

Good News

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

Volume 40 No 10

October 2025



THINKABOUTSUCHTHING.COM

Beloved,

One of my favorite stories in the book of Exodus is when the Israelites during their long march from Egypt, are physically exhausted, hungry, with aching limbs. All of this finally takes its toll, and the inevitable sets in – doubt, anxiety, deteriorating faith... It would happen to the best of us.

It is funny how, when we become uncomfortable, particularly under such circumstances as described above, our memories become very short. The Israelites begin to look back to Egypt longingly. ‘Sure, we were slaves, but at least we had food and water!’ In the face of so much uncertainty, when so much seemed so unclear, people started talking about going back to what was familiar. Life in captivity was preferable to dealing with the confusion of the ‘now’ and the uncertainty of the future.

It is in this context that God sent a lifeline in the form of “manna from heaven.” This word, which literally means ‘what is it,’ provides the backdrop for one of the most important lessons the people need to learn – sharing. It is a simple lesson that we are all taught from our earliest days, but it is ironic that it is the one lesson we struggle with throughout our lives.

What is interesting about the ‘what is it’ from heaven, is that God provides, but only when the people learn to share with each other. There was an abundance of manna, but those who gathered more than was prescribed found that when they measured it, they had only what they needed. Those who gathered too little, similarly found they had as much as they needed. Those who tried to save some for later, found it quickly turned rotten and full of maggots.

What God provides the people is a lesson in trust. *Trust that I am God... trust that I will provide what you need... trust that you do not need to hoard because I am faithful.*

This is a lesson we desperately need in our world today. We live in the wealthiest nation, not just in the world, but in the *history of the world*. And yet

our neighbors, people within the geographical boundaries we have established as our country, go to bed hungry. Too many people have so little savings that a minor emergency would constitute a financial ruin. Staggering numbers of people live under the massive weight of debt. All while an elite few hoard billions, even trillions, of dollars.

We must re-learn how God supplies so abundantly, that when the world finally learns to share, we could discover that the whole of humanity's hunger can be met from the resources available to us in creation.

We are called to Go... to share... the abundance of God's very good creation with one another. May we have the courage to follow in trust.

In the grace and peace of Christ,
~Pastor Kyle



Men's Group: Coffee and Prayer
Saturdays: October 11, November 8, and December 13
8:30 am – 9:30 am in the Lounge

Starting on Saturday, October 11, men of the congregation are invited to a time of fellowship and prayer (and of course, coffee). This is a time with no agenda, just gathering and sharing about the joys and concerns in our hearts, and praying together in God's presence. Men of all ages are invited as we pray for our world, our community, our church, our families, and ourselves. Second Saturday of the month.



Coffee & Contemplation

Mondays at 9:30

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.



A Sneak Peek at Sermons coming in October!

October 5 — *Go Share, Exodus 16:1-18*

October 12 — *Go Hear, 1 Samuel 3:1-21*

October 19 — *Go Look, 1 Samuel 16:1-13*

October 26 — *Go (W)Holy, 1 Kings 5:1-15; 8:1-13*



“With long life I will satisfy you, and show you my salvation.” (Psalm 91:16)

Thank you to the Worship & Congregational Life committee for helping us celebrate Bev’s recent milestone birthday!

THANK YOU FOR A GREAT BBQ SEASON!

Our final Brooks Chicken BBQ of 2025 was held on September 24, 2025.

It was a very wet and soggy

Wednesday! Special kudos to our waterlogged order-takers and young order runners. You were great!



While we did not sell out (no thanks to the rain!), we were able to donate 15 chicken dinners to the Guilderland Police Department (which was very appreciative) and a larger number of chicken halves, baked potatoes and coleslaw to the Schenectady City Mission. As Pastor Kyle can attest, they were both surprised and extremely grateful. Though we did not make the expected financial profit this time around, we still count it a success — out of our excess, we were able to feed our neighbors and share God's blessings!



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, October 16 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.

Here are some photos from September's volunteer event. Thank you to Wayne Gannett for organizing!

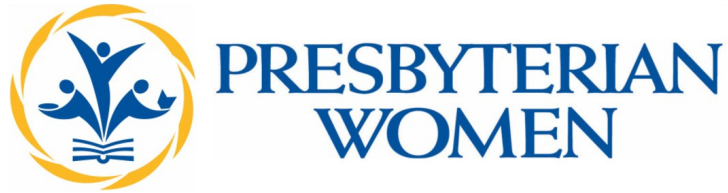


MUSIC

News

A graphic of a blue treble clef on a staff with five colorful musical notes (red, green, orange, blue, and purple) floating above it.

