



8651 Boston State Road, Boston, NY 14025 • 716-941-3529 • info@faithunitedchurchucc.com • faithunitedchurchucc.com

Newsletter for November & December 2026

Update from the Profile/Search Committee

Peace and greetings from the NY Conference of the United Church of Christ.

I'm Gary Ferner, the Associate Conference Minister for Search and Call, and I am writing you today to offer some encouragement to the Faith United Church of Christ in Boston, during this time of pastoral transition. When churches enter a time of transition, such as when their pastor retires, or receives another call, there are some specific tasks that churches go through to prepare for calling their next pastor.

I am working with your Search Committee as we speak to help prepare your congregation for calling your next pastor.

The NY Conference of the United Church of Christ is in a covenantal relationship with Faith UCC, and we promise to not only walk with you during these times of transition, we also have resources for your Search Team or Search Committee.

For many congregations, this can be a time of anxiety, or worry: you might already have found yourself asking: who is going to be our next pastor? When will they start? How long will it take? How will we be the church we are used to being, and who will help us do that while we search?

Out of the roughly 220 churches in our Conference, we usually have between 20 and 40 churches in various stages transition. So you are not alone on this journey to call a new pastor: you have all the resources from the NY Conference of the UCC (and the wider UCC denomination as well) and you have sibling churches from across the Conference doing exactly what you are doing: getting ready to call a new pastor.

With the Welcoming Diversity Inventory complete, as well as the Local Church Profile being complete, you are able to post your pastoral position on the national UCC website '*Opportunities*'.

There, pastors and ministers can find your profile, and submit their profile to your Search Committee to review.

I will assist the Committee on reviewing profiles and evaluating potential candidates until the right one comes along.

Please be reassured, every church in transition finds their God-sent pastor!

Some take longer than others, but this time of transition can be a time of discovery and wonder, a time of discernment and reflection, and I highly recommend that you not try and rush through this part! Trust in the God that has called you to be the church.

During times like this, churches use supply preachers, bridge pastors, and lay leaders to help meet the needs of the congregation, like you are now. They also often see lay people step up and take responsibility for things they usually expect the pastor to do.

Like a farmer's field left fallow for a season, a congregation in transition can store energy for future growth and a fruitful harvest.

I encourage each of you to invest in, and engage in the process of transition while your Local Church Profile is being written, and posted.

Celebrate the joys of your congregation, comfort each other in the losses that may come, and embrace your supply preachers as they serve you during these days of transition. You have all the gifts you need to do these things.

God puts these periods of change and transition in front of us as we journey together to be the church, and I hope and pray that your next pastor is just waiting to see your profile on the website!

Blessings on you all, and please remember to pray as a faith community, asking God to send you your next pastor. I just celebrated the ordination of a pastor whose calling church did just that, and he is certainly glad they did!

Blessings on your ministries,



Rev. Gary Ferner

Associate Conference Minister for Search and Call
New York Conference of the United Church of Christ

The Profile/Search Committee will continue to provide updates as new information becomes available.

Regards,

Kevin Biddle

Pricilla Granville

Sandy Jordan

Linda Bishop

Zach Munger

Ginny Taber

Corky Forney

News about our neighbors and friends

- Barb Fink is currently at Elderwood in Hamburg and appreciates your cards and prayers. Her address is: 5775 Maelou Drive, Hamburg, NY 14075.
- Janet Taber is at home. She appreciates our prayers and calls. Cards may be sent to her home address: 5845 Scherff Road, Orchard Park, NY 14127.
- Sally Schutt is now living with her son D.J. and his wife at 6181 Rice Road, Boston, NY 14025.



CONCERNS & PRAYERS

For peace in our country and the world, for our military, for those who have lost loved ones recently and are grieving, and for those whose needs we may not know.

For Vickie Bieger, Stephen Dearth, Barb Fink, Scot Kish, Carol Mueller, Claudia Renzi, Leroy Rockwood, Chuck & Sheila Recktenwalt, Tom & Marilyn Rucker, Joe Ryan, Sally Schutt, Janet Taber, Pat Granville.

For those in the Military: Jacob Braun, Zachary Braun, Justin Buczek, Sophia Rappl Raso, Justin Slighter, Jamie-Lynn Smerka and Mark Williams.

Prayer Concerns

Please email your prayer concerns to the church secretary (secretary@faithunitedchurchucc.com) or stop by the church office when it is open and write your concerns on the prayer request sheet in the narthex.

Name tags

The name tags are updated. If you are missing your name tag, please let Gail Berger know so a new one can be made.

