

October
2020



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

The Congregationalist

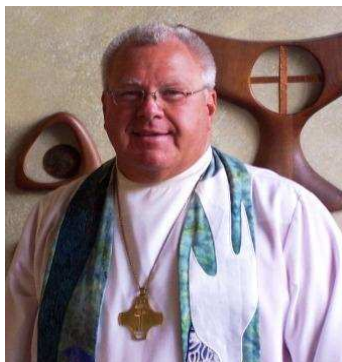
Monthly Newsletter

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Dear Members and Friends of Webster UCC, Congregational!



Patience: Part II

Well... here we are one month later... the surgery went well! I have a new titanium knee, and I've spent the last 4 weeks sitting in a recliner, doing physical therapy, exercising as best I can, trying to keep the pain in check, watching some great "new" shows on Netflix, reading, planning, learning to walk again - first with a walker and now with a cane - and it's driving me crazy!!! I want to be doing more, going more, driving! But the slow and steady work of healing goes on, and I have to move along as slow and steady as that healing process.

So... I guess I have not grown any more patient in this time of recovery. I remain a pretty impatient person! I had planned on being up and ready to go after three weeks - I was DETERMINED to defy the recommendations from my Doctor and Physical Therapist, but it was not meant to be. I guess this kind of healing and recovery takes time. So while I may not have learned patience, I have learned to listen to my body. I've learned that I have to ease up when I have done too much, to push a little harder even though it hurts, to sit quietly at times - no TV, no iPhone, no computer - and listen and meditate, and try to discern what it is God is calling me to do and be in these times.

There have been days, along this journey, when I have had to admit defeat. When the hopes and "plans" in my head just couldn't cooperate with the reality and "plans" in my knee and healing, I had a meltdown! There were tears, thoughts of being not enough, doing not enough, letting people down - letting myself down! Those were not good days... But I came out on the other side with yet another realization that I must listen to my body, that "self care" is very important, and that the world goes on turning even if I am not there to make sure it all goes according to **my** "plans."

In those moments of listening and meditating, I've had the opportunity to really think about how amazing the world of medicine really is! To remove a severely damaged joint, replace it with something new and high tech., and be able to walk (and more!) pain free for the first time in YEARS, is astounding! I think often about my poor mother (who would have turned 100 in September) who suffered with crippling osteoarthritis for so much of her life and how this surgery might have improved her quality of life had it been available then. While I haven't actually reached the "pain free" part of the journey quite yet, I give thanks to God that I am relieved of the awful joint pain that has been limiting my mobility for some time!

So here I am - still very impatient, but now aware of the importance to sit and breathe and listen to my body and take/make time to just "be!" To put down the phone, walk away from the computer, rest, recharge, relax, and take care of my inner and outer selves that need to work together for the sake of healing and renewal. I will be worshiping with you on Sundays, but will be working from home during the week - for the next two weeks at least - and still doing PT several times during the week in order to regain the mobility and flexibility I had lost. Thank you for your love, your prayers, your support, cards, calls, cookies - and yes, your **patience!** It is much appreciated!

Blessed be...

Carl

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

Prayer Requests for October 2020

In the vibrant colors of the changing seasons we can see the work of creation here in our midst! Take some time to actually look, see, and enjoy the fall colors. And give thanks for beauty in our midst!

We talk about being a family of faith, and what is faith if it isn't about hope and love. Sharing hope and love 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 the people of California recovering from the devastation of wildfires.
- + Continued prayers for those rebuilding from hurricanes on the Gulf Coast and tornadoes in the Midwest.
- + Prayers for those in the world community dealing with the Corona virus.
- + Prayers for several of our senior members who have suffered from falls in their homes.
- + 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 understanding family, friends and caregivers for those who are adjusting to new living arrangements.
- + Thanksgiving for an amazing virtual summer concert season!!
- + Prayers for our extended families who are struggling through the loss of a loved one.
- + Thanksgiving for the life of Bill Armbruster and prayers for family who survive him.
- + Prayers for those in our community who are unemployed, homeless and struggling due to the pandemic.

