

UCC NEWS



July/August 2016

An Open and Affirming Church
"A fellowship in Jesus, the Christ showing God's love to all people."

A monthly publication of

United Church of Christ, First Congregational

11 West Main Street, Norwich, NY 13815

The Rev. Mr. Joseph Connolly, Pastor and Teacher

CHURCH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

July 4 - closed for Independence Day

July 5 - August 26

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Thursday

9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. & 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Worship Service: Sunday, 10:00 a.m.
Childcare Provided

Church Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Telephone: 607-334-3434

E-mail: office@uccnorwichny.org Website: www.uccnorwichny.org



From the Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

Quite a long time ago on a Summer Sunday morning I started a sermon my saying, “What I am about to say is probably the most controversial words you will ever hear a pastor say in a pulpit on a Sunday.” I paused for a tad to let that sink in. Then I said, “I hate Summer!”

Controversial words, indeed— but I proceeded to explain what I meant. You see, I am allergic to anything that is green and grows and produces pollen. I get one anti-allergen shot a month administered at Chenango Memorial Hospital. And I take at least one antihistamine tablet every day, sometimes I take two when the pollen count is really high.

If you’ve ever noticed my attire in the Summer (not that my sartorial choices should concern you!) as much as possible I wear long sleeve shirts and long pants (never short pants). That is not because I want to have a more formal look since I am a pastor, so formal might be in order.

That is because one does not get an allergic response only from breathing in pollen. When pollen lands on any exposed skin it causes an allergic reaction. Hence, I try to leave as little skin exposed as possible all Summer.

Additionally, because of my allergic responses in the Summer I often feel my energy level is subdued. And that is another effect of a pollen allergy.

Now, I am not explaining all this to garner sympathy. I have lived with this condition since I’m a teen and I make out just fine, thank you. I am trying to explain why, as I once said from the pulpit, I hate Summer.

Of course, for most people Summer is “prime time.” Most people love Summer. Summer is a time to get out, do things, to try something new, to go on vacation (before I was a pastor I always tried to wait until the Fall to take a vacation) or to even just relax. Hence, Summer also can be a busy time for many. Why? We try to do all that at once!

So yes, there is an aspect of Summer that calls us to rest, relax, take a break. And I want you to notice the concept of “rest, relax, take a break” has an aspect of Sabbath in it.

Indeed, let me quote the pertinent Scripture: “Remember

the Sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you will labor and do all your work but the seventh day is a Sabbath of *Yahweh*. Do no work on that day— neither you nor your son or nor your daughter, nor your workers— men or women— nor your animals nor the foreigner who resides among you” — Exodus 20:8-10 (ILV).

Clearly there are two aspects to consider here. The Sabbath is a day set aside for worship. And the Sabbath is a day set aside for rest.

I want to suggest these— worship and rest— are not mutually exclusive. Worship is not meant to be a test, or an effort, or to be extraordinarily taxing. Worship is meant to be, in a real sense, restful, relaxing.

Why? Because in worship we are meant to find renewal— renewal in our relationship with God and renewal in our relationships nurtured within the community of faith. Another way to phrase this is worship helps us become centered on God and on each other. This is a form of renewal. And renewal should be the result of relaxation we experience in worship. Renewal should be the result of Sabbath.

Most of you who read this Newsletter should have received a missive from me about the schedule of services this Summer. Indeed, that information is re-printed in this publication.

There are two services of worship this Summer which will obviously be fun and restful and relaxing and a chance for renewal. The first one to mention is our Annual Dixieland Jazz Service (7/10). The second fun, restful, relaxing service will be the Vacation Bible School Kick-off Service (8/21) featuring Snappy the Crab.

We will be doing one other thing which is quite different for us this Summer. And perhaps this will also be fun and relaxing.

On 7/17 (with the First Baptist Church) and also on 7/24, 7/31, 8/7 and 8/14 (that's five times!) we will have Coffee Hour at 9:30 in the Founder's Room. Then at 10:00 a.m. everyone is invited to sit at the tables in the Founder's Room, keep drinking and refilling your coffee, keep having whatever munchies are available if you like, and we will move into the worship part of the day.

