

September 2022



THE BELL TOWER



The First Congregational Church, Spencerport UCC
65 Church Street Spencerport, NY 14559



September 2022 Newsletter
From the Pastor's Desk

The Church is the only society that exists for the benefit of those who are not its members.

~William Temple

In June of this year, I received a heartfelt request for partnership in a letter from Heather Eysaman, the Principal of Rochester Academy Charter Elementary School (RACS). Heather is no stranger to our church—seeing that she grew up in First Congregational Church of Spencerport and her mother, Karen, is an active member.

In Heather's letter, she informed me of some very interesting statistics: Over 90% of the students at her school come from the Rochester City School District and are economically disadvantaged; 53% of the students are classified as chronically absent; 11% of the students are classified as special education; and the school compromises 6 different languages among its 400 students.

Furthermore, Heather informed me that two of the greatest needs for teachers and students are school supplies (e.g., backpacks, crayons, pencils, etc.) and winter gear (e.g., clothes, coats, hats, gloves, socks/underwear, etc.). Heather also informed me that many of the teachers were using their own personal finances to purchase some of these items for their students—which is not at all atypical among teachers serving an economically disadvantaged populace.

Therefore, after much prayer, discernment, and discussion, our church has decided to become an official ongoing partner of RACS. If you recall, last month we hosted a community pulled pork dinner—all the proceeds from the dinner have gone to RACS to aide teachers with school supplies for students.

Our next project as a church and community will be to collect winter gear for the students at RACS. More information about this will be coming soon.

In the meantime, I am going to ask you to do two things: 1) Pray for this new partnership; and 2) Discern in your own heart how you can play a role in this (e.g., volunteer at one of the upcoming fundraisers, volunteer to read to the elementary students, volunteer to help sort through and organize donated clothes, etc.).

Church—We have a real opportunity to make a real impact in the lives of these students (and their parents) and teachers. So, let's do it!

Pastor Michael L. Sloan



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LATEST UPDATES

Notes From The Task Force

In support of the Partnership between First Congregational UCC Spencerport and Rochester Academy Charter Elementary School a Pulled Pork Dinner was held on August 6th. The net proceed of that event was \$1326. Along with Penny Jar money from June and July (\$287), generously contributed by Christian Education, and some monies from the Goebel-Zabel Account for Children we were able to present Heather Eyasman, Principal of RACS Elementary School, with \$2000 in gift cards to purchase needed school supplies for the children.

Over 90% of the students are economically disadvantaged and are unable to afford basic supplies for school; many even lack warm clothes for the winter months. In addition to the gift cards for school items, Christian Action is donating \$500 in Burlington gift cards to purchase coats, hats, mittens, and other winter gear.

We are working to enlist cooperation from the community and are planning to hold more Fundraisers to continue to assist RACS in whatever needs they may have.

Thank you to all!



COUNCIL AND BOARDS MEETINGS

**Tuesday, September 20th
@ 6:30 PM HYBRID:
IN-PERSON & ZOOM**



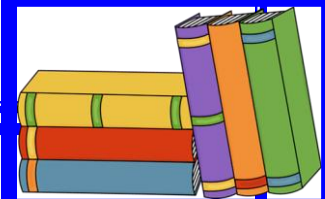
FINANCE BOARD MEETING

**Wednesday, September 14th
@ 7:00 PM Via Zoom**

WOMEN'S GUILD UPCOMING DATES:

MEETING:

**Monday, September 19th @ 9:30 am,
Bring a brown bag breakfast.**



WOMEN'S GUILD IS HAVING A BOOK SALE!

Women's Guild will be hosting a Book Sale in April 2023 and we would like your books.

If you have books you need to clean out to make room for new books you can drop them off at the church Monday thru Friday from 9AM to 2PM or on Sunday morning.

OR

Call the church office (585-352-3448/ M-F 9-2) to arrange to have them picked up.

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BREAKFAST CLUB

Please join us every Tuesday!

Hope to see you there!

