



First United Methodist Church

December, 2025

. . . From the Pastor's Pen



Friends, as we enter the holy season of Advent and Christmas we find ourselves in the darkest time of the year. This was when God sent Jesus to be the light of the world. I have included a painting I created in 2019 of the valley behind the church filled with reflected light and color(see page 2). My hope is that you all take part in the opportunities to enjoy the festivals of light in the community and at the Hancock House this month.

Each Sunday of Advent we will light another candle as we reflect upon what God has done and is doing to prepare our hearts and minds to receive God's greatest gift, Jesus Christ. I hope the readings and scriptures bring new insight and wonder in your life.

Our Advent Bible Study, *A Child Is Born*, is guiding us through the background Biblical events and stories that give new meaning and depth to the Advent and Christmas scriptures. If you want to join the study we will get you a book and welcome you at 1:00 PM on Wednesdays in person or on our Church Facebook page.

The Champlain Valley Chorale will be performing *Sing of a Merry Christmas* in the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 14 at 3:00 PM.

Please join us for our Christmas Eve service at 7:00PM.

May the Joy and Wonder of God's love fill and recharge you this Advent and Christmas!

Peace, Love, and Blessings,

Pastor Scott Tyler



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Now That's A Bright Idea

Election Day Dinner and the Christmas Fair were both very successful and now we look forward to the Advent and Christmas seasons with the Choral Concert coming up on the 14th.

We will meet on December 8th to discuss next year's budget, projects already in the works and new projects for 2026. As always, our meetings are open, and YOU are welcome to join us.

Known expenses for next year are of course increasing. Oil and electricity never get cheaper. These will limit any large projects; we'll have to see how creative your trustees can get.

As always if you see something that needs attention, contact Donnie or myself and we'll do our best to "get 'r' done"! (Or at least put it on the list)

Bill Westervelt, Chair



One of Pastor Scott's paintings. Join him on December 4 & 18, and explore your spiritual creativity.

From the Sexton's Broom

December is here! As we go to press, Advent has begun. The Sanctuary is (or should be) beautifully decorated and looking festive! My battle with pine needles in the Sanctuary begins!

It promises to be a busy and joyous Advent season. Many things are on tap. Sylvamo will be holding their children's Christmas party December 3rd in Fellowship Hall. The Champlain Valley Chorale will be filling the Sanctuary with beautiful music on Sunday, Dec. 14th. Our Advent Bible Study is already underway, just to name a few things.

Bill and I have put out the stakes for the snow plow drivers (one has broken already), and broke the snowblower out for the season. We have seen snow squalls already, so we want to be prepared. I shift from leaves and critters trying to get in to mud. Snow and salt being tracked in. It's always something!

On a personal note, from Nate and myself, we hope everyone has a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!



Donnie.
Sexton extraordinaire.

Happy Birthday

Deb Michela	December 3
Melanie Marshal	December 6
Sierra West	December 9
Shaundra Bartlett Yaw	December 14
Zyleen Tyler	December 14
Ed Moore	December 15
Marc Potter	December 15
Kimberly Powers	December 18
Amanda Powers	December 22



Christmas Eve Service
2:00 in Crown Point
Candlelight Service
7:00 in Ticonderoga

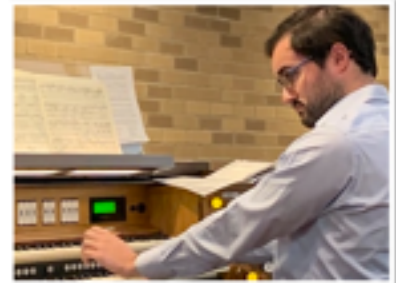
Family Corner



Happy Anniversary

Jo & Richard Wray	December 24
Mike and Pam Moser	December 28

Ronnie's Annual FUMC Christmas Carol Singalong!!



Dec. 17 or 19- stay tuned!

Community
Dinner:
December 7

Trustees:
December 8

Ad Council:
December 15

Christmas Eve Flowers

If you are bringing flowers for the Christmas Eve altar, please watch the bulletin for when they need to be here. No lilies, please, as we value Pastor Scott and he is very allergic to lilies.

Notes for the bulletin need to be to the office by December 22 for printing.

Flowers remaining after the service will be used for Sunday, Dec. 27, and dispensed with in some way when they are no longer presentable.

Thank you!



Sunday Volunteers

December	Flowers	Readers
7		Sue Fahey
14		Bill Westervelt
21		Sandra Trepanier
24	Everyone!	Donnie Norton
28		Jeanne Thatcher



Thrift Shop News



The Thrift Shop elves have been hard at work getting the shop ready for Christmas. We have an abundance of decorations and one of a kind items to help make your holidays special. We had a wonderful turnout for the Christmas Fair. Our proceeds that day were turned over to Lynn Sawyer for inclusion in the Christmas Fair profits.

