

The Circuit Rider

OSWEGO TRINITY UNITED METHODIST

Volume 41 Issue 7

July 2026



July Calendar



11 T-shirt outing at Bev's at 1pm
15 Ad. Council meeting at 6:30pm
20 Bright & Cheerful at noon

29 Worship meeting at 1pm
Choir meets on Thursdays at 7pm
AA group meets on Friday evening

Chancel Servants for July

Altar Guild: LaDonna Tucker and Missy Lisk

Communion Stewards: Pam Hill and Marge Zeller



Bright and Cheerful



We will meet on the 20th 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:

1 Zemiah Phrance, Patti Shebelske
11 Jeffery Lisk
12 Dorrie Strobel
23 Ann Estabrook, Len Costello, Jr.

If you would like other new dates added,

please just send an email to the church office.



Anniversaries:

7 Larry and Cindy Fuller
22 James and Margaret Butler



They Walked Everywhere

When a teenager earned his driving permit, he approached his father, a minister, to discuss using the car. His dad replied, "I'll make you a deal. Raise your grades, spend some time in your Bible and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk."

A month later, the young man came back. "Son, I'm proud of you," his father said. "Your grades are up, and you've been faithful in your Bible study. But you didn't get your hair cut."

The teenager paused. "Well, Dad, I've been thinking. Samson had long hair. Moses had long hair. Noah had long hair. Even Jesus had long hair."

His father nodded. "That's true. And they walked everywhere they went."

Daily Prayers

Please keep the following in your prayers this month:

Parishioners, Friends, and Family:

Those with health concerns: Angel Simmons; Mary Seaton; Mark Powell; Brenda Holliday; Carrie Simmons; Dave Wadleigh; Lori Gibson; Linda Lamond; Jean Heagerty; Mary Seaton's brothers; Nancy Wadleigh; Leah (Rebecca's sister); Rebecca's mother; Ed Downs; Dan's former brother-in-law Bruce; Dr. Youngman; three-year-old David; Paula Nelson (Marge Zeller's sister-in-law); Marge's great grandnephew; Bob (Mark Garlock's father-in-law); Lisa Langlois' brother David Stout and his family; Wuxin Shen; Nancy Sawyer and family; Donna (Gail's sister); Those in assisted living: Bea Holliday; Betty Holliday; Ann Rockower; Judy Lake; Valerie Palmer; Gail Draper; Zeke Seymour. Those who are mourning: Jeannie and family. Please pray for all those who are homeless; all caregivers; and the health and safety of our families and friends.

Community and World Concerns:

Prayers for the residents of Country Haven Mobile Home Park, who are forced to live in unsafe conditions. Please pray for democracy, and leaders to be merciful everywhere. Jesus said, "Love God and Love your Neighbor." God said "Do not kill." Over 200 have been killed without evidence or trial in private boats; roughly 9,000 have been killed in the Iran war since February; and 762,000 have died worldwide after foreign aid programs were halted last year. We pray for forgiveness. Please pray for those living in fear, especially in the Middle East and Ukraine, as well as in areas of our country. Prayers for all those doing God's work in the world; an end to racism, and the coming of world peace! Prayers for Pastor Ruth in her ministry; and for Alan Kinney, Jeff Hodge, and Pope Leo XIV as they minister to others. Also, please pray for "Haven of Hope", as they reach out to the homeless in our neighborhood.

May 2026 Current Expense Report

Staff Salaries & Benefits	\$4,262.24
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(This includes cash paid; plus Trinity's portion of SS & Medicare taxes, & some insurances)

Program Expenses	\$25.49
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(This includes Cash used to further our mission as a worshipping community)

Operations Expenses	\$1,536.41
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(This includes all utilities, multi-peril insurance, office supplies, and copier maintenance)

Conference Billing	\$1,070.18
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(This includes shared ministry and retiree premiums)

Total May Expenditures	\$6,894.32
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Prepared 05/30/26 by Lisa Bartholomew

