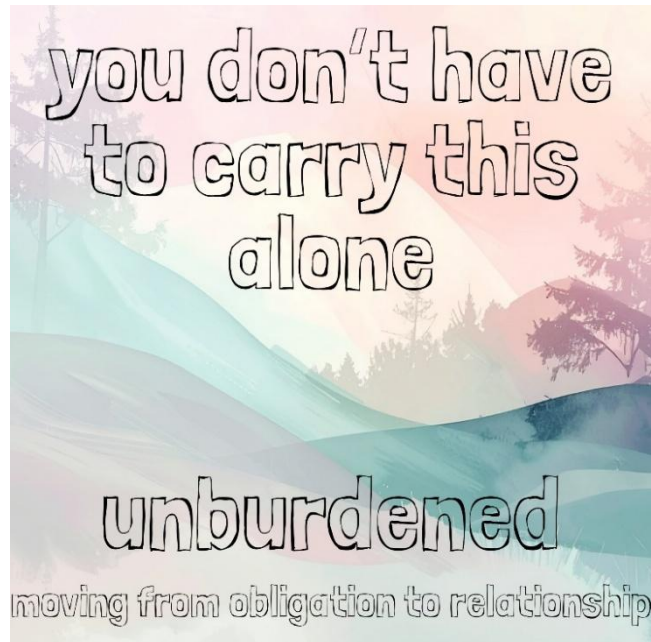


# First United Methodist Church

## Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2026

8:15 & 10:30 a.m.



### **Mission Statement**

“First United Methodist Church (FUMC) of Oneonta, NY is a congregation of faith and doubt. We commit ourselves to pursue justice, and pledge to stand with all our neighbors who are marginalized and oppressed, as Jesus did.” – Adopted by the Church Council on September 1, 2021



Pastor, Rev. Casey Bradley  
Organist, Leslie Bauer  
Choir Director, Carolyn McMaster  
Worship Technology, Randall Wilson

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First United Methodist Church  
66 Chestnut St., Oneonta, NY  
secretary@firstumc-oneonta.org | 607-432-4102  
[www.firstumc-oneonta.org](http://www.firstumc-oneonta.org) | <https://linktr.ee/firstumconeonta>

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

*\* Indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*

***Bold** text invites the congregation to speak in unison.*

*(As the prelude begins, please prepare your hearts for worship)*

### **Come, You Who are Heavy Laden**

Prelude

“Jazz Pizzicato”

arr. Martha Lynn Thompson © 2008 Woodbury Music Co.  
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Buckingham Bell Ringers

\*Call to Worship

The burdens that we have carried into this place press down upon us; their weight is the constant reminder of the hardships we bear.

**We come searching, seeking, yearning for something new. Some place where we can set the burden down, even if only for a moment, so that we can know what it feels like to be unburdened.**

Jesus said, “Come to me, all who toil and are burdened, and I shall give you rest.”

**And the Apostle reminds us, “Bear one another’s burdens, and you will fulfill the law of Christ.**

\*Hymn #2236

“Gather Us In”

Marty Haugen © 1982 GIA Publications  
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Welcoming Words

Gathering Prayer

**God who sees what we carry, we come in this morning with our hands full – of worry, of weariness, of bills we can't quite cover, of burdens we've learned to hold alone.**

**We don't ask you to take them from us yet. We only ask you to see them. Meet us here, as we are, carrying what we carry. Make this a place where no one has to pretend their hands are empty.**

**In the name of the One who said, “Come to me, all who are weary,” Amen.**

Passing the Peace

### **Lay Your Burden Down**

Time with God’s Children

1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Reading

Galatians 6:1-2

Bob Bensen  
Ruth Wang

\*Hymn #348

“Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling”  
Words and music are in the public domain

\*Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:28-30

NRSVUE

Sermon

“You Don’t Have to Carry This Alone”

Rev. Casey Bradley

Anthem

“Shepherd of My Soul”

Words by Susan Naus Dengler. Music by Lee Dengler © 2010  
Word Music, LLC. Used by permission. CCLI Licenses #11155880 and #20784211

## Experience the Unburdening of Life

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Offering

October Jingle – FSA Thanksgiving Baskets

Offertory

“Prière à Notre Dame”

Music is in the public domain

\*Doxology #94

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Words and music are in the public domain

Prayer of Dedication

**Departing, Having Been Set Free**

Announcements

\*Hymn

“Help Us to Help Each Other”

Words and music are in the public domain

### 722 Help Us to Help Each Other

MARTYRDOM (AVON) CM

1 Help us to help each oth - er, Lord, each  
2 Help us to build each oth - er up, your  
3 Je - sus, u - nit - ed by your grace, and  
4 Drawn by the mag - net of your love, we

oth - er's load to bear, that all may live in  
strength with - in us prove. In - crease our faith, con -  
each to each en - deared, with con - fi - dence we  
find our hearts made new. Near - er each oth - er

true ac - cord, our joys and pains to share.  
firm our hope and fill us with your love.  
seek your face and know our prayer is heard.  
let us move, and near - er still to you.

