



Walton First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ

Updates April 15, 2025

**April Celebrations**

Birthdays

8<sup>th</sup>: Don Ogden    14<sup>th</sup>: John & Janet Brienza  
10<sup>th</sup>: Ann LePinnet  
11<sup>th</sup>: Libby Kelly  
13<sup>th</sup>: Heather Ogden  
19<sup>th</sup>: Ron Richards  
26<sup>th</sup>: Deb Caruso

Anniversaries

**May Celebrations**

Birthdays

3<sup>rd</sup>: Lorraine Miller    4<sup>th</sup>: Chris & Jenny Clark  
8<sup>th</sup>: Mary Carroll    17<sup>th</sup>: Ron & Loraine Richards  
25<sup>th</sup>: Keri Batson

Anniversaries

**On the Calendar**

**Thursday, April 17:** Maundy Thursday Communion and Fellowship 4:00 pm

**Friday, April 18:** Community Good Friday Tenebrae Service 4:00 pm

**Sunday, April 20:** "Sonrise" Service at More Park 6:30 am; Easter Sunday Sanctuary  
Worship 10:15 am; No Sunday School, Special Children's Activity with Mayla & Nolan;  
Easter Egg Hunt; Community Easter Dinner at NHCC 2:00 pm

**Saturday, April 26:** Gathering Table 11:30 am-1:00 pm

**Sunday, April 27:** Sanctuary Worship 10:15 am; No Sunday School

**Tuesday, April 29:** Chair Yoga 11:00 am-12:00 pm; Cooking Class 12:00 pm

**Thursday, May 1:** Chair Yoga 11:00 am-12:00 pm

**Sunday, May 4:** Sanctuary Worship and Communion 10:15 am; Sunday School; Coffee Hour  
hosted by Loraine Davila

**Tuesday, May 6:** Chair Yoga 11:00 am-12:00 pm

**Thursday, May 8:** Chair Yoga 11:00 am-12:00 pm; Cooking Class 12:00 pm

**Saturday, May 10:** Gathering Table 11:30 am-1:00 pm

**Sunday, May 11:** Sanctuary Worship 10:15 am; Sunday School

**Tuesday, May 13:** Chair Yoga 11:00 am-12:00 pm

**Thursday, May 15:** Chair Yoga 11:00 am-12:00 pm

**Friday, May 16:** Ministry Committee Meeting 3:30 pm; Operations Committee Meeting 4:00  
pm

**Sunday, May 18:** Sanctuary Worship 10:15 am; Sunday School; Prudential Board Meeting

**Saturday, May 24:** Gathering Table 11:30 am-1:00 pm

**Sunday, May 25:** Sanctuary Worship 10:15 am; No Sunday School

## Elijah's Closet

Fridays and Saturdays 10:00 am-2:00 pm



April 18 & 19:  
50% Off Easter Items



Let us help you get ready for PROM!

## Member Updates

Please place your non-perishable food and toiletry donations in the wagon located at the back of the sanctuary. Loraine Davila will drive donations to the food bank the last Tuesday of each month.

### CHAIR YOGA FOR OLDER ADULTS

**WHERE?** First Congregational Church, UCC  
Corner of Mead and North Sts., Walton, NY  
Enter using the North St., back entrance

#### WHEN?

Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

March 25 & 27  
April 1 & 3  
April 8 & 10

April 29 & May 1  
May 6 & 8  
May 13 & 15

**FREE CLASSES** – no registration required. Come to 1 or come to all.

If you have any questions, call the church at  
607-865-4066

Wear comfortable clothes and bring water with you.

There will be paperwork to be filled out, so please come 20-30 minutes early to your **FIRST** class - even if you completed paperwork in the past.



First Congregational Church, UCC

## Cooking Class

for Older Adults

Tuesday, April 29 |  
12:00 PM  
Register by 4/25

Thursday, May 8 |  
12:00 PM  
Register by 5/5

Cooking Classes Presented by Cornell Cooperative Extension of  
Otsego County Sponsored by First Congregational Church, UCC

If you have any questions or would like to register,  
please contact April at 607-865-4066



If you have anything that you would like included in our bi-monthly Updates, please contact April at 607-865-4066 or [secretary@uccwalton.com](mailto:secretary@uccwalton.com)



## Board Updates



### HOLY WEEK SERVICES

**Palm Sunday**  
Sanctuary Worship at 10:15 am

**Maundy Thursday**  
Holy Thursday Communion and Worship at 4:00 pm

**Good Friday**  
Community Tenebrae Service at 4:00 pm  
*Tenebrae is a religious service of Western Christianity held during Good Friday and characterized by gradual extinguishing of candles, and by a "loud noise" taking place in total darkness at the end of the service which represents the placement of Christ in the tomb. It is a somber service to lead toward a spiritual preparation of the Easter Day Glory!*

**Easter Sunday**  
Celebrate Christ's resurrection with Sanctuary Worship at 10:15 am

## Highlights



4/6/25 Worship with Pastor Janet and Rev. Ryan Henderson



Palm Sunday 4/13/25

Children Handing Out Palm Crosses, Sunday School Children Replaying Jesus Coming to Jerusalem on His Donkey and the People Throwing Cloaks on the Ground for Him



## A Devotional from Pastor Janet

### **But He Emptied Himself** by Mary Luti

*Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. - Philippians 2:5-8 (NRSV, abridged)*

This ancient hymn about Christ is an ode to downward mobility. The Word steps down from the throne, strips off divine privilege, assumes a body with its limitations and frailty, fully enters our human experience, and never once looks back, even when it means he'll not be dying in bed surrounded by family, or in a sad accident, or even as the victim of ordinary violence. His will be the humiliating and brutal death of people that other people have decided are trash.

And it's precisely this downwardness that makes Jesus the most fully human person ever—his capacity to be in the world vulnerably, with no agenda other than to be alongside us, to eat the bread of our tears and drink the wine of our joy, wash all our dirty feet on bended knee (so many feet!), and never ever cop out of all the consequences of bodily life.

What opens the way to healing is empathy. What makes reconciliation thinkable is humility. What makes life extraordinary is the willingness to remain ordinary in lowly companionship with all life's stubborn uncertainties.

If you aren't sure what Christianity is about, here's a clue: it's not a hero story. If you were expecting someone divine to save the world, well, yes. But it turns out that the divine savior is a man like anyone else, less than anyone else, living on his knees, a towel around his waist, a bowl at his side, and feet. Many, many feet.

### **Prayer**

May the same mind be in me that was in Christ Jesus. Amen.

## Lifted in Prayer

Dane  
Nicole Clark & family  
The family of Joe Plank

Sharon Hobbie  
Lorraine Miller