

# Irondequoit United Church of Christ Weekly Word

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Irondequoit United Church of Christ  
644 Titus Ave  
Rochester NY 14617  
(585) 544-3020

[office@irondequoitucc.org](mailto:office@irondequoitucc.org)

**Pastor Paul: Tele #609-330-8752  
or email: [pastorpaul@irondequoitucc.org](mailto:pastorpaul@irondequoitucc.org)**

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## Weekly Word Reference Guide

- Lighted Cross - October 2023

### **Worship This Sunday**

- Notes on Worship
- Pastor's Note

### **Events at and around the Church**

- Remembering Loved Ones on November 5th
- Weekly Bible Study
- Holy Eve Harvest Party
- X-mas Show - auditions and flyer details
- Salem X-mas Bags Collection
- IUCC Election Site
- Weekly Calendar of Events
- Lock-up Schedule

### **For The Good of the Community**

- Community Service Project - Girl Scout Troop #61028
- Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed

### **Opportunities to Give**

- IUCC for NYS Spirit Coat Drive - Success!
- Pennies for People

### **Opportunities to Act**

- Petition to Create Composting Facilities
- Honored Ushers
- IUCC Community Connection Corner
- Church communication details and deadlines

### **Remember in Prayer**

- Friends and Family
- Worldwide
- Military

### **More about who we are**

- Safe Sanctuary Church
  - Mission Statement
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Visit our Website

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**OCTOBER LIGHTED CROSS**

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**Sunday, October 29, 2023  
@ 10:03am  
In person Worship**

**Worship Leader  
Rev. C. Paul Grenier**

**Liturgist  
Mary Ozel**

**Bible Reading  
Deuteronomy 34:1--12  
Matthew 22:34-46**

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**Pastor's Note**

Dear Beloved IUCC,

First, I want to thank you for your concern and prayers for my family after my mother's car accident. She is back at home and doing very well under the care of my two brothers. She is still planning on coming up for my installation on November 19<sup>th</sup>. She has a fractured sternum that will take a long time to heal and probably be a painful

recovery, but it doesn't seem to be affecting her mobility much at all. In addition, because of the scans they did on her body they detected a minor valve problem with her heart. This can be fixed with surgery, but undetected it could be fatal, once again showing that blessings can come from tragedy.

Looking at the lectionary for this week we come across the two Greatest Commandments as stated in Matthew 22:34-46, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus elaborates on this by telling the parable of "The Good Samaritan," illustrating that our neighbor is anyone including strangers, and even enemies.

Out of all the beliefs, commandments and doctrines espoused by the Christian Church there is one that stands above all the rest in absurdity and believability. This is the doctrine of Christian love. The belief that the best course of action is to answer evil with good, to love your enemy as yourself, and the concurrent notion that this will lead to a happier and more fulfilling human life goes against most science and reason. Whereas the Christian doctrine of original sin, that we are all innately selfish is the most provable doctrine of the church. Throughout our communal and individual histories people have shown over and over again their propensity for selfish gain and self-righteous behavior. The desire for self-preservation and advancement is borne out by evolutionary science and is so strong that even the church has repeatedly fallen victim to the corruption of its own sin.

Many books and much effort have gone into debating all of the incongruities, and possible absurdities of the Christian faith and its beliefs, yet very few have attempted to argue against the most absurd doctrine that it is best to love our neighbor and look out for number two. Why is this? Because though it is absurd, it is such a beautiful absurdity that we all wish to believe in it. It is the only belief in the world that gives all of humanity hope for a better and brighter future. I look forward to exploring this revolutionary idea with you this Sunday.

*Blessings, Pastor Paul*

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**Please submit names for our All Souls Day Service on November 5th. For many people in our church the coming of winter this year may lead to longer and colder nights that have nothing to do with the changing of seasons. This will be the first Thanksgiving and Christmas without my father, and I am not alone. Many people in our community have lost loved ones this year and are still struggling to adjust to the empty seat at their tables. In the church, if one person is grieving, we all grieve together, and if one person is rejoicing, we all rejoice together.**

**So, on November 5 th we will be both grieving and celebrating together as we remember those in our community who have passed away this year with an All-Souls Day Worship service. If someone close to you or our church has died in the past year, and you would like to have his/her name included in our Sunday Service please send an email to Carla ([office@irondequoitucc.org](mailto:office@irondequoitucc.org)) with their name, date of birth and death, and relation to our church no later than Wednesday, November 1st @ 5:00pm. Thank you, *Rev. C. Paul Grenier***

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### **Bible Study!**

Our weekly Bible Study is back in session each **Tuesday at 2:00PM**. Looking forward to engaging with the group again and encouraging new participants to join us!

