



Walton First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ

Updates July 15, 2025

### Celebrations

| July                            |   | August                              |                                       |
|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <u>Birthdays</u>                | <u>Anniversaries</u>                    | <u>Birthdays</u>                    | <u>Anniversaries</u>                  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Elinor Tempel | 1 <sup>st</sup> : John & Judy Kipp      | 3 <sup>rd</sup> : April Epps        | 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Glen & Ann LePinnet |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> : John Kipp     | 11 <sup>th</sup> : Marc & Chrissy Evans | 8 <sup>th</sup> : Jenny Clark       |                                       |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> : Keygan Epps  |   | 23 <sup>rd</sup> : Charlene Gregory |                                       |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> : Lori Ogden   |   | 29 <sup>th</sup> : Roy Tiesler      |                                       |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> : Austin Clark |   | 30 <sup>th</sup> : Pastor Janet     |                                       |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> : Mayla Evans  |   |                                     |                                       |

### On the Calendar

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

**Sunday, July 20:** Sanctuary Worship 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

**Sunday, August 3:** Sanctuary Worship and Communion 10:15 am

**Tuesday and Thursday, August 5 & 7:** BINGOcize at UPC 4:00 pm-5:00 pm

**Sunday, August 10:** Sanctuary Worship with Ron Galley 10:15 am; Vesper Service  
Choir Rehearsal 5:00 pm; Vesper Service 6:00 pm

**Tuesday and Thursday, August 12 & 14:** BINGOcize at UPC 4:00 pm-5:00 pm

**Sunday, August 17:** Sanctuary Worship with Ron Galley 10:15 am

**Tuesday and Thursday, August 19 & 21:** BINGOcize at UPC 4:00 pm-5:00 pm

### Elijah's Closet

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

  
**Elijah's Closet**  
 Thrift Store

When flood waters rise, we rise up as a

# community.



**Friday & Saturday**  
**July 25 & 26**  
**10 am - 2 pm**

All sales support people impacted by the recent floods in Texas!  
  
 Also accepting monetary donations!



  
**The First Congregational Church**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, WALTON, NY  
 4 Mead Street, Walton, NY  
 Parking on North St


## 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?




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




**FEATURING...**  
 PASTOR TRAVIS HAMMERSHEW  
SPEAKER & SUICIDE SURVIVOR



**ORIGINAL MUSIC OF THE ALLAN SCOTT BAND**



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



**SPEAKER & SUICIDE SURVIVOR**  
 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**

**\$12 GROUPS**  
(OF 10+)

**6:30PM SHOW**

**\$14 GA**  
AN 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**

## BINGO *cize*

**Bingo + Exercise = BINGOcize**


**play! Laugh! Move! Learn!**

**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.



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

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!

## Previous Sermons and Liturgy

### ❖ July 6, 2025

- ▶ Scripture Reading: *Colossians 3:12-17*
- ▶ Gospel Reading: *Luke 10:1-11, 16-20*
- ▶ Sermon: Peace Be With You

### ❖ July 13, 2025

- ▶ Scripture Reading: *Deuteronomy 6:4-9*
- ▶ Gospel Reading: *Luke 10:25-37*
- ▶ Sermon: Who is Our Neighbor?

## A Devotional from Pastor Janet

### **You Are There** by Talitha Arnold

*Where can I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.* - Psalm 139:7b-8 (NRSV)

Psalm 139 speaks to our greatest fear as human beings: being abandoned, left alone in desolate places, far from home.

It speaks also of God's greatest promise: that no matter where we are, God will be there. I've used Psalm 139 for memorial services, and I've prayed it in the shadowed nights of my own soul.

But last June, on my church's trip to the Arizona/Sonora-Mexico border (our first since the pandemic), Psalm 139 took on new meaning. I'd been to the border ever since I was a child growing up in Arizona and then as a pastor serving in New Mexico. The Sonoran Desert was my first home, with all its beauty and biodiversity—and its desolation and fearsomeness. Tragically, as the border has become more militarized, the wall longer, and the asylum process stopped, crossing the desert has become a descent into Sheol.

To be sure, God's presence can be known through the *words* of Psalm 139. But for the people trying to find their way through an ever more dangerous and deadly place, that Presence needs to be known in the flesh—their flesh and our flesh.

The flesh of hands that leave water jugs along migrant trails and give out granola bars at the wall. Arms that embrace and uphold. Voices that make phone calls for help and speak out for just and humane policies.

Psalm 139 promises that God will be present in all times and places. And God calls us to make good on that promise.

### **Prayer**

Compassionate One, Present One, help us be your Presence in the lives of your people. Amen.

### **Lifted in Prayer**

Lorraine Miller

Bruce Ellis

The family of Pauline Clair

Michael Terry

Brian Caruso

The family of Jon Seeley