

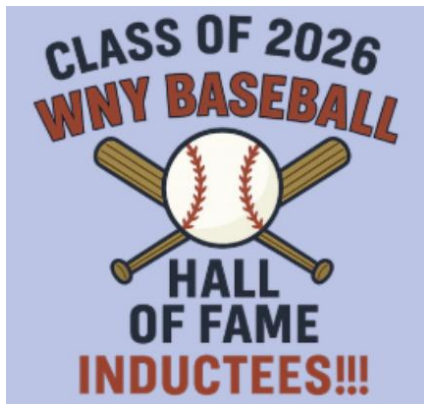


8651 Boston State Road, Boston, NY 14025 • 716-941-3529 • info@faithunitedchurchucc.com • faithunitedchurchucc.com

Newsletter for August/September 2026

We have a Baseball Hall of Famer in the house.

Congratulations Kevin Biddle.



■ Kevin Biddle was known for his power and run production as a consistent home run hitter and RBI leader. He starred in the MUNY AAA and News Suburban leagues from 1981-1992. He played at Georgia Southern University, Monroe CC and University at Buffalo.

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, Friends & Family of Eleanor Kraft, 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, Teagan Partridge, Caydan Skinner, Justin Slighter, Jamie-Lynn Smerka, Mary Solak, Joe Solak, Justin Slighter, Aaron Wellman, and Mark Williams.

BASEBALL

WNY Baseball Hall of Fame inducts 14

NEWS STAFF REPORT

The Western New York Baseball Hall of Fame announced its Class of 2026 inductees on June 16. Here's a look at the honorees:

■ Jerome "Jerry" Burke was a slick fielding middle infielder and high average hitter who played for Diesel for many years. He was a versatile offensive player who played at Canisius High School and Canisius College.

■ Matt Landahl was a standout player at Orchard Park in MUNY AAA and at St. Bonaventure University. A three-way threat on the mound, in the outfield and at the plate, he was hard to keep off the bases and harder to contain once he was on base. His great speed, smooth outfield play and consistent hitting helped his teams enjoy great success.

■ Jeff Brummer may be the fastest runner in WNY baseball history. High-average and powerful hitting were part of his arsenal at the plate and on the bases. He starred at Sweet Home High School and with Amherst of The Buffalo News Suburban League. He also enjoyed a stint with the Los Angeles Dodgers organization.

■ Douglas Allen spent 10 years starring in the Buffalo News Suburban League with Clarence in the late 1960s and 1970s, and he was named an all-star multiple times. A left-handed lead off specialist, he was known for his leadership, consistent hitting, on-base percentage and stolen bases.

■ Kevin Biddle was known for his power and run production as a consistent home run hitter and RBI leader. He starred in the MUNY AAA and News Suburban leagues from 1981-1992. He played at Georgia Southern University, Monroe CC and University at Buffalo.

■ Rick Hagerty spent eight years with Diesel as the ace of the staff. His arm led Diesel to its first two NABF World Series appearances in 2004 and 2010. He starred at Attica High School and carried the Erie Community College pitching staff to an NJCAA World Series appearance.

■ Scott Lauck spent 14 years in the News Suburban and MUNY AAA leagues as a member of the Cheektowaga Chiefs and Orchard Park Sox. He was a highly capable second baseman, run producer



With heartfelt gratitude, we thank Rev. Lynn Morgan for leading us these past two months and for the many times you have so graciously stepped in to lead worship when asked. We are deeply thankful to both you and Sandy for your faithful leadership, care, and commitment to our Faith family here at Faith United Church of Christ.

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 will be reviewed in August. 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

This year for VBS, the children learned Psalm 23. The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. The first day the kids did an obstacle course blind folded as their shepherd helped them through it. We had five children attend. Sunday School will start on Rally Day, September 13th. Enjoy the rest of your summer.



Mission

A collection for school supplies will be held during the month of August. This is being done in conjunction with LOVE INC. A listing for the supplies needed in the narthex. These supplies will be used in schools in the Springville area to help families not able to provide essential items.

