



Walton First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ

Updates May 1, 2026

**Celebrations**

**May**

Birthdays

3<sup>rd</sup>: Lorraine Miller  
8<sup>th</sup>: Mary Carroll  
25<sup>th</sup>: Kari Batson

Anniversaries

4<sup>th</sup>: Chris & Jenny Clark  
17<sup>th</sup>: Ron Richards & Loraine Dávila

**Remembrances**

**May**

Day of Resurrection

8<sup>th</sup>: Lynn Parkinson

**On the Calendar**

**Sunday, May 3:** Sanctuary Worship 10:15 am; Sunday School

**Tuesday, May 5:** Chair Yoga 11:00 am-12:00 pm

**Wednesday, May 6:** Freezer Meal Workshop with Dove Karn of CCE 11:00 am

**Thursday, May 7:** National Day of Prayer Breakfast @ NHCC 7:15 am; Chair Yoga 11:00 am-12:00 pm

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

**Tuesday/Thursday, May 12 & 14:** Chair Yoga 11:00 am-12:00 pm

**Sunday, May 17:** Sanctuary Worship 10:15 am; Sunday School

**Tuesday, May 19:** Chair Yoga 11:00 am-12:00 pm

**Thursday, May 21:** Chair Yoga 11:00 am-12:00 pm; Burial Services for Don Ogden at the Walton Cemetery 1:00 pm

**Sunday, May 24:** Sanctuary Worship and **Communion** 10:15 am; **No** Sunday School; **Coffee Hour**

**Sunday, May 31:** Sanctuary Worship, Children's Sermon 10:15 am

**Elijah's Closet**

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

# Board Updates

Coffee Hour has been moved from May 3<sup>rd</sup> to Pentecost Sunday on May 24<sup>th</sup>.

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.

## Walton Central School District



Teresa Glavin, Superintendent of Schools

District Office  
47-49 Stockton Avenue  
Walton, NY 13856  
(607) 865-4116

Corey Phraner  
District Clerk

April 15, 2026

The First Congregational Church  
Elijah's Closet  
4 Mead Street  
Walton, NY 13856

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to advise you that at their meeting held on April 14, 2026 the Board of Education has accepted a donation of children's clothing to the Townsend Elementary School students through the Health Office.

We want to sincerely thank you for this kind generosity to the Walton Central School District.

Sincerely,

S. Corey Phraner  
District Clerk

# 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

## Freezer Meal Workshop



May 6, 2026 | At 11 AM

4 Mead St., Walton, NY 13856

### What you'll learn:

Discover how to create nutritious and delicious freezer meals that fit into your schedule. All participants will be provided with a grocery list of items to bring the day of the workshop to assemble your 6 freezer meals. Participants will need to bring the proteins and a few produce items. CCE and FCC/UCC will provide the rest of the materials. A Shopping list will be provided by email after registration. All participants will get a recipe booklet to take home for your freezer meals.

### What you'll prepare:

- Sheet Pan Fajitas
- Honey Sesame Chicken
- Mini Meatloaves

### Registration :

In person, by phone at (607)865-4066, or by email at [secretary@uccwalton.com](mailto:secretary@uccwalton.com)



## Cornell Cooperative Extension Delaware County

Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for providing equal program and employment opportunities in accordance with applicable laws.

## 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.

Presented by Music on the Delaware

**WALTON, NY**

**PORCHFEST**

**JUNE 6, 2026**

LIVE MUSIC | ARTISAN MARKET | ANTIQUES | LOCAL SHOPS | EATERIES

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](mailto:secretary@uccwalton.com)

## Previous Sermons and Liturgy

### ❖ April 17, 2026

- ▶ Sermon: Taking a Walk
- ▶ Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23
- ▶ Gospel Reading: Luke 24:13-35

### ❖ April 26, 2026

- ▶ Sermon: We Become Who We Follow
- ▶ Scripture Reading: Psalm 23
- ▶ Gospel Reading: John 10:1-10

## Pastor's Pen

### **Hearts on Fire** by Pastor Janet Schwengber

We are still celebrating Easter. The church refers to these fifty days of Easter as Eastertide in which we hear stories from Scripture, and other sources, that tell of the resurrection of Christ. It is during this time that people become amazed at what was seen by them.

Disciples in a locked room visited by Jesus. People on a walk to Emmaus traveling with, the then unidentified, Jesus. Disciples fishing and then having breakfast prepared for them on the shore by Jesus. A doubting Thomas visited by Jesus to show the wounds of the crucifixion. A woman in the garden talking with Jesus who was just resurrected. As a matter of fact, there were many more such visits to people from the risen Christ. We read in the *Gospel of John* "now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these were written so you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name." (20:30)

In all the instances in which Jesus appeared, we also hear that their hearts burned within them. On the walk to Emmaus Jesus asked the two that were walking with him: "Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" (Luke 24:26) In this way Jesus invited them to understand that death is not the end. Instead, Jesus asks them to embrace a life of telling the story over and over again. Likewise, the disciples in hiding came out of hiding with their hearts on fire to tell others of their witness.

It is not only in Scripture that we hear and see Jesus with his followers. We have a long history in the church, established by Christ, of people burning in their hearts to say and do more for others to hear the love of Christ in the crucifixion and the resurrection. The Saints, the mystics, the poets, the people of the world, the ordinary and simple folk who have heard and seen miracles in their life's journey! There are still others today who feel the love of God in their hearts and reach out to tell others! Jesus' resurrection was over two thousand years ago and

we still realize that believing that Christ rose from death is to show us that we too will do the same!

Doesn't that make your hearts burn within you?

## **A Devotional from Pastor Janet**

### **The Gospel at Lunch** by Mary Luti

*[Then Jesus said,] "The greatest among you shall be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted." - Matthew 23:11-12 (ESV)*

Many years ago, I spent a semester in Mexico City teaching at a Catholic girls' school. Periodically, our faculty attended training sessions hosted by the Jesuit school for boys across town, among the most prestigious in the country.

The food in their lunchroom was pretty good, too. We ate at tables with the boys, who were probably ambivalent about adult company yet showed us sweet respect.

But what really stood out in that dining hall was the service. I'd never been in a school lunchroom where student waiters served the food, filled your glass, and cleared the plates. They mixed it up jovially with the other kids as they worked yet stayed on task, pleasant, attentive, efficient.

I wondered, how did they come by this duty? Was it a punishment for breaking the rules? A way to earn extra credit? Or was it compulsory, everyone taking a turn? I began chatting them up.

Gustavo told me he'd placed first in the annual book-reading competition. Juan Pablo had just been named captain of the fútbol team. Paco had been elected class president a week earlier. Carlitos recently won the lead in the big school play. And Sammy had just recorded the highest GPA in the school.

"High-achieving waiters!" I remarked to a colleague who taught there.

"Ah," he replied, "You get the point."

I didn't, not at first. Then the penny dropped. Lunch duty was the prize for winning.

Service as reward—it was upside down as the world goes, but in that little corner of the kingdom, no one seemed to notice. It was status quo.

### **Prayer**

O for a world where it's status quo to serve and count it as a prize.

## **Lifted in Prayer**

Lorraine Miller

The family of Joseph Tait

The family of Claudia Smith

The family of Martin Foster