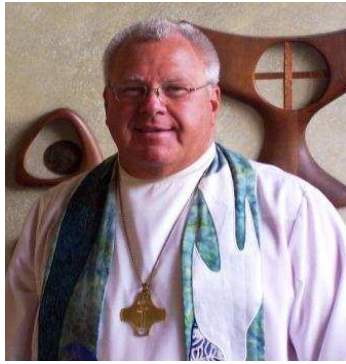


September
2020

Dear Members and Friends of Webster UCC, Congregational!



From Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary – copyright 1966:

(1) **patient** – adjective – 1 : bearing pains or trials calmly or without complaint

2 : manifesting forbearance under provocation or strain
3 : not hasty or impetuous 4 : steadfast despite opposition, difficulty, or adversity 5 : able or willing to bear.

(2) **patient** – noun – 1 : an individual awaiting or under medical care and treatment 2 : one that is acted upon.

Two definitions, an adjective and a noun, neither of which, I must confess, have applied to me in my 61 years of living! I've never had surgery (except a tonsillectomy), and I tend not to be a very patient person. Yet, in the coming weeks and months, I will have to learn to be both! At the same time!! A patient patient!!

In case you don't know what I'm talking about, the time has come to do something about the painful osteo arthritis that has been limiting my mobility, causing intense pain, and making me an even less patient patient!! I have seen a physical therapist, a non-operating orthopedist, and finally an orthopedic surgeon – all who agree that despite therapy, shots, and treatments, nothing seems to be slowing down the rapid degeneration in not one, but BOTH knees.

In an ideal world, it would be advantageous to replace both knees with one surgery, requiring an intense, focused recovery period – some spent in a rehabilitation facility. But with the current COVID situation, it doesn't seem like a good thing to enter any kind of rehab. facility at this time. So I will be having two knee replacement surgeries – the left knee on September 2, and the right knee on December 3. In the event that the surgery on the left knee goes extremely well, the right knee surgery may be moved up a few weeks.

I will certainly keep you all informed as to how things go. But I first want to assure you all that our congregation will be well taken care of by the Rev. Dr. Margo Markesteyn and the Rev. Ryan Henderson in my absence. I plan to return as soon as possible, but we'll see how the recovery and rehab. goes – and how patient I can be and what a good patient I become! (See what I did there? LOL!)

During the past 6 months, our patience has been tested! Amen? We have all struggled to bear "pains or trials calmly or without complaint." We have all dealt with "forbearance under provocation or strain." We have tried so hard to not be "hasty or impetuous," remain "steadfast" and "able... to bear!" But some days are just too much! Even so, we are getting through this as best we are able, and many of us are learning new and creative ways to get through – different ways, when change can be so hard. But most importantly, we are learning to be more patient and understanding with each other. Let's keep up the good work!

I welcome your prayers and positive energies for my surgeon's amazing skill, for my healing and recovery, for Marty – who will have to deal with this impatient patient at home (Amen?), and for all of us as these difficult and trying days continue, that we ALL might learn patience and trust in God who holds us all in amazingly large and wonderful hands of love and caring!

I hope to see you all soon!

Grace and Peace,

Carl

"If you have faith the size of a mustard seed... nothing would be impossible to you."
- Matthew 17:20



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

The Congregationalist

Monthly Newsletter

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Prayer Requests for September 2020

We're moving into the fall of 2020 and looking forward to bountiful harvests, crisp apples, huge pumpkins and cooler temperatures. We give thanks to be living in a region with wonderfully defined seasons with special times and events taking place. We continue to give thanks for our church and its wonderful people as we continue to be a blessing to so many living in these times of pandemic uncertainty.

Sharing our love and prayers for one another is what we're called to do - and be! Folks everywhere are struggling. Some struggle with health issues - mental and physical, some struggle with relationship issues, security issues, loneliness, abandonment, injustice and oppression. As followers of Jesus in the world - the hands, feet and heart of Jesus at work - we have been called to lift up those in need and struggling, as well as ourselves.

Here are some of the requests for prayers that have been shared during our "Time of Sharing" during Sunday morning services of worship. And if you've got a minute - after you read this - please add one more prayer, or send some positive vibes and energies through the cosmos for each and every one!

