

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)

Jen Eveleigh (B)
Kevin Wall (U)
Bob Cunningham (B)
Wendy Bacon (U)
Andrew Duncan (B)
Steve Simpson (U)
Anna Zajac (Youth)

Board of Trustees

Dean Williamson (U)
Connie Frye (U)
Steve Smythe (P)
John Eveleigh (P)
Jeannie Blance (P)
Bill Clark (P)

Lynn Bernard* (B)
Rob Clark (B)
Wes Posson (U)
Jim Abdallah (U)
Mary Wiser (U)
Joy Van Riper (B)

Board of Stewards

Marion Sumpter*
Bev Fehrenbach
Bill Fortunato*
Gail Benjamin
Nancy Gerstner
Becky Boseck

Dan Frye
Randy Bacon
Melissa Wormer
Leslie Roof
Sharyn Canham*
Margie Wall

Endowment Trustees

Mark Sheppard
Tom Wormer
Chuck Lowell

Ric Parsons
David Russell
Levi Allen

Church Staff

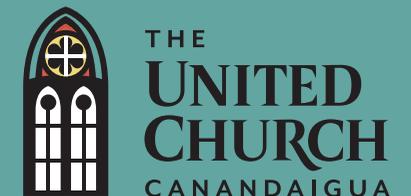
Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00am to 1:00 pm 585-394-0503

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
Financial Treasurer:	Carolyn Russell	office@uccdga.org
Choir Director:	Georgia Sperano	gsperano@rochester.rr.com
Organist:	David Kraft	
Custodian:	Amber Bixby	

WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday
MARCH 15, 2026





Order of Worship for
MARCH 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: “Adagio” from Symphony No. 5 by Charles-Marie Widor

WELCOME AND GREETING TO OUR ONLINE CONGREGATION

OUR PREPARATION

Focus of the Day: Jesus opens our eyes to see him as the Son of God worthy of our worship.

INTROIT: (11:00) “Come, Now is the Time to Worship”

United Church Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Jesus declared, I am the light of the world.

People: We come seeking the light that gives us sight.

Leader: The man born blind came to Jesus in darkness.

People: Jesus opened his eyes and revealed his glory.

Leader: When the man truly saw Jesus, he worshiped him.

All: Open our eyes today that we might see Jesus and worship him as Lord.

***HYMN #86: “We Come, O Christ, to You” (vs. 1,3,5)**

CCLI Song #12097, Music: Public Domain, Words: ©1985 Hope Pub. Co., CCLI Lic. #11593017

***OPENING PRAYER:** Gracious God, we come to you this morning asking you to open our eyes to see Jesus clearly. As we worship together, help us to see him not just as a teacher or prophet, but as the Son of God worthy of our worship. We pray this 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**

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.

***GLORIA PATRI: #807**

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH THE WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 23 (page 544) {A.B. page 618}

ANTHEM: (11:00) “Here I Am to Worship” arr. Shakley (words on insert)

United Church Choir

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE: (11:00) Brenda Cunningham

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Ephesians 5:8-14 (page 1159) {A.B. page 1299}

SPECIAL MUSIC: (11:00) “Once a Woman Seeking Water” (words on insert)

Women’s Ensemble (Nancy Burt-Preece, Nancy Lamberson, Joy Van Riper) acc. David Kraft

Sermon
“Seeing Jesus”
(John 9:1-41)
Pastor Wade Allen

OUR RESPONSE IN FAITH

***HYMN #502: “Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound”**

CCLI Song #5197989, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY: Voluntary on “Darwall’s 148th” by Henry Coleman

***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 #557: “Open My Eyes That I May See”**

CCLI Song #68003, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

MEXICO MISSION TRIP COMMISSIONING

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: “Jesu, meine Freude” by Johann Ludwig Krebs

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

Our prayers and sympathy are with Linda Bailey for the passing of her sister, Donna White, on March 7th. Please keep the family in your prayers during this difficult 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 in the Welcome Center and writing "revised" at the top and returning it to the office 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: Martha Ashley, Laurie Guyette (friend of the Simpsons), Sandy Cleason, Bill Kenyon, Carly and Brian Ferrante (Ardelle Bigos relatives), Marion Sumpter, Lou Verspoor, Sherry Wesley (cousin of Sue V and Sandi D), Jack Bigos, Jackie Brown (Linda Bailey's sister), 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 Cragle (Michelle's grandfather), Jack Schermond

