

# Winter 2023

Volume 14, Issue 1

View more photos from church events via our website: [upcbgm.org/programs-and-events/photo-gallery](http://upcbgm.org/programs-and-events/photo-gallery)  
Our worship services are livestreamed on our YouTube channel: [upcbgm.org/youtube](http://upcbgm.org/youtube)

## Ash Wednesday worship and Anointing with Oil or Ashes

Wednesday, February 22 at 12:30pm and 6:00pm, *in person or on YouTube or Zoom*



“Stardust” by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity (inspired by Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21). Acrylic on raw canvas with digital drawing. © A Sanctified Art | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)

We begin the season of Lent with ashes and dust – realizing the limits of human life, and our need for each other and for God’s grace because we cannot do or be or manage everything. We will offer a worship service and a chance for reflection at 12:30pm and at 6:00pm, in the sanctuary. The 12:30pm service will be streaming live on our YouTube channel and in the Zoom room; once the service begins, you’ll be able to find it on our YouTube channel anytime.

If you will not be able to join us in person and wish to receive a packet of ashes in the mail, please notify the office by **Monday, February 13**. Packets of ashes will also be available for pickup at church on Sunday, February 19.

The pastors will also be offering “Ashes to Go” at the University from 10am to noon in the Tillman Lobby of the University Union, so if you are a student or if your work is over there, you can receive your ashes there.

Whether you come for anointing or ashes or reflect privately at home, we invite you to prayerfully remember the

grief and the promise of “ashes to ashes, dust to dust. All of us go down to the dust, yet even at the grave we make our song...”

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Our mission is to follow Jesus Christ by doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with God.

*Everyone is welcome here*



# UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BINGHAMTON



### Pastors' Ponderings



*Kimberly P Chastain,  
Pastor*

When I was in graduate school, one of the common topics for academic discussion was “liminal space”. A liminal space is a place of transition — a space between where you are and where you are heading, physically, psychologically, or philosophically. I hadn’t thought about that phrase for many years, but I have been thinking it, and feeling it, almost like a mantra in recent weeks.

We have been experiencing liminal space, and liminality, since the pandemic was declared in 2020. We had to make a series of rapid shifts then, to continue our worship, fellowship, and community... and we have been making shifts ever since. We know whose we are — we belong to God by the grace of Jesus Christ — and we know who we are called to serve — God’s people in need, whether they are in downtown Binghamton, or in a Ghanaian school, or in the Arizona desert. But how we are to live out our call in this transitional time is strangely uncertain.

Three days before Christmas, we were approached about hosting a warming station that would provide overnight housing and two warm meals for up to 40 people every night during the cold season. The Addiction Center of Broome County had received a grant for the station, and was ready to move forward with opening, when the location they were planning to use fell through. The Session agreed that this was a worthy use for the large rooms on our first floor, and we started looking at the things that were needed to make the warming station happen, and... we waited.

We are still waiting as I am typing. As we wait, we are using this liminal space to look at the furnishings and the clutter in first floor rooms, both those that would be used for the warming station, and those that would be used differently if the warming station comes into being. We are getting rid of some things, rehoming some things, and moving some things. From time to time you will be invited to look at things, to see whether they are items you can use yourself, or if you know of a place that they might be useful. Whether or not the space is used as we hope it will be in the coming months, it will look differently when we have finished.

The Session had already begun a process of exploration about where our journey will lead us in the coming years, and that conversation will continue. We are inviting a consultant from the Presbyterian Foundation to come and see who we are, and to help us frame conversations about our future together. We will be reading a book together called “Sailboat Church,” and if you are interested in reading along with us, let us know in the office and we’ll make sure you have access to a copy to read.

We’d like to invite you to join the conversation about the journey. We are seeking new ways to keep our whole community informed about what is happening, and we are also seeking ways to listen to what you see and hear and feel as we chart new directions and explore new possibilities.

The chorus of a worship song that we sing from time to time seems like the motto that I invite you to take as part of this worshiping community in the coming year. The singer is addressing Jesus, and the words are,

I know not where the road will end, I know not what is up around the bend,  
but I will set my feet upon the road; I will follow wherever you lead.

