



Walton First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ

Updates July 1, 2026

**Celebrations**

**July**

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**

**Sunday, July 5:** **No Worship.** Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend!

**Sunday, July 12:** Sanctuary Worship with Ron Galley 10:15 am; **No** Sunday School

**Sunday, July 19:** Sanctuary Worship with the Evans Family 10:15 am; **No** Sunday School

**Sunday, July 26:** Sanctuary Worship with Ron Galley 10:15 am; **No** Sunday School

**Elijah's Closet**


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

**Board Updates**

**\*\* There will NOT be any worship service on Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup> \*\***

We responded to our first CarePortal request!

**You Just Made a Powerful Impact!**



An email will be sent to you with confirmation details of your response to this request. If you are providing any needs, someone will contact you to coordinate next steps.

Thank you for your generosity to drive action for kids and families in crisis. Your generous support ensures ongoing investment beyond this request and makes requests like this possible in the future.

View more requests
Share this request

## Construction Updates



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

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)

## Highlights



## Summer Carnival 6/24/26



## Previous Sermons and Liturgy

### ❖ June 28, 2026

- ▶ Sermon: The Gift of God
- ▶ Scripture Reading: Psalm 13
- ▶ Gospel Reading: Romans 6:12-23

## **A Devotional from Pastor Janet**

**Are We There Yet?** by Kenneth L. Samuel

*The Lord had said to Abram, "Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father's family, and go to the land that I will show you. I will make you into a great nation." - Genesis 12:1-2a (NLT)*

God's call on the life of Abram/Abraham was essentially a call to disengage from the domiciles of dying paradigms and set out on a journey of faith to an unknown land. With no identifiable destination, no specific directions, and no estimated time of arrival, Abram was instructed to uproot himself from the confines his familiarity and embark upon a journey of promise.

In his quest toward the promised land, the Holy Spirit served as Abram's GPS. Maps and landmarks couldn't help him, because Abram's destination was actually a revelation. His destination was God's plan for human community, which God said, "I will show you."

The places to which God calls us in life are not found in maps but in courage to follow Holy Spirit imagination. The places to which God leads us are not geographic regions but jurisdictions of love and justice. These are not destinations for self-aggrandizement; these are destinations through which all nations of the world will be blessed.

Abram followed the calling of God, but the fullness of God's promise to Abram has not yet been found or realized. The modern land of Israel is ravaged by blood and bombs between Israelis and Palestinians. Meanwhile, global nations are being blistered, not blessed, by ongoing hostilities between rival descendants of Abram.

But let's not forget the promises of God only become reality with a willingness to divest ourselves from the familiar patterns that lock us into competing provinces and follow God's revelation to the promised land of love and justice for all.

### **Prayer**

Lord, help us to live in the spiritual lineage to Abraham by our willingness to divest from the confines of familiarity and faithfully pursue your promise of salvation. Amen.

### **Lifted in Prayer**

Lorraine Miller  
Karen Eckhardt  
The family of Tim Gladstone, Sr.

Pastor Janet  
Randy Stanton  
The family of Robert Baxter