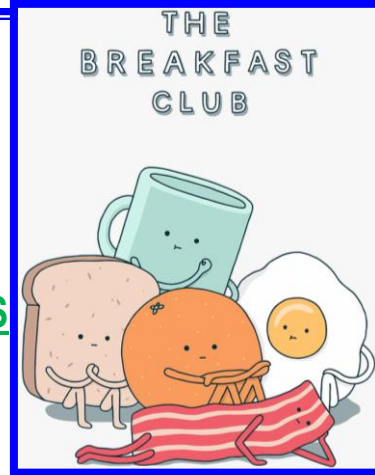
SEPTEMBER DATES/LOCATIONS

September 6th – Slayton Place
(26 Slayton Ave. Spencerport)

September 13th – Panorama
(730 Elmgrove Rd.)

September 20th – Theo's Restaurant
(1174 Brooks Ave.)

September 27th – Johnny d's Restaurant
(2139 North Union St.)



You are invited to a special service of worship:

“We Honor You”

Honoring Our Brave First Responders

Sunday September 11, 2022

10:00 am Service, Reception following at 11:15 am
First Congregational Church of Spencerport UCC
65 Church Street
Spencerport 14559

RSVP – Paula, Admin: (585) 352-3448

Please join us as we host a unique worship service to show our gratitude to our local Fire Fighters, Police Officers and Emergency Medical Technicians. First Responders and their families are cordially invited to attend the service and the reception following. We humbly ask you for the privilege of recognizing your sacrifice and service to our community. May you be blessed, as you have been a blessing to others.

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 21ST

If you would like to submit an article for The October Newsletter, please email the church office at admin@spencerportucc.org, A special hello to Karen Eysaman, by September 21st. Thank you!

September 2022

CHRISTIAN ACTION



The **Board of Christian Action** would like to give our sincere thanks to all who contributed to the “potato chip” collection for the Salem Nutrition Center (Soup Kitchen). We collected **more than 800 individual chip bags**. Salem sent a very gracious thank you!



Spencerport Ecumenical Food Shelf

Thank you for your continuing and generous support to the Spencerport Ecumenical Food Shelf.

This month the following items are especially needed: **Cereal, Hot Cereal, Pancake mix, Coffee, Crackers, Canned Stews, Chili and Hash, Mac n' Cheese, Canned Soup, Canned Peas, Mixed Vegetables, Paper Towels and Kleenex.**

Cash donations can be sent to Dick Gallagher, the Food Shelf Treasurer at: 425 Ogden Parma Townline Road, Spencerport, NY, 14559.

A bin is available in the Fellowship Hall to drop off your donations. If you know of anyone residing in the Spencerport School District, in need of food, they can call 397-0290.

Questions or concerns: contact Melanie Ippolito at 352-3891



NEEDLES MISSION CLUB

Submitted by Holly Bauer-Mergen

CHRISTMAS IS COMING!! Really! But why am I sending out such an early reminder? Because we have a bin of yarn that would make great hats/scarves/mittens (and not so great for lap robes). If anyone would like to make any for the Warm and Fuzzy tree, please let me know and I will get down the bin and let you pick your favorite(s)!

-SEPTEMBER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

GREETERS:

4 – Karen Eysaman
11 – Sunday School Group
18 – Wendy Vonhold
25 – Ebony Sloan

COFFEE HOUR:

4 – Sue Bagley
11 – **TBD**
18 – **TBD**
25 – **TBD**

USHERS:

4 – Ebony Sloan
11 – Ebony Sloan
18 – Carol & Tom Coburn
25 – Ginny Worden

LAY READERS:

4 – Gwendolyn Tappenden
11 – Carol Coburn
18 – Carolyn Mazzota
25 – **TBD**

**USHERS, GREETERS, LAY
READERS, HELPING HANDS
AND COFFEE HOUR HELP
NEEDED:**

If you are interested in
volunteering your time, there is
a sign-up sheet on the bulletin
board in Fellowship Hall or you
can call the office at 352-3448.



Regular Church Office hours will resume on
September 12th:

Monday- Friday: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Pastor: Rev. Michael L. Sloan, D. Min.