May God go with us through this liminal space and into the future that has already been prepared for us.

Blessings,  
Pastor Kimberly

Dear friends,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas, New Year, and Epiphany. I had a wonderful time over the Christmas break getting to see family that we hadn't seen in three years. New Year's was quite restful. And Epiphany has been busy, as usual. But our Star Word exercise has once again reminded me to take some time every day to slow down and connect with God.



So what Star Word did you get this year? Was it something that you resonated with right away, or was it something that perplexed you? Was it something that was a reminder of something you have been putting off, or was it something exciting or nurturing to think about? This year my word is freedom, and it has so many possibilities and I look forward to praying about that this year.



*Becky Kindig,  
Associate Pastor*

Last year my word was contentment, and I was not happy to receive that word, especially after my diagnosis with Myasthenia Gravis. I thought I was being nudged to just accept my limitations and be content. But after a year with the word contentment, that was not what God and I conversed about.

In years past, practicing gratitude was a powerful way to bring contentment to my life. But gratefulness was not the lesson here. It was more about what did I need to place in my life to be content, or what did I need to let go of? Yes, some things were about my new medical journey, but so much was not.

Contentment last year meant taking steps to make sure that I took time to spend in nature, to make music, to keep in touch with friends and family, instead of saying, "I will do those things when I have time."

Contentment also meant letting go of things that I cannot change and are a bit overwhelming. One thing I tried was that I stopped watching televised news. It is very important to be informed with what is going on in the world, but the TV news is overwhelming right now. The images along with the negativity were something that always just made me anxious and stuck. I now just read or listen to the news in the morning, when I am most able to receive it and learn from it and act on it if need be. And now it does not invade my sleep or consume my thoughts.

I also learned lessons in being content with what I can do and not focus on what I "should" be able to do. Yes, this part did start from my physical therapy around my muscle weakness. But I did find it was very helpful in all other parts of my life as well.

I hope you all found some lessons from your Star Words last year and have a good journey with your word for 2023! If you didn't get a Star Word yet for this year and would like one, they are in the sanctuary and you can pick one up, or you can contact the church office and we can mail you one. You can also get a Star Word using an online word-generator: [upcbgm.org/starwords](https://upcbgm.org/starwords)

Grace and Peace, Pastor Becky

## Music Notes

Music is an important part of our coming together at United Presbyterian Church. We are excited to make music with every resource that we have, and to use a variety of styles – not all at once, but intermingled. What emerges is a vibrant worship service with music that includes everyone who wishes to participate.

*UPC's vocal choir* is enjoying the use of our new choir room (next door to the chapel), and we meet **Wednesdays, 6:30–7:30pm**. We provide music for worship most every Sunday, sometimes assisted by



“guest conductor” Aoife! We are welcoming new members at any time, and would love to have your participation. It would be good to have you with us!



*United Ringers handbell choir* rehearses **Sundays, 11:30am-12:30pm** in the Sanctuary. Our handbell choir plays 2-4 octaves of Malmark handbells and hand-chimes, providing music for worship about once a month. If you're interested in learning how to play handbells, please inquire. New members are always welcome! No previous experience needed. No auditions to start. If you can count to 4, you can learn to play!

We also invite instrumentalists and vocalists who'd like to share their gifts to talk with any of our music leaders about providing special music for worship — you can call the church office, email [music@upcbgm.org](mailto:music@upcbgm.org), or speak with them in person after worship. All musicians must be fully vaccinated and boosted.

At United Presbyterian Church, children are included in all aspects of worship. We invite them to start early with participation in hymns and other pieces of music. An in-sanctuary play & learn area for families also gives easy access to the Time for the Young at Heart and hands-on thematic exploration.



