

2025 Leadership of The United Church

Official Board

Linda Werts*(P)

Sonya Brooks (P)

Mary Beth Fortunato (U)

Jim Boseck (U)

Dale Zajac (P)

Paul Johnson (U)

Walter Marshall (Youth)

Board of Trustees

Dan Brooks*(P)

Connie Frye (U)

Dean Williamson (U)

Steve Smythe (P)

John Eveleigh (P)

Board of Stewards

Rachel Rensberger*

Marion Sumpter*

Bev Fehrenbach

Bill Fortunato*

Gail Benjamin

Endowment Trustees

Kerry Van Iseghem

Mark Sheppard

Tom Wormer

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

Tom Sheppard (U)

Ed Blance (P)

Jen Eveleigh (B)

Bob Cunningham (B)

Wendy Bacon (U)

Chris Zajac (Youth)

Brian Wiser (U)

Dean Gyoerkoe (B)

Lynn Bernard* (B)

Rob Clark (B)

Wes Posson (U)

Jim Abdallah (U)

Sharyn Canham

Wanda Munt

Dan Frye

Leslie Roof

Rich Bush

Ric Parsons

David Russell

WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday

DECEMBER 14, 2025



THE
UNITED
CHURCH
CANANDAIGUA



THE
UNITED
CHURCH
CANANDAIGUA

Order of Worship for
DECEMBER 14, 2025



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: "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme" by Johann Sebastian Bach

WELCOME AND GREETING TO OUR ONLINE CONGREGATION

OUR PREPARATION

Focus of the Day: Trusting God's faithfulness while longing for him to make all things right.

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

The United Church Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: We gather as people who long for God to make all things right.

People: In a world of brokenness, we seek the God of Jacob.

Leader: Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God.

People: He remains faithful forever and makes all things right.

Leader: The Lord reigns forever, for all generations.

People: Come, let us worship the God who makes all things right.

All: Praise the Lord!

***HYMN #157: "Good Christians Friends, Rejoice"**

CCLI Song #85158, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

***OPENING PRAYER:** Gracious God, we come before you this morning acknowledging our deep longing for you to make all things right in our broken world. As we worship together, help us place our hope not in temporary human solutions but in your eternal faithfulness and love. We pray this in Jesus' name, who taught us to pray...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: James 5:7-10 (page 1199) {A.B. page 1357}

SPECIAL MUSIC: (8:45) "Breath of Heaven" arr. Emerson (words on insert)
Nancy Burt-Preece, Nancy Lamberson, Joy Van Riper

ANTHEM: (11:00) "I Wonder as I Wander" (words on insert)
The United Church Choir, Anna Zajac (soloist)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: (11:00)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 11:2-11 (page 965) {A.B. page 1064}

SPECIAL MUSIC: (11:00) "Light of the World" (words on insert) Jim Boseck

Sermon

"Longing for God to Make All Things Right"
(Psalm 146:5-10)
Pastor Wade Allen

OUR RESPONSE IN FAITH

***HYMN #179: "God's Love Made Visible"**

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY: "Good Christian Men, Rejoice" by Paul Manz

***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.

CCLI Song #29080, Public Domain, CCLI Lic. #11593017

***HYMN #151: "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: Sortie on "Go Tell It on the Mountain" by Crys Armbrust

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

Health concerns: Jack Bigos (surgery 12/11), Maverick Ferrante (surgery 12/23) (Ardell Bigos' grandson), Jackie Brown (Linda Bailey's sister), Preemie 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), unborn daughter of Laura & Conner Fry (heart issues, relatives of VanIseghems), Wendy Stoddard, Braeden Flynn, Shirley Kem, Phil Greene (Sharon Meyer's brother), Pastor Debbie Kamm (pastor at Dundee Baptist), Kathleen (Wanda Munt's daughter), Emma Sanford (granddaughter of Karen), Shane Collins (from LeTourneau), 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), Leodegaro 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:
 - **Sunday, December 21** - one service at 11am featuring our **Christmas Cantata** (no early service, no Sunday school)
 - **Sunday, December 28** - one service at 11am to pray for our New Year (no early service, no Sunday school)
 - **Sunday, January 4** - return to two services at 8:45am and 11am; Intergenerational Sunday school at 9:45am in the downstairs dining room. **Please bring a dish to pass if you're able.**
- **Our Greeter/Coordinator for December: 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

The nursery is open for parent use (diaper changes, feeding, etc) during the early service.