Office Hours:

Tuesday – Thursday 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

NEWSLETTER CHALLENGE UPDATE!!!!

Unfortunately, we didn't have any of the winners reach out to us in the months of August. Hopefully we will have a better response in September and be able to give away these great prizes!

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER CHALLENGE

For September we will continue our challenge with 2 more winners. **Remember to read everything!** If you find **your** name, **[A special hello to (Your Name Here)]**, Please contact the office, (585) 352-3448 or admin@spencerportucc.org. 😊



**MONTHLY BIRTHDAYS
& ANNIVERSARIES**

Let's celebrate each other! We would like to start including special dates in The Bell Tower Monthly Newsletter. If you would like your Anniversary or Birthday (without year) included in the monthly newsletter, please contact the office

at (585) 352- 3448 or admin@spencerportucc.org.

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CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CE DIRECTOR JESSILOU IS AVAILABLE!

.... In person or by phone or email as needed:

church office 585-352-3448

cell phone or text: 585-397-8766

office hours by appointment

email: christianeducation@spencerportucc.org

RALLY DAY SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 18TH!

Mark your calendars and don't miss out on this annual event! Treasure hunt, picnic, and the pie eating contest! More info to come!



TEEN ZOOM SERIES: COMPARATIVE RELIGION

Beginning in October, teens are invited to participate in a 6 week Zoom program on the top 6 religions in the world!

There will be incentives for participation and prizes offered!

FIRST MTG: MONDAY Oct 3rd 7PM: ISLAM



SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

Come join us in Fellowship Hall for this annual Fall celebration on Sunday, 9/18 following Church service.

POTLUCK LUNCH --- bring your favorite dish to pass.

Sandwiches, drinks and dessert will be provided.

Fun and games too:

- **Pie eating contest**
- **Face painting**
- **Corn Hole**
- **Scavenger Hunt**
- **Bocci**

Sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall or call Sue Bagley at 233-0362.

Hosted by Board of Christian Education

September 2022



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
SPENCERPORT UCC
SEPTEMBER 2022**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10:00 - Worship/ Penny Jar	Labor Day 	Office Closed 9:00 – Breakfast Club @ Slayton Place (26 Slayton Ave.)				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
10:00 -Worship – First Responders Sunday 	8:00 pm – Monthly Task Force Meeting Regular Office Hours Resume: 9:00 am - 2:00pm	9:00 – Breakfast Club @ Panorama Restaurant (730 Elmgrove Rd) Office Hrs.: 9:00 am - 2:00pm	7:00 pm – Zoom Finance Board Meeting Office Hrs.: 9:00 am - 2:00pm	7:00 - Choir Rehearsal Begins Office Hrs.: 9:00 am - 2:00pm	Office Hrs.: 9:00 am - 2:00pm	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:00 - Choir Rehearsal 10:00 -Worship/Rally Day 	9:30 – Women’s Guild Meeting	9:00 – Breakfast Club @Theo’s Restaurant (1174 Brooks Ave.) 6:30 pm – Council/Boards Meeting	6:30 p.m. Monthly Staff Meeting	7:00 - Choir Rehearsal		
25	26	27	28	29	30	
9:00 - Choir Rehearsal 10:00 -Worship	8:00 pm – Monthly Task Force Meeting	9:00 – Breakfast Club @ Johnny d’s (2139 North Union St.)		7:00 - Choir Rehearsal		

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**
65 Church Street
Spencerport, NY 14559-1311

Newsletter

Challenge



****LOOK INSIDE FOR DETAILS****

September 2022

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am
Telephone: (585) 352-3448
Web site: www.spencerportucc.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/SpencerportUCC

Pastor: Rev. Michael Sloan (1-309-262-6543 - cell)
E-mail: pastor@spencerportucc.org

Administrative Assistant: Paula Jackson
Office Hours: 9:00 am-2:00 pm – Monday-Friday
E-mail: admin@spencerportucc.org

Director of Christian Education: Jessilou Vaccarelli
E-mail: christianeducation@spencerportucc.org

Music Director: Darcy Colby
E-mail: musicdirector@spencerportucc.org

