

Good News

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

Vol 41, No 9

SEPTEMBER 2026



"God spoke: 'Let us make human beings in our image, make them reflecting our nature so they can be responsible for the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, the cattle, and, yes, Earth itself, and every animal that moves on the face of Earth.'"

~ Genesis 1:26 (The Message)

Beloved,

In just a couple of weeks we will be starting a new sermon series on creation care. This eleven-week series will take us through the autumn, right up to Advent. This series was inspired, in part, by the study Presbyterian Women recently finished in the spring, but it is also feeling particularly urgent as I glance at headlines across the news.

As I am writing this, two news stories jump out at me. First are the devastating floods in Nepal and Tibet that have killed more than 900 people, and with many more missing, that number is surely to rise. This flooding is directly linked to climate change—it was caused in large part by the Nepal glacier collapsing, which resulted in a 300-foot wall of water moving at 105mph. The time of it registering with the US Geological Survey to the time it reached civilization was 7 minutes and 40 seconds. This glacier had melted 33 feet in height over the past decade, and this collapse was inevitable.

The second story is the potential record setting El Niño that is predicted to impact weather patterns across the globe this winter. The rising temperatures of the Pacific are contributing to this. The likelihood of extreme weather events is rapidly increasing, and the most affected are going to be the most vulnerable, like the victims in Nepal.

Climate change affects us all, but it is the global poor who will bear the brunt of what is to come.

What is our responsibility as Christians? What can we do? How do we advocate for, and affect, change in our world? These are all questions we will be asking and learning around these next couple of months.

And what does Scripture say about our responsibility? For a long, long time, we have read the mandate in Genesis 1 as: “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and *subdue* it and *have dominion over* [it]” (Genesis 1:28, NRSVUE). Those words “subdue” and “dominion” give the impression that creation is ours to do with as we wish.

But I think that Eugene Peterson’s *The Message* catches the spirit of this text far better: that of *responsibility* for, and taking care of God’s creation.

And we have not done a particularly good job of this.

So as we embark on this journey, I invite you to roll up your sleeves with me as we open ourselves to be challenged, changed, and transformed. If we are serious about living as a resurrection people, we must be about the work of God’s kingdom, believing that renewal is not only possible, but it is on the way.

Grace & peace,

~Pastor Kyle

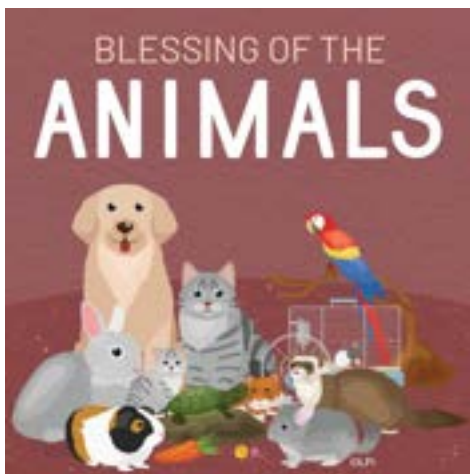
A Note about Backpack to School

Friends, though we did not host the annual Backpack to School event this year, we still do have quite a few supplies left over from last year. Please spread the word to friends, family, neighbors, and community members that if anyone is in need of new backpacks and school supplies for their kids, we would be happy to hand them out!



A Sneak-Peek at Sermons To Come This Fall!

September 6: Exodus 20:17, *The Grass is Always Greener*
 September 13: Ezekiel 36:33-36, *Newness is Possible*
 September 20: Isaiah 43:16-19, *The Problem of Change*
 September 27: Genesis 1:1-2:3, *Humans and Creation*
 October 4: Genesis 3:1-4:16, *Leaving the Garden*
 October 11: Isaiah 2:1-21, *Commerce and Contentment*
 October 18: Genesis 1:29-30, *The Needs of Animals*
 October 25: Exodus 16:13-26, *Food for Life*
 November 1: 1 Kings 21:1-24, *Environmental Fairness*
 November 8: Genesis 15:13-16, *Our Children's Inheritance*
 November 15: Micah 3:9-4:5, *Living Within Our Means*
 November 22: Revelation 21:1-5, *A New Heaven and a New Earth*



Save the Date

A Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 18

Our pets and furry friends bring so much love and joy into our lives. As people of faith, we declare with the psalmist that “the Earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it.” God blesses – and continues to bless – creation. Having a service where we bless our animal friends invites us to recognize that God is the one who blesses.