FELLOWSHIP

Men's Group – In June the Men's Group installed AC units in church offices and parsonage. Talked about painting ceiling grids and tiles. June 29th – Church and parsonage gutters were cleaned.

The Men's Group meets the first Saturday of each month at 9:00 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. If you have any questions, feel free to speak to Bruce Lounsbury on a Sunday morning or call him at 716-662-7357.

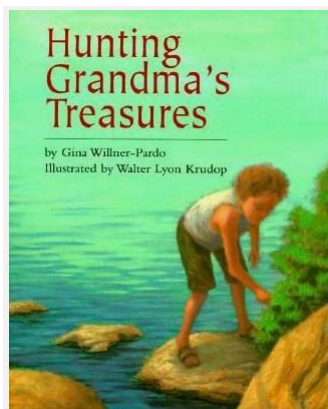
Women's Support – The Women's Group will not be meeting in August or September. We are planning our Pork BBQ scheduled for Saturday, September 26th.



New! New! New!

It has been many years since the anniversary, birthday, and those in the military lists have been updated. That is why, starting in September, new lists will be compiled. NO names will be carried over from the old lists. If you want a name to be added to any of these lists, see Gail Berger or Angella.

Library - Summer, time for a family vacation. But what happens when a member of the family is no longer with us? That is what Kevin and his family find out in *Hunting Grandma's Treasures* by Gina Willner-Pardo.



Grandma always went with Kevin, his family, and his uncle, aunt, and cousins to the lake for vacation. Now Grandma has died. Nothing is the same as it was, and never will be again. But Grandma had a plan, and Kevin soon learns that it is alright that things aren't the same as they were. Grandma will always be in his heart.

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

Ice cream social – Our Ice cream social was enjoyed by many.

Photo releases

Occasionally, pictures taken at Faith Church are used in the newspaper, and on Facebook. Faith Church assumes that this is acceptable to adults 18 or older if you have not notified the church office not to use your picture. Parents of children 17 or younger are given a photo release that is to be signed at the start of the Sunday School year. If you do not want you or your children's photo used, be sure to contact the church office.



NEWS

Saturday, August 1st – **Men's Group** meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, August 2nd – **School supply drive begins.**

Sunday, August 9th – **Christian Education /Sunday school teachers meeting** following worship.

Sunday, August 18th – **Board Meeting** 7:00 p.m.

Friday, August 28th – Community **Campfire** 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Bring a chair and join us for a campfire and s'mores.



NEWS

Saturday, September 12th – **Men's Group Men's Group** meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, September 13th – **Rally Back Day, and Potluck Luncheon.**

Sunday, September 22nd – **Board Meeting** 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 26th – **Pork BBQ.**

Update from the Profile/Search Committee

The Profile/Search Committee has selected two supply pastors who will alternate weeks beginning Sunday, August 2nd. Rev. Zoe Milliman will serve during the first two weeks, followed by Pastor Tina Bacon for the following two weeks. This arrangement will continue “until the snow flies.”

The Profile/Search Committee continues its search for a full-time pastor and will provide updates as new information becomes available.

Regards,

Kevin Biddle
Linda Bishop
Corky Forney

Pricilla Granville
Zach Munger

Sandy Jordan
Ginny Taber

BOARD MEETING Recap

July 21, 2026

Consent Agenda

The Meeting was opened by board President Cathy Kobel at 6:59pm

Tim led us in an opening prayer.

Motion to approve the minutes as amended (Community Campfire August 28th) was made by Corky, second by Mary Beth.

All in favor - Minutes approved.

Discussion Agenda

Reports:

Financial Secretary's Report – given by Corky – income for June was \$7,431.25

Year to Date income \$68,859.09.

Corky announced he would be on vacation July 25 – August 1st.

Karen Winter and carol Ottaway will fill in for him while he is away.

Treasurer's Report – given by Mary Beth – expenses for June were \$5,841.78

All reports approved.