Thank you...

- + Continued Prayers for those in the world community dealing with the Corona virus, especially now as 177,000 Americans that have lost their lives.
- + Thanksgiving for those who have recovered from the affects of the virus!
- + Thanksgiving for our state leaders who have led New York strongly and while we struggle at times to understand it all, our state remains healthy as our numbers continue to go down
- + Prayers for our nation and world in such difficult times of unrest and division.
- + Directed healing energies for those who face new or returning malignancy diagnoses and supportive energies for those who care for them...
- + Prayers for those facing surgery now that elective surgeries have resumed.
- + Thanksgiving for the new and exciting ways that God is calling us to BE THE CHURCH – livestream and recorded worship, ZOOM meetings and gatherings, YouTube Youth and Sunday School!
- + Prayers for the families of members, Janet Akin and Sue Murray, who passed away last month.
- + Prayers for all parents, teachers and students as they return to school – whether in person or virtually!

You may wish to include those of our church family who are living in health related facilities or at home:

- + Effie Wysocki @ The Landing of Brighton
- + Judy Haskin @ Home of the Good Shepherd, Malta, NY
- + Arlene Diller @ Sage Harbor, Baywinde Senior Living Center, Webster
- + Jane Wagenhals @ Creekside Home in Fairport
- + Larry Akins, Wayne Ferry, Andrea Oestreich, and Fern Pellett @ home.

Those now living in independent or assisted living centers are:

- + Alan Hunderup @ Chapel Oaks, St. Ann's, Rochester
- + Norma Fitzpatrick, Linda Battaglia & Betty Watkins @ CDS Monarch Senior Living Center, Webster
- + Angie & Bruce Clair, Ted Ellstrom and Mary Jane Nudd @ Castlepointe, Baywinde Senior Living Center, Webster
- + Jan Kujawa @ home with family in Buffalo

Mission Moment

Below are items needed for Church World Service school kits and they are currently on sale. Donations may be left in the pet food bench at the west end of the building. Please label "CWS". Don't want to shop? Monetary donations may be sent to the church marked for school supplies and we'll shop for you.

School Bag Supplies:

one pair blunt scissors	three 70-count spiral bound notebooks
one 12" ruler	one hand held pencil sharpener
one large eraser	six new unsharpened pencils with erasers
one box 24 count crayons (only 24)	

Thank you for helping with this mission project!!!

Mission Moment

Four special UCC offerings are received each year - One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen the Church, Neighbors in Need, and the Christmas Fund. These 4 offerings plus a budget donation to Our Church's Wider Mission are what have made us a 5 for 5 church for several years.

The OGHS offering of \$805 has been sent. Donations for Strengthen the Church may be sent to the church during Sept.

Thank you for contributing as we continue to help others.

Prayer Shawl Mission

When the prayer shawl gatherings ended in March due to COVID, members continued to knit as all sheltered at home. Unable to do an in church blessing in June, the group did a virtual one last month repeating the prayer of blessing while smiling at the photo of 13 shawls. Once again the shawl bin is overflowing.

Shawl recipients these past months:

Friend of Carla Biuso
Jane, friend of Nancy Wheeler
Cheryl Hendrickson
Ken Mihalyov
Three friends of the Leskos
Ben, son of Richard and Marcia Kendrick
Bill and Phyllis, friends of Sharon Pratt
Family of Sollame friends
Karin Beachner
Shirley, sister-in-law of Sharon Mathiason

The group will not gather in the lounge this fall but will continue to knit at home.

Know someone who could use the prayers, hugs, and warmth the shawls represent? Contact Linda Ims at lin-daims63@gmail.com or 671-1101 or make your request known to the office. Shawls are freely given – you just need to make a request.

Virtual CROP Walk

October 11, 2020

Due to covid-19 the May CROP Walk was postponed and will be held in October. Watch for further details!

Reading this could change your life & someone else's!
Come Join Us for a NEW Group!

We want YOU & need YOU.

We will meet on the media. By email for now... maybe with a little Zoom tossed in and/or....

Purpose: To join forces with the **Poor People's Campaign**

Led by Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharris (Union Theological Seminary plus ...) &
Rev. Dr. William Barber II (human rights worker plus...)

