

Announcements

November 16, 2025

THIS WEEK AT UPC:

[11/16] Coffee hour — Birthday Sunday & Banner-making, 11:15am in the Sanctuary

United Ringers handbell choir, 11:30am–12:30pm in the Sanctuary. Our handbell choir plays 2–4 octaves of Malmark handbells and handchimes, providing music for worship about once a month. If you're interested in learning how to play handbells, please inquire. No previous experience needed. If you can count to 4, you can learn to play!

Interfaith Thanksgiving Meet & Greet, 2pm at the UUCB (see back page)

[11/17] Bible Study, Mondays, 1–2pm on Zoom. 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. Right now we're reading the Gospel according to Luke, talking about what it meant for early Christians and what it might mean for us today.

To join UPC's "Zoom Room" online: upcbgm.org/zoom

To dial as a phone call:
(+1) 646-558-8656
Meeting ID: 865 274 8433

[11/18] Community Meal, Tuesdays, 5–6pm. Every week we offer a sit-down meal that is free for anybody. Volunteers are needed; if you'd like to help with this mission, contact Community Kitchen Coordinator Sherry Conklin: meal@upcbgm.org or 607-722-4219.

[11/19] Sewing Group, Wednesdays, 10am–1pm in the Upper Lounge. The Sewing Group meets at the church each week to craft quilts, mittens, hats, scarves, pillows, and more. At noon, those who can't come in person are invited to "Zoom in" for their lunchtime social hour. All are welcome; bring a lunch and enjoy the company.

Community Food & Hygiene Pantry, Wednesdays, 12–5pm. Volunteers help staff the pantry on Wednesdays, and help is also needed when we get deliveries on Thursday & Friday mornings. Donations of nonperishable food and personal care items are always welcome. Contact Sherry to help or donate: meal@upcbgm.org or 607-722-4219.

UPC Choir rehearsal, 6:30–7:30pm in the Music Room. The vocal choir provides music for worship most every Sunday. We welcome new members at any time, and we would love to have your participation. It would be good to have you with us!

[11/20] Worship & Music Team meeting, 9:30am

[11/21] Zoom Happy hour, Fridays, 5–6:30pm. Bring your own beverage and join the fun as we catch up on the events of the week and share how we're doing.

LOOKING AHEAD:

[11/23] Worship, 10am: Reign of Christ Sunday



Take the Donohue Challenge!

Joyce and Bill Donohue are celebrating many anniversaries this year, and want to show their gratitude to God for bringing them safely through by challenging the congregation to help them fill the pantry this fall!

Their combined anniversaries, including 64 years of marriage, 25 years since Bill survived cancer, his 87th birthday, and others (ask them) add up to about 250 altogether. Between now and Christ the King Sunday (Nov. 23), they are challenging the congregation to help them bring in pantry supplies or hygiene products (or both) — let's see how much we can prepare for the coming winter by stocking up on needed items!

- Every time you sit down to a meal prepared at home, put a pantry item aside to bring with you to church on Sunday.
- Every time you go out for a meal (or order in), make a contribution to the hygiene program.

The pantry provides about 1,000 pounds of food at the wholesale price of \$1.00/pound each week — and last week served 101 families.

As of November 14, we're at 750 pounds (or dollars) donated!

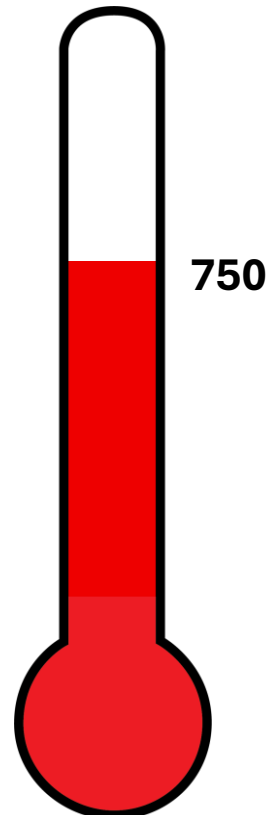
The changes in federal funding and SNAP/EBT programs mean that we are seeing a particular need for sources of protein (we offer 1 pound of protein or 6 eggs to each client). Sherry suggests:

- 1-lb. packs of chicken
- 1 small box of frozen chicken nuggets
- 1 small box of fish sticks
- 1-lb. packs of ground beef
- 1-lb. packs of plant-based meat or cheese substitutes — *much-appreciated by our vegan and vegetarian clients*

Appreciated hygiene products include small packages of laundry detergent, deodorant, sanitizing wipes, and feminine products, as well as small bottles of shampoo and body wash or soap.

