

Irondequoit United Church of Christ Weekly Word



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

office@irondequoitucc.org

**Pastor Paul: Tele #609-330-8752
or email: pastorpaul@irondequoitucc.org**

Weekly Word Reference Guide

Worship This Sunday

- Notes on Worship
- Pastor's Note

Events at and around the Church

- Weekly Bible Study
- Do You Hear What I Hear - Children's Choir
- Advent Decorating Fast Approaching
- Advent Journey
- Holiday Show - flyer details
- Irondequoit Community Orchestra Holiday Concert
- Lost and Found
- Weekly Calendar of Events
- Lock-up Schedule

For The Good of the Community

- ESWA Request - Drivers Needed
- IUCC - Emergency Preparedness

Opportunities to Give

- Stewardship Sunday/IUCC Pledges
- Pennies for People

Opportunities to Act

- Period Packs - erase period poverty
- 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

Visit our Website

Sunday, November 26, 2023

@ 10:03am

In person Worship

Presiding Pastor: The Rev. Marvin W. Krieger

Liturgist: Mary Ozel

Organist: Michael Costello

Bible Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23

Matthew 25:31-46



Pastor's Note

Dear Beloved IUCC,

I hope you all have a very happy Thanksgiving! I have so much to be thankful for this year. True, I have lost my father, but I've gained a second family in IUCC. This was no more obvious to me than this past Sunday when I was officially installed by the Genesee Valley Association of the UCC as your official settled pastor. Just the fact that so many of you took time out of this busy season to celebrate with me meant so much to me and my family. My mother Jennifer and brother Aaron had a wonderful time meeting all of you "lovely friendly people." I appreciate all of the work people did preparing for this event and cleaning up afterwards. I think we even impressed my colleagues from the GVA. I know some people

couldn't make it, but your spirit was certainly felt and appreciated.

I will be away until Nov. 27-28 when I will be returning with a friend from my home church in Pitman and his autistic son Doug, who taught me to bowl. In the meantime Rev. Marvin is on duty if you have pastoral needs.

Have a good week, and Go Bills!

Blessings, Pastor Paul



Bible Study!

Our weekly Bible Study is held each **Tuesday at 2:00p.m.** Looking forward to engaging with the group 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=SFNsS2xYWWt1OHJ0NC9VdFh6QU9CZz09>

Meeting ID: 483 630 339 Passcode: 024392

Do You Hear What I Hear??!!



Children Choir, Christmas Plays and More!

Music is always a big part of worship at this time, so we are putting out the call for singers and musicians of all ages! If you have any urge to sing consider joining our choir for the next few weeks and making this Advent and Christmas something special. Invite friends, encourage family members, pick up people on the street! The more the Merrier!

Our Music Director Deborah Cox-Robinson is planning choir and bell rehearsals on Wednesday nights.

This year Christmas Eve takes place on a Sunday, so we will not be having normal worship on Sunday morning. Instead we are hoping to do a Christmas pageant of some sort involving as many children as we can get! Then we will be doing the more traditional candle-light service at 7:00 that evening.

If you want to help, or have grandchildren you think you can capture, let Pastor Paul and/or Deborah know via email, or just talk to us after church.

[*pastorpaul@irondequoitucc.org*](mailto:pastorpaul@irondequoitucc.org)

[*deborahcox445@gmail.com*](mailto:deborahcox445@gmail.com)

Proposed Schedule of Christmas Rehearsal Activities:

Wednesdays beginning NOVEMBER 15th

Children 5:00pm

Adults 6:00pm

Bell Choir 7:15pm

With hope for the best of Christmas blessings!



**Mark Your Calendars!
Advent Sanctuary Decorating,
Saturday 12/2/2023**

Halloween is barely over, Thanksgiving just arrived, and the Advent season is fast approaching and with that a favorite IUCC tradition: decorating the church sanctuary!

This year the first Sunday of Advent is 12/3, so the day before we invite you to gather at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary to fluff wreaths and garlands, hang lights and banners, decorate a tree with Chrismons and spread seasonal joy around the church. There is a job for everyone, and plenty of time to socialize, maybe listen to some holiday tunes and enjoy refreshments while we work. We are generally done within an hour or so. This year we'll have special window decorations: Nativity scenes from Pastor Paul's extensive collection will be displayed on the sills!

Your Advent Elves, Dan Reardon and Laurel Fuller, will get things ready; if you have any questions, just speak to one of us at church. Don't miss it!



