

OCTOBER 2026



WEBSTER UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST CONGREGATIONALIST



United Church of Christ, Congregational
570 Klem Road, Webster NY 14580
585-671-3757

office@uccwebster.org

www.uccwebster.org



[United Church of Christ, Congregational](#)

We celebrated Pastor Michelle's Installation!



**The WISE TEAM
walked to
prevent suicide**



What's Inside

- From our pastor
- Events
- Rebel Beat Youth & Kids
- Fall Outreach
- Mission

From the Pastor

With joy, we celebrated my Installation service on September 20, officially confirming and commissioning us together in ministry and in partnership. I hold gratitude for the many, many people and roles that brought it all together- those who helped to plan, pray, advertise, sing, decorate, feed, welcome, clean, spruce up, usher, greet, participate, eat, fellowship, or gather. I am so thankful for each and for all of you.

One particular, personal, joy, was getting to sing with the Stone Family Singers. An interesting fun fact, to bring it full circle: there is a bit of a family tradition to gather and sing as a group for important family gatherings. During one of these, several years ago, Henry's grandfather, Ron, was being recognized for his work at Union Theological Seminary in New York. When an illness prevented someone from the Stone family from singing during the ceremony, Rev. Emily Odom, graciously stepped in to lend her voice. A few years after this, Emily and her husband, John, moved here to Rochester so that John could accept the role of Executive Presbyter for the Presbytery of Genesee Valley. Thankfully, Emily was not needed this time as all of the Stone Family Singers were healthy, but John, in his role as EP for the presbytery did lend his voice in welcome and greeting.

This, a fun reminder that we are all connected, in love and in community. This reminder and affirmation was prevalent throughout the service, including in the music for the day, such as that piece from our family: "Know that God loves you."

Therefore, may you feel affirmed and connected in the joy that God loves you, and may you feel renewed and empowered that we get to be in ministry and community together, joyfully loving all of God's created.

Wanted - Worship Volunteers!

We have opportunities for volunteers to assist at Sunday Worship - greeters, readers, livestream and more!

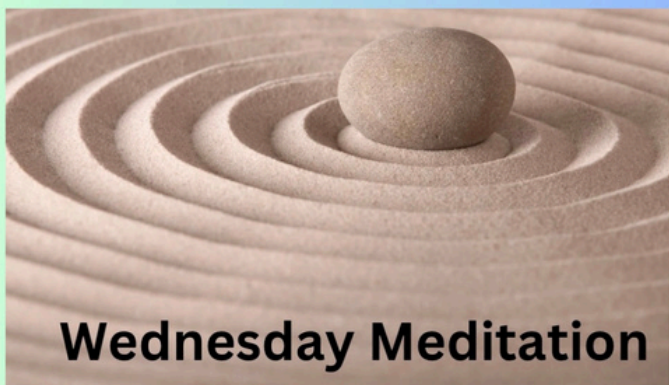
Sign up at

<https://uccwebster.org/worship-volunteer-opportunities/>



Hot Topics Discussion Group

The Hot Topics discussion group will meet on the first and third Tuesdays of October - October 6 and October 20 - at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We will be discussing the upcoming November elections - Who are the candidates? What are the issues? How might the election be manipulated? And anything else pertaining to the elections that is on your mind. For more information, or to be added to the e-mail list, contact richard_kendrick@verizon.net.



Wednesday Meditation

Interested in finding a quiet & calm space for spiritual openness and practice? Wednesdays at 11:00.



Wine & Cheese

October 19th at 6:30 pm

Come as you are.

