



# UCC NEWS

## January 2015

*An Open and Affirming Church*  
*"A fellowship in Jesus, the Christ showing God's love to all people."*

A monthly publication of  
**United Church of Christ, First Congregational**  
11 West Main Street, Norwich, NY 13815  
The Rev. Mr. Joseph Connolly, Pastor and Teacher

**CALL TO THE  
201<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>  
during the worship service.  
All members are urged to  
attend to vote on the 2015 budget.**

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Worship Service: Sunday, 10:00 a.m.  
Childcare Provided

Church Office Hours:  
Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.  
Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Telephone: 607-334-3434

E-mail: [office@uccnorwichny.org](mailto:office@uccnorwichny.org) Website: [www.uccnorwichny.org](http://www.uccnorwichny.org)



## From the Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

The new year— January, 2015— is upon us. But I will not lie to you. I am writing this on December the 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014. It often strikes me that the vagaries of the secular calendar are at odds with the vagaries of church calendar.

After all, in the church the New Year happens on the First Sunday in Advent, usually in late November or early December. The dates of Ash Wednesday and Easter are determined by a juxtaposition of the lunar calendar and the solar calendar.

Easter falls on the First Sunday after the First Full Moon after the Vernal Equinox. The Vernal Equinox marks the date on which the axis of the earth is said to be straight up and down in its relationship to the Sun. Hence, The Vernal Equinox (vernal— Spring, equinox— equal night) is the day each Spring which is said to have an equal amount of day and night. And, of course, Christmas happens four days after the solstice, the solstice being the shortest day of the year.

The shortest day of the year is called the solstice because the Sun reverses its course (or more accurately, the tilting axis of the Earth reverses its course) and heads back in the other direction. Solstice is Latin for “Sun stand.” The Sun “stands still” and then reverses its course. Or, as I indicated, more accurately the axis of the Earth reverses its course.

Which brings me back to the date on which I am writing this. Why so early? Well, one of the things that happens around the Solstice event, the time of the year when we Christians celebrate Christmas, is many people take some time off.

It was deemed wise rather than to gather people to put the Newsletter together in the midst of Christmas week, to put the Newsletter together early and, thereby, have it ready to mail at an appropriate time. And I quite agree. But that still means I am writing this early. And that does seem to warp time a little for me, even make things seem a little more busy than usual just before Christmas.

Well, having been through our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year with its many celebrations and special events, its own sense of busy, you think we, the church, might slow down. Perhaps we shall

but the start of the New Year on the secular calendar will mark for us two consecutive Sundays when we will have very, very, very special events.

It is often said that the impediment to progress in a church is an unwillingness to try new things. That has never been true at the Norwich United Church of Christ, First Congregational. We are always trying new things.

And, as you all know, on December the 6<sup>th</sup> the Deacons and some friends of the Deacons gathered to decorate the church for the Christmas Season. We thank them for that.

And so, on first Sunday in January, Sunday January the 4<sup>th</sup>, we will try something completely new. In fact, on that day there are three things we will try (on one Sunday!!) which we have never tried before.

Here is the list of three. **First**, after the service instead of Coffee Hour we will have a pot trust soup lunch. (There is no such thing as “pot luck.” What you are doing is trusting your brothers and sisters in Christ to bring what is needed for food. Hence, any event like this is a “pot trust.”) And you are invited to bring soup, bread, desserts— any goodie you think appropriate for this kind of celebration. (all right— we’ve done this at least once before— which means it’s not new— so sue me!!)

**Second**, when we have finished eating we will gather in the nave. In the worship space we shall “un-decorate” the church. We shall take down all the Christmas accouterments.

The **third** thing will happen earlier that day, in the course of the service at 10:00 a.m. We will have a blessing of the stuffed animals.

Please note: THIS IS NOT JUST FOR CHILDREN. Every adult I know has a stuffed animal to which he or she has a special attachment lurking somewhere in their home. Bring it! Share it with the children.

The following Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, we will try to outdo the previous Sunday. How? We shall leave the building. (The church has left the building— as it should be since the building is merely a meeting house and we are the church!!)

On January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 we shall hold our 10:00 a.m. service of worship at Chenango Valley Home (24 Canasawacta Street). We will bring the choir and the children. Noone is left behind. Everyone is welcome.

I need to note once a month I offer a service of worship at Chenango Valley Home. But that service is normally done in the afternoon.

