

Tuesday's Thoughts

May 14, 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

Rev. Dr. Janet
Schwengber, Pastor



REFUGE

By: Talitha Arnold

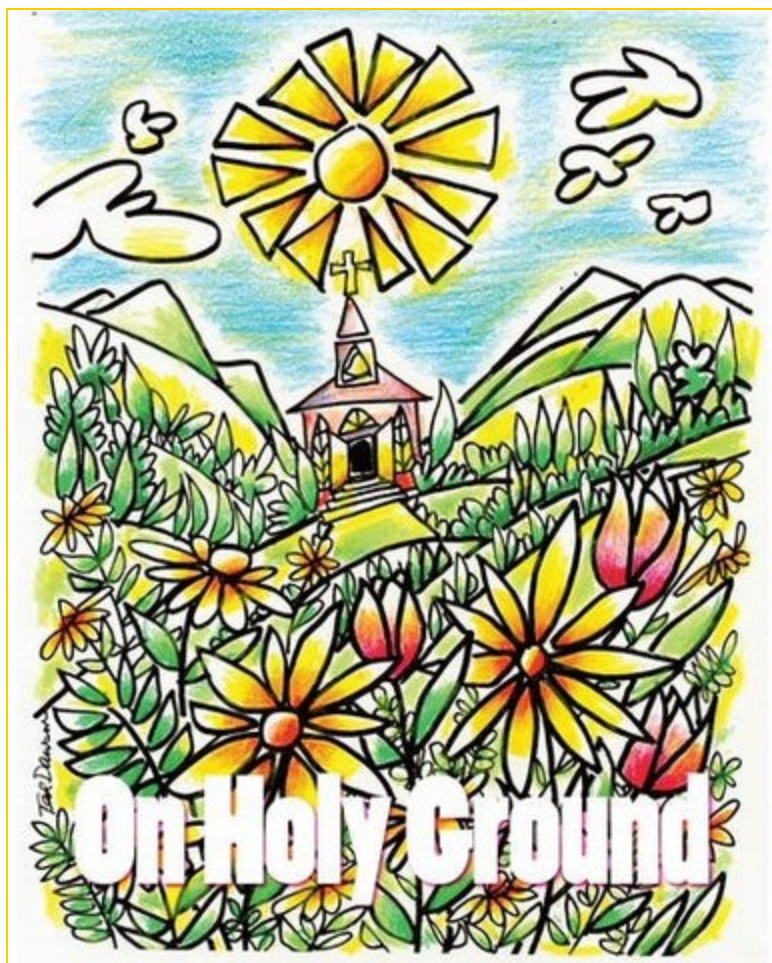
God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear. - Psalm 46:1-2a (NRSV)

The Bosque del Apache is a National Wildlife Refuge two hours south of the church I serve in Santa Fe. Established in 1939 by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the 57,000-acre refuge is off limits to hunting, drilling, fracking, or other commercial use. Its sole purpose is to provide safety, food, water, and nesting areas for birds and wildlife.

The Bosque (Spanish for *woodlands*) is the winter home for tens of thousands of sandhill cranes, geese, and ducks. For a time, an experimental flock of whooping cranes also wintered there. During the annual migrations, the Bosque refuge is a critical stopover for other birds to rest and refuel on their long journeys across the northern and southern hemispheres. After the cranes and geese go north in the spring, the refuge's wetlands provide prime feeding areas for incoming sandpipers, stilts, and other shorebirds. Flycatchers, vireos and a dozen species of warblers also come, using the refuge as a rest stop or a nesting place. Year-round, the refuge is a haven for quail, jackrabbits, and lots of lizards.

"God is our refuge and strength" affirms Psalm 46. It often brings to mind Martin Luther's powerful hymn, "A Mighty Fortress is our God." Sometimes we need the refuge of a strong fortress, "a bulwark never failing." But sometimes we need a refuge like the Bosque del Apache, simply a place to rest and refuel, a safe place to nest and bring forth new life. For birds and wildlife, the Bosque refuge is both a place to call home and a stopover on a long journey. Sounds a lot like a church.





Strengthen the Church

Special Offering

Sunday, May 19, 2024

The Strengthen the Church offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill on its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities.