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, Don Forsyth, and Fern Pellett @ home.

Those now living in independent or assisted living centers are:

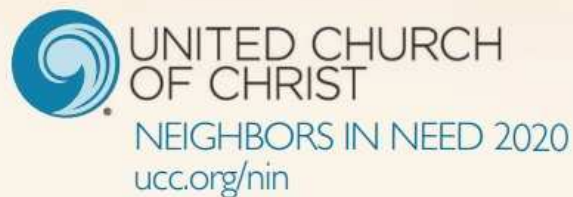
- + Alan Hunderup @ Chapel Oaks, St. Ann's, Rochester
- + Norma Fitzpatrick, Linda Battaglia & Betty Watkins @ CDS Monarch Senior Living Center, Webster
- + Angie & Bruce Clair, Ted Ellstrom and Mary Jane Nudd @ Castlepointe, Baywinde Senior Living Center, Webster
- + Jan Kujawa @ home with family in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

BE THE CHURCH  UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Stay Home. Social Distance. Wash Your Hands.
Check on the Elderly. Live Stream Worship.
Give electronically. Support each other.
Love God. Flatten the curve. Pray Daily.
So we can all enjoy this life.

Mission Moment

Time for one of the 5 for 5 offerings. This one is for Neighbors in Need. You may contribute via a check sent/delivered to the church with NIN on memo line or donate online to the church with a note that it is for NIN. Thank you!



Virtual CROP Walk - October 11, 2020

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2019 the Webster Council of Churches distributed almost \$5,000 to 16 Rochester area food cupboards. With the help of this money, food cupboards distribute bags of food (7,472 by Hope House), meals for adults (90,000 by Open Door Mission), and meals for children (3,700 by Cameron's Kids Café). These are just a few examples of the good our CROP dollars do for our community.

WE CAN ALL HELP

We, as neighbors, friends and members of the United Church of Christ, can continue to fight against the new challenges of disease and disaster that leave people hungry.

Join with the Webster community in raising funds to help our neighbors get the meals they need this year.

Click on the following link and become a Walker or a Sponsor of this year's virtual CROP Walk.

www.crophungerwalk.org/websterny

A VIRTUAL CROP Walk means you can walk where you want, with whom you want, socially distanced, of course and when you want (by around Oct 11).

Questions?

Call, text or email Barbara Suter (585-261-2898, bsuter1028@gmail.com)



A special birthday request

Hi everyone

My name is Ileiahna and I am in the Youth group here at UCC. For my Birthday I am going to be collecting donations instead of Birthday gifts. The donations I am collecting are for a children's cancer association called Connect30. I am doing this because there are people out there that need more than me and I think it is good to give to others. Connect30 supports kids with Cancer and helped my older sister when she had cancer. She is Healthy now but still loves the organization.

Connect30 is asking for:

Office supplies, Gift cards to Dept stores, printer paper, water bottles, post it notes, paper plates, envelopes, light bulbs, paper towels and soap.

Please email my Mom Tara if you have any questions or would like to donate.

We will come pick up the donations or get them from Church if you would like to leave them at a certain time.

Donations are being collected from now until October 20th.

Thank you

Ileiahna

tcupfisher@gmail.com (my mom's email)

(editor's note: Ileiahna will be ten years old this year)

Building Use and COVID-19 Update

While it had been decided not to regather for worship services in our church building at this time given ongoing concerns about the potential spread of COVID-19, it is the time of year when other groups from the community have typically used the church building for other purposes. An example of this is Woodside Nursery School. These groups have been inquiring about using the church building this year as well, and the WUCC Safety and Security team has been working with relevant members of the church community and leaders of these groups to identify and agree on health and safety procedures that will minimize the risk of spreading COVID-19 as these groups begin to meet.

