Collamer United Church Circuit Rider March 2025



- Sun. 02 Morning Worship <u>8:45</u> a.m. -Communion
- Mon. 03 Al-Anon 7:30 p.m.
- Tues. 04 Blood Drive First United Church 4-H Sewing Series 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Wed. 05 Ash Wednesday Imposition of ashes - CUC - noon Worship Service and Meal - FUCOES Soup Dinner 5:30 p.m. Worship Service 6:30 p.m.
- Sun. 09 Morning Worship <u>8:45</u> a.m. Daylight Savings Time Begins
- Mon. 10 Al-Anon 7:30 p.m.
- **Tues. 11** 4-H Sewing Series 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Wed. 12 Senior Luncheon Bridgeport UMC – 11:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Sun. 16 Morning Worship <u>8:45</u> a.m. Lenten Bible Study - CUC - noon
- Mon. 17 Al-Anon 7:30 p.m. St. Patrick's Day
- **Tues.18 4-H** Sewing Series 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Sat. 22 4-H Public Presentations 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Sun. 23 Morning Worship <u>8:45</u> a.m. Mr. Rogers Day Lenten Bible Study - FUCOES - noon
- Mon. 24 Al-Anon 7:30 p.m.
- Tues. 25 4-H Sewing Series -5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Wed.26 CUC Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- Sun. 30 Morning Worship <u>8:45</u> a.m. Lenten Bible Study - CUC - noon

Prayer Requests

Linda Oswald – at home, 8701 Knowledge Lane, Apt 116, Cicero, NY 13039 - SPECIAL PRAYERS PLEASE! Helen Fischer - 139 Dormar Drive, North Syracuse, NY 13212 - We recently learned that she has moved to an assisted living facility in Horseheads. Once her address is received, we will share. Mail appears to be forwarded for now. Grace Brignall and Family- 5514 N. Manlius Street, Fayetteville, NY 13066 – SPECIAL PRAYERS PLEASE! Carol Burleigh – 165 Forest Lake Drive, Cocoa, FL 32926 Savanna Colabufo and Courtney Clark - at home -4296 Seeber Road, Canastota, NY 13032 Maryjane and Joe Molina - 502 Oot Lane, Apt. 2 Kirkville, NY 13082 - SPECIAL PRAYERS PLEASE! Ryan Hill – at home – 7060 Cattleman's Crossing Road, Cicero NY 13039 Patti Monday – Bernadine Apts., #1304, 417 Churchill Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13205. JoAnn Tongue – 2 Sacketts Road, Central Square, NY 13036 Doug Kliphon (and Sheri too) - 7088 Ferstler Road, Kirkville, NY 13082 Rev. Ed Veaudry - 438 Summerhaven Dr. N.E., East Syracuse, NY 13057 Nancy Liberatore - 4616 Granada Blvd., Sebring, FL 33872 Gloria and Jim Kyser and Family -6844 Schuyler Road, East Syracuse, NY 13057 Lois Klein - 6991 Fly Road, East Syracuse, NY 13057 Sonny Ellis – 226 W. King Street, Jackson, TN 38301 Lorraine Vollmer - recovering from a recent fall -6564 Collamer Road, East Syracuse, NY 13057 Louise Claflin (Leslie's mom) - recovering from a recent fall - 2001 Tweed Court, Leesburg, FL 34788 Rev. Steve Deckard - Harborview Medical Center, Seattle, WA- 14900 Evanston Ave. N., Shoreline, WA 98133. Judy McCallops and Family - 8012 Joss Farm Way Cicero, NY 13039 Please reach out by card, phone, or email to our friends on the Prayer List.

Pastor's Message



Happy March! Hopefully we see more green, both on the streets and on our lawns.

Fun fact: despite my last name, I'm very Irish on both sides of my family, so I always take this time of year as a chance to be proud of my ancestors who survived so much: famines, wars, coming to this country, occupation by the British.

In that vein: it's worth thinking about whose shoulders we're standing on.

Who shaped our lives and made us better people. Who showed us what strength and love are.

And of course, Jesus is one of those people: he's the ultimate example, and one that persists 2000 years later as both savior and public figure.

