



July & August 2025

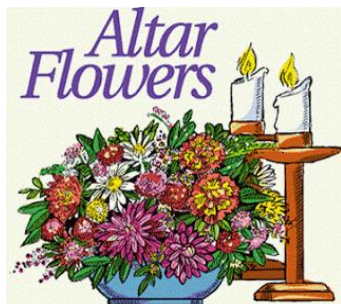
# The Messenger

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
132 N. Main Street, PO Box 231  
Angola, NY 14006  
Phone 716-549-2115

E-mail: [ucc\\_angola@verizon.net](mailto:ucc_angola@verizon.net)  
Website: [www.christchurchangola.com](http://www.christchurchangola.com)

## ALTAR FLOWERS

We would like to thank June Altar Flower Dedicators:



Jean Galfo

Nancy & David Volker

Carrie & Eric Marcynski

Darlene DePasquale

Jonny Ann Roach

Kathy & Bob Bienias

If you are interested in dedicating Altar Flowers, the cost is \$20.00 or Bulletins, the cost is \$50.00, please see the sign-up in the Narthex or call Michelle in the office 716-549-2115.

## We would like to thank June Bulletin Dedication:



Sally Needham gave this month's bulletins to the Glory of God, and for family.

## SCHEDULED TO SERVE IN JULY AND AUGUST

Head Usher—Paul Becker (July)/ Carol Ann Obrochta (August)

<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>Reader</u>
07/06 Rob Ingrassia, Gayl Weinheimer JonnyAnn Roach, Michelle Becker	Marjorie McCarthy	JonnyAnn Roach
07/13 Dale Ketterer, Kathy Bienias	Sally Needham	Bob Fuerst
07/20 Carrie Ward-Marcynski, Eric Marcynski	Gayl Weinheimer	Kathy Bienias
07/27 Joan Blais, Melissa Borosky	Donna Nagel	Carol Ann Obrochta
08/03 Michelle Becker, Bill Ludwig Jessica Ludwig, JonnyAnn Roach	Laurie Ludwig	Michelle Becker
08/10 Carrie Ward-Marcynski, Eric Marcynski	Gayl Weinheimer	Carrie Ward-Marcynski
08/17 Gayl Weinheimer, Michelle Becker	Sally Needham	Carol Ann Obrochta
08/24 Joan Blais, JonnyAnn Roach	Donna Nagel	JonnyAnn Roach
08/31 John MacPherson, Heather Kasperek	Marjorie McCarthy	Randy Addison

### Counters

07/06 JonnyAnn Roach, Michelle Becker

07/13 John MacPherson, Chris Beith

07/20 Judy Fuerst, Darlene DePasquale

07/27 Judy Strade, Marcia Whittemore

08/03 Michelle Becker, Jessica Ludwig

08/10 Sue Weinheimer, Annette Reynolds

08/17 Judy Strade, John MacPherson

08/24 Judy Fuerst, Marcia Whittemore

08/31 Michelle Becker, JonnyAnn Roach



## **CONGRATULATIONS TO** **2025 HIGH SCHOOL, PRE-SCHOOL, KINDERGARTEN,** **COLLEGE GRADUATES and ACADEMIC HONORS!**

Congratulations to Brook Shoop and Ryan Flading, Daughter & Son of Jenna & John Flading and Granddaughter & Grandson of Jean & Tony Galfo on moving up from 8<sup>th</sup> grade at William G. Houston Middle School to Lake Shore High School in the fall. They both received many different awards, too many to list them all!

Congratulations to Rachel Garrasi, Daughter of Kristen & David Garrasi and Granddaughter of Barb Raab on moving up from 8th grade at William G. Houston Middle School to Lake Shore High School in the fall.

Congratulations to Luke Maracle, Son of Allison and Joshua Maracle, and Luke Hammond, Son of Jessie & Robbie Maracle, Grandsons of MaryJo Maracle. Luke Maracle graduated from High School and will be attending college in North Carolina in the fall. Luke Hammond graduated from Austintown Fitch High School and will be attending University of Tampa in the fall.

Congratulations to Rudy and Osborn Coomer, Son of Adrienne Bermingham and Charles Coomer III, Grandsons of Diane & Rick Coomer II. Rudy graduated from Schoolhouse Eden Preschool and Osborn graduated from Kindergarten at Eden Elementary School.

Congratulations to Maddie Mazur, Daughter of Jen & Leo Mazur, Granddaughter of Donna & David Donner. Maddie graduated from UB School of Law and will continue to Grad School and then Law School.

