



**June  
2017**

*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

**Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**Special Business Meeting**  
to vote on the resolution found on page 4.

**Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**203<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting**  
All members are invited to attend  
the June Annual Meeting of the United Church of  
Christ, First Congregational, Norwich, New York,  
during the worship service.

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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

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# From the Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

By now all the Covenant Members (i.e.: voting members) of our church should have received a copy of a proposed set of by-laws. I need to say a number of things about this.

The first and most obvious thing is there will be a Special Meeting of the Congregation on June 4<sup>th</sup> to consider these by-laws. At that meeting we WILL NOT— IN ANY WAY— do away with the old by-laws. Rather, the vote will be to suspend those by-laws for a year so we can take the new ones out for a “test drive.” Therefore, a final vote is a year off.

That is exactly what we did the last time we had a large revision of our by-laws. And when was that? When was the last time we did a major revision of our by-laws?

The last time that happened, the last time we did a major revision of the by-laws and our committee structure, was 1999. We did make revisions which I would label as relatively minor in 2006 and in 2013. But it has been 17 years since they underwent a large overhaul.

The CEO of a corporation once said to me all companies should revise by-laws at least every year. I told this fellow I did not think that rule applied to churches. After all, most companies probably have a cadre of lawyers to deal with those changes.

Now, as I said, the last time we did this, 17 years ago, I remember one parishioner was dead set against those new by-laws. After that year of test driving, this person came to me, confessed that yes, he was dead set against the change because he thought the change would never work, and then said he was wrong. The change did work.

I told him to not feel self-conscious about it. The fact is there is nothing inherently good, inherently bad or even simply indifferent about any set of by-laws. By-laws are a tool. The real question is ‘do people want to use the tool in a productive, appropriate way?’

If the people involved do want to use the tool in a productive, appropriate way, the tool will work. If they don’t want to use the tool in a productive, appropriate way there is no way to make the tool work.

Indeed, I once asked an Episcopal priest friend under what

kind of by-laws her church operated. She said she was serving her 4<sup>th</sup> church and she knew each and every one of those churches had by-laws but she had never seen a copy. Why? They were a church, not simply a set of by-laws.

So, as dry as constructing and ratifying by-laws may seem to some of us (most of us?), the by-laws, themselves only provide some guidance and, by its nature, that guidance is limited. The underlying reality about any set of by-laws is the people who utilize them make them work or not work. And whether or not they work will depend how people act and interact.

That brings me to a quote by the late Stephen Covey. For those of you who do not know Covey, he was an educator, author and member of the business community. His most popular book was *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*.

The quote: “Life is, by nature, highly interdependent. To try to achieve maximum effectiveness through independence is like trying to play tennis with a golf club.”

All this is to say by-laws and how they operate and how they are executed is really about our INTER-dependence, not our independence. The question we need to ask one another about by-laws is how, in our lives together, can we fully cooperate (even when we disagree).

A segment of the opening words of the Constitution of the United States (in one sense, our national by-laws) has always fascinated me. “...in Order to form a more perfect Union...” “More perfect” is, you see, a contradiction. Perfect is an ultimate. If you are perfect, how can you be more perfect?

The founders of our nation were not stupid. They would have recognized the words “more perfect” are a self-contradiction. I am well convinced and also realize (to paraphrase Thomas Aquinas) perfection is found only in heaven. Hence, we, here on this planet and in our lifetime, always need to keep working toward perfection, especially as that concerns how we interact with one another.

We, in the church, call that interaction— that work toward perfection— recognizing and acting in covenant. In covenant we pledge to mutually listen, hear, respect, observe, honor, console, comfort, uphold, support, affirm, advise and love one another. But perhaps the most important thing to say about covenant is that our pledge is to mutual growth. Our pledge

is to listen, hear, respect, observe, honor, console, comfort, uphold, support, affirm, advise and love. The result of that action— those actions— will be individual and communal growth.

What kind of growth are we seeking? The real pledge is we all promise to grow in our listening, hearing, respecting, observing, honoring, consoling, comforting, upholding, supporting, affirming, advising and loving.

The bottom line: this covenant growth is our calling as Christians, as a church. And you know what I always say: see you in church— church where we are involved in covenant growth, no matter what the by-laws say.