Optional: bring a snack or drink to share



COCKTAIL CLASS October 15, 6:30 pm

Just in time for spooky season, spend an evening with Joe Izzo and Ilse Passalacqua listening to stories about poisoners, purloiners, and pirates while sipping the cocktails they inspire. All are welcome (≥ 21 years of age). Please RSVP to joespub.xyz@gmail.com by October 11.

free community
Sunday Supper
at GATHERING PLACE WEBSTER
October 11
Chicken Parmesan, Pasta, Garlic Bread, Salad & Apple Crisp

Inside Webster UCC
570 Klem Rd
Webster NY 14580

second Sunday
of each month
4:30-5:30 pm

gluten free and vegetarian
options available

for more information
gatheringplacewebster@gmail.com
585-667-0411

**Carrying on
Jesus'
Mission
of Love
Peace
& Justice**

REBEL BEAT YOUTH GROUP

Connecting Serving Learning Leading

an inclusive space
where young people
can connect, explore
their faith, and serve
together

**Thank you for supporting our Cafe
for a Cause! Your generosity will
fund this outreach project!**



Little Hugs

little comforts. ♥ big love

From the Cafe for a Cause proceeds, the Rebel Beat youth & kids are filling bags for the children in the shelter program at Family Promise of Greater Rochester

- * Warm fuzzy socks
- * winter hat
- * book
- * Hot cocoa packets
- * Microwave popcorn
- * A little stuffed animal



The Neighbors Table Project

Youth & Kid-led. Love-fed. Community-powered.
Simple ingredients become meaningful meals. Throughout the year, we collect items to create ready-to-make meal bags because everyone deserves a place at the table.



During the month of November we will collect cans of chili with no beans. A collection basket is in the narthex



**Bethlehem
Detective Agency**
a rebel beat Christmas play
December 13th

spooky SHENANIGANS

October 18 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

crafts
games
prizes

Spooky Trail
&
non-Spooky
Trail

cider
donuts

TRUNK
OR
TREAT

at GATHERING PLACE Webster
570 Klem Rd

**FREE
community
event**



bring a can/jar/packet
of gravy for
Thanksgiving Baskets!



Christmas Brunch

**December 6th
11:00-12:00**

proceeds support youth
outreach projects

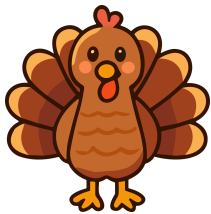
Fall Outreach at Webster UCC



CLEAN YOUR CLOSETS we collect winter coats for the guests at Baber with the goal of distributing them in October and November. A basket is in the narthex. Questions wlesko88@gmail.com



DISH CLOTHS: Keep crocheting/knitting dish clothes for the Thanksgiving grocery bags for Rochester Advocates for Children and Move-in kits for families at Family Promise of Greater Rochester. Questions? Wlesko88@gmail.com



THANKSGIVING GROCERIES for Rochester Advocates for Children will be collected October 18- November 15.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1KOuLAlzFLSSKVerN86jqYG7ElSj_axgm-r2-2tsAv-dE/edit?usp=drivesdk



PRAYER SHAWLS- Keep crocheting or knitting prayer shawls to be given to people in need of comfort.



Gently loved. Lovingly restored
Ready to hug again.

**Hug it
Forward**

HUG IT FORWARD - rescues gently loved stuffed animals and rehomes them to kids and youth in need of a hug



Also check the Rebel Beat page for details about **MEAL BAGS**

AND

MOVE -IN KITS FOR

Family Promise of Greater Rochester

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1IiYF3ZKd0bNtr3b35Mup_4s3U09RkKBFq6hLIpVQ57o/edit?usp=drivesdk





MOVE-IN KITS



for Family Promise of Greater Rochester

The Rebel Beat youth & kids are collecting items to fill Move-In Kits for apartments after shelter.

Each kit will contain :

broom with dustpan
3 sponges
all-purpose cleaner
anti-bacterial wipes
kitchen trash basket

aluminum foil
plastic wrap
measuring cups
& spoons
spatula
can opener

oven mitts
toilet cleaner
toilet brush
bathroom cleaner
shower curtain & rings

Dish soap & scrubber
Liquid hand soap
Paper towel roll
toilet paper 3 rolls

follow the link or sign-up in narthex: (items due October 18)

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1liYF3ZKd0bNtr3b35Mup_4s3U09RkKBFq6hLlpVQ57o/edit?usp=drivesdk

FAMILY PROMISE OF GREATER ROCHESTER

fpgroc.org

Keeping families together. Getting families home for good.

extended one more month !!