The folks who live at the Chenango Valley Home welcome me with open arms and will welcome us. Why do this? These people are a significant part of the Norwich community. We, the church, need to keep them in mind and to reach out to them.

I can tell you this: every time I offer a service at Chenango Valley Home I feel welcomed by the residents and blessed by the very presence of the people who live there. I am sure if you come to the service you will also feel blessed.

Well, we are a church with a lot going on. I suspect we shall remain so. Why? As I said, we and not the building are the church. The building is the meeting house. So when I say, as I often do, "See you in church!" what I am really saying is "I see you and you are the church!"

In Faith,



Joe Connolly

**Sunday, January 4, 2015**

**DURING THE WORSHIP SERVICE (10:00 A.M.)**

Blessing of the Stuffed Animals

**AFTER THE SERVICE**

Soup and Bread Pot "Trust"

**AFTER THE LUNCH**

Taking Down the Christmas Decorations



Call the church office 334-3434 for details.

**January 11 - 10:00 a.m.**  
**Worship Service with the Residents of**  
**Chenango Valley Home**  
**AT THEIR PLACE.**  
24 Cansawacta St., Norwich  
The choir will be there. Children welcome.

## **2014 Reflections from the Turkey Lady**

by Linda Oehme

I would personally like to thank each and everyone of you who helped in anyway with our annual Thanksgiving Basket project. Everyone worked for the common good and we succeeded in filling the boxes in one hour and ten minutes. The fellowship that followed was great and we certainly can do things well when we all work together. And Tuesday's distribution day went very well even though we had a line outside almost to the corner of West Main and Broad Streets. It was cold and I had them come in and snake around down to the Nave doors and back into the front stairwell. It was very orderly and no one was upset that they had to wait. Most were thankful to be in out of the cold.

Again this year there are two stories I'd love to share with all of you. The one that really stands out in my mind is the one where a woman was on the waiting list and at the last minute, we were able to promise her a turkey. She was grateful for just a turkey. The schools had delivered their baskets and about an hour after they delivered their 42 initial boxes, the two "deliverers" found one more box and brought it over. Cheri and I decided to give the woman that box and give the next person on the list the extra turkey. When the woman came to pick up what she thought was only a turkey, I was able to tell her that she was getting the complete basket and she started to cry. She thanked us and said that her kids would be able to have a real Thanksgiving Dinner and they would love it. Again, when she went to the pickup door, she thanked us over and over again.

Another incident, a man came in the afternoon looking

to see if there were any baskets left. He was not on any list since up until 2 weeks ago he had a job. He was waiting for his unemployment to start and he had little money left. I told him to come back on Wednesday and that it was first come first serve. Any of the baskets that were not picked up or on hold would be handed out at that time. He thanked me and I said I really couldn't promise him anything but it wouldn't hurt to try. The next day he showed up at 9 AM he was #7 in line. We had SEVEN baskets to hand out. Cheri and I are always amazed that Wednesday morning we generally have EXACTLY what we need to fulfill the needs of the people. Granted, we have some on the waiting list, but the immediate needs are being met.

Truly I tell you, God works in mysterious ways and there are no coincidences. In the Bible, Matthew 25: 34-40, Jesus says, "Then the ruler will say to those on the right, 'Come, you blessed by my *Abba*, God! Inherit the dominion prepared for you from the creation of the world! For I was hungry and you fed me; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you welcomed me; I was naked and you gave me clothing; I was ill and you took care of me; I was in prison and you came to visit me.' Then these, who think themselves just will ask, 'When did we see you hungry...thirsty...as a stranger...naked... sick or imprisoned...?' And the ruler answered, 'The truth is, every time you did this for the least of these who are members of my family, my brothers and sisters, you did it for me.'"

I truly believe that God is smiling down on the United Church of Christ because we have become God's "good and faithful servants."

Blessings,

Linda

#### THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Baskets distributed from UCC

UCC	170
First Baptist (\$500)	20
Jewish Center (\$250)	10
Norwich Schools	43 (increased by 8)
	<u>243 Baskets</u>

The Place donated 151 boxes of Stuffing  
 Girl Scouts donated 4 boxes of canned goods