## Our Church Family

### Join Us for Worship — in person, online, or over the phone



We worship together on Sundays at 10:00am, both in person in the sanctuary and online. The service is livestreamed on our public YouTube Channel [upcbgm.org/youtube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpCbGm), our Zoom room [upcbgm.org/zoom](https://www.upcbgm.org/zoom), and our website, and is also accessible on YouTube any time. Those who can't access the worship videos online can call in on the phone to listen live on Sunday mornings, using the Zoom information listed below. So if you are not ready or able to come “in person”, you are welcome to participate as you are able.

Everyone is invited to join us as we pray, hear God's word read and proclaimed, share our joys and concerns, and experience worshipful music. Our music is presented in person. All of our musicians are fully vaccinated, and the singers/instrumentalists at the front of the sanctuary are at least 15 feet away from the first row of pews.

If you're joining us in person, here's what you need to know:

- We wear masks and keep social distance, and the pews are marked to help us sit safely. We keep the inside doors open throughout worship, and air filtration units are deployed throughout the sanctuary to enhance your safety.
- Pastor Kimberly removes her mask while preaching and leading prayers, to accommodate those who rely on lip-reading to assist their auditory processing.
- Offering plates are placed by the doors of the sanctuary, but we do not pass them during the offertory. You are still invited and welcome to give online at [upcbgm.org/giving/donate](https://upcbgm.org/giving/donate) or to mail a check to the church.

If you're worshipping with us online, all of the hymn music and prayer words are shown on the screen, and live captioning is used for other parts of the service such as the sermon and the Prayers of the People. If you watch on a small screen and need the printed version of the worship guide, it is available for download from our website each week, or it can be mailed to you upon request if downloading & printing is not an option.

If you have been missing the time of shared prayer, join us at 9:30 before worship – either at church in the Study (Room 102, next door to the Nursery), or on Zoom – for a time of sharing and praying for the needs of our community. To join Zoom online, go to [upcbgm.org/zoom](https://upcbgm.org/zoom). To call in: Dial **1-646-558-8656**, then enter Meeting ID: **865 274 8433 #**

It would be good to have you with us.

## Sermon Series for Lent: Romans in Context

Paul's letter to the Romans is a pastoral letter from Paul to a struggling community who had many questions about the will of God in their particular time and place. It is a strange and wonderful problem that it has not been read that way in Western Christendom since St. Augustine wrote his commentary in the fifth century of the common era. For generations, preachers and scholars have read the first twelve chapters as if they were a systematic theological treatise, and the last four chapters as a kind of not-very-interesting appendage, containing advice for living a good Christian life and greetings to the community.

This year during Lent, we're going to take another look at the letter, beginning with the last four chapters, so we can see how Paul's reflections are an attempt to answer the questions that affected the Roman Christian community, and still affect Christian communities today. Who are we when we define ourselves by our Christian identity? Is our Christian identity more accurate than our political and social affiliations in predicting our actions and convictions? Are we living in such a way that we are giving life to our neighbors? Does our life together reflect our trust in God?

**Feb. 26, First Sunday in Lent: *A Community in Transition* – Romans 16**

**March 5, Second Sunday in Lent: *The Strong and the Weak* – Romans 14:1–12, 15:1–6**

**March 12, Third Sunday in Lent: *Who Is Included?* – Romans 11:25–36**

**March 19, Fourth Sunday in Lent: *The Problem with Metaphors* – Romans 5:12–21**

**March 26, Fifth Sunday in Lent: *Where We Are, Where We're Headed* – Romans 8:18–39**

## Special Day Coming Your Way?

Members and friends of our congregation are encouraged to provide the church office with birth dates (if not already on file) so that we can be sure folks receive celebration greetings from our church family. No need to provide us with the year if you'd rather keep that to yourself!

Please let us know of any other special occasions, and also about difficult times and prayer needs where a card or supportive message may be appreciated.

You may contact the church office or a member of the Card Committee (Margaret Davis, Suzie Northrop Raboy, Jenni McKeage, Lana Ogden, and Cindy Chadwick).

