



Walton First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

Updates August 1, 2026

Celebrations

August

Birthdays

3rd: April Epps
8th: Jenny Clark
23rd: Charlene Gregory
29th: Roy Tiesler
30th: Pastor Janet

Anniversaries

2nd: Glen & Ann LePinnet

Remembrances

August

Heavenly Birthdays

4th: Maureen Kennedy
5th: Francis Kennedy

On the Calendar

Sunday, August 2: Sanctuary Worship with Ron Galley 10:15 am; **No** Sunday School

Sunday, August 9: Sanctuary Worship with Rev. Ryan Henderson, Associate Conference Minister for the UCC New York Conference and **Communion** with Pastor Janet 10:15 am; **No** Sunday School;

Light Lunch Coffee Hour, hosted by the Ministry Committee

Sunday, August 16: **No Worship**. See you at the Delaware County Fair Vesper Service!

Sunday, August 23: Sanctuary Worship with Ron Galley 10:15 am; **No** Sunday School

Friday, August 28: Operations Committee Meeting 4:00 pm

Sunday, August 30: Sanctuary Worship with Pastor Janet 10:15 am; **No** Sunday School; Birthday Celebration for Pastor Janet

Elijah's Closet

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

Board Updates

****** There will **NOT** be any worship service on Sunday, August 16th ******

Construction Updates



CarePortal



We responded to our second
CarePortal request!
5 bed frames and 10 sheet sets

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

Previous Sermons and Liturgy

❖ July 19, 2026

- ▶ Sermon: God is Already Here
- ▶ Scripture Reading: Genesis 28:10-19
- ▶ Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

❖ July 26, 2026

- ▶ Sermon: Wisdom from the Almighty
- ▶ Scripture Reading: 1 Kings 3:5-12
- ▶ Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

A Devotional from Pastor Janet

Helooo Jesus! by Vicki Kemper

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through him. — Colossians 3:17, adapted (NRSV)

The Irish poet Pádraig Ó Tuama tells of attending Sunday Mass and sitting near a woman holding a three-year-old boy on her lap. The service proceeded as usual until the celebration of the Eucharist. A bell was rung, and then the priest blessed and held high the Host for all to see.

All was quiet until the young boy, using his outside voice, proclaimed, "Hellooo, Jesus!" When he realized every eye in the church was fixed upon him, he said it again, more loudly still: "*Hellooo, Jesus!*"

When it the last time you greeted the holy presence with such unbridled joy?

It's not that we're afraid to say the name. I hear it all the time, most often outside of church, usually spoken not in greeting, praise, or petition but in exasperation, disgust, or anger. And I can't help but wonder when and why the name of Jesus became an epithet.

The more important questions, of course, have to do with the holy man himself. Are we so ashamed of all the wrong that's been done in Jesus's name that we've disassociated ourselves from his radically inclusive love? Are we so focused on avoiding white Christian nationalism's authoritarian Jesus that we fail to see the suffering Christ in our neighbor?

And still there is that name. Have I grown so accustomed to hearing it as epithet that I've forgotten how precious it is?

Prayer

Hello, Jesus. You always come running when you hear your name, no matter why or how it's said. May I say it more often, with joy, wonder, gratitude, and even love.

Lifted in Prayer

Lorraine Miller
Randy Stanton
Rosemarie Tiesler

The family of Veronica Wayman-Fishelson
The family of Herscha Leon

Pastor Janet
Sherrie Hobbie

Karen Eckhardt
Fran Robinson
The family of Dr. Korwan
The family of Mike Laidlaw
The family of James Amato