Old Business:

- **Craft Show** – Friday, October 16 – 6:00 – 9:00
Saturday, October 17 – 9am – 3pm

Linda Smerka & Linda Bishop chair people

- Matt Szlachetka will set up tables the Sunday before the craft show.
- Vendors can arrive for set up at 3:00 on Friday.
- Letters to vendors will go out to vendors in the next couple of weeks.
- Linda will provide pizza for vendors on Friday evening and soup for lunch on Saturday.
- Angella will get Health Department permit to sell hot dogs on Saturday.
- There will be a Bake sale table. Bake goods will be donated by members.
- There will be a Children's Craft table where children can sell their creations.

- **Church Refreshening Committee**

- Gail has used scratch cover on the pews and in the elevator.
- The board has been made aware a donor has come forward that may be interested in financing some additional updates in addition to replacing the sanctuary lighting. In consideration, we would like to obtain estimates for the Sanctuary carpet replacement and paint. We are also considering painting the Fellowship Hall and kitchen.
- Bob Bishop, Ken, Linda and Ginny met with a designer about décor for the sanctuary.
- Perimeters were to keep the carpet on the chancel, Brass candle holders, drapery rods & draperies.
- Getting estimates for the Sanctuary: main aisle carpeting, paint (including heat registers) possibly flooring; possibly paint for Fellowship Hall & kitchen.
- The Designer chose 4 options for the Sanctuary lighting – provided information for each option with pricing. She also suggested getting extra sets of bulbs for fixtures since there are so many different kinds. She also checked on availability as many vendors are not keeping much inventory. Chain or rods might be needed to mount the lights. Lights are to face down, not up.
- The designer also gave 3 options for the Sanctuary paint, including a darker shade for the alter area as an accent. Heat registers to be the same color as the walls. She can get a discount on paint – Sherwin Williams. Need to check price against the painter's price.
- We were also given with paint colors for Fellowship Hall. The understanding is that the drapes will be changed.
- Bob has met with Mario from Decorator Flooring in Hamburg. Mario will get back to Bob with a breakdown on costs- Sanctuary: main aisle, chancel, flooring.
- Bob will put all the estimates together before next month's board meeting.

- **Fall fundraiser Pulled Pork Dinner – September 26**

- Karen Winter is getting the menu in place with Weidners.
- Kein Biddle is getting the tickets printed.

- **Search Committee update**

- The committee will be meeting after church on August 2nd to work on the church's profile. We have set a 90-minute time limit for this session. Kevin will bring hard copies of the profile that Derek had filled out using AI. The profile is quite lengthy.
- Tim has secured supply ministers "until the snow flies". They are Rev. Zoe Milliman and Rev. Tina Bacon. They will alternate every two weeks. They are ok with the music being selected by the church.
- Rev Zoe and Rev Tina will be meeting with Angella to facilitate the worship services.
- It has been suggested that there be a meeting of the Music Committee to be choosing music for worship. Current music committee members are Karen Winter, Mary Beth Dauer and Robin Miller.

- **Music purchase**

- Rev Lynn Morgan made a generous purchase on behalf of Faith Church so music can be used for services.

New Business:

