

# The Circuit Rider

## OSWEGO TRINITY UNITED METHODIST

Volume 40 Issue 9

September 2025



### September Calendar



7 <sup>th</sup>	Freewill dinner at 4:30pm	17 <sup>th</sup>	Ad. Council meeting at 6:30pm
10 <sup>th</sup>	Trustee meeting at 6:30pm	20 <sup>th</sup>	Nu2U and Bake Sale 9am-4pm
12 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup>	Nu2U and Bake Sale 9am-4pm	21 <sup>st</sup>	SAGE meeting at 2pm
15 <sup>th</sup>	Bright and Cheerful at noon		

**AA group meets on Friday evening**

**Choir rehearsals are 7pm on Thursdays. All are welcome!**



### Chancel Servants for September



**Altar Guild:** Mark and Mary Powell

**Communion Stewards:** Diana McKenna and Connie LeBoeuf



### Needed...Food for our Neighbors



The Human Concerns food pantry is in need of non-perishable food items, especially tuna, peanut butter, and boxed mac and cheese. Just bring your items to church, and they will be delivered. Thanks!!



### Upcoming Nu2U Sale



The church Nu 2 U and Bake Sale is planned for **September 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.** There will be a wide variety of items for sale; something for everyone. The Clothing Bag Sale (half-price sale on most other items) starts at 9 a.m. on September 20<sup>th</sup>. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Human Concerns Food Pantry. Anyone wishing to donate may bring the items to the church starting September 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:30 a.m. to noon or call the church for arrangements on a different day or time. Please bake lots of goodies as they are very popular! Thank you! Please use the East Utica entrance as the sale is downstairs.



### Bright and Cheerful



We will meet on the **15<sup>th</sup> at noon** to enjoy lunch and fellowship, as we write cards to our friends of Trinity. We would love to have more people join this wonderful ministry! ☀



### Secret Siblings



Please remember your 'Siblings' with daily prayers, monthly cards, and a small birthday gift!



### **Birthdays:**

- 2 Carrie Simmons
- 4 Cynthia LeFlore, “Conchie” Rosa Laguer
- 12 Kathy Flaherty
- 14 Brenda Holliday
- 19 Patricia Michel
- 22 Dorothy Caldwell
- 23 Barb Downs
- 26 Billy Pierce

### **Anniversaries:**

- 8 Kevin & Heather Heft
- 12 Leonard & Janice Costello
- 17 Mike & Connie LeBoeuf

If you would like other new dates added, please just send an email to the church office.



### **Daily Prayers**

Please keep the following in your prayers this month:

#### **Parishioners, Friends, and Family:**

Those with health concerns: Marge Zeller, Nancy Wadleigh; Bea Holliday; Debbie Downs; Mary Seaton; Connie LeBoeuf; Judy Lake; Zeke Seymour; J.R. Simmons; Dave Wadleigh; Mark Garlock’s father-in-law (Bob); Ed Downs; Will Abare; Nancy Sawyer; Wuxin Shen; Gerrick (Brenda’s nephew); Betty Holliday; Cindy Abare; Donna (Gail’s sister); Kelly and Alana (Nancy Sawyer’s nieces). Those in nursing homes: Ann Rockower; Grace Truell; Valerie Palmer; Cheryl Coe DeLoff; Chuck Himes; Barbara Buske. Please pray for those who are struggling with difficult life choices and uncertainty; Aubrey and Liam Linn and their parents, as well as Rocco Saya. May they discern God’s will for them. Those suffering from cancer; those who are homeless; all caregivers; and the health and safety of our families and friends.

#### **Community and World Concerns:**

Please pray for democracy, those who have been illegally deported and imprisoned, and leaders to be merciful everywhere. Pray for wisdom and strength for local political candidates. Pray also for all victims of natural disasters, including the recent floods and wildfires. Please pray for those living in fear; especially in Ukraine and Gaza, as well as in our country. Prayers for all those doing God’s work in the world; an end to racism, and the coming of world peace! Prayers also for Pastor Ruth in her ministry, for Alan Kinney, and Pope Leo XIV.

### **Beautiful feet**

“How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” (Romans 10:15, NIV). Such beauty has nothing to do with the feet being clean, newly pedicured, elegantly clad. They may be the dusty feet of aid workers bringing food to drought-stricken areas, or the muddy shoes of those rushing disaster relief to flood zones. They may be the swollen feet of a dedicated nurse after a 12-hour hospital shift, or the tired feet of a parent pacing with a baby at 3 a.m.

In the upper room before Jesus’ arrest, he declared his disciples’ dirty feet beautiful by touching and washing them lovingly, preparing them to go out yet again with his good news for all. And on the cross, Jesus’ own feet — nail-pierced — were beautiful.

