

Good News

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

Volume 40 No 08

August 2025



“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” ~Matthew 28:19

Beloved,

One thing you may not know about me is that I love history. I am by no measure of the word what you could call a “historian,” but I love learning little pieces and bits of trivia and going down rabbit holes.

I particularly love learning about people — individuals — who, through sometimes small acts, changed the course of history. I recently finished a book Elena recommended to me called *The Small and the Mighty: Twelve Unsung Americans Who Changed the Course of History from the Founding to the Civil Rights Movement* by Sharon McMahon. In it, she looks at the stories of lesser known Americans, like Gouverneur Morris, Clara Brown, and Virginia Randolph. These folks made significant contributions, though they are often overlooked in traditional narratives.

As I finished the book, I thought about the effects we have, every day, on every person we meet and interact with. Major interactions with our families and friends, to minor brushes with store clerks and other drivers on the highway.

Each moment provides us with an opportunity: to positively or negatively affect another. Our partner wakes up “on the wrong side of the bed.” Do we allow ourselves to be irritated by

their irritability? Or do we extend a bit of grace, perhaps pack the kids lunch for them instead?

A person driving too fast cuts you off moments before your exit causing you to slam on your brakes. Do you lay on the horn and offer obscene hand gestures? Or do we remember the time we may have done the same thing, not paying attention to how close the exit was and were in a similar hurry to get somewhere?

Obviously, we are human, and we don't always think quickly enough to catch ourselves before reacting. *That is okay.* The important thing is that we learn, we try to do better next time, and we grow. Yes, it's hard work, but it is worthy work. Because think about how the *other* person's day may be positively affected when we extend a bit of grace, a bit of understanding... like ripples on a pond, that grace and understanding move out, expanding, extending to all in its path.

May we have the humility, the courage, and the grace to do small things with mighty results.

Grace & peace,
~Pastor Kyle



A Sneak Peek at Sermons coming in August!

August 3 — Apostle to the Apostles, John 20:1-18 (Mary Magdalene)

August 10 — Diminished in Translation, 1 Corinthians 11:2-12 (Pastor Kyle away, Lawrence Stewart preaching)

August 17 — Tabitha Tasks, Acts 9:36-43 (Tabitha/Dorcas)

August 24 — Would Someone Answer the Door?, Acts 12:12-17 (Rhoda)

August 31 — The Tutor, Acts 18:1-3, 18, 24-28; Romans 16:4 (Priscilla)



