

Good News

**The Monthly Newsletter of the People of
HAMILTON UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
GUILDERLAND, NEW YORK**

April 2025

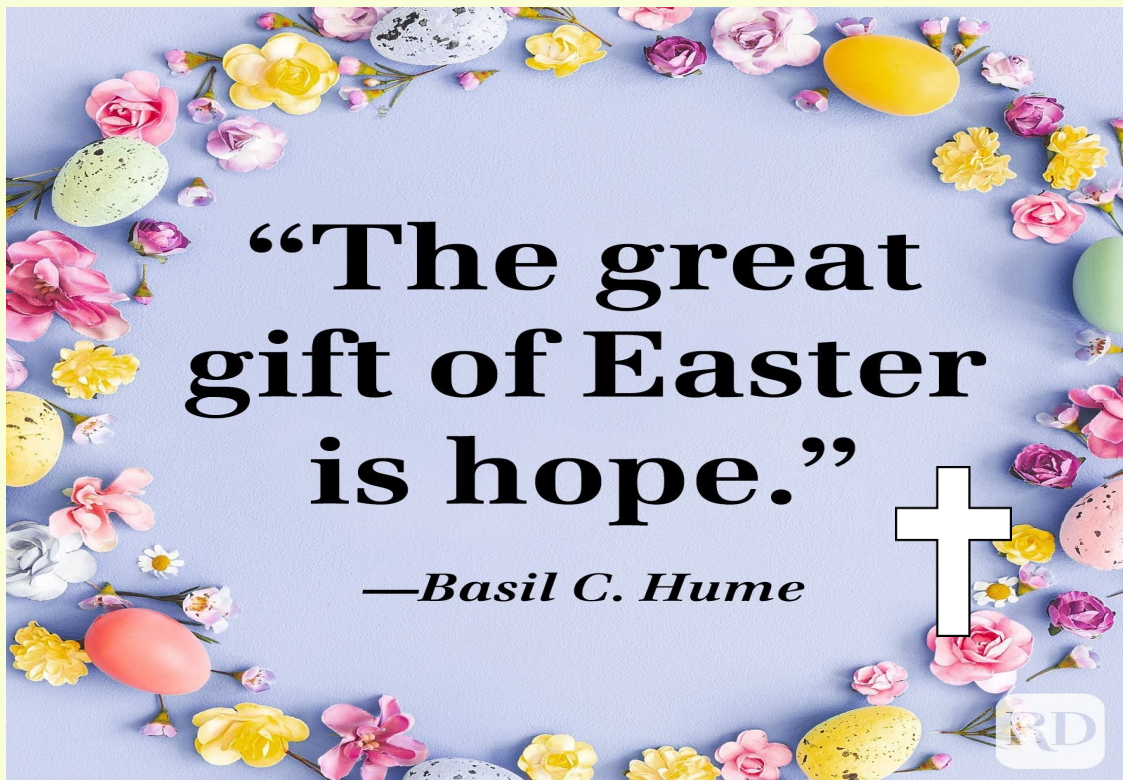
Volume
39 No 15

Special Services this Lent:

April 17: *Maundy Thursday* at 7pm

April 20th: *Easter Sunrise* 8am

***Easter Celebration Service* 10am**



“Fear is one of the persistent hounds of hell that dog the footsteps of the poor, the dispossessed, the disinherited. There is nothing new or recent about fear.”

~Howard Thurman, *Jesus and the Disinherited*

Friends,

A couple of days before sitting down to write this letter, I was gathered with a group of clergy from the Presbytery of Albany to discuss how we respond, as pastors and Christians, in this particular moment in our nation. While speaking with these friends, I reflected that one of the most common threads in pastoral conversations I have had over the past few months is in giving comfort for many of you who are grieving, feeling lost, and feeling afraid. My common refrain (which I also hold as gospel truth) is simply this: “you are not alone.”

At the same time, the onslaught of stories about immigrants and refugees being detained and deported by the current administration is chilling. One such story broke in the past couple of days about a young woman named Rumeysa Ozturk, a Turkish national and PhD student at Tufts University was abducted by federal agents while on her way to meet friends to break their Ramadan fast. This abduction was captured on film.

Fear is everywhere.