**Tuesdays on Zoom at 2:00PM with Rev. C. Paul Grenier**

**The link is:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/483630339?pwd=SFNsS2xYVWWtIOHJ0NC9VdFh6QU9CZz09>

**Meeting ID: 483 630 339 Passcode: 024392**

## **Mark Your Calendars** **Holy Eve Harvest Party!**

Halloween has often been maligned by Christians as a Pagan Holiday that revels in darkness and promotes demons and witchcraft. This understanding of Halloween is as historically fictional as the Boogie-man. Most northern cultures have festivals this time of year to give thanks for the harvest at the end of the growing season. These festivals have often included elements reminiscent of death in order to ward off the dangers of winter and make the celebration of life that much more spectacular. Until modern times these festivals have always been a combination of Christian and local customs.



Now if Satan has claimed Halloween as a Holiday for himself, I aim to take it right back for Christians. In New Jersey, where I'm from, the night before Halloween was called "Mischief Night," and it was unofficially the night where kids would go play pranks on the neighbors, they didn't think would give them candy the next night. If there is a similar tradition here, then let's give the kids something more productive to do.

**On Monday October 30<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:30ish** we will be hosting a harvest party by our new fire pit, beside the church. This will be a fairly casual event like our June Ice-cream social. We will have food, fire, music, and I will tell a few ghost stories. All are welcome to come and bring your friends and family, even if you only have time to stop by for a few minutes. If you would like to volunteer to help setup, bring food, or tell a story please let Pastor Paul know. [pastorpaul@irondequoitucc.org](mailto:pastorpaul@irondequoitucc.org)

See you around the fire!



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**CATTLE CALL FOR ALL!**

## Open Auditions:

Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 3:30pm – 4:30pm

Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm – 8:30pm

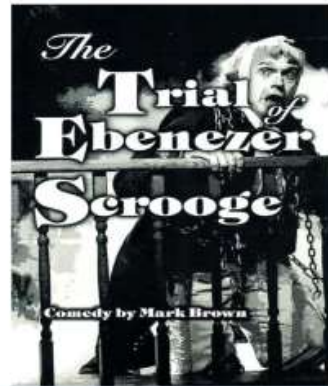
At:

Irondequoit United Church of Christ

644 Titus Avenue

Rochester, New York 14617

Questions?: Contact Rev. Marvin Krieger 201-220-9682



### READING OF:



### TO BE PRESENTED ON:

Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>: 7:00pm

and

Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>: 3:30pm

At the:

Irondequoit United Church of Christ

### CASTING CALL: SOME ROLLS MAY BE COMBINED

- |                                |                                  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ➤ The Bailiff (Mr. Connolly)   | ➤ Jacob Marley                   |
| ➤ Judge Stanchfield R. Pearson | ➤ Ghost of Christmas Past        |
| ➤ Solomon Rothschild           | ➤ Fan                            |
| ➤ Ebenezer Scrooge             | ➤ Belle                          |
| ➤ Bob Cratchit                 | ➤ Mrs. Dilber                    |
| ➤ Mrs. Cratchit                | ➤ Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come |
| ➤ Fred                         | ➤ The Translator                 |
| ➤ Sara Wainwright              |                                  |

"Produced by special arrangement with  
DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois"

Originally produced by the Orlando-UCF Shakespeare Festival, Orlando, Florida  
on December 3, 2004.

Jim Heisinger, Artistic Director, Mary Ann Dean, Executive Director





## IUCC to be a Polling Site on Election Day Tuesday, 11/7/2023

Last year was our church's first year serving as a polling site for the Monroe County Board of Elections. We had over 1500 Irondequoit residents come through our doors to cast their ballots, and the election workers were very pleased with our surroundings and the welcome we gave them and the voters. Some of those voters have returned to the church to worship with us!

