



A monthly publication of  
United Church of Christ, First Congregational, Norwich, NY

[www.uccnorwichny.org](http://www.uccnorwichny.org)



#### CONTACT US

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#### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

(Closed for lunch from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.)

#### WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays, 10:00 a.m. in the Nave

[Click here for live stream.](#)

Ministers: All the People

Moderator: Pete Williams

Director of Music Ministries: Mary Williams

Organist: David Burch

Director of Children/Youth Ministries: Ericka Tyler

Parish Coordinator: Cheri Oakley

Financial Assistant: Jennifer Mallozzi

Sexton: Eric Burgher



**Union Worship Service** - 10:30 a.m.  
at Broad St. United Methodist Church  
Combined Choir - Fellowship Hour



**Community Service** - 7:00 p.m.  
at Broad St. United Methodist Church



**Community Service** - 7:00 p.m.  
at Christ Lutheran Church



**Celebration of the Resurrection**  
10:00 a.m. in the Nave and livestream  
Rev. Boodley sharing the Word.



**UNITED  
CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**

*First Congregational of Norwich, NY*

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## From the Deacons and Music Ministries

Pat Burke, Chair of Deacons and Mary Williams, Director of Music Ministries

Pat Burke (Chair, Board of Deacons) and Mary Williams (Director of Music Ministries) are coordinating worship services for the Lent and Easter season. There are a few highlights we would like to share with you:

During Lent, the Altar will display six purple candles and one white Christ Candle. Each week, we will extinguish one candle in a Lenten Liturgy of Diminishing Lights. The Affirmation of Faith and the Invitation to Generosity will be specific to Lent. We will be using the suggested lectionary readings, and the other parts of the Liturgy will be coming from Worship Ways at [ucc.org](http://ucc.org).

During the month of March, we are collecting stories of “miracles” and signs of God’s presence in our lives. We hope to share these stories with you in a future newsletter and during worship services.

The Bell Choir will be performing on Sundays March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. We have reached out to other churches with the desire to combine services for Palm Sunday. The Rev. J.K. Boodley will lead our worship service on Easter Sunday.

It is important that we continue to strengthen the bonds of faith and friendship during this time. Ushers, Liturgists, and Fellowship Hour hosts are urgently needed. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Nave hallway or contact the church office. And, following the examples of Pete Williams and Elinor Beebe, we are in need of folks who are willing to give a short talk in place of a sermon. We are the Body of Christ!



*Altar for the season of Lent 2024*



Have you experienced a miracle or a miraculous moment? Have you been surprised when difficult or impossible situations have been resolved in unexpected ways? If you are willing to share your story with others, either in writing or speaking, please contact the church office. We all could use a bit of inspiration at this time, and sharing our stories of miracles will speak to God’s presence in our lives.

# Easter Memorials

Donations in honor or in memory of a loved one can be made to the Memorial Gifts Fund and will be listed in the bulletin. Please use this form to make your donation.

**DONATE TO THE MEMORIAL FUND \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**IN MEMORY OF / IN HONOR OF (CIRCLE ONE) OR OTHER MESSAGE:**



**FROM: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please return this form to the church office no later than Tuesday, March 26.**



**OFFERING DATE: MARCH 10**

On Easter Sunday in 1949, on nation-wide radio, Christians were challenged to donate one million dollars in one hour to help people devastated by the aftermath of World War II. Faithful Christians answered the challenge, and the goal was met. That was the beginning of the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering.

This year marks the 75th Anniversary of its inception. Our world has changed since 1949, but human needs have stayed the same. OGHS still carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. Since that first offering, OGHS has expanded its mission to support domestic and international development, fight poverty and its consequences, bring aid and relief to communities torn by war or ravaged by national disaster, advocacy and resettlement assistance for refugees and displaced persons, and combat injustice in its many forms. OGHS provides funding and hands-on assistance in collaboration with local and international partners.

Each year, the Offering is gathered by several denominations and Church World Service (CWS) under a single theme developed by the ecumenical OGHS Committee

Thank you for supporting One Great Hour of Sharing for 75 years. You continue to share light in places that need it.

One Great Hour of Sharing® is one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Wider Church Ministries.

Join the offering **March 10, 2024**. Envelopes will be in the bulletins on or you can give online directly at <https://www.ucc.org/.../our.../one-great-hour-of-sharing/>



## **ATTENTION!** **High School Seniors** **& College Students**

**DEADLINE TO APPLY**  
**MARCH 30**

United Church of Christ, First Congregational, Norwich, NY has a long history of gifts bequeathed by former members and memorial gifts given by family and friends. Scholarship amounts vary up to \$1,000.