Congratulations to Max and Lena Bienias, Son and Daughter of Annilee and Greg Bienias, Grandson and Granddaughter of Carol Ann & Dan Obrochta and Kathy & Bob Bienias. Max graduated Kindergarten from J T Waugh and Lena graduated Preschool from Orchard Park Coop Preschool.

Congratulations to Katherine Myhalenko, Daughter to Amy & Peter Myhalenko and Granddaughter to Barb & Bill Marcynski who graduated from Villa Maria College with a bachelor of Fine Arts degree, highest honors and Dean's List. She attended the School of Visual Arts in New York City for two years before transferring to Villa Maria to complete her studies.

Congratulations to Gabe Ward, Son of Carrie & Jerry Ward, Stepson of Eric Marcynski and Grandson of Barb & Bill Marcynski, who graduated from Depew High School.

Congratulations to Colton Pappas, son of Heather & Jake Pappas and brother of Olivia Smith, who graduated from Preschool at Little Einsteins. Colton will attend Kindergarten at Gowanda Elementary School in the fall.

Congratulations to Kenzi McMullen, Daughter of Tom & Maria McMullen Granddaughter of Bev & Ron Taylor on her being on “High Honor Roll”.

### **FROM THE PASTOR:**

I love the summer! Summer is often viewed as the time when people think about travel and vacations. Even our VBS theme this year is about a “Road Trip!” For me, summer reminds me of a season to intentionally slow down and take a breath. I intentionally make extra time to walk the shores of Lake Erie, looking for that special piece of beach glass or that really “cool” stone.

Even in the season of “slowing down,” however, many folks are still very busy between work and family obligations. Yet there are others who, because of this slowdown may be struggling with not having enough to do. (Very few have discovered a nice balance between the two!) No matter where you land on that spectrum, needing a break from the busy-ness or a break from the loneliness, you need a break! The question is how are you going to get that break?!?

Hear these words of Jesus, “Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and put it on you, and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit; and you will find rest. For the yoke I will give you is easy, and the load I will put on you is light.” (Matthew 11:28-30—GNT)

Whether our schedules are over-planned or we are weary from not knowing what to do with our time, Jesus reminds us to rest in Him. No matter what your plans are this summer, make time for God! Bring to God your need for rest from doing too much, and look for ways to rest. On the other hand, if you are in need of ways to fill your time, pray for opportunities to connect with others.

During these summer days, don't forget to join your church family for worship. Come rest in prayer and song, taking a break from the day to day stressors of life (and have great cake and coffee, too). Come be in community (and have great cake and coffee, too), and join in fellowship with members of your church family.

As much as we say that summer is a "slower season," we have a lot going on at First Congregational UCC! There is a lot of information contained in this newsletter and there will be more shared in church and on our Facebook page; stay tuned!

Peace,  
Pastor Jen



### **COME TO THE WATER!**

Join Pastor Jen in a 21- day journey to the water through scripture and reflection (you decide your reading schedule). Our journey will consist of scripture reading, journaling, 2 in-person Bible Studies/Celebrations (dates to be determined), and hopefully a scheduled beach time!

Participants will receive a booklet, journal and suggestions for how to make the most of your journey to the water. Please see Pastor Jen beginning June 29<sup>th</sup> if you would like to join the journey and to get your materials!

### **CHURCH PICNIC**

This year our church picnic will be at Hermann Park on Mill St. on Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup> following worship. All are invited! We will be asking everyone that will attend and also would like to bring a dish to pass to please use sign-up sheet in Updyke Hall, this will help with a head count for food. The church will supply the hot dogs we just need side dishes and desserts.

We look forward to seeing everyone there!

## **PLYMOUTH CROSSROADS**

Plymouth Crossroads in West Seneca needs your help. They have received funding for a sports program this summer, which allows them to take youth from the community and provide sporting activities for a couple of days throughout the week. It's an incredible opportunity, but they'll need a little help! If you're a coach of any sport or sporting activity and would like to spend a couple of hours on a Tuesday or Thursday with youth from our community teaching your sport to them, Plymouth Crossroads would love to have you come out!

If you are interested or have any questions, please email Nicollette at [nschiffmacher@gmail.com](mailto:nschiffmacher@gmail.com).

## **JUNE TRUSTEE'S REPORT**

Trustee meeting was held on June 10, 2025 from 4:00-5:10pm. Usual business conducted and limited committee reports. Essential discussion only to keep meeting short due to the business of Strawberry Social week.

