



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

Newsletter for June/July 2026

Pastor's Ponderings

I'm not very good at parting words. I've given seven years of sermons here at Faith Church, written seven years of newsletter "ponderings," and had many interactions with many of you along the way. I don't think the deep experiences of our lives or the deep meanings of our relationships can be summed up in a few words, or even in a great many words. We just feel the meaningfulness in our bones, and in our souls. I feel I've done what I was called to do here at Faith, and you have supported me and worked faithfully with me through it all. God brought us together for this good season and we have done our best to be the living Body of Christ here in this place at this time. Thank you. Thank God.



As you know, following my retirement on May 31, Leslie and I will be renting the parsonage through October. We will be back and forth to Georgia a number of times in the coming months and orchestrating a somewhat complex move out of the parsonage and into an apartment in my daughter's home north of Atlanta and an apartment yet to be determined here in WNY. Although I must clearly step out of my role as your pastor, we will be smiling neighbors this summer and hope to remain in touch as friends in years to come.

I am delighted and very comforted that Rev. Lynn Morgan will be stepping in as a part-time "Bridge" pastor beginning in June, leading worship on Sundays and providing essential pastoral care when needed. Many of you already know Lynn since he and Sandy have been worshiping with us here at Faith for nearly three years now. You can read more about Pastor Lynn and his new role at Faith in his message below.

Blessings and peace to all,

Ted



Ad Interim



“*Ad interim*” is a Latin phrase that means, “for the time being.” ‘Interim’ is often used to describe a position. A company or an organization hires someone for a short period of time, usually until they can find a candidate they want to fill the position for the long haul.

Beginning on the first of June, I will be filling in at Faith – preaching and providing essential pastoral care. I’m not planning to be your interim minister (the person who would stay with you throughout the whole time between Pastor Ted’s retirement and the eventual date in which you call a new pastor). Nope, I will be working with you for an even shorter period of time – for the time being between Ted’s retirement and the arrival of another person who will hang out with you until your pastoral search is over.

I’m writing this newsletter article for a couple reasons. The first of which is just to reassure you that your church board and search committee have provided someone to lead worship, to preach, and to be present in times of need and celebration. I also wanted to introduce myself, so you know who is going to be in the pulpit and at the hospital bedside for the next little while. I am a new(ish) member of Faith UCC. My wife Sandy and I joined Faith in the fall of 2023 after I retired from serving St. Matthew’s UCC in Hamburg. We live in Hamburg with our 21-pound cat, Oliver. We have six grandchildren, all of whom live in the area, which makes Western New York winters seem almost bearable. Apart from occasionally preaching or writing something for my blog (slippershod.com), I am a full-time retiree, dividing my days between (very slow) running, bike riding, reading and domestic chores. Sandy has not yet mastered retirement. She still works part-time at Lockwood’s Greenhouse, leaving me without adult supervision several days a week. While I am your very temporary pastor, please reach out to me as needed, either through the church office, or by calling or texting me directly on my cell phone 716-866-3085, or by dropping me a note via email at lynn@slippershod.com.

As we enter into this time of transition between the departure of Ted and Leslie and the arrival of our next pastor, we are reminded that all of us are always doing our work and living our lives *ad interim*. Whether we’re raising our families or pursuing an education or following a career path or experiencing illness or grief, all of it is for the time being. The best stuff and the most painful moments are all temporary and so are we. Temporary doesn’t mean worthless. In fact, the limited supply of time serves to reveal its great worth.

Just because things are only for the time being doesn’t mean they can’t be filled with meaning and purpose. *Ad interim* is not wasted time; ‘the time being’ is all the time we have. When Jesus refers to eternal life, he doesn’t describe it as life that goes on forever. Instead, he says, “And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.” (John 17:3)

I will be with you only for the time being, but while we are together, I hope we are able to help one another know the love of God who invests ‘the time being’ with infinite worth.