The human response to threatening situations causes one of three reactions: fight, flight, or freeze. The constant deluge of “breaking” news feels like a fire hose. That is intentional. Those in power are counting on this to cause any resistance to freeze and withdraw. I confess that I have had more days in the past six months where I have been tempted to hibernate away.

But the call of Jesus is too strong, and the cause of righteousness too powerful.

As a mostly white, middle class community, we may not directly feel the impacts of this fear the way immigrant and refugee communities do...the way the LGBTQIA+ community does... the way black and indigenous folk do... the way the poor and marginalized of all stripes do...

But the call of Jesus reminds us that if we truly believe what we profess to believe on Sunday morning, then we need to be standing alongside (and sometimes in front of) our siblings who do not look, think, act, or believe like us every other day of the week.

On Saturday, April 5th, there is a rally taking place in state capitals across the country, including here in Albany. I will be attending, and I hope you might consider joining me (more information can be found later in the newsletter). It is hard for me sometimes to get up the courage to Attend things like this. But I refuse to be afraid anymore. And, as I said to my colleagues the other day, and as I have said to many of you in one-on-one conversations recently: the only way we get through this is together. Arm in arm, hand in hand, eyes open, and hearts broken for the world that Jesus is still redeeming.

In solidarity,

~Pastor Kyle

Invitation to join HUPC PW to assemble Easter Baskets

HUPC Presbyterian Women are extending an invitation to members and friends to assist in assembling Easter Baskets for both local City Missions. We will meet here at church in the All Purpose room on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 10:00 AM. All baskets and supplies will be provided on site. Come join us for fun and coffee!!

Call/Text Darlene Bauer with any questions at (518) 669-2776.

Hope to see you.

HUPC PW



Presbyterian Women's (PW) News - All Women are Welcome. Circle Meeting - Tues, Apr 22 - 10:30 am to 12.30 pm in the Lounge

We will be discussing Lesson 8, Lydia Encounters Jesus in Worship from the Bible Study Sacred Encounters, The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts. Bring a bag lunch. Beverage and dessert will be provided. The bible study is discussed during the first hour of our meeting, should you be interested in the Bible Study only. There a Zoom option. Extra Study books are available.

All women are invited to participate in any Presbyterian Women's activity at any time. There is no need to make a commitment to join the organization. For questions contact Charlotte Hasselbarth at 518-356-0637 or chasselbarth@hotmail.com.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83779752859?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83779752859?pwd=dnp2V2tWSjdJWVZQNWNMVTY5QSt1UT09)

[pwd=dnp2V2tWSjdJWVZQNWNMVTY5QSt1UT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83779752859?pwd=dnp2V2tWSjdJWVZQNWNMVTY5QSt1UT09)

Meeting ID: 837 7975 2859 - Passcode: 724235

Mitten Tree Project - Late Fall 2025

Presbyterian Women will once again be collecting new (handmade or purchased) gloves, mittens, scarves, and hats to be donated to local agencies. We want to make the HUPC congregation aware of our plans to give people the opportunity to take advantage of winter clothing sales and time to start homemade items.





SAVE THE DATE

**Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Albany
Spring Gathering**

**Saturday, April 26, 2025 - 11:30 am to 2:30 pm
at**

**First Presbyterian Church of Valatie
3212 Church Street,
Valatie, NY 12184**

Nancy Pienta, Moderator of Presbyterian Women
in
First Presbyterian Church of Valatie will speak on
Environmental issues.

- Registration: rsvp to Andrea Ralph at ARalph20@hotmail.com or 516-849-3220 by April 19, if possible so the host church can make appropriate arrangements.
- Registration fee of \$10.00 will be collected at the door.
- Bring a bag lunch. Dessert and beverage are provided.
- A freewill offering will be received.

Maria Villacreses Valarezo - Peer Minister at Cornerstone Protestant Campus Ministry on the UAlbany Campus

My name is Maria Villacreses Valarezo, and I am a senior at SUNY Albany. I was born and raised in Ecuador. I joined Cornerstone in my second semester of freshman year and have been the Food and Faith Coordinator since my sophomore year. Food and Faith is one of the many peer minister positions available for student at Cornerstone. As peer ministers, we serve as leaders of Cornerstone and take part in various programs, such as Bible studies, game nights, social media engagement, and more.