Choir and handbells are both in full swing now, but new members are always welcome! Now is a great time to join so that you can participate in the Ecumenical Advent service in December. Music reading is not required for either group; we'll teach what you need to know! Choir practices Thursday evenings at 7:00, and handbells practice after church most Sundays. See Rae Rau or Carol Scott for more information!



Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Albany Fall
Gathering

Thursday, October 30, 2025 | 11:30 am to 2:30 pm

First United Presbyterian in Troy

1917 5th Ave, Troy, NY 12180

(518) 272-2771

Speakers: Elder Mary Anne Davis, Vice Moderator of the Presbytery of Albany will speak on the Thank Offering Grant that St. Peter's Presbyterian Church received to renovate its kitchen.

Rev. Donna Elia, Executive Director of Troy Area United Ministries and Pastor of St. Peter's Presbyterian Church will speak on the two Thank Offering Grants that Troy Area Ministries received to establish its "Tech for Teens" and then to expand it.

Details:

- RSVP to Andrea Ralph at ARalph20@hotmail.com or 516-849-3220 by Oct 23, if possible, so the host church, First United Presbyterian in Troy, can plan.
- 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.

Presbyterian Women's (PW) News – All Women are Welcome October Circle Meeting - Tues, Oct 28 - 10:30 am to 12.30 pm in the Lounge

We will be discussing Lesson 3, Food Justice from the Bible Study, Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation. 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. We offer a Zoom option. Extra Study books are available.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83779752859>
pwd=dnP2V2tWSjdJWVZQNWNMVTY5QSt1UT09
Meeting ID: 837 7975 2859 - Passcode: 724235

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 about Presbyterian Women, contact Charlotte Hasselbarth at 518-356-0637 or chasselbarth@hotmail.com.



Save the Date

Sign Christmas cards for residents at Our Lady of Mercy Life Center

During Coffee Hour – Sundays, November 2 and 9

**** Christmas Cards Needed! ****

Presbyterian Women is hosting a Christmas Card signing opportunity. The Activities Dept. at Our Lady of Mercy Life Center sees to it that each resident gets a Christmas card. This is an enormous task. Helping with this project has become a local mission project of Presbyterian Women.

As an ongoing aspect of this project, we will be collecting Christmas cards throughout the year. There are collection boxes in both the front & back of the Sanctuary.



Cornerstone Campus Ministry's Food and Faith Dinner
Food & People Needed: Tuesday, October 21, 6 pm - 7:30 pm

Food and Faith is a program of the Cornerstone Campus Ministry on the UAlbany Campus. Hamilton Union will be providing a meal on Tues, Oct .21. Donations of main dish, side dish, and dessert are needed, plus people to visit with the students. A sign-up sheet will be in room between the Christian Education Building and Sanctuary on Oct 5.

TOUR AND TEA at the NEW FAITH PROGRAM FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

The women (and friends) of HUPC's Presbyterian Women have been invited to be guests of the women of the New Faith Center, to share high tea with them.

DATE: OCTOBER 9, 2025 (Arrive at the New Faith Center at 2:30 pm)

TIME: Meet at HUPC to carpool (parking is limited)
Carpool will leave HUPC promptly at 2:00 pm.

WHERE: 154 Grand St, Albany, NY, 12202 (behind the the Rescue Mission)

RSVP: Please contact Ann McKinney (518) 488-7195 or email Ann at annandpetermckinney@gmail.com by October 6th.

The ladies of New Faith need to know how many places to set for tea. They serve all kinds of homemade treats and have a fascinating variety of flavored teas. If you have not had a tour of their lovely facility, that can also be arranged.

This video will give you can ides of what the program is like: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01CumIJ2G9A>





Tech Team Needs YOU!

Our Tech Team, which brings you Sunday worship and special events via Zoom, Facebook, and Youtube, needs YOU! Typically, the commitment is one Sunday a month, and you will be working with another person. We schedule for three-month intervals and have flexible scheduling! Want to work with your child or significant other? We can accommodate you (and sign for volunteer hours!)

Computer literacy is helpful, but we can train. Also, our “Tech Guru” has put together a step-by-step, illustrated, detailed operational manual to answer those inevitable questions that arise during operation.

Please consider joining us. Our “Zoom Ministry” is proving vital to several members of our congregation. On any given Sunday, from two to upwards of 10 or more people join us on Zoom

and Facebook for worship. Some have specifically told us how grateful they are to have this online option for worship, since it would be difficult for them to be physically present in church.

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.

Thank you for considering Tech Team! We hope you’ll join us!



Mitten Tree Project: In the Sanctuary from November 16 – December 7

Presbyterian Women will once again be collecting new and handmade mittens, hats and scarves for our Mitten Tree. These items will be given to local agencies.

A Walk in the Woods
Albany Pine Bush Preserve
October 18th at 9:00 am
*** Weather permitting ***

On Saturday, October 18, as long as the weather cooperates, 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!

