FROM YOUR MINISTER JIMMY READER

We are now in the Easter season, a time of resurrection and new life. We often consider new beginnings during this time of year as the grass greens and the flowers and trees bloom. Good things are happening at the United Church of Pittsford. At our spring congregational meeting on June 2, the Church Council will ask you to vote on two matters.

Church Mission Statement
Two years ago, as we prepared to launch our Legacy Fund, we created a statement of our vision as part of that campaign. We put it on our website and have talked about it many times. At my request, the Council spent time the past couple of months reviewing it as a Mission Statement:

The United Church of Pittsford is
an inclusive community of hope and love
serving, caring, and learning together
for transformation in our world.

We also worked on additional Foundations for the Mission to clarify what we mean by these words. You can find the full document in this Dialogue. We ask that you also read it carefully and consider whether you feel it expresses who we are and what we do as a congregation. And when it is approved, we will use it as the basis for everything we do.

Sanctuary Project
For the past couple of years, the trustees have explored options for replacing the carpet in the sanctuary. In several places, it has become a hazard for walking on. It was installed in 1992. Recently, we became aware of a gift arranged by Don Smith which would enable the church to purchase a baby grand piano for the sanctuary (a years-long desire of his and of others). Along with memorial funds made available for the sanctuary project, we believe the time has come to accomplish the project, to include new ceiling fans as well.

When we talked about removing the pews to install the carpet this summer, several people asked an important question. Could we consider replacing the pews with pew chairs – for comfort and flexibility in using the sanctuary space? A task group has been busy, along with the trustees, doing the research on the full costs of everything and options of color and style of carpet and fabric.

Between now and the May 20 Council meeting, we will have two open conversations for everyone after church on Sunday, May 5 and May 19. Anyone can come to either conversation to hear all the details and the options being considered. We want to know from everyone your thoughts and get your feedback and suggestions and questions. Meanwhile, the task group will complete all the research and get firm quotes on everything. After the May 20 Council meeting, we will give the church a final proposal in advance of the June 2 congregational meeting when we will ask you to vote on it.
FROM YOUR MINISTER (continued)

Change is sometimes uncomfortable, but new beginnings and moving into a good future as a congregation requires change. Whether the change is a specific statement of mission to guide us in our work and life together or new carpet and piano and perhaps different seating, we want to work through it together in a spirit of love and openness to one another. Ask questions, express your thoughts, and keep on loving one another as we have been doing together for almost six years now.

MUSIC NOTES

Thank you, thank you to the members of the Choir for their fine singing every month! Thanks also to Sara for her support on the piano, as well as for directing the Choir when I was gone on April 14. As always, the Choir will sing on the second and third Sundays in May and June. We would love to have people sign up to sing solos, duets, or trios, or play an instrument, or even dance during our Special Music time. The Choir isn't there on May 5 and 26, as well as June 2, 23 and 30. Since the Choir gets a rest for the summer, we also need volunteers for July and August. Audrey Natale has graciously offered to coordinate our Special Music from now on. She can be reached at: audreyannenatale@gmail.com.

Saturday May 11th, 8:00 AM—10:00 AM
RISE & SHINE PANCAKE BREAKFAST

- Sausage Links
- Pancakes
- Scrambled Eggs
- Maple Syrup
- Blueberry Topping
- Coffee, tea and juice

United Church of Pittsford
123 South Main St. (at Sunset Blvd.)
(585) 586-6870 • www.ucpittsford.org
Proceeds to Coffee Connection
OUR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

LAST CHANCE FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR:
MONTHLY BOOK DISCUSSION!
Join us on Sunday, June 9 at 11:30 am!
Whether you’re an avid reader or you’re okay with skimming and hearing spoilers, we would love for you to participate! We’ll even provide you with a light lunch. Our book selection for the month of May is *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* by Rachel Joyce. Joyce writes the story of an average, older gentleman who spontaneously ventures on the journey of a lifetime!
To obtain a copy of the book each month, please contact me in the office and I will help you find a copy for a discounted rate or free! - Leta

COME SEE ME!
Check the bulletin board in the hallway outside of the kitchen (as well as email blasts) for schedules and events of our students. Do you have a game, performance, ceremony, recital, or event coming up? Let us know so your church family can come support you! Email ucpittsford@gmail.com with the date, time, and location of the event!

VOLUNTEERS FOR NURSERY
Would you consider giving a few Sunday mornings of the year to help watch after our youngest ones? All you need is to be background checked (we’ll do that for you) and to sign up at this link: tinyurl.com/UCPnursery
Questions? Ask Leta Williams or Jen Cranch! (They may personally invite you to help out too!)

OUR WEEK TOGETHER
At Flower City Work Camp in 2019, the United Church of Pittsford was represented on the east side by:
**Aubrea Broker**, who helped a woman clean her entire house and do basic structural improvements (such as shelving and lighting), **Briana Hanson**, who stayed overnight to disciple Aubrea and other students through their week, and **Leta Williams**, who served as an adult through Sidewalk Club (a pop-up evangelism program for children in various neighborhoods of Rochester). For all, the week was impactful, memorable, and fun! **Scott Hanson** also serves as a site surveyor, and we had the **Ashworths** and **Michelle Hanson** step up to deliver food!
Thank you to UCP for your continued support of FCWC in time, manpower, and financial support!

