

Board Walk Plus ~ June 2026

Hello Friends!

Summer may finally be coming to the Southern Tier of New York. I love seeing the trees budding, bushes blossoming and flowers blooming everywhere!

May sure was a busy month at our church! We started out the month giving thanks to Jo Barnard, for her years of teaching Sunday School to our youth. The next Sunday was a lovely Mother's Day tea. The Annual Meeting was held on Sunday May 17th, and May 24th was Pentecost Sunday. Sunday May 31st was installation of new officers. In addition, during this month we had a rummage sale, all of our boards met, and several committees did as well. Pastor Ted, Lisa Sanford and I attended a Presbytery meeting at Camp Whitman. You'll see photos of some of these events throughout this newsletter.

I am thankful to Gene Baker for the article he submitted about the Declaration of Independence (page 5), and to the family of Carrie Spalding for the photos you'll see on page 2. And Lisa Sanford took the cute photo of Peg's great grandson with his Memorial Day flag!

Please keep your information coming! I want our Board Walk Plus to be something that is informative and entertaining. You may text or call me: 607-661-2154 or send me an email: cindy.fitzwater@gmail.com if you have something you'd like to see included. Thank you!

Remember: "The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the greatest intention."

Kahlil Gibran

Faithfully yours,
Cindy Fitzwater



In this issue:

- **Pastor Ted's Pathway** page 2
- **Boardwalk** pages 3 & 4
- **Committee Comments** page 4
- **Birthdays & Anniversaries** page 5
- **News & Views from UPC** pages
- **June calendar** page 8
- **Church contacts** page 8

Upcoming Events:

See calendar on page 10.

W.H.J.B.? (Where Has Jesus Been?)

Looking for pics to share here – remember he is always with you!



***Next newsletter deadline
is Friday June 26th!**

The Pastor's Pathway...

We will have a table for the church at the Independence Day celebration at Veterans Memorial Park. We will offer information about the church, cookies, water, and soda. Proceeds are going to our church missions. This is a good opportunity to connect with the community. I invite you to take some time to sit at our table. I have not yet committed to sitting in the dunk tank. The more church participation to help with the table, the greater the probability that I do that.

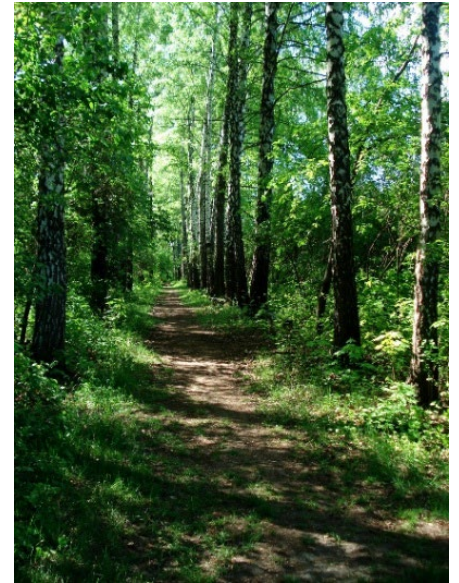
While preparing to officiate a graveside committal service for Bob and Sue Stevens (members of our church from long ago), the family shared with me a treasure they recently found. Sue's mother, Carrie Spalding, was a long-time member of our church. Her grandchildren offered us a picture and a picture of a certificate given to her for 60 years of membership with us. (See below) Rev. David Kilgore (Pastor), and Irene Schu (Clerk of Session) signed this in addition to the Moderator and Executive Presbyterian of Presbytery of Geneva at the time. Unfortunately, no one thought to put the date on the certificate at the time, but I know it was from more than 30 years ago.

We are about to begin our meetings with new board members in June. I look forward to the new energy and ideas around the table in our conference room. I wish to thank all those who are stepping down from service, those stepping up, and those continuing to serve.

A shout out to the kids: We are blessed with some very gifted youth in our church. You have great things to share at children's time and you make worship special. Remember to stay curious and ask lots of questions!! We adults can remember that too.