And yes, it is my hope that you will find this time together, these services of worship, these Sabbaths, both restful and

relaxing. Summer is meant to be a chance to rest and relax. Sabbath is meant to be a chance to rest and relax.

Well, I started this by saying, “I hate Summer.” To be clear, I hate it a lot less knowing that (especially in Summer) we are called by God to practice Sabbath. We are called by God to rest, to relax, to be renewed and maybe even make a joyful noise unto God.

What can I say? “See you in church!” Church— that place where we try to make a joyful noise onto God and where we try to make space for Sabbath to truly happen.

In Faith,



Joe Connolly

P.S. Just to round out the rest of the Summer Schedule, I do need to note that on 8/28 and 9/4 we will be worshipping with the members of the First Baptist Church in their building. Knowing the Rev. David Spiegel and crew, my bet is worship with them will also be relaxing and restful— a true Sabbath.

FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY:

August 7th

Non-Perishable food items

Peanut butter

Baby food

Hot chocolate/tea/coffee

PAPER PRODUCTS SUNDAYS:

July 17th and August 21st

Personal hygiene products

Diapers of any sizes (to benefit the Fourth Saturday Diaper Give-away at First Baptist Church.)

A basket will be available for your donations. Gifts of money are always appreciated and can be designated and placed in the offering plate.

SUMMER SCHEDULE

07/10/2016 - Union Service at the U.C.C. - Dixieland Jazz Service in the Nave.

07/10/2016 - Pastor Joe Shares the Word at Chenango Valley Home @ 3:00 p.m.

07/17/2016 - Union Service at the U.C.C. With the Baptists in Founder's Room.

07/24/2016 - Service at the U.C.C. in Founder's Rm.

07/31/2016 - Service at the U.C.C. in Founder's Rm.

08/07/2016 - Pastor Joe Leads the Service @ the North Guilford Church @ 9:00 a.m.

08/07/2016 - Service at the U.C.C. in Founder's Rm.

08/14/2016 - Service at the U.C.C. in Founder's Rm.

08/21/2016 - Vacation Bible School kick-off Service at the U.C.C. in the Nave.

08/21/2016 - 08/25/2016 - VBS @ UCC.

08/21/2016 - Pastor Joe Shares the Word at Chenango Valley Home.

08/28/2016 - Union Service @ the First Baptist Church.

09/04/2016 - Union Service @ the First Baptist Church.

Don't let the Hot Humid Weather
keep you from church. ❄️

We have **air conditioning** ❄️
in the Nave and the Founders' Room.

Director of Children and Youth Ministries

Linda L. Oehme

This year in Church School we completed a fourth year of the *Young Children and Worship*. On June 12th, we celebrated our 4th Annual Intergenerational Worship Service. The children and some adults participated in the service and were presented with Certificates of Participation and the seven Church School children received red stoles that will be added to it each year. Eventually they will be able to wear them for their Confirmation. During that service we said goodbye to the old Vacation Bible School *G-Force's* Checkers, the Cheetah and welcomed *Surf Shack's* Snappy, the Crab. It was a fun service and everyone seemed to enjoy it.

July and August we will be preparing for the Annual Norwich Community Vacation Bible School at our church for the second year. This summer at the *Surf Shack*, kids encounter God's awesomeness through Bible stories and learn how we're meant to experience an epic adventure each day. We will be transforming the Nave into an ocean of excitement! Surfers (children) and Lifeguards (guides) will glide through beach-themed music, crafts, science activities, recreation, Bible stories, and more, and will get stoked about God's mission in their lives.

Come join us... ages 3 to 12. Teens and Adults are needed to serve as guides.

VBS is **Sunday, August 21-25 from 5:45 to 8:15 p.m.**

Registration is available at

<www.cokesburyvbs.com/UCCNorwichNY>

If you have any questions, call Linda Oehme at 336-7716 or Jen Mallozzi at 373-3070.