Reflects May 29 Paychecks

Upper New York honored for outstanding global mission support

By Kristina Clark, Associate Director of Missional Excellence

Members of the Upper New York Global Ministries team were recognized at the 2026 Upper New York Annual Conference by Michelle Schwartzman, Mission Engagement Liaison for Global Ministries, for Upper New York Conference's outstanding support of Global Ministries. Upper New York received the award as the conference that contributed the highest amount to Global Ministries within the Northeast Jurisdiction. **In 2025, Upper New York Conference gave a total of \$747,526.75 in support of mission and ministry around the world. This included \$23,706.38 designated for missionaries, \$52,972.39 for Advance Projects, and \$670,847.98 to UMCOR and Global Ministries. Thank you!!!**



From UMC Creation Justice

Imperfect action is better than perfect inaction. Remember that when you feel overwhelmed or down because of the enormity of our climate crises;

Do what you can, wherever you can, whenever you can. (That's very Wesleyan. 😊)

Share these Tips with your family, friends, and congregation.

- **Get rid of your junk catalogs.** Over 100 million trees are cut down annually to produce junk mail. You get waste, clutter, and deforestation. Opt out of unwanted catalogs through "Catalog Choice", a free service from the "Story of Stuff.org".
- **Let your lawn grow taller.** Traditionally manicured lawns do not allow enough water to sink into the ground during peak rainfall events. Instead, the rain washes over the surface, carrying pollutants with it. Taller grass has deeper roots, which absorb rainwater, replenish groundwater, and keep streams alive during drought times.
- **Get rid of concrete, brick, and tile where you can.** Replace it with soil and plants or with chipped wood for a pathway. Temperatures will drop, rainwater will soak in, and pollinators will find a home.
- **Don't mix hot and plastic.** Heat causes plastic to release microplastics and harmful chemicals, which harm human health. Don't microwave food in plastic. Don't drink hot coffee or tea in "paper" cups that are lined with plastic. Don't feed your baby with a plastic baby bottle. Use shatterproof glass or ceramic instead.
- **Shop farmers markets.** Your purchases support pasture-raised meats and eggs, fresh fruits and vegetables, organic and regenerative farming practices. Additionally, because the produce is from the local area, transport emissions and costs are cut.
- **Reduce food waste is a climate action that's accessible to us all.** Choosing appropriate portions or planning for leftovers, monitoring and using what's in the fridge, and composting are each actions that reduce wasted food and therefore methane, which harms the planet.

God created the heavens and the Earth. And God said "It is good."



From Gratitude to Faithful Praise



Gratitude is the beginning of faith; faith leads us to the ultimate gratitude. Gratitude is often the first quiet step of faith. Before answers come, before circumstances change, gratitude teaches the heart to notice God's presence and provision. Scripture reminds us, "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (1 Thessalonians 5:18, KJV). Giving thanks, even in uncertain moments, opens our eyes to God's faithfulness already at work.

As gratitude grows, it naturally leads us into deeper trust. When we remember what God has done, faith finds solid ground. "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1, KJV). Gratitude strengthens that hope by anchoring it in God's past mercies. Each thankful prayer becomes a reminder that the same God who carried us before will carry us again.

Faith, in turn, leads us to ultimate gratitude, not just for blessings received, but for God himself. "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift" (2 Corinthians 9:15, KJV). This gratitude reaches beyond circumstances and rests in Christ, the greatest gift of all. When gratitude begins our journey and faith guides our steps, our hearts learn lasting praise, thankful not only for what God gives, but for who he is.

N.O.W. Minutes 6/17/2026

Present: Sheila Buske, Pam Hill, Connie LeBoeuf, LaDonna Tucker, Marge Zeller.

Excused: Lisa Bartholomew, Brenda Holliday, Linda Lamond, Diana McKenna, Dan Warner, Pastor Ruth.