This year we can do even more! Last year a few VERY dedicated IUCC folk welcomed voters, steered them toward the dining room where voting machines were set up, offered refreshments and gave anyone interested some background on our amazing old building. This year we'd like to offer even more hospitality: refreshments for the polling workers; baked goods and coffee or cider for our visitors; information on all the groups that meet at IUCC and the programs we support and offer; someone to point out the restrooms. It is a long day; we will be open from 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., with the workers arriving at 5:00 a.m. and leaving by 10:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed to organize refreshments, and to act as greeters and/or servers for a 2-hour day or evening shift. Other ideas you may have are welcome.

Look for the sign-up sheet in the breezeway or leave your name and contact info with Carla in the church office. The more helpers we have, the easier on everyone. Let's extend that extravagant welcome to our neighbors once again this November.

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It is once again time to think about the **Salem Nutrition Center Christmas gift bags**. This year they are asking us to collect men's deodorant. There will be a box in the front hallway for them. Once again, I (Nancy Smith) will gladly shop for you. You can leave it in the office, well-marked, or just give it to me. I thank you in advance as this congregation is always so generous.

Thank you, gracias, merci!!!!  
*Nancy Smith, for the Outreach Committee*

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## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **Thursday, October 26**

9:30AM Music Therapy  
7:00PM AA - Love and Service  
7:00PM Zumba  
7:00PM RMJO

### **Friday, October 27 (Nothing Scheduled)**

### **Saturday, October 28**

9:30AM Music Therapy  
7:00PM AA-Love & Service

### **Sunday, October 29**

**10:03AM In-Person Worship**

### **Monday, October 30**

#### **6:30PM Happy Harvest Eve Event**

7:00PM BSA Troop #96  
7:00PM Zumba

### **Tuesday, October 31 "Happy Halloween"**

9:30AM Music Therapy  
**2:00PM IUCC Bible Study**  
4:45PM Music Therapy  
7:30PM Alateen Group Meeting  
7:30PM Al Anon Family Group

### **Wednesday, November 1**

5:30PM GS Troop #63179  
**5:30PM Worship Team Meeting**  
**6:00PM Praise Band Rehearsal**  
6:30PM GS Troop #60141  
6:30PM Scout Troop #96

### **Thursday, November 2**

9:30AM Music Therapy  
**10:30AM Caring Connection Team Meeting**  
6:00PM GS Troop #61028  
**7:00PM Leadership Team Meeting**  
7:00PM AA - Love and Service  
7:00PM Zumba  
7:00PM RMJO

**Friday, Nov 3**  
**12:00PM S.W.I.M.**

**Saturday, Nov 4**  
**8:30AM/9:00AM Women's & Men's Monthly Breakfast**  
9:30AM Music Therapy  
7:00PM AA-Love & Service

**Sunday, Nov 5**  
**10:03AM In-Person Worship; All Saints & Communion Sunday**

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### Lockup Schedule

Oct 23 - Oct 29.....Rich Hamlin  
Oct 30 - Nov 5.....Scott Krieger  
Nov 6 - Nov 12.....Jerry Hortop

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### Girl Scout Troop #61028 Community Service Project to benefit IUCC Members!

**Girl Scout Troop #61028 who uses our facilities for meetings would like to give back and offer their services to our church members who may need assistance with yard maintenance. The group is more than willing to provide a helping hand or two**

**and rake leaves for you! If interested, please contact the office (544-3020 or email: [office@ irondequoit ucc.org](mailto:office@irondequoitucc.org)) so that a convenient date and time can be coordinated with the Troop Leader to accommodate your request.**

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# BE THE CHANGE

VOLUNTEER &  
MAKE THE DIFFERENCE



Deliver meals for Meals On Wheels!

**Meals On Wheels** needs your help  
delivering meals to homebound  
residents in Irondequoit!

- Delivery takes about 60- 90 minutes
- Meals are picked up in Irondequoit
- Easy to follow route directions

*For more information or to begin the  
application process please call 274-4385 or  
visit our website at [www.homecare.urmc.edu](http://www.homecare.urmc.edu)*



## **Winter Clothing Collection – A Great Success!**

Our congregation is known for their generosity and came through again! Outreach asked for donations of warm winter outerwear for

the homeless teens involved with the SPIRIT NYS organization and we were planning to collect until early November. SPIRIT NYS came by and picked up what we had collected so far and because there has been such an outpouring of generosity, they let me know that they now have what is needed to help the youth they serve. We can feel good knowing that the teens will look great and stay warm this upcoming winter! ***Please don't put any additional items in the Fellowship Room, but feel free to put them in our clothing shed or donate to another worthy charity. Thank you!***

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### **PENNIES FOR PEOPLE**

Unfortunately money doesn't grow on trees nor do those pennies come from heaven, they come from people like us so take the time to donate your loose change or dollar bills to Pennies for People at Church. IUCC will send the change to UCC NY Women to join with other donations to benefit a local organization that supports women and families in need. Please place your donation in the jar in the breezeway. Thank you!