Church School will resume in the fall with a new curriculum. Watch for details in the bulletin.



Norwich Vacation Bible School August 21 - 25

5:45 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

Held at United Church of Christ 11 West Main St., Norwich

ITEMS NEEDED:

Donations can be dropped off at the UCC church office.

DONATIONS

Packing peanuts
10 1 liter plastic bottles
Tissue paper (blues and greens)
(light and dark)
Paper plates (small and large)
4 cans of Shaving Cream
Neon food coloring
2 reams cardstock paper
Paper towels
Egg cartons
4 flashlights
Potting soil
Snack bags
20 paper grocery bags
Newspapers

2 containers of talcum powder
2 Hydrogen 12% peroxide 40 volume
8 clear bottles 1 ½ inches wide
mouth
2 packs dry yeast
Sugar (Dixie Crystal or Imperial
brands)
1 can brown matt paint
6 large sheets of foam board
4 rolls of brown postage paper

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TO BE BORROWED

6 Boggy Boards/Surf boards
6 Tikki torches
2 King size white flat sheets or 2
white drop cloths

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Adults and Teens: We need guides to escort the groups to the different zones.

**Register or sign up to volunteer at
<http://cokesburyvbs.com/UCCNorwichNY>**

For info:

Linda Oehme (336-7716) or Jen Mallozzi (373-3040).



Historian Notes

by Patricia Evans, Church Historian

Rev. Joseph Merchant, Interim

Rev. Merchant served as an interim only in the summer months, serving here in Norwich, NY at the United Church of Christ for the summer of 1978.

He was a graduate of Springfield, MA College and Bangor Maine Theological Seminary, Bangor, ME. He was affiliated with the Metropolitan Association of UCC, NY Conference.

Rev. Merchant served as a pastor for three churches in Maine and Massachusetts over a nine year period. He also directed the Urban Church Department of the National Council of Churches and served as the director twice for the National Religion & Labor Foundation. Rev. Merchant also served as the Director of the Council of Churches in New Bedford MA. Additionally, he was at one point the Executive Secretary of the National Council of Churches^{1,2}

Rev. Merchant was awarded an Honorary Doctor of humane letter by Shaw University of Raleigh, NC, in 1973 for service in helping churches meet the challenges of urbanization and change, especially in racial change in the inner city areas.

He retired from the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries in 1975 after serving 18 years in the division of church extension, health and welfare.

¹“**About the National Council of Churches.** Since its founding in 1950, the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA has been a leading force for ecumenical cooperation among Christians in the United States. The 38 NCC member communions — from a wide spectrum of Protestant, Anglican, Orthodox, Evangelical, historic African American and Living Peace churches — include 45 million persons in more than 100,000 local congregations in communities across the nation.” <http://nationalcouncilofchurches.us/about-us/>

²Executive Director of the Urban Church Department of the National Council of Churches, the Rev. Merchant says the youthful deacons and elders of the suburban church reflect the character of the community. (Oneonta Star, Oneonta NY, May 21, 1955)

Rev Dr. Allen Best, Interim

Rev. Dr. Allen Best served the church as interim minister the summer of 1978 after Rev. Joseph Merchant. Allen was born in Cleveland, NY, April 22, 1911. He attended Syracuse University receiving an A.B. degree. Then he received his bachelor of Sacred Theology and PhD. Degree from Boston University. After graduation the Rev. Dr. Best served as pastor of the South Easton Congregational Church in the Brockton, MA area. Then he went on to Cornell in 1942 to serve as Methodist chaplain and later became the director of the Wesley Foundation until 1958. He also taught at Alfred University and Greensboro College. He returned to Syracuse University in 1962 as director of the Parents Program and Foundations. Rev. Dr. Best and a team were able to raise over \$300 million (*Editor's note: that's 1960s dollars!*) for educational, religious and charitable causes, one of which was Hospital North, a concept to develop a 250 bed hospital north of Syracuse. He died March 10, 1983 in Syracuse and is buried at North Falmouth Congregational Church, North Falmouth, MA.