Rev. Lynn R. Morgan
3947 N. Hampton Brook Dr.
Hamburg, NY 14075
716-866-3085 - lynn@slippershod.com

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.
- Eleanor Kraft was moved upstairs to room 210 recently for a higher level of care, still in the same facility at Elderwood Assisted Living. Her address is: Elderwood Assisted Living, 76 Buffalo Street Apartment 210, Hamburg, NY 14075.
- 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, Eleanor Kraft, Carol Mueller, Claudia Renzi, Leroy Rockwood, Chuck & Sheila Recktenwalt, Friends & Family of Sharon Rott, 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.

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.

Update on Sunday school activities... - Cris Palczak, Sunday School Superintendent
Sunday school is ending on May 31st. I really appreciate our teachers. Thank you! We had two classes. The younger class was taught by Zenia Munger, and the older class was taught by Katherine Meckes. If you are interested in helping, even if it's only one Sunday, please contact me. Sunday school will start again in September. We have two Sundays for VBS. June 7th and 14th. We plan on being outside. VBS is from 10 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Ted's Retirement

Many thanks to everyone that helped to make Ted's retirement party a success. Whether it was submitting a greeting for the memory book, donating food, or working in the kitchen, everyone working together helped to make this event possible!



FELLOWSHIP

Men's Group – 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.

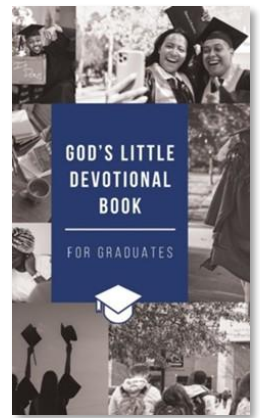
Women's Support – This year's Women's Support Group picnic and planning meeting will be held at the home of Barb and Kevin Biddle in Orchard Park.

Date & Time: Wednesday, June 10, beginning at 4:00 p.m.

The gathering will be hosted by Barb Biddle and Michele Rappl. Please contact either of them for additional details or if you would like to join us. All women are welcome.

Library - June, the traditional month of graduations. *God's Little Devotional for Graduates*, by Honor Books, is full of inspirational sayings and advice for graduates as they move on to other things. Remember "Life is a coin. You can spend it any way you wish, but you can only spend it once."

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



Publicity: Pictures taken at church events are often used for publicity, especially on the church's website. If you do not want you or your child's picture used, please contact the church office. It will be assumed that it is okay to use your picture if we do not hear from you.



NEWS

Saturday, June 6th – **Men's Group** meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, June 7th – **Vacation Bible School**, 10:00 – 11:15 a.m.

Wednesday, June 10th – **Women's Group** picnic and planning meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. at the home of Barb and Kevin Biddle in Orchard Park.

Sunday, June 14th – **Vacation Bible School**, 10:00 – 11:15 a.m.

Profile Committee will be holding an informational meeting after service with the congregation.

Tuesday, June 16th – **Board Meeting** 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 18th – **Music Recital**, students of Marcia Herren at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 21st – **Father's Day & Graduation Sunday**.

Sunday, June 28th – **School supply collection** begins – August.



Saturday, July 4th – **Men’s Group** meeting at 9:00 a.m. Boston Town Fireworks at dark.

Sunday, July 12th – **Hospitality & Welcome** meeting after worship.

Tuesday, July 14th – **Board Meeting** 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 19th – **Endowment Committee** meeting after worship.

Wednesday, July 29th – **Ice Cream Social** 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Bring a chair and join us outside.

Update from the Profile/Search Committee

The Profile Committee has recommended Rev. Lynn Morgan as our bridge pastor. The board then approved a contract with Rev. Morgan for 8 weeks starting June 1st.

We are excited to have found our bridge pastor and are now working on finalizing our church profile as well as a job description for the next interim pastor.

The profile committee will be holding an informational meeting after service on June 14th with the congregation. The meeting will take place in the gathering room and depending on how many join we will break off into multiple groups.

We hope to see you there.

