

THE UNITED CHURCH
PRESBYTERIAN – AMERICAN BAPTIST
November 19, 2023

PRELUDE: "We Gather Together" by Murray C. Bradshaw

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

OUR PREPARATION

INTROIT: (11:00) "More Love to Thee, O Christ" (Hymn #555)

Focus of the day: Do we exhibit Agape Love?

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Look for God in this place.

People: We search for God's love and peace.

Leader: It is here, given for you out of God's absolute love for you.

People: Lord, help us receive your love and then to bring it to others.

Leader: Peace be to you all.

People: And also to you. AMEN.

***HYMN: #381 "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"**

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***OPENING PRAYER:** Lord of light and power, we come to you this day to learn of your will for our lives. Heal our wounds; lift our spirits; give us courage and confidence to boldly serve you in all that we do. We pray this in Jesus' name, who taught us to pray... Our Father... (using debts and debtors...) Amen.

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

***GLORIA PATRI: #807**

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH THE WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 139:1-12 (page 618) {A.B. page 692}

SPECIAL MUSIC: (8:45) "My Father's World Medley"

arr. Johannah Miller (hymn #384) June Pettit & Kateri Andress (piano duet)

ANTHEM: (11:00) "Song of Thanks" by Dana Mengel

The United Church Choir

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SPECIAL MUSIC: (11:00) "All Creatures of Our God and King"

arr. by Gary Lanier (Hymn #356) Jen Petracchi (clarinet) & June Pettit (piano)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: 1 John 4:7-21 (page 1209) {A.B. page 1373}

THEME SONG: "Love is Patient and Kind" (see green insert)

Sermon

"Love Is, Is Not"

(1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

Pastor Wade Allen

OUR RESPONSE IN FAITH

***HYMN: #690 "Bind Us Together"**

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PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY: (8:45) "Voluntary" by Matthias Hawdon

(11:00) "My Father's World Medley"

arr. Johannah Miller (hymn #384) June Pettit & Kateri Andress (piano duet)

***DOXOLOGY: #809**

***HYMN: #708 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"**

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: Postlude on "Dix" by Lani Smith

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

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Health concerns: Sharon Meyer, Marion Sumpter, Carlos McGregor (Mexican Missionary), Diane Molenaar (Kathy Mills' sister), Carolyn Verspoor, Hiram Bailey, Marcus (friend of Sandi DiCicco), Kainoa Coarsey (great-nephew of Kathie Meredith & David Crowe), Garrett Nayer (nephew of Karen Gardner), Jean Pollard (Ali Boseck's mom), Bob McDougal (MacKenzie Brown's uncle), Denise Loy (friend of Kory Massey), Galen Marty (Mary Holm's father), David Sanford, David Felten (husband of Mary Maida), Denice Tautges (Hiram Bailey's daughter), Jovannie Ramirez (Karen Roaix's grandson), Steve Sedlock (Nancy Tharp's brother), Clancy Cragle (Michelle's grandfather), the Herin Family (relatives of Kathie Meredith), David Crowe, Jack Schermond

Cancer: Tom & Monica Yurik (friends of Bruce & Deb Gardner), Bill Blance (Ed's brother), Paul Miner (brother of Linda Wells), Deb Dawson (Steve Smythe's niece), Mike Cramer (friend of DiCiccos), Brent Gibbs (father of Kristy Aldrich), Sasha (friend of Megan French), Justin Ecklund (friend of James and Sara Henderson), Roderick Simonds (father of Natalie Clark), Rob Stults (cousin of Wade and Christy Allen), Laurie Rudy, Mike Davis (friend of Guy Green), Dawn Miller, Mary J. Havens (Mary Lou's step-daughter), David Pagoda (friend of Eveleigh family), Keith Laursen (Tim's brother), Jim Davis (Scott's father), Jackie Crego (Stan and Evey Wright's daughter), Stephen Carges (brother of Paula Traber), Jon Santmyer (friend of Malecs)

Recovering: Sara Henderson, Steve Smythe, Arlene Willett, Patti Cagwin, Kathy Mills, Shirley Kem, Mary Jane Laird

Comfort and Peace: Richard Zimmerman (Wendy Bacon's father)

MILITARY SERVICE: US Army LT1 Andrew Marlin (Tyler Bosescks husband) deployed to South Korea, LTJG Nick Castiller (USN), MAC Adam Thorman (USN) returned from deployment, E6 Cody Wells (USN) returned from deployment, Technical Sergeant Timothy Peck (USAF) home from deployment

MISSIONARIES: Carlos Bonilla & Mayra Giovantti – the BGs (Central/South America), Tim & Patti Long (Baja Mexico), Shelvis & Nancy Smith-Mather (S Sudan refugees in Uganda), Ryan & Alethia White (Berlin)

CORPORATE PRAYER

WEEKLY PRAYER – All are invited to join us in prayer!

