

The Lamplighter

A Publication of the Windsor First United
Methodist Church

Rev. Deb Arnold, Pastor

607-655-1791 wumc1@tds.net

Website: www.umcwindSOR.org

FALL 2025



From the Pastor.....

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted..."

This passage famously enumerates contrasting life events and activities, illustrating that all have a proper time and purpose. Ecc. 3:1-8

Church Family,

As we move into my favorite time of year the fall season, we are reminded of the beauty of change that surrounds us—the vibrant colors of the leaves, the crispness in the air, and the anticipation of new beginnings. Fall is a season of harvest, reflection, and renewal, and it presents us with a wonderful opportunity to grow deeper in our faith.

I invite you to join me in embracing this season as one of spiritual growth, service, and connection. There are many ways to deepen your relationship with Christ and with each other, and we encourage you to take part in the following opportunities that are designed to help us grow together in faith and put that faith into action.

GROW IN FAITH

- **Bible Study:** Join us for our weekly Bible studies that will be held on Thursday mornings beginning October 2, 2025 @ 10:30 at the Windsor UMC where we will dive deeper into God's Word and explore how we can apply its wisdom to our daily lives. This is a great time to build a strong foundation of faith with fellow believers.
- **Book Discussion:** In addition to Bible study, we will be starting a once-a-month book discussion group that will focus on issues that affect us as men and women of faith. This will take place the 2nd Wednesday of the month beginning October 8, 2025 @ 6:30 at FUMC Deposit. This will be a great chance to engage in thought-provoking conversations and broaden our understanding of how to walk in faith in today's world. The first book will be Follower's Under 40 by Rachel Gilmore and Kris Sledge. Join the discussion on why Millennials, Gen Z have journeyed away from church. *(There is no need to read this book to join this discussion. I plan on having a list of books we will be reading and discussing for the year.)*
- **Special Worship Services:** Throughout the fall, we will be offering special worship experiences, Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service to be held on November 16, 2025 @ 3:00 along with our next "5th" Sunday which will be held on November 23, 2025 at FUMC Deposit. Come join us for a unique worship service as we try out *Messy Church*, a intergenerational, interactive worship service which will include food, fun, and fellowship. This will be held on November 14, 2025 from 5:30 - 7:00 pm.
- We invite you to participate in these services to draw closer to God during this meaningful time of year.
- **Continuing the Conversation:** Please join me on Sunday evenings beginning October 5, from 5:30-7:00 pm as we continue the

conversation from the sermon on Sunday morning. This will be strictly held through Zoom so you will need to send me your email address to let me know that you are planning on participating. Please RSVP to darnold88@gmail.com

PUT FAITH INTO ACTION

Our faith calls us not just to study the Scriptures, but to live them out through service to others. As we reflect on God's abundance, let us turn our hearts toward service, sharing His love and grace with our community and beyond.

- **Soup and Salad:** A simple but meaningful way to serve others and connect as a church family is by participating in our Soup and Salad gatherings. These meals are a wonderful opportunity to share fellowship with one another, while also contributing to the well-being of those in need.
- **Community Thanksgiving Meal:** As we approach the Thanksgiving season, we are organizing a community meal to share with those in need. Whether you volunteer your time, prepare food, or donate, your involvement will help make this event a blessing for many in our community.
- **Red Bird Mission:** We are continuing our support of the Red Bird Mission, a long-standing partner that provides education, outreach, and support to underserved communities in Appalachia. This fall, consider how you might contribute—through donations, volunteerism, or prayer—to help further the mission's work.
- **Food Pantry:** Our Food Pantry continues to serve those in need, and we encourage you to donate non-perishable items throughout the fall season especially jello, stuffing, gravy mixes, scalloped potatoes, jiffy mix. Look for the whole list in the bulletin. This is an opportunity to ensure that everyone has enough to eat, especially during the colder months ahead.

- **Messy Church:** We are need of volunteers to help with Messy Church worship that will take place on November 14, 2025. If you like to work with crafts, or tell stories, or food we would love for you to join us to make Messy Church a success. Please look for upcoming information on how you can help.