North Guilford Church

Established in 1843

corner Aldrich road and County Rte 36, North Guilford, NY
Directions available in the UCC Church office.

SUMMER SCHEDULE

9:00 a.m.

| DATE | LEADER |
|-------------|---|
| July 10 | Rev. David Spiegel, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Norwich |
| July 17 | Rev. John Koopman, Prison Ministry and Chaplain |
| July 24 | Debbie Ramada, Lay Person, First Baptist Church, Bainbridge |
| August 7 | Rev. Joe Connolly, Pastor & Teacher, United Church of Christ, Norwich |
| August 14 | TBA |
| August 21 | Phil Otto - Lay Person, First Baptist Church, Norwich Caring Christians Against Loneliness |
| August 28 | TBA |

From the Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer, General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ

Dear Friend

The United Church of Christ is seeking to declare a Purpose, a Mission, and a Vision that is consistent with our historic commitments and our current calling; that is large enough to inspire our covenant partners at every level to give themselves fully over to a gospel that changes lives; and that is particular enough to answer the question, “Why the United Church of Christ?”

I believe the Holy Spirit envisions a future in which the United Church of Christ matters. I believe that a shared mission, an understanding that the Holy Spirit has need of us and calls us to do something others were not called to do – will help revitalize a denomination in need of missional clarity.

For the last nine months, leaders at every level of the denomination have participated in small and large group discussions, have engaged in conference calls and webinars, have been interviewed and consulted. Two things emerge very clearly.

First, the United Church of Christ was birthed out of an impulse to respond to Christ’s prayer “That they may all be one.”

A clear part of our mission is to structure the Church in such a way that we reflect what God sees as possible— yes, even intended— for human community: a unity that overcomes differences in order to recognize the beauty inherent in all God’s children.


Second, the United Church of Christ is called to proclaim a gospel of radical hospitality, of full inclusion, and of extravagant welcome.

These missional impulses are built into our DNA.

Nine months of conversation, dialogue, and discernment have brought us to this place. With each conversation, the language you see in this survey has changed in subtle but important ways. We are inviting you now into the dialogue. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey. (SEE

continued on page 15

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| July 2016 | | | | | 1 9:00 a.m. Collate Newsletter | 2 6:00 p.m. Vine & Fig Tree Supper Club |
| 3 9:15 a.m. Nursery 10:00 a.m. Worship/Communion Nave 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour | 4 Independence Day <i>Church Office Closed</i> | 5 Church Office Summer Hours Start Today 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Mayflower Rm. 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl, Chapel 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting 6:30 p.m. TNT Quilters | 6 7:00 p.m. Democratic Committee, Founders' Rm. | 7 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs 6:30 p.m. Norwich Theater Co., Founders' Rm./Nave | 8 | 9 |
| 10 9:00 a.m. N. Guilford Church Service 9:00 a.m. Nursery 10:00 a.m. Dixieland Jazz Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour 3:00 p.m. Pastor Joe shares the Word at Chenango Valley Home | 11 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs | 12 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel :00 p.m. AA Meeting 6:30 p.m. TNT Quilters | 13 | 14 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs 6:30 p.m. Norwich Theater Co., Founders' Rm./Nave | 15 | 16 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Greater Chenango Cares July 14 - July 24 See p. 18</div> Choir BBQ |
| 17 9:00 a.m. N. Guilford Church Service 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour 9:15 a.m. Nursery 10:00 a.m. Union Worship in Founders' Rm. <i>Paper Products Sunday</i> | 18 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry Picnic 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs 7:00 p.m. VBS Meeting, Chapel | 19 9:00 a.m. Head Start Policy Council, Founders' Rm. 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel :00 p.m. AA Meeting 6:30 p.m. TNT Quilters | 20 | 21 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs 6:00 p.m. Alzheimer's Support Group 6:30 p.m. Norwich Theater Co., Nave | 22 | 23 |
| 24 9:00 a.m. N. Guilford Church Service 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour 9:15 a.m. Nursery 10:00 a.m. Worship in Founders' Rm. | 25 10:30 a.m. J. Handy, Nave 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs | 26 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 6:00 p.m. TNT Quilters Potluck, Kitchen | 27 10:30 a.m. J. Handy, Nave | 28 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs 6:30 p.m. Norwich Theater Co., Founders' Rm./Nave | 29 10:30 a.m. J. Handy, Nave 7:00 p.m. Dean - Robertson Wedding, N. Norwich | 30 |
| 31 9:00 a.m. N. Guilford Church Service 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour 9:15 a.m. Nursery 10:00 a.m. Worship in Founders' Rm. | | | | | | |