After Pope Francis died on Easter Monday 2025, many mourners who paid their respects noticed his shoes. Instead of new, well-polished “dress shoes,” the scuffed items clearly had walked countless steps. They were the sturdy boots of a worker, a pilgrim, a travel companion on the road of life, the journey of faith. They were the shoes — the feet — of a disciple of Christ willing to go wherever needed to bring the good news of God’s love. How beautiful!

—Heidi Hyland Mann

## Pastor's Page

Beloved Brothers and Sisters! The month of August is all gone, yes, I know, it went by too fast! But now we all can enjoy a bit of cooler weather. Dan and I really enjoyed our 15 days of vacation in sunny Puerto Rico, sightseeing, gathering with family, enjoying many delicious meals and recharging our battery with sleep. **We are very grateful for this time, and for all your prayers and support!** Also, glad to be back to collaborate with you all!

**The Fulton First Facebook Live Devotions** will continue to be at 8 am. Please, connect into my personal page (Ruth Rosa Warner) or follow through the Fulton First United Methodist Church page to join in our prayers and reflection times.

### **Please, consider collaborating for the following:**

Bible King studies – Oswego Burger King Wednesdays at 9:30 am

Worship Band practice – Fulton First 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays at 7 pm

Choir Rehearsal – Oswego Trinity Thursdays 7 pm

Bible study - Fulton First Friendship room Thursdays at 5 pm

(We are looking into the possibility of making this Bible King Jr. - in Fulton)

The words of the prophet Ezekiel 33:7-9 (TLB) bring a warning/reminder of which we all must be mindful: *“I have appointed you as a watchman for the people of Israel; therefore, listen to what I say and warn them for me. <sup>8</sup> When I say to the wicked, ‘O wicked man, you will die!’ and you don’t tell him what I say, so that he does not repent—that wicked person will die in his sins, but I will hold you responsible for his death. <sup>9</sup> But if you warn him to repent and he doesn’t, he will die in his sins, and you will not be responsible.”* Let us continue to pray for one another and to share the gospel with those around lovingly and patiently, recognizing both that God does not desire anyone would perish and also has given everyone free will to choose to follow Him or not.

Blessings, *Pastor Ruth*



## **July 2025 Current Expense Report**

<b>Staff Salaries &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>\$3,309.88</b>
<i>(This includes cash paid; plus Trinity's portion of SS &amp; Medicare taxes, &amp; some insurances)</i>	
<b>Program Expenses</b>	<b>\$18.60</b>
<i>(This includes Cash used to further our mission as a worshipping community)</i>	
<b>Operations Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,096.84</b>
<i>(This includes all utilities, multi-peril insurance, office supplies, and copier maintenance)</i>	
<b>Conference Billing</b>	<b>\$1,781.00</b>
<i>(This includes shared ministry and retiree premiums)</i>	
<b>Total July Expenditures</b>	<b>\$6,206.32</b>

*Prepared 08/02/25 by Lisa Bartholomew*

*Reflects July 30 Paychecks*

## **N.O.W. Minutes 8/20/2025**

**Present Online:** Sheila Buske, Lisa Bartholomew, Lori Gibson, Pam Hill, Connie LeBoeuf, Diana McKenna, LaDonna Tucker, Marge Zeller.

**Excused:** Barb Downs, Brenda Holliday, Linda Lamond

\*The meeting was conducted by email, with shared information, ideas, and responses.

**Bible Verse:** Isaiah 55:10-13 (The Voice)

*For as rain and snow can't go back once they've fallen, but soak into the ground, and nourish the plants that grow, providing seed to the farmer and bread for the hungry, so it is when I declare something. My word will go out and not return to Me empty, but it will do what I wanted; it will accomplish what I determined.*

*For you will go out in joy, be led home in peace.*

*And as you go the land itself will break out in cheers;*

*The mountains and the hills will erupt in song, and the trees of the field will clap their hands.*

*Prickly thorns and nasty briars will give way to luxurious shade trees, sweet and good.*

*And, they'll remind you of the Eternal One, and how God can be trusted absolutely and forever.*

**Opening Prayer:**

**Gracious and loving God, we thank you for your word, which is like the rain and snow that nourishes the earth, bringing forth life and growth. We recognize that your word does not return to you empty, but accomplishes your purposes and desires. We are grateful for your faithfulness and the power of your word to transform lives.**

**We ask that you would speak your word into our hearts today, that we might understand your will and align our lives with your purposes. Help us to meditate on your word day and night, allowing it to take root and bear fruit in our lives.**

**Lord, we pray that you would lead us out with joy and peace, just as your word promises.**

**May the mountains and hills break forth in singing before us as we walk in your ways.**

**Strengthen us to share your word with others, that they too may experience the joy and peace that comes from knowing you.**

**We ask all of this in the name of Jesus Christ, your Son, who is the living Word. Amen.**

**Glory** – “We have no design but to promote the glory of God” – John Wesley.

What have you been grateful for among God's many blessings of joy and peace in the world recently?

