

2026 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
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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:	Katrina LaRose	

WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday
OCTOBER 25, 2026

PHOTO CREDIT: DAN FRYE
WESLEY HILL NATURE PRESERVE



THE
UNITED
CHURCH
CANANDAIGUA



Order of Worship for
OCTOBER 25, 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: “Fugue No. 3 on the Name BACH” by Robert Schumann

WELCOME AND GREETING TO OUR ONLINE CONGREGATION

OUR PREPARATION

Focus of the Day: God isn’t after our religious routine, he’s after us.

INTROIT: (11:00) “Open Our Eyes, Lord” (Hymn #536)

Congregation

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,
to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen,
open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Was it really for me that you fasted? says the Lord.

People: Search us, O God, and show us our hearts.

Leader: Administer true justice, show mercy and compassion to one another.

People: Teach us to worship you with our whole lives.

Leader: Your fasts will become joyful and glad occasions.

All: God isn’t after our religious routine, he’s after us.

***HYMN #712: “The Kingdom of God Is Justice and Joy”**

***OPENING PRAYER:** Lord Almighty, you have never wanted our routines more than you have wanted us. Forgive us for the mornings we bring you our habits and keep our hearts to ourselves. Meet us here, and make this hour a real conversation with you and not a duty we complete. 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 51:15-17 (page 562) {A.B. page 637}

SPECIAL MUSIC: (11:00) “How Great Thou Art/This is My Father’s World” arr. M. Helman
United Church Bell Choir

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE: (11:00)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Mark 7:5-8 (page 997) {A.B. page 1103}

Sermon

“Is Your Heart In It?”
(Zechariah 7-8)
Pastor Wade Allen

OUR RESPONSE IN FAITH

***HYMN #559: “Make Room within My Heart, O God”**

CCLI Song #423806, ©1973 Hope Pub. Co., CCLI Lic. #11593017

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY: “Do Lord” arr. V. Stephenson

United Church Bell Choir

***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 #531: “O Love That Will Not Let Me Go”**

CCLI Song #4721758, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: Hymn-Prelude on the Tune “Hanover” by Wilfred J. Emery

** 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

Scriptures for next week, November 1

Sermon Scripture: **Zechariah 9-10**

First Reading: **Psalms 40:1-5**

Second Reading: **Philippians 2:5-11**

PRAYER REQUESTS

Health concerns: Chris Van Riper (nephew of Jeff and Joy), 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, Deanna Stocker and Everest Ferrante (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), 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)

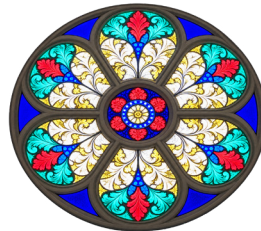
Missionaries: Carlos Bonilla & Mayra Giovantti – the BGs (Central/South America), Christy Lafferty (Nicaragua), Leodegario Hernandez & Maria Angela Bautista (Bacalar, Mexico pastoral couple), Rev. Nancy and Rev. Shelvis Smith-Mather (South Sudan), Sally Gates (UK), Matt and Meredith Snell (Fort Drum, NY).

Stewardship Update

One week remains in the **pledge season for the 2027 year**. We have had **58** pledges returned, with **\$210,423** pledged to Operating and **\$45,682** pledged to Missions.

There are extra pledge form packets in the Welcome Center. Feel free to place them in the offering plate, mail them in, or put them in the box marked "Pledges".

It would be helpful to return pledge forms **by November 1st** if possible, to assist our Trustees in preparing a budget for approval. Watch the future bulletin announcements and the poster of the rose window track our progress!



Highlights for This Week

- We are **collecting stocking stuffer donations** for our Youth Club stocking project, **due NEXT SUNDAY, November 1st**. There's more info inside the bulletin.
- Our Greeter/Coordinator for November: Bill F.** Please contact Dan 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!**



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.



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 2nd 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.

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.



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

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!



Family Promise Gift Cards

Family Promise of Ontario County (FPOC) helps families facing or experiencing **homelessness** by providing them a stable place to live, work and financial education, and other support needed to get on their feet. The new FPOC static site on N. Main St is open and active!!! This will have such a positive impact for families living on the edge. God knows and cares! And so do we!

During **October**, our church family would like to help FPOC by **donating \$25, \$50, or \$100 grocery and/or fuel gift cards, or by writing a check to Family Promise**. Families purchase their own groceries, make their own meals, and fuel their own cars, if they have them. Please consider chipping in! Gift cards may be placed in the offering plate or left with Carolyn during office hours. Questions? Please see Cathy or Mary Lou. Please add your prayers to this and Thank You for your consideration!

- The Mission Collection Team

Beaver Camp Fundraising Dinner

November 7, 2026 @ 5:30 pm in The United Church Dining Room

An opportunity to support and learn about the place that has changed the lives and faith of many in our congregation. Tickets are complimentary, and we graciously ask guests to make a donation to help support the event and its mission. Your generosity is appreciated. See Bob or Brenda Cunningham for tickets.



Youth Club Mission Project

Christmas Stockings for NYC. We are preparing for the Youth Club stocking project. These stockings are given to children along with a presentation of the Gospel message. **Donated items must be new, small and able to fit into a 5"x 9" stocking.** Stocking stuffer ideas: toy cars, yo-yos, small games, bouncy balls, gum, socks, hard candy, hair accessories, jump ropes, coin purses, jewelry, trading cards, pencils/pencil sharpeners, gloves, hats, small stuffed animals or dolls, etc! **Note:** Coloring books and most small puzzles are too large for these stockings. Please no toy weapons or violent action figures. Please bring your donations to Deb's office. Items need to be donated **by November 1**. Thank you!!



Exploring Membership Class

In 1942, fire destroyed the First Baptist Church of Canandaigua. A few years later, the Presbyterians down the street opened their doors. That invitation became The United Church.

We'd love to tell you more of that story. Join us for our **Exploring Membership class on Sunday, November 15, from 9:45 to 10:45 AM**. We'll share our history and how our two traditions shape our life today. We'll also walk through the ways you can become a member. Bring your questions!



Whether you're ready to join or just want to learn more, you're welcome.

Sign up online at uccdga.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/3937216 or call the church office.

Harvest Potluck Gathering & Advent Decoration Night - A celebratory gathering with our church family...

Join us at **5PM on November 22** for Christmas worship music, a potluck dinner, and Advent decorating! *Everyone is invited!*

Here is our agenda:

- **5:00pm - Welcome and Worship**
- **5:30pm - Thanksgiving-Themed Dinner Potluck**
- **6:15pm - Church Advent Decorating (all ages)**
- **7:45pm - End**

We need your help! Sign-Up in the Welcome Center OR Online!

- Dining Hall Room Set Up and Clean Up
- Potluck Set Up and Clean Up
- Worship Tech Support
- Christmas Tree Assembly & Decorating
- Various Advent Decorations (Sanctuary, Welcome Center, etc.)
- Upstairs and Youth Room Decoration
- Support of Children ornament creation activities