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|--|---|---|----------|
| <h1>August 2016</h1> | | | | | | |
| | 1 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry, Chapel 10:30 a.m. J. Handy, Nave 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs | 2 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 6:00 p.m. AA Mtg. 6:30 p.m. TNT Quilters, Kitchen | 3 10:30 a.m. J. Handy, Nave | 4 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs 6:30 p.m. Norwich Theater Co., Founders' Rm./Nave | 5 10:30 a.m. J. Handy, Nave | 6 |
| 7 9:00 a.m. N. Guilford Church Service - Pastor Joe 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour 9:15 a.m. Nursery 10:00 a.m. Communion/Worship, Founders' Rm. | 8 10:30 a.m. J. Handy, Nave 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs | 9 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 6:00 p.m. AA Mtg., Upstairs 6:30 p.m. TNT Quilters, kitchen | 10 9:30 a.m. CAM Mtg., Homer 10:30 a.m. J. Handy, Nave | 11 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 11:00 a.m. Food Pantry Meeting 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs 6:00 p.m. Piecemakers, Founders' Rm. | 12 10:30 a.m. J. Handy, Nave | 13 |
| 14 9:00 a.m. N. Guilford Church Service 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour 9:15 a.m. Nursery 10:00 a.m. Worship, Founders' Rm. | 15 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry 10:30 a.m. J. Handy, Nave 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs | 16 9:00 a.m. Head Start Policy Council 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 6:00 p.m. AA Mtg., Upstairs 6:30 p.m. TNT | 17 10:30 a.m. J. Handy, Nave 1:00 p.m. PAC Mtg., County Building | 18 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs 6:00 p.m. Alzheimer's Support Group, Founders' Rm. | 19 10:30 a.m. J. Handy, Nave | 20 |
| 21 9:00 a.m. N. Guilford Church Service 9:15 a.m. Nursery 10:00 a.m. Union VBS Kick-Off Worship Service, Nave <i>Paper Products Sunday</i> <i>See p. 4</i> 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour 3:00 p.m. Pastor Joe shares the Word at Chenango Valley Home 5:45 p.m. VBS | 22 10:30 a.m. J. Handy, Nave 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs 5:45 p.m. VBS | 23 5:45 p.m. VBS | 24 10:30 a.m. J. Handy, Nave 5:45 p.m. VBS | 25 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs 5:45 p.m. VBS | 26 10:30 a.m. J. Handy, Nave VBS Clean-up and BBQ | 27 |
| 28 9:00 a.m. N. Guilford Church Service 10:00 a.m. Union Worship at First Baptist | 29 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs | 30 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 6:00 p.m. AA Mtg., Upstairs 6:00 p.m. TNT Quilters Potluck | 31 |  | | 2 |
| | | | | | | 3 |

REV. DR. JOHN C. DORHAUER *continued from page 10.*

BELOW.) The question is this: does the language both capture the intent of a church whose mission is built around unifying the body and offering extravagant welcome, and at the same time serve to inspire?

Your insights, reactions, and comments will help us refine this even further.

Thank you for taking the time to fill this out. Thank you for caring for the ongoing Purpose, Mission, and Vision of a denomination the Spirit will need in order to bring God's Shalom to a world so desperately in need of it.