### Session Highlights

*by Andy Chadwick, Clerk of Session*

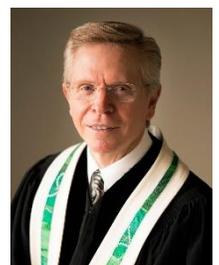
A lot has been happening since the last newsletter in November. Some of the actions taken include:

- UPC's minutes were reviewed by the Presbytery; this is an annual requirement. They received high marks with only a couple of minor suggestions for the future.
- The budget for 2023 was adopted, pending congregational approval of the pastors' Terms of Call. These will be voted on during the annual congregational meeting scheduled for February 5, 2023, immediately following the service. Everyone can participate and vote, whether attending in person or online via UPC's Zoom account. It was decided that, due to the current number of Covid infections in Broome County, there would not be a meal associated with the meeting.
- UPC received a \$5,000 gift from the Put God First Foundation for housing the homeless during cold weather. The money has been used to pay for lodging during the recent cold spell; remaining money will be used in a similar manner.
- Also related to shelter for the homeless, UPC will be leasing space in the Library Lounge, Terrace Room, and Chapel to the Addiction Center of Broome County (ACBC) for use as a nightly warming center for those with no shelter for protection from the cold. ACBC will pay for some modifications (replacing worn-out carpeting with a more hygienic floor material, upgrading some electrical circuits, etc.) that will benefit UPC in the long run. While there are minor details that are being resolved, this should begin at the start of February.
- Session began a conversation about developing a strategic approach for the future with the Rev. Dr. Rose Niles from the Presbyterian Foundation. UPC has already undertaken some of the recommended steps. Session – and anyone else who is interested – will be reading *Sailboat Church: Helping Your Church Rethink Its Mission and Practice*. Please let anyone on Session know if you would like a copy of the book to peruse.
- Both the Baldwin grand piano in the Library Lounge and the Steinway grand in the Sanctuary will be appraised, with the intent to sell the Baldwin. It is not used very frequently, it takes up space and could get damaged in the Library Lounge, and there is an interested buyer.

Please don't hesitate to ask any member of Session about what we've been doing!

### News from the Presbytery

The Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley and the Synod of the Northeast are pleased and excited to announce that the Rev. Dr. Greg Garis has been called as our new Presbytery Leader for Transformation! Greg was introduced to the Presbytery at the special assembly meeting on January 21 and the Presbytery voted to approve his call. Greg currently serves a congregation in Texas, and he, his wife Lynn, and their children, Cole and Hope, are enthusiastically packing and getting ready for the move! Greg expects to begin his duties in the vicinity of April 1.



Greg delivered the sermon at the special assembly meeting, but due to technical difficulties the production team was experiencing at that time, the first part of the sermon was not recorded. Greg has graciously provided the sermon in print form.

Please keep the family in your prayers as they prepare to say their goodbyes to one phase of their lives and "Hello! Thanks be to God!" to another.

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Mark Montfort, Presbyter Nominating Committee Chair

Rev. Lorrie Cooney, Chair of the PSV Administrative Commission

If you would like to read Rev. Garis's biography or sermon or to see his Terms of Call that were approved by the presbytery, please contact the church office.

## Supporting Our Mission and Ministry

We are able to receive tax-deductible contributions online through our website ([upcbgm.org/giving/donate](https://upcbgm.org/giving/donate)). Contributions can be made by E-check or credit card, and can also be set up as a recurring gift.

We encourage you to lift up in prayer how God will use you to bless UPC in fulfilling our mission to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.

## Get Involved!

Our church teams are always welcoming new team members. If you'd like to help with or learn more about the workings of the church, talk to one of the pastors or the elders on Session: **Card Committee:** Suzie Raboy; **Finance,** Lou McKeage or Andy Chadwick; **Personnel,** Marilyn Guinane; **Worship & Music,** Suzie Raboy or Andy Chadwick.

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## Programs & Events

### Great News and a Challenge from our Community Ministries!

The great news is that, through a new partnership formed by the Broome County Council of Churches, CHOW now offers its partners a range of nutritious foods for free! Sherry Conklin, the coordinator of our community meal and pantry, reports that some Tuesdays she is able to pick up and bring back up to 900 pounds of food that we can make available to pantry clients or cook for the meal!