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults.



Diane Meredith—June 3



CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR:

Janith Kilpatrick Dave Carroll

The family of Lynn M. Parkinson

The family of Glen W. Pomeroy

Ron Richards & Loraine Davila
May 17



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Children's Day will be celebrated June 9.

Following the service the children will share a skit in the Fellowship Hall followed by a dish to pass luncheon. Please plan to join us and celebrate the children.

More information will be shared as we draw closer.



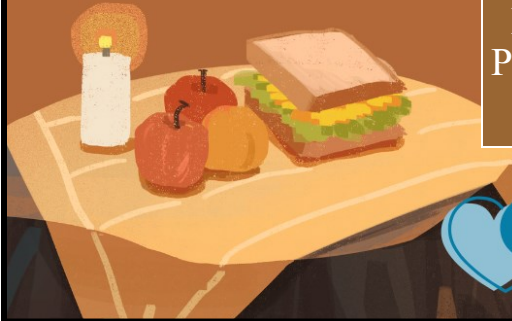
Free Community Meal



For The Gathering Table to continue, your help is needed.

The lunches are held the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month and you can help by cooking, serving, or cleaning up.

Let Loraine Davila or Pastor Janet know when you can help.

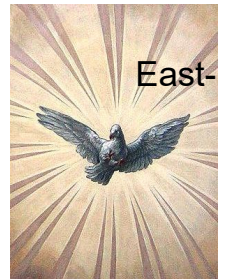


The First
Congregational
Church
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST, Walton, NY

PENTECOST

Pentecost is a Christian holiday which takes place on the 50th day after Easter Sunday. This year it is celebrated on May 19, 2024.

It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Mary, mother of Jesus and the Apostles of Jesus while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks, as described in the Acts of the Apostles.



After church we will have a concert of music with the young children from the Townsend school. Please make every effort to stay and support these children.




MEMORIAL DAY FLOWER ARRANGING

Come join us as Netty's Flowers leads us in creating a Memorial Day arrangement that you can use to place on a loved one's grave or use as a centerpiece for Memorial Weekend.

Open to the public and kid-friendly.

\$40 per arrangement per adult. Kids arrangements available for \$20 (must be accompanied by an adult).

Pre-registration and payment required by contacting Jennifer Clark at lepinnetjl@gmail.com



The 61st Annual Meeting of the
New York Conference
of the United Church of Christ
will convene at the
Holiday Inn, Binghamton, New York

ANNUAL MEETING

1PM on Friday, May 31, 2024
and will be in session until after the
Closing Worship Service and Installation of
Rev. Dr. Marsha Williams
on Saturday, June 1, 2024 at 11AM

**REGISTER
NOW**

May 2024

SUNDAY		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	28 Church Service & Sunday School 10 am	29	30 Chair Yoga 11 am	1	2 World Day of Prayer Bkft. 7:15 am Chair Yoga 11 am	3 Elijah's Closet Open 10 - 2	4 Elijah's Closet Open 10 - 2
	5 Church Service/ Communion & Sunday School 10 am Coffee Hour	6	7 Chair Yoga 11 am	8	9 Chair Yoga 11 am Ministerial Mtg. at Con- gregational Church 11:30	10 Elijah's Closet Open 10 - 2	11 Elijah's Closet Open 10-2 Gathering Table 11:30 - 1
	12 Church Service & Sunday School 10 am <i>Mothers Day</i>	13	14 Chair Yoga 11 am	15	16 Chair Yoga 11 am	17 Elijah's Closet Open 10 - 2	18 Elijah's Closet Open 10 - 2
	19 Pentecost Church Service & Sunday School 10 am Musical follow- ing service	20	21 Chair Yoga 11 am	22 Prudential Bd. 4 pm	23 Chair Yoga 11 am	24 Elijah's Closet Open 10 - 2 Flower Arranging 6 pm	25 Elijah's Closet Open 10-2 Gathering Table 11:30 - 1
	26 Church Service 10 am <i>No Sunday School</i>	27 <i>Memorial Day</i>	28	29	30	31 Elijah's Closet Open 10 - 2	1 Elijah's Closet Open 10 - 2