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 volunteers in the nursery are background checked.**

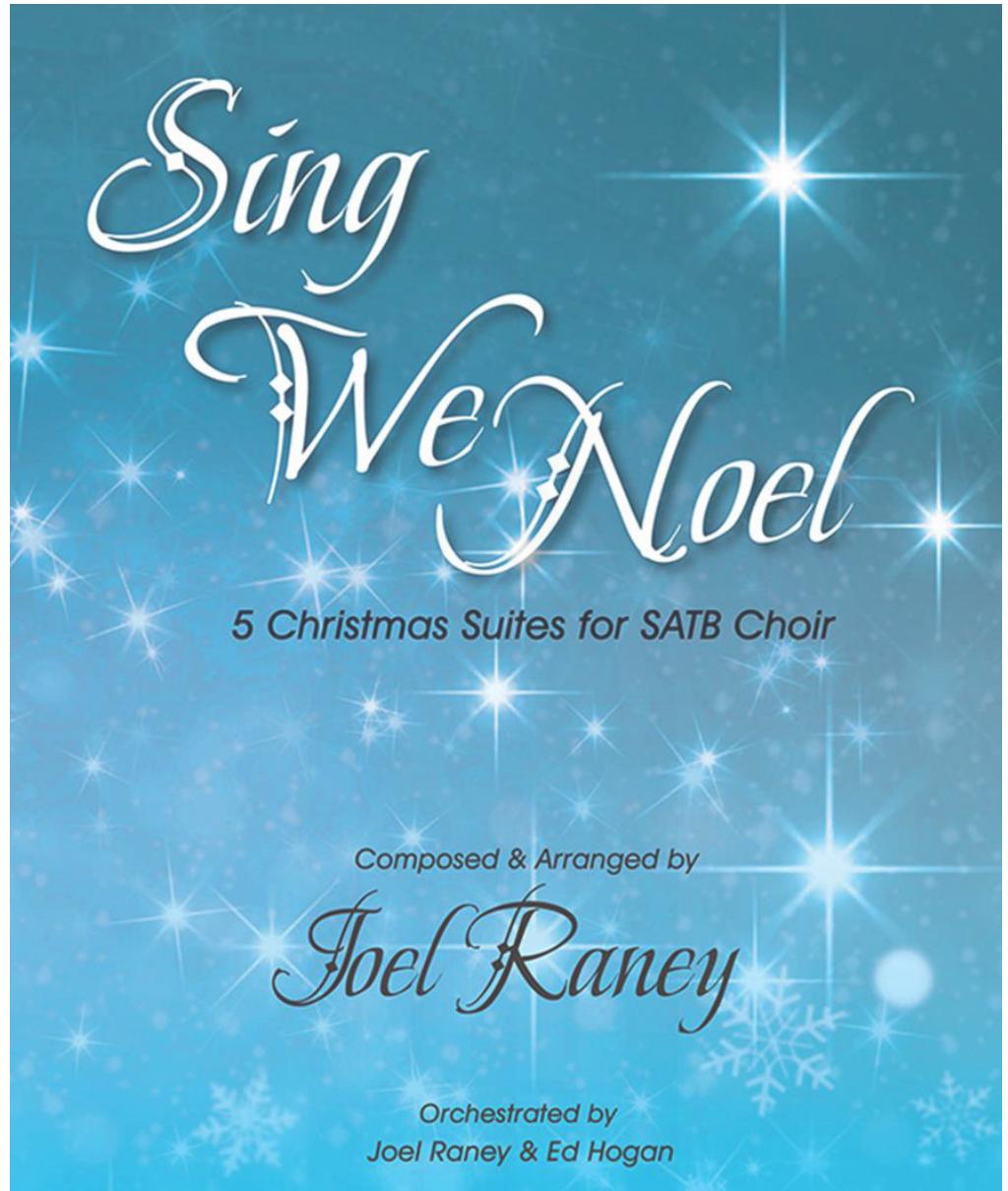
Annual Reports

Reports to be included in the packet for the Annual Meeting on January 25th, are **due to Carolyn by this Friday, Dec 19** (except for those requiring end-of-year data.) Please ask in the office if you have any questions.

Next Sunday is the Christmas Cantata!

Please join us **during the 11:00 worship service Sunday, December 21st.** (there is no 8:45 service next week) A presentation of "Sing We Noel, 5 Christmas Suites", will be sung by a **40 voice choir accompanied by a 9 piece instrumental ensemble**. Each movement is based on a variety of different scriptures. This captivating Christmas work is designed to bring the joy and majesty of the season to life in a variety of settings. You won't want to miss this part of your Christmas celebrations. Bring a friend! It's free!

As always, the service will also be **livestreamed** for those that can't join us in person. Find the link through the church website or go to <https://www.youtube.com/@uccdgastreams>



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

North Carolina Mission Trip

2026 is almost upon us and that means the North Carolina hurricane relief mission trip is only 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.

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.



Christmas Angel Tree

Thank you to all who donated gifts for the **Christmas Angel Tree**! All 110 tags were taken! The gifts were delivered to St. Mary's Thursday for distribution. We appreciate your response! This was helpful to many many families. ~ the Mission Collection Team

Thank You!

It is with great appreciation that the Mission Team thanks **Beth and Paul Johnson!** They so graciously had an estate sale on two different days with all the proceeds designated for our church's mission work! **A total of \$1,363 was raised** and lots of wonderful items found new homes. Thanks again Beth & Paul!!