Letter from Village of Angola received to notify of new 2 hour Main St. parking policy (church will seek exception for weddings and funerals).

Pastor Jen Mazur reported on UCC General Conference and Synod meetings.

Manni Bhalla was welcomed for his first Trustee Meeting!

As I write this – today is day 1 of our 53rd Strawberry Social and we are all looking forward to fun, sunshine, no rain, good food and team work for this event!

See you there!

Have a safe July 4<sup>th</sup>!

Peace - Jean Galfo

**JULY 2025**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>  Barb Marcynski Birthday	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>Independence Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b>  Nancy Bingenheimer Birthday	<b>5</b>  Wayne Roach Birthday JonnyAnn & Wayne Roach Anniversary
<b>6</b> 10:00 Worship/ Communion Dennis Ferraro Birthday Judith & Robert Fuerst Anniversary	<b>7</b>  Donald Cronin & Ellie Borosky Birthday	<b>8</b> 4pm Trustee Meeting  Parker Addison & Anthony Mascio Birthday	<b>9</b>  Sally Needham Birthday	<b>10</b> 3:30pm LSACC Clergy Meeting Evangola Community Theater	<b>11</b>  Evangola Community Theater	<b>12</b> 9:30 am Friends of the Village Evangola Community Theater Beverly Taylor Birthday
<b>13</b> 10:00 Worship   Miriam Oster Birthday	<b>14</b>  Tiffany Hurd Birthday	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  Evangola Community Theater  Richard Coomer Birthday	<b>18</b>  Evangola Community Theater Joan Houston, Paul Becker II & Olivia Smith Birthday	<b>19</b>  Evangola Community Theater
<b>20</b> 10:00 Worship	<b>21</b>  Cherryl Vincent-Becker Birthday	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  Fred Strade Birthday	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 10:00 Worship   Jillian & Heath Heyden Anniversary	<b>28 VBS</b>  8:45-11:30am	<b>29 VBS</b>  8:45-11:30am	<b>30 VBS</b>  8:45-11:30am  Jake Hurd Birthday	<b>31</b>  8:45-11:30am  Jamie & Robert Lehning Anniversary	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>  7

# **AUGUST 2025**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>3</b> 10:00 Worship/ Communion	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>  Mary Grennell Birthday	<b>6</b>  Esther Way Birthday & Anne & Paul Becker Anniversary	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9:30 am Friends of the Village Meeting August Becker Birthday
<b>10</b> 10:00 Worship	<b>11</b>  6pm Potluck/All Church Planning Meeting	<b>12</b> 4pm Trustee Meeting  Eudora Unger Birthday	<b>13</b> <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	<b>14</b> 3:30pm LSACC Clergy Meeting Catherine McMullen Birthday	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  Michelle & Paul Becker and Diane & Richard Coomer Anniversary
<b>17</b> 10:00 Worship  <b>Church Picnic</b> At Hermann Park	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  Mary Jo Maracle & Annette Reynolds Birthday	<b>20</b>  Judy Strade Birthday	<b>21</b>  Jesse Decker Birthday	<b>22</b>  Kelsey MacPherson Birthday	<b>23</b>  Diane Franczyk & Tiernan Clark Birthday
<b>24</b> 10:00 Worship  Monika Fuchs & Chris Beith Birthday Carol Ann & Dan Obrochta and Maria & Tom McMullen Anniversary	<b>25</b>  Alasyn Kain Birthday and Judy & Fred Anniversary	<b>26</b>		<b>28</b>  Emma Samuels Birthday Sarah & David Valtin and Kathy & Bob Bienias Anniversary	<b>29</b>  Carol Broconier, Betty Lamoreaux & Katherine Myhalenko Birthday	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 10:00 Worship						





# THANK YOU

Thank you to all who helped with the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Strawberry Social, from donating supplies & food, bakers, money and volunteers each day. What a HUGE SUCCESS for us, the biggest yet! Thank you to Skiddly Pops (Jack Hazard) for donating all the ice cream, Connor's Hot Dog Stand for donating hot dogs, Lakeside Market, Crosby's, Norco, Stroehmann's, Tops and Wegmans that continue to help with donations! This year we added more entertainment, thank you to Mike Skowronski and "The Love Movement" Exercise group on Thursday and Gary Burdick, Kody & Herren on Friday and Gang of Scoundrels (Church Band) on both days. New this year was the Dunk Tank, thank you Tom McMullen and all of our volunteers in the dunk tank.