Regards,

Kevin Biddle
Linda Bishop
Corky Forney

Pricilla Granville
Zach Munger

Sandy Jordan
Ginny Taber



Summer hours will remain at 10:15 a.m.
throughout June and July,
we will not be changing the times this year.



BOARD MEETING Recap

May 19, 2026

The meeting was opened at 7:01pm by church board president Cathy Kobel. Ted led us in prayer to start the meeting.

Reports:

- Financial Secretary's Report given by Corky: April income: \$10,372.03 that includes the \$3279 from the chicken barbeque.
- 2026 income Year To Date \$50,506.92
- Treasurer's Report given by Cathy: April expenses: \$15,532.38 from the current fund.
- \$959 deposit for 2 windows from the long-term fund
- \$200 for piano maintenance.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept all reports.

Old Business:

- **Church Refreshing Committee** – Sanctuary lighting
 - Bob Bishop brought quotes for lighting in the sanctuary as well as carpeting, & painting. Cathy will scan quotes and email to board members for review. We will discuss at next month's meeting.
- **Search Committee update** –
 - Temporary contract for Rev. Lynn Morgan to be our Bridge Pastor beginning June 1st for 8 weeks has been written. He will provide Sunday's service as well as essential pastoral care. Salary will be \$500/ week for 20 – 25 hours of work. Motion made, seconded and passed to extend the contract.
 - Congregation Welcoming Diversity Inventory surveys need to be filled out by May 24th.
- **Pastor's retirement party**
 - Gail has sign-up sheets for kitchen help and providing sandwiches on the bulletin board.
 - Gail has also cleaned the kitchen, the downstairs hallway and the upstairs kitchenette. She removed 3 bags of trash.
- **Piano repairs**
 - No new information.

New Business:

- **Review Ted's tasks for ongoing coverage**
 - A sheet of Ted's tasks has been made up and who will take over those tasks when Ted is gone.
- **Volunteers** are needed to help with streaming and slides during service
 - Cathy will be making announcements to get more helpers.
- **Use Of Fellowship Hall Policy**
 - discussion about a minor discrepancy on the fee chart – eliminate the sexton fee – Policy page needs updating Cathy made a motion to remove the sexton fees from the chart, seconded by Linda. All in favor – motion approved.
- **Memorial Day parade**

- Invitation team will be present to hand out water.
- **Community Activities**
 - Katherine brought up the idea of having a community campfire. Permits needed as well as liability issues were discussed. Katherine will check into what would be needed and discuss more next month. She would like to have an event in August.
- **Fall fundraisers**
 - **Pork Dinner** – Linda & Bob Bishop with Karen Winter will chair the event on Saturday, September 26. Ginny made a motion to hold the pork dinner on September 26, seconded by Gail – All in favor – motion passed
 - **Craft Show** – Linda Bishop and Linda Smerka will chair the event. Will be held in the middle of October. Also having the hot dog sale during the craft show. Friday night and Saturday dates.
- **UCC calendars need to be ordered**
 - If you want to order one - let Angella know \$18.
- **Offering Envelopes**
 - Offering envelopes for 2027 need to be ordered, 50 boxes needed. Motion made, seconded and passed to keep the benevolent line printed on the envelopes.
- **Congregation feedback**
 - Comment on senior recognition - list needs to be updated
 - Hymn board - why not have hymn numbers posted?

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.