My role as the Food and Faith Coordinator allows me to connect with local churches that generously provide meals for us every Tuesday. I help with setting up and cleaning up, and we, as students, share a meal together before concluding the evening with a faith-based discussion. Being part of this program has helped me grow as a leader by developing my social and public speaking skills. It has also given me the opportunity to connect with different churches, learn about their missions, and explore how we can work together to strengthen our church community .

Best,

Maria Celeste Villacreses Valarezo

Honors College at SUNY Albany'25

Human Biology major

Pronouns: she/her/hers

****Note: For many years, Hamilton Union has supported this Peer Minister program through our Mission and Social Witness budget.***

A Sneak Peek at Sermons Coming this Lent!

April 6: *Restoration*, John 11:1-45; Luke 18:31-19:10

April 13: (Palm Sunday) *Time*, Luke 19:29-44

April 17, (Maundy Thursday): *Remember*, Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14; Luke 22:1-27

April 20, (Easter Sunday): *Feast*, Luke 24:1-12

April 27: *But We Had Hoped*, Luke 24:13-35

Special Services for Lent & Easter

This Lent we have a few special services to note!

This year, we will be having a **Maundy Thursday** service on April 17 at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary. Join us as we remember together the Lord's supper and the night that leads into the holiest of days for us as Christians.

Finally, **Easter Sunday** (yup, it's late this year!) is on April 20th.

We will begin with an Easter Sunrise service at 8:00 am on the lawn outside the main sanctuary doors.

Then at 10:00 am we will join together for our Easter celebration in the sanctuary (rumor has it there will be breakfast available between services!).

All are welcome! Invite your friends and neighbors. Let's share the good news!

John U. Miller Memorial CROP Hunger Walk

SUPPORTING CWS



An Invitation to the 2025 Recruiters Rally & Awards Celebration

Sunday, March 23, 3:00-4:30 PM

At The First Church in Albany, 110 North Pearl Street, Albany 12207

To Register please visit :

[Www.capareacc.org/programs/crop-walk/](http://www.capareacc.org/programs/crop-walk/)

**For questions please call the Capital Area Council of Churches Office
(518) 462-5450**

MAKING CONNECTIONS BIBLE STUDY

The Making Connections adult bible study group will resume this fall and will meet on Monday afternoons at 1 P.M on Zoom. Come join the group for a lively and informative discussion.

When: Mondays at 1 PM (start date Sept. 9 through June)

Where: Zoom Meeting

ID: 829 5227 6592

Passcode: 609425



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82952276592?>

[pwd=U1hudkdXTGFRVm9QRHRQZ1JJeUZaQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82952276592?pwd=U1hudkdXTGFRVm9QRHRQZ1JJeUZaQT09)



**Hands Off! Albany, NY
Saturday, April 5, 11am-1pm**

Empire State Plaza, 100 S Mall Arterial (off State St between Eagle & Swan, just south of the Capital, near The Egg)

In a time of increased confusion and chaos in our government, many people have asked: what can I do?

One tangible thing we can do is come together to make our voices heard. As Christians, we are called to use our voices for the voiceless, and to march in solidarity with the marginalized and oppressed.

This Saturday has been marked as a mass mobilization day across the country, as Americans of all stripes march, rally, and protest to demand a stop to the chaos, and to begin building a movement to stand up.

This event has been organized by the group Hands Off!, which is committed to nonviolent direct action.

Pastor Kyle will be attending, and invites anyone who is interested to join.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Pastor Kyle directly.

Save
the
Date!

CORNERSTONE
CAMPUS MINISTRY

FUNDRAISING

DINNER AND SHOWCASE

At
6:00
PM

26
April
2025

First
Lutheran
Albany

Join us for an evening of giving and student
testimony at our Fundraising Dinner and Showcase

" Hamilton Union supports *The Caring Closet* through a financial donation from our Mission and Social Witness budget. Donating items will further our commitment to the *Caring Closet*. There are collection boxes at Gade Farm and The Guilderland Public Library".



The Caring Closet Guilderland is a 501(c)(3) with a mission to provide personal hygiene items at no cost to GCSD students and their families in need. Through your donations, we will ensure access to basic hygiene items for those in our Guilderland community.