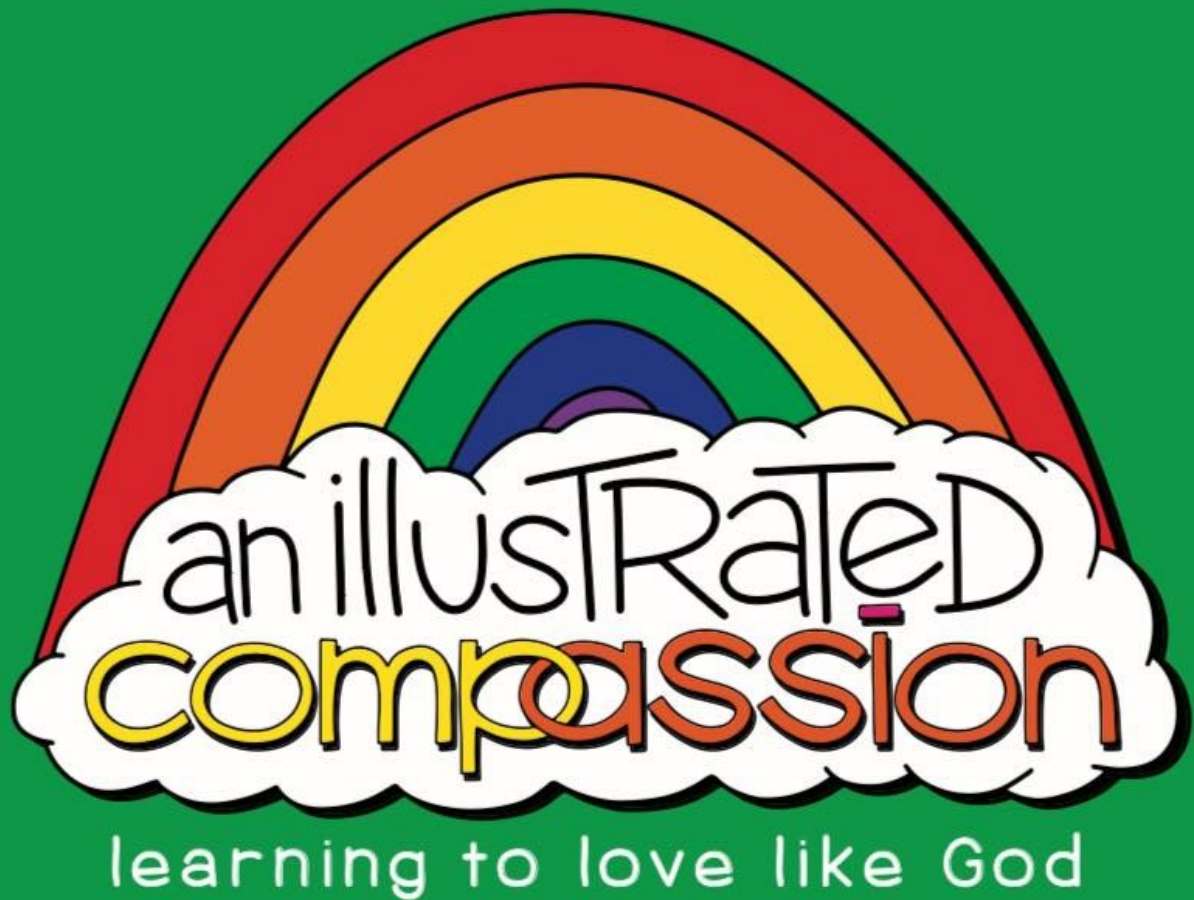
Coffee & Contemplation

Mondays at 9:30, starting September 8

Whenever I attend something like worship or a lecture or workshop, I tend to find myself walking away, chewing over what I heard and thinking about it for a while after (*that is always my hope for you when I preach!*). I also find that sometimes I think of questions or ideas long after I've gotten home, but by then it's too late!

Starting this September, we will have an opportunity on Monday mornings to gather in the lounge and do what mornings are for: coffee and contemplation. We will get together and spend an hour discussing the sermon from the previous morning, and any questions that may have arisen; any ideas that may have occurred; any thoughts that deserve more thinking.

Come as you are, come as you can, come when you can. *No RSVP or signup.* Coffee will be on. Come contemplate.



This summer, the young ones in our community are invited to a special time during worship (starting right at 9:00 am) where they will be “learning to love like God.”

We are currently in need of volunteer leaders for this on two Sundays: **August 10 and August 17**. Lessons are pre-planned, and you will have all the supplies that you need.

If you are interested and available (or have questions), please reach out to Pastor Kyle directly!



Help Wanted!

Our Tech Team, which brings you Sunday worship and special events via Zoom, Facebook and YouTube, could use some new members. Computer literacy is helpful, but training is provided. Usually, your commitment would be for roughly one Sunday per month, although this varies. We'll work with you!

Please consider joining us. If you are interested, please call or email the church

office or call or email Karen Williamson at 518-669-4450 or kawillia302@gmail.com.

Cornerstone FOUNDATIONS

CORNERSTONE PROTESTANT CAMPUS MINISTRY IS SEEKING TO BE A SUSTAINABLE CHRISTIAN PRESENCE AT UALBANY, SO WE ARE LAUNCHING "CORNERSTONE FOUNDATIONS" FOR PEOPLE LIKE YOU, GENEROUS INDIVIDUALS WHO CAN GIVE REGULAR AND ONGOING SUPPORT. BECOME A FOUNDING MEMBER TODAY!

CORNERSTONE FOUNDATIONS MEMBER BENEFITS

COMMIT TO AT LEAST:

- \$25/MONTH
- \$40/MONTH
- \$60/MONTH

AND RECEIVE:

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER INCLUDING A STUDENT TESTIMONY ABOVE AND AN ANNUAL CORNERSTONE BRANDED GIFT ABOVE PLUS ANOTHER GIFT AND A MEAL WITH PASTOR JEFF

NOT READY TO JOIN TODAY? NO PROBLEM AT ALL.
PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER JOINING WHEN OUR FISCAL YEAR BEGINS ON JULY 1, 2025

CORNERSTONE
CAMPUS MINISTRY

"BRINGING STUDENTS TOGETHER AT UALBANY
TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD."

SCAN HERE



OR

WWW.UALBANYCORNERSTONE.ORG/GIVE



May 5, 2025

Hamilton Union Presbyterian Church
2291 Western Avenue
Guilderland, NY 12084

Dear Friends at Hamilton Union,

On behalf of the Protestant Campus Ministry at the University at Albany, I want to thank you for your donation of \$600.00 from your mission and social witness funds to support our mission trip this year to Asheville, NC.