In Faith,



Joe Connolly

P.S. The resolution on which we are voting follows this letter and has appeared in the Sunday Bulletin every week since May 21<sup>st</sup>.

## **The Executive Council is presenting this resolution at a Special Meeting of the Church on June 4<sup>th</sup>.**

Be it resolved that on June the 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at a Special Meeting of the church called by the Executive Council the church shall suspend its current By-laws, especially and specifically as that document concerns committee structure. The current By-laws shall be replaced with a proposed By-laws which have a different committee structure and which have been distributed to all covenant (voting) members. If the vote is successful, this action shall take effect June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Thereby, the current Executive Council is empowered to nominate individuals for the committee structure in the proposed By-laws and the church shall implement and work with this committee structure for

approximately one year. Be it also resolved that since the proposed By-laws, having been distributed to all covenant (voting) members, those members are encouraged to make recommendations for other changes in the proposed By-laws to the church no later than March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. The purpose of this is to ensure that the new By-laws, if considered to be sound in operation, theology, polity and comity, shall be distributed to all covenant members no later than March 15<sup>th</sup> 2018 to be voted on at the Annual Meeting of this church in June of 2018. Last, be it resolved that the committees of the church and the members of the church shall strive, where possible, to adhere to and implement the proposed By-laws, even in the sections where this document does not address committee structure.



## 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Community Honors Banquet - June 20, 2017

Dear Friends,

Once again, the Norwich community is organizing an Honors Banquet, **the 20<sup>th</sup> annual**, to celebrate the scholars of the Norwich High School graduating class. The dinner will be held on Tuesday, June 20<sup>th</sup>.

The committee is pleased to announce that the **Terra Carnrike Granata** (NHS, class of **1998**), will address the students being honored. As you may be aware, all the speakers over the years have graduated from the Norwich City School District system and have returned to serve the Community. Further, since she graduated in 1998, we want to point out that Terra was one of the students in the first class of students honored 20 years ago when this banquet was instituted.

She holds both a Bachelors and a Masters Degree in Criminal Justice from University at Albany, School of Criminal Justice. She is currently the Vice President and manager of the Information Security and Fraud Risk Department and Information Security Officer at NBT Bank. In short, she is in charge of Cyber-Security for NBT. (In this day and age we

all need people with her skills and talents doing their best to protect us!)

But, needless to say, this letter is not so much about the speaker as it is about the students. The scholars we honor achieve an average of 90 or above in their high school career. At the dinner each student is called forward individually and given a certificate which recognizes their accomplishment.

Based on experience, we expect the cost of the project to be around \$4,500. We are now soliciting funds from a broad base in the community— businesses, churches and individuals asking for donations and support. If you are interested in financial support of this **Community Event**, one which honors our students for their achievements, all donations, **large or small**, are welcome.

Sports teams have booster clubs. We ask for your support because our “All Academic Team” does not have its own booster club. We do not even know who will qualify for membership in this club until the March marking period is over. And, to be clear: without **your** support— **community support**— there would be no banquet.

An account is set up at the district office for donations. Please send any contribution made out to the **Norwich City School District, 89 Midland Drive, Norwich, NY 13815, Attention: Wendy Burdick**. Please put a memo on the check which says: **Community Honors Banquet**. This is helpful.

Again, this is about our “All Academic Team,” and academics is the core mission of our schools. Following this letter is a list of the students being honored. If you happen to see any of them, take a moment to say “Job well done.” And, if you choose, please support this event which recognizes their achievement by making a contribution.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact myself or Superintendent O’Sullivan. Thank you for your help.

J.F.C.

## 2017 Honors Recipients

Ciara Albrecht	Madison Jackson
Stephen Barnes	Christopher Jeffrey
Gabrielle Bates	Madison Kerr
Rodney Tre'veon Bonham	Meghan Komendarek
Charlene Burlew	Shannon Laundry
Rachel Cohen	Branden Law
Katelyn Dowdall	Alexander Macintyre
Elizabeth Eddy	Makenzie Maynard
Kara Evans	Gabrielle Mirabito
Samantha Gage	Graciela Nicole Salazar
Anna Gantt	Cora Shepard
Hunter Hagenbuch	Brooke Steigerwald
Carter Hubbard	Lillian Winton