Update on Sunday school activities... - Cris Palczak, Sunday School Superintendent

The children learned the ten commandments and enjoyed a Halloween party in October. Halloween can be fun and some things are scary. But God is with us always and will help overcome fear.



The children will be celebrating our Veterans on Nov 8th during children's time.

The children will help with the turkey soup on Nov 22nd. Please have the children arrive at 9 a.m. to help on Nov 22nd.

The Children's Christmas Play is Dec 13th. Rehearsals will be Dec 5th and 12th.

Mission

The food drive continues through November 15. Food collected will go to Bread of Life in Colden. Let us help others not as fortunate as us to have a happy holiday season.

As the saying goes – Baby it's cold outside! So let's try to make it a little warmer for someone!

During Advent, we will be having the hat and glove tree in the gathering room. These items will be distributed to the Boston Valley School and to Bread of Life in Colden.

All donations will be kept local.

Even though it is cold outside, you can have a warm feeling in your heart by helping to make someone else warmer.

The mission team would like to thank everyone that has donated in any way to Faith Church during 2026. Whether it was helping with a project, donating items, or a monetary donation, everyone has done their part to help make Faith Church what it is. Let's keep up the good work in 2027!

Turkey Soup Day – In keeping with our long time tradition, Karen Winter will again be coordinating "Turkey Soup Sunday" on November 22nd following worship. Please plan to stay for this wonderful time of food and fellowship. Please bring your own plates, bowls, and tableware. Deserts to share welcomed. Soup, biscuits, coffee/tea and water will be provided.



FELLOWSHIP

Health Care Committee – We have had several baptisms this year including: Dominic Allbritton 3/28/2026, Jason Clay Allbritton 3/28/26, Caron Gerace 9/27/26 and Merscede Rishel 10/4/26.

Men's Group – The Men's Group will meet Saturday November 7th at 9:00 a.m. at the church. As always we will talk about the small tasks at hand and then proceed to complete the tasks if possible! Then we gather back in the Fellowship Hall for coffee, pastries and conversation. The Men's Group will also be meeting November 28th at 9:00 a.m. to set-up the manger and other Christmas decorations. No meeting in December. If you have any questions, feel free to speak to Bruce Lounsbury on a Sunday morning or call him at 716-662-7357.

Women's Support – The Women's Group will be meeting November 11th at 7:00 p.m. in the gathering room. We will prepare for our advent program to present on December 6th.

Our Christmas party will be on December 9th. Details to follow.

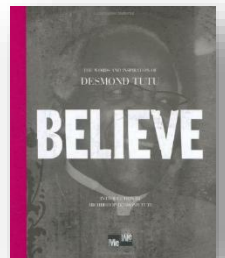
Stewardship – The theme for this year's stewardship campaign is: There our hearts will be, *"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also..." – Matthew 6:21.*



Please return your pledge card to Faith church by November 22nd. Pledge cards will be dedicated at the worship service that day. Returning your card means that you will also avoid the reminder phone call for those not returned by the 23rd.

Library – Most people recognize Archbishop Desmond Tutu. His book *Believe* contains his writings covering many subjects, but many on human rights. Included are items "To be neutral in situation of injustice to already have chosen sides. It is to support the status quo" and "Nothing is too much trouble for love."

This book can be found in the Church Library, located in the Gathering Room.



Blessing of the costumes.



Church Board Openings

The nominating committee is seeking to fill one open seat on the Church Board and two positions on the Endowment Committee beginning February 2026. The Board meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 7:00 – 8:00 pm to discuss and make decisions regarding the overall business of the church. Members are elected to the board for a three-year term and may serve two consecutive terms.

If interested, please speak to any of the nominating committee members:
Cathy Kobel, Tim Plewik, Linda Bishop, and Zach Munger.

Faith Church Adult Movie Night –

Movie night November 7th – 5 p.m.

Pizza and popcorn will be provided.

“The Jesus Revolution” will be featured with discussion to follow. Please sign up outside the Church office or contact Tim Plewik or Katherine Meckes if you plan on attending.



News

Sunday, November 1st – **Daylight saving time/All Saints Day/Communion/Remembrance Sunday.**

Saturday, November 7th – **Men's Group meeting 9:00 a.m.**

Sunday, November 8th – **Children's appreciation for Veterans.**

Thursday, November 12th - **Poinsettia orders are due** to church office.

Sunday, November 15th – **Food drive ends.**

Sunday, November 22nd – **Communion/Hat and glove drive begins/Turkey soup luncheon/Pledge Sunday.**

Sunday, November 29th – **1st Sunday of Advent.**



News

Saturday, December 5th – **Women decorate** for Christmas.