Congratulations to our winner: Grill/ Lakeside Markets Gift card Raffle—Brian Oakie

## **VACATION BIBLE School News:**

We are very excited to announce our  
Vacation Bible School Program for 2025 entitled:  
**“Road Trip”**



The program will run the week of July 28<sup>th</sup> thru July 31<sup>st</sup>.  
We are very excited for this year's Vacation Bible School and can't wait.  
If you are able, please plan to join us, as many hands help the week run smoothly. Please contact Michelle Becker or Carol Ann Obrochta to offer your help. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex, please consider helping, you will not be disappointed. It is very rewarding to see the smiles on the faces of the children.

**Registration Forms are also available in the Narthex**

**PLEASE PRE-REGISTER**

## **NEW PHONE NUMBERS**

Please note we have new phone numbers for emergencies if the church office is closed. Pastor Jen Mazur 716-264-7026 and  
Michelle Becker 716-262-6171.

## **FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH**

We will be running football pools to raise money for the leased copier in the church office. We will only have 50 squares available at \$20/square. The games will be Sept. 18th Bills vs. Dolphins, October 26th Bills vs. Panthers, November 2nd Bills vs. Chiefs, December 14th Bills vs. Patriots, January Bills vs. Jets TBD. If enough interest we will run a Playoff game TBD and Super Bowl \$50/square payouts. If you are interested please see JonnyAnn Roach or Michelle Becker.



Schools out for summer!

Sunday school is now running as a one big class for our kiddos. We still have a couple Sundays available if anyone would like to pick a date to hang with the kids! A big thanks to Pastor Jen for our end of year goodie table! The kids in our congregation are truly lucky to have so much love surrounding them.

Please be sure to get signed up for Vacation Bible School!

Keep an eye out for any other fun family events that may pop up this summer!

Regular Sunday school will resume in September.

Enjoy your summer!

## **Thank You**

I would like to express my deepest thanks to our congregation for their generous gift through the Angel Fund in my time of need. It was truly appreciated and I graciously say thank you to a wonderful and thoughtful church family!

~ MaryJo Maracle

# Help Celebrate Our Congregation's Legacy

[www.christchurchangola.com](http://www.christchurchangola.com)

In every congregation, there exists a unique story, woven together through generations of faith, community, and shared experiences. These stories—your stories—are what make our congregation truly special. As always, we invite you to visit our website and become an integral part of this narrative by sharing your testimonials, photos, and memories. Together, we can honor the rich heritage of our congregation while inspiring future generations.

## Share Your Testimonial: Inspire and Be Inspired

Have you had a transformative experience within our congregation? Perhaps a sermon that touched your heart, a community event that brought joy, or a cherished friendship formed in our halls? Whatever it may be, your testimonial matters.

Sharing your story is a powerful way to connect with others. Your words could uplift someone, offer comfort, or even inspire someone new to join our congregation. By submitting your testimonial on our website, you become a voice within our collective story—a voice that speaks of hope, faith, and togetherness.

## Submit Your Photos: Capture the Spirit of Our Community

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, and we couldn't agree more. Photographs serve as timeless windows into the moments that define us—a child's first experience in Sunday school, a heartfelt outreach program, a joyous holiday celebration, or even quiet moments of reflection inside our sanctuary.

Do you have photos that capture the essence of our congregation? We would be honored to feature them on our website. By sharing these images, you help us create a visual tapestry of our legacy, celebrating the faith and fellowship that have united us through the years. These photos will not only preserve cherished memories but also inspire those who visit our site to engage more deeply with our community.

Visit our website today, share your story, and join us in honoring the remarkable journey of faith and fellowship that unites us all. Together, we can ensure that our congregation's legacy shines brightly for generations to come.

Happy reminiscing!