A CALL TO ACTION

This fall, let us embrace the call to grow in our faith and to make a real difference in the lives of others. Whether through study, worship, or service, there are so many ways for us to live out the love of Christ in our community. I encourage you to try something new and to join in or sign up for the many ways you can help your church and community. Every small act of faith can make a big difference.

I look forward to walking this season of growth and service together, and we hope to see you at one of our upcoming events!

Blessings,
Pastor Deb

Assisting in our Worship

October 5 – World Communion Sunday

Liturgist: Cindy Martin

Scripture: 2 Tim. 1:1-14

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Theme: *Choosing Faith*

October 12 – Columbus Day Weekend

Liturgist: Kate Daum

Scripture: 2 Tim. 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Theme: *Gratitude*

October 19 – Laity Sunday

Liturgist – Geri Tow

Scripture: 2 Tim. 3:14-4:5

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Theme: *Persistence Faith (Run the Race)*

October 26

Liturgist – Craig Cartner

Scripture: 2Tim. 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: Luke 8:9-14

Theme: *Prayer/Humble Faith*

November Worship

2 – All Saint's Sunday
14 – Messy Church in Fellowship Hall 5:30-7pm
16 – Windsor Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service
at Zion Episcopal
23 – Joint Worship with Sanitaria Springs, Deposit and Windsor UMC's
30 – Advent Week 1 – A Christmas Carol
Theme "*The Ghost of Christmas Past*"

If you would like to assist in worship with leading the announcements, or just reading the scripture lesson, or even as a greeter, please see or call Isabelle Jahn for a date.
(607) 221-2400

December Worship

December 7 – A Christmas Carol – "*The Ghost of Christmas Present*"
December 14 – Sunday School Pageant
December 21 – A Christmas Carol – "*The Ghost of Christmas Past*"
December 24 – Christmas Eve – A Candlelight Christmas Story
December 28 – Possible Hymn Sing

Remember Our "Seniors"

Please set aside some time to remember our seniors and those who are shut-in. It doesn't take long to write a note or make a call and it means a lot!

Janet Fuller
Fairview Good Shepherd
80 Fairview Ave.
Binghamton NY 13904 (607) 724-2477

Roberta Warner
Vestal Park Rehab & Nursing Ctr
Room 223B
105 West Sheedy Road
Vestal NY 13850 (607) 754-4105

Dorothy Stetson
St. Louise Manor-**Room 136**
861 Front St.
Binghamton NY 13905 (607) 206-0824

At Home

Mary Miller
178 Main Street
Windsor NY 13865 (607) 655-1189
Rosemary Williams (*would love cards, visits*)
15 Academy St. **Send mail to 19 Academy St.**
Windsor NY 13865

Dick & Nancy Beauman
286 Deyo Hill Road #3115
Johnson City NY 13790 (607) 222-7502

Diana Cary
Awaiting new address
Sister: Judy Bishop (607) 655-3290
Daughter: Diane Sabine (607) 759-1685

Lee Vandeymark
(attends church when she can)
26 S. Woodhill Ave. #230
Binghamton NY 13904 (607) 775-1349


Janice Springsteen (attends when she can)
132 Fordway Rd.
Ouaquaga NY 13826 (607) 765-7557

Norm Darrow
c/o Carol Darrow
310 Windford Ct
Winter Garden FL 34787 (407) 619-4241

Words of encouragement to:

PVT Mark Winchell 438
Delta Company 2-47 IN, Infantry Brigade
Bldg. 3405
9240 Treadwell Drive
Fort Benning GA 31905

Please write his number **438** on the back of the envelope and the word "Green" in the bottom left corner.

 Windsor UMC will host
SUPPORT GROUP *Surviving the Holidays*
on Saturday,
November 15 from
2-4pm. You may register at
griefshare.org/Findagroup or call the
church office. For questions, please
contact our program hosts Carol
Holland, Jenna Amberge and Pastor
Deb.



Our Sunday School program will begin at 10am on **October 19th**! We will have 3 classes available. All children are invited to participate.

Please see Laurie Wightman, our Christian Education chairperson, if interested in assisting and/or being a substitute in a classroom some Sunday mornings.

COME SING AND RING!



Choir Practice – Thursdays at 7:00pm and Saturday mornings at 10:00am. See Linda Phelps with questions.