HUPC's PrayGround!



On Sunday, September 28th, we dedicated our brand new PrayGround!

A PrayGround is an intentional, child-friendly space within a church sanctuary where children of all ages can engage in worship alongside their families using creative, sensory, faith-related tools.

We have been hard at work redesigning this space that will help children to learn what it means to worship, and know that they belong!



And of course, while this is a space intentionally designed with younger worshipers in mind, that does not mean it is limited — anyone can enjoy our PrayGround!



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

10/5	David Scott & Karen Williamson
10/12	Diane Irwin & Hugh Stevens
10/19	Meredith & Jackson Eberz
10/26	Liz & Declan Egan

LITURGISTS

10/5	Fred Sirois
10/12	Bill Hasselbarth
10/19	Cindy Schultz
10/26	Rae Rau

GREETERS

10/5	Bill Hasselbarth
10/12	Charlotte Hasselbarth
10/19	Mark Hutchinson
10/26	Trudy Hutchinson





October 1: Nancy Gerstenberger

October 15: Joanne Wagner

October 24: Keni Banda

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.

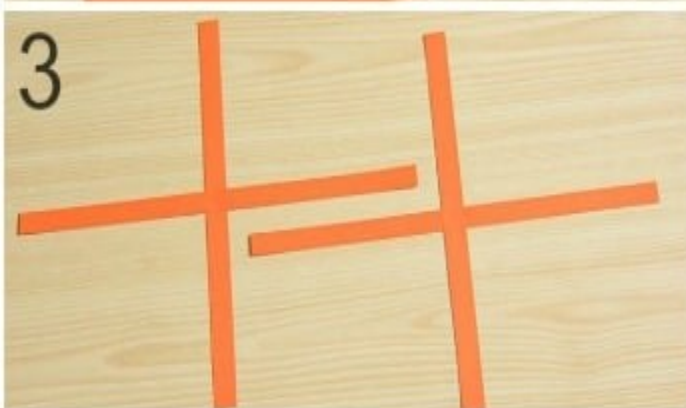
If you see that an incorrect date is in the "Good News", please let us know. Thanks!

October 2025– Hamilton Union Happenings



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
KEY:			1	2	3	4
(Z)- Zoom (FH)- Fellowship Hall (APB) - Albany Pine Bush	(L)- Lounge (UA) University of Albany Interfaith Center (S)- Sanctuary			Choir Practice – 7:00 PM	Room Rental (FH) 7:15am– 11:45am	Room Rental (FH) 7:15am– 11:45am
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Choir Warmup – 9:30 AM Sunday Worship Service - 10 AM Book Study – 6:30 PM (L & Z)	Coffee & Contemplation – 9:30 (L) Making Connections Bible Study – 1PM (Z)	PW Coordinating Team Meeting – 10AM (L) Session Meeting – 7:30 (Z)		Choir Practice – 7:00 PM Women’s Tea @ New Faith – 2:30	Room Rental (FH) 7:15am– 11:45am	Room Rental (FH) 7:15am– 11:45am Men of HUPC Group – 8:30AM (L)
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Choir Warmup – 9:30 AM Sunday Worship Service – 10 AM	Coffee & Contemplation – 9:30 (L) Communications Meeting – 7:00 (Z) Making Connections Bible Study – 1PM (Z)			Mission Team Regional Food Bank 5-6:30 Choir Practice – 7:00 PM	Room Rental (FH) 7:15am– 9:00am	Room Rental (FH) 7:15am– 11:45am Walk In the Woods 9:00am (APB) (WEATHER PERMITTING)
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Choir Warmup – 9:30 AM Sunday Worship Service - 10 AM Book Study – 6:30 PM (L & Z)	Coffee & Contemplation – 9:30 (L) Property Meeting – 7:30 (Z) Making Connections Bible Study – 1PM (Z)		Congregational Care Meeting – 2:45 (Z)	Good News Deadline Choir Practice – 7:00 PM	Room Rental (FH) 7:15am– 11:45am	Room Rental (FH) 7:15am– 11:45am Albany Presbytery Anti-Racism Training—10AM (S)
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Choir Warmup – 9:30 AM Sunday Worship Service - 10 AM	Coffee & Contemplation – 9:30 (L) Making Connections Bible Study – 1PM (Z)	PW Circle Meeting—10:30 AM (L)	Mission Team Meeting— 7PM (Z)	PW in the Presbytery Fall Gathering — 11:30 AM (First United Pres, Troy)		

KIDS CORNER



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

Change Service Requested

Dated Material – Please Deliver Promptly.

Church: **518-456-5410**

E-mail

Office:

hupc@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org

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
November issue is
October 23rd

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

Email Address:

hupc@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org