



THE CALLER

June 2015

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Our mission is to create and nurture a family of Faith to do God's work,
modeling the gospel of Jesus Christ.

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"Pop Quiz"

Rev. James K. Boodley

For the past three years, I've been mentoring first-time honeybee keepers in the Finger Lakes Beekeepers Club. Last year, my advisee was a retired teacher. On a whim, I sent him a pop quiz after one of our visits together. "Pop quiz?! Are you allowed to do that," he asked with mock indignation. I'm doing the same this year with new advisees, both to test their powers of observation and to reinforce what I've (hopefully) taught them. Applying that model at First Congregational UCC, I thought I'd test your powers of observation as well as determine what you may – or may not – have retained from our time together so far:

1. The New Testament in the Bible begins with the four Gospels, accounts of Jesus' life and ministry. Which of the following is *not* one of the Gospels: a) Matthew, b) Mark, c) Luke, d) John, e) Ringo? Bonus: Acts of the Apostles is regarded as the second volume of which Gospel?
2. For one of the Kinder Tinders, which two stuffed animals did I bring in: a) giraffe, b) lion, c) cheetah, d) dinosaur? Bonus: What are their names: a) Gerry, b) George, c) Cato, d) Margo?
3. In the story of the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4:1-10), how many husbands was she purported to have had: a) one, b) two, c) three, d) four, e) five, f) so many she'd lost count?
4. In that same story, Jesus talked about "living water." For the average person of that era, what image would "living water" most likely bring to mind: a) water in a bucket, b) water in a well, c) water in a pool at an oasis, d) water flowing in a stream, e) pond water filled with algae? Bonus: What did Jesus mean by "living water?"
5. To start my sermon on Mother's Day, I shared the story of a man who asked God to grant him one wish, which ended up being two. His first wish: a) unlimited riches, b) to be healed of cancer, c) to find someone special, d) a bridge to Hawaii. His second wish: a) to understand the meaning of life, b) to understand his children, c) to understand women, d) to understand his tax return. Bonus: Which wish did God grant?

"Pop Quiz" continued on page 2.

“The Caller” is published by the
**First Congregational
 United Church of Christ**

171 West Pulteney Street
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*No matter who you are
 or where you are on life's
 journey, **you are welcome here!!***



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**UNITED CHURCH
 OF CHRIST**

God is still speaking.

Dates to Remember:

<i>Flat Roof Vote</i>	<i>June 7</i>
<i>Women's Mystery Trip</i>	<i>June 9</i>
<i>Scholarship Deadline</i>	<i>June 13</i>
<i>Children's Sunday</i>	<i>June 14</i>
<i>Silent Auction</i>	<i>June 14</i>
<i>Book Club</i>	<i>June 17</i>
<i>Congregational Meeting</i>	<i>June 21</i>
<i>Joint Worship Service</i>	<i>June 28</i>
<i>Vacation Bible School</i>	<i>Aug. 14-16</i>
<i>The Flea Market</i>	<i>Sept 12</i>
<i>Anniversary Sunday</i>	<i>Oct. 18</i>

“Pop Quiz” continued from page 1.

- In the story of two men at the temple, one a sinner and the other a self-righteous Pharisee (Luke 18:9-14), what was the occupation of the sinner: a) camel trader, b) inn keeper, c) tax collector, d) Roman officer.
- In the story of Jesus' ascension (Acts 1:3-11), the disciples are confronted by two men in white robes who ask them, “Why do you [what?] looking up toward heaven?” a) lie on the ground, b) sit, c) stand, d) pretend to be, e) argue with each other instead of.
- For Kinder Tinder the same day we looked at Jesus' ascension, I told the children it was their job to a) be seen and not heard, b) go outside and play, c) go find the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, d) keep looking up to keep an eye out for Jesus' return. Bonus: I usually dismiss the children with these words: a) “go in peace,” b) “walk, don't run,” c) “get outta here,” d) “run, little children, run!”
- Super bonus question: For her sabbatical, Pastor Marraine is a) walking across the U.S., b) training with NASA for a trip to the space station, c) walking on a pilgrimage through Spain, d) planning to have lunch with the Pope to “talk about church stuff.”

There will be more pop quizzes in the future, so keep coming to church and keep paying attention while you're here!

Peace be with you,

J.K.

Answers: 1e, Luke; 2a&c (both questions); 3e; 4d, water which satisfies the thirst of the soul; 5d, c, bridge; 6c; 7c; 8d, c; SBQ: c, although I suspect she might fit in “d,” too.