Faithfully yours,

Pastor Ted



Carrie Spalding – 60+ year member of UPC

May Board Walk

Session:

The Session met for our regular monthly meeting in May as well as for a special meeting to approve ordination of Larry and Jan Casey as an Elder and a Deacon, respectively. We have been reviewing policies for approval and inclusion in the Manual of Operations and conducted other regular business. We discussed a Session retreat and upcoming events, including approval to honor Dottie Utz on Sunday May 31st during worship - in recognition of her commitment to starting and continuing our Sunday Meals Program for over 10 years.



Deacons:

Calls were made to all the persons on the shut-in list, cookies to several. Food was provided to Lee on the day Jon came home from the hospital. Visits were made and treats provided for several persons. Cards were sent to people out of town. Donations were made to Salvation Army, Food Bank and Catholic Charities from the Dime-A-Day fund. Communion was set up and served.

Anyone knowing of persons in need, upcoming events that could use assistance with dinners, cards and calls should contact one of the Deacons.

Submitted by Deb Mammosser

Trustees:

Trustees have been busy working on and planning projects. The handicap spot in the Sanctuary is coming along and will be completed soon. The bathroom remodel at the church is being planned and designed by the Trustee members. The dining room area touch-up has been delayed to work on a wall issue that was found after starting to remove wallpaper. Manse maintenance has started up again with the power washing of the back porch brick area and sealing of cracks on the garage.

We are happy to announce that the donation page (Zeffy) has been added to the church's website; a big thank you to the Communication Committee for completing our request. Also, a thank you to all the Trustees both past and present for all of the work done to keep the church and manse in good shape for the church members to enjoy.

Submitted by Jeremy Holbrook, Chair, Trustees

A reminder about online payments:

Zeffy (designed specifically for nonprofits) is linked on our Facebook and UPC website pages. Click on it to make donations to our church – pledges or other contributions. Please use the memo line to designate where you would like your money to be used. Thank you!

PS – no need to tip – check “no” for processing fee!



COMMITTEE CORNER

Stonework Committee:

Unveiling And Dedication Of Memorial Tree

We will unveil and dedicate the memorial tree for the Stonework Project towards the end of the worship service on **Sunday, 12 July 2026**. Please plan on being there. Light refreshments will be provided.

The dedication of the memorial tree will be the final element of our Stonework Project. Using details provided by donors, each leaf of the memorial tree has the name of the donor (or donors) and the name(s) of those who are remembered or honored.

Once we had decided to repair the church's stonework and had developed a plan to pay for it, the first donation was made on 18 February 2022.

Dedication of the memorial tree on 12 July 2026 ends this important, unique project in the history of UPC Hornell.

Thanks to the many contributions made by members and friends, the Stonework Project was finished in four years with no remaining debt to the church. In fact, the current balance in the stonework fund is \$2,773.11. We will pay Lisa Gardner, the designer, maker, and installer of the memorial tree \$1,700 to cover materials and her time. We will use a small amount to pay for the refreshments at the memorial tree dedication. The Stonework Committee voted to give the remaining funds to the church's Maintenance Fund, for the specific purpose of helping to pay for renovations to the bathrooms next to the dining room.

The members of the Stonework Committee are thankful to retire from their service on the Committee and are so very thankful to everyone who contributed to the Stonework Project or helped in any way with the project. We hope that the success of the Stonework Project serves to remind us of what our church is capable of accomplishing when we have a specific goal before us. The Stonework Project dealt with an important issue concerning our building. Will our next project be a mission project that helps UPC meet important needs in our community?

Let the Holy Spirit guide us!

The Stonework Committee: Jim VanBrunt (Chair), Linda Blauers, Bill Banker, Glenn Gebhard, Lisa Sanford, Jim Varner, Jen Kellogg, Denny Wilson, Pastor Ted Warner

Submitted by Jim Varner



Music & Worship Committee:

This committee meets monthly to discuss our worship services, our music program, and how it's working for us! In May we met to discuss summer worship and music. We have accompanists lined up through the end of June, and liturgists through the summer. We are always looking for volunteers to offer a brief Children's Message any Sunday that works for you...hint hint!