On October 18, as part of our Sunday worship, we will bless the animals in our lives. Our furry friends are invited to join us, though if you have a pet who does not do as well around people (like the Delhagen family’s older dog...), or a friend who is too big to transport, feel free to bring in a picture of them that we can celebrate and bless. Keep an eye out for more info!

Save the Date
Collisions: Reflections on a Holocaust Pilgrimage
Saturday, September 26, 1:00 pm

The word collision entered the English language in the early 15th century, stemming from the Late Latin word collisionem, meaning “a dashing together.” The original literal root of collision essentially translates to “hurting each other by striking together.” Over time, while the physical sense of the word, such as crashing vehicles or objects, has remained prominent, it also evolved to figuratively describe a clash of abstract concepts, such a “collision of cultures or ideas.”

In many ways, this trip was an experience of collisions: between truth and silence; the beauty of natural landscapes with the horror of events that took place there; the cruelty of perpetrators and the bravery of those who died.

On Saturday, September 26th, you are invited to join Rev. Dr. Kyle Delhagen at Hamilton Union Presbyterian Church as he shares about his summer trip to Poland on a Holocaust study trip. This trip included visits to the memorial at Auschwitz-Birkenau, the memorial at the site of the death camp at Treblinka, as well as other opportunities for learning and remembering. Kyle will share pictures and reflections of his trip in an attempt to embody the words of Elie Wiesel that, “Whoever listens to a witness becomes a witness,” words that transfer the moral duty of remembrance and truth-telling to any of those who listen. Any questions about this event can be directed to Rev. Dr. Delhagen at revkyle@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org.

Men’s Prayer Group Resumes This Month!



Please note that the men’s prayer group is scheduled for 8:30am on Saturday, September 12th! All men of the congregation are invited on the second Saturday of each month.

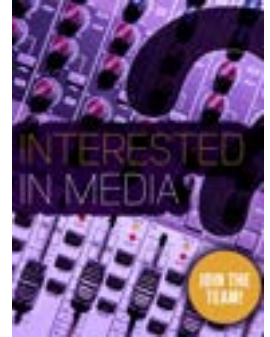
Coffee and Contemplation has also resumed each Monday at 9:30am for anyone who wants to come!

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!



Join us for a Walk in the Woods!

While the weather is nice, we meet monthly for a Walk in the Woods at the Albany Pine Bush! Meet us at 9am in the parking lot on the fourth Saturday of the month (**this month it's September 26th**) to enjoy a light hike, fellowship, and God's beautiful creation. If you have any questions, please see Pastor Kyle.



Presbyterian Women's (PW) News – All Women are Welcome!
Circle Meetings Will Resume on Tues, Sept 22 With A New Bible Study
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 22. Our meetings are from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm. Rev. Elena Delhagen will introduce the new Bible study, *Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ* and lead a discussion on Lesson 1 ("Mary Magdalene, the Tower.") This Bible study will explore resilience as experienced by several biblical characters, gospel and epistle writers, and Jesus. See the author speak about the study here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sRp_c3zDQNc

If you would like to order a study book, contact Joanne Wagner at 518-355-1408 or jnnwgnr@yahoo.com by Tues, Sept.1. The study books are \$14 and \$20 for large print. Payment is due when they arrive, in mid Sept. There is an option to get a used book at no charge. We have 4 used books available from another PW group on a first come first serve basis.