... and that is the challenge. She needs help unloading the food on Tuesdays at about 10:15am for about half an hour. She's got CHOW workers to assist her in loading her vehicle, and it would be great if there were UPC workers here at the church to help her unload.

We'll put a sign up sheet in the sanctuary to encourage you in taking turns at this important brief ministry, or you can contact Sherry at [meal@upcbgm.org](mailto:meal@upcbgm.org) or 607-722-4219. We'll try to let volunteers know on the weeks that there isn't a large order so you don't have to be here.

Any help you can give will be gratefully received.

### VISIONS of GLORY Concert

**Sunday, February 12, 2023, 3:00pm** at *St. James Roman Catholic Church*

The Southern Tier Singers' Collective will present music written by Orlandus Lassus on Sunday, February 12, 2023, at 3:00pm at St. James Roman Catholic Church, 147 Main Street, Johnson City, NY 13790. The concert includes the Prophetiae Sibyllarum and sacred motets based on the Song of Songs. The concert is free and open to the public, but donations are gratefully received.

## Mission Work at the Mexico–US Border

Sunday, February 12, special guest Gail Cocourek will be “zooming in” from Tucson, Arizona, to talk about the Samaritan ministry and the work that she does with Casa de la Esperanza and the migrants at the Arizona border. She will speak during the Reflection time during the worship and will respond to questions and discussion after her talk, as well as be available during fellowship time in the UPC zoom room.

Gail is a longtime volunteer with the Samaritans and cofounder of Casa de la Esperanza in Sasabe, Mexico. She has assisted hundreds of travelers along the border and has saved countless lives with her hundreds of trips along the border. She is a good friend to Dave and Greg and we are grateful that she is taking the time to tell us what she knows and has experienced!

To learn more about Casa Esperanza and the Tucson Samaritans, and to support their programs with direct donations, visit their websites at:

<https://salvavision.org/casa-esperanza>

<http://www.tucsonsamartans.org>

*A Note from Dave and Greg, working with refugees and deportees in Sasabe, Mexico, and the desert outside Tucson:*

Just wanted to give a brief update on the work in Tucson.

We have been to the wall a couple of times and have assisted with providing food and water to several dozens of travelers, including a group of children aged 8–17 traveling alone in the desert.

Each trip we go on costs the Samaritans \$50 in gas, and then we use about a dozen gallons of water, as well as food, blankets, gloves, and hats.



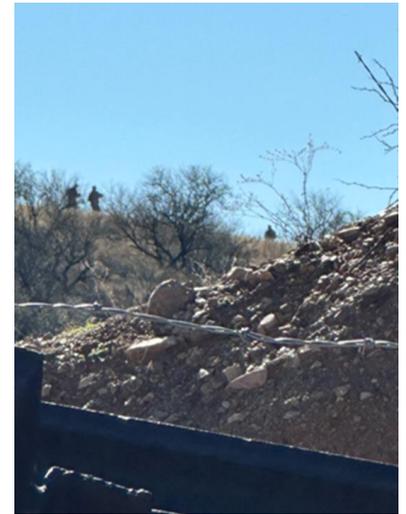
Currently there is an increased effort by the border patrol, which results in travelers being put into even more dangerous areas.

Casa Esperanza is seeing over 100 deportees a week, with no jackets in 20-degree temperatures. We are searching goodwill stores for jackets for them as well as buying socks and hats.

We are also buying 200 emergency blankets to be given to travelers. They serve twofold in that they can keep in the body heat but can be reversed and used as an emergency beacon. This is an experiment, but for 50 cents a blanket, it is worthwhile if it helps one person.

We are very grateful for the support of our friends at UPC and ask for your continued support for the mission.

Con paz,  
Dave & Greg



*Greg waiting to serve lunch to asylum seekers who will spend the night in a hotel*



## Our YouTube Channel

Did you know that you can “subscribe” to the UPC YouTube channel? Did you know that it won’t cost anything, and that when we have 100+ subscribers, we get access to some special “perks” as a creator?