Two Choices: Before or after Sunday School!

- 1) **9:00 AM – 9:30 AM** – Fellowship Room
 - 2) **11:00 AM – 11:30 AM** – Fellowship Room
-

Wednesday Morning Men's Prayer Breakfast invites you!

Men of all ages are invited to join us at 7:00 am Wednesday morning in the Fellowship Room for a hot breakfast, prayer and Bible study.



Highlights for This Week!

- **ADVENT DEVOTIONALS** - This year's devotional can be picked up on the table near the Sanctuary's south entrance! There is no cost for this devotional. Free Will donations can be added to the offering plate.
- **2024 CALENDAR YOUTH FUNDRAISER** - Support our youth's 2024 mission trips by purchasing our yearly calendars! \$8 per calendar. Available after both services, until sold out.
- Mark your calendars for our annual **Christmas pageant** on **December 17 at 10am**. We will have **one practice** on **December 16 at 9am**.
- Save the dates for our upcoming Christmas concerts...
 - Dec 2 at 7pm: Christmas Ceilidh Band Concert
 - Dec 10 at 3pm: FLSO Holiday Concert
 - Dec 16 at 7pm: Christmas Organ Concert (Ivan Bosnar)

Nursery care is offered during both services (8:45 & 11:00) and during the Sunday school hour (9:45-10:45) for those too young to attend Sunday school so that parents may attend Adult classes or help in the children's program.

8:45 Service Nursery ~ a combined nursery meets in room 10.

9:45 Sunday school Nursery ~ meets in room 11, the preschool nursery. Claire Sheppard and Marcea Stave are our well-loved caretakers during this hour.

11:00 Service Nurseries ~ Both the Infant/Toddler Nursery (Room 10) and the Preschool Nursery (Room 11) are available.

Children's Time ~ There is Children's Time today. After the children's sermon, children in Kindergarten through 2nd grade are invited upstairs to Room 26 for an age-appropriate lesson. Parents, please pick up your children promptly after the service. Thank you!

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 check out our Welcome Table found in our Welcome Center, and to pick up a blue bag for yourself/your family to take home and to learn a little bit more about us. Please fill out a visitor card and drop it in the collection plate or mail in. **We are so happy that you joined us today and look forward to seeing you again soon!**

YOUTH MINISTRY

MONTHLY CONNECT – Middle School and High School Students Invited!

Canandaigua – December 13 @ 6:45 AM. (North Rd. Tim Horton's)

Victor – December 20@ 6:45 AM. (Dunkin Donut's)

Marcus-Whitman - November 20@ 2:30 PM. (Gorham Free Library)

THE CAUSE – High School students invited!

Sundays, 5:00 PM – 7:30 PM, at the church



YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

WEEKLY CONNECT – For college students through 20-somethings!

Sundays, 12:00 PM to 12:50 PM, young adults are invited to lunch, friends, and faith!

- Interested in hosting our young adults for lunch after church? Contact Mark Slomski.

ADULT EDUCATION MINISTRY

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS – Young adults and adults invited! 9:45 AM to 10:45 AM – Downstairs Dining Hall

Today (Nov 19) Theology of Sex (class 8 of 8)

Class Summary - During our final class, we will learn and discuss how our bodies bear witness to the God who is faithful, both in singleness and in marriage

Adult Sunday School Classes, starting November 26

Adult Ed Sunday School Class (Downstairs Dining Hall) - Bible Project Advent Series

Parenting Coffee Hour (Fellowship Room) - Topics:

November 26 – Helping our kids (and us) stay focused on Christ during Advent

December 3– Saying “no” to all the extras during the holidays

December 10 – Keeping our sanity during the holidays



Young Adult Class (Bell Tower Room) - "Can I Ask That?" Hard Questions Curriculum

The Stewards Assistance Fund: This Fund assists those in our congregation who are facing temporary financial challenges. If you are struggling, please call the Office at (585) 394-0503 to speak with Virginia Holroyd, or email her at virginia.holroyd@uccdga.org

YOUTH CLUB

Our Wednesday afterschool ministry

For children in grades 2 – 8

After school – 6:30 October through April

Bible Study~Worship~Recreation~Family Time

Nov 22– Kitchen Clean up: No Youth Club – Happy Thanksgiving!