Benediction

Mission Statement

**We are a congregation of faith and doubt. We commit ourselves to pursue justice, and pledge to stand with all our neighbors who are marginalized and oppressed, as Jesus did.**

Postlude

“Ye Servants of God”

arr. Charles Callahan © 2020 Birnamwood Publications  
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*The placement of the votive candle on the altar started the year of our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2014 of becoming a Reconciling Congregation. Each month we honored a different person(s) who answered the call to stand for full inclusion of all God's children.*

### PRAYER LIST

Recovering or in long term care (ask the church office for contact info):

Bhala Jones      Harry & Virginia Pence      Louise Van Buren

Prayer Requests: Prayer requests will be published for 4 weeks. If you would like to extend a request, please fill out one of the prayer cards located in the pew rack. **Please mark if you want your request to be public.**

|         |            |                 |         |
|---------|------------|-----------------|---------|
| Ann S.  | Linda O.   | Cindy B.        | Alan F. |
| Bill P. | Sybil      | Jaunine         | Pam     |
| Marc    | Annette L. | Rev. John Bowen |         |

*Our sympathy to the family and friends of Robert Wells, who passed away on October 18.*

*Our sympathy to Ed Foreman and family following the death of his wife Carol. Carol was a beloved member of the Friday Saturday's Bread prep crew for many years.*

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** *Alana Wooden* on October 27; *Helen Bunn* on October 28; and *Celena Eardley* on October 31.

### CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday services are accessible online. The 8:15 service is on Facebook. The 10:30 service is on YouTube or Zoom (Meeting ID: 844 9992 4538, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84499924538> or call 1-646-558-8656).

**TODAY**      8:15 am Worship in person & on Facebook  
                 9:25 am Children's Sunday School, Digging Deeper & Three Simple Questions (adult classes)  
                 10:30 am Worship in person, via Zoom & on YouTube  
                 11:30 am Fellowship Time (Fellowship Hall)

**MON. 10/26**   10:00 am Book Group (Embury Room)  
                 4:30 pm Yoga (Embury Room)

**TUES. 10/27**   9:00 am Boomerangs (Kitchen)  
                 11:00 am Staff Meeting (Coke Room)  
                 6:00 pm Girl Scouts (Art Room)  
                 6:00 pm Joyful Ringers (Sanctuary)  
                 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

**WED. 10/28**   9:15 am Buckingham Bell Ringers

**THUR. 10/29**   12:00 pm Lectio (Embury Room)  
                 5:30 pm Oneonta Hooks & Needles (Embury Room)

FRI. 10/30

SAT. 10/31 11:00 am – 1:00 pm Saturday's Bread (Fellowship Hall)

SUN. 11/1 **All Saints Sunday**

8:15 am Worship in person & on Facebook

9:25 am Children's Sunday School, Digging Deeper &  
Three Simple Questions (adult classes)

10:30 am Worship in person, via Zoom & on YouTube

11:30 am Fellowship Time (Fellowship Hall)

4:00 pm Charge Conference (Elm Park UMC)

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### **Charge Conference**

Our annual Charge Conference meeting will be on November 1 at 4:00 pm at Elm Park UMC.  
All are welcome to attend!

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### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **Selah Circle Canceled on October 27**

Selah Circle is canceled on October 27 – Pastor Casey will be out for the day. The next date for the circle is November 3.

#### **Faith at the Table – November 5**

On November 5 at 6 pm we'll gather at The Depot (4 ½ Railroad Ave.). Our topic will be "How should our faith inform our civic life?" Please RSVP to the church office by Friday, October 30.

#### **All Saints Sunday**

On November 1, we will honor the memory of FUMC members Richard Benz, Linda Herring, Grace Larkin, Beverly Newkirk, Marjorie Rowley, Robert Sandike, Robert Wells, and Phil Young. A table with votive candles will be available for you to remember other loved ones.

#### **Honoring our FUMC Staff**

November is staff appreciation month. Each of the 5 Sundays of November we will highlight two members of the church staff, along with our college interns.

Staff Parish Relations Committee asks that congregation members consider giving to a special collection on November 1 to express our appreciation for the FUMC staff (any checks should be made out to First United Methodist Church, with "staff appreciation" on the memo line).

#### **UWF Bazaar – November 14**

Our November Holiday Bazaar is UWF's biggest and most profitable fundraiser. The money we raise is donated locally and also supports nearly 90 national mission institutions (community centers, schools, and residential care facilities across the U.S.), as well as international projects that empower women and children.

There is a creative and supportive community at FUMC that makes the Bazaar happen, and we're inviting you to be a part of it this year. The vision of UWF is to be "A fearless force driven by God's love and united in sisterhood to act for justice and transform communities."

Please find 2 - 3 hours to be a part of our energy and service on Saturday, November 14. Then call or text 607-435-8551 and let Marty know when you're available to join us. We know that you'll be glad that you did!

**[See the upcoming November Reporter for full details about the Bazaar!]**

### **Help Store Some Boomerangs!**

Got extra freezer space? UWF needs help storing boxes of Boomerangs until after our November 14 Bazaar. If you can help, call Dottie at 607-432-0904 or Marty at 607-432-4917.

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### **FUMC Email Issues**

We are continuing to have some issues with our church-based email addresses. If you are trying to connect with the church via email and receive a message that your email has been blocked, please resend your message to [oneontafirstumc@gmail.com](mailto:oneontafirstumc@gmail.com).

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### **Oneonta Concert Association – Richard Fountain, solo pianist**

Sunday, November 8 at 3:00 pm (at First UMC)

Adults \$30 (\$35 at the door) | Students \$15

Fountain is one of very few pianists to perform the complete cycle of Franz Liszt's monumental transcriptions of Beethoven's nine symphonies. His solo and concerto repertoire highlights American music from all eras, and he is also devoted to the poetic and religious music of Liszt.

For more information or to purchase tickets online, go to <https://oneontaconcertassociation.org/>.