The Alleluia Handbells practice on Thursdays, at 6:00pm. See Jenna Amberge and/or Laurie Wightman with questions.



UPCOMING EVENTS

A monthly calendar of events for our three churches, Sanitaria Springs, Windsor and Deposit, is being compiled and will be available soon. We hope you will attend these opportunities to share in programs and fellowship together!

Our first SOUP 'N SALAD Community meal for the season was well received on **Thursday, October 9.**

Thank you to all who donated delicious soups and salads and to our volunteers!

We always welcome extra volunteers in the dining room and kitchen areas. Sign up now to bring your delicious soups and salads to offer for our next dinner on **November 13.** We begin serving at 5:00pm.



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

9:00am-2:00pm

Sponsored by the United Women in Faith
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

56 CHAPEL STREET, WINDSOR NY

*** Homemade Crafts ***

*** Bake Sale & Soup Sale ***

*** Lunch from our Kitchen ***

Vendor tables available for \$15 each.

Contact Jeannie Ditch

(607) 655-2685



**TAKE OUT BROOKS
BBQ CHICKEN DINNER
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7
PICK UP ONLY 4:30-6pm**

ALL PRE-ORDERS MUST BE IN BY

OCTOBER 31



<https://forms.gle/KG3MHui73kaANbX8A>

Pre-Orders can be taken now for a delicious chicken dinner, which includes: 1/2 chicken, baked potato, coleslaw, roll, butter, and a homemade cookie all in a convenient take-out container for **\$15.00!**

Follow the link above or scan the QR code on your phone or computer to the order form. You may also call the church office at (607) 655-1791 and place your order.

~ Share with friends & neighbors! ~

Cash or check (payable to Windsor FUMC) due at time of pickup at time – 4:30 - 6:00pm from the back parking lot at church.

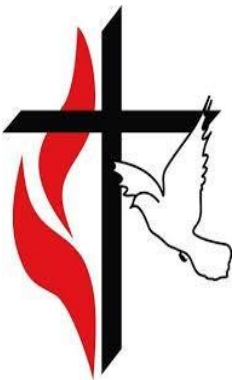


The **WUMC Secret Sisters** group met at Sky Lake on September 26 for a reveal potluck gift exchange and completed new information cards. Those that didn't have the chance to complete a card, or if you would like to become a Sister, may do so by completing a card located on the table at church by October 19.

The cards will be collected and the name of your new Sister will be drawn and provided to you. We will begin November 1, 2025 thru December 31, 2026.

This is a great opportunity for you to join in the fun. It's not all about gifts (although who doesn't like giving/receiving an unexpected small gift)! It's remembering to pray for a church sister and enjoy several social get togethers throughout the year.

If you have any questions, please speak to Cindy Martin/Jenna Amberge.



Mission Moments



This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us give thanks and praise!



Mission
Moments



With Thanksgiving fast approaching, I am reminded of how thankful I am for the many blessings of my church family, who give so much of themselves to the work and mission of helping others in need.

On June 20th, we participated in a walk to raise awareness for Mitochondrial Disease, a condition in which mitochondria fail to produce enough energy for cells or organs to function properly. Mitochondrial Disease affects 1 in 4,300 people globally, and every 30 minutes, a child is born who will develop a Mitochondrial Disorder by the age of 10.

Throughout the summer, we continued to gather at the church to create dresses for girls in Ghana, in partnership with the Whitney Point U.M.C. To date, over 200 dresses have been made—many thanks to the efforts of Blanche Birtch, Carol Carpenetti, Cindy Finney, Sheri Hotaling, Carol Prentice, Jill Skinner, Terry Walker and Geri Tow. Our next church gatherings for this project are October 20th, and November 3rd and 17th in Fellowship Hall from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Even if you have no sewing experience, we would love your help with ironing and cutting fabric. Many thanks to Carol Holland and Sheri Hotaling for donating two sewing machines.

On September 8th, we served 98 scalloped potato and ham dinners at Fairview U.M.C. to the Binghamton Community. Did you know that Broome County has the highest poverty rate of the 53 upstate New York counties, with 20.8% of residents living below the poverty line? This is a quarterly project to help feed those in need, and we welcome volunteers. Special thanks to Carol Carpenetti and Wendy Eggleston for their culinary expertise, creating an extraordinary meal from Fairview's food pantry. Other workers included Sue Bennett, Blanche and Tom Birtch, Craig Cartner, and Asia Quinn, our High School volunteer.