*Judy, Joyce,
 Jennifer, and Noel
 planting vegetables
 in the new
 Community Garden!*

*Don't miss the
 Dedication of the
 Garden Worship
 Service on June
 28th at 11:00 a.m.*

News from Trustees

- June 7th – A **Congregational Meeting** to vote on replacement of the flat portion of our roof will take place. This will be the only item to be voted on. A previous mention of a By-Law change has been deferred for now. The actual resolution and background information regarding the roof are available on the information table in the Narthex.
- Last month we announced that we would purchase a new computer for ease in using the new accounting software. However, we believe at this point it would be more prudent to use the computer we presently have and purchase a quality backup system. Persons using the accounting package will work around the Administrative Assistant's schedule.
- Plans to use **Complete Payroll Processing** for all of our employees is expected to be underway beginning in July.
- Plans for transitioning the role of Treasurer are moving along. Jennifer Fais and Pam Walker have been nominated to handle the changing roles of the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer. Jennifer will be handling the role of Treasurer as it pertains to financial reporting and analyzing and Pam Walker will be the new Assistant Treasurer, working closely with Jennifer as we transition to Church Windows accounting software.
- The **Community Garden** has two partners now. First United Methodist Church and Emanuel Lutheran Church have each contributed \$200 to our project. With those contributions, the pancake supper, and a contribution from Eleanor Cicerchi we now have \$1,285 toward the cost of materials to make this happen.
- We authorized \$225 for the flower boxes for our front and back entrances.

Nominating Committee

Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Clerk to Be Elected in Congregational Meeting, Sunday, June 21

After careful deliberation with the trustees and advisory committee, the nominating committee is pleased to nominate Jennifer Fais for the position of church treasurer and Pam Walker for assistant treasurer.

In the March *Caller*, the nominating committee proposed that the office of treasurer, held by Margo for many years, be shared between a church treasurer and accounts manager. Jennifer Fais will perform the treasurer's duties, which will continue to focus on preparing monthly and year-end financial reports and overseeing the church's budget and financial performance in conjunction with the trustees. Pam Walker will serve as assistant treasurer in the capacity of an accounts manager. She will assist the treasurer by handling the routine duties of paying bills and maintaining ledgers.

Because the treasurer and assistant treasurer are officers of the church, we feel it prudent and correct to bring these nominations to the congregation for a vote. This vote will be for a term of approximately seven-months in accordance with the bylaws, which state that vacancies shall be filled temporarily until the next annual meeting.

In addition, because Jennifer will be vacating the position of clerk, the nominating committee is proposing that Jill VanDewoestine temporarily fill that role until the next annual meeting



Sabbatical Information

Pastor Marraine is on sabbatical April 20th -August 3rd. It is a combination of the three month sabbatical offered in her call agreement and two weeks of vacation. Her first day back in the office will be Monday, August 3rd.

Rev. James "J.K." Boodley is our sabbatical pastor. You can contact him at boods@bluefrog.com. Because J.K. is from Ithaca, please contact Deacon Maria Quintal at (607)962-8018. She'll confer with him about how to respond effectively.

Susquehanna Association Meeting

The Spring Meeting of the Susquehanna Association of the United Church of Christ met at The Binghamton East Side Church on April 25. Major items included the passing of the budget for 2015-16; welcoming of the New Associate Conference Minister, Rev. Marsha Williams; Recognition of The Rev Dr. L. Paul Pitkin on his retirement after over 20 years of dedicated professional service as a Clinician for the Family Counseling Ministry (a mission of the Susquehanna Association) and special recognition of the Confirmands of the Churches within the Susquehanna Association, including our own Marion Cooper, Pearl Cooper, Matthew Hageman, and Rachael Hageman.

- John Sands, Delegate

Scholarship News



Are you a participant in the church family and beginning or continuing your higher education at an accredited institution? The Ruth Ann Hooey and Ruth Burritt Scholarship applications are available to you if you pursue study at a two- or four-year college, technical school, business or nursing school, pursue graduate work or undertake retraining activities.

You can find details of the scholarships along with the applications in the Narthex as well as in the church office. To apply, your applications must be addressed to the Scholarship Committee and received in the church office by **Sat., June 13, 2015.**

The Deacon's Fund Collections



A different monthly beneficiary is designated to receive funds collected by the Deacons Fund each

Sunday in that month. Usually, envelopes are placed in the pews on the first Sunday of the month.

In the four Denomination Wide collections: One Great Hour of Sharing in March; Strengthen Our Church in May; Neighbors in Need in October, and The Christmas Fund in December, a special flyer will appear in the prior week's bulletin and a special envelope in the bulletin on the date of the collection. These four Denomination Wide collections and the Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) donation that is an annual budget item constitute the Five for Five donations that we make Denomination Wide.

The other eight monthly beneficiaries of the Deacon's Fund are local charities chosen annually by the Board of Deacons. In June it will be the Campus Ministry at CCC. In July it will be for Habitat for Humanity. Expect to see announcements of the local beneficiary in the Caller and in the first bulletin for that month. (Hint: if you put cash in a Deacon's Fund envelope, print your name on the envelope if you would like to get credit for the donation.)