It seems that the Holidays are coming earlier and earlier, and they are more and more filled with things to do, plan, and worry about. In our secular society “the Holiday Season,” begins on Black-Friday, or right after Election Day, or maybe even before Halloween. It is a time for decorating, crafting, and cooking. It is a time for doing, and most importantly it is a time for buying!

The church, as always, is counter-cultural. We are called to live in the world but not be of the world. “For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in this present age.” (Titus 2:11-12) As a result the Church celebrates the time before Christmas as “Advent,” a season of patience, prayer, and giving.

To help our community tap into this unique aspect of our faith Pastor Paul will be offering an Advent Devotional Group on Monday nights from 6:00-7:00 pm. (Dec. 4, 11, 18.) We will be discussing the theology and the traditions around Advent and Christmas, in an effort to deepen our understanding of this Holy-day season.

You Are Invited!!

A STAGED READING OF:

The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge

A COMEDY BY MARK BROWN

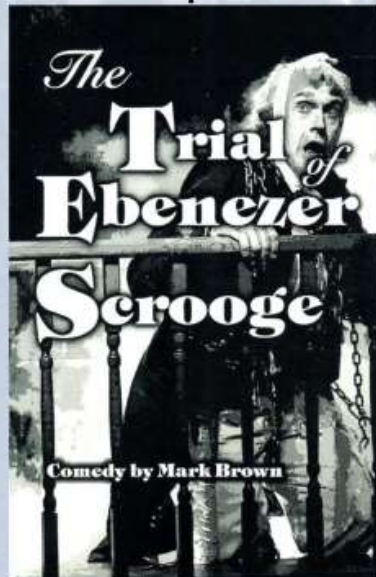
Saturday, December 9th: 7:00pm

and

Sunday, December 10th: 3:30pm

At:

Irondequoit United Church of Christ



644 Titus Avenue
Rochester, New York 14617

Accepting a Free Will Offering
And
Canned goods for the needy

"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



SAVE THE DATE

IRONDEQUOIT
COMMUNITY
ORCHESTRA

Holiday Concert!

Wednesday
December 13, 2023
7:30 PM

Irondequoit United Church of Christ

644 Titus Ave, Rochester, NY

Conductor Evan Meccarello

J. S. Bach, "Orchestral Suite No. 2 in b-minor"

G. Gabrieli, "Canzona"

C. Assad, "Tres A Maré Encheu"

Holiday Favorite Carols with Tyler Cassidy-Heacock

Soprano

Sponsors of the Irondequoit Community Orchestra Inc.



Thomas Music Inc.
Professional Band Instrument Repair
1908 Ridge Road East
Rochester, NY 14622
(585) 266-7751
www.thomasmusic.net



Donations to the Irondequoit Community Orchestra from businesses and the public are greatly appreciated.

Irondequoit Community Orchestra Inc. is a registered Federal and New York State Nonprofit Corporation.

The ICO is supported solely by donations.

Find us on Facebook and visit our website: www.irondequoitorchestra.org

Lost & Found

Did you attend the Worship Service and/or the Installation Ceremony on November 19th and lose your glasses?? They were turned in and will be gladly returned to you. Please contact the office at (585-544-3020).

CALENDAR of EVENTS

Thursday, Nov 23 - HAPPY THANKSGIVING (OFFICE CLOSED)

9:30AM Music Therapy

7:00PM AA - Love and Service

7:00PM Zumba

7:00PM RMJO

Friday, Nov 24 (OFFICE CLOSED)

Saturday, Nov 25

9:30AM Music Therapy

7:00PM AA-Love & Service

Sunday, Nov 26

10:03AM In-Person Worship

Monday, Nov 27

7:00PM Outreach Team Meeting

7:00PM Scout Troop #96

7:00PM Zumba

Tuesday, Nov 28

9:30AM Music Therapy

2:00PM IUCC Bible Study

4:30PM Music Therapy

7:30PM Alateen Group Meeting

7:30PM Al Anon Family Group

Wednesday, Nov 29

5:00PM X-mas Choir Rehearsals

6:30PM GS Troop #60141

6:30PM Scout Troop #96

Thursday, Nov 30

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

Friday, Dec 1
12:00PM S.W.I.M.