Sincerely,
The Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer
General Minister and President

EDITOR'S NOTE: If you would like to participate in this survey, you will find it at this URL:
<<https://www.research.net/r/UCCPurposeMission>>

If you do not have access to the web you may come to the church office and Cheri or Pastor Joe will set it up on an office computer for you.

**19th Annual Ecumenical
Dixieland Jazz
Worship Service**

Sunday, July 10 - 10:00 a.m.
11 West Main Street, Norwich



Let everything that breathes
Praise God!

***All Are Welcome
Childcare Provided***

Info: 607-334-3434 or
office@uccnorwichny.org

Helping The Impact Project in Norwich

The Missions Committee supports the work of The Impact Project with an annual donation. This fall, as a church, we have agreed to help with refreshments on their work day in Norwich. On **Saturday, September 17th** they will be replacing a roof at 106 Railroad Avenue in Norwich.

We will provide refreshments and lunch for the many volunteers who will be working.

These are the things we need to help with:

- Providing coffee and snacks
- Preparing sandwiches in our kitchen
- Baking muffins and cookies to be served to workers
- Providing drinks and chips
- Cleaning up our station at the worksite

They also welcome volunteers of any skill level to assist with the project itself. In addition to working on the roof, there will be planting flowers, cleaning up debris, weeding, and painting. To volunteer to help with the UCC commitment for food, please sign up in the church office.

To volunteer to work on the project itself, go to www.theimpactprojectgreene.org



Look in the Mailbox

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your kind donation to the Norwich After Prom Party. Because of your donation 204 students were kept safe.

NHS After Prom Party



Dear Joe,

Thank you again for giving the invocation at the Boy Scout dinner on May 12th. It was a great evening and we appreciate you filling in for Fr. Chuck. He would have been pleased with your prayer and remarks.

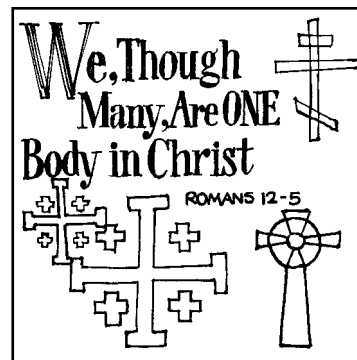
Fred and Sally (Miers)

Dear Friends,

The residents of Chenango Valley Home would like you to know how much they appreciated having your choir come and sing to them last Sunday. It was so thoughtful of all of you to take time out of Father's Day to perform for us. God Bless you all.

The residents of Chenango Valley Home
and Rose Laughlin

Editor's Note: Music Sunday was at our regular 10:00 a.m. service on June 19th. Our choir graciously volunteered to go to Chenango Valley Home that afternoon and we had a service of Scripture and Song there also.





July 14 - July 24
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Norwich High School

What is Greater Chenango Cares?

It is a partnership with the Department of Defense to provide an opportunity for residents of Chenango County and our adjacent neighboring counties to participate in a no-cost military training program known as: Innovative Readiness Training (IRT).

What is Innovative Readiness Training?

Innovative Readiness Training provides real-world training opportunities for our service members to prepare them for wartime and disaster missions, while supporting the needs of America's underserved communities.

SERVICES AVAILABLE

There are no residency, income or insurance requirements.

Dental - APPOINTMENTS ONLY

Cleanings, Fillings, Fluoride Treatments, Sealants and Simple Extractions

Medical - WALK IN

Basic Medical needs, Sports and School Physicals, Prescription Consult, Risk Assessment for Diabetes, High Blood Pressure, Nutrition Counseling, Pain Management, etc.

Optometry APPOINTMENTS ONLY

Testing for Cataracts, Glaucoma and Macular Degeneration. Visual examinations for single-focal distance or reading prescription glasses. Your choice of one pair of prescription glasses (distance or reading) manufactured on-site for pick-up and fitting.