St. Bart's distributed 100 Baskets

Gift Cards distributed from

Emmanuel Episcopal 100  
 UCC 3  
 103 Cards

Extra Turkeys Raymond Via Roots/&Wings

Emmanuel Episcopal 7  
 UCC 7  
 14 Turkeys

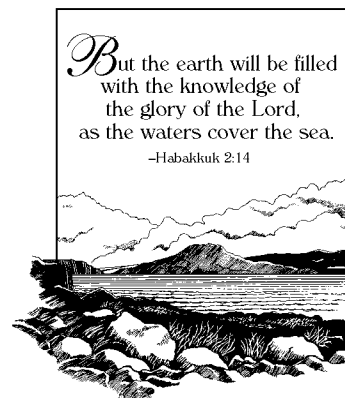
**Total Families served: 460 (Increase of 16 over last year)**

<u>Expenses:</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	
Turkeys	\$3,050.16	\$2,478.10	\$2,481.88	(\$3.78)
Produce	1,059.75	973.75	949.00	(\$24.75)
Rolls	200.00	200.00	250.00	(\$50.00)
Margarine	158.00	158.00	138.00	(\$20.00)
Extra	75.00	48.29	0.00	(\$48.29)
Totals	\$4,542.91	\$3,858.14	\$3,818.88	(\$39.26)

2012 Cost per basket = \$22.79

2013 Cost per basket = \$19.29

**2014 Cost per basket = \$19.09**



## Revised Common Lectionary

You may be aware that the readings used at services of worship in most Mainline Protestant churches and in Roman Catholic Churches are from the list of assigned readings known as The New Revised Common Lectionary. In our Congregational tradition, while pastors are encouraged to use the assigned readings, it's not mandatory. This is published in the hope that some may use these readings in their personal prayer and devotional time.

### **Second Sunday after Christmas Day - January 4**

Jeremiah 31:7-14 or Sirach 24:1-12

Psalm 147:12-20 or Wisdom of Solomon 10:15-21

Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:(1-9), 10-18

### **Epiphany of the Lord - January 6, 2015**

Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

### **Baptism of the Lord - First Sunday after the Epiphany January 11**

Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29

Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

### **Second Sunday after the Epiphany - January 18**

1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20); Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

### **Third Sunday after the Epiphany - January 25**

Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12

1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20





## Director of Children and Youth Ministries

by Linda L. Oehme

2015 has begun and we are visiting new and some familiar stories in the Children and Worship Program. We will be hearing stories of Jesus as a child and growing up which follow the Church Year B. Come and check it out.





Remember, Church School is not just for kids. There are Sunday adult classes meeting in the Chapel and Bible Study most Wednesday evenings led by Pastor Joe. We're never too young or old to learn and explore our faith in new and exciting ways. This is an open invitation for anyone who would like to join us. See you on Sunday.



**Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Mitten Tree, including former members of our congregation who mailed their contributions Chip Adams in Massachusetts and Barbara Werner in Florida.**

## Deacon Reminder

January 4 will be a great day to celebrate the New Year. We will have our Annual Soup and Bread Fellowship Hour after Worship. As Joe puts it, a "Trust Luncheon" –so bring soup and/or bread in the morning. Then after lunch, those who are able can help undecorated the church. It should be fun.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>January 2015</h1> 						
				1 <i>New Year's Day</i> <b>Church Office Closed</b>	2	3
4 8:30 a.m. Church School 9:00 a.m. Nursery 10:00 a.m. Worship/ Communion/ Blessing Stuffed Animals - <i>Tuna Sunday</i> 11:00 a.m. Soup & Bread and Undecorating. See p.4. 3:00 p.m. Ecclesiastical Council	5 3:00 p.m. The Place Teens 	6 9:00 a.m. Tax Training, Founders' Rm. 3:00 p.m. The Place Teens 6:00 p.m .AA Meeting 6:30 p.m .TNT Quilters	7 2:30 p.m. A. Humer, Founders' Rm. 3:00 p.m .The Place Teens 6:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Choir	8 9:00 a.m. Tax Training, Founders' Rm. 11:30 am. Executive Council, Chapel 3:00 p.m. The Place Teens 6:00 p.m .Piecemakers, Founders' Rm.	9 3:00 p.m. The Place Teens  9:30 a.m. Susquehanna Clergy Mtg., Preble	10
11 10:00 a.m. Worship at Chenango Valley Home. See p. 5. 4:00 p.m .SAME Mtg., Kitchen	12 3:00 p.m. The Place Teens 6:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry	13 9:00 a.m. Tax Training, Founders' Rm. 3:00 p.m. The Place Teens 6:00 p.m .AA Meeting 6:30 p.m .TNT Quilters	14 2:30 p.m. A. Humer, Founders' Rm. 3:00 p.m .The Place Teens 6:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Choir	15 9:00 a.m. Tax Training, Founders' Rm. 3:00 p.m .The Place Teens 6:00 p.m .Alzheimer's Support Group	16 3:00 p.m. The Place Teens 	17
18 8:30 a.m. Church School 9:00 a.m. Nursery 10:00 a.m. Worship <i>Paper Sunday</i> 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour	19 <i>Martin Luther King Day</i> <b>Church Office Closed</b>  3:00 p.m. The Place Teens 6:00 p.m. Home Bureau	20 9:00 a.m Tax Training. Chapel 9:00 a.m. Head Start Policy Council 3:00 p.m. The Place Teens 6:00 p.m .AA Meeting	21 2:30 p.m. A. Humer, Founders' Rm. 3:00 p.m .The Place Teens 6:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Choir	22 9:00 a.m. Tax Training, Founders' Rm. 3:00 p.m .The Place Teens	23 3:00 p.m. The Place Teens	24
25 8:30 a.m. Church School 9:00 a.m. Nursery 10:00 a.m. Worship/Annual Meeting 11:00 a.m .Coffee Hour	26 3:00 p.m. The Place Teens 6:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry	27 9:00 a.m. Tax Training, Founders' Rm. 3:00 p.m. The Place Teens 6:00 p.m .AA Meeting 6:00 p.m .TNT Quilters Potluck	28 2:30 p.m. A. Humer, Founders' Rm. 3:00 p.m .The Place Teens 6:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Choir	29 9:00 a.m. Tax Training, Founders' Rm. 3:00 p.m .The Place Teens	30 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Guernsey Library Book Sale	31 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Guernsey Library Book Sale