Saturday, Dec 2
8:30AM/9:00AM Men's/Women's
Monthly B-fast Gathering
9:30AM Music Therapy
10:00AM Sanctuary Decorating
7:00PM AA-Love & Service

Sunday, Dec 3
10:03AM In-Person Worship; First Sunday of Advent -
Communion Sunday

Lockup Schedule

Nov 20 - Nov 26.....Tim Tracey
Nov 27 - Dec 3.....Dave Latart
Dec 4 - Dec 10.....Dan Reardon

***** Drivers Urgently Needed to deliver food
and more to needy families *****

From ESWA:

There is an urgent need for volunteers to help with our supplementary food distribution benefit on Thursdays and Fridays to our members of low-income working families. This program allows our members to receive fresh produce and meats on a weekly basis to help bridge the nutritional gap that can arise when trying to feed a family on a fixed or low-income budget. **Volunteers can arrive at 234 Bay St.**

anytime Thursday or Friday afternoon and they will be given food to deliver and addresses. Thank you for any amount of time you are willing to give.

Drivers are needed for **ESWA's Toy sort on 12/15/23** at (TBD) and times (TBD) for our Holiday party where member families will be receiving toys donated by local churches.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Tina Howard at 585-654-9640 or email eswa-roch@juno.com

In Solidarity and God Bless,
Tina, ESWA Coordinator

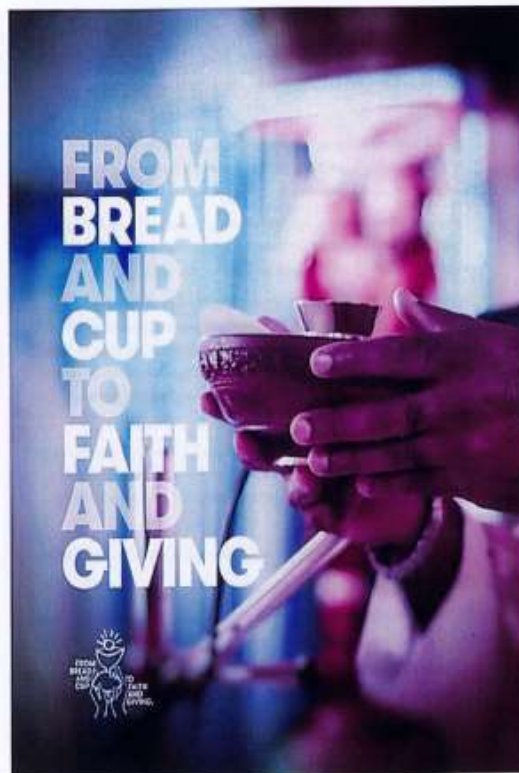
Be Prepared - Emergency Medical Treatment at IUCC

To ensure that everyone using our facility could be helped in an emergency, we have some important tools available and wanted to make sure you are familiar with them. These tools are located in the storage cabinet on the wall opposite the main office. Call 911 immediately before proceeding with anything else. *Remember that these tools need to be administered as quickly as possible to be successful and good Samaritans are protected from legal recourse if the person is hurt or dies in spite of your attempts.*

-----> We have an AED (automated external defibrillator) which is a device that can shock a stopped heart back to life. It is simple to use and there are instructions that anyone can follow.

-----> We have doses of Narcan which are used when there is a suspected overdose. This medication is simply inserted into the person's nose like an inhaler. A second dose may be necessary if the first one is not successful. *Note: The person will not be harmed if it is administered but they are not suffering from an overdose.*

Stewardship Continues ...



From **BREAD** and **CUP** to **FAITH** and **GIVING**

Our Stewardship theme, "From Bread and Cup to Faith and Giving," connects God's generosity and our stewardship. What would it mean for our lives to embody God's abundance?

Receiving the bread and the cup—also known by names such as Lord's Supper, communion, holy communion, Eucharist, breaking of the bread, sacred meal, and simply "the table"—provides a focus to Christian community.

At the table, God uses the loaf and the cup as visible signs of God's pure, unbounded love for us and for all. The everyday ingredients become symbols of God's abundance: Love that invites everyone in. Food enough for all. Cups shared, even when not everyone agreed. In all the different ways we celebrate it in our congregations, communion allows us to taste and imagine God's gracious providence.

Too often, our minds get stuck on thoughts of scarcity. "There will never be enough," we tell ourselves. And if there's not enough, we want to control who gets what. Perhaps that's why the word *sparso* (meager) contains the word *parse* (divide). Fears of scarcity divide us.

Our fears make God's table manners ever more crucial. God invites. God provides. God pours - until our cup overflows.

Such abundance allows our hearts to imagine a new way of living. We can embrace God's unconditional love as the basis for our lives as individuals and communities.

Stewardship ponders this question: how can we reflect God's abundance with what we have? This question can help us think about ways to connect our experience of God's generosity with the choices we make in our lives.



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7 November 2023

Dear fellow church family member,

On behalf of the Leadership Committee, I am writing to ask you to prayerfully consider pledging your support to our mission and ministry for the upcoming year.