This is especially important during March, when we also celebrate Women's History Month. That ties perfectly into this month, as we take account of the women figures who have made us better and more connected people.

So, this month, I propose that all of us start to think about the people who shape our lives. The people who have helped us, raised us, fed us, loved us, especially the mother figures in our lives.

Because on Ash Wednesday, when we affirm that we are Dust and to Dust we shall return, we do so knowing our accountability to the Earth and our communities.

The call to be that Mother Figure for our descendants, to give them the love and positive examples that they need.

Let's take March, and Lent as a whole, to do just that.

Amen, and amen.

Pastor Eric

P.S. We can discuss this at our weekly Lenten Book Study, starting soon!

Pastor's Office Hours

The following is Pastor Eric's schedule for office hours:

Monday @ Collamer, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Tuesday @ First United, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Wednesday @ First United, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Thursday @ Collamer, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Of course, this schedule is subject to change. If you would like to schedule a meeting with him, please contact the church office.



01	Carol	Reese

- 01 Aaron Kliphon
- 07 JoAnn Tongue
- 08 Scott Sebastian Littleboy
- 25 Judi Parker
- 29 Sarah O'Neill

SAVE THE DATES!

Spring Dinners



We will be holding our fabulous eat-in and takeout chicken and biscuit dinners on:

April 5, May 10, October 4, and November 1

The price of the dinners will be \$15 for adults and \$6 for children under 10.

If you would like to make a monetary donation to help defray the cost of the chicken and other groceries, please contact the church office. We will also be asking for donations of pies and desserts.

February 2025 Worship Report



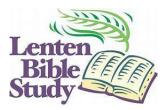
Snow boots were a wise accessory for travel to church, especially on two Sundays this month! But we left the decision to you; for those able to make it, we found those gatherings to be a special time of fellowship. No one wanted to miss Souperbowl Sunday on the 9th. And the 'winter mix' on the 16th left a very messy parking lot that was starting to melt as we left after the service. Thank you, Jerome, for escorting people into church. Many helped each other to their vehicles afterwards. Due to lack of numbers, the choir did not sing either Sunday. Communion was served to 26 by intinction on February 2, with Valerie Warfield and myself assisting.

This month's messages were "Paying Attention," "Agape Love", "Bearing Fruit" and most recently, "Look at God!" Pastor Eric included references to MLK Jr, Black History Month, and Syracuse history regarding the 15th Ward. During "Look at God!", I pondered what things I might shut out of my life because of discomfort, and wondered how I can become a more faithful witness. Acknowledging His glory in everyday things is my exclamation of gratitude, giving God the glory for blessings I have received.

On February 16th Jerome O'Neill, Merle Oswald and Judi Parker were ordained as officers for their next term on the CUC board. (Ed Busco will be ordained and installed at the February board meeting.) We are grateful for your faithful service!

Thank you for caring for our community and the world by lifting prayers for each other, Pastor Eric, our mission in our community, and in the world. The prayers, card and love offering for Andrea Scerbo and her husband were gratefully received.

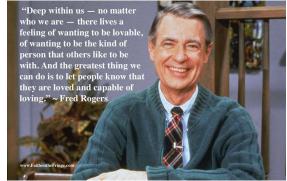
Respectfully submitted, ~ Connie Oliver



Meeting Jesus at the Table: A Five Week Study led by Rev. Adamcik Each Sunday: March 16 through April 13, 2025, From 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. The Gospels are full of stories of Jesus sharing meals with disciples, friends, even tax collectors and Pharisees. Whether multiplying bread to feed a whole crowd, relaxing with his inner circle, or telling curious elites' stories about even greater banquets, Jesus imparts wisdom as he shares the wine and grants forgiveness as he distributes the fish. This eight-chapter resource provides biblical insights along with thought-provoking queries regarding our own time, such as whom should we invite to Sunday dinner and who is left out and left behind in our culture today.

We will be ordering the books which will be available during the first session. Please bring a Bible. Our first meeting will be at CUC and we will alternate on a weekly basis with First United. Lunch will be served.

