



i DO NOT CALL YOU SERVANTS ANY LONGER...

i HAVE CALLED YOU  
FRIENDS

JOHN 15:15

**United Church of Christ  
Norwich, New York**



**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
Norwich, New York 13815**



**An Open and Affirming Church**

**April 21, 2024**

**10:00 a.m**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

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***PREPARING TO WORSHIP GOD***

**CHIMING OF THE HOUR**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***GATHERING***

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**ONE:** Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,

**ALL:** **or take the path that sinners follow, or sit in the seat of scoffers.**

**ONE:** Their delight is in the Holy Spirit of the Lord.

**ALL:** **For the Holy Spirit is the source of their inspiration and insight.**

**Thanks be to God. In Jesus' name we pray.**

**Amen.**

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\*Please stand in body or in spirit.

**Large Print Bulletins are available from the ushers.**

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## **UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Loving God, we thank you for this day and for the beauty of creation, for lovely and changeable weather, for friends and family near and far, for all who are dear to our hearts, for your guidance and your presence in our lives. We pray for those for whom your presence is a distant memory or an empty promise. May we remember that we can bring you to others by our presence in their time of need. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**\*OPENING HYMN** *I Woke Up This Morning* Insert  
(Tune: WOKE UP THIS MORNING)

## ***TIME OF SHARING***

### **CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

**ANTHEM** *Over My Head* Traditional Spiritual  
Arranged by Adam and Matt Podd

### **BLESSING OF PEACE**

**ONE:** May the Peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

**ALL:** And also with you.

*Please greet one another in a manner most comfortable to you: hug, wave, fist bump, handshake.*

**SUNG RESPONSE** *Bind Us Together* Insert

### **EASTER INVITATION TO GENEROSITY (UNISON)**

How grateful we are, O God, for all of the gifts you provide. You have blessed us with abundance, not only fulfilling our needs, but going far beyond. May our giving today reflect your generosity, and may it be used to further your work, both in our community of faith and throughout your realm. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*Offering plates are located at both doors or  
give online at [www.uccnorwichny.org/give](http://www.uccnorwichny.org/give)*

**HYMN** *Surely No One Can Be Safer* #487  
(Tune: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA,  
Swedish folk melody)

**SERMON** *We're Invited to be in a Relationship with God*  
**Scripture:** Matthew 4:1-11 Pew Bible NT p. 3  
John 15:15-17 Pew Bible NT p.113

## **INTERLUDE**

## **SHARING OF JOYS/CONCERNS**

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

## **COMMISSION AND BLESSING**

### **\*CLOSING HYMN**

*God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* #565  
(Tune: AUSTRIAN HYMN)

## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**NURSERY** is available for children up to age 5 upstairs beginning at 9:00 a.m.

**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL OR YOUTH GROUP THIS WEEK.**

**GET YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED** - Pete Williams will be available at Coffee Hour today to answer your questions about the By-Laws change.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT:** A special congregational meeting will be **held on Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> following the worship service at 11:15 a.m.** for the sole purpose of voting on the updated By-Laws. A Zoom link with voting capabilities will be available for those unable to attend in person.

The proposed updated version addresses the details of moving from the current leadership structure of having a Board of Deacons, a Board of Trustees, and an Executive Council to a single leadership body which will retain the title of Executive Council. Copies of the current By-Laws as well as the proposed By-Laws and a summary list of the changes are available at the back of the Nave for you to take and review. Please refer any questions to any current Executive Council member or ask Pete Williams at the 4/21 coffee hour.

**POT LUCK LUNCH on Sunday, April 28** after the by-laws vote meeting, hosted by the Deacons. Please bring a soup, bread or dessert to share so we are well fed while we meet and vote on the By-laws changes. Table service and drinks will be provided. Sign up in the church office, contact Rose Laughlin, or use the insert in the bulletin.

**THE SUSQUEHANNA ASSOCIATION SPRING MEETING** will be held on **Sunday, April 28;** 2:00 p.m. (registration & fellowship), 3:00 p.m. (meeting) at the Maine Federated Church, 2615 Main St., Maine, NY. **Please RSVP to Sue Frost, Association Registrar, before April 23:** [registrarsany@gmail.com](mailto:registrarsany@gmail.com)

**THE UCCNY CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING** will be held on **Friday and Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup>** at the Holiday Inn, **Binghamton.** Our church is allowed to send two delegates. Any covenant member is eligible and with the meeting location so close to Norwich, it is very convenient to attend this year. This is a good opportunity to witness the workings of the conference and be a part of voting and the decision making process. It is also a good opportunity to meet people from the conference and other local area churches. If you have any desire to attend or would like additional information on this event, please contact Pete or Mary Williams (last year's attendees) or the church office and we can get you additional information. **Registration deadline for this event is May 10, 2024.**

**DOUG'S FISH FRY FUNDRAISER to benefit the Broad St. United Methodist Church Steeple/Roof project, Saturday, April 27**, from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the YMCA/Church (74 North Broad St) parking lot. Call ahead for same-day pick-up at 607-423-5996. A variety of options are available - Fish Sandwich, Fried Shrimp or Scallops. Dinners come with fries and coleslaw, while individual sides include fries, onion rings, and coleslaw. Please note that all items are fried in 100% Peanut Oil, prices include tax, and credit cards are accepted. Prices for each item will be reasonable and will be posted on the day of the event.

