

Announcements

May 31, 2026

THIS WEEK AT UPC:

[5/31] Coffee hour, 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!

[6/1] 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 studying Paul's letters to Timothy, talking about what they meant for early Christians and what they 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

Session meeting, 6:30pm

[6/2] 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.

[6/3] 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 invited; 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. Contact Sherry to help: 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!

[6/5] 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.

[6/6] Downtown Singers concert, 7pm (see inside). A limited number of complimentary tickets are available from the church office. If interested, please inquire.

LOOKING AHEAD:

[6/7] Worship & communion, 10am.

Focus Lesson: Exodus 16, "Manna and Quail (and other recipes in the wilderness)"

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; **Special Offerings**, Judy Girdwood Westcott girdwoodwestcott@hotmail.com.

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:



- **Contemplative Community Listening as an Act of Resistance** — *Tue. June 2, 2–3pm*: What can we do to make God’s love and justice visible in these tumultuous times? Listening is key. Ministry consultants Joy Skjegstad and Heidi Unruh equip you for Contemplative Community Listening (CCL) as a pathway to transformative action in the world. CCL inspires resistance to hopelessness, injustice and isolation. Joy and Heidi share examples of the impact of CCL and practical steps to make listening a vital part of your church’s ministry. upcbgm.org/prc060226
- **Church Bullies** — *Thurs. June 11, 2–3pm*: Unhealthy power dynamics can quietly erode trust and spiritual vitality within a congregation. This webinar identifies common patterns of bullying behavior in church systems and explores how governing bodies can respond constructively and faithfully. Participants will learn practical strategies for setting boundaries, restoring clarity, and strengthening leadership culture without escalating conflict. upcbgm.org/prc061126

Other resources from PRC include:

- **What’s Next**: Timely resources and upcoming webinars. The latest What’s Next came in two pieces this week: conta.cc/3OB630x and conta.cc/4wSbr0n (5/26/26)
- **Cultivate: Growing in Faith**: Christian ed and faith formation resources, ideas, and anecdotes for all ages of adults and children. May’s letter: bit.ly/4d0KrnU

Co-Moderator Candidate Panel — Wednesday, June 3, 7–8pm on Zoom

Join Presbyterians for Earth Care and the Creation Action Network for Presbyterian Young Adults (CANOPY) for a conversation with candidates standing for Co-Moderators of the 228th General Assembly of the PC(USA). This event will feature all four of the co-moderator tickets seeking election at GA227:

- Rev. Marta Pumroy-Cordero & Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer
- Rev. Dr. Sean Chow & Rev. Dr. Frances Lin
- Rev. Dr. Barbara Barkley & Rev. Dr. Bill Myers
- Rev. Rebecca Luter & Rev. Chris Peters

Attendees will hear candidates reflect on the future of the church, young adult leadership, creation justice, and the role of public witness. Audience members will also have the opportunity to submit and upvote questions during the event.

Register at <https://bit.ly/CANOPYMonthlyMeeting>



THE BINGHAMTON DOWNTOWN SINGERS
AND ORCHESTRA

PRESENT

The Soul's Voyage

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Robert Manners

JOHANNES BRAHMS
Nänie

RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS
Toward the
Unknown Region

JOHANNES BRAHMS
Schicksalslied

HOWARD HANSON
Song of
Democracy

Saturday, June 6, 2026

7:00pm

United Presbyterian Church, 42 Chenango Street,



TICKETS \$20

ONLINE www.downtownsingers.org/tickets

EMAIL tickets@downtownsingers.org

CALL 607-205-8741

*A limited number
of complimentary
tickets are
available —
contact the church
office to inquire*

Southern Tier
Singers' Collective

FORGING *the* PATH

WILLIAM CULVERHOUSE, DIRECTOR

Featuring the world premiere of **Until Dawn** by STSC
Composition Competition winner Nicholas Catarella

SATURDAY
JUNE 13
7:30 PM



ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH
9 LEROY STREET, BINGHAMTON

Sponsored by **Michael Putney**
and our community partners



VISIONS *Wegmans*
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION


Free and open to the public.
Donations gratefully accepted.

  southertiersingers.org

The 35th
SUMMER
INSTITUTE of THEOLOGY
at Hartwick College

July 12–17, 2026

in Oneonta, New York



*Ecumenical faith-based
Christian education for everyone*

*Open to all for personal enrichment and continuing education.
People of every faith (and those seeking) are welcome.*

This year's program features daily worship and 2½-hour classes, offered Monday through Friday mornings and Monday through Thursday afternoons & evenings. Seminar topics include:

Art & faith | Biblical studies | Church history | Interfaith & Ecumenism
Preaching & Practical ministry | Social justice & current events | Spirituality

The 2026 faculty includes several ministers from our presbytery along with other clergy and laity from the Baptist, Episcopal, Latter-Day Saints, Lutheran, Orthodox Church in America, Presbyterian, and Roman Catholic faith traditions.

There are several different options for attending SITHC — you can drop in for just one seminar or a few, you can choose overnight housing for just one night or more, or register as a Commuter or Resident for the entire week.

Full schedule and online registration are at <https://sithc.org> (register by July 1)
Scholarships of up to 75% are available, apply at susvalpresby.org/cclef-scholarship
For more information, contact info@sithc.org or Scott Kindig, 607-323-7074.

WAITING, WITNESS AND THE WAY OF CHRIST

REIMAGINING THE CHURCH'S CALLING

Two days of learning, fellowship, and music.



Featuring Speaker: Andrew Root

Carrie Olson Baalson Professor of Youth and Family Ministry at Luther Seminary. Author of over a dozen books including "Evangelism in the Age of Despair."



September 25-26, 2026

The Presbyterian Church in Geneva
24 Park Place
Geneva, NY 14456

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE



SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER



\$75.00 per person

includes conference registration,
Friday dinner, Saturday lunch
and a walking exhibit by
The Presbyterian Historical Society

REGISTRATION & MORE INFO:

susvalpresby.org/register

HOTEL INFO



Brought to you by the Presbyteries of: Cayuga-Syracuse, Genesee Valley, Geneva,
Susquehanna Valley, Utica and Western New York

“Sweet 16!” Concert — Sunday, May 31, 2pm
at Union Presbyterian Church of Endicott (200 E. Main St.)

Valley Harmony will be performing at Union PC this Sunday at 2pm with a small reception to follow. The concert is titled Sweet 16!, with 16 songs plus the finale. The sets are: Sweet Doo-Wop, Sweet European, Sweet Beach Boys, and Sweet Gospel. The concert is free but there will be a free will offering for the benefit of CHOW. Everyone is welcome. Please spread the word to your friends.



People of Blessing Interfaith Service — Wednesday, June 3, 7pm
at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 183 Riverside Dr., Binghamton



The People of Blessing Service is an inclusive, interfaith worship event held in June to celebrate LGBTQ+ pride and affirm diversity. It features music, readings, and clergy-led blessings to promote radical hospitality and ensure that people of all sexual orientations and gender identities are welcomed. The service affirms the strength inherent to our diversity in sexuality and gender. We

uplift and celebrate the different ways that we relate to That Which is Larger than us, seeking blessing, affirmation, and care. We invite you to join us in this celebration!