Mr. Rogers Day



Fred Rogers was an ordained minister of word and sacrament for the PC(USA) and is a notable public figure whose work around peace and reconciliation are worth remembering. Rogers was also a pioneer in the world of Christian education and formation of young children. March 20th was his birthday and the day that the PC(USA) has chosen to highlight all we can learn from his work.

At CUC, we will honor his work during the **March 23** service with song, word, and a bit of fun.

Please wear a cardigan or sweater!



We have been overdue with a member spotlight! So how about the spotlight on an entire family to make up for it?! The Brignalls.... Wayne and Karen along with daughter Susan, grandchildren Sarah and Wayne; Wayne's brother Keith and his wife Grace. We were saddened at the loss of Keith this past year. All of them are major contributors in so many ways!

Wayne Brignall. Here is a man that has been contributing to this church for many years in so many ways. He was involved in the planning and building of this church. With his background in plumbing, he serves expertly in maintaining this church. So many tasks he performs behind the scenes: he makes sure everything is ready for inspections, and we always pass them with flying colors! Turning on the stove when we need it sounds simple enough, but it is quite involved. He has always been a key player in our chicken and biscuit dinners and rummage sales. When any repair issues occur, he is available to remedy them along with other members of the building and grounds committee who work together as a well-oiled machine. He has served on the board and other committees over the years with the church's welfare always at the forefront.

Karen Brignall grew up in this church. She is our church historian. If you have a question about CUC, Karen will have the answer! Her contributions are great and numerous: Karen has served on the board in many capacities along with being on probably every committee this church has ever had! She was very involved in the planning and decorating of this church and what a wonderful job she and the decorating committee have continued to do over the years. We enjoy her voice every Sunday in the choir. She is one of the primary players in just about every event this church has had, and she keeps detailed records about these events, she has a wealth of information.

Daughter Susan has also grown up in this church, serving on many committees and the board. She has dazzled us with her artwork and crafts. She brought her children Wayne and Sarah up in this church. They attended Sunday school, were confirmed, and served as acolytes, and worked at our dinners with abundant energy. We have a beautiful garden that Wayne and his scout troop put together next to the back entrance. It has been a joy to see them mature into young adults.

Keith Brignall, a man we will never forget! He kept us on our toes with his jokes and friendly nature. He also served on many committees and the board with a serious concern about our church's well-being. He was always involved in every event, and he lightened our workload with his humor.

Grace Brignall is a mighty force in the kitchen! With her background in food services, she knows what needs to be done! An expert in cleanliness, our kitchen is always spotless. She runs that kitchen, along with others, during our dinner preparations with perfect orchestration! Grace has also served on the board and is serving on several committees.

It has been our pleasure to witness this family steward our church. They are literally a cornerstone of our church. A perfect example of how faith in, and the love of God works. You can't think of CUC without the Brignalls. We thank God for you and may He continue to bless you all.

~Submitted by Judi Parker

Lenten Special Dates



Please note the following on your March and April calendars. Lent is a special season!

MARCH 5: Ash Wednesday @ FUCOES Soup, bread & fruit dinner at 5:30 pm Service at 6:30 pm APRIL 17: Maundy Thursday @ CUC Soup Dinner at 6 pm Service at 7 pm APRIL 18: Good Friday - FUCOES will be open from 12 pm to 3 pm for prayer time (no service) APRIL 20: Easter Sunrise Service at CUC - 7 am 8:45 service at CUC 10:30 service at FUCOES

Easter Flower Sales - orders due by March 23.



We will be holding our annual rummage sale on September 19 – 20, 2025. Stay tuned for more details.



On Sunday, February 16th we held our chili cook-off event. The weather was not the best, but it was the perfect day to sample chili!

We had 17 hearty souls who braved the weather. We had 6 delicious and unique chilis to sample, two from First United and four from Collamer.

Diane Shaffer won with her chili for First United and Shawn and Jaden Ellis, who submitted their mother/grandmother's, (JoAnn Tongue), chili won for Collamer. They each received a "Chili cook-off" medal. The final competition was between the two winners, it was very close and First United won! The church received a framed certificate to proudly display.

Everyone had a great time, there was plenty of food and beverages. We enjoyed it so much that we would like to make this an annual event. Thanks to Dan Christen for suggesting this great idea!