You can also contribute actual cash (we'll add it to the total) if that's easiest for you.

We'll have baskets in the sanctuary and we'll keep track of how much we are collecting.



Get Involved! Without any doubt, the ministry of our congregation depends largely on the dedication and selfless contributions of volunteers — the incredible individuals who give generously of their time, energy, and unique talents. Here are some ways you can help us do Christ's work in our community:

Community Meal & Pantry: Each Tuesday at 5pm, we offer a sit-down meal that is free for anybody, serving about 200 meals each week. Volunteers are needed during the day on Monday and Tuesday to help with food preparation, and on Tuesday evening to serve the meal and clean up afterwards. On Wednesdays from noon to 5pm, we run a free food pantry that also offers personal care & hygiene items when they're available. Volunteers help staff the pantry on Wednesdays, and help is also needed when we get deliveries on Thursday & Friday mornings. Donations of nonperishable food and personal care items are always welcome. Contact Kitchen Coordinator Sherry Conklin: meal@upcbgm.org.

Worship services: You may not have noticed how many people are involved in our Sunday morning worship services, but most weeks there are at least a dozen of us, and often there are more than 20: folks who read prayers and scripture, greet visitors, share musical talents, operate technology, set up refreshments, help serve communion, or contribute their ideas and support behind the scenes. If you'd like to take part, contact Worship Team chair Suzie Raboy: sraboy54@stny.rr.com.

Music at UPC: Music is an important part of our coming together. 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.

We 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, or speak with them in person after worship.



Our ministry teams are always welcoming new team members. If you'd like to help with or learn about the workings of the church, talk to one of the pastors or the elders on Session: **Campus Ministry**, Pastor Becky bkindig@upcbgm.org; **Card Committee**, Margaret Davis mdavis.margaret@gmail.com; **Community Outreach**, Pastor Kimberly pastor@upcbgm.org or Sherry Conklin meal@upcbgm.org; **Finance**, Lou McKeage lmckeage@stny.rr.com; **Hospitality**, Sally Hunt shunt1@stny.rr.com or Sherry Conklin meal@upcbgm.org; **Personnel**, Cindy Burger csburger@frontiernet.net; **Property**, Pastor Becky bkindig@upcbgm.org; **Sewing Group**, Cindy Burger csburger@frontiernet.net; **Worship & Music**, Margaret Davis mdavis.margaret@gmail.com.

Christ Church Book Club: "When We Walk By"
Thursdays, Nov. 6 & 20, Dec. 4 & 18, 8pm on Zoom

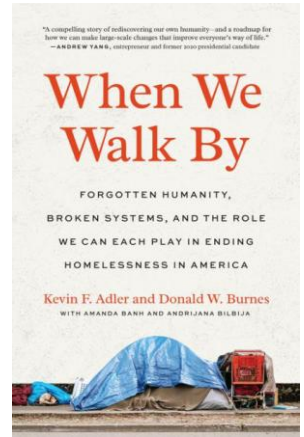
It's not too late to join Father Scott and the Christ Church Book Club for discussion and learning as they continue the conversation about how to support the unhoused people of Binghamton by reading *When We Walk By: Forgotten Humanity, Broken Systems, and the Role We Can Each Play in Ending Homelessness in America* by Kevin F. Adler and Donald W. Burnes.

This is an in-depth study of the experience of homelessness, contributing factors, and things we might do on an individual level to help resolve it.

Non-members of Christ Church are welcome to participate! We would love for this to be a community conversation about achieving the real solution of helping individuals exit homelessness. Email Father Scott to be added to the Zoom-link distribution list:

rector@christchurchbinghamton.org.

We'll meet the first and third Thursdays of November and December at 8:00pm to learn, listen, and imagine how we might respond.