Veterinary

Rabies Vaccination - WALK IN

Spay, Neuter -APPOINTMENTS ONLY (no appointments at this time)

CALL FOR APPOINTMENTS STARTING JUNE 1ST - 337-4320

Want to Volunteer?

Contact Chenango United Way at 334-8815 or check their website: volunteer.chenangouw.org/aem

Revised Common Lectionary

You may be aware that the readings used at services of worship in most Mainline Protestant churches and in Roman Catholic Churches are from the list of assigned readings known as The New Revised Common Lectionary. In our Congregational tradition, while pastors are encouraged to use the assigned readings, it's not mandatory. This is published in the hope that some may use these readings in their personal prayer and devotional time.

Proper 9 (14) 7th Sunday after Pentecost - July 3

2 Kings 5:1-14; Psalm 30; Isaiah 66:10-14
Psalm 66:1-9; Galatians 6:(1-6), 7-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Proper 10 (15) 8th Sunday after Pentecost - July 10

Amos 7:7-17; Psalm 82; Deuteronomy 30:9-14
Psalm 25:1-10; Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37

Proper 11 (16) 9th Sunday after Pentecost - July 17

Amos 8:1-12; Psalm 52; Genesis 18:1-10a
Psalm 15; Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42

Proper 12 (17) 10th Sunday after Pentecost - July 24

Hosea 1:2-10; Psalm 85 ; Genesis 18:20-32
Psalm 138; Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19); Luke 11:1-13

Proper 13 (18) 11th Sunday after Pentecost - July 31

Hosea 11:1-11; Psalm 107:1-9, 43;
Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23; Psalm 49:1-12;
Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21

Proper 14 (19) 12th Sunday after Pentecost - August 7

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20; Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23; Genesis 15:1-6
Psalm 33:12-22; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40

Proper 15 (20) 13th Sunday after Pentecost - August 14

Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19; Jeremiah 23:23-29
Psalm 82; Hebrews 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56

Proper 16 (21) 14th Sunday after Pentecost - August 21

Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; Isaiah 58:9b-14
Psalm 103:1-8; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17

Proper 17 (22) 15th Sunday after Pentecost - August 28

Jeremiah 2:4-13; Psalm 81:1, 10-16 Sirach 10:12-18
or Proverbs 25:6-7; Psalm 112 Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16;
Luke 14:1, 7-14

The New York Conference

Editors Note: as is our practice from time to time this Newsletter publishes what might be deemed relevant information from the church in the National setting, the church in the Conference setting and the church in the Association setting. These documents are from the Conference setting.

Preamble to the Constitution of the New York Conference of the United Church of Christ

In partial response to the call of God, we have established and shall maintain this New York Conference as a Conference of the United Church of Christ. The purpose of the conference will include but not be limited to

- Developing and maintaining cooperative relationships within the United Church of Christ in all its settings and with other denominations and ecumenical endeavors
- Nurturing a mission vision
- Encouraging and preserving shared relationships among the Associations, the local churches, and all the people within our churches
- Developing and nourishing our witness beyond the local church and Association areas
- Giving support to local mission outreach
- Fostering Affirmative Actions goals at all Conference levels, especially in seeking new church members or new member churches
- And being supportive in sharing our beliefs, concerns and joys

Mission Statement of the New York Conference of the United Church of Christ

We, the people of the New York Conference of the United Church of Christ, in covenant with God, relying on the Holy Spirit and in partnership with one another are called by Christ to empower each local congregation to be vital in its spiritual life and ministry and to nurture community and shared ministry among all our congregations, Associations, and regions.