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. The Bible study is discussed during the first hour of our meeting, should you be interested in the study only. There is also a Zoom option. For questions about Presbyterian Women, contact Charlotte Hasselbarth at 518-356-0637 or chasselbarth@hotmail.com

Mitten Tree Project - Sun, Nov 15 - Sun, Dec 6



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 time to shop and time to start homemade items. Collection boxes will be out on Nov 15.



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

Saturday, October 24, 2026 - 11:30 am to 2:30 pm

First Presbyterian Church of Glens Falls

**8 West Notre Dame St, Glens Falls, NY 12801
518-793-2521**

Program

Amina, a UAlbany student, will share her experiences about her life and family as she grew up in Afghanistan, plus her immigration and asylum path here in the United States. Support for Amina has been a project of the Presbytery of Albany's Immigration Network and Mission Committee.

Details

- 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 to support Amina's path to citizenship.
- Make out checks to Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Albany, with Amina in the memo line.
- For questions and to rsvp by Oct.17 to help the host church plan, contact Rev. Kathi Jones at revkathiljones@yahoo.com or 518-755-2557.

Coming Together To Create

For two Sundays in August, card-making became an adventure for 10 up-and-coming crafters.

To raise funds for the Presbyterian Women's wonderful causes, the cards will be sold on September 27 and October 4 after church.

Here's the best part: Participants laughed together, helped each other, and discovered untapped talents while creating colorful images that will become part of HUPC's outreach!





LET'S MAKE SEPTEMBER THE START of a CLEAN WATER MISSION!!!

PW spent this last year learning about many issues confronting our physical world and how we might consider the problems we face and whether we can be part of any ongoing solutions. One of those issues is clean water for the world, and there ARE things we can be a part of. Earlier in our church life, we supported the building of wells in different parts of Africa and in the South of the US. A page in our Horizons magazine caught my eyes:

"RE-IMAGINE YOUR CHURCH'S LEGACY: CLEAN WATER FOR GENERATIONS.

Your church has always been a beacon of love and service to others. (Italics are mine, but this is so true of HUPC, isn't it?!)

Now, you have the opportunity to extend that legacy in a new and powerful way—by ensuring clean, life-giving water for communities in need. Water that transforms the futures of children and their families around the world." WOW! That sounds like something right up our alley!! We will collect monies on Sundays during September and dedicate our collection October 4, AKA "Clean Water Sunday."

You can check out the organization at livingwatersfortheworld.org. It's a ministry of The Synod of Living Waters, formed from the Presbyterian Churches found in the four-state area of Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Kentucky as well as parts of Arkansas and Missouri. Let's see what we can do to start the ball rolling—or the water flowing. We'll find out if this should be something we carry on year after year.

"But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother [or sister] in need, yet closes his heart against him [or her], how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or speech but in deed and in truth." – 1 John 3:17-18 (RSV)

Mickey Nieman for the PW of HUPC

Cornerstone Campus Ministry: Food & Faith Dinner

Food & People Needed - Tues. Oct 27, 6-7:30 pm



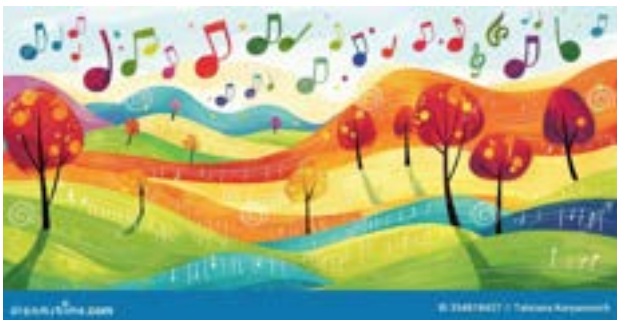
Food and Faith is a program of the Cornerstone Campus Ministry on the UAlbany Campus. Various churches provide a meal and worship activity. Donations of main dish, side dish, and dessert are needed, plus people to visit with the students. Details will be in the October newsletter.