Acceptable items:

- body wash/bar soap
- shampoo/conditioner
- tooth paste/tooth brush
- dental floss
- deodorant
- feminine hygiene pads
- tampons
- body splashes/sprays
- facial wash
- lotions

Scan to donate



For more information on how you can get involved, contact

Amanda Beedle



[@The Caring Closet - Guilderland](#)



TheCaringClosetGuilderland@gmail.com

TECH TEAM

April 6 **Kyle & Audrey Hall**

April 13 **Meredith & Jack Eberz**

April 17
Maundy Thursday **George Hannett & Liz Egan**

April 20
Easter Sunday **Liz & Declan Egan**

April 27 **Karen Williamson & George Hannett**

LITURGISTS

April 6 **Michael Hall**

April 13 **David Scott**

April 17
Maundy Thursday **TBD**

April 20
Easter Sunday **TBD**

April 27 **Fred Sirois**

GREETERS

April 6 **TBD**

April 13 **TBD**

April 17
Maundy Thursday **TBD**

April 20
Easter Sunday **TBD**

April 27 **TBD**





Laurel Edwards- *April 8*

Nancy Snyder- *April 8*

Abbey Ferris- *April 17*

Jim Gade (James Jr.)- *April 20*

If you would like your birthday, anniversary, or some other special occasion print-ed in the "Good News", please notify The office at hupc@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org.

If you see that an incorrect date is in the "Good News", please let us know.

Thanks!

April 2025– Hamilton Union Happenings



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
					Room Rental (FH)-7:15am-11:45am	Room Rental (FH)7:15am-11:45am Pastor Kyle away
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Sunday Worship Service- 10:00AM	1p,m Making Connections Bible Study	Room Rental 9:30am-1pm PW 10am-12:30			Room Rental (FH)-7:15am-11:45am	Room Rental (FH)-7:15am-11:45am
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Sunday Worship Service- 10:00AM			Good News Deadline	Maundy Thursday 7:00 PM	Room Rental (FH)-7:15am-9:00am	Room Rental (FH)-7:15am-11:45am
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Easter Sunday 8AM Sunrise 10Am – Celebration Service	Property Team Meeting- 7:30pm 1p,m Making Connections Bible Study	PW Circle Meeting 10:30-12:30 (Lounge)			Room Rental (FH) 7:15am-11:45am	Room Rental (FH)7:15am-11:45am Circle Meeting 10:30-12:30 (L) Easter Basket Project 12:30-2
27	28	29	30			
Sunday Worship Service- 10:00AM	1p,m Making Connections Bible Study	Room Rental 9:30-1:00pm				
KEY-	(Z)- Zoom (FH)- Fellowship Hall	(L)- Lounge (C)- Conference Room (S)- Sanctuary	(QR)- Quiet Room (PL)- Parking Lot	(Z)- Zoom (FH)- Fellowship Hall	(UA) University of Albany Interfaith Center	(O)- Office (CCD)- Capital City Diner

Easter Word Search

G S N O I T P M E D E R Y Y M
J J U Y K I R Y T T F X E O L
R L K F W E E C I O J E R C K
X Y N G Q C U W V U P C M C K
R C R O S S H R E D P H M N E
I F V A I B Q U I R G P Q R N
S A Q Z M T M I R A C L E T S
E I A O I R C H R C O Y I U E
N T T P R C G E Y O H S S R L
I H H S O O C A R K I E P V K
N W O R C S D U B R J V R G T
O H T N G N T E S F U L A M I
D P V O U Q F L D K A S Y S H
Z M E S B Z Z W E M L Y E D F
E T G L M E G K B S L T R R U

APOSTLES
CROWN
LAMB
PRAYER
RESURRECTION
SON

CHURCH
FAITH
MARY
REDEMPTION
RISEN
SUNDAY

CROSS
JESUS
MIRACLE
REJOICE
SAVIOR
TOMB



HAMILTON UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Change Service Requested

Dated Material – Please Deliver Promptly.

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Pastor:

revkyle@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org

Website: **HamiltonUnionPresbyterianChurch.org**
hu-pc.org

Ministers: The People of Hamilton Union

Our Staff:

Rev. Kyle Delhagen, Pastor
Brittney St.Pierre, Administrative Assistant
Carol Scott, Organist & Choir Director
Rae Rau, Director of Handbell Choir

GOOD NEWS

Published monthly by the Session, and is available electronically on our website. Copies are also mailed to select church family households, students away from home, and others.

Brittney St.Pierre, Editor

Email Address:

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Newsletter deadline for the
May issue is
April 10th.