Nov 22– Snack: No Youth Club – Happy Thanksgiving!



Baking for Youth Club!

Calling all bakers! We serve dessert to our Youth Club kids and volunteers each week. Sometimes we like to enjoy homemade desserts. If you see something you'd be able to bake, please let Deb Marshall know. Desserts need to be delivered to church by Wednesday at 4:00pm. Often more than one baker helps to make the quantity needed.

For December 13th – 6 dozen Christmas cut out cookies

We hope our children and youth will join us for our annual Christmas pageant! Mark your calendars for our one practice and for the pageant. Our whole church family is invited to attend the pageant on December 17th at 10am.



Children's Christmas Pageant
Sunday, December 17th at 10am
In the sanctuary

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11

One Practice
Saturday, December 16th at 9am
In the Sanctuary

We welcome your help to serve as **Greeters for the Sunday Services**. Greeters welcome people as they enter the church building and they hand out Bulletins at the Sanctuary entrances. Greeters also pass the Offering Plates during the Offertory. Reminders are emailed with instructions and location assignments. The Greeter ministry is a wonderful way to show that we are a hospitable church and that we welcome all who want to worship the Lord with our congregation. **The November and December sign up sheets are on the Office door.** If you have any questions, please ask any Steward or call the Office. Thanks so much for serving in this way on any Sunday that you're available.



Christmas Angel Tree



The Christmas Angel Tree is up in the gathering area and loaded with gift tags. This year, there are two types of tags on our Christmas Angel Tree. Most are through St. Benedict's Parish (St. Mary's) and some are for Family Promise. The requests on the Angel Tree are all for local needs.

Once you have picked a tag, please purchase the items, and return the **wrapped** gifts to church by **Sunday, December 3. Please be sure to affix the Angel tree tag to your gift as this is required to help with sorting and distribution.** Many thanks for sharing with others from what God has abundantly provided for you! Questions? Please see Deb Marshall.

Did you know that Rev. John Tharp has written a book?

Look for a display copy near the office and if you'd be interested in buying one, put your name on the list (they're also available on Amazon or Walmart).

John R. Tharp was issued a challenge while preparing for a class reunion: Could he bicycle all the way to the event? The author's wife, however, decided to make it more interesting. "Why don't you just cross the whole country?" she asked. After all, she knew her husband was no stranger to adventure. Scuba diving, mountain climbing, skiing, and trips to Hawaii, Africa, the Middle East, numerous islands in the Caribbean, Panama, St. Lucia, Australia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Guatemala, and the Bahamas have kept life exciting. Taken in tandem, the two challenges left the fifty-one-year-old pastor with only one choice: He decided to brave the wilds of the western deserts, thrill to the steep verticals of the Rockies, take in the sweeping vistas of the Great Plains, and make his way to the lush hills of the eastern seaboard. Along the way, he was deeply touched by the marvels of nature, interesting people, and amazing coincidences that ignited his faith and brought a deeper hue to the rich colors of the adventure.



If you are following along with the progress of our **Stewardship campaign** (and watching the scarecrow outside the office fill in!), here are the numbers as of Friday, November 17th:

We have received pledges from **76** families, for a total of **\$252,317.40** to the Operating budget and **\$64,533.60** to the Missions budget.

Our goal is to have 150 families pledging! Our goal for the Operating budget is \$406,500.

Sing along with Gary and Chandler (both Bon Jovi fans):

♪ Woahhhh, we're halfway there, whoa-oh! Livin' on a prayer! ♪

To fill out a pledge form online, go to <https://tinyurl.com/yjtsy4b4> or scan this code



Celtic Yuletide Concert with the Christmas Ceilidh Band! Saturday, December 2, at 7-9 pm

Join us for a rollicking good time celebrating the holidays – Celtic style – at the United Church! Music from the highlands, the islands, and the faraway Celtic nations. Open to the public. A freewill offering will be accepted.