There is a **National** movement & a **State** movement &
a **Rochester** area movement & *now a Webster movement.*

Jesus spent time with & helped mainly poor people in his ministry.

51% of people in New York are poor or low income - a total of 9.9 million residents. This is hard to believe!

If you believe that:

Everyone who works should have a living wage!

Everyone should have health care!

Everyone should have access to a quality education!

Everyone should have adequate housing!

Everyone should ...the list goes on...equal voting rights...equality of sexes...sexual orientation...gender identity...public transportation...First Nation People...prison reform...equal pay for equal work!

This list is supported by our Nation UCC through resolutions & programs.

Are we going to solve all of these issues?

(Probably not, but we can try to help a little.)

We can help be the hands & feet & mind of Jesus in helping do....

Please join us.

Send your name & email address to Lowell & Pat Edwards:

edwards629@juno.com

Try it out, get involved as much as you like, a little or a little more,,,

We are a work in progress.

(For those of you in the lenten book study we are hoping for a movement toward 4.0)

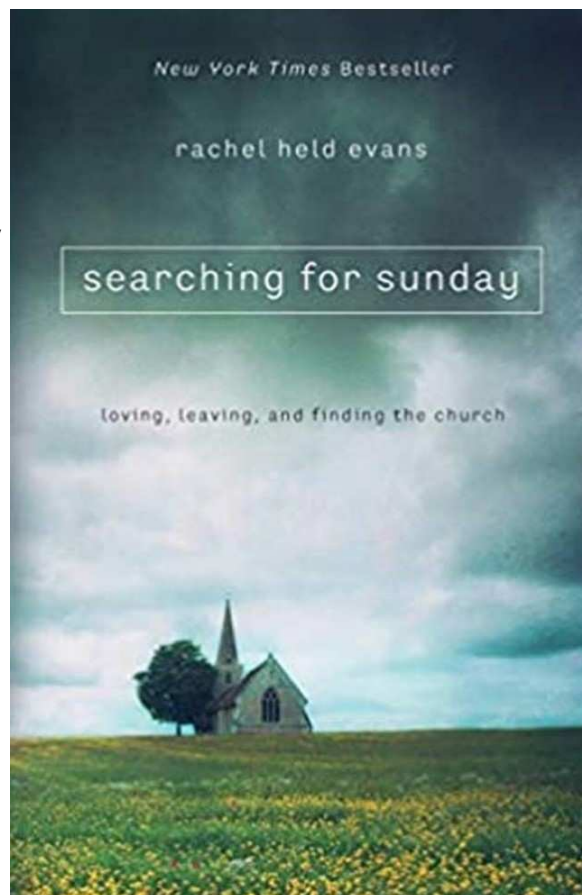
Thursday discussion group

Join the Thursday morning group for a new resource, "Searching for Sunday." It is a New York Times bestseller by Rachel Held Evens. The author explores why people leave the church, why they come back, why people stay, why they leave and then come back. Discussions will be held through Zoom meetings.

Eight sessions beginning Thursday, 9/24/20, 9:30 AM

Books about \$11

Contact Joe Roth (671-8458) for more information or to join the group.





Donations accepted starting August 1

Place donations on the table outside the west entrance and email Wendy when you drop them off.

Details will be released soon regarding WHEN AND HOW the virtual sale will take place .

NOTE:

No clothing, televisions or computers accepted.

Questions? Contact Wendy Lesko
wlesko88@gmail.com
585-756-1965



The WUCC Outdoor Giving Pantry is located on the east side of the church building. If you are in need, stop by and help yourself . If you have groceries to donate, stop by and just place them in the pantry. We try and restock almost daily but we need your donations to help keep it full .

Thank You so very much !!

The Rebel Beat Youth Ministry & the Friends' Quest Children's Ministry are under construction ! Details will be posted soon on the church website.



September Birthdays

Did we miss anyone? If you know someone who has an anniversary or birthday in September who isn't listed please contact the church office.

