

Worship - Sunday 10 AM
Sunday School - during worship
(Sep-Jun)

Twins Talk

April 2026

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Pastor's Corner

It is Sunday afternoon and I would like to share with you it SNOWED here yesterday! Wintery lookin' snow for about 90 minutes! Looking forward to this Holy Week as it appears to be a bit milder as Spring begins to figure out it's her season! For you hardy Easter Sunrise Service faithful it won't be balmy, but it's not supposed to snow either! Come worship with us - once or twice on Easter Sunday. We plan on having the heat on for the 10AM service.

We had a beautiful service at the Unitarian Church this morning: its tone and tempo were upbeat and optimistic. The final song was "What a Wonderful World!"

While offering wonderful anecdotes along the way, the central theme was that ***if we do for others we are actually doing for ourselves***. We are happier humans when we do good things for others because those deeds will in turn lift OUR spirits and feelings! Forgive me - ***it was about service to others!***

As I drove home I recalled a worship service I attended in Lowville when I was something like 30 in which the pastor made a real fuss about service to others and to the church and how it was necessary for us to do! I recoiled firmly! **WHY** couldn't I come to church, hear a gentle message, sing a hymn or two and go home feeling good about the church and myself instead of being guilted by the leader for not doing enough for the church! COME ON!! Give me a break!

I am happy to share with you that I have come to understand the value and importance of the message then and this morning. The lyrical words spoken this morning reminded us that performing service of any kind for others is very good for us, the doers. It feels good inside, in our hearts and our minds. It brings us a bit of peace, a respite from thinking about ourselves which as we all know can be pretty depressing sometimes.

And as if that wasn't enough, in today's Washington Post is a study which suggests "older people who are thriving usually have one thing in common; something in their life gives them meaning and a sense of purpose". Could be grandchildren, could be animals, could be travel, and **IT COULD BE VOLUNTEERING** to assist other humans.

Like your church!! Join a committee, become a member to become a deacon or an elder, cook soup, volunteer at Foothills, sing, bake, dance, visit, listen!

Our happiness, especially as we age, is inspired by involvement with other humans doing good things! OMG - do you really suppose service for others is a way to make us happy! Welcome to your life and a path to more joy!

Steve

"No one has ever seen God; but if we love each other, God lives in us!" 1 John 4:12

Holy Week Services



MAUNDY THURSDAY - Apr 2 - 6 pm

SUNRISE SERVICE - Apr 5 - 7 am
HP Village Green Gazebo

EASTER - Apr 5 - 10 am

OUR DOORS ARE OPEN



GOOD FRIDAY
3-5 PM

FOR
MEDITATION,
CONTEMPLATION,
PRAYER



Stations of the Cross

Apr 03, 2026

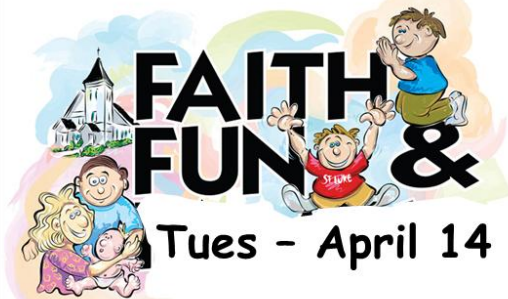
12:10 PM – 12:50 PM

Grace Church
6 Elizabeth St
Utica, NY 13501



Session Scene

- Bob VanGorder, with assistance from Scott Wozna, has begun working with Dave Dousharm on the list of repairs to keep our building going.
- The Clerk of Session reported that Cindy Rye expressed her desire to retire from serving on the Session. A replacement will be needed to finish her term.
- A discussion was held on the process for selecting a successor for Pastor Steve Vance, who is retiring at the end of the year. After thought and prayer, the Session will discuss further at the next meeting.
- The next meeting will be on April 12.



Tues - April 14

10 am - 12 pm - Church Fellowship Hall

Another opportunity to

Think FAITH - Think RELAX - Think Friendship

Coffee will be ready at 10:00 am.

Come anytime between 10 am and 12 noon.

Stay for a few minutes or for 2 hours.

Bring a bag lunch if you want to share a meal.



Church Family and Friends

Date: Tuesday, Apr 21

Time: 1:00 pm

Place: Johnny B's (Floyd)

Everyone is Welcome &
Bring a Friend

Contact Muriel Werbovets for reservations:

Call or Text: 315-796-9252

RSVP by April 14



April 2026

Apr 5 – Volunteers – Easter

Apr 12 – Betsy Allen

Apr 19 – Nancy, Julie & Susan Baum

Apr 26 – DePalma, Fitzgerlad, Beasley

Janet Lanning – Phone 315-941-7409

Email jlasc@me.com

FRIENDS: Then & Now

Small Group Study

When: Wednesday, April 29

Tuesdays May 5, 12, 26, June 2

Time: 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Where: Church Room TBD – based on numbers

We will combine a Bible study and discussion of friendships then and friendships now.

Call or text Muriel at 315-796-9252 if you think you would like to join in. (It's okay if you can't attend all sessions.)



You are cordially invited to the
3rd Annual
Spring Tea Party

Friday, May 15
11:00 am

Church Fellowship Hall

Food - Friends - Games - and
more!!

---- Bring a friend ----

RSVP by Friday to Artie Finn at 315-865-4661 (home) or 315-292-4356 (mobile)
If you would like to come but need a ride, let Artie know.