## Community Honors Banquet Speakers

1998 Peggy Raynor '67  
 1999 Matthew Cooney '59  
 2000 Howard Sullivan '60  
 2001 Gary Brookins '67  
 2002 John Brereton '63  
 2003 Patrick Newell '85 & Kate (Newell) Conant '89  
 2004 Donald Chirlin '53 & Sally Chirlin '53  
 2005 Clarence Rappleyea '51  
 2006 Anna Marie Ward '77  
 2007 Edward Erickson '68  
 2008 Joseph Angelino '78  
 2009 Kurt Edwards '80  
 2010 Doug Wilson '71 & Sharon Wilson '71  
 2011 Steve Benenati '71  
 2012 Timothy Handy '78  
 2013 Lisa Natoli '94  
 2014 Susan Carson Ryan '85  
 2015 Amber Perkins '90  
 2016 Frank Revoir '84  
 2017 Terra Carnrike Granata '98

## Look In the Mailbox

Dear Joe,

Your loving support and that of Norwich's UCC Community continues to fortify me. Gail's passing on October 16, 2016 was and is challenging for me. I do trust God's will, but the physical absence of the woman I loved for 53 years is a burden. At the same time, I thank God for the gift of Gail Patch Cooney in my life. She will always dwell in my heart.

A memorial mass celebrating Gail's life will be held Friday, July 14 at 11:00 am. at St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church in Norwich followed by a buffet reception at the Canasawacta Country Club at 12:30 p.m. All are welcome on July 14<sup>th</sup>.

Matt Cooney

## Food Pantry Needs

Spring is finally here. The gardens are starting and the number of flowers blossoming is increasing daily. The number of people using the food pantry is also increasing. As we approach the summer months, the need for food is greater, as soon, the children will be home for the summer. Your generosity in monetary and food contributions is, and has always been, remarkable. At this time of year, and through the summer months, please keep Our Daily Bread Food Pantry in your thoughts, and continue your generous donations. Canned fruits and vegetables, peanut butter, cereal, canned tuna and chicken are always in demand. If you are gardener and have extra fresh produce, it is a wonderful addition to our menu of items. Thank you.

Barb and Gary Tompkins

### **Food Donation Sunday - June 4<sup>th</sup>**

Bring in non-perishable food items for donation to Our Daily Bread.

### **Paper Products and Diapers Sunday - June 18<sup>th</sup>**

Bring in personal care items and paper products for Our Daily Bread of disposable diapers for First Baptist Church's Diaper Giveaway.



# 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.

## **Day of Pentecost – June 4**

Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21

John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

## **Trinity Sunday – June 11**

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Psalm 8

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

## **Second Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 6) – June 18**

Genesis 18:1-15 (21:1-7)

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 or Exodus 19:2-8a

Psalm 100

Romans 5:1-8

Matthew 9:35--10:8 (9-23)