John 13:34-35 Jesus said:

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Opening Prayer (unison)

All loving and all-embracing God, our hearts overflow with gratitude when we think and feel your love, manifested in Jesus Christ and poured into our hearts by your Holy Spirit. Let our response be spontaneous praise, praying fervently, reading your words passionately and welcoming the strangers genuinely. Give us smiles, courteous words and sacrificial hearts when we approach others with your love. Help us to live in solidarity with you and with the needy and suffering. Let us and our churches reflect your love in a love-hungry world, now and always. Amen.

Glory – "We have no design but to promote the glory of God" – John Wesley

How have you seen God's glory in loving acts lately? Gifts from strangers, Small group discussions and prayers, helping neighbors in need, hugs, homeless dog rescues...

Approve Minutes of 4/15//25 – Connie moved, Pam seconded – Approved

Nurture

We continue to nurture those on our email list with "Imagine No Racism" prayers each Monday and Thursday. Sunday School was offered by Connie and Sheila, but no kids have attended in the last two months. The BibleKing small group continues to meet every Wednesday morning at 9:30 at Burger King, and the Bright and Cheerful Circle meets on the third Monday of every month to write cards for the congregation. Also, Pastor Ruth has been visiting shut-ins and writing cards to congregants. We hosted a "Get to know-You" luncheon on Saturday, June 13th for Fulton and Oswego folks to meet and share ideas. Fourteen people attended to enjoy a catered Canale's meal, and desserts supplied by attendees. We had a

lively brain-storming session involving past, present, and possible future “Nurture, Outreach, and Witness” activities. (results attached) **Thank you** to all who participated in these community-building activities! All are invited!

We discussed the possibility of another “Spiritual Retreat in Nature”, this time at Beaver Lake in the early Fall. Also for the Fall, a small-group Bible study will be planned.

Outreach

Our Free-Will Dinner in May, serving chili and corn bread, hosted 20 guests with 8 workers. Our June hot dog Dinner served 10 guests with six workers. **Thank you** to Marge, and all who help provide free dinners to the community! April’s Nu-2-U Sale netted a total of over \$1,200 after the bag sale far. **Thank you** to Connie and her tireless crew of workers for making this valuable mission possible! The next Nu-2-U Sale will be held on September 12th-13th from 9 a.m. through 3 p.m., and the bag sale will be on the 20th from 9 a.m. through 1 p.m. The August Free-Will Dinner will feature hamburgers, potato salad, and baked beans.

Witness

The “Jesus said” sayings on the outdoor sign board continue to be posted for all to see! Currently, the sign reads, “Peace be with you.” Eight folks enjoyed a T-shirt breakfast at Maria’s on May 23rd, and ice-cream at Bev’s is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 11th. In case of rain, the t-shirt crew will convene at the West-side Stewart’s instead to spread God’s word on our backs. New T-shirt orders will be taken later this summer. The Worship Committee met on May 27th. Pastor Ruth will need to be at Fulton for a special service on July 19th, and we are all invited to attend the service in Fulton. A survey revealed that many folks wished instead to attend our normal service here on that day, so Marge has graciously offered to serve at Trinity on that Sunday for those who wish to worship locally. The next Worship Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 24th at 1:00 p.m.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, August 19th at 6:30 p.m.

Closing Prayer – *Lord, you have called us to journey with you. You have promised to provide for our needs. We go forward to share your love in this world, certain of your guiding hand, aware of your presence, and trusting in you for all that may come.*

In the name of him who trusted completely to your will, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



Kindness Matters

Be kind to others. Be accepting of other's differences. Listen to a friend's burdens, or tell someone 'have a nice day' as you walk by, or send a card or give a hug or just a smile.

Be kind to yourself. Get plenty of rest. Eat healthy meals. Exercise if you can. Take time to smell



a flower, to listen to birds, to sit quietly in God's beautiful creation, to read a good book, to take slow, deep breaths when you feel stress or sadness. Find something positive to focus on.

Be kind to the earth. Nurture gardens, show love to all of God's other 'beings', reduce, recycle, reuse, compost.....

Pray constantly....for yourself, for our community, for friends and family, for our church, for the world.



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



2026

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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