



## FROM YOUR MINISTER JIMMY READER

At 72 years of age, I know that life is full of mixed blessings. Good things all coming at the same time, but with mixed feelings about some of them. That's where we are in early spring of 2021.

We have been in lockdown or living with significant restrictions for a full year now. After a second Covid wave in the past few months, the "numbers" are down again to a level where we are able to begin Sunday services in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. What better day to do this than Resurrection Day! Kathy Borden's trio, LumenEssence, will again be with us that day in the sanctuary to offer their gifts of music for our service.



We recognize, though, that not everyone has been vaccinated yet, and some are not comfortable with returning until later on. We have been preparing for that and are now able to Livestream our services from the sanctuary. We are just now setting it up and will be training our team. We will let you know all the details as soon as possible, but you will be able to worship with us in "real time" by watching on our website, the church app on your phone, YouTube, or Facebook. Some of you have TVs which allow you to get on the internet, and you would be able to find it easily that way. If not, you will still need to use your computer. We will provide more information week by week.

The ability to livestream our services means that anyone anywhere can participate in this way – either live at the time of the service or through the recorded video (which will automatically load on our website and YouTube when the service is ended). ... Many people have enjoyed the interaction we've had on Zoom, and we recognize that will be lost with Livestream and recorded videos. Until we are able to have in-person coffee hour again, we will continue to give you opportunity after the service to join in a "coffee hour" on Zoom so you can catch up with one another.

Another area of mixed blessings is my retirement. I will celebrate 51 years of active, ordained ministry on May 3 this year, and May 16 will be my final Sunday with you as your minister. Who knew in July 2013 (nearly 8 years ago) – when the Council hired me as a short-term interim minister – that I would stay this long?

---

It has been good. ... It is a mixed blessing for you because you will go on to find another minister to serve you and to share her or his life with you. That person will bring different experiences, personality, strengths, and gifts as you move into the next phase of this church's history.

Still another area of mixed blessing is technology. We have been on a 5-year path toward creating a multimedia system to enhance our worship and learning throughout the building. We put in a state-of-the-art sound system and hearing loop. We installed a large screen in Howard Hall and bought other screens for the lounge and the youth room upstairs. ... Then the pandemic hit us, and we were forced to find ways to worship, meet, and fellowship together when we could not do it in person. Richard Ashworth graciously spent hours every week to record our service on video, edit it, and put it online for people to view. For awhile, we were back together on Sundays at the church, and Richard continued to record the services live, edit them, and post them online.

Then, of course, a second wave of Covid hit us, and we had to stop meeting together in person again. This time we chose to use Zoom for our services. That worked better, I think, than most of us thought it might. We were able to see and hear one another, at least, and be interactive before and after the service and share our joys and concerns. ... During this year, we worked with a company called Subsplash to provide our congregation with a phone app for communication about church activities by picking up our phones. That's integrated with our new church website so that when we post a new video or create other church communications, we do it just once for both the app and website. Now, through Subsplash, we will begin livestreaming our services. If people cannot come to on the sanctuary on any given Sunday for whatever reason, they can still turn on their TV or open their computer and worship with us. And the recordings will be available on our website and YouTube soon after the service ends.

It's a new day, as we say, with what many call "digital ministry." Our whole world is "digital" - with information, concerts, music, movies, and just about anything else available at all hours. With the final phase of our multimedia project complete -with full capability for integrated sound, video, graphics, videos, and more as part of worship, learning, and community events - we will have entered this "digital age" at UCP.

This will be my last Easter with you. We are not planning a Maundy Thursday service, but it will be good to be in the sanctuary on that day, even if many of you are not there. And my last seven Sundays will be in the sanctuary, gathered with as many of you as possible from Sunday to Sunday. The only thing "mixed" about that is that not all of you will be able to come yet, and we still cannot do much handshaking and hugging. Maybe on May 16? You are a good and generous church, and we will miss you, but it is time for me to retire.