This year, we are excited to host a Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 27th from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Windsor United Methodist Church. I hope you will prayerfully consider giving of your time to help those in our own community. A sign-up sheet for volunteer opportunities will be posted in the Narthex, and we encourage you to help spread the word. Many thanks to Karen Bixby for designing our Thanksgiving Day flyer.

We will also be collecting items for our annual "Red Bird Mission" shoeboxes. Please see the attached handout for a list of items to be collected. New this year, we will serve as the "Eastern Broome County Center," where neighboring churches can drop off completed shoeboxes. From there, we will deliver them to Endwell U.M.C. Shoebox items will be collected until Sunday, November 16th.

Lastly and on a personal note of reflection, let us remember that Galatians 6:9 (NLT) reminds us: ***"Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."*** Let's keep moving forward, Windsor U.M.C., and never give up!

Grace and peace to you,
Laurie Wightman



RED BIRD MISSION ADULT SHOEBOX (Label for Male or Female)

Note: All items should be FULL size and in their original containers, as purchased. To help items fit into the box, purchase flat bottles of shampoo, hand lotion, and small round cans of shaving lotion.

- Comb and/or hair brush
- Shampoo
- Hand Lotion
- Toothbrush and Toothpaste
- Chap stick
- Full size bar of soap
- Washcloth
- Disposable Razors
- Shaving Cream
- Nail Care items
- Socks
- Work gloves or mittens
- Winter stocking hat or scarf

All items may be brought to church now through November 16. Shoeboxes are provided., Monetary donations are also welcome to purchase items and assist with delivery fees.

Thank you for your generosity!



RED BIRD MISSIONS CHILD'S SHOEBOX (Label for Girl or Boy)

Note: All items should be FULL size and in their original containers, as purchased. To help items fit into the box purchase flat bottles of shampoo, hand lotion, etc.

- Comb and/or hair brush
- Shampoo
- Hand Lotion
- Child's toothbrush and toothpaste
- Chap Stick
- Full size bar of soap
- Washcloth
- Socks
- Mittens
- Winter Hat
- Small Flashlight
- 2-3 small toys
- 2-3 school items
- Christian bookmarks, wristbands and other spiritual items are also appreciated.

All items may be brought to church now through November 16. Shoeboxes are provided. Monetary donations are also welcome to purchase items and assist with delivery fees.

Thank you for your generosity!

GUEST MESSAGE

Written by Elaine Barrett

Psalm 139:7-10

Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

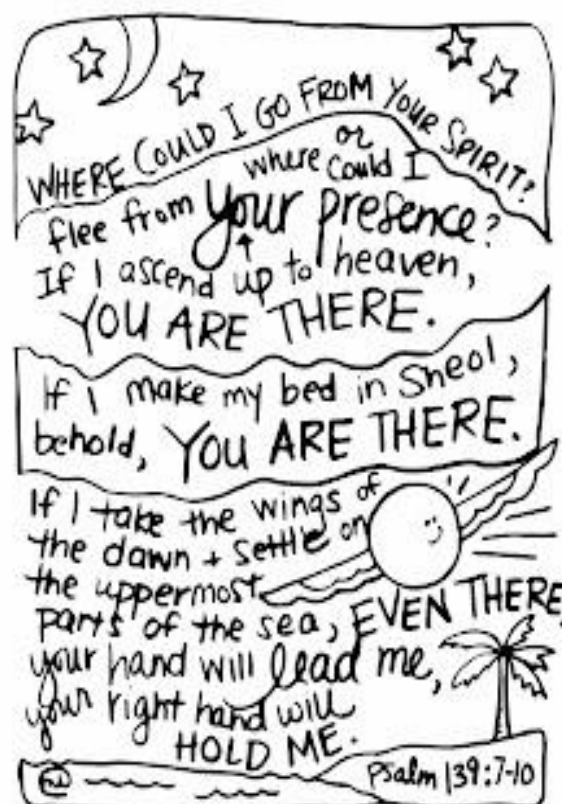
If I make my bed in the depths, you are there. God is everywhere but it is not always easy to believe that. There are many times that the presence of God feels absent. Times when you feel lonely. In the last few years, I have struggled with the emptiness of not finding God. Many people have told me to remember that I am never alone, that God is always with me but when I have sat in the loneliness of despair, the presence of God cannot always be felt, and the loneliness can become an entity of its own. Although I knew that God was with me, I felt absent from God.

