 8:45am and 11am; Intergenerational Sunday school at 9:45am in the downstairs dining room. **Please bring a dish to pass if you're able.**
- **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**. Parents may choose to take their child to the nursery at any time during the service. *All volunteers in the nursery are background checked.*

Annual Reports

Reports to be included in the packet for the Annual Meeting on January 25th, are **now due to Carolyn** (except for those requiring end-of-year data.) Please ask in the office if you have any questions.

New CPR/AED/First Aid Class date!

January 24, 9am - 1 pm, here at the United Church
Look for full details in the January Lamplighter. For questions, contact instructor Holger Stave at holger@wfany.net **There will be a sign-up on the office door.**



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

Our Special Christmas Joy Offering Sunday, December 21

By combining special offerings taken by our two denominations, we are able to share our love in a variety of ways.

The **American Baptist Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering** is an opportunity to honor the service of God's servants by giving support to ministers, missionaries and their widowed spouses who have devoted 15 or more years to ABCUSA. We can thus thank those who have dedicated their lives to serving the body of Christ.

The **America for Christ Offering** is used by AB Ministries to share Christ's love, hope and grace with those in need throughout the US and Puerto Rico. Your gifts help support diverse community ministries, offer resources and grants to ministry leaders in multicultural settings, and promote Christian education for church leaders across the US and Puerto Rico. Each gift represents an act of compassion and solidarity, bringing us closer to God's vision of a world shaped by love, compassion, peace, and justice.

Half of our giving to this special offering goes to the **Presbyterian Christmas Joy Offering**. Through this offering we reflect God's perfect gift to us, with generous support of church leaders among us, past, present, and future. We honor and celebrate leaders like retired pastors, church workers and their families who now may find themselves in financial need. And we honor emerging leaders like students in schools and colleges equipping communities of color, who develop leadership skills as they pursue their education and prepare to bring their gifts to the world God loves so much.

Please help as we support all of these important opportunities by giving generously to our Special Christmas Offering. You can use the envelopes in the pews, the Christmas envelopes from your box of envelopes, or just write "Christmas" on the memo line of your check. If you prefer online giving, you can also select the Christmas fund through our website.



North Carolina Mission Trip

2026 is almost upon us and that means the North Carolina hurricane relief mission trip is only 3 months away! It's not too late to sign up for the trip. **The dates are March 28/29 - April 3.** Please contact Sonya Brooks with any questions or interest! There will be a **meeting at noon on Sunday January 11** in the Library (Fellowship room) for all who are going on the trip.

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.



Habitat for Humanity Volunteers needed

Habitat for Humanity is requesting volunteers to work on the Tillotson Street home...yes, the one we framed the walls for last summer! Volunteers are needed for **Mondays and Fridays from 9am - 3pm** with a noon lunch break. Hard hats and safety glasses are provided. **Work is outside at present.** Wear winter work gloves and boots. Contact Linda W. to join a work crew.

Thank You!

It is with great appreciation that the Mission Team thanks **Beth and Paul Johnson!** They so graciously had an estate sale on two different days with all the proceeds designated for our church's mission work! **A total of \$1,363 was raised** and lots of wonderful items found new homes. Thanks again Beth & Paul!!

Silent Auction

The Silent Auction to support mission trips is coming **June 7 through June 14, 2026!** See the January Lamplighter for details about the many ways you can help. You can also start thinking about items to donate! Put together a fun basket or start crafting some goodies!



The Shepherd's Visit

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground, the angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shown around, all around. And glory shone around.

“Fear not!” said he, for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind;
“Glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and human kind,
To you and human kind.”

Angels called to shepherds, “Leave your flocks at rest, rise up.
Rise up, shepherd, journey forth to Bethlehem, find the lambkin blest.”
Rise up, shepherd, rise up, shepherd, rise up shepherd, rise up!
Shepherd, rise up, shepherd rise up!

Come to Bethlehem, and see him, whose birth the angels sing;
“Gloria!” come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King!

There's a star in the east on Christmas morn. Rise up shepherd, and follow.
It will lead to the place where the Savior's born.
Rise up shepherd, and follow, follow, follow, follow.
Take good heed to the angel's word, rise up shepherd, and follow.
You'll forget your flock, and you'll forget your herd, so rise up, shepherd.
Rise up shepherd.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.
There's a star in the east on Christmas morn. Rise up shepherd, and follow.
It will lead to the place where the Savior's born.
So rise up, shepherd, rise up, shepherd, rise up shepherd. Shepherd rise up!
Rise up!

Sing We Noel (reprise)

Sing we noel, noel, joyfully we sing, joyfully we sing noel, noel.
Joyfully we sing, joyfully we sing, joyfully we sing noel,
We sing noel, noel, noel, noel, noel, noel, noel!
Born is the King. Born is the King.
Born is the king; joyous Noel, Noel, Noel.

Cantata page 4

Sing We Noel

Sing we noel, noel, noel, noel, we sing noel. Joyous noel.
Joyfully we sing, joyfully we sing, joyfully we sing noel.
Sing we noel. Joyous noel.
Sing we noel, noel, sing noel, sing noel, sing noel, noel, noel.
Joyous noel, noel, joyous noel, sing noel.

The first Noel the angels, the angels did say was to
certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay.
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night, on a cold winter's night,
Under starlight, on a cold winter's night.

Silent night. Holy night. All is calm, all is bright
‘Round yon virgin, mother and child;
Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace,
Heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Sing we noel, sing we noel, noel, noel, we sing noel, joyous noel.
Joyfully we sing, joyfully we sing, joyfully we sing noel. (X2)
Sing we now of Christmas, noel, sing we here!
Hear our grateful praises to the babe so dear.
Sing we noel, a King is born, noel.
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we all noel. Joyfully we sing noel.