If you would like to help with the Tea Party, please contact Artie ASAP. Below is a list of items that could use extra hands.

- Little Cookies - need 2 dozen of 3 different kinds
- Little Sandwiches - need 2 dozen (such as cucumber, egg salad, tuna, meat, etc.)
- Plan a mixer game
- Plan a group game
- Serve drinks (2 people)
- Make small flower centerpieces
- People willing to pick up someone if they need a ride
- Set up and Clean up

Please sign up if you can attend so that we know how many to plan for. If you forget to make a reservation, join us anyway - we can always make room for more.



Marilyn Racha
1931 – 1926

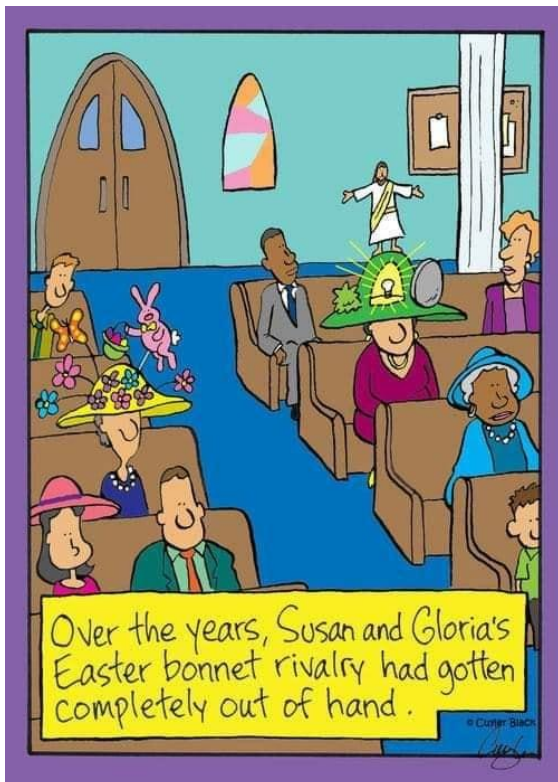
Memorial Service
First Presbyterian Church of HP
Friday, April 17
2:00 PM

Followed by a Reception in the
Fellowship Hall



Sand Art for Abram & Sarai

Mallory Fitzgerald, Ann Hovey and Ally Hovey made sand art bottles as a reminder that God told Abram (when he was a very old man with no children) - **"I will surely bless you and give you many descendants . . . as many as the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore."** Genesis 22:17



Happy Birthday and Anniversary to...



April

- 1 Connor Dorsino
- 2 Sienna Aiken
- 3 Lydia Brown
- 4 Kate Vannicola
Jaime (Lemieux) Worden
Douglas Wynne
Cole Jensen
- 5 Shelley Wall
Bob Griffith
- 7 Janet Stengel
- 8 Sarah & Ryan Palmer (A)
Andrea Larry
- 9 Carol Beasley
- 10 Joshua Clemmons
Jeff Larry
- 11 Julia Larry
Ella Buchanan
- 13 Padric Moore
Ann Hovey
- 14 Kimberly (Aubry) Dunn
Sally Preston
- 16 Elias Vannicola
- 17 Brynne Moore-Stark
- 19 Ally Hovey
- 20 Adam Dittl
- 24 Sally Steffen
Shari Haguss
- 25 Brenda & Jim Capodiferro (A)
- 27 Joe & Debbie Rowlands (A)
Kim & David Dunn (A)
- 28 Nancy Hinge

UPCOMING EVENTS

Worship Schedule

- Apr 2** - Maundy Thursday Service - Steve Vance
Apr 5 - Easter Sunrise Service in the Park - 7 am
Apr 5 - Steve Vance - *Easter - 10 am*
Apr 12 - Steve Vance - *Communion*
Apr 19 - Steve Vance
Apr 26 - Janet Stengel

Events

- Choir Practice** - Thursdays at 5:15 pm
Apr 1 - Stone Soup - *see Betsy Allen for time*
Apr 3 - Stations of the Cross at Grace Church –
see announcement above
Apr 12 - Session Meeting - after worship
Apr 14 - Faith & Fun - 10 am to 12 Noon - *see announcement above*
Apr 17 - Marilyn Racha Memorial Service - 2 pm –
see announcement above
Apr 18 - Park Coffee House - *Pepper & Sassafras - 7:30 pm*
Apr 21 - Family & Friends Lunch - *Johnny B's in Floyd - 1 pm*
See Muriel Werbovetz for reservations
Apr 29 - Friends: Then and Now Small Group - 10 am
See Muriel Werbovetz to sign up

Check our website at "twinchurches.org"
for a complete calendar of events

bits & pieces

Prayers are asked for:

- The family of Vince Vannicola, who passed away at home on March 19, just 1 year after losing his wife, Cathy.

Joys are shared for:

- Kathy and Gary Harvey who are celebrating their **50th Anniversary!**
- Patty Aubry whose daughter, Beth and family are able to travel to Florida to see Patty's grandson play baseball at Universal Studios. They are very grateful that Beth's cancer treatments did not stop her from being able to go.
- Celebrating Palm Sunday (the 5th Sunday of the month) with our faith friends and neighbors from nearby churches at the Unitarian Church in Barneveld. It was a glorious service followed by a delicious, festive brunch.

Prayer Chain - Peg Curtacci phone: 315-867-7898 or email: [pcurtacci.1947@gmail](mailto:pcurtacci.1947@gmail.com)