God is always with us but too often we find that we are not with God and therein lies the struggle. Although our God is always with us – I go up to the heavens, I make my bed in the depths, I rise on the wings of the dawn, I settle on the far side of the sea – His presence is not always experienced. The wonderful truth is that no matter where you are in life God is there with you whether you can acknowledge or feel His presence. God is before you, behind you, around you, He has, is and always will be holding your hand, offering a love that knows no bounds, a love that cannot be destroyed, a love that cannot be extinguished. God was, is and always will

be holding you close and holding you up. He is the ultimate constant, never changing, always there. Always loving, caring and supporting even in the darkest of places. I know as I have traveled and dwelled in those dark places.

I have followed the light and have walked from the darkness into the light and my God, our God, THE GOD has never left nor forsaken me as much as I may have forsaken Him. God is good, He is the strength on which we all can lean and the trust that we can all believe and the comfort that surrounds us. Through all the journeys in our lives, whether walking in the light or cowering in the darkness, our God will be with us, comforting, holding and loving.

Thanks be to God. Amen



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FINANCE NEWS: Our Finance team provides a finance/stewardship report quarterly and below is our June 2025 report. Thank you all for continuing to support your church and community with your gifts. An updated stewardship report will be available in October. *Please consider donating via Bill Pay through your bank. Once it's set up your bank will mail checks directly to the church. Please use PO Box 36, Windsor NY 13865. This is more secure. Bill Pay does not charge fees.

<u>Finance/Stewardship Report: YTD 2025(as of 6/30/25)</u>									
Current Income				Current Expenses					
Congregational Support (Contributions):		\$	43,053.50		Program:				\$ 1,255.76
Ministry Shares		\$	1,261.50		Pastor/Personnel:				\$ 30,318.78
Loose Plate		\$	1,014.00		Church utilities/insurance/operations				\$ 9,749.85
Advent/Lent/Interest Income		\$	2,365.00						
Contributions from Building Fund (trustees)		\$	6,061.20						
Interest from investments		\$	785.56						
Total Operating Income:		\$	54,540.76		Ministry Shares:				\$ 5,868.00
					Conference moving fund				\$ -
					Retiree Premium Share:				\$ 612.90
					Total Overall Expenses:				\$ 47,805.29
Net Surplus/(Deficit)		\$	6,735.47						
1/1/25 Balance Sheet		\$	17,470.92						
6/30/25 Balance Sheet		\$	24,206.39						
Difference YTD		\$	6,735.47						



First United Methodist Church
PO Box 36
Windsor NY 13865

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 2
WINDSOR NY 13865

RETURN ADDRESS
REQUESTED



Everyone welcome
Parking behind church

First United Methodist Church of Windsor
56 Chapel Street, PO Box 36
Windsor NY 13865
Pastor Deb Arnold (607) 972-8396
Email: darnold88@gmail.com
Pastor Office Hours in Windsor – Tues. 9:30-1:00

Church Email: wumc1@tds.net
(607) 655-1791
Website: www.umcwindsonny.org
Church Secretary Office Hours: Tues, Thurs., Fri.
9am-1pm

Binghamton/Oneonta District of the United
Methodist Upper NY Conference
PO Box 5546
Endicott NY 13760
Rev. Bob Kolvik-Cambell, District Superintendent
Rosemary Dilorio –Administrative Assistant
(607) 748-0662

Sunday: Worship & Sunday School – 10:00am
Tuesday: God's Bread Food Pantry – 9:30-Noon
Church Council – 3rd Tuesday – 6:00pm
Thursday: Handbell Practice at 6:00pm
Choir Practice at 7:00pm & Saturday at
10:00am
2nd Thursdays Sept. thru April - Community Soup
and Salad Dinners