The **Guilderland Food Pantry** has updated their list of most needed items. In September, they are focusing on back to school needs: microwave mac and cheese, microwave ravioli, individual tuna pouches, and individual cereals. Thank you!



Mark Your Calendars!

HUPC's choir will resume practice at 7pm on Thursday, September 10 and sing during the service on Sunday, September 13! If you have any questions – or would like to join the choir and lend your voice to the joyful noise! – please speak to Carol Scott.



<u>TECH TEAM</u> Sept. 6: Mark Hutchinson & Fred Sirois Sept. 13: Liz & Declan Egan Sept. 20: Diane Irwin & Hugh Stevens Sept. 27: Meredith Eberz & Family	<u>LITURGISTS</u> Sept. 6: Debbi Waggener Sept. 13: Chandra Reis Sept. 20: Rae Rau Sept. 27: David Scott
<u>GREETERS</u> Sept. 6: Trudy Hutchinson Sept. 13: Diane Irwin Sept. 20: Ginny Jones Sept. 27: Cindy Schultz	



September 7 - Trudy Hutchinson

September 28 - Matthew G. Gade

September 16 - Ann McKinney

September 21 - Bev Montgomery

September 27 - Cara Victor

September 28 - Vi McKaig

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. Thank you!

SEPTEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4 Room Rental (FH) 7:15am- 11:45am	5 Room Rental (FH) 7:15am- 9:30am
6 Choir Warmup - 9:30am Sunday Worship - 10am Bells Practice - 11:30am	7 HAPPY LABOR DAY! (OFFICE CLOSED)	8 Worship Meeting - 7:30pm (Z)	9	10 Choir Rehearsal - 7pm (S)	11 Room Rental (FH) 7:15am- 11:45am	12 Men's Prayer Group - 8:30am (L) Room Rental (FH) 7:15am- 9:30am
13 Choir Warmup - 9:30am Sunday Worship - 10am Bells Practice - 11:30am	14 C & C - 9:30am (L) Making Connections Bible Study - 1pm (Z)	15	16	17 Mission Opportunity at Regional Food Bank - 5-6:30 Choir Rehearsal - 7pm (S)	18 Room Rental (FH) 7:15am- 11:45am	19 Room Rental (FH) 7:15am- 9:30am
20 Choir Warmup - 9:30am Sunday Worship - 10am Bells Practice - 11:30am	21 C & C - 9:30am (L) Making Connections Bible Study - 1pm (Z) Property Meeting - 7:30pm (Z)	22 PW Circle Meeting - 10:30am (L)	23 Congregation Care Meeting - 10:00am	24 Choir Rehearsal - 7pm (S)	25 Room Rental (FH) 7:15am- 11:45am	26 Room Rental (FH) 7:15am- 9:30am Walk in the Woods (APB) - 9am Holocaust Presentation - 1pm
27 Choir Warmup - 9:30am Sunday Worship - 10am Bells Practice - 11:30am PW Notecard Sale -11:30 (FH)	28 C & C - 9:30am (L) Making Connections Bible Study - 1pm (Z) Room Rental (L) 6:30-8:30pm	29 Communications Meeting - 7:15pm (Z)	30			



Tiny Apple Pies

1. Prepare the ingredients.

- premade mini graham cracker crusts
- canned apple pie filling
- brown sugar
- white sugar
- quick oats
- cinnamon
- butter



2. Slice apple filling into tiny pieces.



3. Put the apples into the graham cracker crusts.



4. Make the crumb topping.

Mix 1 tsp. each:

- brown sugar
- white sugar
- quick oats
- butter

Add a little bit of cinnamon.



5. Top the pies with crumb topping.



6. Bake at 350°F for 12 - 15 minutes. Allow to cool & enjoy!



Scan here to see more photos.
<https://playtolearnpreschool.us/tiny-apple-pies>

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Change Service Requested

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Newsletter deadline for the
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September 23rd

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Elena Delhagen, Office Administrator

Carol Scott, Organist & Choir Director

Rae Rau, Director of Handbell Choir

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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