## **Third Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 7) – June 25**










Genesis 21:8-21

Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 or Jeremiah 20:7-13

Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18

Romans 6:1b-11

Matthew 10:24-39

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>June 2017</h1> 						
				<p>1 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 11:00 a.m. Food Pantry Board Mtg., Emmanuel Episcopal Church 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs</p>	2	3
<p>4 <b>Pentecost</b> 9:15 a.m. Nursery 10:00 a.m. Worship <i>Music Sunday</i> <i>Special Business Meeting</i> <i>Food Donation Sunday</i> 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour 3:00 p.m. Installation at United Church of Oxford 4:00 p.m. M. Conant Rehearsal, Nave</p> 	<p>5 4:00 p.m. Tutoring, Founders' Rm. 5:30 p.m. K. Given, Founders' Rm. TBD Interment Service</p>	<p>6 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 8:30 a.m. Interfaith Council Meeting 1:00 p.m. TNT Quilters, Kitchen 7:00 p.m. M. Conant Students' Recital, Nave</p>	<p>7 2:30 p.m. A. Humer, Nave 3:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs</p>	<p>8 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs 6:00 p.m. Piecemakers, Founders' Rm. 7:00 p.m. Executive Council Mtg.</p>	<p>9 5:00 p.m. Bonney/Klicker Rehearsal</p>	<p>10 5:00 p.m. Richie Bonney &amp; Jenna Klicker Wedding</p> 
<p>11 10:30 a.m. Worship at Broad St. United Methodist Church. 12:00 p.m. Farewell reception for Rev. Dr. Nancy Hale.</p>	<p>12 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry, Chapel 4:00 p.m. Tutoring, Founders' Rm. 5:30 p.m. K. Given, Founders' Rm. 7:00 p.m. Trustees Mtg.</p>	<p>13 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 1:00 p.m. TNT Quilters, Kitchen 7:00 p.m. VBS Meeting, Founders' Rm.</p>	<p>14 9:30 a.m. CAM Mtg., Homer 2:30 p.m. A. Humer, Nave 3:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs 7:00 p.m. Choir,</p>	<p>15 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs 6:00 p.m. Alzheimer's Support Group</p>		17
<p>18 <b>Father's Day</b> 9:15 a.m. Nursery 10:00 a.m. Worship/Communion <i>Paper Products Sunday</i> 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour 3:00 p.m. Pastor Joe shares the Word at Chenango Valley Home.</p>	<p>19 4:00 p.m. Tutoring, Founders' Rm. 5:30 p.m. K. Given, Founders' Rm.</p> 	<p>20 9:00 a.m. Head Start Policy Council, Founders' Rm./Nursery 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 1:00 p.m. TNT Quilters, Kitchen 6:00 p.m. Community Honors Banquet</p>	<p>21 2:30 p.m. A. Humer, Nave 3:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs 7:00 p.m. Choir, Nave 7:00 p.m. Democratic Committee, Founders' Rm.</p>	<p>22 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs</p>	23	<p>24</p> 
<p>25 <b>60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UCC Denomination</b> 9:15 a.m. Nursery 10:00 a.m. Worship <i>Annual Meeting</i> 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour</p>	<p>26 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry, Chapel 4:00 p.m. Tutoring, Founders' Rm. 5:30 p.m. K. Given, Founders' Rm.</p>	<p>27 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 1:00 p.m. TNT Quilters, Kitchen</p>	<p>28 2:30 p.m. A. Humer, Nave 3:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs 7:00 p.m. Choir</p>	<p>29 10:00 a.m. Tutoring, Chapel 12:00 p.m. M. Conant, upstairs</p>	<p>30 9:00 a.m. Collate and mail Summer Newsletter</p>	<p>1</p> 

## Children and Youth Ministries

Linda L. Oehme, Director

May has been a busy month for Church School. Our last day of regular classes as well as Intergenerational Sunday was May 21<sup>st</sup>. It was a very informal service with a couple of great surprises. We took a stroll through the season of Easter. There were two of our favorite skits: one which told the story of how Peter, Matthew, John, Salome and Mary Magdalene felt about Jesus' death and resurrection; the second told how two disciples met a "Stranger" on the way home only to raise some "wondering" questions. The choir sang *We Are the Hands of Christ* which was a great finish to the service. Some of the children's craft projects were on display also. Thanks go out to those who participated and a special thanks to Pat Burke who provided a yummy fellowship hour after the service. Church School be off for the summer but will resume again in September. Watch the bulletin and newsletter for details.

Vacation Bible School will take place July 30<sup>th</sup> –August 3<sup>rd</sup> here at UCC. **Hero Central: Discover Your Strength in God** is the theme of the program we will be using this year. We will be transforming the Nave into a "cityscape." Students will discover their strength in God, explore God's mission for their lives, encounter epic adventures alongside biblical heroes and realize qualities that make them truly heroes in God!

Someone recently asked me, "Why do you want to provide VBS in your church?" Well, Jen and I believe that VBS is an excellent tool for outreach to the community. It's a way to invite those who do not normally attend a church, get involved, and build a relationship with others and with Jesus Christ. It's also a great way to build relationships with children and adults from the other churches in our community. This is a community endeavor... not just UCC. And all the congregations can get involved in this outreach program, using their God-given talents to share the love of Jesus with others. Adults can donate or loan "stuff", help decorate, teach, shepherd children, prepare food, send invitations, send follow-up cards, work with publicity and pray. Jen and I can find a job for everyone. **AMAZING!!!** Oops...that was last year's saying...this year will be...