SOCIAL MEDIA WORKSHOP
Communication everywhere has evolved rapidly since the common household use of the internet. This is particularly evident in the current era of smartphones, where people have “the world at their fingertips.” How do we navigate this “world,” and how does our Christian faith inform the way we do so? Whether you log on to social media frequently or don’t use it at all, you are welcome to join us for UCP’s Social Media Workshop on Sunday, May 19 following the worship service. Briana Hanson and Leta Williams will be presenting their findings as well as guiding you through the platforms that attendees are most interested and unfamiliar with.
FOOD CUPBOARDS
Serving our community and our city!

It’s amazing that this church continues to be very diligent in providing food for the food cupboards. However, the need continues to grow in Pittsford, as well as the greater Rochester area. Let’s step it up a notch and bring ONE MORE ITEM than you usually bring for each Sunday in May.

Let’s fill those baskets!

ROCHESTER COMMUNITY
FOOD CUPBOARD
May 5: tea bags
May 12: peanut butter
May 19: tuna

PITTSFORD FOOD CUPBOARD
serving zip codes 14534, 14445, 14610, 14618, 14620, 14607, 14506, 14472

Motto: Feeding Hope, One Family at a Time
Worship Services Collection Sunday: May 26
(for donation baskets in the narthex)

ITEMS APPRECIATED:
• Deodorants • Shampoos
• Laundry detergent • Dishwashing detergents
• Spaghetti sauce • Canned beans and fruits • Cereals
• Egg cartons (as local henneries have begun increased spring/summer egg supplies to food cupboards)

As always, there is a collection basket in the church office for specific items for PFC. Thank you.

A FRIEND IN NEED
Do you have an inexpensive used car that you are willing to part ways with? Someone in our congregation may be willing to buy it off of you! If you have a car you are looking to sell (or would know of a car for sale), please email the office! ucpittsford@gmail.com

CHRISTIAN CAMP OPPORTUNITIES
Vick and Pathfinder Camp and Conference Ministries is looking for...
• campers (from first grade to college freshmen, and scholarships are available!)
• applicants for staff (stewards, cooks, and male counselors - apply soon!) and...
• willing volunteers (sailors, artists, nurses, pastors, counselors, program leaders, and more!)

Check out www.vpccministries.org for more information, email: office@vpccministries.org, or talk to Leta!

OR...

Check out one of the five beautiful camps offered through the Camp and Retreat Ministries of the Upper New York Conference!
Be a camper, volunteer, or summer staff member!
Check out www.campsandretreats.org for more information, or email info@campsandretreats.org
LEMONADE ON THE LAWN

Summer’s almost here! On June 9th we switch from our coffee/tea/hot chocolate in Howard Hall to our cold drinks and snacks on the lawn at the front of the church.

Please consider volunteering to provide the snacks and host for one Sunday. There’s a sign-up sheet in Howard Hall, and you could team up with someone else if you like. Lemonade and iced tea powder is provided for you to make up at church; the supplies are all on a cart in the kitchen together with full instructions. Just bring some cookies or cakes … or whatever.

Questions? Please contact Donella (381-2189).  **THANK YOU!**
Mission Statement

The United Church of Pittsford is an inclusive community of hope and love serving, caring, and learning together for transformation in our world.

Foundations for the Mission

Community...together

Community happens as people are joined together in heart and spirit to live and work for the common good.

Community refers to the UCP community and its mission within the wider community.

Hope and Love

Meaning and purpose for life come through hope and love – essential for the life God intends.

The gospel offers hope and love to all people, and our call is to be living examples in every way we can.

Serving

Serving God and people lies at the heart of the gospel. Jesus said: “I came not to be served, but to serve and to give my life.”

Service includes all actions that make life good as we live in love for the earth and all its creatures.

Caring

Grace and compassion form a core of the gospel. All attitudes and actions rooted in these forms of love are part of caring.

Caring for one another within the church community extends to caring for people in the wider community.

Learning

“Go into all the world and make disciples,” Jesus said. Discipleship and disciple-making are the foundation of the mission of the Church.

Disciples are life-long learners. All who follow Jesus continue to learn together and practice their learning in serving and caring.

Transformation

Healing, freedom, life, and love are the essence of a new creation in Christ.

God empowers us through the Spirit and to work for transformation in our world.
Jesus Christ's Ascension

Across

9. What is the name of the Sunday between Ascension and Pentecost?
10. According to Gospel of Luke, as Jesus parted from them, He _____ them.
11. Christ was _____ in His Ascension.
12. "...He led them out as far as _____." 
13. Jesus departed this earth to heaven on ______ day.
15. Twice did Jesus say this to Peter, "Feed my _____."
18. To which city did the disciples return after the Ascension?
19. "Then _____ he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures."
23. The disciples were to be _____ of these things.
24. This event would come 10 days after the Ascension.