Your gift helped underwrite the cost for four of our students to come and participate! The trip was a huge success and many of the students came back feeling the impact of their work to those in need and encouraging them to continue this kind of work in the future. Thanks for helping to make it all possible!

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rev. Jeffrey S. M. Kroondyk". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a horizontal line.

Rev. Jeffrey S. M. Kroondyk

DON'T BE CHICKEN! SIGN UP NOW!

Our second Brooks Chicken BBQ of 2025 is coming up on

Wednesday, July 30! As of today, we have only a few people signed up to help at this important event. I know HUPC usually rallies enough help to set up, run and clean up after this event, but, nevertheless, it still makes the “Head Chicken” nervous when sign-ups are low (or non-existent!).



So, to ensure a successful fundraiser — and reduce the Head Chicken’s angst — anyone and everyone who can help out with the BBQ on July 30th are encouraged to let Bruce Williamson know, *preferably sooner rather than later*. Reminder: we need 5-6 folks to set everything up on Wednesday morning, and 18+ folks to work the event, including greeters, assembly line workers, cashiers, order-takers, food runners, office accounting help, and clean-up crew.

Please let Bruce know if you can help by email (bewillia302@gmail.com) or by phone/text (518.435.5039). Thank you!

PS: Our final Brooks BBQ of the season will be on Wednesday, September 24th — mark your calendars!

Mission Opportunity at Regional Food Bank

As a reminder, the Mission Team has the next volunteer opportunity at the Regional Food Bank, sorting donated food, scheduled for **Thursday, August 14 from 5 to 6:30 PM**.

Please note that **pre-registration is now required** if you plan on volunteering. You may *sign up digitally using this link* or use the sign-up sheet in the narthex next to the prayer list and flower sign-up. Registrations are due by August 11, 2025.





It's almost time for our 4th Annual Backpack Event!

As part of our mission as a Matthew 25 Church, we will once again be hosting our yearly Backpack to School event for families in need in our community. If you are able to volunteer some of your time on the day of the event, please fill out this online form. Also, we are beginning to gather donations. Our greatest needs are:

- Backpacks (character backpacks for elementary grades go particularly quickly!)
- Ticonderoga no. 2 pencils
- Glue sticks
- Plastic colored folders
- Crayola crayons, markers, and colored pencils

Please see Pastor Kyle or Elena with any questions.

Presbyterian Women's (PW) News – All Women are Welcome



Circle Meetings Will Resume on Tuesday, Sept 23 – Beginning New Bible Study

Change to Order Information for the New Bible Study Book

We don't have Circle meetings in the summer. We will begin our new Bible study at our next Circle Meeting on Tues, Sept 23. Our meetings are from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm. Rev. Elena Delhagen will introduce the new study, Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation and will cover Lesson 1, Environmental Justice & Lesson 2, Land Justice. In this study, biblical scholar Patricia Tull, discusses the ways people of faith can learn and talk about how they could address current ecological issues. This video will provide some additional information on the study: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qieBTa9hzEw>

Currently there is a tremendous sale on the Bible study books. We have 5 used books from another PW available at no cost on a first come first serve basis. If you would like to reserve a used book or order a new study book, contact Joanne Wagner at 518-355-1408 or jnnwgnr@yahoo.com by Mon. Aug 4. The sale prices on new books are regular print \$2.50 and large print \$3.75. *Note that the previous order deadline was Sept 1. That has changed to take advantage of the sale.* Payment is due when they arrive.

Please let Joanne, know ASAP at 518-355-1408 or jnnwgnr@yahoo.com, if you want a used, regular print new book or large print book.

A Walk in the Woods Albany Pine Bush Preserve August 16th at 9:00 am

John Calvin (yes, that John Calvin), liked to use the metaphor of the world as the “theater of God’s glory.” He used this as a way of talking about the wonder, awe, and astonishment that creation evokes.

Unfortunately, life in the modern world keeps us from fully enjoying God’s amazing creation as often as we should. Let’s change that, shall we?

On Saturday, August 16th, anyone who is interested is invited to join us in a hike around the Albany Pine Bush. We will meet at the Discovery Center (195 New Karner Road) at 9:00 am. We will aim to walk the Blue trail portion of the Karner Barrens trail (.9 miles). This is an easier, moderate walk, and gives us access to a beautiful overlook! All abilities and ages are welcome!