February Monthly Senior Luncheon at Bridgeport UMC



Bridgeport United Methodist Church hosted their monthly senior ("Young at Heart") luncheon Wednesday, February 12, from 11:15 - 1, with several in attendance. Pastor Eric, Merle Oswald, Pat Pease, Judi Parker, Ginnie Busco, Valerie Warfield, and Leslie DuMond attended from CUC.

Diane Taylor welcomed us and pointed out the silent auction taking place to raise funds for the church. Many gift baskets have been put together for this auction which will run through April 7.

Pastor Omar talked about mission work and led us in singing the hymn "Rescue the Perishing." He read Matthew 25:35-40 and said that our Christian duty is to share ourselves with the word and that we can always help someone else. He then gave a blessing over our meal.

We played a Valentine's Day candy matchup game and prizes were given out.

We enjoyed a hearty meal of lasagna, garden salad, fruit salad, and Italian bread. Valentine's cookies and strawberries dipped in chocolate were provided for dessert. Water and hot beverages were also available. The meal was fabulous as usual! A Love Offering canister was available for those able to help defray the cost of the meal.

After lunch, Pastor Omar showed slides and talked about the work done by the Caribbean Mission Partnership which works within the United Methodist Church. You can read more about this mission at www.caribmp.com.

The next senior luncheon is **Wednesday, March 12**. A representative of M & T Bank will discuss identity theft. We will be bringing items for donation to the Bridgeport Food Pantry. (See items posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex). Please let Leslie know if you will be attending. She will RSVP on behalf of CUC



by Merle Oswald

"Soup" er Bowl Sunday



Super Bowl Sunday was February 9, 2025. During the second two weeks in January and the first week of February, we collected 88 cans of soup and 26 boxes and bags of crackers to be donated to the St. Matthew's Food Pantry. The collection included items donated by the 4-H Program and was blessed by Pastor Eric on February 9. Wayne Brignall delivered it to St. Matthew's Food Pantry on February 11.

We also dressed in our sports garb for the service. Dan Christen and Joe Hudgins went all out! A good time was had by all. Pictures were posted on our Facebook page. They were picked up by the Presbytery and Methodist Conference and published in their respective

newsletters!

Sunday, March 9



- Mission Report Continued -

Food Collection



Each month in 2025, We will collect specific food items for St. Matthew's Food Pantry. The items we will be collecting are as follows:

March – Cake Mixes April – Monetary Donation for Eggs May - Shampoo (Regular Size) June – Pasta July – Deodorant (Regular Size) August – Toothbrushes and Paste (Regular Size) September – Canned (Evaporated) Milk October – Pumpkin Filling November – Boxed Stuffing December – Brownie Mixes

We will also continue to collect cardboard egg cartons. Please note that the food pantry can only use cartons holding a dozen eggs.



During March, we will collect items to be donated to Francis House. The list of items will be posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. It includes:

ChapStick/lip balm exam gloves (latex-free, powder-free, size medium and large) AA batteries Kleenex facial tissues trash bags (unscented 13 and 30 gallon with drawstrings) postage stamps flexible straws The deadline for collection is March 30, 2025



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE JANUARY 22, 2025 CUC BOARD MEETING

This regular meeting of the Board of the Collamer United Church was called to order on January 22, 2025, at 6:06 p.m. in the Collamer United Church lounge. Elder Leslie DuMond opened the meeting with prayer and Elder Jerome O'Neill served as moderator.

<u>MINUTES</u>: A motion was properly made by Elder Judith Parker and seconded by Elder Connie Oliver to approve the regular Session minutes of December 18, 2024.

<u>TREASURER'S REPORT:</u> Elder Pamela Laroche presented the financial reports of the church for the months of November 2024 and December 2024. It was noted that a correction was made to the November report previously approved. A motion was made by Elder Leslie DuMond and seconded by Elder Merle Oswald to accept the Treasurer's Report for November 2024, as amended, and the Treasurer's report for December 2024.

<u>VITAL STATISTICS</u>: Carol Burleigh was welcomed as a new member on January 12, 2025, through a transfer of membership from First Presbyterian Church of Chittenango.

