NOVEMBER 2026

WEBSTER UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

CONGREGATIONALIST






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

office@uccwesbter.org
www.uccwebster.org
United Church of Christ, Congregational

Because of you... our church changes lives.

As we look toward 2027, we face both opportunities and challenges. Our proposed budget of $195,000 represents an increase of approximately $15,000 over the current year. This increase will help cover rising operating costs and strengthen our Capital Reserve Fund to prepare for future building expenses, including a necessary roof replacement in the coming years.

As you consider your 2027 pledge, we ask that you consider increasing your contribution, if you are able. Every pledge, regardless of size, makes a difference and helps us plan confidently for the year ahead. Our Stewardship Campaign runs throughout November. Please return your pledge card by mail, place it in the offering plate on Sunday morning, or pledge online at uccwebster.org. We ask that pledges be received by December 6 so our finance team can prepare a final budget for congregational consideration in January.

What's Inside

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

From the Pastor

My office is in a slow transition of acquiring personal touches and expressions. I waver between assurance that I will accomplish this task at the right time, and frustration that I have not done much yet. But after that wavering, I eventually settle into a contentment that all is okay, and a gratitude for even the busy transitions, when the plate feels a little too full.

In this I resonate with the wizard Gandalf, in Tolkien's Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring when he responds to an impatient Frodo chastizing him for being late: "A wizard is never late, nor is he early. He arrives precisely when he means too!"

My office will arrive to an expressive, personalized office precisely when this wizard means to.

In the meantime, I hold onto that feeling of grateful contentment as we embark on the upcoming months of holidays, gatherings, celebrations, and soaking up as much of the nicer weather before we must hunker down. I know that I, for one, will probably have many more moments of frustration or discontentment over tasks that hang out awhile on my to-do list, or for feeling like I need to soak up every second of precious time. But enjoying each day as it comes is a practice, after all.

May this season be precisely what you need it to be. May you encounter contentment and gratitude even for the transitional, liminal, discombobulating moments. And may you (pretty please) give me ideas for low-maintenance plants. Thank you.



ADVENT PREVIEW

December 6 Christmas Brunch

December 13 Christmas Play

Comfort & Joy Cookie sale

December 20 Christmas Cantata

Wanted - Worship Volunteers!

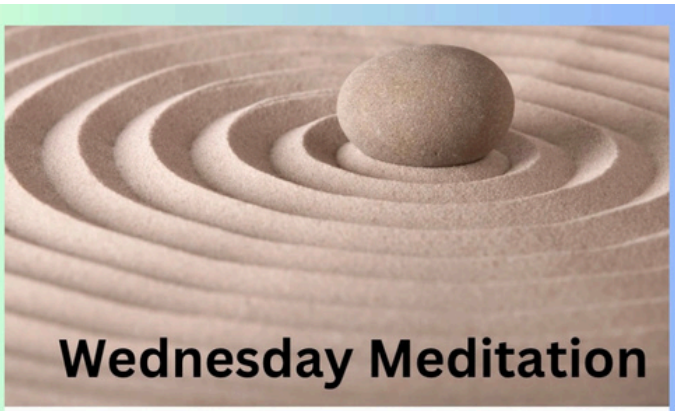
We have opportunities for volunteers to assist at Sunday Worship - greeters, readers, livestream and more!

Sign up at https://uccwebster.org/worship-volunteer-opportunities/



Hot Topics Discussion Group

The Hot Topics discussion group will be meeting the first and third Tuesdays of November - November 3 and Nov 17 - at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Our topic on November 3 will be understanding student unrest in Europe. On November 17 we will talk about outcomes of the mid-term elections. All are welcome to join us. For more information or to be added to the e-mail list, contact richard_kendrick@verizon.net.



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



From the ONA Team

Drag Bingo with Aggy Dune

Join us for a night of laughter, celebration and community at Comedy at the Carlson on November 12 @ 7pm. A portion of the proceeds for the evening will support the Human Rights Campaign. Tickets: $30.00 and include five bingo games and a dauber. Purchase tickets at www.carlsoncomedy.com.

