

2025 Leadership of The United Church

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Church Staff

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

Pastor:	Wade Allen	pastor@uccdga.org
Pastor of Youth & Adult Ministries:	Mark Slomski	mark.slomski@uccdga.org
Director of Family Ministries:	Deb Marshall	deb.marshall@uccdga.org
Director of Care Ministries:	Christy Allen	christy.allen@uccdga.org
Office Manager:	Carolyn Russell	office@uccdga.org
Treasurer:	Nancy Lamberson	nancy.lamberson@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
JANUARY 4, 2026





Order of Worship for
JANUARY 4, 2026



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: “Prélude sur l’Introït de l’Épiphanie” by Maurice Duruflé

WELCOME AND GREETING TO OUR ONLINE CONGREGATION

OUR PREPARATION

Focus of the Day: In a world of countless words, Jesus is the one Word that changes everything.

INTROIT: (11:00) “O Come Let Us Adore Him”

The United Church Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

People: Through him all things were made.

Leader: In him was life, and that life was the light of all people.

People: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Leader: The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.

All: We have seen his glory, full of grace and truth. Come, let us worship the Word made flesh.

***HYMN #145: “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”**

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***OPENING PRAYER:** Eternal Word, you spoke galaxies into existence and then spoke yourself into human flesh. Open our hearts to receive you this morning, the one Word our souls need. As we begin our worship, we pray together the prayer you 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: Psalm 147:12-20 (page 623) {A.B. page 697}

SPECIAL MUSIC: “How Brightly Shines the Morning Star” by Johann Ludwig Krebs
David Kraft (organ)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE: (11:00)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Ephesians 1:3-14 (page 1156) {A.B. page 1296}

Sermon
“The One Word that Changes Everything”
(John 1:1-14)
Pastor Wade Allen

OUR RESPONSE IN FAITH

***HYMN #104: “There’s Something About That Name”**

CCLI Song #14064, ©1970 William J. Gaither, Inc., CCLI Lic. #11593017

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY: “Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her” by Johann Sebastian Bach

***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.

COMMUNION

***HYMN #509: “O, How I Love Jesus”**

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: “In Dulci Jubilo” (BWV 729) 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 (Ardell Bigos' grandson), Jackie Brown (Linda Bailey's sister), Premie 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), Ashley Fry (newborn relative of VanIseghems), Wendy Stoddard, Braeden Flynn, Shirley Kem, Phil Greene (Sharon Meyer's brother), Kathleen (Wanda Munt's daughter), Emma Sanford (granddaughter of Karen), 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.

Highlights for This Week

- Important date reminders:
 - **Wednesday, January 7** - Youth Club resumes
 - **Sunday, January 11** - Sunday school classes resume for all ages at 9:45am
 - **Sunday, January 25** - Annual Meeting after the 11am service
- If you have time **today** after the 11:00 service, and would like to help **take down the tree**, see Mary Wiser.
- **Adult & Young Adult Sunday School:** classes and groups start **January 11** (9:45am start)
 - **Choir Group** - Room 26 (2nd floor), ends by 10:25am.
 - **Parenting Coffee Hour** - Fellowship Room (1st floor).
 - **Bible Study - James** - Downstairs Dining Hall.
 - **"Dig Deeper" Young Adult Bible Study** - Bell Tower
- **Intergenerational Women's Retreat** - Saturday, January 31, 10AM-1PM at The United Church - **Women of all ages** are invited to connect through faith, fellowship, food! During our time together, **we will engage with biblical stories of women 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!**
- **Our Greeter/Coordinator for January: Bill F.** Please contact Bill 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 adult volunteers in the nursery are background checked.*

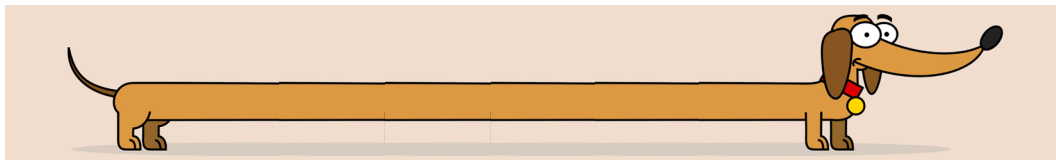
Stewardship and Pledging

It's not too late to make your pledge for 2026! So far we've had \$328,696.50 pledged to Operating and \$90,829.50 pledged to Missions. To meet the needs of the proposed 2026 budget, we are hoping to have \$360,200 pledged to the operating side. The Missions team forms their budget after pledges come in. Last year they had \$101,848 pledged.

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 106!** 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. If you would like envelopes, but did not yet request them, please ask in the office.



(meet Oscar, the dog, our stewardship mascot)

The Annual Meeting

The annual congregational meeting of the United Church will be held after the second service, in the dining room, on **Sunday, January 25, 2026**. Immediately after the 11:00 service, the youth will host a lunch. This will be followed by the Annual Meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to approve the 2026 budget, elect officers, review the activities of 2025, and do any other business appropriate to the meeting.

Game Night

Join us for game night **this Saturday from 6:30 - 8:30!** Bring your friends and family or come solo. Bring along a favorite game to share or learn something new! **Snacks and refreshments will be available.** What a great way to meet new people and build lasting relationships!



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

North Carolina Mission Trip

2026 is here and that means the North Carolina hurricane relief mission trip is less than 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.



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.

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.

Silent Auction

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