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## Petition to Create Composting Facilities Within Monroe County, NY



Started May 18, 2022

### Why this petition matters



Started by [Color Fairport Green](#)

PETITION TO: Monroe County Legislature

We, the undersigned residents of Monroe County, New York, call on the County Legislature to create jobs, generate beneficial soil additives, and reduce our reliance on other counties by building several composting facilities within the county so that businesses may comply with the NYS Food Donation and Food Scraps Recycling law.

Make a Difference in Monroe County. Help us build Composting Facilities for a Greener Future! [chng.it](#)

For more information contact Brenda Campbell ([bjcamp61@gmail.com](mailto:bjcamp61@gmail.com))



## **Honored Ushers Training!**

Ushers are an essential part of our Sunday service that are deserving of respect and honor. They are the welcoming face of the church that greets visitors and ensures everyone is seated comfortably. They are the ones who watch over the congregation and help out if anyone is in distress during the service. They collect and protect the offering and facilitate the church's most sacred ritual of Holy Communion. Ushers are the ones who "assure" the congregation that they are seen, safe, and that the service will go smoothly.

It doesn't take much time or effort to be an usher, but it does take commitment and consistency. Therefore, we will be holding our first Usher's Training this fall. This training will be no more than two hours and it will involve food and fellowship. If you would like to be part of this training please sign up this Sunday.

### **What does an Usher do?**

- Ready the Sanctuary to receive the community for worship. (Lighting candles, gathering bulletins, etc.)
- Greet people as they arrive. (informally)
- Collect the offering and ensure it is stored safely.
- Serve Communion to the Congregation on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month.
- Help anyone who is distressed or confused.
- Sound the alarm in case of danger such as fire.
- Be a source of welcome and information for visitors.



*IUCC Community "Connection  
Corner"*





### **Halloween and My Crafty Mom**

October brings to mind the fantastic creative loving seamstress called Mom. My Mom never met a craft she couldn't do. I remember saying to my Mom that I didn't have a shirt that went with the slacks I wanted to wear to the roller skating rink one evening. She dug down into her material stash, came up with a coordinating print, and whipped up a simple sleeveless blouse for me to wear in about 30 minutes.

No store-bought Halloween costumes in my house. I had the most creative cat, witch, and even Peter Peter Pumpkin Eater's Wife prize

winning costume in the town's kiddy parade. She continued making creative costumes by making my daughter's costumes.

I am the youngest of four, and we were each 15 months apart in age. Needless to say, my Mom had her hands full. My Dad was a good provider, however, my Mom found numerous ways to supplement his pay to pay for those little extras. She cared for children in our home, was a test kitchen for Betty Crocker, sewed ALL of the costumes for the dancing classes we took, and more. She gathered us together along with the childcare kids, and the neighborhood kids, (and there were many) to put on a play in our back yard.

Many parents that have a child with a disability want to smother the child in the name of protection. October is Blindness Awareness Month, By the way, I didn't even know the word blind until I began attending the state school for the blind in Batavia when I was in second grade. I just couldn't see as well as the rest of the kids. I know it was difficult for my Mom, but she with trepidation allowed me to stretch my wings. She covered her eyes while my Dad taught me how to ride a two wheeler bike in our yard. She allowed me to go skate at a public skating rink with my siblings, cringed when I rode the biggest roller coasters, held her breath when I dove off the side of a quarry where we swam, and pretty much worried but allowed me to do everything the other kids did when I insisted.

You know me as someone that has no usable vision. However, I grew up having some usable vision. Mom would help us find the right lighting so I could play board games with the kids, read playing cards, and distinguish different colors for my American Brick constructions. Mom instilled in me a desire to create useful attractive items through knitting, crocheting, plastic canvas, latch hook and more mediums. She would say something like, "Well, I don't think you could make a flower on plastic canvas, being that you can't see." She knew that would hook my determination to do it. I'd say, "Of course I can. Let's do it." And I did. When I finished, it was a red rose on that coaster I made.