Down

1. Jesus Christ now sits at the ____ hand of the Father.
3. Jesus Ascended into _____.
5. What does the word Paraclete mean?
7. "From thence He shall come to _____ the living and the dead."
8. According to Acts of the Apostles, Jesus showed Himself alive by many _____ proofs.
10. "John truly baptized with water, but ye shall be _____ with the Holy Ghost."
14. And when he had spoken these things, and they beheld... a _____ received him out of their sight.
16. What adjective describes what the disciples did as Jesus ascended into heaven? (Acts 1:11)
17. "..Behold, I send the _____ of my Father upon you:"
20. To which disciple did Jesus seek to restore?
21. How many disciples did Jesus appear to as they were fishing?
22. How many days after the Resurrection is Ascension Day?
OUR UNITED CHURCH CONNECTION

HATE AND VIOLENCE CANNOT DEFEAT LOVE AND FAITH
REV. DR. LEE B. SPITZER,
ABCUSA GENERAL SECRETARY
In the past six months, American synagogues in Pittsburgh and Poway have been attacked and members killed by hate-filled gunmen. In both cases, anti-Semitism was a motive. In New Zealand, two Muslim mosques suffered tremendous loss of life at the hands of a white nationalist, while in California a driver intentionally targeted Muslims and has been charged with eight counts of attempted murder. In January, a bombing of a Catholic church in Jolo, Philippines, killed twenty people. On Easter morning, hundreds of Christians were murdered and injured in a coordinated set of bombings throughout Sri Lanka. Since March 26, three African-American churches have been burned down in Louisiana. In response, we “mourn with those who mourn” (Romans 12:15). As American Baptists, we stand in sincere sympathy with all people who suffer…
Read more at tinyurl.com/ab-response-to-violence

COURT OKS PART OF TRADITIONAL PLAN, EXIT PLAN
LINDA BLOOM, UMNS
The United Methodist Church’s top court has found that while some provisions of the newly adopted Traditional Plan remain unconstitutional, the rest of the plan is valid as church law. That was the Judicial Council’s ruling on a requested review of the Traditional Plan, which was approved during a special denomination-wide legislative session in February to strengthen enforcement of bans on “self-avowed practicing” gay clergy and same-sex weddings.
In a separate ruling, legislation to provide an exit strategy for local churches wishing to leave the denomination meets three minimum requirements and thus is constitutional “when taken together with the consent of the annual conference” as specifically outlined in the Book of Discipline, the court said.
Both decisions came at the conclusion of the Judicial Council’s April 23-26 meeting.
Read more at https://tinyurl.com/ok-exit-plan-umc

2019 BIENNIAL MISSION SUMMIT
Virginia Beach Convention Center
June 21 - 23, 2019
Held in a family-friendly destination, the national biennial event of American Baptist Churches USA will offer inspiring speakers (including our very own Rev. Dr. Sandra Hasenauer!) and preachers, opportunities for education from experienced professionals and leaders through the ABCUSA Biennial Academy, chances for connection with both long-time American Baptists and also new-to-ABC ministers and seminarians, and Baptist Talk Conversation topics that directly affect local church ministry. Read more at https://tinyurl.com/biennialmissionsummit

A UNIQUE MINISTRY: COMMON GOOD RADIO
BY REV. DELLA LUDWIG
“You’re listening to Common Good Radio for all God’s children,” chimes in another year of award-winning programming from Common Good Radio (CGR). This all-volunteer 24/7 digital radio station is entering into its 11th year of production as a labor of love. But CGR is not only a place to listen. It also invites participation and trains young people to lift their voices for the common good (1 Cor 12:7). Read more at https://tinyurl.com/UMC-CGR or check out the CGR Podcasts at commongoodradio.org

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PLANNING AHEAD? Check out our calendar online!
NAMES AND NUMBERS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Office Phone Number: 586-6870
Rev. Dr. Jimmy Reader, Minister 315-9241
Leta Williams, Minister of Education 315-360-6908
Dot Borden, Choir Director 624-2284
Sara Hoffee, Organist and Bell Choir Director 309-531-2792

Scott Hanson, Moderator 586-6861
Anne Passmore, Chair, Trustees 586-9819
Richard Ashworth, Chair, Deacons 381-2189
Jennifer Cranch, Chair, Board of Christian Education 749-4758

COLLECTION CONTAINERS

We have the following containers in the office:

- **Used eye wear & HEARING AIDS** (including batteries, etc.):
  These go to Lions Clubs International.

- **Box Top$ for Education**
  These go to Pittsford and Brighton School District.

- **Labels for Education**
  Discontinued by Campbells Co (2018).

- **Can pull tabs**
  (from canned fruits, vegetables, soups, meats, sauces, and beverages):
  These go to St. Joseph’s Catholic School in Penfield for Schriner project funding.