March 1, 2021

Hello friends and members of UCP and greetings from your Church Council.

We meet on the third Monday of the month, so that meant we met on February 15 under new structure.



Pastor Jimmy called us to order with a prayer and we listened to the minutes of the meeting held in January. As we were all rather new at our positions, Jimmy led much of the meeting.

- a) Karen brought us up to date on the finances.
- b) Jimmy discussed the results of the nominating committee.
- c) Scott stated that the pastor search committee was meeting and a chair would be chosen (that proved to be Scott Hanson).
- d) Scott provided the multi-media update. We now have wi-fi in the sanctuary.

Council discussed when we might meet again in person in the sanctuary. It was decided that we would wait at least another month. Perhaps more people will be vaccinated and we all will feel more comfortable even though still maintaining social distancing and keeping faces covered.

We all felt we could use more training and practice with our new constitution and formats.

One very important reminder: May 16, (a very important date!) will arrive and all very soon.

Even though we are not seeing each other often, we can still make weekly phone calls and send cards to one another —just to keep in touch personally.

Don't forget the food banks. There are still folks who need food and staples. Pittsford Food Cupboard is open on Tuesdays and Fridays 9:30-1:30 and would cheerfully receive your contributions.

That's all for now folks, from your Council Chair,

*Audrey*

### PITTSFORD FOOD CUPBOARD

Chicken or vegetable broth , Pizza sauce and pizza crust mix , Canned spinach, collard greens, beets, relish, pickles, olives, yams, cauliflower rice, meats, mandarin oranges, pineapple (At this time no shelving space available for extra pasta, peanut butter, beans, spaghetti sauce, corn or tuna), Small 100% juice boxes, Alfredo sauce, Dry cat food , Body Lotion.

---

### ROCHESTER FOOD CUPBOARD

There was a fire at the Rochester Food Cupboard in November. Please consider making a monetary donation to help rebuild portions of the pantry and replace some of the foods lost.

---



### *A note from the UCP Missions Team:*

Our Easter offering will once again go to the One Great Hour of Sharing, through the American Baptist Churches, (ABC) and the United Methodist Church (UMC). The UMC also calls it UMCOR, the United Methodist Committee on Relief.

**One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)** is administered by the World Relief Committee of the Board of General Ministries of American Baptist Churches USA. The Committee facilitates American Baptist emergency relief, disaster rehabilitation, refugee work and development assistance.

**The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)** is administered by the United Methodist Church as part of its Global Ministries, the mission, relief, and development agency of the United Methodist Church, working with partners and churches in more than 115 countries.



If you have offering envelopes, you may help support this important work by using the envelope marked "Easter". If not, just put a note with your gift to indicate that it is for Easter. The funds collected will be divided evenly between



## FELLOWSHIP AND FRIENDS

I was surprised and delighted to receive a generous check from the Congregation a few weeks ago! Thank you so much for the gift and for the love you have shown me for many, many years. I hope we can soon be singing safely again, though I don't know when that will happen. Keep a song in your hearts in the meantime!

*Your Fearless Leader Dot*

*Borden*



*Thank You*

### Our First Livestream!

We will be hosting a concert featuring Chen and Junheng on **Friday, March 26 at 4:00pm!**



The concert will be livestreamed on the church app, our website, Facebook, AND YouTube. Can't make it that night? No worries! The recording will be available on our website and YouTube shortly after so you can watch at any time.

Check our website/email blast for the link!