### Looking Ahead: "Souper" Bowl Sunday

February 1<sup>st</sup>

We will collect cans of soup for donation  
to Our Daily Bread.

Only 40 Days Until





## Historian Notes

by Patricia Evans, Church Historian

Rev. Lawrence L. Durgin was born June 28, 1918 in Newark, New Jersey to Russell L and Delphine P. Durgin, both born in New Hampshire. At the age of six months, Lawrence and his parents went to Japan where his father Russell, was the executive secretary of the International Committee of the YMCA.

He received his education in the American school in Tokyo (except for two years in the USA while his parents were on sabbatical). After graduation in 1935, he returned to the USA and graduated from Mount Hermon school<sup>1</sup> in 1936 and Dartmouth College, graduating with a B.A. in 1940. Before entering graduate school he served for one year as pastor in Cornish, New Hampshire. He then attended Oberlin Graduate School of Theology, Oberlin, OH. For three years he was executive secretary in Oberlin College YMCA and civilian chaplain to V-12 Navy and Marine trainees. Durgin graduated in 1944 with a Bachelor of Divinity degree.

Rev. Durgin was then pastor of the Congregational church of Orient, New York and served as the President of the Suffolk County Association of Congregational Churches.

He married Eunice King of Raleigh, NC, in 1941. She was a graduate of St. Mary's School, Raleigh, NC in 1936 and the Women's College of the University of North Carolina, A. B., Phi Beta Kappa, 1940. After graduation she served as the traveling secretary of the Student Volunteer Movement for a year.

The Durgin's had two children: Katherine (living in San Francisco, CA in 1980) and Wentworth (living in New York City, NY in 1980). Wentworth was born in Chenango Memorial Hospital, Norwich, NY.

The Rev. Lawrence L Durgin, became the pastor of the First Congregational church on Thursday October 9, 1947. He

<sup>1</sup> Mount Hermon Christian Conference Center, was the first Christian camp west of the Mississippi, founded in 1905. Located at Mount Hermon, CA.

occupied the pulpit of his new church at the 11 o'clock service Sunday morning.

A search of the records of the church clerk, C. R. Johnson, who served for 30 years and the then church historian, Miss Elizabeth Thompson, found that this is the first time the Union Association had been invited to install its minister. Rev. Daniel Dexter who served a pastorate from 1901 to 1907 was ordained in this church, but was not installed as pastor and teacher.