Cancer: 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), 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 Giovantti - 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

- **March 29 - Palm Sunday** - we will offer these **Sunday school classes:**

Adults

- **Choir Group** - Room 26 (2nd floor), ends by 10:25am
- **Bible Study - James** - Downstairs Dining Hall

Kids

- **Preschool** - Room 29
- **Elementary** - Room 25
- **Middle and High School** - Teen Room

- Today is **Camp Sunday!** Representatives from various camps are here to talk with Sunday school kids about camp (during the Sunday school hour). They will also be available to talk with parents after the late service. **Parents**, be sure to **learn more about summer camps today!!**
- **The Care Team Volunteer Potluck is TODAY from 12-2 p.m., in the United Church Dining Hall.** Looking forward to interacting with, showing support AND appreciation for those of you who serve as a *Steward, Care Minister, Transportation driver, Meal Train volunteer, Visitation team member, Hospitality helper, Card Ministry writer, Support Team member, or Prayer Shawl creator*
- ****Registration for Rainforest Falls VBS is open!** All children, ages 4-years-old through those entering 6th grade (Fall 2026) are welcome to participate. Our VBS is scheduled for **July 13-17, 9am-12pm**. We hope you can join us and invite a friend! Use the QR code to register.
- **Our Greeter/Coordinator for March: Margie W.** Please contact Margie 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.*

Getting Involved

Are you interested in **Children's Ministry**, but not able to make a regular commitment? Great news! **We are in need of subs** for many areas of Children's Ministry. If you are interested in knowing more, please contact Deb Marshall.



School Teacher Appreciation



Are you interested in helping with **School Teacher Appreciation Sunday**? For many years, children/teens from our church have invited a school teacher to attend church with them on a Sunday. We have flowers for them during the service and a cookie and punch reception for them after the service. **We are looking for a few people to organize this event**, which is scheduled to happen on **April 19th** during and after the **11am service**. Please let Deb M know if you are interested in helping.

It's Campership Season!

Our church believes deeply in the impact of Christian summer camp, so we offer **camperships** to help make it possible for every child to attend. A campership is **available to any child** who participates in Sunday mornings, Youth Club, or The Cause. It covers:

- **Half the cost** of one week of any Christian day or overnight camp
- **Up to the full cost**, if there is financial need

If you'd like to use a campership:

1. Register your child for the Christian camp.
2. Pay either the deposit or half of the total cost.
3. Email proof of registration to me at deb.marshall@uccdga.org.

I'll take care of the rest! **The deadline for campership requests is May 20.**



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The prayer shawl group will meet on **Tuesday the 17th of March at 7:00** in the fellowship room. Please join us, new members are always welcome!



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

2026 Mexico Mission Trip

March 19th-28th

The United Church participants **Shea Leigh B., Mary and Ben H., Lori and Ray Mc., and Linda W.** will fly to Cancún on Thursday to connect with the rest of our team of Marion N., Paul S., and Eigner J. before driving south to Bacalar, in Quintana Roo, Mexico. At the core of our work is supporting covenant relationships with in country "operating partners" at three **Living Waters for the World (LWW) purified water plants in Cedralito, Limones, and Tabi**. Projects include installing a generator in Cedralito, providing health & spiritual education materials in Limones, and introducing new technology in Tabi. But **the heart of our work will begin at Iglesia Emmanuel, the beloved church in Bacalar**, where our United Church enjoyed a faithful partnership in past years. We are to be hosted with a welcome dinner on Friday, will join them on Saturday with activities in their mission community of San Fernando, and engage with the congregation on Sunday for Sunday school and worship. Will you please keep us, and those we serve, in your thoughts and prayers throughout our ten day mission? As Paul reflects in Philippians 1:3-5 ...
"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now."