**PIANO RECITAL FEATURING ANITA HUMER AND MATT NAKOA, Sunday, April 28** at 2:00 p.m. at the Broad St. United Methodist Church, 74 N Broad St. This concert is being offered in appreciation for the donation of a baby grand piano by Phillis and Daryl Forsythe. Free admission.

**A HEPATITIS C PRESENTATION** will be held on **April 29** at 6:00 p.m. at 5 Court St. in Norwich. Snacks and free swag will be provided. Hepatitis C (HCV) is a disease that is caused by a virus that affects the liver. HCV can cause serious liver damage if it is in the body for a long time. Most people with HCV do not have symptoms. Call 607-762-2810 with questions.

**RUMMAGE SALE** at First Baptist Church, West Park Place, Norwich on Friday and Saturday, **April 26 and 27** from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**HOSPICE SPRING PLANT SALE** - This year customers will purchase vouchers for their plant orders and then bring their vouchers to pick their plants up directly from the respective florists, Pires Flower Basket in Norwich and Mountain View Gardens in Sherburne, from **April 25 to May 25!** (Vouchers and gift cards are not redeemable for cash.) Shop online at <https://hospicechenango.org/shop/> or check out the brochure on the bulletin board outside the church office.

**ST. BART'S PARISH CENTER SPRING BAZAAR**, 81 E Main St., Norwich, **Saturday, April 27**, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Crafts and antique dealers. Italian Pastries, homemade Pasta e Fagioli and Meatball Subs will also be available.

## CALENDAR

*The Chenango Muslim Community meets upstairs daily at 9:30 p.m. & Fridays at 1:30 p.m.*

### **SUNDAY, APRIL 21**

- 9:00 a.m. Nursery
- 10:00 a.m. Worship
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour - By-laws Q&A

### **MONDAY, APRIL 22**

- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle, Zoom
- 3:00 p.m. Tai Chi, Founders Room
- 5:30 p.m. Town & Country Garden Club, Founders Room
- 7:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting, Zoom

### **TUESDAY, APRIL 23**

- 1:00 p.m. Piecemakers, Kitchen

### **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24**

- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle, Zoom
- 5:00 p.m. Chenango Food Co-Op Meeting, Founders Rm.
- 5:00 p.m. Citizen Preparedness for Emergencies at Guernsey Memorial Library, Norwich
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Nave

### **THURSDAY, APRIL 25**

- 4:00 p.m. Monday Evening Musical Club auditions (tentative)  
Nave, Mayflower Room

### **FRIDAY, APRIL 26**

- 9:00 a.m. Rummage Sale at First Baptist Church, W. Park Place
- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle, Zoom
- 4:00 p.m. Monday Evening Musical Club auditions (tentative)  
Nave, Mayflower Room

### **SATURDAY, APRIL 27**

- 9:00 a.m. St. Bart's Parish Center Spring Bazaar, 81 E Main St.
- 9:00 a.m. Rummage Sale at First Baptist Church, W. Park Place
- 11:00 - 6:00 p.m. Doug's Fish Fry fundraiser for Broad St. UMC. See announcements for details.

### **SUNDAY, APRIL 28**

- 9:00 a.m. Nursery
- 10:00 a.m. Worship  
Sunday School
- 11:15 a.m. Congregational Meeting to vote on the By-laws changes
- 11:30 a.m. Pot Luck Lunch (following the vote)
- 12:30 p.m. Youth Group, upstairs
- 2:00 p.m. Susquehanna Association Spring Meeting, Maine Federated Church
- 2:00 p.m. Piano Recital at Broad St. UMC. See announcements.

April 21, 2024

**TODAY'S PARTICIPANTS:**

**Pastor:** Rev. James K. Boodley

**Liturgist:** Ed Tucker

**Director of Music Ministries:** Mary Williams

**Organist:** David Burch

**Director of Children and Youth Ministries:** Ericka Tyler

**Live Stream:** Chris McSweeney, Jessica Strough, Liam Hunter

**Sunday Sexton:** Mya Yantz

**Nursery:** Fiora Breese

**Coffee Hour:** Pat Burke

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST FIRST CONGREGATIONAL**

11 West Main St., Norwich NY 13815

607-334-3434 - office@uccnorwichny.org - www.uccnorwichny.org

**MINISTERS:** All the People

**PASTOR:** Rev. James K. Boodley

**MODERATOR:** Pete Williams

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES:** Mary Williams

**DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES:** Ericka Tyler

**PARISH COORDINATOR:** Cheri Oakley

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANT:** Jennifer Mallozzi



**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Tuesday-Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

*(closed for lunch 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.)*

Friday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.