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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
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Director of Care Ministries:	Christy Allen	christy.allen@uccdga.org
Office Manager & Financial Sec.:	Carolyn Russell	office@uccdga.org
Treasurer:	Nancy Lamberson	nancy.lamberson@uccdga.org
Choir Director:	Georgia Sperano	gsperano@rochester.rr.com
Organist:	David Kraft	
Custodian:	Dan Crowley	

WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH

PHOTO CREDIT: AMIE MCMULLIN

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026



THE
UNITED
CHURCH
CANANDAIGUA



Order of Worship for
SEPTEMBER 20, 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: “Méditation” by Victor Paul

WELCOME AND GREETING TO OUR ONLINE CONGREGATION

OUR PREPARATION

Focus of the Day: Be strong isn’t about impressive results, it’s about trusting God’s presence in unfinished work.

INTROIT: (11:00) “Be Still”

United Church Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Be strong, declares the Lord Almighty, for I am with you.

People: Even when our work feels unfinished, Lord, you are near.

Leader: The silver is mine and the gold is mine, declares the Lord.

People: Everything we have and everything we are belongs to you.

Leader: Come, let us worship the God whose presence is greater than any glory we could build.

All: Be strong, for the Lord Almighty is with us. We worship you today.

***HYMN #336: “God Is My Great Desire”**

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***OPENING PRAYER:** Lord Almighty, you are near to us even when our work feels unfinished and our efforts feel small. Search our hearts today, and remind us that your presence, not our progress, is what makes us strong. Give us courage to keep going, trusting that you are with us in every unfinished thing. Let us pray together the prayer Jesus taught us ... 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 46:1-7 (page 559) {A.B. page 634}

ANTHEM: (11:00) “Brethren, We Have Met to Worship” arr. Patti Drennan (words on insert)
United Church Choir acc. David Kraft (organ) & June Pettit (piano)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE AND 3RD GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION: (11:00)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 8:1-4 (page 962) {A.B. page 1060}

Sermon
“From This Day On”
(Haggai 2:1-23)
Pastor Wade Allen

OUR RESPONSE IN FAITH

***HYMN #585: “Speak, Lord, in the Stillness”**

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CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY: “Prelude on Leoni” by Richard Proulx

***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 #661: “Be Strong in the Lord”**

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SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER PRAYER

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: “Fantasy on ‘A mighty fortress is our God’” by Jan Zwart

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

PRAYER SUPPORT IN THE NARTHEX: (11:00) Trained Care Ministers are available following the service to pray for anyone desiring prayer

Please turn to the Prayer Requests page on the back of the bulletin insert for birth announcements.

Scriptures for next week, September 27

Sermon Scripture: **Zechariah 1:1-21**

First Reading: **Psalms 130**

Second Reading: **James 4:8**

The rosebud today is to celebrate the birth of Elijah Matthew Ripoli on September 15th. His parents are Margaret and Nate Ripoli. He is joyfully welcomed by his siblings, Isaac, Peter, and Elinaor. His grandparents are Melissa and Tom Wormer. May God bless Elijah with a life filled with faith, love, and joy, and may He grant the entire Ripoli family abundant grace as they celebrate this precious new addition!

We also joyfully celebrate the birth of Anna Elaine Marcheselli on September 5th in Michigan. Her parents are Macy and Ed Marcheselli. Her grandparents are Jenny and Jeb Baxter. Please keep the family in your prayers during this special time.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Health concerns: Marion Sumpter, Beth Smythe, Claire Sheppard and family, Linda Gilbert and Braeden Flynn, Daniel Zimmerman (nephew of Wendy Bacon), Cheryl Casey, Jenifer Parks (friend of Natalie DeTraglia), Bill Kenyon, Everest Ferrante and Ardelle Walter (Ardelle Bigos relatives), Martha Ashley, Sherry Wesley (cousin of Sue V and Sandi D), Scott Smail (friend of Kathleen Boniak), Sheila Henderson, Phil Greene (Sharon Meyer's brother), Rodney Newfrock (friend of Elaine Allen), Jessica Canham (Sharyn's daughter), Tom Babcock (friend of Jenny Caron), 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)

Cancer: Sumer Miller, Bruce G (brother-in-law of Kathi Nacca), Scott Kesel (friend of Sandi D), David Landon (friend of Sue V and Sandi D), Michael M. (friend of Kathi Nacca), Steve J. (Claire Sheppard's brother), 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), Jim Davis (Scott's father), Stephen Carges (Paula Traber's brother)

Military Service: Tech SGT Nicholas DeVillano (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

- **Registration for Youth Club is open!** You can register by using the QR code. Look further inside the bulletin for more information about Youth Club.
- **Youth Club begins Oct 7! Volunteers needed:** Deb is in the midst of recruiting volunteers for Youth Club. Some areas we need help are...
 - **Welcome Table** (choose a 1 hour "shift") from 3:30-6:30
 - **Making crafts with kids:** During recreation time, some kids make crafts. These children range in age from 2nd grade to 5th grade. You can help plan and prep the crafts and/or you can come from 3:15-4:15 to help with crafts.
- **Youth Club volunteer training dates:** Sept 30 at 5:30pm or Oct 1 at 10am - please come to ONE training session. Thank you!
- **Parents:** Mark your calendar to join us for pizza dinner (5:40pm) and parent meeting (6pm) on Oct 7.
- **Our Greeter/Coordinator for September: Melissa W.** Please contact Melissa or the office 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!**

Celebrating Our Staff

Today we celebrate **Georgia Sperano's twenty years as our Choir Director.** There will be a **recognition after the second service** in the Fellowship Room, as well as a **card to sign** in the Welcome Center following both services today.