<u>PASTOR'S REPORT:</u> Rev. Eric Adamcik reported as follows: He visited Lorraine Vollmer November 21, and Linda Oswald on December 23. He will start offering communion to shut-ins soon. The Advent Bible Study went really well! We got to know each other, ask good questions, and deepen our faith and ties with each other. We look forward to another one for Lent.

He noted it was necessary to cancel his pre-planned visit to Memphis to attend a meeting of the Association of Partners in Christian Education due to the substantial cost. He will attend the meeting virtually. He noted he will not be able to use the remaining continuing education funds available for 2024, amounting to approximately \$380.

It was noted that he only has one decent robe to be used at both churches. He was authorized to purchase another robe so that one can be kept at each church. The expense will be reimbursed.

<u>BUILDING AND GROUNDS:</u> Elder Jerome O'Neill reported The Onondaga County Food Service permit has been received. It has been posted in the Fellowship Hall. - Board Meeting Minutes Continued -

Gill Laroche took down the outside nativity. He also repaired the toilets in the upstairs ladies' room.

Karen Brignall, Marie Czajak, Janet Vollmer, Connie Oliver, and Judi Parker took down the Christmas decorations. Dave Vollmer and Shawn (his employee) took down the Christmas tree and put away the small hat and mitten tree. Dave also plowed the parking lot.

Ginnie Busco continues to do weekly cleaning of the church.

<u>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</u>: Elder Jeannine Parks reported we had a successful Advent Bible study. We will be scheduling a Bible study for Lent and hopefully another one in the spring.

<u>MEMBERSHIP AND EVANGELISM:</u> Elder Emeline McShane reported cards and calls are continuing. A spreadsheet has been created to keep track of visits, calls, and cards to shut-ins. Leslie DuMond keeps track of this and should be notified of what has taken place. The committee will be meeting again soon and plans to schedule another movie.

On Sunday, January 12, 2025, we recognized Carol Burleigh's transfer of membership from the First Presbyterian Church of Chittenango.

Seven inactive members were removed from the active rolls effective December 31, 2024.

We are continuing to work on the pictorial directory. Emails were sent to several individuals requesting pictures.

<u>MISSIONS</u>: Elder Merle Oswald reported concerning the following mission projects:

<u>St. Matthews Food Pantry</u> - We collected 39 boxes of macaroni and cheese for St. Matthew's Food Pantry which were blessed by Pastor Eric on December 15, 2024. They were delivered by Wayne Brignall.

Hat & Mitten Tree – The hat and mitten tree was set up in the Narthex. We collected gloves, hats, scarves, and socks. We collected 111 pairs of mittens and gloves, 111 hats, 18 pairs of socks, and 34 scarves. CUC members donated 75 of these items. The 4-H program donated 199 of the items. The collection was blessed by Pastor Eric on January 12. They were delivered to the Rescue Mission by Pat Pease and Merle Oswald on January 21, 2025. Thanks to all for your generosity! - Board Meeting Minutes Continued -

<u>St. Matthew's Food Pantry</u> – "Soup"er Bowl Sunday is February 9. During January and the beginning of February, we are collecting soup and crackers for St. Matthew's Food Pantry. We will also dress up in our favorite sports garb on February 9.

Interfaith Works – We were contacted by a representative of Interfaith Works concerning their need for help preparing meals for workers assisting newly arriving immigrants. They are looking for groups to provide a meal on the first three Tuesdays in February when the workers will be picking up immigrants at the airport and helping them get set up with housing. Monetary donations are also accepted. The matter was tabled for further review.

<u>PASTOR/PARISH RELATIONS:</u> It was noted that Elder Jeri Veaudry resigned her position as PPRC Chair on January 21, 2025. The Board accepted the resignation. The Nominating Committee will be contacted concerning filling this position for the final year term of 2025. Elder Judith Parker reported that, on January 21, 2025, the PPRC met with Pastor Eric and Rev. Kenneth Wonderland, our Presbytery representative.

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE: Elder Leslie DuMond reported the Stewardship Committee met in early January to put together the proposed budget for 2025. The Budget was provided to the Board members for review and approved via e-mail vote between meetings. Discussion took place concerning the budget process.