Pastor Ted is planning to reinstate the Thursday Contemplative Prayer Services, perhaps as an afternoon service, and said the Grief Group has been well received and attended.

Submitted by Cindy Fitzwater, Chair, M & W



Our wonderful choir led by Earl Packard

COMMITTEE CORNER cont'd...

Communication Committee:

The Communication Committee has begun meeting to address needs of our church related to communication: website, newsletter, board minutes, ways of getting information to the public about our wonderful church. Committee members include: Carol B., Cindy F., Jen K., Larry C., Lee R., and Pastor Ted.

Larry Casey is taking the lead on updating our website – thank you, Larry! We continue to seek individuals willing to stream our service on Facebook Live each Sunday, and Cindy is enjoying putting all the news of UPC in the Board Walk Plus newsletter.

If you have something you'd like us to discuss, explore, remedy, please contact one of us. We are meeting monthly.

Parish Life:

Parish Life is hosting **Game Night** the fourth Saturday of each month from 7:00 to 9:00 PM in the dining room. This is a great opportunity to socialize with each other and maybe learn a new game! Uno, Sky Jo, Rummikub, Chase the Ace, and Euchre are some of the games that have been played. Hope to see you there on June 27th!



Christian Ed Committee:

On Sunday May 3rd, we recognized and thank Jo Barnard for her many years serving the youth of our church as a Sunday School teacher, play director, producer, etc. We appreciate you, Jo and all join in thanking you for sharing your wisdom with our children! Our kids will miss you in Sunday School, but we'll see you in church!

THANK YOU JO!



Pictured: Sunday School teachers extraordinaire
Megan Haley & retiring Jo Barnard

**Fill the basket:*

Items for June are household cleaning supplies. These can be dropped off in the entrance at Church Street.

News and Views from UPC:

Some years ago, Rush Limbaugh, Jr. wrote an article titled "Our lives, our fortunes, our sacred honor" detailing the men who wrote what became the Declaration of Independence.

Seeing how this nation is approaching its 250th birthday, I thought it would be an appropriate time to reflect their fates knowing full well their signatures on this document would make them hunted men by the British authorities!

They were farmers, merchants, ship owners - all prosperous citizens of the colonies with much to lose. The document was read as written, debated. Congress hacking away the excesses, "inherent and unalienable rights" became "certain unalienable rights."

A total of 86 alterations were made, almost 500 words were eliminated leaving 1,337 words, and after more wrangling the document was put to a vote and adopted on July 4th, 1776.

They paid a heavy price as the British burned their homes and farms, families driven out into the wilderness, one signer could not visit his dying wife and their home burned, 13 children were taken and he never saw them again! One signer's son died in a British prison hulk anchored in New York harbor of starvation and diseases.

Fifty-six signers pledged their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor to give us the future we now enjoy!

REMEMBER THEM!!

Thank you, Gene Baker



Peg Knopf-Willsey's great-grandson visiting with his family on Pentecost Sunday



Beautiful Mother's Day Tea!



News and Views from UPC cont'd



Pentecost Sunday – beautifully decorated sanctuary - and Ellen Mason - one of our talented accompanists.

Pastor Ted and Liturgist Jim Varner on Pentecost Sunday



Bill Banker providing a Mother's Day Children's Message

Thank you, Dottie Utz!

On Sunday May 31st, we honored and thanked Dottie Utz for her desire and persistence to implement a Sunday Meals Program at our church. In the past ten years, this program has served countless meals, now by pick up or delivery, from our own church kitchen. It has grown to include other churches and organizations helping with the bimonthly meals. Dottie is pictured with the three (3) people who will be taking on her roles: Jenny Warner, Dawn Brown and Lee Richeson, with Pastor Ted.