Families & Children

Do you have little ones with you? **We're glad you're here!** We offer several options to help families worship comfortably together.

We invite each family to choose the worship option that works best for them. *At the same time, we kindly ask that if a child becomes disruptive during the service, they be taken from the sanctuary until they are settled.* Thank you for helping us create a welcoming worship environment for all.

Nursery care is available during the service. **Children (infants through 5-years-old) are welcome in the nursery at any time during the service.** All nursery volunteers are background checked. The infant nursery, which is located adjacent to the preschool nursery, is also open and available for parents to use during the service for diaper changes, nursing, etc.

Children's Time is offered after the Children's Sermon on most Sundays for **children in Kindergarten through 5th grade.**



Learning to Worship/ Understanding Your Faith is offered after the Children's Sermon every Sunday through Nov 1 **for children in 3rd through 5th grade.**

The narthex (the area through the back doors of the sanctuary) is also **available throughout the service for children and a caregiver.** This space allows you to continue seeing and hearing the service while giving your child the freedom to move around or make a little noise.

For children who remain in the service, the worship activity cart will be available in the narthex every Sunday. Please be sure to return reusable items.



Intergenerational Women's Group

In the spring of this year the United Church hosted an Intergenerational Women's Retreat. It was well attended and the feedback we received was very positive. Many commented on

the fact that **when women gather support is shared, relationships are built and faith is strengthened.** With such a wonderful response and an interest in continuing these gatherings we are offering an Intergenerational Women's Group **monthly this fall, September through January.** Our hope is to foster relationships across generational boundaries to provide faith, encouragement and shared wisdom. Mothers & Daughters, Friends across generations and all individuals are invited. The group will be limited to 20 people.



Prayer, open discussion, individual experiences and small break-out activities will be included.

The group will be facilitated by Nancy Bowllan, Amie M. and Margie W. and held on **Thursdays: 9/24, 10/15, 11/19, 12/17 and 1/21 in the Fellowship Room from 5pm to 6:15pm.** A snack and childcare will be provided.

Nancy can be reached at 585-683-1914 if you have any questions or would be interested in participating.

If you'd like to help with child-care, we need a baby sitter at the church during the first meeting (Sept. 24, 5pm-6:15pm).

Caregiver Coffee Klatch

The Caregiver Coffee Klatch will continue into the fall. We provide a caring place of conversation and encouragement. Any and all caregivers are invited to join us. We encourage our church family to share information and a flyer with caregivers you might know in the community.

Fall meeting dates: 9/14, 10/5, 10/19, 11/2, 11/16, 12/7, 12/21

Questions? Contact Kory: korymassey3@gmail.com



A Farewell Reception for Marion Sumpter

Please join us for a reception honoring Marion Sumpter **following the 11:00 a.m. worship service on September 27 in the Fellowship Room.** Marion will soon be moving to Ohio to live near her daughter. During her time as part of our church family, she has served faithfully in many ministries and blessed us with her enthusiasm, warm smile, generosity, creativity, and servant's heart.

Financial Report through August 31st.

During the first seven months of the year, donations and pledges received were \$13,221.45 less than budgeted and \$8,957.68 less than the same period in 2025. Total net loss for this period was \$25,026.59. Our budget for 2026 predicted that we would have a deficit of \$23,621.31, so we have lost an additional \$1,405.28 so far.

We have had two months so far this year where we have not even been able to cover all of the costs for the staff let alone any other expenses that we incur on a regular basis. The staff are doing all that they can to cut back on costs. Ultimately, our financial problems are not due to spending more than expected; they are due to a large decrease in pledges and donations that we were unable to predict. **Please prayerfully consider contributing more to help keep our programs going.**

We will begin the budgeting process for 2027 very soon and anticipate having less money to allocate to programs. For this reason, **we are not inviting budget requests for 2027.** At some point this fall, we will contact each program/team/committee and let you know how much we anticipate being able to allocate to you. All groups will be receiving less than they have in the past.

The Finance Committee will hold an informational meeting with regards to the finances on Sunday Oct 18th. Please watch for more information in the next few weeks.

Youth Club

Youth Club is our weekly **after school ministry** for kids in **2nd-8th grade**. Youth Club **begins on Wednesday, October 7** and ends on Wednesday, April 28, 2027.