Silent Auction

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

The Christmas Card Connection

This December, help share the love of Christ by **sending Christmas cards** to those in our church family who would be especially uplifted by a kind note—our Senior Companions and friends living in senior living communities.

Cards and address lists, provided by the Stewards' Ministry, are available in the Missions Room. Pick up a few, add a heartfelt message, and mail your Christmas greetings.



Caroling at the Light Parade

Several of our choir members joined with **choirs from many Canandaigua churches** to sing Christmas carols at the downtown Light Parade on November 29th. It was a very cold night, but the beautiful voices ushering in the Christmas season warmed everyone's hearts! (**even the Grinch!**)

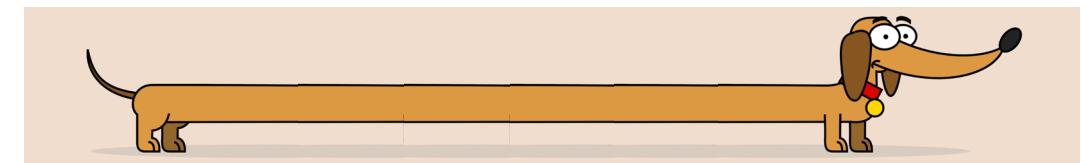


Stewardship and Pledging

Stewardship season is nearing the end! 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 94!** 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 starting this week. If you would like envelopes, but did not yet request them, please ask in the office.



(meet Oscar, the dog, our stewardship mascot)

More Holiday Dates to Put on the Calendar

Watch the Lamplighters and bulletin board for more details...

Sunday, December 21 Christmas Cantata (one service only at 11:00 am)

Wednesday, December 24, Christmas Eve service at 7:00 pm

Sunday, December 28 Prayer Service (one service only at 11:00 am)

December 24-January 2 Office closed for holiday (staff working from home)

Intergenerational Women's Retreat

Saturday, January 31, 10AM-1PM at The United

Church - Women of **all ages** are invited to connect through faith, fellowship, and food! During our time together, **we will engage with biblical stories of women and 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!**



Breath Of Heaven (Mary's Song)

(8:45 service)

Amy Grant and Chris Eaton, arr. Emerson

Verse 1

I have travelled many moonless nights
Cold and weary with a babe inside
And I wonder what I've done
Holy Father, You have come
And chosen me now to carry Your Son

Verse 2

I am waiting in a silent prayer
I am frightened by the load I bear
In a world as cold as stone
Must I walk this path alone?
Be with me now
Be with me now

Chorus

Breath of Heaven
Hold me together
Be forever near me
Breath of Heaven

Breath of Heaven
Lighten my darkness
Pour over me Your Holiness
For you are Holy
Breath of Heaven

Verse 3

Do You wonder as You watch my face?
If a wiser one should have had my place
But I offer all I am
For the mercy of Your plan
Help me be strong
Help me
Help me

Chorus



I Wonder as I Wander (11:00 service)

G. Schirmer

(Mm)

I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
How Jesus the Savior did come for to die,
For poor on'ry people like you and like I...
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in the cow's stall,
(Mary birthed Jesus)
With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.
(in a cow's stall)
But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall,
(High the star's light did fall,)
And the promise of ages it then did recall.
(And the blessed promise of the ages it did recall.)

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
(Jesus wanted anything,)
A star in the sky, or a bird on the wing,
(A star, or bird on wing,)
Or all of God's angels in heaven for to sing,
(Or angels in heaven for to sing,)
He surely could have it, cause he was the King.
(He surely, surely could have had it, cause he was King.)

(back to beginning)

Light of the World (11:00 service) We The Kingdom

Verse 1

Light of the World, Treasure of Heaven
Brilliant like the stars in the wintery sky.
Joy of the Father, reach through the darkness,
Shine across the earth, send the shadows to flight.

Verse 2

Light of the World, from the beginning the tragedies of time
Were no match for Your love.
From great heights of glory, You saw my story
God, You entered in and be came one of us. **(Chorus)**

Verse 3

Light of the World, crown in a manger,
Born for the cross to suffer to save.
High Kind of heaven death is the poorer
We are the richer by the price that He paid. **(Chorus)**

Verse 4

Light of the World soon will be coming,
With fire in His eyes, He will ransom His own.
Through clouds He will lead us
Straight into glory and there He shall reign forevermore. **(Chorus)**

The musical score consists of three staves of music in common time. The top staff is labeled "CHORUS". The lyrics are:

Sing hal - le - lu - jah, sing hal - le - lu - jah. Sing hal - le -

lu - jah for the things He has done! Come and a - dore Him, bow down be - fore Him. Sing hal - le -

lu - jah to the Light of the World.

The middle staff begins at measure 30. The lyrics are:

lu - jah for the things He has done! Come and a - dore Him, bow down be - fore Him. Sing hal - le -

lu - jah to the Light of the World.

The bottom staff begins at measure 38. The lyrics are:

lu - jah to the Light of the World.

Chords indicated above the staves include E♭, B♭(4), Cm, B♭/D, E♭, Cm B♭/D, E♭, and A♭.