Sunday, December 6th – **Women's program** during worship.

Wednesday, December 9th – **Women's Group** Christmas party.

Sunday, December 13th – **Sunday School program** during worship and the **Endowment** committee will be hosting a coffee hour following worship.

Tuesday, December 15th – 7:00 p.m. **Board Meeting.**

Wednesday, December 24th – 4:00 p.m. **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.**

Sunday, December 27th – No Sunday School

BOARD MEETING Recap

October 20, 2026

The Meeting was opened by board President Cathy Kobel at 7:00 p.m.

All in favor -Minutes from September 15, 2026 were approved.

Reports:

Financial Secretary's Report – given by Corky – income for September was \$8,058.20.

Treasurer's Report – given by Mary Beth – expenses for September were \$6,117.31.

Report Approvals:

All in favor – All reports approved.

Old Business:

- **Church Refreshening Committee –**
 - Refreshing Project estimates were approved at the 10/18/2026 congregational meeting.
 - Bob Bishop will reach out to contractors that gave us estimates to schedule work.
 - Bob will also get insurance certificates from the contractors.
 - Contracts for the work to be done will be signed by one of the trustees from the church board.
- **Update on congregation meeting**
 - Things went well at the congregational meeting on 10/18/2026. Both the budget and the refreshing project passed unanimously.
- **2027 Budget – Update on congregation meeting**
 - Cathy went over the budget line by line, explaining why changes were or weren't made.
- **Search Committee update**
 - We have 2 candidates interested in the Bridge Pastor position
 - Cathy and Kevin Biddle will interview the candidate.
 - A background check will be conducted for the candidate.
 - Kevin will report back to the Search Committee.
 - If the candidate is chosen, a clearly stated contract will be written with designated duties.
 - If all agree with the contract, the Bridge Pastor will start January 1st, 2027.
- **Craft Show update**
 - Income from the craft show:

▪ Bake Sale -	\$252.75
▪ Knitted Sale -	\$ 38.00
▪ Pumpkins -	\$ 37.00
▪ Hot Dogs -	\$115.00
▪ <u>17 Vendors -</u>	<u>\$545.00</u>
Total Income	\$987.75
- **Pulled Pork Dinner update**
 - Total Income \$3131.00
 - Dinner Cost \$1850.00
 - Net Profit \$1281.00

Thanks to chairperson Karen and the many other volunteers for their hard work on the dinner. Lunch made by Karen for helpers was delicious.

- **Update on parsonage lease**

- Ted & Leslie will be moving out of the parsonage at the end of December.

New Business:

- **Nominations** – open positions that need to be filled:
 - Tim Plewik is finishing his 2nd term as Deacon.
 - Mary Beth is finishing her 1st term as Trustee – has agreed to serve a second term.
 - Corky is finishing his 1st term as Trustee – has agreed to serve another term.
 - Priscilla Granville is finishing her first term on the Endowment Committee.
 - Sandy Jordan is finishing her first term on the Endowment Committee.
- **Nominating Committee appointed:**
 - Deacon – Linda Bishop
 - Deacon – Tim Plewik
 - Trustee – Zach Munger
 - Trustee – Cathy Kobel
- **Worship music concerns:**
 - The piano needs tuning.
 - Organ issues – there is a key sticking or not playing – need to find a technician.
 - Will special music be needed for WSG and Children's programs or Christmas Eve service? Robin needs to know ASAP.
- **Music committee** – there is a need to reactivate the music committee.
- **Christmas Eve Service** will be held at 4:00 pm – Rev Tina will preach.
- Ken Ottaway now has his own **debit card** to purchase maintenance supplies with.
- Problems still exist with **Microsoft access**. We would like to change the administrator to Angella. We need the 2-function authorization to activate the 365 programs. There have been difficulties getting in touch with the current administrator for a few years.
- **Adult Fellowship**
 - Movie night November 7th – 5pm – pizza and popcorn then the movie, "The Jesus Revolution" will be shown; discussion to follow.

Zach made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Tim.

All in favor – meeting adjourned 8:00 p.m.