- **Update the birthday, anniversary and active military lists**
 - Lists will be wiped clean and names will be added as requested. Contact Angella or Gail Berger to get dates on the new lists.
- **Updated Membership List**
 - The membership list has been reviewed. We currently are at Approx. 100 members
- **Sexton's vacation** – Chris will be taking an unpaid vacation from 7/31 – 8/16.
- **Procedures to use church debit card**
 - Once a purchase is made, contact Mary Beth to let her know of the purchase.
 - A copy of the receipt needs to be given to Mary Beth.
 - If you need to purchase something for the church, contact Mary Beth as you may be able to use the church's debit card.
- **Trustee's budget meeting**
 - Trustees need to meet to create a budget for 2027.
 - The budget needs to be approved at the September meeting.
- **Trustees Updates**
 - Ken has started painting the drop ceiling grids. Kevin Biddle has generously donated new ceiling tiles for the upstairs hallway and any other ceiling tiles that are damaged. Any that are not damaged will be saved for future repairs **Thanks Kevin!!**
 - The elevator will be inspected on 7/31/2026 between 8:30 & 9:00m at a cost not to exceed \$1,060.
 - The boiler will also be getting inspected. Ken to set an appointment for this.
- **Parish Pastoral Relations Committee**
 - Since Pastor Ted has retired, we need to release the committee. A motion was made by Gail, seconded by Mary Beth, to release the following members of PPRC: Tim Plewik, Lois Thurnherr, Corky Forney, Michelle Rappl and Kim Williams
All in Favor, motion passed.
- **Rally Day** – will be Sunday, September 13.
 - There will be a potluck luncheon after worship.
- **October 4 – World Communion Sunday**
 - **Coffee Hour** – emphasis on church committees, what they do and who are on the committees.
- **Congregation feedback**
 - Discussion was held regarding the survey that the UCC Association had us circulate to the Faith UCC congregation. This is a step in the process of looking for a new minister. Many were very unhappy with it. About 28 surveys were returned. There was space for comments on the survey.

A motion was made by Mary Beth, seconded by Ken to adjourn the meeting.

All in favor, motion passed at 8:22pm

Tim ended the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ginny Taber, Faith UCC Board Secretary

June 2026 TREASURER'S MONTHLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY						
Operating Fund	Start Balance	Receipts	Interest	Total Income	Expenses	End Balance
Current Account	17,514.78	7,409.25		24,924.03	5,719.56	19,204.47
Benevolent Account	1,014.44	22.00		1,036.44		1,036.44
Operating Fund Total	18,529.22	7,431.25	0.00	25,960.47	5,719.56	20,240.91
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	45,590.59	0.00		45,590.59		45,590.59
Memorial Fund	7,179.79	0.00		7,179.79	122.22	7,057.57
Other Funds Total	54,465.09	0.00		54,465.09	122.22	54,342.87
Total of All Funds	72,994.31	7,431.25	0.00	80,425.56	5,841.78	74,583.78
Asset Accounts - Evans Bank - Checking, Savings, CDs	72,994.31	7,431.25	0.00	80,425.56	5,841.78	74,583.78
Weekly Income	6/7/2026	6/14/2026	6/21/2026	6/28/2026		Total
Current Account	851.00	3,190.25	2,043.00	1,325.00		7,409.25
Benevolent Account	10.00	12.00				22.00
Operating Fund Total	861.00	3,202.25	2,043.00	1,325.00	0.00	7,431.25
2027 Prepaid Pledges						0.00
PayPal 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	861.00	3,202.25	2,043.00	1,325.00	0.00	7,431.25

2026 weekly income to date 68,859.09
2025 weekly income to date 68,421.11
2024 weekly income to date 78,196.62 includes \$15k roof