Here’s how it’s done:

- Open YouTube to one of the United Presbyterian Church recordings, by following this link (<https://youtu.be/nn8ZBeTU0kw>) or searching on YouTube.
- Scroll down under the video until you see:



United Presbyterian Church of Binghamton

There’s a button over here that says “**SUBSCRIBE**”. Click on the button.

That’s it!

## UPC’s “Zoom room”

Modern technology is marvelous! Thanks to the Zoom meetings system, we can gather virtually even though we can’t be together in person. We’ve used our “Zoom room” for worship but also for prayer groups, book studies, hymn sings, and social times.

You can join our meetings and worship services online via your computer, tablet, or mobile device by going to [upcbgm.org/zoom](http://upcbgm.org/zoom). If you’ve never used Zoom before, you’ll be prompted to download the Zoom meetings app, which will ask for permission to use your microphone and your camera. We use our “Personal Meeting ID” for worship and most of our programs, so they’re always in the same familiar place.

You can also call in over the phone, if you don’t have a microphone on your device or you can’t join online. To join as a phone call, dial **1-646-558-8656**, then enter our Meeting ID: **865 274 8433 #**

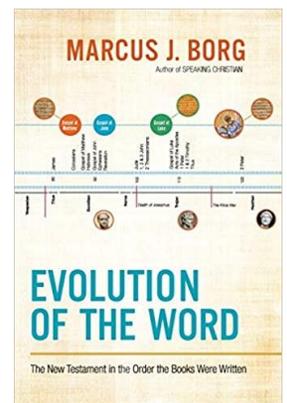
If you have questions or need help using Zoom, feel free to call the church office for assistance.

## Bible Study

**Mondays, 12:30–1:30pm, in the Study or the Zoom room**

We’re reading from Marcus Borg’s *Evolution of the Word: The New Testament in the Order the Books Were Written*, and everyone is welcome to join us in person or on Zoom. Those who gather at the church meet in our new “Study” (Room 102, next door to the Nursery).

The general format is to read the introductory material for each section, then to read through the Biblical texts and talk about what it meant for early Christians and what it might mean for us today. We try to discipline ourselves to keeping the conversation to an hour every week.



## Sewing Group

**Wednesdays, 10am–1pm (with Zoom lunch hour, 12pm–1pm)**

by Cindy Chadwick

As you may recall, on November 20, 2022, the church was adorned with numerous quilts, hats, scarves, walker “carry bags,” bibs, and other items handcrafted by the Wednesday Sewing Group. The day marked “The Blessing of the Quilts.”

## 10 ≡ UP-Beat Newsletter



The quilts were removed from the sanctuary, but then what?

In support of its long-term, unwavering mission, the Sewing Group distributed eight walker “carry bags” and 43 quilts to the following local agencies and organizations for those in need in advance of the Christmas holiday:

- Willow Point Rehabilitation and Nursing Center
- Hilltop
- Elizabeth Church Manor
- Good Shepherd Fairview Home
- YWCA
- Bridgewater Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing
- Ideal Senior Living Center
- NoMa (North of Main)



These gifts were in addition to 14 quilts given to new babies and other special people earlier in the year. Hats and mittens were provided to our Food Pantry and Community Meal guests as needed.

The new year is off and running like a stitch in time, with new creations already in the works for 2023 (a sneak peek reveals that a special quilt just for “Baby Backus” might be earmarked!).

Want to help spread warmth and hope? Join the Sewing Group on Wednesdays from 10am to 1pm in UPC’s Upper Lounge. No extensive sewing experience is necessary. Projects can be worked on at home if you’re unable to attend on Wednesdays. (You’ll miss the cookies, chips, pickles and tea, though!)

Even if sewing isn’t your thing, everybody is invited to join us at noon for our social lunch hour. Those who can’t come to the church in person can join us in the Zoom room. Bring your own lunch and enjoy the company!

### **Zoom Happy hour: Friday evenings, 5–6pm**

Bring your own beverage, “Zoom in”, and join the fun as we catch up on the events of the week and share how we’re doing. It’s a great way to keep in touch while we it remains complicated to see one another in person.