**"Do good, seek peace, and GO AFTER IT!"**

## Norwich Ecumenical Vacation Bible School



**Sunday - Thursday**  
**July 30 - August 3**  
**5:45 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.**  
**Ages 3-12**  
**at United Church of Christ**  
**11 West Main St.**

Register online at  
[www.cokesburyvbs.com/UCCNorwichNY](http://www.cokesburyvbs.com/UCCNorwichNY)

**Volunteers Needed - Adults and Teens welcome.**  
**Contact Linda Oehme (336-7716) or Jen Mallozzi (373-4442).**  
**Next planning meeting - June 13, 7:00 p.m. at UCC.**  
**All invited to come and be part of this community endeavor.**

### Items to Donate to VBS

Refrigerator Box	Long strips of fabric
Index cards (5X8)	Newsprint paper
Red streamers	4 Five gallon buckets
Cereal/cracker boxes	2 thick yarn
Masking tape	12 Plastic rulers
3 Medium playground balls	2 Laundry baskets
Any hero costume items	2 Whistles
1 Bag of foam/sponge hearts	3 Tennis balls
3 Ping-pong balls	Pack of labels
Chalk	Wrapped snack items
Paper lunch bags	Timer
4 Pool noodles	4 Bean bags
2 Bulletin board paper	3 Washable markers
5 Resealable sandwich bags	10 Foam brushes
1 cup Instant tea	25 Sturdy paper plates
1 cup Instant Coffee	Handi-wipes
1 cup Epsom Salt	12 White crayons
Spring clothespins	Heavy-duty foil
2 reams (8X10) white card stock	Large paper clips
Green Tissue paper	Floral foam
Washable watercolors	5 Pringles can with lids
3 Elastic headbands (red, yellow and blue)	10 Shoe Boxes
Duct tape ( <b>4 SILVER</b> , red, yellow, blue, green, orange, and purple)	

## **JUNE IS SPECIAL**

**June 4 - Day of Pentecost  
Special Church Meeting  
and Music Sunday**

**June 11 - Worship at Broad St. United  
Methodist Church**

**June 18 - Communion Sunday**

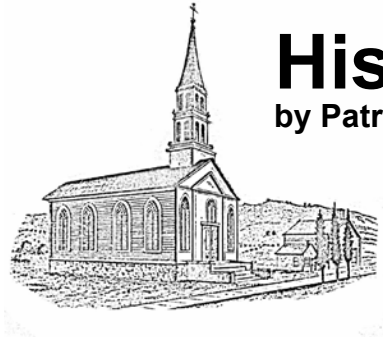
**June 24 - Annual Meeting**



## **Congratulations to our High School Seniors**

**Samantha Gage  
Nathaniel Garry  
Ryan Johnson  
Keegan Prime  
Benjamin White**





# Historian Notes

by Patricia Evans, Church Historian

## FIRST MEMBERS

### Adosha and Elisha Smith

Adosha (Adocia) Wattles, joined church on June 19, 1814. She was born in Connecticut in 1786. Elisha had emigrated from Rhode Island via Whitestown, Oneida County, NY. Adosha and Elisha had both settled separately in Norwich about 1794 and were married in 1810. Elisha purchased the old Colonel Monore homestead with its mill which was included in a tract that included all that part of the village lying west of Broad Street, north of Benjamin Chapman's store and south of Henry Street extending across the Canasawacta Creek to almost the top of the hill. Elisha was also engaged in his legal practice and had an interest with Thomas Milner in a wool carding and clot mill at Wood's Corners, just north of the village of Norwich.

Adosha and Elisha lived in the first log home built in the area by Colonel Monroe on the west green in Norwich village, now West Park, in the area of the current historic marker. In 1798 Elisha built mills on the west bank of the Canasawacta creek, not far from the current old mill that still stands on the corner of West Main Street and Canasawacta Street. About 1799, Col. Monroe built the house that William B. Guernsey later lived in and is now the site of the current building of the Guernsey Memorial Library.

Elisha was the first local agent of the Hornby Estate in the Chenango Triangle from 1802 until 1812. He was tasked with clearing the land to create settlements in the Gengantslet and Chenango Valley area to attract settlers to the area. Elisha oversaw the development of industry with building a saw mill and grist mill in 1802 in Greene. He erected the first building

in the village on the corner occupied by the Rathbone Block. This building he used as a dwelling and a store.