ITEMIZED BUDGET AND EXPENSE REPORT										
2026										
	BUDGET	EXPENSES	EXPENSES	EXPENSES	EXPENSES	EXPENSES	EXPENSES	EXPENSES	% Spent	Remaining
	AMOUNT	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	to Date	Budget Amount
CURRENT ACCOUNT										
1. Pastor's Salary	39,600.00	6,600.00	6,600.00	6,600.00	6,600.00		2,000.00		72%	11,200.00
2. Pastor's Medical	2,000.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00			125%	(500.00)
3. Pastor's Travel	400.00	208.60					340.03		137%	(148.63)
4. Pastor's Professional Expenses and Continuing Education	500.00		125.00						25%	375.00
5. Pastor's Pension 14% of salary	3,000.00	631.17	631.17	631.17	631.17				84%	475.32
6. Pastor's Disability 1.5% of salary	150.00	67.63	67.63	67.63	67.63				180%	(120.52)
7. Parsonage Utilities - Electric, Gas, Water	2,700.00	365.37	411.11	336.26	794.99	237.11	77.65		82%	477.51
8. Supply Pastor	1,500.00		150.00						10%	1,350.00
9. Organist and Choir Director	9,600.00	800.00	800.00	800.00	800.00	800.00	800.00		50%	4,800.00
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		51%	7,324.93
11. Church Sexton (\$300 per month)	3,600.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00		50%	1,800.00
12. Social Security and Medicare	2,600.00	736.70			1,074.68				70%	788.62
13. Workers' Compensation and Disability Insurance	2,000.00			72.64					4%	1,927.36
14. Church & Office Supplies	2,000.00	580.35	39.38	238.85	299.88	282.27	152.50		80%	406.77
15. Church School Supplies and Program	500.00								0%	500.00
16. Music Supplies	200.00	-				25.00			13%	175.00
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		74%	2,341.57
20. Insurance (Fire, Theft, Liability)	13,500.00	3,333.00		3,334.00					49%	6,833.00
21. Taxes - County and Town	2,500.00			2,778.58					111%	(278.58)
22. Maintenance and Repair	2,250.00				1,159.00	152.95			58%	938.05
23. Grounds Maintenance - Snowplowing and Yard Work	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 Elementary	400.00								0%	400.00
31. Plymouth Crossroads	750.00								0%	750.00
TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET	122,500	16,701.48	13,073.18	18,339.82	13,808.05	4,083.36	5,928.71	0.00	142%	50,565
										71,934.60

AUGUST GREETERS 2026

Date	Elevator Entrance	Main Entrance
August 2	Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop	Lois Thurnherr/Linda Bishop
August 9	Ginny Taber Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop, Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury	Bert Gustafson
August 16	Sandy Jordan Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop, Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury	Michele Rappl
August 23	Mary Beth Dauer Herb Berlin, Bobby Bishop, Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury	Linda Bishop
August 30	Karen Winter Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop, Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury	Donna Lisowski

SEPTEMBER GREETERS 2026

Date	Elevator Entrance	Main Entrance
September 6	Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop	Linda Smerka
September 13	Pat Minnick Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop, Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury	Michele Rappl
September 20	Sharon & Corky Forney Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop, Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury	Lorey Delia
September 27	Pat Minnick Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop, Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury	Karen Winter

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.

August Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday To:

2 – Tim Plewik
Matt Bratek
3 – Benjamin Forney
4 – Paul Pfitzinger
5 – Branden Whited
6 – Leslie Brelsford
Landon Muraco
8 – Dave Potempa
10 – Sam Rishel
12 – Chris LaVenture
Mark Williams Jr.
Jack Ryan

14 – Emersyn Rae Powley
16 – Amanda Bratek
17 – Kirsten Biddle
Mark Williams Sr.
19 – Helen Zittel
Ann Schunk
20 – Linda Bishop
21 – Adriana Lounsbury
24 – Corky Forney
26 – Pat McCall
27 – Leroy Rockwood
29 – Autumn Abramo

Happy Anniversary To:

8 – Jeff & Tracy Thauer
22 – Mark & Toni Krieb
25 – Matt & Marianne Darnley
Stan & Ginny Taber Werner
26 – Carl & Gail Berger

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday To:

5 – Melissa Evans
7 – Ron Bieger
Brett Hall
8 – Brennan Grove
9 – Alyssa Pantzer
10 – Ruby Szlachetka
11 – Joe Palczak
12 – Emily Mueller
Emily Thurnherr
Abby Rockwood
13 – Hannah Williams
20 – Ashley Smith

21 – David Karb
Jordan Joel Jacobsen
22 – Ruth Foley
23 – Dean Roman
Leann Guzzetto
Jay Karb III
26 – Nathan Roy
28 – Lydia Herren
Sally Schutt
Phyllis Polter
29 – Kim Rishel
Mona Wales
30 – Kelly Logel

Happy Anniversary To:

3 – Stacy & Ryan Lehman
11 – Jeff & Deb Mueller
14 – Mike & Katie Arnold
18 – Nick & Pam Roman
23 – Mike & Peg Cook
24 – Pat & Priscilla Granville
30 – Ken & Carol Ottaway