God rest ye merry, gentlemen let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day,
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray:
O tidings of comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and Joy!

Sing we noel, joyfully we sing, joyfully we sing noel, noel.
Joyfully we sing, joyfully we sing, joyfully we sing noel,
We sing noel, we sing noel, noel, noel, noel, noel, noel!
Born is the King. Born is the King. Born is the King;
Joyous noel, noel, noel.

Cantata page 1

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold.
Peace on earth, goodwill to all, from heaven's all gracious King:
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats over all the weary world,
All the weary world rejoice! All the world rejoice! Rejoice!
For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,
When, with the ever circling years, shall come the time foretold.

When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
And all the world give back the song which now the angels sing,
Now the angels sing, now the angels sing. Which now the angels sing.

A Child Is Born

Mary had a baby my Lord! Mary had a baby, my Lord,
Mary had a baby, Mary had a baby boy. Mary had a baby. O my Lord.

What did she name him, my Lord? What did she name him, my Lord!
She named him King Jesus, named him King Jesus.
Mary had a baby, my Lord. Oo Where was he born, my Lord?
Where was he born, my Lord? He was born in a stable, born in stable,
Mary had a baby, Mary had a baby Lord! O, my Lord.

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap the child is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch, their watch are keeping.
O, this, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come peasant, king, to own him,
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.
Let loving hearts enthrone him. Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Let loving hearts enthrone him, enthrone him. Raise, raise the song on high.
The Virgin(Mary) sings her lullaby; joy, joy for Christ is born!
The babe, the son of Mary. Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger.
A child is born.

Cantata page 2

Sing Gloria!

Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria, gloria, gloria, gloria
In excelsis Deo. In excelsis Deo. Gloria, gloria, gloria!
Gloria in excelsis Deo, sing gloria! (X2)
Glory to God in the highest. Sing gloria!
Glory to God in the highest, glory to God in the highest,
Glory to God in the highest. (X2)

And peace on earth. And peace on earth.
Et in ter-ra pax, et in ter-ra pax, et in ter-ra pax, in ter-ra pax, in ter-ra pax
And peace on earth, and on earth peace, peace.
(X3) Glory to God in the highest, glory to God in the highest,
Glory to God in the highest.
Sing gloria, sing gloria! Gloria! Gloria!

Cantata page 3



Our Christmas Poinsettias

In Memory of:

Grammy & Grampy Adams

Glen & Dorothy Benjamin

Our Parents

Our Parents

Our Grandparents

Church Family who have passed this year

Paul & Jean Pollard

Charles & Sylvia Boseck

John Braun (husband)

Robert Bush, Howard Bush, Marie & Sanford Bush

Craig W. George

Parimala Rai

Patrick Beatty

Alex Clark (son)

Roderick Simonds (father)

Fred Ferlito

Robert C. Foster

Our Parents & Brother & Sister

Amanda Crow

Ian Harvey

Bill Benedict

Jerry Sherman (friend & climbing partner)

Jan Barnes & Elsie Green

Claude Pullis

Dot & Rev. Fred Magley

Joe Holroyd

George & Joan Reineke

Dotty Maffin

Bill & June Adams

Al Johnson & Maggie Rapp

Jan Gullace

Ed Olson

David Crowe

Dave Sanford

Ken Allen

George & John Gerhard & Marty Becker

Russell Cameron

Given by:

Adam, Kevin, Tyler, Christopher, Will & Carolyn June

Gail Benjamin

Jack & Ardelle Bigos

The Boseck Family

Philip & Alison Boseck

Shirley Braun

Rich & Cathy Bush

Rob & Natalie Clark

Roberta & the Barnes Family

John, Heather & Kinley Foster

Bruce & Deborah Gardner



Our Christmas Poinsettias

In Memory of:

Lou Gyoerkoe

Ted Libernini

Richard Poole

Lawrence Hobbs

Kenneth & Carolyn Hobbs

Harold & Clare Lilhdt

Walter & Neola Larder

Ryan LaRocca

Francis & Rachel Luckenbach

Tink Spano

Our Parents

Taylor Mae Payne

Zachary Pettit (grandson)

Dorothy & Donald LaBrake

Loved Ones

David Sanford

Gaynor Seeber

Frances Frankish

George Frankish

Dominick Sperano

Wilfred & Virginia Stewart

Bruce Stewart

Tamara Pineda

Eleanor & Albert Dabb, Jr.

Ruth & Franklin Werts

Loved Ones

John & Marilyn

Don & Elinor Wormer

Elizabeth Teal

Dennis Wilk

Given by:

Dean & Lauren Gyoerkoe

The Hobbs Family

Gary Larder

Rocky & Janet LaRocca

Joyce Laursen

Lori McMillen

Tim & Marilyn Noffsinger

Mike & Roberta O’Brien, Robin, Eric & Grace Payne

Earl & June Pettit

The Roaix, Ramirez, Inglesby & Elling Families

Dawn & Al Rossi

Karen Sanford

Sally & Family

Georgia Sperano

Robert Sperano

Kathy Stewart-Eagan

Brian & Mary Wiser

Tom & Melissa Wormer

Given by:

Bruce & Deborah Gardner

Karen Gardner & Family

Mac & Ernie McKenzie

Tim & Marilyn Noffsinger

Dawn & Al Rossi

Sandi DiCicco & Sue Vadney

Brian & Mary Wiser

In Honor of:

The United Church Pastor, Staff, & Church Family

Phyllis Gerhard

Family Members

Esther Pullis

Grandchildren

Our Wonderful Staff

Our Children & Grandchildren