As you have hopefully noticed, there are a lot of exciting things happening here!!
Among other things, we

are regularly hosting approximately 80 people at worship, roughly double from two years ago;

recently welcomed nine new members;

have reinstated a children's program during the service;

are regularly offering adult education opportunities;

are forming a children's choir to help celebrate Christmas;

will be hosting another IUCC Players production:

"The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge" on December 9th and 10th;

are close to hiring a Director of Youth and Family Ministry;

are hosting a number of community organizations and service providers in our building to the point where our building is active 7 days a week!!;

are again serving as a polling place on Election Day and welcoming voters;

are budgeting for carrying out our mission in our community and using our endowment fund to responsibly support growth and promote God's plan for our congregation

I hope you will join us in supporting our church family with your time and treasure and will prayerfully consider making an increased commitment to our future by pledging your support on November 19th and 26th, when pledges will be received.

Thank you.

Jim Hinman

On behalf of the Leadership Committee



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!

Period Pack: Menstrual Hygiene Kit

In many parts of the world, women and girls live in period poverty - lacking access to necessary feminine care supplies - important to healthy practices. Not having these supplies can lead to unsafe and unsanitary conditions. How can you help?

Ruth Circle is leading the way to donate towards this cause but we NEED your monetary help as well.

Each kit through CWS [Church World Service] costs \$25 + a \$2 processing fee.

We will be collecting monetary donations during church services on Sunday, November 19th and 26th.

Checks [IUCC - Period Pack] can also be sent or dropped off to the IUCC office by December 1st.

Thanks in advance for helping women and girls around the world living in period poverty have the essentials they need to feel clean, be healthy and live with dignity during their cycle.

*IUCC Community "Connection
Corner"*



November Highlights



Family and friends dropping by during the mad holiday rush... and no time to bake an apple pie? No worries, make this quick and delicious dip:

Apple Pie Dip

Cream cheese, sweetened with brown sugar and spiked with apple pie spice, forms the base of this spread.

Bits of red apple and pecans give it texture and add to the apple-pie-like flavor. Garnish as desired and serve with crackers (Ritz crackers really make it taste authentic!), pretzel rods, or apple slices. Also great as a spread on toasted bagels!

Ingredients:

- (1) 8oz. package reduced-fat or regular cream cheese (softened)
- 1/2 teaspoon apple pie spice
- 1 Tablespoon apple juice or apple cider
- 2 Tablespoons brown sugar
- 1 red apple, chopped
- 1/4 cup chopped pecans
- Few sprinkles of cinnamon or cinnamon sugar (if desired)

Directions:

Combine cream cheese and apple juice (or cider) in a bowl and beat with electric mixer on medium speed until fluffy. Beat in brown sugar and apple pie spice (and cinnamon/sugar, if desired). Fold in chopped apple and pecans.

Submitted by Carla M. Fox
(Recipe from Allrecipes.com)



By popular request, here is another yummy recipe shared by Bernice Bird!!

Banana Bread Mini Muffins

I doubled this recipe for mini muffins to donate to my church which is a polling place. It made 170 minimuffins, and there were none left, darn.

I combined ideas from several recipes.

After baking half of the batter, I added chocolate chips to the other half of the batter.

I NEVER use margarine, because it is mostly soy oil.

I always add vanilla by the glug, not by the spoonful.

1 cup white sugar
1 cup brown sugar
6 bananas, mashed
2 tablespoons sour cream
2 sticks butter
4 eggs, beaten
1 table spoon real vanilla
2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons baking soda
1 table spoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon salt, ½ teaspoon if using salted butter

Preheat oven to 350. In largest bowl, combine sugars, bananas, sour cream, melted butter, vanilla and beaten eggs, mix well. Combine flour, baking soda, cinnamon, and salt, mix well. Gradually combine dry mixture to wet ingredients. Pour into two 1 9x5 inch loaf pans. Bake for 45 to 50 minutes.

To make mini muffins, preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease mini muffin pans, and fill to about ¾ full. Bake for 15 minutes. Let cool for a few minutes. Remove from pan and let cool completely.

Bernice Bird

**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.

Therefore, in preparation for the next issue during the month of December we would like to request that you consider writing a personal story, prayer, poem, or reflection about this "most wonderful time of the year!" Some examples include sharing a special memory, a cherished recipe, a description of a special tradition in your family, or a reflection for this special 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 ASAP to: 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!



[PLEASE NOTE:](#)

The holidays are right around the corner ... 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 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!!

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)

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.



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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