*“We are grateful for the love of family and the coming of new lives into it, and for the blessings of Pastor Ruth and Dan, as they lead us into the future. Grateful also for God's gift of family, who help us to see a path and a future. And of course, we are grateful for our church family!”*

**Approve Minutes** –Pam moved - Approved

**Nurture**

Unfortunately, no Sunday School children have attended during the past two months. But we continue to nurture those on our email list with “Imagine No Racism” prayers each Monday and Thursday. The BibleKing small group has grown to include 8 attendees over the last few weeks, and will continue to meet every Wednesday morning at 9:30 at Burger King. Anyone is invited to join us! We have learned more about the similarities in worship and spirituality among our Jewish, Muslim, Amish, Mennonite, and Native American brothers and sisters. Next, we will be doing a book study on “The Serviceberry”, by Robin Wall Kimmerer, with relevant Bible verses.

The BibleKing group will be planning a fieldtrip to the Ska-nonh Haudenosaunee Museum in Liverpool, which will be open for anyone who is interested to join us. Also, excellent fellowship has been enjoyed after church during coffee hour. Thank you to all those who contribute and work hard to serve and clean up!

Possible small group studies can be held Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:30, as well as an alternate time for those interested. Amy Jill Levine has written a new Advent Study titled. “A Child is Born”. It is described below:

*“Discover the fascinating connections between ancient birth stories and the Nativity of Jesus in this captivating four-week Advent study. The study delves into the narratives of Isaac and Ishmael, Moses, and Samuel to reveal how they foreshadow and enrich the timeless Christmas story in the final chapter. Author Amy-Jill Levine brings her expert knowledge of Scripture and careful consideration of the Christian story to show readers how Scripture's earlier birth stories anticipate the story of Jesus's birth.*

A Spiritual Retreat in Nature will be held on October 14<sup>th</sup> at Sterling Nature Center. We will meet in the church parking lot to carpool at 11:00 a.m. Ideas for an optional lunch someplace locally will be welcomed.

### **Outreach**

We didn't have a freewill dinner in July. But we did have a freewill dinner in August led by Lori and serving 14 guests. Thank you, Lori. Our Dinner in September will be upstairs because we are getting ready for our Nu 2 U Sale September 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Donations may be brought to church starting September 1<sup>st</sup>, and set-up will begin on September 4<sup>th</sup>. The Sale will benefit Human Concerns. We are planning a winter wear giveaway on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Witness**

A T-shirt outing was enjoyed by six Trinity folks at Bev's for ice cream on July 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. We proudly shared our Love for God and Neighbor, John Wesley's Three Simple Rules, and the good news that Love Breaks Down Walls! We were noticed, and received many smiles and words of agreement. Any time we wear our United Methodist shirts in public, they are noticed and often they initiate conversation and appreciation. We placed another order for 26 new t-shirts and sweatshirts on August 4<sup>th</sup>, for the Trinity family and our brothers and sisters at Fulton First UMC. The shirts should be arriving soon!

The outdoor Prayer Box, contains Bible verses and copies of “The Upper Room” for anyone in the neighborhood, and many of our neighbors leave a prayer or two on most Sundays. Thank you to Pastor Ruth for restoring the **"Prayer Box"** letters at the top to their former glory!

The “Jesus said” sayings on the outdoor sign board continue to be posted for all to see! Be sure to check out the various commandments every few weeks or so!

The “Spiritual Renewal in Nature” at Sterling Nature Center on October 14<sup>th</sup> will be a witness if we wear our special shirts. Of course, any time people notice our good deeds and friendly attitude towards all of God's children, we have the opportunity to share our faith. We discussed doing something creative, like maybe painted prayer rocks that could be weatherproofed and left around the edge of the flowerbed. Those walking by could take one and they could be replenished over time. Another thought is to use the side of the ramp for some type of weatherproofed banner or artwork that could be changed seasonally, perhaps highlighting the church's activities, its history, “Jesus said” quotes, or our T-shirt sayings.

**Next Meeting** – Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. IN PERSON.



### **Lifelong learners**

“If you don't have wisdom that goes with knowledge, you are only a walking encyclopedia,” wrote Jack Wellman, a Kansas pastor. “A book of knowledge is useless without the wisdom to know how to apply that knowledge. ... Information without transformation leads only to frustration.”

Consider the many benefits of wisdom — and how you can use what you've acquired to serve God, your church and your community. To better fulfill your calling, what wisdom might you yet need to acquire?

As another school year begins, here's a prayer for students of all ages: All-wise, all-knowing God, make us willing learners and seekers of your wisdom, not for the gain of knowledge for its own sake, but that we might handle every situation we face with the wisdom of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen. —adapted from *The Wired Word*



Trinity United Methodist Church  
45 East Utica Street  
Oswego, NY 13126



2025

Worship and Church School: 11:00 a.m. Sundays

315-343-1715

***“Know the Love of God, Grow as Disciples of Jesus Christ, and  
Go into the World With the Power of the Holy Spirit.”***

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