### General Information

- The successful candidates will be chosen by the Memorial Gifts Scholarship Committee.
- Scholarships can be used for post-secondary undergraduate education.
- Preference will be given to UCC members, UCC employees, and the children/grandchildren of UCC members and UCC employees.
- Awards for graduating seniors will be presented at the Dollars for Scholars Presentation.
- The awards will be made on character, service, scholarship and financial considerations. Some awards have additional criteria as noted in the guidelines.

Applications will be available from the church office or online at [www.uccnorwichny.org/links](http://www.uccnorwichny.org/links) after February 15. **Deadline for applications is MARCH 30.**



Monday Evening Musical Club  
invites you to

**Music in our Schools Concert**  
**March 11 at 7:00 p.m.**

Free and open to the public.  
Offering taken to support the scholarship fund.



United Church of Christ, 11 West Main St., Norwich  
Livestream on [Facebook.com/Mondayeveningmusicclub](https://www.facebook.com/Mondayeveningmusicclub)







Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom	2 4:00pm Youth Group, upstairs
3 <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> 9:00am Nursery 10:00am Worship, Sunday School 11:00am Coffee Hour 11:30am Bell Choir	4 8:30am AARP Tax Preparation, Founders' Room 10:00am Knitting, Mayflower Rm. 10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom 3:00pm Tai Chi, Mayflower Rm.	5 11:30am Lent Book Study at BSUMC 1:00pm Piecemakers, kitchen 	6 8:30am AARP Tax Preparation, Founders Room 10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom 7:00pm Choir, Nave	7 8:30am AARP Tax Preparation, Founders Room	8 10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom	9 4:00pm Youth Group, upstairs Daylight Savings Time starts. Turn your clocks ahead 1 hour. 
10 <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> 9:00am Nursery 10:00am Worship, OGHS Offering. See p. 3. Sunday School 11:00am Coffee Hour 	11 8:30am AARP Tax Preparation, Founders' Room 10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom 3:00pm Tai Chi, Mayflower Rm. 7:00pm Monday Evening Musical Club concert. See p. 4.	12 1:00pm Piecemakers, kitchen 5:00pm Pride Alliance Meeting, Founders Room	13 8:30am AARP Tax Preparation, Founders Room 10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom 7:00pm Choir, Nave	14 1:00pm Piecemakers monthly meeting, Founders Rm.	15 8:30am AARP Tax Preparation, Founders Room 10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom 	16 9:00am Piecemakers Quilting Day, Founders Room 4:00pm Youth Group, upstairs
17 <b>St. Patrick's Day 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent</b> 9:00am Nursery 10:00am Worship, Sunday School 11:00am Coffee Hour	18 8:30am AARP Tax Preparation, Founders' Room 10:00am Knitting, Mayflower Rm. 10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom 3:00pm Tai Chi, Mayflower Rm.	19 1:00pm Piecemakers, kitchen	20 8:30am AARP Tax Preparation, Founders Room 10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom 4:00pm <a href="#">Laundry Love</a> at Byrne Dairy 6:10pm Democratic Committee, Founders Rm.	21 8:30am AARP Tax Preparation, Founders Room 5:00pm <a href="#">Soul Kitchen Free Hot Meal at Emmanuel Episcopal Church</a> 6:00pm <a href="#">Helping Hands Giveaway, YMCA</a>	22 10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom	23 9:00am <a href="#">Fourth Saturday Diaper Distribution, First Baptist Church</a> 4:00pm Youth Group, upstairs
24 <b>Palm Sunday</b> 10:30am Union Service at BSUMC 4:30pm Free Community Dinner at Broad St. UMC 	25 8:30am AARP Tax Preparation, Founders' Room 10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom 3:00pm Tai Chi, Mayflower Rm.	26 1:00pm Piecemakers, kitchen	27 8:30am AARP Tax Preparation, Founders Room 10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom 7:00pm Choir, Nave	28 <b>Maundy Thursday</b> 8:30am AARP Tax Preparation, Founders Room 7:00pm Community Service at BSUMC	29 <b>Good Friday</b> 10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom 7:00pm Community Service at Christ Lutheran	30 <b>Holy Saturday</b> 
31 <b>Easter Sunday</b> 9:00am Nursery 10:00am Celebration of the Resurrection Rev. J.K. Boodley will lead the worship. Sunday School 11:00am Coffee Hour 	<div>CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED</div> <div>Alleluia</div>					



## Letters - Emails - Notes

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Dear Brothers and Sisters at UCC,

The congregation of the BSUMC is so very grateful to you for your continued financial support of our steeple/roof project. Your recent check, your second of three, is so generous and so welcomed as we continue this huge project. You are amazing people to share between churches like this.

Each year as we go through this, we realize how extensive and costly this job really is. Of the six phases projected, we have completed all the parts of Phases 1 and 2. Last Fall we discovered some “emergency” problems on the back wall of the church and the connection between the main building and the educational wing on the back. We had to jump to Phase 6 at the back of the roof. So in the Spring, we hope to see workers on the exterior of the roof starting at the back moving forward, Phases 6, 5, 4, 3, Exterior Steeples last. So much to do!

