

# Tuesday's Thoughts

March 5, 2024

**The First  
Congregational  
Church,  
United Church of  
Christ**

4 Mead St.  
Walton, NY 13856

Church Services  
Sunday's at 10 am

(607) 865-4066

[info@uccwalton.com](mailto:info@uccwalton.com)

Rev. Dr. Janet  
Schwengber, Pastor



## FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH'S HOLY WEEK EVENTS

The following services will be held during Holy Week at the First Congregational Church, Mead St., Walton. They are open to everyone who would like to attend and be blessed on the most significant Christian Celebrations of the year.

- **Palm/Passion Sunday** March 24 10:00 am

Celebrating the entry of Christ into Jerusalem for the last time with his passion to the day of his death.

- **Maundy Thursday** March 28 4:00 pm

Celebrating the last supper of Christ and receiving Christ's love.

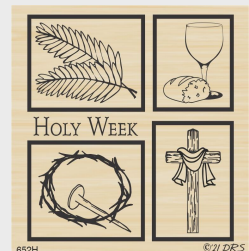
- **Good Friday** March 29 4:00 pm

Celebrating the seven last words of Christ on the cross.

- **Easter Sunday** March 31

"Sonrise" Service More Park

Church Service—Celebrating the Resurrection of Christ from the dead. 10:00 am



**OTHER HOLY WEEK EVENTS SPONSORED BY THE WALTON MINISTERIUM**

**Maundy Thursday Services 3-28-24**

- 4 pm Tenebrae Service at First Congregational Church
- 5 pm Christ Episcopal Church
- 6 pm Foot/Handwashing/Sader Meal at United Methodist
- 7 pm Service at United Presbyterian
- 7 pm Communion Service at New Hope Community Church
- 7 pm Tenebrae Service at First Baptist
- 7 pm Mass at St. John's Catholic Church

**Good Friday Services 3/29/24**

- 4 pm Communion Service at First Congregational Church
- 5 pm Stations of the Cross Christ Episcopal Church
- 7 pm Commemoration Service at St. John's Catholic Church
- 7 pm Joint UPC/Alliance Service at UPC



**Saturday 3/30/24**

- 7 pm Easter Vigil at St. John's Catholic Church

**Easter Sunday 3/31/2**

- 6:30 am Easter "Sonrise" Service at More Park
- Church Services Throughout the Community at Various Times
- 2-4 pm Community Easter Dinner-New Hope Community Church

**PRUDENTIAL BOARD RESTRUCTURED**

Our Prudential Board is the executive body of our church and is responsible for policy-making and transacting the business of the church. The Prudential Board is composed of the Co-Moderators, the Pastor, the Treasurer, the Clerk, and seven-ten elected members of the congregation and could include a representative from the youth (less than 20 years old).

At our Annual Meeting, in February 2024, the structure of the committees making up the Prudential Board changed. We now have 2 committees (instead of 4). The committees are: Ministry and Operations.

These committees are made up of church members who were nominated by their peers.

They are: Janet Brienza      Jenny Clark      Loraine Davila      Chrissy Evans  
Charlene Gregory      Ann LePinnet      Donna Thomson      Rosemarie Tiesler

At this Annual Meeting the following were also elected the these positions:

Co-Moderators—Diane Meredith, Nancy Grotevant      Church Treasurer—Marc Evans  
Church Historian—Charlene Gregory      Church Clerk—Mary Carroll  
Director of Physical Plant—Glen LePinnet

Diane, Nancy and Pastor Janet want to thank everyone for joining them on this journey.

## OUR HOUSE CHURCH WORSHIP

We have been worshipping in the parlor since December 31, 2024. We had to cancel on January 7<sup>th</sup> due to snow and January 28<sup>th</sup> due to a pending storm. All in all we were together in the “house-church” for eight weeks. We will meet one more time on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March before we go back to the sanctuary on Palm Sunday.

I have found this “retreat” very exhilarating. We have shared our concerns and our sorrows. Our thoughts of a spiritual life that we would never do in the sanctuary!

As we go through the steps of our spiritual life we often find regret, happiness and sometimes even a “better than life” experience. This is what the spiritual journey is all about. Jesus tells us that were two or three

are gathered in his name he is present among us, and indeed he was!

When we return to the sanctuary we know that our life and spirit has been blessed with the knowledge that we are together in God’s love and we have a mission to keep this love alive and growing in the years ahead. Not always in the way want, but in a possible new and different way.

I want to thank all of you who participated in this “different” type of worship and who brought new and thoughtful ways to keep our ministry alive in the Walton community! God bless all of us with the love and joy of each other and the knowledge that we are God’s beloved children!

*Janet*

## ADDRESS & EMAIL CORRECTIONS

If you have move or changed your email address, please contact the church office as soon as possible with your new mailing or emailing information.

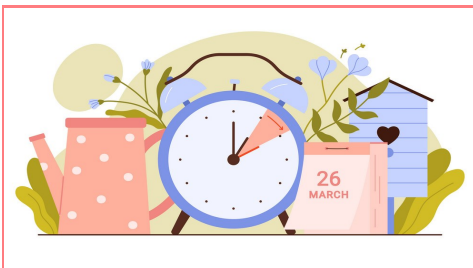
Thank you for helping us maintain communication in a timely manner. You can call the office at 607-865-4066 and leave a detailed message on the changes also.



## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Daylight Savings Time officially begins at 2:00 am on Sunday March 10, 2024.

Remember to turn your clocks AHEAD one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, March 9th.



## DAILY DEVOTIONAL

By Mary Luti

Seminary Educator, Pastor and Author

*We do not have a high priest unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Then let us boldly approach the throne of grace to receive mercy. – Hebrews 4:15–16 (NRSV, adapted)*

Jesus may have been sinless, but he doesn't expect you to be. So don't get hung up on that "without sin" part. Pay attention instead to the "in every respect" part. Jesus was tested by life just as we are, as he struggled for an authentic human life and died a fully human death. He knows what is in us—the endless string of promises we've broken; the thousand times we've sworn off something and done it again; all our sordid, sad, and stupid sins; our exhausting efforts to prove ourselves to God, who isn't actually interested in our self-perfection projects, but just wants us to surrender and come home.

Jesus was a fellow testee, and life's testing turned him tender towards human weakness. As we struggle through life, driven by fears, hapless in choosing, distracted by shiny objects, overcrowded with longings, running on empty, running from empty, he sympathizes.

The ancient creeds say that he will come again in glory "to judge the living and the dead." Don't worry about the "judge" part, either. For who best to judge us than the one whose visceral compassion for weakness makes it impossible for him to condemn us?

Christ's judgment seat is a throne of mercy. We can approach it boldly, as if there's nothing to fear. Because there isn't. If that doesn't make you grateful and glad, nothing will.

## SMALL CHURCH WEEK

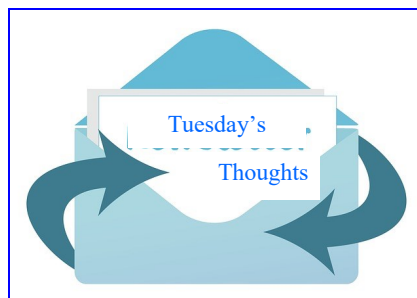
Small Church Week was held from January 29—February 2. During this time 4 webinars were held that were filled with practical information for everyday churches. They included:

- How to Try New Things Without Blowing Up Your Church;
- How a Small Rural Church is Reaching Across Their County;
- How Small Churches are Getting Out of the Rut of What's Not Working;
- How Small Churches Use AI, Streaming, and Other Technologies to Reach New People.

In future editions of Tuesday's Thoughts I will share with you information from these webinars and how it relates to our church.

## TUESDAY'S THOUGHTS ARTICLES

If you have anything you would like put in the next Tuesday's Thoughts, you need to get the information to Nancy by Sunday, March 17, 2024. Information can be sent to [onelongroad2@hotmail.com](mailto:onelongroad2@hotmail.com). If you're able to get information to her earlier, that's even better.



Fran Robinson

Janith Kilpatrick

Janet Brienza

Charlene Gregory

Jim Scopoletti

Dave Carroll

The Family of Sue Ellen McClenon

The Family of Margaret Anna Connolly

The Families of Raymond J & Joan B Light

Those who have lost a loved one



Betty Johnston—March 2

Eloise Kelly—March 13

Paige Clark—March 26

Don Ogden—April 8

Ann LePinnet—April 10

Libby Kelly—April 11

### PRAYER

May life's testing turn me tender, too, O Mercy. And may my tenderness ease my neighbor's way to you.

# March 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1 Elijah's Closet Open 10 - 2	2 Elijah's Closet Open 10 - 2	3 Church Service/ Communion/Sunday School 10 am  Coffee Hour Hosted by the Clark Family
4	5 Chair Yoga 11-12	6	7 Chair Yoga 11-12	8 Elijah's Closet Open 10 - 2  Prudential Bd Mtg with Investment Rep 3:30	9 Elijah's Closet Open 10 - 2  Gathering Table 11:30 - 1:30	10 Church Service/ Sunday School 10 am
11	12 Chair Yoga 11-12	13 Elijah's Closet Meeting 4:45	14 Chair Yoga 11-12	15 Elijah's Closet Open 10 - 2	16 Elijah's Closet Open 10 - 2	17 Church Service/ Sunday School 10 am  Prudential Board Meeting 11:15
18	19 Chair Yoga 11-12	20	21 Chair Yoga 11-12	22 Elijah's Closet Open 10 - 2	23 Elijah's Closet Open 10 - 2  Gathering Table 11:30 - 1:30	24 <b>Palm/Passion Sunday</b>  Church Service/ Sunday School 10 am
25	26 Chair Yoga 11-12	27	28 Chair Yoga 11-12 <b>Maundy Thursday/Terebrae Service 4 PM</b>	29 Elijah's Closet Open 10 - 2  <b>Good Friday- Communion Service 4 pm</b>	30 Elijah's Closet Open 10 - 2	31 <b>"SonRise" Service - More Park - 6:30 am  Easter Sunday Service/Sunday School 10 am</b>