# MARCH

# APRIL

## Birthdays Birthdays



3/5 Michelle Kwarta

3/6 Aidan Ogden

3/12 Aidan Lazenby

3/18 Nadine Pentycowe

3/20 Richard Ashworth

3/24 Dan Burnett

3/26 Jeff Harrison

3/29 Dot Borden

3/30 Michael Wheaton



4/1 Michelle Hanson

4/4 Bethany Kwarta

4/13 Charlie Page

4/13 Eric Strauf

4/16 Brian Page

4/21 Sharon Toles

4/21 Jeanne Carley

## Shepherd & Flock Groups

It has been quite some time since we have had a Shepherd and Flock list for you to see. We had two Shepherds step down during this past year. Cindy Merrifield's group is now cared for by Dawn Hyde, with Ruth Nellis as her substitute Shepherd. Sharon Toles's group is being cared for by Verna Hazen, and Bev Barnett is her substitute Shepherd.

If you find that you are not in a Shepherd group and would like to be, please contact Donella Ashworth at (585) 381-2189. The idea of having these groups is to keep in contact with our congregation and to care for one another when needed.

Here is the list of the groups with the names of the other people in your group.

### ASHWORTH

Cornell  
Ashworth (Wanda)  
Hutchins  
Lin/Liu  
Reeve  
Schunk  
Snyder ♥  
Song  
White (Joan)  
Wolfe

### HYDE

Burnett  
Carley  
Harrison  
Kwarta  
Merrifield  
Miller  
Nellis ♥  
Ogden  
Reader/Bergfalk  
Stookey

### HAZEN

Barnett ♥  
Borden  
Brown ☼  
Durgan  
Hubbard  
Johnson  
Liang  
McCollum  
Wallace  
Zink

### KRAGER

Bradway  
DeCotis  
Gaze  
Grunert ♥  
Kuimjian  
Krebs  
LaTray  
Strauf  
Vasile  
Watkins  
Weiss  
Yankea

### PAGE

Blood  
Broker  
Cranch  
Dobbertin  
Fisher  
Hanson  
Muller  
Passmore  
Pum  
Wallman ♥  
White (Karen)

5 Groups

58 Families

(Including Shepherds, as of 2/2021)

♥ substitute shepherd

☼ homebound

---

# FELLOWSHIP AND FRIENDS

## Zoom : Over the Decades

Learn something new.

Take a walk down memory lane.

You might do both on trivia night!

Don't miss the fun!

Date: SATURDAY, MARCH 20

Time: 7:00pm

Theme: Decades!

Just you participating? Don't worry! We will be creating groups of 2 or more players.

Want to form your own team? You can do that too!

Prizes will be awarded randomly. We know not everyone is an expert!

Sign up by calling or emailing the office by March 19th

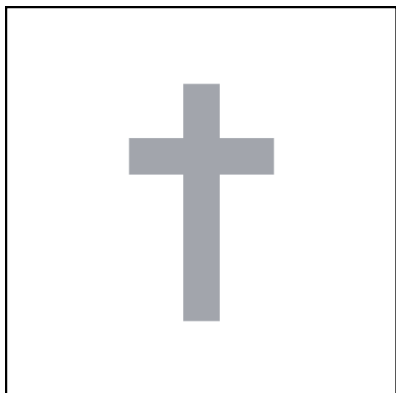


---

## THE CHURCH APP

Stay up to date! Don't forget to  
download our app if you  
haven't already.

<https://ucpittsford.org/app-how-to-download>



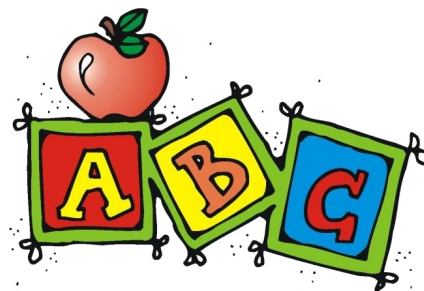
---

## PUNS is looking for new Teachers!

Starting this fall for the 2021-2022 school year. If you or someone you know is interested in working with preschoolers, reach out to Education Director, Dawn Jones for more information.

dawnjones@punsonline.com

(585) 355-5441





## OUR UNITED CHURCH CONNECTION



### Prayer for Myanmar

The people of Myanmar have been faced with the worries of a political issue in their country. The Myanmar Baptist Convention is a longtime partner of the American Baptist Church. They are in need of thoughts and prayers to find peaceful ways of conflict resolution, to end violence, and find a way to keep the participants of The Civil Disobedience movement safe.