Moonshadow's Spirit



Moonshadow's Spirit honors the memory of Jennifer Mathiason, an inspirational force to others throughout her life. She deeply believed in the power of the human spirit to make positive change in the world.

Help us Celebrate 150!

At Moonshadow's Spirit 18th Annual Fundraiser

Since March 2010 we have helped 150 people receive eating disorder treatment. Totaling more than $364,00

6:00 – 9:00 PM Saturday, Nov. 7, 2026

Enjoy a bit of Americana music with The MPG Project.
Doors Open at 6:00.
Music from 7:00 to 9:00
Food and beverages available for purchase. Raffles.
Old Farm Café, Winton Place
Tickets available online at www.moonshadowsspirit.org/events





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

Christmas Brunch

December 6th

11:00-12:00

proceeds support youth outreach projects

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

the Current

youth led worship experience

fourth sundays at 10:00

faith in motion ~ love in action

The next Current is Sunday November 22 at 10:00 in the big green community room.

Everyone is welcome.

This Month's Theme: Make Room

This youth & kid led worship experience doesn't push participants into a mold but naturally forms around them embracing their wonderfulness All ages welcome. Yes parents, that means you can attend too



Bethlehem Detective Agency

a rebel beat Christmas play

December 13th



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/1KOuLAIzFLSSKVerN86jqYG7ElSjaxgm-r2-2tsAv-dE/edit?usp=drivesdk



follow the link

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

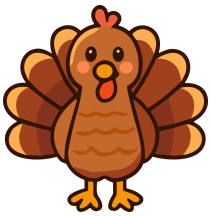
Fall Outreach at Webster UCC



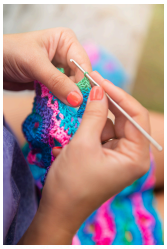
CLEAN YOUR CLOSETS we collect winter coats for the guests at Baber with the goal of distributing them in October and November. A basket is in the narthex. Questions wlesko88@gmail.com



DISH CLOTHS: **K**eep 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/1KOuLAlzFLSSKVerN86jqYG7ElSjaxgm-r2-2tsAv-dE/edit?usp=drivesdk



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



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

WAIT. YOU THINK YOU KNOW CHRISTMAS?

A Message from THE REBEL BEAT



Christmas is coming. You know what that means. Decorations. Shopping. Cookies. Wrapping presents. A to-do list that seems to get longer every day.
But we think something pretty important might be missing from that list.
LOVE. PEACE. JUSTICE.

At our first rehearsal for Bethlehem Detective Agency, our upcoming Christmas play, a visiting adult expressed surprise that the Christmas Play was about love, peace, and justice. One of our youth responded, "What else would it be about?"
Seriously. What ELSE would Christmas be about?
The baby in the manger grew up. He loved people others ignored.
He made peace when the world encouraged division.
He stood up for people who were treated unfairly.
And he invited us to do the same.
So at our next CURRENT, we challenged everyone to think beyond the Christmas story we KNOW and consider the
Christmas message we're called to LIVE.
This Advent, while you're making your lists and checking them twice, we have a challenge for you.
Put LOVE on your to-do list. Not just feeling it. Showing it.
Put PEACE on your to-do list. Not just wishing for it. Making it.
Put JUSTICE on your to-do list. Not just talking about what's unfair. Doing something about it.
Because Christmas isn't just about celebrating something that happened a long time ago. It's about continuing something that started a long time ago.
Carry the love. Make the peace. Do the justice.
That's our Advent challenge. That's our mission.
And really… WHAT ELSE WOULD IT BE ABOUT?
THE REBEL BEAT — Carrying on Jesus' mission of love, peace, and justice.