The Deacon's Offering for June:

Corning Community College Campus Ministry

During the month of June, the Deacons will take up a special offering to benefit Corning Community College's Campus Ministry. The Campus Ministry is an interfaith ministry serving the CCC community by fostering spiritual guidance, compassion, interfaith understanding and religious pluralism. It is funded by the area council of faith communities, local congregations, religious communities and through grants, community organizations and individual donations. The program is administered by the Campus Ministry Advisory Board, whose members are drawn from area clergy, lay people and CCC employees. The College chaplain is Cynthia M. Hale, MDiv (Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School). The Ministry sponsors interfaith forums to promote understanding and provides counseling and emergency support for students.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

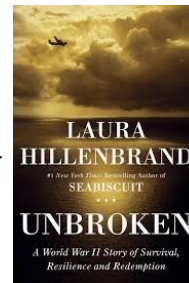
Book Club

The next book club discussion is

Wednesday, June 17, at noon at church.

Bring your own lunch. Dessert and beverages will be provided.

The June biography is #1 New York Times bestseller
*Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience,
and Redemption* by Laura Hillenbrand.



The book is available in print, Kindle, Nook, Audible, and CD formats. Unbroken is the true story of Louis Zamperini, who was born in 1917 in Olean, New York. Zamperini competed in the 1936 Summer Olympic Games. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1941 and became a bombardier. When his plane crashed in the Pacific Ocean on May 23, 1943, he survived 47 days at sea and as a POW of the Japanese until 1945. He became a Christian in 1949, which led him to a career as an inspirational speaker. He died in 2014. For more information, contact Patricia Edgecomb at 607.279.6849 or patricia.edgecomb@outlook.com



Silent Auction

The Youth Group will host a Silent Auction for items and services after worship on June 14. Help to send our youth group with Pastor Marrison to National Youth Event in Disney World in July 2016!



Children's Sunday is June 14th.

Children's Sunday is June 14. The theme is "Small Kids, Big Faith." Rehearsals are during worship on May 31 and June 7 for school-age children and on June 14 at 9 a.m. for all children. If your child/ren does/do not have a role yet, please contact Patricia Edgecomb at 607.279.6849 or patricia.edgecomb@outlook.com.



Weekend VBS

Mark your calendar! **Weekend VBS is Friday to Sunday, August 14 to 16.**

Friday evening is a family event for all ages. Saturday is a children's event with lunch. Sunday worship includes a closing program.

Sign Up for Summer Sunday School

Summer
Sunday
School



Summer Sunday School is offered for school-age children from June 21 through September 13, including holidays. The theme through July is "Where on El Camino is Pastor Marrison?" A different lesson each Sunday connects in some way with Pastor Marrison's sabbatical pilgrimage.

Our children need a caring adult every Sunday to guide them after Kinder Tinner. Please help our children learn about God and El Camino (you might learn something, too). Add your name and contact information to the sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall, or contact Patricia Edgecomb at 607.279.6849 or patricia.edgecomb@outlook.com. All lessons, supplies, and DVDs (if any) are provided.



Member News



June Birthdays

3 rd	Kristen Bennitt	22 nd	Owen Watson
7 th	Rachel Hofstetter	22 nd	John Hoffman
8 th	Ethan Bratti	22 nd	Nicholas Bennitt
8 th	Christine McGrew	23 rd	Rachel Hageman
9 th	Dustin Storm	23 rd	Marge Fellows
10 th	Jeff Nelson	25 th	Joyce Killigrew
10 th	Grace Cooper	26 th	Maria Quintal
18 th	Maya Deneka	26 th	Dave Howard
18 th	Nicholas Reif		
20 th	Raymond Ignaszewski		
20 th	Darlene Schieber		



Hats off to the Graduates!

Will Madison,
son of Karen and John Madison,
graduated from
St. Lawrence University
on May 17th.

Jessica Lynn Briggs,
niece of Beth Briggs and
granddaughter
of Barbara Briggs ,
graduated from Troy-Buchanan
High School in Missouri
on May 10, 2015.
She will attend
The University of New Mexico.



The 2015 Pentecost Picture



Pastor Marraine's Adventure so far....

(compiled from her Facebook posts)

Her last post on June 1st said she was about
150 miles from Santiago.



Marraine from Maine on the plain in Spain in the rain...May 21st!



Leo'n Cathedral, May 28th.



Exploring the city of Pamplona on May 1st.



Pastor Marraine in Burgos, Spain on May 18th!