How it works: Adults from our church pick up 6th-8th grade students from Canandaigua Middle School and drive them to the church. Different adults from our Church pick up 2nd-5th grade students (who are dismissed with walkers) near the Elementary cafeteria/elevators. These kids and adults walk up to the church together. Students from other schools/districts and homeschooled students are welcome to join Youth Club if their parents are able to provide transportation.

Our Youth Club time includes: snacks, Recreation (crafts/games), Bible study, Worship, and Family Time (dinner). **Parents pick up their kids at 6:30pm.** Questions? See Deb Marshall. Register here **by September 30:** <https://uccdga.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/3871551> **Please note:** All adults working with children in any capacity are background checked.



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

Habitat for Humanity Dedication

Greater Rochester Habitat for Humanity invites us to the special **Dedication of their 128 Tillotson Street home on Friday, September 25th at 3:00pm.** This is the home that we framed the walls for at last summer's "Framing Frenzy" and the home we worked on during this summer's Mission Week. How good it is to know we have helped bring hope to this family through home ownership!



Foodlink's "Pop-Up Food Pantry"

will welcome volunteers on **Monday, September 28th from 9:00-11:00am** at the Town of Canandaigua Highway Barn, 5440 Routes 5 & 20. As "hands-on" volunteers we work with others from our community to package food as it comes off Foodlink's truck and load the items into vehicles as recipients drive through the barn. We are blessed to have this monthly opportunity to provide emergency food relief to many.



Mission Grocery Donations

With rising food costs, more families are turning to food pantries to help put food on the table. Some are going into credit card debt with grocery expenses. CCIA is experiencing a large jump in the number of 1st time families. Your food donations here will help supply the Salvation Army and CCIA (Canandaigua Churches in Action) Food Pantries. CCIA needs staples such as **spaghetti sauce, canned fruit and vegetables, tuna, and cereal** (which is not always available through FoodLink). Donations can be placed in the Mission Center. Thank you for sharing out of what God has given you!

North Carolina Mission Trip 2027

There will be an informational meeting for the 2027 Inter-generational Mission Trip. The trip is planned for **March 20 - 26** and we will be returning to Black Mountain, NC. We will be working with the **Valley Hope Foundation** (valleyhopefoundation.org) once again as well as starting a relationship with **Black Mountain Home for children (BMH)** (blackmountainhome.org). BMH is an organization that works with children displaced from their families. Please join us on **Oct. 11 at 12:00 in the Fellowship room** for more information and if you are thinking about joining the team. Contact Sonya B. (sonya.brooks99@yahoo.com) with any questions.



Baby Blessings Tea

Join us for the Baby Blessings Tea, an afternoon of warmth and celebration. Presented by Care Net at Crosswinds Church, this special gathering promises delightful treats and uplifting moments. Included with your ticket are fine teas, assorted sweets, savory bites, fresh fruit, elegantly served on tiered trays at your table.

Advance ticket sales only, as seating is limited.

Take the opportunity to bid on beautiful raffle baskets.

- ✦ Date: October 3rd
- ✦ Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- ✦ Tickets are \$30.
- ✦ Call Care Net at (585) 393-0437 for reservations by 9/28/26



Diaper and Wipes Collection for Care Net



September's Mission Collection is asking for donations of **baby wipes and diapers (all sizes, but most needed are sizes 4 and 6)** to benefit the Care Net ministry here in Canandaigua. One way Care Net supports new moms is by providing diapers, wipes, and formula so they can make it to the next paycheck. Let's also support these moms in this way and with your prayers. Please place your donations in the marked tote in the Mission Center.

Would You Join Our Care Ministry Card Team to Send Cards of Care?

Help send cards to people in our church family experiencing illness, surgery, loss, or joyful occasions. Volunteers take turns, so the time commitment is small. A few handwritten words can make a meaningful difference. You do not have to make the cards yourself; purchased cards are welcome.

To learn more, contact Christy at 765-717-5229 or christy.allen@uccdga.org, or Sue Vadney at 585-739-8615 or seavad@rochester.rr.com



Brethren, We Have Met to Worship

arr. Patti Drennan

Verse 1

Brethren we have met to worship,
And adore the Lord our God;
Will you pray with all your power,
While we try to preach the Word?
All is vain unless the Spirit
Of the Holy One comes down
Brethren, pray, & holy manna
Will be showered all around.

Verse 2

Sisters, will you join and help us?
Moses' sister aided him;
Will you help the trembling mourners
Who are struggling hard with sin?
Tell them all about the Savior
Tell them that He will be found!
Sisters, pray, and holy manna
Will be showered all around.

Verse 3

Let us love our God supremely,
Let us love each other, too;
Let us love and pray for sinners,
'Till our God makes all things new.
Then He'll call us home to Heaven
At His table we'll sit down.
Christ will gird Himself and serve us
With sweet manna all around.

Ending

Amen (X4). Alleluia! Amen! Amen!

Join Bell Choir!

Do you have experience playing bells or can read music and would love to learn to play?

If interested, please see June Pettit.
Or contact her at 585-730-0775 or Pettitjune@gmail.com