Practical Resources for Churches (prcli.org) offers resources on a variety of topics including caring ministries, spiritual practices, small church life, social justice, and environmental stewardship. Check out all they have to offer and take advantage of the abundance of programs and information. Webinars are recorded and can be watched later. Upcoming topics include:



- **Creating Ministries for Neurodivergent Families** — *Thursday, December 4, 2–3pm:* Families with neurodivergent members are often absent from church because local churches often overlook the needs of these individuals and their families. Join us to talk about different things your church might do to accommodate these families so they can be a fully inclusive part of the body of Christ. Together we will explore how we can form support networks, adapt curriculum, and create spaces that help neurodivergent families thrive in our churches. upcbgm.org/prc120425

Other resources from PRC include:

- **Hands to Work, Heart to God online craft group** — *3rd Thursday of the month (next meeting Nov. 20), 7–8pm:* Join us on Zoom as we share our love of crafting and desire to connect with God online. Contact Karen Smith, karen@prcli.org, 631-821-2255.
- **What's Next:** A sharing of timely resources and upcoming webinars. The most recent (10/28/2025) letter is at conta.cc/47f8Ym4
- **Cultivate: Growing in Faith:** Christian ed and faith formation resources, ideas, and anecdotes for all ages of adults and children. November's letter: bit.ly/3XfVd0i

Pray for the Children

Join the Let Children Live Vigil
on World Children's Day

November 20th 11:30a ET



Let Children Live Vigil on World Children's Day, Thursday, November 20, 11:30am

From the PC(USA) Washington Office: Receive the name of a Palestinian child alive today and lift them up in prayer and advocacy. More than two million children live under brutal oppression in Gaza and the West Bank. Their lives are too often reduced to statistics. But Jesus reminds us: Every child is beloved by God.

Learn more and register at cmep.org/let-children-live.



Nine heads of major American religious traditions, including the Rev. Jihyun Oh, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the PC(USA), have signed a landmark interfaith statement affirming that transgender, intersex, and nonbinary people are holy, beloved children of God who deserve respect, love, and equal rights.

The statement declares, "You are holy. You are sacred. We love you. We support you, and we will protect you." The Covenant Network of

Presbyterians celebrates this unified witness of faithful justice and generous hospitality for all God's people. Full statement: L.covnetpres.org/interfaithstatement

TASTE OF HAITI



WHEN
November 22, 2025
6pm - 8:30pm

WHERE
SUNY Broome Dining Hall
SUNY Broome Student Center Building

**DINNER
FUNDRAISER**



**CATERED BY
B FAMILIES
RESTAURANT**

FEATURING
Haitian Cuisine
Live Music
Basket Raffles
Guest Speakers

TICKETS
\$15 Adults
\$10 Children

CONTACT

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tshakitchen@gmail.com

WWW.HEALTHFORHAITI.ORG



THE BINGHAMTON DOWNTOWN SINGERS
AND ORCHESTRA

PRESENT

Handel's Messiah

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
ROBERT MANNERS

Saturday, December 20, 2025

7:00pm

United Presbyterian Church
42 CHENANGO STREET, BINGHAMTON, NY
www.downtownsingers.org

Limited
complimentary
tickets are
available —
contact the
church office
to inquire

Tickets - \$20

Online: www.downtownsingers.org/tickets

Email: tickets@downtownsingers.org

or Call: 607-205-8741



Interfaith Thanksgiving Meet and Greet — Sun. Nov. 16, 2pm
at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Binghamton,
183 Riverside Drive, Binghamton, NY 13905

All are invited to join us for a time of conversation around what our faiths teach us about Gratitude and a time for interfaith community-building.

Snacks will be provided!

For more info or to RSVP: interfaithbroomecounty.org



Young Artist Series Organ Recital — Sunday, November 16, 5pm
at Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church, 44 Main Street, Binghamton



featuring
Linden C. Foster

pursuing Bachelor of Music (B.Mus.) in organ performance at Houghton University, Houghton, NY

1-hour recital to include works of Bach, Franck, Howells, and more...

This concert is free and open to the public with donations gratefully accepted.

Sponsored by the Binghamton Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church.

For further information, go to binghamtonago.org.

*More news from around the presbytery and across the denomination
can be found at susvalpresby.org/thursday-thoughts*