Tim closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ginny Taber, Faith UCC Board Secretary



September 2026		TREASURER'S MONTHLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY					
Operating Fund	Start Balance	Receipts	Interest	Total Income	Expenses	End Balance	
Current Account	21,771.62	8,002.20		29,773.82	6,117.31	23,656.51	
Benevolent Account	1,217.44	56.00		1,273.44		1,273.44	
Operating Fund Total	22,989.06	8,058.20	0.00	31,047.26	6,117.31	24,929.95	
2027 Prepaid Pledges						0.00	
Other Funds (not included in Operating Fund or Budget)						0.00	
WACIC Grant (Griefshare, Grace for the Journey) \$2643	1,489.71	0.00		1,489.71		1,489.71	
Special Benevolent	205.00	0.00		205.00		205.00	
Major Repairs Long Term Fund	43,671.53	0.00		43,671.53		43,671.53	
Memorial Fund	7,057.57	0.00		7,057.57		7,057.57	
Other Funds Total	52,423.81	0.00		52,423.81	0.00	52,423.81	
Total of All Funds	75,412.87	8,058.20	0.00	83,471.07	6,117.31	77,353.76	
Asset Accounts - Evans Bank - Checking, Savings, CDs	75,412.87	8,058.20	0.00	83,471.07	6,117.31	77,353.76	
Weekly Income	9/6/2026	9/13/2026	9/20/2026	9/26/2026BBQ	9/27/2026	Total	
Current Account	757.20	1,658.00	2,136.00	1,398.00	2,053.00	8,002.20	
Benevolent Account		25.00			31.00	56.00	
Operating Fund Total	757.20	1,683.00	2,136.00	1,398.00	2,084.00	8,058.20	
2027 Prepaid Pledges						0.00	
Pay Pal fees						0.00	
WACIC Grant (Griefshare, Grace for the Journey) \$2643						0.00	
Special Benevolent						0.00	
Major Repairs Long Term Fund						0.00	
Memorial Fund						0.00	
Total Weekly Income	757.20	1,683.00	2,136.00	1,398.00	2,084.00	8,058.20	
			2026 weekly income to date	97,453.85			
			2025 weekly income to date				
			2024 weekly income to date				

ITEMIZED BUDGET AND EXPENSE REPORT					2026												
	BUDGET AMOUNT	EXPENSES January	EXPENSES February	EXPENSES March	EXPENSES April	EXPENSES May	EXPENSES June	EXPENSES July	EXPENSES Aug	EXPENSES Sept	EXPENSES Oct	EXPENSES Nov	EXPENSES Dec	% Spent to Date	Remaining Budget Amount	Totals	
CURRENT ACCOUNT																	
1. Pastor's Salary	39,600.00	6,600.00	6,600.00	6,600.00	6,600.00		2,000.00	2,000.00	800.00	800.00				81%	7,600.00	32,000.00	
2. Pastor's Medical	2,000.00	500.00	500.00	500.00		500.00								125%	(500.00)	2,500.00	
3. Pastor's Travel	400.00	208.60					340.03							137%	(148.63)	548.63	
4. Pastor's Professional Expenses and Continuing	500.00		125.00											25%	375.00	125.00	
5. Pastor's Pension 14% of salary	3,000.00	631.17	631.17	631.17	631.17									84%	475.32	2,524.68	
6. Pastor's Disability 1.5% of salary	150.00	67.63	67.63	67.63	67.63									180%	(120.52)	270.52	
7. Parsonage Utilities - Electric, Gas, Water	2,700.00	365.37	411.11	336.26	794.99	237.11	77.65	354.54	164.26	146.76				107%	(188.05)	2,888.05	
8. Supply Pastor	1,500.00		150.00											10%	1,350.00	150.00	
9. Organist and Choir Director	9,600.00	800.00	800.00	800.00	800.00	800.00	800.00	800.00	800.00	800.00				75%	2,400.00	7,200.00	
10. Church Office Secretary (18.00/hr.)	15,000.00	1,026.00	1,140.00	1,558.00	1,159.00	1,158.07	1,634.00	1,349.00	1,596.00	1,301.50				79%	3,078.43	11,921.57	
11. Church Sexton (\$300 per month)	3,600.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	150.00	300.00				71%	1,050.00	2,550.00	
12. Social Security and Medicare	2,600.00	368.35			537.34			562.05						56%	1,132.26	1,467.74	
13. Workers' Compensation and Disability Insuranc	2,000.00		72.64					74.04						7%	1,853.32	146.68	
14. Church & Office Supplies	2,000.00	580.35	39.38	238.85	299.88	282.27	152.50	304.50	678.60	237.50				141%	(813.83)	2,813.83	
15. Church School Supplies and Program	500.00													0%	500.00	-	
16. Music Supplies	200.00	-				25.00								13%	175.00	25.00	
17. Sexton Supplies	400.00													0%	400.00	-	
18. Church Fellowship/Invitation Team	200.00													0%	200.00	-	
19. Church Utilities	9,000.00	1,552.66	2,308.89	1,122.69	421.70	627.96	624.53	504.23	460.91	395.90				89%	980.53	8,019.47	
20. Insurance (Fire, Theft, Liability)	13,500.00	3,333.00		3,334.00				3,656.00						76%	3,177.00	10,323.00	
21. Taxes - County and Town	2,500.00			2,778.58					-					111%	(278.58)	2,778.58	
22. Maintenance and Repair	2,250.00				1,159.00	152.95		184.36	1,225.00	469.36				142%	(940.67)	3,190.67	
23. Grounds Maintenance - Snowplowing and Yard	4,200.00													0%	4,200.00	-	
24. Our Church's Wider Mission	1,500.00													0%	1,500.00	-	
25. Churches in Covenant	750.00													0%	750.00	-	
26. Dunkirk Conference Center	500.00													0%	500.00	-	
27. Love INC	400.00													0%	400.00	-	
28. Bread of Life Outreach	400.00													0%	400.00	-	
29. Boston Valley School	400.00													0%	400.00	-	
30. Colden Elemtary	400.00													0%	400.00	-	
31. Plymouth Crossroads	750.00													0%	750.00	-	
TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET	122,500	16,333.13	13,073.18	18,339.82	13,270.71	4,083.36	5,928.71	10,088.72	5,874.77	4,451.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	294%	31,057	91,443.42	