09/02 Rob Balsamo	09/19 David Gerard
09/02 Jeffrey Hermenet	09/19 Jim Painton
09/03 Veronica Speer	09/20 Cameron Davis
09/04 Susan MacDonald	09/21 Jason Boland
09/06 Jason Vent	09/22 Skip Erb
09/07 Amir Hamouda	09/23 John Gummoe
09/07 Ryley Norton	09/23 Ella Wambach
09/09 Morgan Peterson	09/24 Kelly Kozlowski
09/09 Judy Short	09/25 Natalie Bila
09/09 Debra Vent	09/25 Nancy Schlaffer
09/10 Sharon Randall	09/25 Norman Short
09/11 Peter Andrews	09/25 David VanHousen
09/11 Martha Leising	09/26 Richard Ashley
09/11 Colter Mateo	09/27 Jessica Abbey
09/12 Joseph DiTucci	09/27 Frank Bell
09/14 Jeffrey Wagner	09/27 Christine Daniels
09/15 Daniel Schoenberger	09/27 Tessa Kilian
09/16 Jeanette Guenther	09/27 Carol Schmitt
09/16 Robert McVay	09/29 Kathryn Bickford
09/16 Keri Stetson	09/29 Thomas Story
09/17 Colleen Kunz	09/30 Heidi LaDuca
09/18 Ryan Henderson	
09/18 Ava Magin	
09/18 Wyatt Murray	



September Anniversaries

09/02 Jan & Doug Farling
09/03 Karl & Donna Fonda
09/03 Joseph & Carole Roth
09/04 Harold & Nikki Langworthy
09/04 Richard & Carol Schmitt
09/04 Frank & Jane Vavrick
09/09 Kenneth & Janice Smith
09/12 Cindy & Ron Thompson
09/17 Janet & Matt Wambach
09/21 Keith & Debra Vent
09/22 Emily & Jason Duga
09/27 John & Barb Cittadino

Until further notice - there are no gatherings being held in the church building. Please stay in touch via phone calls, email, zoom, and any other means you can think of that maintains social distancing.

Live stream of Sunday morning worship is at 10am each Sunday.

Sunday School and Youth Group are meeting online. Check your email for details.

» September 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Aug 30	31	Sep 1 7:00pm Carl and Wendy's Lectionary Adventure;	2	3 9:30am Bible Study Group;	4	5
6 10:00am Combined Worship ;	7 Labor Day	8 7:00pm Carl and Wendy's Lectionary Adventure;	9	10 9:30am Bible Study Group;	11	12
13 10:00am Combined Worship ;	14 Holy Cross Day	15 6:00pm WISE meeting; 7:00pm Carl and Wendy's Lectionary Adventure;	16 7:00pm BSA Troop 113; FC	17 9:30am Bible Study Group;	18	19
20 10:00am Combined Worship ;	21	22 7:00pm Carl and Wendy's Lectionary Adventure;	23	24	25	26
27 10:00am Combined Worship ;	28	29	30	Oct 1	2	3



SANC - Sanctuary; LG - Lounge; MS - Middle School room; CH - Congregational Hall;
FC - Fellowship center; SHL - Senior High Lounge; NAR - Narthex

<https://uccwebster.org/calendar/>

Sunday morning worship is now being held both online and on the front lawn of the church (weather permitting) . Attendees must wear a mask, bring their own chair and remain seated in their designated area.

Plans are in the works to resume some of the in-building activities. These are being handled on a case by case basis.

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Email: office@uccwebster.org
Website: www.uccwebster.org



Tentative Sunday Schedule

10:00 AM
Worship Service live stream
on our Facebook page

1:00 PM
“Sunday School has left the building!”
live stream on our Facebook page

details at uccwebster.org

*“The United Church of Christ,
Congregational of Webster is an Open and
Affirming community of faith. We welcome
and affirm God's people of every sexual
orientation, gender identity, gender
expression, race, ethnicity, marital status,
mental ability, physical ability, economic
circumstance, and spiritual tradition to
fully participate in the life and ministry of
our church family.”*

Webster UCC Staff

the Rev. Carl J. Richter, Sr. Pastor
Wendy Lesko, Director Christian Education
Ronald Milliman, Music Director
Doug Hall, Office Manager
Oleksandra Yurchenko, Accompanist
Loraine Speer, Nursery Coordinator
Scott Loiacono, Custodian