<u>TECHNOLOGY</u>: Elder Judith Parker reported the Website and Facebook page are updated regularly.

WORSHIP: Elder Connie Oliver reported as follows:

- Due to wintery weather the January 5 church service was cancelled the day before. The cancellation was posted on the electronic sign and CUC Facebook page. Several e-mails, texts, and phone calls were made communicating the cancellation. We are working to update this list.
- Communion Rev. Adamcik served communion by intinction to 25 on January 12. Elders Jeannine Parks and Connie Oliver served as communion assistants. Carol Burleigh formally transferred her membership to CUC that morning.
- The December 29 combined service was well attended (40). Coffee hour was held in the fellowship hall and a number of people went downstairs for fellowship.
- A Worship Committee meeting will be held on February 16.

<u>OLD BUSINESS:</u> The completed Annual Report was provided to Board members for review on January 16. A motion was properly made by Elder Jeannine Parks and seconded by Elder Jerome O'Neill to approve the Annual Report for 2024, as amended. Motion passed. - Board Meeting Minutes Continued -

The 4-H program cancelled their Presentations Workshop and Cooking series, originally scheduled to take place in January, due to lack of interest.

Elder Judith Parker inquired concerning the status of purchase of a small electric stove. Elder Jerome O'Neill reported he has not had an opportunity to address this.

<u>NEW BUSINESS</u>: Elder Leslie DuMond reported that she has reached out to the 4-H representatives concerning the possibility of having car wash fundraisers during the summer months. They have expressed an interest in doing this as a community service. Discussion took place concerning other potential ways to raise funds.

Elder Connie Oliver noted she would like to reach out to the congregation concerning comments and thoughts on the recent joint worship service with First United Church of East Syracuse.

The next meeting of the CUC Board will be February 26, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Rest in Peace John McCallops



August 6 1935 – February 22, 2025

Bottles & Cans



We have an arrangement with ESM Bottle Return. They have recently moved to Arterial Road in Lyncourt. They will provide our Church the redemption money from the returns. You may also put your bottles and cans in the container in the lower entrance to the church.

Church Secretary/Notary Services



I am generally in the Church Office Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. until noon. Other times vary. When I am not in the office, I monitor the Church email regularly. I am also available to provide notary services.

Leslie DuMond



The deadline for any items for the upcoming Circuit Rider is <u>March 24, 2025.</u> Thank you for your cooperation in meeting this deadline. We are accepting donations for postage for the monthly newsletter. Any donations will be appreciated. A big thank you to those who have donated postage. It is greatly appreciated! Also, if you are still receiving the newsletter via U.S. mail and would like to receive it via e-mail, please contact the church office.

CollamerUnitedChurch@verizon.net.



We are putting together a pictorial directory of CUC members and friends. We have been taking pictures at church. If you would like to submit a picture of yourself and/or your family, please e-mail it to the church office.

Fellowship Hall Rental

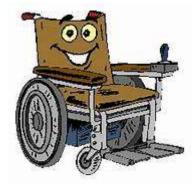


Our church fellowship hall is available for rent for special occasions and meetings. Maximum capacity is 140. Please contact the church office for information.



We are in need of the following supplies: Disposable Coffee Cups Large Trash Bags Paper Towels Any donations will be appreciated! Thanks.

AVAILABLE



A Quantum 2024 NEW, never used, power wheelchair, 24" seat (wider than usual) It tilts back, new battery of course since it is new. Would be happy to donate it to someone that could use it. If you are in need, please contact the church office.



Collamer United Church 6865 Fly Road East Syracuse, NY 13057 (315) 463-4939 collamerunitedchurch.org



EASTER PLANTS 2025

If you wish to order a plant to be placed on the altar for Easter, please fill out this form and give it and your payment to Leslie, Connie, or Grace.

ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 23!!

Prices: Lily \$9.00; Tulip \$9.00; Hyacinth \$9.00

Sorry - but we must insist on CASH (and the exact amount please).

	LIP HYACINTH
PLANT GIVEN BY:	
PLANT GIVEN IN MEMORY OF:	
PLANT GIVEN IN HONOR OF:	