| April 2026 | | TREASURER'S MONTHLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY | | | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|-------------|--|
| Operating Fund | Start Balance | Receipts | Interest | Total Income | Expenses | End Balance | |
| Current Account | 19,346.42 | 8,892.03 | | 28,238.45 | 15,532.38 | 12,706.07 | |
| Benevolent Account | 566.44 | 380.00 | | 946.44 | | 946.44 | |
| Operating Fund Total | 19,912.86 | 9,272.03 | 0.00 | 29,184.89 | 15,532.38 | 13,652.51 | |
| 2027 Prepaid Pledges | | | | | | 0.00 | |
| Other Funds (not included in Operating Fund or Budget) | | | | | | | |
| WACIC Grant (Griefshare, Grace for the Journey) \$2643 | 1,489.71 | 0.00 | | 1,489.71 | | 1,489.71 | |
| Special Benevolent | 160.00 | 0.00 | | 160.00 | | 160.00 | |
| Major Repairs Long Term Fund | 43,549.59 | 1,000.00 | | 44,549.59 | 959.00 | 43,590.59 | |
| Memorial Fund | 7,279.79 | 100.00 | | 7,379.79 | 200.00 | 7,179.79 | |
| Other Funds Total | 52,479.09 | 1,100.00 | | 53,579.09 | 1,159.00 | 52,420.09 | |
| Total of All Funds | 72,391.95 | 10,372.03 | 0.00 | 82,763.98 | 16,691.38 | 66,072.60 | |
| Asset Accounts - Evans Bank - Checking, Savings, CDs | 72,391.95 | 10,372.03 | 0.00 | 82,763.98 | 16,691.38 | 66,072.60 | |
| Weekly Income | | | | | | | |
| | 4/5/2026 | 4/12/2026 | 4/19/2026 | 4/26/2026 | | Total | |
| Current Account | 1,604.00 | 2,583.76 | 3,744.00 | 966.00 | | 8,897.76 | |
| Benevolent Account | 292.00 | 70.00 | 3.00 | 15.00 | | 380.00 | |
| Operating Fund Total | 1,896.00 | 2,653.76 | 3,747.00 | 981.00 | 0.00 | 9,277.76 | |
| 2027 Prepaid Pledges | | | | | | 0.00 | |
| PayPal fees | | | (5.73) | | | (5.73) | |
| WACIC Grant (Griefshare, Grace for the Journey) \$2643 | | | | | | 0.00 | |
| Special Benevolent | | | | | | 0.00 | |
| Major Repairs Long Term Fund | | | | 1,000.00 | | 1,000.00 | |
| Memorial Fund | 100.00 | | | | | 100.00 | |
| Total Weekly Income | 1,996.00 | 2,653.76 | 3,741.27 | 1,981.00 | 0.00 | 10,372.03 | |
| 2026 weekly income to date | | | 50,506.92 | | | | |
| 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 | % Spent to Date | Remaining Budget | Totals | | |
| CURRENT ACCOUNT | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Pastor's Salary | 39,600.00 | 6,600.00 | 6,600.00 | 6,600.00 | 6,600.00 | | | | 67% | 13,200.00 | 26,400.00 | | |
| 2. Pastor's Medical | 2,000.00 | 500.00 | 500.00 | 500.00 | 500.00 | | | | 100% | - | 2,000.00 | | |
| 3. Pastor's Travel | 400.00 | 208.60 | | | | | | | 52% | 191.40 | 208.60 | | |
| 4. Pastor's Professional Expenses and Continuing Education | 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 | | | | 71% | 792.27 | 1,907.73 | | |
| 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 | 1,000.00 | | | | 35% | 6,200.00 | 3,400.00 | | |
| 10. Church Office Secretary (18.00/hr.) | 15,000.00 | 1,026.00 | 1,140.00 | 1,558.00 | 1,159.00 | | | | 33% | 10,117.00 | 4,883.00 | | |
| 11. Church Sexton (\$300 per month) | 3,600.00 | 300.00 | 300.00 | 300.00 | 300.00 | | | | 33% | 2,400.00 | 1,200.00 | | |
| 12. Social Security and Medicare | 2,600.00 | 736.70 | | | 1,074.68 | | | | 70% | 788.62 | 1,811.38 | | |
| 13. Workers' Compensation and Disability Insurance | 2,000.00 | | | 72.64 | | | | | 4% | 1,927.36 | 72.64 | | |
| 14. Church & Office Supplies | 2,000.00 | 580.35 | 39.38 | 238.85 | 299.88 | | | | 58% | 841.54 | 1,158.46 | | |
| 15. Church School Supplies and Program | 500.00 | | | | | | | | 0% | 500.00 | - | | |
| 16. Music Supplies | 200.00 | - | | | | | | | 0% | 200.00 | - | | |
| 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 | | | | 60% | 3,594.06 | 5,405.94 | | |
| 20. Insurance (Fire, Theft, Liability) | 13,500.00 | 3,333.00 | | 3,334.00 | | | | | 49% | 6,833.00 | 6,667.00 | | |
| 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 | | | | 52% | 1,091.00 | 1,159.00 | | |
| 23. Grounds Maintenance - Snowplowing and Yard Care | 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 | 14,008.05 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 103% | 60,377 | 62,122.53 | | |

