

2026 Leadership of The United Church

Official Board

Mary Beth Fortunato (U)

Jim Boseck (U)

Dale Zajac (P)

Lydia Busch (U)

Brian Wiser (U)

Sonya Brooks* (P)

Amelia Cunningham (Youth)

Board of Trustees

Dean Williamson (U)

Connie Frye (U)

Steve Smythe (P)

John Eveleigh (P)

Jeannie Blance (P)

Bill Clark (P)

Board of Stewards

Marion Sumpter*

Bev Fehrenbach

Bill Fortunato*

Gail Benjamin

Nancy Gerstner

Becky Boseck

Endowment Trustees

Mark Sheppard

Tom Wormer

Chuck Lowell

Church Staff

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

Pastor:

Pastor of Youth & Adult Ministries:

Director of Family Ministries:

Director of Care Ministries:

Office Manager:

Treasurer:

Financial Treasurer:

Choir Director:

Organist:

Custodian:

Wade Allen

Mark Slomski

Deb Marshall

Christy Allen

Carolyn Russell

Nancy Lamberson

Carolyn Russell

Georgia Sperano

David Kraft

Amber Bixby

Jen Eveleigh (B)

Kevin Wall (U)

Bob Cunningham (B)

Wendy Bacon (U)

Andrew Duncan (B)

Steve Simpson (U)

Anna Zajac (Youth)

Lynn Bernard* (B)

Rob Clark (B)

Wes Posson (U)

Jim Abdallah (U)

Mary Wiser (U)

Joy Van Riper (B)

Dan Frye

Randy Bacon

Melissa Wormer

Leslie Roof

Sharyn Canham*

Margie Wall

Ric Parsons

David Russell

Levi Allen

WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday

FEBRUARY 15, 2026



THE
UNITED
CHURCH
CANANDAIGUA



Order of Worship for
FEBRUARY 15, 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: "By Adam's Fall Is All Forlorn" by Dieterich Buxtehude

WELCOME AND GREETING TO OUR ONLINE CONGREGATION

OUR PREPARATION

Focus of the Day: True glory is revealed not on a mountaintop but through Jesus lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself.

INTROIT: (11:00) "His Name Is Wonderful" (hymn #87)

United Church Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

People: Not through power and might, but through the cross.

Leader: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains alone.

People: But if it dies, it produces much fruit.

Leader: When Jesus is lifted up from the earth, he draws all people to himself.

All: We come to see the glory of God revealed in Christ crucified. Let us worship the one who was lifted up for us.

***HYMN #229:** "Lift High the Cross" (vs. 1,3,4,5)

CCLI Song #5169, ©1974 Hope Pub. Co., CCLI Lic. #11593017

***OPENING PRAYER:** Gracious God, we gather on this Transfiguration Sunday knowing that true glory is not found on a mountaintop but revealed through the cross. Open our eyes to see Jesus lifted up for us and our hearts to believe in the light while we have it. As we worship together, we pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying ... Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*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 2 (page 532) {A.B. page 605}

ANTHEM: (11:00) "It's All About the Cross" by Elaine Schram (words on insert)

United Church Choir

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: (11:00)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: 2 Peter 1:16-21 (page 1201) {A.B. page 1365}

Sermon

"Glory Through the Cross"

(John 12:20-36)

Pastor Wade Allen

OUR RESPONSE IN FAITH

***HYMN #484:** "The Old Rugged Cross"

CCLI Song #19722, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY: "When Jesus Stood By The Cross" 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.

***HYMN #473:** "And Can It Be That I Should Gain?" (vs. 1,3,4,5)

CCLI Song #25280, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "Postlude in G Major" by Gustav Merkel

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

The rosebud in the sanctuary today is to celebrate the birth of **Hazel Beth Merenuk** on January 17th. Hazel's parents are **Brooke and Jared Merenuk** and her grandparents are **Mary Beth and Bill Fortunato**. Please keep the family in your prayers during this special time.

Financial update

As stated at the annual meeting, we had to take \$23,997.80 out of savings to continue our 2025 programs, and the pledges we've received so far for 2026 are less than the donations received in 2025. None of the Boyce memorial funding is available for operating expenses. We are asking that you **prayerfully consider increasing your pledge for 2026 (or making one if you haven't already done so)**. You can do this by completing a pledge form available from Carolyn Russell in the church office and writing "revised" at the top and returning it to Carolyn or dropping it in the offering plate. Our staff have done an amazing job of holding costs down as much as possible, but we need your help to be able to sustain these programs. Thank you!

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it" -- Malachi 3:10

PRAYER REQUESTS

Health concerns: Charlie Cox (Regina Allen's son), Martha Ashley, Monica Yurik (grieving, Bruce and Deb Gardner's friend), Sherry Wesley (cousin of Sue V and Sandi D), Jack Bigos, Jackie Brown (Linda Bailey's sister), Preemie baby of Katie (cousin of Karen Roaix), Scott Smail (friend of Kathleen Boniak), Sheila Henderson, John DiVincenzo (friend of Steve Simpson), Phil Greene (Sharon Meyer's brother), Rodney Newfrock (friend of Elaine Allen), Jessica Canham (Sharyn's daughter), Mary Jane Laird, Tom Babcock (friend of Jenny Caron), Erik Keating (son of Al and Dawn Rossi), Catherine Kurzdorfer (Adam Thorman's mother), Marcus (friend of Sandi DiCicco), Denise Loy (friend of Kory Massey), Steve Sedlock (Nancy Tharp's brother), Clancy Cagle (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), 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), 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 Giovanti - the BGs (Central/South America), Christy Lafferty (Nicaragua), Leodegario Hernandez & Maria Angela Bautista (Bacalar, Mexico pastoral couple), Rev. Nancy and Rev. Shelvis Smith-Mather (South Sudan), Sally Gates (UK), Matt and Meredith Snell (Fort Drum, NY).