North Carolina Hurricane Relief Mission Trip

March 28-April 3



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. Trip participants are **Louise and Kerry V., Deb and Bruce G., Amelia A., Grace P., Anna Z., Mark S., and Sonya B.**

We are looking for 9 prayer partners! 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!** **Feel free to take a bookmark from the Welcome Desk with daily prayers for the group.**

Abundant Life Fellowship Donations

You may have read in the news that the church building of Abundant Life Fellowship, located in Boonville, NY, **tragically burned to the ground February 17th**. We, at the United Church, are able to reflect upon our history in remembering the fire that destroyed the First Baptist Church of Canandaigua nearly 85 years ago.

The daughter of **Paul and Beth Johnson**, long time members of our church who served in an exemplary number of ministry capacities throughout the years, serves as the Office Manager at Abundant Life. **Lydia, her husband Andy** (they met at Beaver Camp!) **and four children** are likewise involved in many ministries at Abundant Life. We, and Abundant Life Fellowship, know ‘the church’ is the people within. However, while sitting in our beautiful sanctuary, consider how heartbreaking it would be for us to lose our church building!

Our Mission Team has committed \$500 toward Abundant Life Fellowship’s recovery. Additionally, if you are able, **we are encouraging our congregation to contribute toward the rebuilding** of this valuable ministry in upstate NY. Marked envelopes are available at the sanctuary doors as well as the Missions area. These envelopes, with cash or check made out to The United Church with “ALF” in the memo, can be put into the offering plates or left in the office. An on-line giving option is also available at our website. <https://uccdga.churchcenter.com/giving> Select the “Missions - Abundant Life Fellowship” fund.

Thank you for praying for everyone who was injured (some are still in the hospital at last report) as well as for the congregation as a whole during this time of healing and rebuilding. We are looking forward to seeing God’s plans unfold for Abundant Life Fellowship.

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. **Especially needed by CCIA: pasta sauce, tuna, cereal – not always available through FoodLink**. 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.



LILY ORDERS



Please Print Legibly

Name: _____

I would like to order _____ Lilies (at \$15 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: _____

Place this in the offering plate WITH your check made payable to “The United Church”. 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, MARCH 22.

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

Here I Am to Worship with My Jesus, I Love Thee (11:00 service)
arr. Larry Shackley

Light of the World,
you stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes, let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore you,
Hope of a life spent with you.

Chorus

So, here I am to worship,
Here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that you're my God.
You're altogether lovely,
Altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine.
For thee, all the follies of sin I resign.
My gracious Redeemer, my savior art thou,
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

King of all days, oh so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly you came to the world you created,
All for love's sake became poor.

(X2) And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross. **Chorus**

I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow,
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

Maundy Thursday Service

Join us for our Maundy Thursday service on **April 2nd at 7 pm** as we explore the seven sayings of Jesus from the cross.

Once A Woman Seeking Water (11:00 service)

Once a woman seeking water at a well not far from home
Met a thirsty, waiting stranger from a people not her own.
Would she give a drink of water and respond to human need?
Could she know the joy and wonder she, the giver, would receive?

She drew water for the thirsty; Jesus offered something more:
Living water, God's own mercy, love abundant, freely poured.
One, a blessing for the body; one, a blessing for the soul!
Both are gifts of our Creator — gifts that help to make us whole.

Still God's people carry water from their wells and mountain streams;
Still at rivers women gather, sharing labor, sharing dreams.
Still a cup of water given in a dry and weary place
Is a blessing overflowing from the fountain of God's grace.

God, we ask your richest favor on the work we seek to do;
May we gladly share clean water and your living water, too.
May we see the face of Jesus, and how far your love extends,
In the ones we call our partners — no more strangers, now our friends.

Silent Auction: Sunday, June 7 through Sunday, June 14, 2026
To Benefit Mission Trips

Do you like bargains? Do you enjoy auctions? If so, the Mission Committee's Silent Auction is for you. The funds raised for our Trip Fund will assist our Youth and Adults as they go out into the mission field. We need **donors** of items such as: home crafted items, store bought items, gift baskets, pledges of your time or talents to help someone (such as 1 or 2 hours of gardening or babysitting time), antiques, a boat ride on Canandaigua Lake, a home cooked meal for a group of people, a cottage rental, etc. Donation forms and collection box will be in the Welcome Center beginning March 29th. If you would like to help or have any questions, please contact Nancy Abdallah at nancycabdallah@gmail.com or 585-749-4313.