We need you and deeply thank you. God bless you,  
Bernie Windsor, Broad St. United Methodist Church

Dear UCC,

Mother and Babies Perinatal Network would like to take this opportunity to show our sincerest appreciation for your generous donation to our organization! As you know, Mothers & Babies has been providing programming, resources, education and support to the community for over 25 years – none of which could have happened without your support. Your donation will help to sustain and expand the programs we provide to the community. Thank you for always supporting our work and for your unwavering commitment to helping individuals and families in our community.

Alicia Beekman, Executive Director, Mothers & Babies Perinatal Network of SCNY

Dear Pete [Williams] and UCC,

Chenango County Habitat for Humanity members thank you again for your generous gift of last year. We want you to know that we've put it towards many worthy projects:

- Building ramps for people in wheelchairs to use
- Gravel to make a senior homeowner's driveway usable
- Reconstruction of a Smithville Flats woman's home interior so she could finally have electricity and warmth and water after two years without
- Saturday Work Days of members and Colgate Students who have their own Habitat for Humanity Club joining us and our five-member Habitat Family all working at the house they were able to buy. Every room requires new floor coverings and walls need painting and new wiring. Our labor and materials are free to the family but they must spend 300 “sweat hours” of work and they've already passed that goal and continue working on Saturdays. We cut expenses as much as possible: for example, we are using old rugs that are still in good condition to put under the new flooring and not buying new padding.

We really appreciate your gift which allowed us to continue helping the truly needy neighbors here in Chenango County.

Chenango County Habitat for Humanity Members

**Daylight Savings Time begins on March 10<sup>th</sup>**



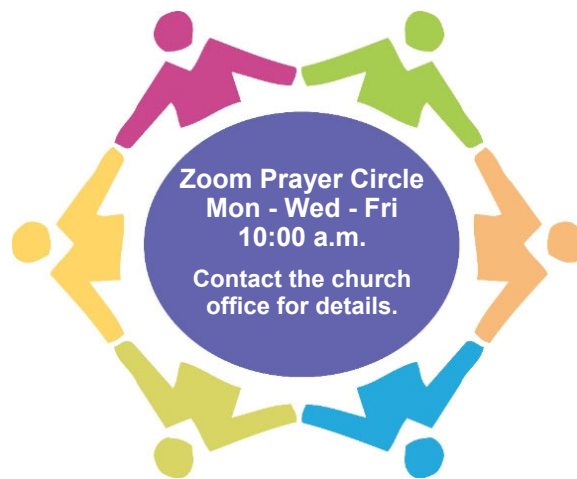
Remember to set your  
clocks one hour ahead on  
Saturday night, March 9<sup>th</sup>.

## Prayer Concerns

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Let us keep in our prayers the following concerns:

- families, 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.
- all those affected by the worldwide Covid-19 Pandemic
- the people of Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Gaza



## Celebrations

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- 1 Liam Hunter
- Cheri Oakley
- 6 Chris Mallozzi
- 7 Rena Hall
- 9 Eric Burgher
- 11 Steve Craig
- 17 Edwin Tucker
- 18 David Burch
- 21 Elspeth Hunter
- 31 Michael Moren



## Community Lenten Study

*Simon Peter: Flawed but Faithful Disciple*

Tuesdays 11:30am — 1:00pm Tues. for 6 weeks  
(Mar. 5, 12, 19)

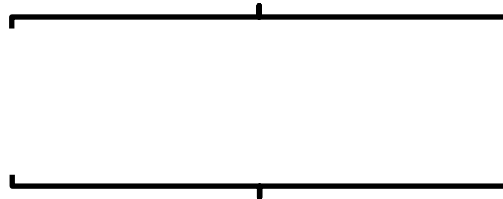
Light Lunch & Fellowship: 11:30am

Lenten Study: Noon — 1:00pm

Broad Street United Methodist Church (74 N. Broad St.)

In *Simon Peter: Flawed but Faithful Disciple*, we'll join author and Pastor Adam Hamilton and take an in-depth dive into the life, faith, and character of Simon Peter. Simon Peter left everything to follow his teacher and Rabbi, Jesus, and possessed a passion that would change the world. That's one way to describe Simon Peter. Here's another: poor, uneducated, quick-tempered, and full of doubts and fears. Doesn't even sound like the same man, yet that's the point. Peter was just an ordinary guy who heard and followed God's extraordinary call. Discover how we, also, have special gifts, talents, and abilities that God can use to make a difference here and now in 2024.

Over this 6-week Lenten Study we will discuss the following areas of Simon Peter's life and faith: The Call of Simon the Fisherman, Walking with Jesus in the Storm, Bedrock or Stumbling Block?, "I Will Not Deny You", From Cowardice to Courage, The Rest of the Story



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

11 West Main Street  
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