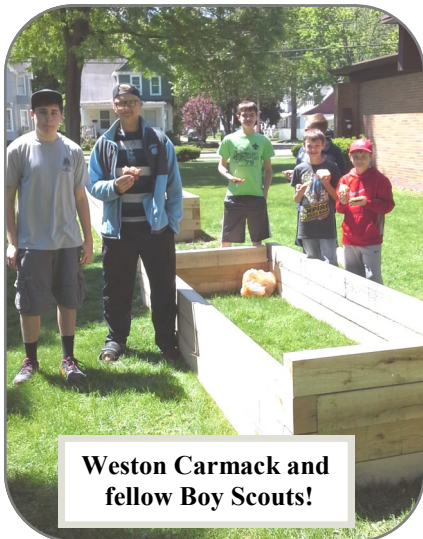


Photo Gallery

Bell Ringers bring their gift of music to worship on May 17th.



The day has finally arrived! We're breaking ground on The Community Garden!



**Weston Carmack and
fellow Boy Scouts!**



The Lawn Supervisor!



Church Events



**ROOF VOTE -
SUNDAY,
JUNE 7TH**



**CHILDREN'S
SUNDAY
JUNE 14th**

**YOUTH GROUP SILENT AUCTION
after worship!**

**Women's
Fellowship**

**Mystery
trip**

Tuesday, June 9th,
departing from the church
at 9:15 a.m.

Contact
Lucille
Gorton at
936-6491 or
Lois Katt at
962-5741
by June 7th
if you are
interested in
coming!



Congregational Meeting - June 21st

Please plan on attending to cast your vote for our new Treasurer,
Assistant Treasurer, and Clerk.

A Worship Service you don't want to miss.....

SUNDAY, JUNE 28TH AT 11 A.M.

(Note the change in our usual worship time.)

*If you should forget and arrive early,
there will be coffee and bagels beginning at 10:30 a.m.!*



**Joint Worship &
Communion Service
with our neighbors from
Emanuel Lutheran Church,
Dedication and Blessing
of our Community Garden,
Choir Sunday, and a
Garden Dedication
Dish-to-Pass after worship!!!!!!**

Hear ye, Hear ye, Our Flea & Farmer's market is September 12, 2015!

Start gathering your items for the sale. Things from your attic to the basement, garage and the yard, as long as they are clean and in working order, will gladly be accepted.

*But, please keep in mind that we will not be collecting items
at the church until **AUGUST 16TH.***



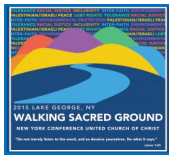
If you are planting a garden with items that will be harvested late August or early September, or canning, please plan some extra for our Farmers Market.

This is a project for everyone in our church. It is a great opportunity for fellowship, fun, and a wonderful opportunity to make our bi-annual fund raiser a success. So please plan to assist in the planning, preparation and on the day of the sale. Many hands and talents are needed. More information and scheduling will be forthcoming. With thanks.

Joyce Nelson and Sylvia Brown.



UCC News



The 2015 New York Conference of the UCC Annual Meeting Friday, June 5 - Sunday, June 7th, 2015

Our prayers go with Gina Burdick as she represents our church this year at the meeting. Safe travels and best wishes for her to enjoy this wonderful opportunity to learn and be inspired by some dynamic preaching.



Community Events







Carefirst (formerly Hospice) Open House and Wellness Fair Wednesday, June 3rd, 11am– 2pm

Come see their new administration building at
3805 Meads Creek Road, Painted Post
The event is free and open to the community.



June 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6		
	Bone Builders 9:30-10:30am	Deacon's Mtg. 7:00pm	Bone Builders 9:30-10:30am 6:00pm Bells 7:00 AA 7:15pm Choir		7:00pm AA		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
10:00am Worship Roof Vote 5-7pm Youth Group 5:30pm Strings 7:00pm Brassworks	Bone Builders 9:30-10:30am	Mystery Trip 9:15am Trustee's Mtg. 7:00pm		Bone Builders 9:30-10:30am 6:00pm Bells 7:00 AA 7:15pm Choir		Scholarship App. Deadline 7:00pm AA	
14		15	16	17	18	19	20
10:00am Worship Children's Sunday Silent Auction 5-7pm Youth Group 5:30pm Strings 7:00pm Brassworks	Bone Builders 9:30-10:30am NAMI Mtg. 7pm	Christian Ed. Mtg. 7pm	12:00pm Book Club 	Bone Builders 9:30-10:30am 6:00pm Bells 7:00 AA 7:15pm Choir		7:00pm AA	
21		22	23	24	25	26	27
10:00am Worship Congregational Mtg. 5-7pm Youth Group 5:30pm Strings 7:00pm Brassworks	Bone Builders 9:30-10:30am	Advisory Mtg. 7pm		Bone Builders 9:30-10:30am 6:00pm Bells 7:00 AA 7:15pm Choir		7:00pm AA	
28	29	30					
10:30am Coffee & Bagels 11:00am Joint Worship & Communion Service/Garden Dedication Picnic 5-7pm Youth Group 5:30pm Strings 7:00pm Brassworks	Bone Builders 9:30-10:30am						

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