



Walton First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ

Updates July 1, 2025

### July Celebrations

#### Birthdays

2<sup>nd</sup>: Elinor Tempel  
4<sup>th</sup>: John Kipp  
10<sup>th</sup>: Keygan Epps  
16<sup>th</sup>: Lori Ogden  
24<sup>th</sup>: Austin Clark  
30<sup>th</sup>: Mayla Evans

#### Anniversaries

1<sup>st</sup>: John & Judy Kipp  
11<sup>th</sup>: Marc & Chrissy Evans

### On the Calendar

**Tuesday and Thursday, July 1 & 3:** BINGOcize at UPC 4:00 pm-5:00 pm

**Sunday, July 6:** Sanctuary Worship and **Communion** 10:15 am

**Tuesday and Thursday, July 8 & 10:** BINGOcize at UPC 4:00 pm-5:00 pm

**Sunday, July 13:** Sanctuary Worship 10:15 am

**Tuesday and Thursday, July 15 & 17:** BINGOcize at UPC 4:00 pm-5:00 pm

**Sunday, July 20:** Sanctuary Worship and **Communion** 10:15 am

**Tuesday and Thursday, July 22 & 24:** BINGOcize at UPC 4:00 pm-5:00 pm

**Sunday, July 27:** Sanctuary Worship 10:15 am

**Tuesday and Thursday, July 29 & 31:** BINGOcize at UPC 4:00 pm-5:00 pm

### Elijah's Closet

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

### 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.

**NOT YOUR TYPICAL EVENT**

LOVED IT. REVIVAL AND RESTORATION... THAT'S WHAT LAST NIGHT FELT LIKE. - JIM

FACING UNBEATABLE ODDS? AN ADDICTION? A MOUNTAIN IN YOUR LIFE?

**THE STORY TOUR**

**JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF HOPE AND HEALING FOR THE HURTING AND STRUGGLING**

**FEATURING:**  
 PASTOR TRAVIS HABBERSHOW  
 SPEAKER & SUICIDE SURVIVOR

**ORIGINAL MUSIC OF THE ALLAN SCOTT BAND**

**ENCOURAGING GOD STORIES FROM ACROSS THE U.S.**

**SPEAKER & EX-SUBSTANCE ABUSER ALLAN SCOTT**

A show for **anyone, anywhere** who wants to experience Jesus in a **new way.** - PAM

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**  
 WALTON CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL » 47-49 STOCKTON AVE, WALTON, NY 13856

6:00PM DOORS 6:30PM SHOW

\$12 GROUPS (10+)  
 \$14 GA \$5 INCREASE AT THE DOOR  
 \$22 PREMIUM SEATING  
 \$42 VIP

SOME STORIES & TOPICS COVERED IN THE STORY TOUR MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

PURCHASE TICKETS AT [WWW.THESTORYTOUR.ORG](http://WWW.THESTORYTOUR.ORG) - QUESTIONS? CALL 570-506-8100

**EVENT SPONSORS**  
 WALTON MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION  
 FOUND & FAVORED MINISTRIES

**BINGO** *cize*

**Bingo + Exercise = BINGOcize**

**JOIN BINGOCIZE!**  
 An Evidenced Based Falls Prevention Exercise Program  
 10 weeks meets 2 times per week for an hour.

**Location: United Presbyterian Church**  
 58 East St.  
 Walton, NY 13856  
 June 17<sup>th</sup> to August 21, 2025  
 Tuesdays & Thursday 4pm - 5pm

Call 607-832-5750 for more information about class or to register.

Play! Laugh! Move! Learn!

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)

## Highlights







Carnival 6/20/25

## Board Updates

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

Coffee Hour will be paused until September.

**Reminder:** Sunday School will be on break until September. Enjoy the summer!

## Pastor's Pen by Pastor Janet

### A Wooden Beam

I often think that Jesus had a great sense of humor, although we seldom preach on it or laugh at it! There are many instances in Scripture where his examples are both profound and humorous. In the first five verses of Matthew 7, we read about beams and splinters in our eyes. Of course this is humorous, but it works! If you have a beam in your eye how can you notice the splinter in your brother's or sister's eye?

Jesus is talking about being judgmental. How can we judge another when we are handicapped with a block in our own eyes? Being judgmental is part of the human condition. We seem to need to cast doubt on someone else rather than on ourselves. But yet judgement leads to anger, hatred, and human harm.

I have a dear friend who was raised by a very judgmental stepmother. The beams and splinters were plentiful. So much so that it became difficult to even bring friends home to visit. Her sister married someone from another ethnic group than the stepmother. As a result the stepmother did not talk much with her stepdaughter and certainly never invited the couple to her house. Even for holidays and special occasions.

As a Pastor of an open and affirming church I have seen some of this behavior within the affirming church. I'm sure you know someone who has exhibited similar behavior. Maybe even in your own family. But we also have to ask our self: "do we have a beam in our eye too?" I'm sure the answer is "yes"; the human condition!

Jesus teaches that judgment of others leads us to being judged as well. *For as you judge, so will you be judged.*

When we get 'judgy' we need to stop, take a deep breath and take the beam out of our eye. Then, when the beam is removed, we see others as forgiven and accepted. That is when the Grace of God abounds! Without judgment the next step is always forgiveness. Isn't that what Jesus did in his life among us?

### **Lifted in Prayer**

Lorraine Miller

Michael Terry