Bring a water bottle and sunscreen and an appreciation for God’s creation!





Here are a few shots of our July walk. We had so much fun!



Hamilton Union supports *The Caring Closet* through a financial donation from our Mission and Social Witness budget.

Donation 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

<i>August 3rd</i>	David Scott & Mark Hutchinson
<i>August 10th</i>	Diane Irwin & Hugh Stevens
<i>August 17th</i>	Fred Sirois & George Hannett
<i>August 24th</i>	David Scott & George Hannett
<i>August 31st</i>	Liz & Declan Egan

LITURGISTS

<i>August 3rd</i>	Trudy Hutchinson
<i>August 10th</i>	Mark Hutchinson
<i>August 17th</i>	Rae Rau
<i>August 24th</i>	Shannon Mulstay
<i>August 31st</i>	Diane Irwin

GREETERS

<i>August 3rd</i>	Shannon Mulstay
<i>August 10th</i>	Trudy Hutchinson
<i>August 17th</i>	David Scott
<i>August 24th</i>	Charlotte Hasselbarth
<i>August 31st</i>	Cindy Schultz





August Birthdays

August 7: Liz Egan

August 7: Peter McKinney

August 8: Harold Armstrong, Jr.

August 10: Kyle Delhagen

August 27: Bettye Goodnow

August 29: Matt Williamson

August 31: Carl Hasselbarth

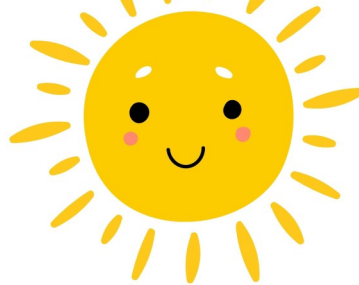
If you would like your birthday, anniversary, or some other special occasion printed in the "Good News", please notify the office at hupc@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org.

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













Good News August 2025– Hamilton Union Happenings



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					Room Rental (FH) 7:15am– 11:45am	Room Rental (FH) 7:15am– 11:45am
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Sunday Worship Service – 9 AM		Worship Meeting – 7:30 (Z)			Room Rental (FH) 7:15am– 11:45am	Room Rental (FH) 7:15am– 11:45am
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Sunday Worship Service – 9 AM	Communica- tions Meeting – 7:00 (Z)			Mission Team Regional Food Bank 5-6:30	Room Rental (FH) 7:15am– 9:00am	Room Rental (FH) 7:15am– 11:45am Walk In the Woods 9:00am (APB)
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Sunday Worship Service – 9 AM	Property Meet- ing – 7:30 (Z)			Good News Deadline	Room Rental (FH) 7:15am– 11:45am	Backpack to School (PL) 11am-1pm Room Rental (FH) 7:15am– 11:45am
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Sunday Worship Service – 9 AM		Session Meeting 7:30 (Z)	Congrega- tional Care Meeting – 2:45 (Z)			
31						
Sunday Worship Service – 9 AM						
KEY-	(L)- Lounge (C)- Conference Room (S)- Sanctuary	(O)- Office (PL)- Parking Lot	(Z)- Zoom (FH)- Fellow- ship Hall	(UA) University of Albany Inter- faith Center	(APB) - Albany Pine Bush	



EASY SUMMER CRAFT IDEAS

 PAPER PLATE SUNSHINE Paper plate, paint 15 min		 TISSUE PAPER SUNCATCHERS Tissue paper, contact paper 30 min	Ages 4+
 POOL NOODLE BOATS Sponge, craft foam 20 min		 POCKET FOLDING FANS Paper, craft stick 20 min	Ages 6+
 WATER GUN PAINTING Washable paint, 30 min		 POM-POM ICE CREAM CONES Yarn, paper, glue 25 min	Ages 4+
 GARDEN SUNCATCHER CHIMES Beads, wire, sticks		 EGG CARTON ANIMALS Egg carton, paint 20 min	Ages 7+
			Ages 3+

Portable BEACH FOODS



Carry PASTA IN MASON JARS

Create individual portions for your guests to make serving and enjoying a breeze.



Grill a FRESH FRUIT KEBAB

Keep your hands clean from sticky fruit juices with these fruity skewers.

HAMILTON UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2291 Western Avenue
Guilderland, New York 12084-9747

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

Elena Delhagen, Office Administrator

Carol Scott, Organist & Choir Director

Rae Rau, Director of Handbell Choir



Newsletter deadline for the
September issue is
August 21st

GOOD NEWS

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

Elena Delhagen, Editor

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