JUNE GREETERS 2026

| Date | Elevator Entrance | Main Entrance |
|-------------|--|----------------------|
| June 7 | Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop | Helen Zittel |
| June 14 | Pat Minnick Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop, Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury | Lois Thurnherr |
| June 21 | Ginny Taber Linda & Bobby Bishop, Herb Berlin, Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury | Donna Lisowski |
| June 28 | Sandy Jordan Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop, Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury | Linda Bishop |

JULY GREETERS 2026

| | | |
|---------|---|---------------------|
| July 5 | Kathy and Bruce Lounsbury Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop | Lois Thurnherr |
| July 12 | Katherine Meckes/Linda Bishop Herb Berlin, Bobby Bishop, Bruce Lounsbury | Kathy Lounsbury |
| July 19 | Sharon & Corky Forney Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop, Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury | Karen Winter |
| July 26 | Michele Rapp Herb Berlin, Linda & Bobby Bishop, Kathy & Bruce Lounsbury | Priscilla Granville |

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.

***Thank you to Bob Bishop and the Men's Group
for keeping our grounds at
the Church and Cemetery
looking fantastic.***



June Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday To:

1 – Alex Recktenwalt
2 – Lori Rishel
3 – Bill Whited VI
Megan Mueller
8 – Herb Berlin
Elijah Bao Xidi
10 – Matt Williams
Zach Cornwall
12 – Vicki Bieger
Paula Gustafson
Cathy Kobel
15 – Ginny Taber
16 – Mark Kreib
Chuck Recktenwalt

17 – Shelly Frazier
18 – Rev. Gary Burdick
19 – Stephanie Kidder-Cook
Ryan Bratek
Evan Phillips
22 – Matilda Williams
23 – Allison Mueller
24 – Carol Ottaway
Eleanor Kraft
26 – Valarie LaVenture
29 – Camden Roy
30 – Sue Cook

Happy Anniversary To:

3 – Brian & Kelly Logel
7 – Larry & Narda Cornwall
8 – Fred & Sharon Roy
24 – Bill & Becky Whited
25 – Glenn & Pat Richardson
27 – Joe & Heidi Urban

July Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday To:

2 – Amy Grove
4 – Darlene Plewik
10 – Adriel Meyer
12 – Emily Mueller
14 – Arlon Palzcak
15 – Sharon Forney
16 – Bob Bishop
Leanne Lounsbury
17 – Dan Recktenwalt
18 – Cindy Barrett
Owen Lounsbury
Lois Thurnherr
20 – Fred Roy Sr.
Max LaVenture

21 – Corey Pauley
Sydney Stisser
22 – Bonnie Cichuniec
Paul Kazmarski
23 – Jacob Roy
24 – Carl Berger
26 – Jessica Giordano
Pat Welch
27 – Narda Cornwall
Gabriel B
28 – Sara Bugenhagen
29 – Diane Skinner
30 – Hudson Lawrence Evers
31 – Janet Taber

Happy Anniversary To:

15 – Joe & Jenna Karb
16 – Gail & Gary Burdick
17 – Leslie & Pastor Ted Brelsford
Carolyn & Steve Dearth
21 – Barb & Kevin Biddle

Congratulations! ✨