Love Your Neighbor ADVENT CALENDAR

25 ways to LOVE YOUR NEIGHBORS
One way for each day from December 1 to Christmas Day!!
Do one or do them all !
Do them in any order...on your own or with a friend/family
***collection center in narthex**

1. Write a special note to someone & tell them how much you appreciate them. Mail, hand deliver or text!
2. Treat your neighbor with dignity and respect.
3. Listen to someone's stories. Share your own stories.
4. Be an encourager. Cheer someone on and tell them they are awesome!
5. Donate Cat or Dog Food to the Pet Food Pantry *
6. Fulfill an Angel Tree Wish for a child at Rochester Advocates for children- Unwrapped gifts due 12/13 *
7. Take Time to stop and chat or give a hug.
8. Help a neighbor with a chore such as shoveling, washing dishes, etc
9. Donate new socks or underwear for the guests at Baber *
10. Check in on a neighbor regularly.
11. Donate hats/gloves/mittens for children & teens at Cameron Community *
12. Greet people with a warm smile and a friendly hello!
13. Donate a new or gently used children's book for a child at Family Promise *
14. Be present when someone needs you to be there.
15. Donate cans of kidney beans for the Neighbors Table meal in a bag project*
16. Donate a package of 4 fruit cups for the guests at Baber Hot Lunch *
17. Donate one jar of spaghetti sauce to the Baber Hot Lunch program *
18. Decorate a paper lunch bag for the bag lunches donated monthly to the House of Mercy street program.
19. Bear someone's burdens. Be a good listener to someone who is having a tough time.
20. Donate a new pair of socks to a child and/or mom served by Willow
21. Provide a gift for the adopted family from Family Promise
22. Make a cheerful card for a nursing home resident.
23. Donate a gently used stuffed animal to the Hug it Forward program that rehomes stuffies to kids in need
24. Tell someone they are loved.
25. Donate a new or gently used purse for the purse filling event for women served by Willow



Angel Tree

Rochester Advocates for Children

Angels available on the tree in the narthex on November 15.

Return unwrapped gifts by December 13.

Note : Each child will receive legos, crayons, colored pencils and a sketch pad. Each teen will receive a $10 walmart gift card. Also each child and teen (24 total) will receive a large squishmellow provided by Gathering Place.

questions ? contact Wendy wlesko88@gmail.com



Help fulfill the Christmas Wishes for a family from FPGROC

wish lists available in narthex and online mid November

questions ? contact Wendy wlesko88@gmail.com

donations of rolls of Christmas wrapping paper greatly appreciated !!



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 eacfh transacftion; 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

October 2026

	Income	Expense
Monthly	$26,528	$21,593
Year To Date	$199,409	$201,457

Investments	October 31 Balance	% change for year
Endowment	$899,376	6.8%
Other Funds	$12,608	
*Capital Reserve	$68,238	41.6%
Total	$980,222	

* Reflects purchases and donations

November Birthdays

Andrew Montanaro 11/02
Harold Doster 11/03
Sharon Delmendo 11/04
Ronald Milliman 11/04
Marcia O'Connor 11/08
Lauren Galen 11/09
Jessica Uruburu 11/09
Marcia Kendrick 11/12
Richard Kendrick 11/15
Jenna Milliman 11/21
Bethany Spring 11/21
Sophia Montanaro 11/24
Don Oestreich 11/24
Suzanne Milliman 11/27
Karen Monachino 11/27

November at a glance

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1 REBEL BE Worship S	2 Lounge Re community community Pack 113-	3 Election D Girl Scout Lounge Re Girl Scout HOT TOPIC	4 Lounge Re BSA Troop	5 Rockers at Spry class Thursday Drop-in Co	6	7
8 REBEL BE Worship S Free Com	9 Lounge Re Woodside Pack 113 -	10 Lounge Re	11 Veterans D Lounge Re	12 Woodside Thursday Drop-in Co	13 bag lunch	14 bag lunch
15 REBEL BE Worship S	16 Lounge Re Pack 113-	17 Lounge Re Girl Scout HOT TOPIC	18 Lounge Re BSA Troop	19 Woodside Rockers at Thursday Drop-in Co	20 Woodside Christkind	21 Christkind
22 REBEL BE THE CURE Worship S	23 Woodside Lounge Re Communit	24 Woodside Lounge Re	25 Lounge Re	26 Thanksgiv	27	28 Baber Hot
29 REBEL BE Worship S	30 Lounge Re	1 Girl Scout Lounge Re Girl Scout HOT TOPIC	2 Lounge Re BSA Troop	3 Woodside Rockers at Thursday Drop-in Co	4	5 christmas

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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