Finger Lakes Symphony Orchestra Music for the Holidays Sunday, December 10, at 3 pm

Selections from "The Nutcracker" and other Holiday Classics
Tickets available at the door (\$15 adults, \$10 students, Children 12 & under free)

Christmas Organ Concert with organist, Ivan Bosnar, and special guest, Douglas Avery, Tenor Saturday, December 16, at 7 pm

An evening full of Christmas classics, Carol singing, and engaging improvisations. A freewill offering will be accepted. Dessert reception following.



MISSION NEWS

With thanksgiving and awareness



Join the United Church December 9 Bell Ringing Team

A United Church team will man the Red Kettle on Saturday, December 9. Join as a family or with a friend to volunteer one hour raising funds for our community. At Runnings, we will ring by the kettle in the entrance with protection from potentially cold wind or snow.

A sign-up sheet is on the Adult Ed bulletin board to volunteer for one hour.

The Canandaigua Salvation Army has provided some new mattresses for Called to Care Canandaigua, a food van delivering meals in July to our flood victims, assistance to individuals referred by our church staff and assistance to multiple people in our community in 2023. Thank you for volunteering!

We are collecting diapers for CareNet Canandaigua today and all week. Please place diapers and wipes next to the food cart in the Gathering Area. Thanks for each contribution last week. **Sizes 4, 5, 6, and 7 diapers** (toddler size) and **baby wipes** are in demand. Donations of any size diapers are welcome.

CareNet is a Christian pregnancy center located in The Thompson Building across from Wood Library. CareNet provides diapers, wipes, hygiene products, clothing and more to infants and young toddlers. They offer both in-person and online parenting classes and can offer other family resources to parents. CareNet receives no state funding, relying instead on donations, fundraising, and volunteers.

Stewardship Note: Prayers and volunteering are key for effective programs. Financial contributions are also needed to support our programs.

Designate **separate** contributions for Operating and for Mission as you prayerfully complete your pledge. The Mission budget supports our local programs and our denomination programs. Some logos of organizations our mission funds support can be seen on a poster in the Welcome Center. Thanks to each of you who have completed your pledge form.



Your food cart donations are distributed by the CCIA and Salvation Army Food pantries each week. Continue bringing nonperishable food items. (CCIA has made an urgent request for: Cereal, Tuna Fish, Peanut Butter, Spaghetti Sauce, Pasta (spaghetti or elbow), Can Corn, Can Soups, Can Pork and Beans) Thank you for your generous contributions.

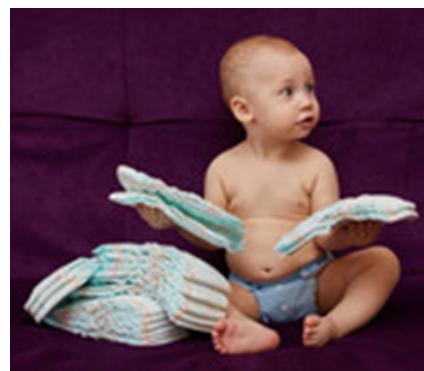
CCIA and Salvation Army Food Pantries wish to express their deep appreciation for the congregation's support through the Food Cart donations. Many Families are being served by your generous contributions. As we approach the Holiday seasons (Thanksgiving and Christmas), the food pantries are asking for **INSTANT MASHED POTATOES** to be added to the previous list of needs. Thank You and God Bless!

Supply a Smile – Free Dental care for those who **do not** have dental insurance!

*Saturday, December 2, starting at 8:30am
at the Canandaigua Elementary School cafeteria*

Come early to be one of the first 20 individuals to be screened.

Care begins with a dental screening to determine care needed. Patients are then referred to various dental offices where the procedures are done. Dental care is important to your overall health! We are grateful for this important service! Please come if you have a need.
Questions? Call 585-376-2242 or email supplyasmile@gmail.com



Called to Care, Canandaigua is preparing to welcome two Ukrainian families! Unexpectedly! Now coming before Christmas! Two Good Neighbor Teams are in place but we are reaching out to you to help with our apartment set ups including the furnishings. Please reach out to Cathy Bush our "housing" chair or Sonya Brooks, who is co-leading one of the Good Neighbor Teams, if you may have some furniture items, kitchen items, linens etc. to donate.

The Tuesday evening **prayer shawl knitting group** will meet on **Tues., Nov.21 at 7:00** in the Fellowship room. Please join for fellowship and knitting time together. For information call Rachel Rensberger at 394-8959 or Jeannie Blance.