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1liYF3ZKd0bNtr3b35Mup_4s3U09RkKBFq6hLlpVQ57o/edit?usp=drivesdk



Keeping families together. Getting families home for good.

Family Promise of Greater Rochester (FPGROC, formerly RAIHN) assists families at risk of or experiencing homelessness to achieve sustainable independence by providing person-centered, holistic services in collaboration with the greater community.

<https://www.fpgroc.org>



Groceries for the grandmas at Rochester Advocates for Children

Help fill 24 grocery bags for the grandmas at Rochester Advocates for Children . These groceries will supplement their pantries during the Thanksgiving school break. Follow the link or use the signup in the narthex. Thank you !

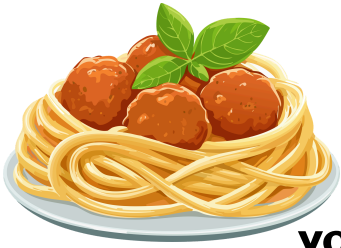
Groceries due in narthex on November 15

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1K0uLAlzFLSSKVerN86jqYG7EISjaxgm-r2-2tsAv-dE/edit?usp=drivesdk>

From the Mission Team



The third of four special offerings, Neighbors In Need, will be received during October. Gifts to Neighbors in Need support the United Church of Christ's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). The other two-thirds of the offering support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, direct service projects, and grants .Neighbors in Need grants are annually awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities.



Baber Free Hot Lunch

Fourth Saturday

at Baber 550 Meigs

volunteers arrive at 10:15 and are done by 1:00

all ages encouraged to join us!

to volunteer, contact Wendi Latko

wendi.latko@gmail.com

Notes from the Leadership Council meeting of August 27

A great deal of the conversation concerned issues of the building and grounds, and we are keeping our eyes on an ever-growing list of capital project needs.

For the short term, we are working on ice mitigation on the roof of Congregational Hall, and some roofing repairs, such as the skylight in the Narthex and the roof over the coat closet bathroom.

For the long term, we are planning for major roof repair and replacement projects that will be needed in the next 5-7 years.

We are mindful of other needs that have arisen, including the condition of the air conditioner that serves the Sanctuary and the condition of the front steps. (Work has since been done on the front steps to improve their condition, stability, and appearance.)

We also discussed maintenance needs for the building. In that vein,

- We are obtaining quotes for keeping the sidewalks clear of snow during the winter,
- We planned for building and grounds spruce-up days, which took place the week of September 7 under the leadership of Pete Sollame, and
- We are working on repairing the automatic door on the building's west end.

In the finance area, planning for the 2027 pledge campaign is underway and is expected to begin in November. In preparation for that campaign, the treasurer is asking all committee chairs to submit any needs they have for 2027 that are over and above what they were allocated for 2026.

A number of administrative matters were mentioned, including:

- We are working with Woodside on the renewal of their contract for 2027-2028, and
- The transition to a new software program, ChurchTrac, to aid in church administration is underway and is nearly complete.

Our next meeting is Thursday, October 22nd at 6:30 p.m. in the Lounge.



New online donation processor

We have switched the processor for donations made on our website to Zeffy. The previous processor charges a small service fee for each transaction; Zeffy does not.

When you enter a donation Zeffy will default to an optional percentage fee -

you can reduce it or change it to zero.

If you currently have a recurring payment through Paypal it will continue until you cancel it.