Please be aware that Woodside Nursery School is already operating in our church building, and that other groups are expected to begin meeting as well over the next few weeks. As a result, there are guidelines that we as a church community need to follow in order to do our part to minimize the risk of spreading COVID-19. From a WUCC church family point of view, only a few WUCC staff should consider entering the building, and on rare occasions others with specific church business, but the general case at this point remains that the congregation should not enter the building. If you do intend to enter the church building for any purpose other than to eventually attend church services (which will have its own set of guidelines when regathering for this purpose is considered appropriate), please follow these guidelines:

- **Do not enter the building if you meet any of the criteria for potential symptoms of or exposure to COVID-19. Signs will be posted by main entrances shortly as a reminder of potential symptoms to consider.**
- **As a general guideline, you must wear a face mask within the building, regardless of the distance between yourself and others. Signs have been posted by main entrances as a reminder of this.**
- **Hand sanitizer should be used once you enter the building. Hand sanitizer stations are being set up at each entrance for this purpose.**
- **Specifically with regard to Woodside Nursery School, do not enter the Woodside hallway without prior authorization.**
- **To the extent possible, all touched surfaces should be disinfected before leaving. We have begun discussions about a general cleaning and disinfecting plan for the building, and have started acquiring supplies for this purpose. External groups using the building are and will be taking responsibility for cleaning and disinfecting surfaces that they touch.**
- **Send Doug Hall an email note at office@uccwebster.org indicating the day and time you were in the building, along with contact information if Doug does not have this information. This information will only be used for contact tracing purposes, if it becomes necessary.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact one of us. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Ken Mihalyov
Joe Monachino

An update on school kits for CWS.

The 103 kits ready to be delivered to the Rochester donation site (Downtown Presbyterian Church) last April, never made it due to COVID. A new drop off date was set for Sept. 15. That didn't happen as the surrounding streets were closed due to protests at City Hall. Please pray a pick up date can be rescheduled so the kits can be delivered to those in need.



This year's theme

We've launched the new program year for the REBEL BEAT youth. (grade 5 and up) We have developed exciting new ways for us to grow and stretch our youth and our reach!

We will intentionally and actively carry on Jesus' mission of love, peace and justice. When we are together. When we are apart. When the going gets tough and when it gets even tougher. We will remain connected as a community of people who are invested in loving our neighbors as Jesus did.

The youth will meet on Sunday's at church outdoors as the weather allows. We are currently working on the following outreach projects:

1. Building a second outdoor pantry to hold books, school supplies, clothing and other items for our neighbors in need.
2. Sweatshirt/Hoodie collection for our neighbors
3. Adding a pumpkin patch to the existing community garden. Pumpkins will be part of an outreach event in 2021
4. Pet Food Pantry Dog Walk Fundraiser
5. Campfire and Jesus stories
6. Saturday Night Live
7. Develop a new volunteers system for Pet Food Pantry and Community Garden
8. Supporting Ilei as she fundraises for Pet Food Pantry by making beaded lanyard mask holders



Love Out 'Loud

The new
Sunday School Program.



The children are invited to a weekly zoom at 11:30 am on Sundays. A few things we are working on .

1. Book drive for our neighbors. Books can be dropped off in the new collection bench outside the west entrance or your child might like to place them directly in the Outdoor Giving Pantry
2. Hats/gloves/mittens collection for our neighbors. Items can be dropped in the bench outside the west entrance.
3. Coat and boot drive for kids and teens. Place items in bench.
4. We will be videoing a Christmas Movie. More information to come.