News and Views from UPC cont'd

Church Boards filled:

On Sunday May 31st, we installed and ordained new officers to serve on our boards. Jan Casey and Marcia Reynolds are new Deacons; Larry Casey and Jo Barnard are joining Session, and Bill Banker, Barb Berry and Jen Kellogg will be new Trustees. We thank the following for serving a second term on their respective boards: Ellen Mason and Joann Smith, Deacons; Peggy Knopf-Willsey and Carol Hover, Session; Mike Knopf, Trustees.

We would also like to recognize and thank those leaving our boards for their dedication to the work of our church and their ongoing contributions: Diane Willey and Linda Blauers, Session; Diane Griffin, Deacon; Sam Stonerock and Nancy Baker, Trustees. THANK YOU!



Speaking of Carol Hover....
Caption anyone? Two casts and slings spotted at UPC on Sunday June 7th!



Pictured: Ellen Mason, Marcia Reynolds, Peg Knopf-Willsey, Larry & Jan Casey; Joann Smith, Jo Barnard & Carol Hover.

Below: Pastor Ted offing a Children's Message.



Two of our acolytes, Melo and Lauryn
"accolyt-ing" for us.

June Birthdays:



2 – Teddy Ormsby
5 – Elizabeth Nichols
11 – Beth Ormsby
12 – Glenn Gebhard
12 – Megan Thomas
16 – Larry Philbrick
19 – Dee Porter
23 – John Murawski
28 – Cindy Banker

June Anniversaries:



7 – Glenn & Gayle Gebhard
15 – Roger & Dottie Utz
19 – Al & Ellen Mason
21 – Zach & Anne Nicholes
27 – Gary & Kathy LaBarron-Roberts

What is per capita?

Each year our church is responsible to pay Presbytery a specific amount for every person on our “active” rolls. This year, the per capita is \$62.50 per person, which equals . Members often pay this amount in addition to their other contributions or pledges; some have already paid. You may put this in the collection plate, mail it to the office, or pay it online via Zeffy.

Coming next month:

Beginning next month, the Board Walk Plus will include a “Church Family of the Month” and a recipe or two. Anyone who would like to be featured, or has a recipe to share, please let me know!

Union Pacific Big Boy



Just a reminder that the Union Pacific Big Boy #4014 steam engine will be stopping in Hornell on Thursday June 11th between 2 and 2:30 PM. History in the making in our railroad town, folks!

Finding UPC online

As most of you know, our Sunday Services are streamed via Facebook Live each week. Since many of you do not have a Facebook account, Jen K got us a YouTube channel. We will be able to save our Sunday worship services on this page so they can be viewed any time. You do not need to have a You Tube account to do so. Our “handle” for You Tube is: @UnitedPresbyterian and you can find it easily by searching: Hornell United Presbyterian Church. You can then subscribe to our channel easily by opening the You Tube app or page, searching for our church and clicking on **Subscribe**. Confirm your email address and you’re all set!



Also, for those of you who do have Facebook, please make sure you Follow our UPC page, then Like and Share our content. This will help to get the word out that we are a pretty awesome church family to be a part of, and not just on Sundays!

JUNE 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Deacon's 7 PM	3	4	5	6
7 Communion	8	9 Trustees 7 PM	10	11 Big Boy train!	12	13
14 Youth Sunday	15	16 Session 7 PM	17	18	19 Juneteenth	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Game Night
28 Dime-A-Day collection	29	30	July 1	July 2	July 3	July 4 

Church Contacts:

ADDRESS: 150 Main St., Hornell, New York 14843

PASTOR: Rev. Ted Warner - pastorted@presbyhornell.org/585-322-3112

CLERK OF SESSION: Jame Varner - 607-324-0755

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Jennifer Kellogg - secretary@presbyhornell.org

CHURCH OFFICE: 607-324-0755

WEBSITE: www.presbyhornell.orgFACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/upchornell

YouTube: @UnitedPresbyterian

Newsletter contact: cindy.fitzwater@gmail.com or 607 661-2154