



Walton First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

Updates April 15, 2026

Celebrations

April		May	
<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Anniversaries</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Anniversaries</u>
10 th : Ann LePinnet 11 th : Libby Kelly 13 th : Heather Ogden 19 th : Ron Richards 26 th : Debbie Caruso	14 th : John & Janet Brienza	3 rd : Lorraine Miller 8 th : Mary Carroll 25 th : Kari Batson	4 th : Chris & Jenny Clark 17 th : Ron Richards & Loraine Dávila

Remembrances

April		May
<u>Heavenly Birthdays</u>	<u>Day of Resurrection</u>	<u>Day of Resurrection</u>
8 th : Don Ogden 21 st : Hanna Schwengber	5 th : Margaret Cooke 14 th : Hanna Schwengber	8 th : Lynn Parkinson

On the Calendar

- Thursday, April 16:** Chair Yoga 11:00 am-12:00 pm; Ministry Committee Meeting 3:30 pm
- Friday, April 17:** Operations Committee Meeting 4:30 pm
- Sunday, April 19:** Sanctuary Worship 10:15 am; Sunday School; Prudential Board Meeting
- Tuesday/Thursday, April 21 & April 23:** Chair Yoga 11:00 am-12:00 pm
- Sunday, April 26:** Sanctuary Worship 10:15 am; Sunday School
- Tuesday/Thursday, April 28 & April 30:** Chair Yoga 11:00 am-12:00 pm
- Sunday, May 3:** Sanctuary Worship and **Communion** 10:15 am; Sunday School; Coffee Hour
- Tuesday/Thursday, May 5 & May 7:** Chair Yoga 11:00 am-12:00 pm
- Wednesday, May 6:** Freezer Meal Workshop with Dove Karn of CCE
- Sunday, May 10:** Sanctuary Worship 10:15 am; Sunday School
- Tuesday/Thursday, May 12 & May 14:** Chair Yoga 11:00 am-12:00 pm
- Sunday, May 17:** Sanctuary Worship 10:15 am; Sunday School

Elijah's Closet

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

Board Updates



Is on **break** for re-organization
beginning April 1st

To honor loved ones that are no longer with us, we would like to add birthdate/memorial dates to our newsletter. If you would like to have a loved one included, please submit their names and dates to April.

Member Updates

Dear Pastor and Church Family,

You and your church family are invited to a **National Day of Prayer Breakfast on Thursday, May 7, 2026, 7:15 – 8:45 a.m.**, at New Hope Community Church.

We recognize and appreciate the value of your leadership in our communities. The Walton Ministerial Association wants to thank you for your service.

A breakfast will be served from 7:15 – 7:45 a.m. The program will begin at 7:45 a.m. It will include a flag ceremony, involve youth, and prayer by and for the leaders in our community and our country. Sheriff Craig DuMond will be our guest speaker.

We hope you can attend!

If you would, please **RSVP by April 24** by calling Pat Reynolds at 607-865-6634.



Sincerely,

Larry Light, Pastor
New Hope Community Church

Help us TAP CANCER OUT!

May 2nd



In the coming months, Chaz, Keygan, and Kanaan will be fighting. However, this is no ordinary fight. We are taking part in the Tap Cancer Out BJJ Open and along with our family, teammates and competitors, we'll be fighting for those who are in the fight of their lives. We're raising funds in support of Tap Cancer Out, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, and their incredible cancer-fighting beneficiary organizations.



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

April 14 & 16
April 21 & 23
April 28 & 30

May 5 & 7
May 12 & 14
May 19 & 21

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.

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.

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

Previous Sermons and Liturgy

❖ April 5, 2026

- ▶ Sermon: Confusion
- ▶ Scripture Reading: Colossians 3:1-4
- ▶ Gospel Reading: John 20:1-18

❖ April 12, 2026

- ▶ Sermon: A Powerful Command
- ▶ Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9
- ▶ Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31

A Devotional from Pastor Janet

Not Now by Mary Luti

For my life is spent with sorrow, my years with sighing. I am an object of dread to my [friends]; I have passed out of mind like one who is dead. - Psalm 31:10-12 abridged (NRSV)

The day after the 2005 South Asian tsunami, I watched a reporter interview some survivors. In the background, a muezzin called the faithful to prayer. The reporter asked, "Are you going?" Some nodded and got up. But one man, who'd lost his entire family, shook his head. "No," he said, "not now. Now I do not have it in me to pray."

His "no" struck me as a theological necessity, a moment of accountability. To keep God out of it, at least for now, was to lay bare a truth that piety often papers over: that there are times when the very thought of God is unbearable, when there's no moment but this awful moment, when nothing exists outside this monstrous loss, when nothing is real but pain.

In such moments, convictions about God—God didn't cause this, God is with us in suffering, all will be well—matter less than the capacity to be nakedly truthful, even if it means that what once passed for faith in us is lost, and what replaces it is a permanent open-ended question.

Christians tend to overwhelm great blank spaces with hopeful assurances: we are Easter people, after all. But sometimes human suffering demands that we respect its despair and not hurry it to hope. Our haste to get Jesus off the cross and into glory may be a reason Easter is doubted by so many.

Someday that man may pray again. But the mystery of his suffering forbids us even to wonder. Not now. Now the silence, now the stripped and vacant heart.

Prayer

Save me from piety that disallows my neighbor's despair, the hasty faith that makes Easter easier to doubt.

Lifted in Prayer

Lorraine Miller
The family of Karin Crowley

The family of Eleanor Covell
The family of Kermit Conrow