“In 1806 Elisha Smith with the help of Elisha Johnson, surveyed a mile square site for a village (Greene, NY) with his house as the center, mapped out streets and called the settlement Hornsby. The next year he built the first bridge across the Chenango River at Greene when the Susquehanna-Bath Turnpike was constructed through the town. In 1809 he had a distillery built, in the interest of the Hornsby Estate, just south of Samuel Ladd’s at the rear of what is now the Episcopal Rectory.”

*(Echoes of the Past: Or, Annals of the Town of Greene, Chenango County, New York, 1867-1967)*

Elisha held numerous positions while in Greene for nine years: Commissioner of Highways, Overseer of the Highways (1803), Supervisor of the town serving four years from 1799-1804. He was the Judge of the County Court serving several years as a Judge of the Common Pleas for Chenango County.

He was noted to be “a man of much enterprise”, and his character was venerated by the early settlers. Adosha and Elisha had six children: four sons and two daughters and were the parents of Elisha B. Smith, Colonel of the 114th regiment, who was killed at the head of his regiment at Port Hudson in 1863.

Elisha Smith also was instrumental in the creation of the Town of Smithville, which was formed from Greene April 1, 1808. Smithville was named after him. Elisha was also very supportive of the idea of the Chenango Canal and assisted in obtaining approval by New York State.

Elisha died April 10, 1832 and was buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Norwich, NY. Adosha his wife was noted to be living with her son, Colonel Elisha Smith of the 114<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the NY Volunteers in Norwich after her husband’s death. Record of her death was not found.

# Peace

Author Unknown

Do not undermine your worth by comparing yourself with others. It is because we are different that each of us is special.

Do not set your goals by what other people deem important. Only you know what is best for you.

Do not take for granted the things closest to your heart. Cling to them as you would your life, for without them, life is meaningless.

Do not let your years slip through your fingers by living in the past, nor in the future. By living your life one day at a time, you live all the days of your life.

Do not give up when you still have something to give.

Nothing is really over until the moment you stop trying.

Do not be afraid to encounter risks. It is by taking chances that we learn how to be brave.

Do not shut love out of your life by saying it is impossible to find. The quickest way to receive love is to give love; the fastest way to lose love is to hold it too tightly.

Do not dismiss your dreams. To be without dreams is to be without hope; to be without hope is to be without purpose.

Do not run through life so fast that you forget not only where you have been, but also where you are going. Life is not a race, but a journey to be savored each step of the way.



## 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 and transgendered persons, and all those who feel isolated and alone.

## Bulletins from Other Churches

**Doris Graves-** Hub City Vineyard, Hagerstown, Maryland,  
May 7, 2017

## Visitors Since the Last Newsletter

Ross Baxter, Norwich	George Kolb
Grace Burke, Watertown	Jillene Mallozzi, Spring Valley
Jonathon Burke	Karen Mallozzi, Spring Valley
Matthiew Cotussi	Vincent Mallozzi, Spring Valley
Scott Cotussi	Rose Mott, S. Plymouth
Evan Devine, Clifton Park, NJ	Pat Wassenaar, S. New Berlin
Renee Devine, Clifton Park, NJ	Leann Showell, Fountain, CO
Amy Gage, Morris	Mya Showell, Fountain, CO
Kelly Gage, New Berlin	Lincoln Showell, Fountain, CO
Elaine Gage, Columbus	Scott VanArsdale, Sharon Springs
Richard Gage, Columbus	Walter Wood
Jessie Golden, Oxford	Adrienne Zornow, Norwich
Bill Johnson	Jeff Zornow, Norwich

## It Is Time to Prepare Your Annual Report

If you are responsible for one of the following, please get your report to the church office by June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Executive Council	Board of Trustees
Memorial Gifts Committee	Board of Deacons
Historian	Prayer Shawl Ministry
Director of Youth & Children's Ministries	

Copies of last year's reports are available from Cheri Willard, Parish Coordinator, 334-3434 or <office@uccnorwichny.org>



*Happy  
Birthday*

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).

## June

1 Jane Prime	24 Elizabeth Brewer
5 Marisol Adams	25 Ramona Oehme
Jenna Klicker	26 Brooke Bonney
10 Catherine Hammons	Morgan Hagenbuch
11 Pat Bridge	27 June Granz
13 Jessica Posner	28 Jack Brereton
18 Bill Aitken	

## **UCC NEWS**

United Church of Christ  
First Congregational  
11 West Main Street  
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Moderator: **Steve Craig**  
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 Ferguson**