By the process of installation the church confers upon its called minister the highest honor it can and likewise, the minister, by accepting the invitation to be installed does high honor to the church by indicating he is completely satisfied with the relationship and the church. (*Un sourced newspaper, October 10<sup>th</sup> 1947*)

Presiding at the installation service was Rev. John H. Keith, pastor of the South Church of Utica, NY and assistant moderator of the Union Association of Congregational Christian Churches (the Association of which this church was a member at that time). Sermon of the service was delivered by Dr. Thomas Wesley Graham, Dean of the Graduate School of Theology at Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio. The charge to the minister was voiced by Dr. Carl Kallgren, Dean of Colgate University. The charge to the congregation was made by Rev. William T. Griffiths, pastor of the Congregational Church of Oswego and registrar of the Union Association. (*Un sourced newspaper, October 10<sup>th</sup> 1947*)

November 5, 1947 Rev. Durgin sent a letter to the congregation to outline some of his "aims and hopes" for the church as he assumed the duties as pastor and teacher:

"You will understand, as you read this, that the flowering of these seeds of hope and inspiration are even more dependent on your response, as a member or friend of the congregation, then upon the energy and enthusiasm of your minister.

The focal point of the church is its weekly service of worship. Congregation, choir, ushers and minister will continue to work unstintingly for the enhancement of this weekly period together. We shall not rest until we have an average attendance of well over two hundred. In addition to the consecrated devotion to the membership, this will required a new organ which we can have within a year if we will and

an amplifying system which we hope to have by the end of this year.”

Rev. Durgin made numerous other changes including creation of a church office with a church secretary. He set a goal of making a thousand calls a year and that was to include the young as well as the older members of the congregation. “Those unable to leave their homes will be called on once a quarter, the rest will be called on at least once a year unless there’s evidence of a particular need. Personal counseling is a quiet, but extremely important part of the effective minister’s work. As you gain confidence in me you will feel free to consider me a tight-lipped friend.

“A church is basically only as strong as its program of Christian Education. You are to be congratulated on your very excellent staff of volunteer teachers. In the coming months we sincerely hope that the church will be able to support the program so that our children may have the very best in equipment and text book material.

“Perhaps the greatest challenge Norwich presents to me is its young people. If adequate volunteer leadership presents itself we expect to have a full program for all young people from twelve through thirty-five in age. We have a group for high school young people. Present plans call for the following groups: Junior-Hi, Post-grads and married couples. As time goes on, we shall burrow further into the basement for added rooms to facilitate a greatly expanded young people’s program. The Boy Scout Troop will share in those advantages. At the Annual Meeting you will be asked to vote for the creation of a Youth Council which will direct the activities of over a hundred young people of all ages. The day is coming when we shall have a director of youth activities.

“There is an expressed desire for a nursery in which the children can be left while the parents attend the Service of the Church. It is when parents are young that they most need the experience of worshipping weekly together, and the church is not meeting its responsibility if it does not respond to this need with a well-equipped, sanitary nursery.

“As you have read this letter you have most probably gained the impression that your minister means business. He does. He would appreciate your reactions to the program either by letter or in person to him or to the laymen who will

be calling on you. Your minister is certainly convinced that the First Congregational church has a position of responsibility to fill in the community of Norwich. If you decide that the traditional services of the past are sufficient, he shall soon lose heart and interest. If, on the other hand, you decide that the First Congregational Church is on the threshold of a heretofore undreamed of program of service to its membership and to the community at large, then your minister will happily do his humble best to keep pace with your enthusiasm. Cordially yours, Lawrence L. Durgin”

*To be continued next month.*

## **Look in the Mailbox**

Rev. Connolly,

Keep up the good work! Thanks for the newsletter!  
Chip Adams

Dear Norwich UCC Friends,

A blessed Christmas season to you and THANKS to Cheri for her nice note and to Bonnie Connolly for the photos - it's such fun to see how much warmth is generated on your special tree.

With warm memories of our years there,  
Bar Werner

Dear Friends on the Mission Committee,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff, and the thousands of people in our community served by Family Planning of South Central New York, thank you for your generous donation. Your support makes it possible for us to provide high quality reproductive healthcare, including family planning and cancer screening to the thousands of women, men and teens who will come to our health centers this year.

Debra Marcus  
Chief Executive Officer  
Family Planning of SCNY

Dear UCC,

Our sincere and grateful thanks for the generous donation sent by you on behalf of the Missions Committee for the Area Agency on Aging Lifeline program. We are pleased that you recognize the value of our programs. Your donation will allow us to meet the needs of additional isolated seniors in our community.

Debra Sanderson, Director  
Chenango Co. Area Agency on Aging

Dear Missions Committee,

I am writing to thank you for your generous monetary donation to the students of Gibson School. The money will be used for the many needs of our students. In the past we have purchased clothing items and assisted with medical needs.

