



Walton First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

Updates June 5, 2025

June Celebrations

Birthdays

3rd: Diane Meredith
8th: Judy Kipp
11th: Chrissy Evans
15th: Judy Ogden
18th: Kanaan Epps
22nd: Chaz Epps
29th: Dorothy Welch

Anniversaries

15th: Brian & Deb Caruso

On the Calendar

Sunday, June 8: Sanctuary Worship and **Communion** 10:15 am; No Sunday School; Historic Churches Tour 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

Saturday, June 14: Gathering Table 11:30 am-1:00 pm, volunteers needed**

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

Friday, June 20: Ministry Committee Meeting 2:00 pm; Carnival after school; Operations Committee Meeting 6:00 pm

Saturday, June 21: Harmonica Concert at Northfield Community Church

Sunday, June 22: Sanctuary Worship 10:15 am; **No** Sunday School; Prudential Board Meeting

Saturday, June 28: Gathering Table 11:30 am-1:00 pm, volunteers needed**

Sunday, June 29: **Worship at United Presbyterian Church 10:00 am**

Elijah's Closet

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

Think of Elijah's when doing
your Spring Cleaning!

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.

The Gathering Table is looking for volunteers. You can just cook, just serve or do both. Cooks may shop for their own food and be reimbursed or they can send Loraine a shopping list. Meals must be prepared in our church kitchen. Lunch is served from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. Cooks would have to arrive early to prepare the meal and servers should plan on clean-up after the meal. Volunteers are needed for the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. If you would like to be on the calendar to volunteer, please contact Loraine Davila.



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

Highlights





Children's Day Sermon 6/1/25

Board Updates

In order to give our volunteers a rest and time to plan for fall, the Gathering Table will be paused for the months of July and August.

Our Church Community Invites you all on a
**Historic Tour of Walton
 Village Churches**
 Sunday, June 8th, 2025
 1-4pm
 To start the tours, we will be meeting at the
 intersection of North and East Street

A Devotional from Pastor Janet

A DEI Psalm by Talitha Arnold

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth. - Psalm 67:4 (NRSV)

The word “equity” caught my attention in today’s psalm. Although it’s much in the news these days, “equity” doesn’t show up much in English translations of Bible—only 14 times in the NRSV, seven of which are in the Psalms. But the Hebrew word meshar—translated as “equity” in Psalm 67—is found throughout the Bible, since it also means righteousness, fairness, and levelness (as in a level playing field).

Unlike “equity,” the modern words “diversity” and “inclusion” don’t appear in the Bible’s English translations, but the concepts certainly do. In Psalm 67, the psalmist begins with the ancient Aaronic blessing (“May the Lord bless you and keep you,” Numbers 6:24-26), but expands the blessing from the original “you” singular to the plural “us.” The whole congregation is included in the blessing.

Then the psalmist takes that inclusion beyond their own congregation and their own people, to embrace “all the peoples” and all the nations. The blessing expands across the psalm: first for the individual, then the congregation, then the tribe, and by its last verse, Psalm 67 becomes a call to extend God’s blessing to “all the ends of the earth.”

Psalm 67 sings clearly of God’s command for us, our congregations, our country to be committed expansively to diversity, inclusion, and equity. As Jesus would say, “Let those who have ears, hear.”

Prayer

Thank you, God, for ancient words that speak a truth we need to hear. Amen.

Lifted in Prayer

The family of Raymond Mills
The family of Teenie Kilpatrick
The family of Karen Gilmore

The family of Phillip Smith, Sr.
The family of Olin MacDonald, Sr.