FROM THE FINANCE TEAM

September 2026

	Income	Expense
Monthly	\$16,420	\$23,183
Year To Date	\$173,667	\$180,107
	September 30 Balance	% change for year
Investments		
Endowment	\$894,823	6.3%
Other Funds	\$12,346	
*Capital Reserve	\$68,238	41.6%
Total	\$975,359	

* Reflects purchases and donations



October Birthdays

Dylan Green Oct 1
Oleksandra Yurchenko Oct 2
John Knapik-Clauser Oct 2
Jane Vavrick Oct 3
Heidi Higgs Oct 5
Sandy Lerner Oct 5
Heather Doster Sood Oct 6
Liz Green Oct 6
Kathy Alvito Oct 6
Alison Calus Oct 7
Bob Guenther Oct 8
Steve Lesko Oct 8
Linda Howell Oct 10
Stephanie Case Oct 12

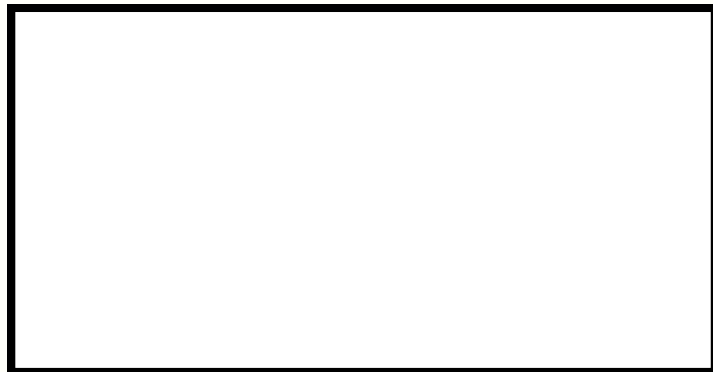
Charlotte Calabrese Oct 12
Carolyn Brown Oct 13
William Reindel Oct 18
Nancy Beaston Oct 19
Eric Schultz Oct 20
Diana Schultz Oct 23
Ilei Mateo Oct 24
Judi Gent Oct 26
Carolyn Montanaro Oct 28
Barbara Suter Oct 28
Lisa Izzo Oct 28
Deanne Knapik-Clauser Oct 29
Jason Duga Oct 29
Jennifer Johnson Oct 29

October at a glance

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
REBEL BE THE CURF Worship S Woodside	Lounge Re Communit	Lounge Re	Lounge Re BSA Troop	Rockers at Thursday S		Out of the set up for
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
REBEL BE Worship S Cafe for a	Lounge Re community Pack 113-	Lounge Re Communit Girl Scout HOT TOPIC	Lounge Re BSA Troop	Spry class Thursday S Drop-in Co Field Hock	bag lunch	bag lunch Lasagna e
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
bag lunch REBEL BE Worship S Free Com	Columbus Lounge Re Pack 113 -	Lounge Re	Lounge Re BSA Troop	Rockers at Thursday S Drop-in Co Third Thur Joe Izzo -		Woodside community
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
REBEL BE Worship S Spooky S	Lounge Re Pack 113-	Lounge Re Girl Scout HOT TOPIC	Lounge Re BSA Troop	Thursday S Drop-in Co Leadership		Baber Hot
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
REBEL BE THE CURF Worship S	Lounge Re private Co	Lounge Re Communit	Lounge Re BSA Troop	Thursday S Drop-in Co		Halloween

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Sunday Schedule

10:00 am

Worship Service

(also live stream on Facebook & YouTube)
Rebel Beat
(a.k.a. Youth & kids program)

*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. Michelle Sumption Stone
Senior Pastor

Beth Royer, Office Manager

Wendy Lesko, Director of Family
Programming & Community Outreach

Ronald Milliman, Music Director

Oleksandra Yurchenko, Accompanist

Chris Hendrickson, Custodian

Webster UCC Leadership Council

Lisa Izzo, Moderator

Richard Kendrick, Vice Moderator

Wendi Latko, Immediate Past Moderator

Norm Short, Stewardship

Heather Himes, Worship

Jeff Peck, Mission

Ken Mihalyov, Personnel

Pete Sollame, Building & Grounds

Mindy Spencer, Outreach & Family Programming

Heidi Zastowny, Congregational Life

Judy Short, Finance

Marcia Kendrick, Memorials & Special Gifts