Happy Fall! 🍁

Fall comes with cooler weather, cozy sweaters & the Holiday season on the mind. This is a fantastic time to go inward & relax the mind.

Next Monday, Oct. 12th we are starting back up with 6 more weeks filled with different meditation methods.

This session will be Meditations for Peace. In these meditations you will come to learn different ways to relieve stress from the outside world. Relaxing the mind; letting go of those overwhelming thoughts.

The classes will include Mudras, Simple ways on relieving the mind from overthinking, as well as, using the breath to anchor yourself into the present moment.

Please Join us, Come as you are, Come when you can!

Starting Monday, Oct. 12th at 7pm- 8pm.

Last class for Mediations of peace & for this year will be November, Monday the 16th.



**Quiet Your Mind,
Find Your Peace**
Intro to Meditation: Peace

Join to learn different methods to be present
& discover the peace within.
Learn the joys of sitting with yourself
& the different benefits of meditation
Let go of the outside noise and connect your peace.

FREE
Mondays 7pm-8pm
Starting October 12th- Nov. 16th
With Katherine

Register anytime during the program.
To register or ask questions email Quietyourmind.km@gmail.com



Located at Faith United Church
8651 Boston State Rd. Boston NY

NOVEMBER GREETERS 2026

Date	Elevator Entrance	Main Entrance
November 1	Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury Herb Berlin, Bobby Bishop	Lois Thurnherr/Linda Bishop
November 8	Pat Minnick Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop, Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury	Ginny Taber
November 15	Sandy Jordan Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop	Michele Rappl
November 22	Donna Lisowski/Linda Bishop Herb Berlin, Bobby Bishop, Bruce Lounsbury	Pat Minnick/Kathy Lounsbury
November 29	Mary Beth Dauer/Linda Bishop Herb Berlin, Bobby Bishop, Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury	Helen Zittel/Kathy Lounsbury

DECEMBER GREETERS 2026

Date	Elevator Entrance	Main Entrance
December 6	Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop	Helen Zittel/Linda Bishop
December 13	Sharon & Corky Forney Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop, Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury	Lorey Delia
December 20	Linda Smerka Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop, Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury	Priscilla Granville
December 24 4 p.m.	Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop	Pat Minnick/Linda Bishop

Please call the church office, 716-941-3529, or Lois T., 716-941-3248, should you need to change the schedule. We appreciate you taking time to share your love of Christ with others by welcoming them to our worship service.

November Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday To:

1 – Carolyn Dearth	17 – Sheila Recktenwalt
8 – Jeanna Karb	22 – Mary McEwan
11 – Ryan Granville	24 – Hope Dean
13 – Evelyn Munger	26 – Madison Williams
15 – Jeff Rishel	Grant Karb

Happy Anniversary To:

3 – Derek & Amy Grove
13 – Corky & Sharon Forney

December Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday To:

9 – Bill Rauch	22 – Grace Margaret Grove
Esther Whitney	23 – Jeremy Giordano
14 – Fred Thurnherr	24 – Hailey Giordano
15 – Garrett Karb	27 – Caleb Darnley
Bruce Lounsbury	29 – Coulter Mung
Katherine Meckes	31 – Sandy Jordan
16 – Sue Gentile	

Happy Anniversary To:

29 – Chuck & Sheila Recktenwalt