I collect lighthouses, and I wanted to make a wall hanging of a lighthouse with a latch hook rug kit. She took the chart in the kit, and painstakingly translated those symbols into color abbreviations, sorted all of those little pieces of yarn, dictated the translated pattern to me so I could braille it. It is hanging on my wall still.

People of my Mom's age found it hard to ask for help. However, I like to think that since she saw me ask for help when I needed it, that she

was able to ask for help sometimes. I knew I made it as a cook when she called me from her work one day and asked me to make a casserole for her to take to a meeting that night. When her eyesight was decreasing, she asked me to download a baby sweater pattern and print it in large print for her, because even at 90, she was still knitting layettes for her church's new mothers.

I am blessed to have incorporated many of my amazing Mom's values and skills; cook tasty food and share it, make useful items for others, read to little kids, and love deeply. *Bernice Bird*

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**"Second To None"!**



**Happy Halloween from the little witch, 8-year-old "Pixie" who won second place in a Halloween costume contest!**

*Submitted by pup-parents, Rev. Bob and Sally Bermudes*

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**New Initiative to Bring Light to the Lighted Cross and various church communications ...**

Pastor Paul is interested in making all church communications more interesting, by highlighting the diversity of talents and personalities in our congregation.

Every month we ask congregation members to submit articles and announcements, but we might get more diverse submissions if we provide our readers with a prompt.

**Our next publication comes during the month of November. Therefore, we would like to request that you consider writing a personal story, prayer, poem, or reflection about Thanksgiving and/or what you are grateful for during this special holiday.** Some examples include sharing a special memory, a cherished recipe, a description of a special tradition in your family, or a reflection for this time of year and what it means to you.

**Please consider contributing an article to share in this IUCC Community “Connection Corner” section. Please send no later than Friday, November 3rd to: [office@irondequoitucc.org](mailto:office@irondequoitucc.org).**

Also, don't let the struggle with the thought of putting pen to paper with your stories hold you back ... Pastor Paul is more than happy to assist you if you need a little help to bring your words to life!

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**PLEASE NOTE:**

**Autumn is here ... the calendar is filling up fast as we look forward to many activities and events to be enjoyed! We welcome news, articles, and any other noteworthy information you want to provide in future church communications. We ask that submissions be sent via email to: [office@irondequoitucc.org](mailto:office@irondequoitucc.org) as follows:**

**For inclusion in the weekly Wednesday e-Newsletter (delivered electronically) - submit by 5:00pm Tuesdays, the day prior to the mailing.**

**For inclusion in the Sunday Announcement Insert (printed tri-folds) - submit no later than noon on Thursdays**

**For inclusion in the weekly Worship Email (sent electronically each Saturday) - items can be added to the Announcement section until noon on Fridays**

**Thank you in advance! We look forward to hearing from you and sharing your useful information!!**

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**We Remember In Prayer**

Jennifer Grenier, Randy Hems and Family; William Peterson, Janet Goodman, Barbara Zuegel, Alice Littler, Don Vanselow, Olga Deavitt, Laura Fregosi, Amanda Gee, Diana Kubick, Jim Loveland, Tony Proietti, Ida Saucke; Marilyn Weaver's Family, Vandy Humphrey and Family; Family and friends of Carol Cowan

***All people affected by natural disasters.  
and conflicts worldwide***

**In The Military**

Major Gregory Campbell, USAF (son of Brenda & Doug Campbell),

PO3 Andrew Loveland US NAVY (grandson of Jim & Carol Loveland),  
Paul Gately (son of Mary Gately)

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### **We are a Safe Sanctuary Church**

In a world that is becoming increasingly divided, people are weary of judgment and starving for acceptance. Even in places that should be open and safe, many have felt unwelcome. By simply living God's love, Irondequoit United Church of Christ is a place where everyone can feel welcome and accepted.



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### **Irondequoit United Church of Christ Mission**

*We extend God's love and extravagant welcome to all  
to share in our community of worship and following Jesus,  
to work together toward a more Just world.*

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Find us on YouTube

[Visit our YouTube Channel](#)

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