## Joys and Concerns

**Welcome to the World!** Eileen Maev, born 12/20/22 to Amanda & Doug

**Expecting:** CJ & Katie; Aimée & Ernest (and Aoife)

**Preparing to Wed:** Mary & Kolin; Christina & Evan

**Gratitude:** Serena visit; Ana & Taz reunited with family; Larry's 80th birthday; Bryon & Kim, wedding; Bill, 20 years cancer-free; Sally M., new grandson; Jon & Brian, closing on a house; recovery of baby Carson & celebrating her birthday/starting to walk; DeJura's son is home; Presbytery called Rev. Greg Garis as the new Lead Presbyter for Transformation

**Grieving – Friends & Family of:** Paul Jones; baby Kaden; Phyllis G.; Don B.; Frank B.; Joseph M.; Rev. Carol Wilson; John M.

**For Healing:** Joe T.; Joyce; Gary; Fred; Alex; Bonnie F.; Judy; LaToya; Kendra; Barry

**Preparing for Surgery:** Gary A.; Chris B.; Alice D.; Reinhilde R.; Marty

**Recovering:** Scott R.; Dave S.; Maria K.; Gary A.; Ed H.; Kathy M.; Margaret S.; Fred; Margaret D.; David; Marian P.; Kristie; Willem; John; Cathy; Ernest; Sheila; Allison's father; Bill

**Living with Cancer:** Mary Ann; Molly; Carl; Frank

**Ongoing:** Michael; Nateka; Rachmani family; Larry & Ethel; Chynna; Richard C.; Dolores M.; Lynnlee; Kathiss; Charisse; Darry; Travis; Jerome; Janai; Melchi; Veah; people struggling with addictions; Curtis & family; Jen; Carlos; Richard C. & Deloris M. & family

## Recent & Upcoming Birthdays

### February

1 Sarah Chadwick

3 Bob Walter

4 Dave Davis  
Elinor Hugenbruch

8 Jullian Wanjama

14 Pastor Kimberly

18 Jenni McKeage

19 Cathy Ciganek

26 Ron Glowacki

Emily Hugenbruch

27 Aaron Whitney

### March

4 Ellen Hancock-Berti

5 Dick Bartholomew

7 Suzie Northrop Raboy  
Maida Thomas

8 Becky Mebert

Bill Sands

12 Chelsie Hill Bennett

13 Scott Kindig

15 Barbara Rocke

17 Marne Ward

22 Khиро Brunson

25 Ann Cobb



**Homebound/Managed Care:** Kristie P., Marian P., Char S., Jim S.

**People who need housing, including:** Angel; Noraid; Nickade

**People who are incarcerated, including:** Christina

**Other Concerns:** We pray for

- Memphis community & family of Tyre Nichols
- those affected by gun violence around the country & especially in California
- Ukraine & Russia
- Israel/Palestine
- Congress
- people in China with Covid
- students and faculty returning to class
- medical care workers
- separated families
- Dave & Greg – immigrant work at Arizona border, memory of José Balthazar-Herrera



*Everyone is welcome here*

**UNITED PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF BINGHAMTON**



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*Address Service Requested*

## **Congregational Meeting to Renew Congregational Covenant with the Pastors Sunday, February 5, 11:15am, in person or on Zoom**

On Sunday, February 5, at 11:15am, there will be a meeting of the Congregation and Corporation to present the budget for the 2023 year and to renew the congregational covenant with the pastors by voting to support their terms of call. This meeting will be hybrid, immediately following the worship service, in the sanctuary and in the Zoom room, [upcbgm.org/zoom](http://upcbgm.org/zoom) or via phone call **+1-646-558-8656**, Meeting ID 865 274 8433.

“Terms of call” is the PC(USA) language for what, in the business community, is called a “compensation package”. Recognizing that God’s call to pastoral ministry is expressed in a three-way covenant between the presbytery, the congregation, and the pastor, each year you are asked to support the work of the pastors by agreeing to support them financially as well as through your prayers and participation. After the congregation votes, the terms will be sent to the presbytery for their approval.