Pat McCann, RN  
Stanford Gibson School

## **From the UCC General Minister and President**

Dear Rev. Connolly,

I am mindful of how very thankful I am to you and to your congregation for steadfast support of the United Church of Christ expressed through your leadership giving to Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM).

As you know, over the last several years our church has moved through significant change and challenge. We have implemented transition in governance, ministry alignment, and missional direction - all with an eye toward increasing organizational efficiency, improving effectiveness in mission and service, and being good stewards of the resources you entrust us with. Though we have reduced staff significantly in the national setting, we have worked to ensure as best we can that programs and services crucial to congregations and conferences have been maintained.

There is still much to do.

Even as I prepare to retire from the Office of General Minister at next year's Synod, please know how essential your

congregation's participation as an OCWM pace setter is and will be to the UCC and to my successor. Never doubt that the congregational gifts that support wider UCC ministry in the conference and national settings help us to change lives. These gifts help us to raise our children in faith, equip leaders, support clergy in ministry, foster healthy and vital congregations, respond to disasters and tragedies, send help around the world, and preach a welcoming and open understanding of Christian faith.

Though change is in the air, the United Church of Christ holds steadfast to its mission and the national setting continues to provide a bold public voice, leadership and support for the collective work of the Church. We need a clear call and we have a clear sense of, and hope for, the future.

Know how very thankful I am for you, your congregation, your conference and for this OCWM partnership.

Geoffrey A. Black  
General Minister and President  
United Church of Christ



### **Tuna Sunday ~January 4**

Bring in cans of tuna for donation to the food pantry.

### **Paper Products Sunday ~ January 18**

Bring in paper products and personal care items for donation to the food pantry.





## Prayer Concerns

Let us keep in our prayers the following concerns:

- \* families-those families that may be going through particularly difficult times, families seeking God's guidance;
- \* those who are moving because of their work, those looking for work, and those looking for meaning in their work.
- \* those who are ill, who are recovering from illness or surgery, or who anticipate going to the hospital.
- \* those who grieve over the death of someone they love.
- \* our church, that it might be faithful to its calling, our pastor, all staff members and committees.
- \* peace in the world.
- \* gay, lesbian and bisexual persons, and all those who feel isolated and alone.

## Visitors Since the Last Newsletter

Grace Burke, Watertown

Wadeanthony Burke, Texas

Leann Showell

Matt Oster

### **"BEAT THE WINTER BLAHS" BOOK SALE**

**Guernsey Library in the Library Meeting Room**

**Buy a Book, get a book free!**

The first 25 people get a gift certificate for  
a free book at a future book sale.

Enter a raffle for a box of  
Romance, Mystery, Non-fiction or Children's books.

Friday January 30 - 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturday January 31 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Questions? Call: 334-4034.

## Bulletins from Other Churches

Joe and Bonnie Connolly, Cathedral of Hope, UCC, Dallas,  
Texas, November 30, 2014; Sing Out & Celebrate, Norwich,  
December 14, 2014.



These are the birthdays of members and friends of our church family. If you know someone on the list who's having a birthday, feel free to send that person a card. Even if you don't know anyone on the list, feel free to send any celebrant a card. More importantly, strive to hold each of these people up in prayer on the anniversary of their birth. Please call the church office with additions or corrections (334-3434 or <office@uccnorwichny.org>).

### January

- 2 Fiora Breese  
Keegan Prime
- 4 Barbara Kraft
- 5 Timothy Duke
- 7 Elizabeth Barber-Breese
- 10 Joy Barrows
- 16 Danny Carson
- 20 Briana Phelps
- 22 Steve Emmons
- 24 Corey Johnson
- 26 Michael Carson
- 31 Virginia Chaplin

# UCC NEWS

United Church of Christ  
First Congregational  
11 West Main Street  
Norwich, NY 13815-1612



DATED MATERIAL: Please Deliver Promptly.  
This issue mailed 12/292014.

STANDARD A  
PERMIT 24  
NORWICH NY 13815

## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Ministers: **All the People**  
Pastor and Teacher: **The Rev. Mr. Joseph Connolly**  
Moderator: **Janet Johnson**  
Director of Children/Youth Ministries: **Linda Oehme**  
Director of Music Ministries: **Mary Williams**  
Financial Secretary: **Donna Wood-Craig**  
Parish Coordinator: **Cheri Willard**  
Counselor, Family Counseling Ministry: **Joanne Lanfear**