Find updates from the Burma Refugee Commission here: <https://www.abc-usa.org/>

### Lenten Reflections

The Lenten season is upon us. The American Baptist Church will be creating a Lenten Reflection series. Reflections will be posted for every Sunday throughout Lent as well as Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday.

Devotional times during the series will have themes and you are invited to view reflections after they are posted, or sign up and join in during the series.



Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/jz4xybv2>

Find reflections here: <https://tinyurl.com/3bwk8ahj>

### Church in the wild

Church in the Wild is an alternative worship location to connect attendees to nature. Located on Sky Lake in Windsor, NY, this church is the New Faith Community part of the Sky Lake Camp & Retreat Center.

They will open to the public in the spring but for now they are hosting many online events.

Check out their website here:  
<https://churchinthewild.org/>



### 'Girls, Jesus is calling YOU'

March is Women's History Month and Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño created a video message for women of the United Methodist Church. She talks about lessons she has learned and the value of women who help promote healing in the world. Transcript is available for those who don't want to watch the video.



Watch the video here:  
<https://tinyurl.com/2rpebfd>








# MARCH 2021



UNITED CHURCH  
of PITTSFORD

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 10:00am Worship Service	8	9	10	11	12 Plant a flower day 	13
14 10:00am Worship Service	15 7:00pm Church Council	16	17 St. Patrick's Day 	18	19	20
21 10:00am Worship Service	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Palm Sunday  10:00am Worship Service	29	30	31			



PLANNING AHEAD?  
LOOKING FOR UPDATES?  
Check out the  
calendar on our website!  
[www.ucpittsford.org/monthly-calendar](http://www.ucpittsford.org/monthly-calendar)



# APRIL 2021



UNITED CHURCH  
of PITTSFORD

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Maundy Thursday	2 Good Friday	3 Holy Saturday	
4 Easter Sunday 10:00am Worship Service	5 Easter Monday	6	7	8	9	10
11 10:00am Worship Service	12	13	14	15 Tax Day	16	17
18 10:00am Worship Service	19 7:00pm Church Council	20 Dialogue Deadline	21	22 Earth Day	23	24
25 10:00am Worship Service	26	27	28	29	30	



PLANNING AHEAD?  
LOOKING FOR UPDATES?  
Check out the  
calendar on our website!  
[www.ucpittsford.org/monthly-calendar](http://www.ucpittsford.org/monthly-calendar)

## — NAMES AND NUMBERS YOU SHOULD KNOW —

Office Phone Number:	586-6870
Rev. Dr. Jimmy Reader, Minister	315-9241
Dot Borden, Choir Director	624-2284
Chen Liang, Organist and Pianist	
Briana Hanson, Administrative Assistant	586-6870
Audrey Johnson, Council Chair	230-4605
Seth Hubbard, Church Clerk	440-228-7359

### Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9:00am-12:00pm

### COLLECTION CONTAINERS

We have the following containers in the office:

#### Used eye wear & HEARING AIDS

*(including batteries, etc.):*

These go to Lions Clubs International.

#### Can pull tabs

*(from canned fruits, vegetables, soups,  
meats, sauces, and beverages):*

These go to McDonalds for Shriner project funding.



UNITED CHURCH  
of PITTSFORD

123 South Main Street

Pittsford, NY 14534

Phone: (585) 586-6870

We're on the Web!

**[www.ucpittsford.org](http://www.ucpittsford.org)**

**Email us at:** [ucpittsford@gmail.com](mailto:ucpittsford@gmail.com)

Follow us! @ucpittsford



Find us on the church app!



HE IS RISEN

*If you would like a hard copy of the Dialogue  
mailed to you, please contact us.*