October Birthdays

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

- | | | | | | |
|-------|----------------------|-------|------------------|-------|-------------------|
| 10/01 | Bill Baxter | 10/12 | Caron Gregory | 10/28 | Carolyn Montanaro |
| 10/01 | Jack Guild | 10/12 | Allan Hunderup | 10/28 | Barbara Suter |
| 10/01 | Alec Vent | 10/12 | Stephanie Lesko | 10/29 | Jason Duga |
| 10/02 | Oleksandra Yurchenko | 10/13 | Shirley Babcock | 10/29 | Jennifer O'Neill |
| 10/03 | Loraine Speer | 10/13 | Carolyn Brown | 10/29 | Kyle Vent |
| 10/03 | Jane Vavrick | 10/18 | Wes Gregory | 10/30 | Beverly Guild |
| 10/04 | Sarah Daniels | 10/18 | Nelson Milne | 10/30 | Teagan Kilian |
| 10/04 | Ted Ellstrom | 10/18 | William Reindel | 10/31 | Lana Paust |
| 10/04 | Linda Reigle | 10/19 | Nancy Beaston | | |
| 10/04 | Abigail Varlan | 10/19 | Tristan Cannan | | |
| 10/04 | Ava Wagner | 10/20 | Donald Forsyth | | |
| 10/05 | Adrian Hamouda | 10/20 | Eric Schultz | | |
| 10/05 | Heidi Higgs | 10/22 | Ramona Sharp | | |
| 10/05 | Stephen Hutton | 10/23 | Diana Schultz | | |
| 10/05 | Sandy Lerner | 10/23 | Cathy Stoneham | | |
| 10/06 | Kathy Alvito | 10/23 | Lola Wambach | | |
| 10/06 | Heather Doster Sood | 10/23 | David Young | | |
| 10/07 | Alison Calus | 10/24 | Jill Abbey | | |
| 10/08 | Robert Jr Guenther | 10/24 | Kristi Chatfield | | |
| 10/08 | Steven Lesko | 10/24 | Richard Henry | | |
| 10/08 | Donna VanHousen | 10/24 | Ileiahna Mateo | | |
| 10/10 | Jon Paul Visconte | 10/24 | Ron Thompson | | |
| 10/11 | Jacob Macano | 10/26 | Judi Gent | | |
| 10/11 | Charles Speer | 10/26 | Sally Kohler | | |



October Anniversaries

- | | | | |
|-------|--------------------------------------|-------|------------------------|
| 10/01 | Jaime & Thomas Story | 10/21 | Gary & Shari Gnolek |
| 10/02 | Jim & June Coakley | 10/23 | Robert & Eleanor McVay |
| 10/04 | Robin & Mark Maimone | | |
| 10/04 | Kitty & Peter Varlan | | |
| 10/05 | Thomas & Connie Hondorf | | |
| 10/10 | Andrew & Carolyn Montanaro | | |
| 10/15 | Denny & Judi Gent | | |
| 10/15 | Margaret & Chris Tsai | | |
| 10/18 | Diana & Phillip Newman | | |
| 10/19 | Diana & Eric Schultz | | |
| 10/19 | David Young & Marybeth Gilbert-Young | | |
| 10/20 | Louise & Peter Andrews | | |

Live stream of Sunday morning worship is at 10am each Sunday.
 Sunday School and Youth Group are meeting online. Check your email for details.

» October 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sep 27	28	29	30	Oct 1	2	3
				9:30am Bible Study Group;		
4 10:00am Online Worship	5	6 7:00pm Carl and Wendy's Lectionary Adventure;	7 7:00pm BSA Troop 113; FC	8 9:30am Bible Study Group;	9 5:00pm Drama Kids; CH	10
11 10:00am Online Worship	12 Columbus Day (regional holiday)	13 7:00pm Carl and Wendy's Lectionary Adventure;	14 7:00pm BSA Troop 113; FC	15 9:30am Bible Study Group;	16 5:00pm Drama Kids; CH	17
18 10:00am Online Worship	19	20 6:00pm WISE group 7:00pm Carl and Wendy's Lectionary Adventure;	21 7:00pm BSA Troop 113; FC	22 9:30am Bible Study Group;	23 5:00pm Drama Kids; CH	24
25 10:00am Online Worship	26	27 7:00pm Carl and Wendy's Lectionary Adventure;	28 7:00pm BSA Troop 113; FC	29 9:30am Bible Study Group;	30 5:00pm Drama Kids; CH	31 Reformation Day Halloween

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.

We have resumed some of the in-building activities such as Woodside Nursery School and our Scout troop. These are being handled on a case by case basis.

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Tentative Sunday Schedule

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

11:30 AM
“Sunday School has left the building!”
on ZOOM

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