We have received so many good donations this year that we have purchased a fourth storage shed to keep them! It just arrived and soon will help alleviate the crowded conditions of our other buildings.

We have many winter items for sale. Sweaters and accessories are going out each week. Come in and look around. You might be surprised by what you find! We also have quite a few books and puzzles for sale. Now is the time to stock up for those long winter days ahead!

Your support and our dedicated volunteers are the reasons the Thrift Shop continues to be successful. We receive many compliments on our shop and merchandise. If you haven't been in lately, now is the perfect time to do so.

Thrift Shop Committee Members:

Margot Anello, Committee Chairperson

Jeanne Thatcher, Treasurer

Jeanne B. Thatcher, Trustees Representative

Margot Anello, Wanita Blanchard, Lynn Brigan,
Marsha LaPointe, Betty Messier, Leona Simpson,
Sandra Sprague, Pam Thorne, Sandra Trepanier,
Jeannine Wright
and Rev. Scott Tyler

Thrift Shop Volunteers

Saturday (9-2pm)

6	Pam, Jeannine, Margot
13	Roxanne, Sandy S., Jeanne, Joan C.
20	June, Betty M., Ann
27	Closed for Christmas Weekend

*Wishing you a
blessed Christmas and
a healthy and happy
New Year from all of
us at the Thrift Shop.*



Champlain Valley Chorale
Christmas concert

*Sing of a
Merry Christmas*

will be presented in our church
Sunday, December 14, 2025,
at 3:00 pm.



The Ticonderoga Food Pantry

Thank you all for your continued support of the Ticonderoga Food Pantry.

Hours of operation:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday:
11am-Noon.

Book Club

some time in early January
at Ann Westervelt's.
Theo of Golden by Allen Levi



Church Christmas Fair Update

Lynn Sawyer would like to thank the many people who made the fair a great success again this year. Joe and Roger joined her for table set-up and take-down, with Bridget & Emory helping to move things as she directed.

Fair Day and prep people included: Samantha Ledger, Kathy Liddell, Emily & Kim Powers, Sandy Sprague, Margaret Beuerlein, Sandra Trepanier, Lynn Brigan, Margot Anello, Pam Thorne, Jeanne Thatcher, Joan Viault, Sue Landers, Joan Charboneau, June Frasier, Peggy Armstrong, Betty Rettig, MaryLou Greenough, Sue Fahey, Joyce Cooper, Donnie Norton, the entire Thrift Shop, bakers, cooks, clean-up'ers, and everyone who donated time, treasure, and enthusiasm.

We had steady participation by the community, and the profit so far comes to \$5,042.00, with a few Silent Auction items still to be retrieved.

*Thanks again,
and see you next year!!!*

Free Community Dinner

December 7, 4:30-6pm
Ham, AuGratin Potatoes, Sides,
Desserts
If you have a food allergy,
please notify us

Tax Statements Envelopes for Special and Seasonal Sundays

In the New Year, I will be preparing annual tax statements for all who want one. I will have a checklist made up to let you indicate whether you do or don't want a statement for your records, and if you want print or emailed statements. You can always leave a note or message for me.

Special Sunday envelopes are no longer being printed, but we have a stash of envelopes in the office to use. Some envelopes say Advent, some say Lent, and some are all purpose. Feel free to use an all-purpose envelope for any Special Sunday or other UMCOR purpose - just make a note saying where you want the gift to go.

Any time you use an envelope, please put your name on it, unless your name is on a check inside. This is how I know what to record for your Tax Statement. Numbers on boxes of envelopes to *not* indicate a person or family. If you prefer to be anonymous, that is absolutely fine.

Thank you!

Bridget

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 1:00 Advent Bible Study	4 10:00 Worship Meeting 1:00 Painting with Pastor	5 8:00 Men's & Women's Prayer Breakfasts in Silver Bay	6 9-2 Thrift Shop
7 th Sunday of Advent 9:00 Worship, Communion 4:30-6pm Free Community Dinner	8 6:30 Trustees	9	10 1:00 Advent Bible Study	11 Sexton Appreciation Day	12	13 9-2 Thrift Shop
14 3 rd Sunday of Advent 9:00 Worship, Communion 3:00 CVC Concert	15 6:30 Ad Council	16	17 1:00 Advent Bible Study concludes Sing along with Ronnie???	18 1:00 Painting with Pastor	19 Sing along with Ronnie???	20 9-2 Thrift Shop
21 4 th Sunday of Advent 9:00 Worship, Communion Fellowship Coffee by Kitchen Committee	22	23 Sexton Appreciation Day	24 7:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight service	25 Christmas Day 	26	27 9-2 Thrift Shop
28 9:00 Worship, Communion	29	30	31	December		

New Member Classes:

Please contact Pastor Scott Tyler at 585-7995 if you are interested in joining the church as a new member.