Highlights for This Week

- **All parents are invited to join Parenting Coffee Hour - any Sunday at 9:45am.** We begin each week with social time and then start our "lesson" at 10am. We will be discussing the following topics...
 - Feb 15 - no Sunday School
 - Feb 22 - Forming Character (continued)
 - Mar 1 - Applying Discipline
- **Lenten Devotionals** - Check out the Lenten devotionals in the Welcome Center! Sign up for the book you would like, and it will be ordered for you. Please consider donating via the QR code provided on the sign up sheet, or through the church website (marking it as "Adult Ed. Fund").
- **25-35-Somethings Small Group** - Join this new group (if you are 25-35 years old) on Tuesdays, 4pm-5pm! We will be using a curriculum known as Alpha for a few weeks, before conducting a study on Philippians.
- **Ferris Hills Connect** - This group is updating how many times they meet, from monthly, to weekly! Starting in March, join us every Wednesday, 1pm-145pm, in Rayburn Hall at Ferris Hills! We will be conducting a weekly devotional, including prayer, Bible study, and (when available) worship music.
- **Our Greeter/Coordinator for February: Gail B.** Please contact Gail if you need help signing up.

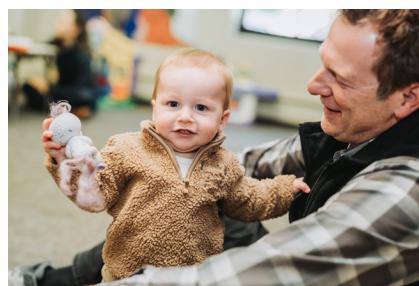
Are You Visiting Us Today?

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

Children's Time meets after the Children's Sermon. **Children aged Kindergarten through 5th grade** are invited to participate. Parents, please pick up your children **promptly** after the service. (**Please note:** Kids in *6th grade and up* are asked to *remain in the service* with their families. Thank you!)



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.**

It's All About The Cross (11:00 service)

by Ruth Elaine Schram

Verse

We read about creation, the world You made for us,
The beauty of the garden, sublime and glorious.
We read about the fall when innocence was lost,
When innocence was lost.

We read of people's lives and the lessons that begin;
The consequence of evil, the wretched stain of sin;
And then, the Ten Commandments,
The firm, unyielding Law, the firm, unyielding Law.

Chorus

It's all about the cross. It's all about the cross, And
God's
amazing grace, to take us from the fall to a holy place!
To seek us in our helpless and fallen state,
to find us when we're lost; it's all about the cross.

Verse

And so, You sent a Savior, the Lamb without a flaw,
To fully keep the letter and spirit of the Law;
To live a life that's holy, a life that pleases God.
And then the Spotless Lamb was the final sacrifice;
Our righteousness complete through the precious
blood of Christ.
We finally see how far from Your holiness we are,
How much we need the cross! **Chorus**

Thank God for the cross!

Birthday Bags

On February 25, the Youth Club kids will be filling "birthday bags." These bags are filled with **cake mix, frosting, birthday candles, balloons, and birthday napkins**. The bags are decorated and filled by our Youth Club kids and then given to local food pantries for families who are celebrating a birthday. You can help by **donating** the aforementioned items **by Feb 22nd**. There is a collection box in Deb Marshall's office.



Prayer Shawl Knitting Group

We will meet on **Tuesday, Feb 17th at 7:00** in the Fellowship room. New members are always welcome!



Care Team Ministries Volunteers.....

This One's for You!

If you serve on any Care Ministry team, this invitation is for you!

You are warmly invited to a **Care Team Ministries Potluck** on **Sunday, March 15, from 12-2 p.m.** in the **United Church Dining Hall**.

This gathering is for anyone who serves on a Care Ministry team, including: **Stewards, Care Ministers, Transportation, Meal Train, Visitation, Hospitality, Card Ministry, Support Team, and Prayer Shawl**.

Come enjoy good food, meaningful conversation, and a short, creative time of interaction centered on caring for others, all woven together with fellowship, laughter, and connection.

This gathering is our way of saying thank you for the many ways you faithfully care for others within our church family. Please contact Christy for questions.



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

Mexican Night Dinner - Sunday, March 1st

You are invited to support the **Mission Team's March 19th-28th Mexico Trip**, including in-country tech and other projects. **\$15 tickets** for a Mexican meal of enchiladas, salbutes, rice, street corn, and tres leches cake can be purchased Sunday mornings or by calling 315-447-0276. Serving is from **5-7 pm**. We also look for help with setting up the dining room at noon on the 1st. And we thank those who will be supporting us by providing the desserts, helping in the kitchen, and with clean up. As some on our team look forward to their first trip to visit Living Waters for the World partnership communities and the congregation of Iglesia Emmanuel in Bacalar it is a blessing to know that we have your thoughts, prayers, and support.



Foodlink's "Pop-Up Food Pantry"

will appreciate volunteers for this month's food distribution on **Monday, February 23rd from 9:00am-11:00am** at the Town of Canandaigua Highway Barn, 5440 Route 5&20.



Food Cart & Card Ministry

The 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.

Silent Auction: June 7-14, 2026

As our Bi-Annual auction approaches we ask you to please consider participating as a **donor** of an auction item, a member of the **planning committee**, or an **auction worker**. It takes a lot of planning and many hands to make this happen. We would appreciate any help you can give us. After 20 years of running our auctions, this will be Regina's final year. We are looking for someone to take over for the next auction in 2028. This need not be a long term commitment, it could be just for 1 auction. Prayerfully consider if you could be this person. Thank you.

Please notify Regina Allen or any member of the Mission Committee if you can help. Thank you.