To accomplish this mission, we are committed to:

- 1) Celebrate God's Spirit working among us through faith-sharing and worship.
- 2) Build inclusive, in-depth, loving Christian community within and among all our congregations.
- 3) Support and equip each local congregation in its unique life and calling.
- 4) Live by the principles of "mutual empowerment" in which we, as laity and clergy, congregations and Associations, value each other, share our stories, and humbly listen to and learn from one another.
- 5) Support good communication among and between all UCC settings within the New York Conference and between the New York Conference and the national church.
- 6) Share resources, leaders, programs, and grassroots events among congregations, Associations, and regions.
- 7) Equip, educate, and nurture church leaders, both laity and clergy, in all settings of Conference life.
- 8) Witness to the gospel, and work for justice, peace and the integrity of creation, in every setting of our churches and world, both globally and locally.
- 9) Embrace and promote multi-cultural and multiracial Christian community which is inclusive of all people of diverse cultures, races, genders, ages, sexual orientations, and abilities.
- 10) Give concrete expression to our unity with all faith communities in the Body of Christ, honoring and supporting our ecumenical partnership with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) as well as our formula of agreement with the Presbyterian Church USA, Reformed Church in American, and Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Congratulations Scholarship Recipients



The Memorial Gifts Committee is pleased to announce the following scholarship awards for the 2015-16 academic year:

Memorial Gifts Scholarship for Covenant Members

Brooke Bonney

Alexander and Alice Neill Scholarship

Morgan Hagenbuch

Donald Tracy Memorial Scholarships

Matthew Craig, Corey Johnson,
Cameron Prime, Jessica Willard

Theodore P. Dolgos Memorial Scholarships

Matthew Craig, Briana Phelps

Theron and Margaret Hust Scholarship

Cameron Prime

Special Deacon's Allocation

Rev. David Spiegel

Bulletins from Other Churches

Audrey Aitken - First Baptist Church, Port Charlotte, Florida,
May 29 and June 5, 2016

Visitors to Our Church in June

Joseph Bruno

Grace Burke, Watertown

Bill Johnson

Ingrid and Ken Klicker, Allentown PA

Jenna Klicker, Canandaigua, NY

Karen and Vincent Mallozzi, Spring Valley, NY

Leann, Mya and Lincoln Showell, Fountain CO

Prayer Concerns

Let us keep in our prayers the following concerns:

- * families-those families that may be going through particularly difficult times, families seeking God's guidance;
- * those who are moving because of their work, those looking for work, and those looking for meaning in their work.
- * those who are ill, who are recovering from illness or surgery, or who anticipate going to the hospital.
- * those who grieve over the death of someone they love.
- * our church, that it might be faithful to its calling, our pastor, all staff members and committees.
- * peace in the world.
- * gay, lesbian and bisexual and transgendered persons, and all those who feel isolated and alone.

Happy Birthday

These are the birthdays of members and friends of our church family. If you know someone on the list who's having a birthday, feel free to send that person a card. Even if you don't know anyone on the list, feel free to send any celebrant a card. More importantly, strive to hold each of these people up in prayer on the anniversary of their birth. Please call the church office with additions or corrections (334-3434).

JULY

- 1 JoAnn Sprout
- 4 Gary Gray
Stephen Rogoff
- 6 Tom Kennedy
- 10 Alex Aitken
- 11 Lilit Danielyan
Melodie Posner
- 13 Jeff Johnson
George Prime
- 15 Meena Conant
Alan Ingraham
- 16 Elissa Sawyer
- 20 Thomas Brewer
- 22 Jerrilyn Ingraham

AUGUST

- 2 Michael Miller
- 3 Helen Dunckel
Cameron Prime
- 4 Pat Sternberg
- 7 Donna Wood Craig
Allan Sawyer
- 11 Benjamin Metz-White
- 20 Eli Craig
- 26 Chris McSweeney
- 30 Larry Conant

UCC NEWS

United Church of Christ
First Congregational
11 West Main Street
Norwich, NY 13815-1612

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STANDARD A
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NORWICH NY 13815

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Ministers: **All the People**
Pastor and Teacher: **The Rev. Mr. Joseph Connolly**
Moderator: **Steve Craig**
Director of Music Ministries: **Mary Williams**
Director of Children's & Youth Ministries: **Linda Oehme**
Parish Coordinator: **Cheri Willard**
Counselor, Family Counseling Ministry:
Joanne Lanfear