Carrie Ward-Marcynski





# 2025 Summer Concert Series

PRESENTED BY:  
ANGOLA PARK & GAZEBO COMMITTEE  
VILLAGE OF ANGOLA

**JUL 9** NERDS GONE WILD

HYTS **JUL 16**

**JUL 23** HAZZARD COUNTY

OUT OF THE TILES **JUL 30**

**AUG 6** DIAMOND SOUND

Boogies Monsters **AUG 13**

**AUG 20** Past Masters

BOYS OF SUMMER **AUG 27**



**Wednesday Nights | 7pm - 9pm**  
**Centennial Park**  
**Angola, NY**



**VILLAGE of ANGOLA**  
**2025 EVENTS**  
 Follow Friends of the Village Angola  
 FB & IG pages for future details!



<b>May</b>	<b>Children's Bike Rodeo</b> Children 5-12 year old, 11am-1 PM. Prizes and water provided. Bike inspections. Helmets required to participate. Parents required to stay with child.
<b>June</b>	<b>Village Wide Yard Sales</b> Sign-up at Village Hall 715-649-1126, 9am-6pm. Map will be placed in the Angola PennySaver and on social media. Rain date - Sunday, June 8th.
<b>July</b>	<b>10th Annual Main Street Cruise</b> 10th Annual Main Street Cruise, 12-4pm. Trophies plus Fun for the Whole Family with Children's Tattoos, Balloons and Live Music!
<b>July</b>	<b>Country Line Dancing</b> Country Line Dance Instruction & Show, 7-9pm. Lower section of Center Street will be blocked off for line dancing on the street!
<b>Sept</b>	<b>3K-5K Fun Run/Walk</b> 1st Village of Angola Run/Walk, 9am-11am. For fun, exercise or competition, come get your shoes and trophy for 1st place men and women!
<b>Sept</b>	<b>Build-A-Boo</b> Come kick-off the Halloween season with a guided workshop building an outdoor ghost, 12pm-3pm. Just in time for Everhaunts Fall Event!
<b>Dec</b>	<b>Christmas in the Village</b> 25th Annual Christmas in the Village, 9am-2pm. Breakfast with Santa & Activities for the Children throughout the Business District!

Friends of the Village, Inc. | "Working together to make a difference"

**EVER HAUNT**  
 HAUNTED HOUSE PRESENTS  
**DECEMBER**  
 A HAUNTED HOLIDAY EXPERIENCE

DUE TO WEATHER AND SAFETY CONCERNS FOR OUR GUESTS AND TEAM MEMBERS, DARK DECEMBER HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED AS:

**HAUNTED CHRISTMAS**  
**IN JULY**



**ROSEWOOD COUNTY ASYLUM**  
 HOLIDAY JARGON

**ALONE AT HOME**  
 STOP THE ROBBERS  
 HAUNTED LAGER TAG EXPERIENCE

854 LAKE STREET  
 ANGOLA, NY 14006  
 EVERHAUNT.COM

SATURDAY  
 JULY 19TH 7PM

**Evangelga COMMUNITY THEATER**

We're excited to announce our first production,  
**Here We Sit**  
 By: L. Don Swartz

July 10 through 19  
 First Congregational United Church of Christ  
 132 N. Main St., Angola, NY 14006

To put on a spectacular show for the community, our goal is to raise

**\$8,000**

Here We Sit is an outrageous comedy featuring 14 actors portraying many characters over 16 short, quick-paced scenes showing the light-hearted side of a night at the theater.

**FUNDRAISING**



Scan the QR Code to donate today

**10TH ANNUAL VILLAGE OF ANGOLA**  
**Main Street Cruise**

MAIN STREET · ANGOLA, NY  
**Saturday, July 12, 2025**

**NOON to 4:00 PM**

Food provided by:  
 ANGOLA CAFE KITCHEN  
 WORLD'S JUICERY  
 DIBBLE'S DELI & BAKERY  
 FRANKLIN'S KETTLE KORN  
 FROSTED FARMY HILL BAKE SHOP  
 TASTE OF THE MONKEY

**LIVE MUSIC**  
**ROCKABILLY STEVE**  
 AND THE BR3  
 SPONSORED BY MEY INDEPENDENCE - 361 NEW 750-490-6666

**People's Choice Award**

**CUSTOM MADE TROPHY - TROPHIES FOR 1ST, 2ND & 3RD**

SPONSORED BY  
 FRIENDS OF THE VILLAGE, INC.  
 & DRIFTERS CAR CLUB, INC.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT TOWN COUNCILSMAN JIM WILSON 607-567-5607

• BENEFITTING FRIENDS OF THE VILLAGE CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE PROGRAM

**COME SEE THE BUFFALO CARS!**



The “Love Movement” by Lisa Watkins meets every Wednesday  
from 9:30am-10:30am

“Chair Yoga” by Sue Brown meets every Tuesday and Thursday  
from 11:15am-12:15pm

“Cardio” by Chris Berfield meets Tuesday and Thursday  
from 5:30pm-6:30pm

Line Dancing at First Congregational on the last Wednesday of the month, next  
one is July 30<sup>th</sup> at 6pm with Lisa Watkins. Come join in the fun!  
If interested please see Jean Galfo.

All classes are \$5 donation!



First Congregational UCC  
132 N. Main Street Angola



**Annual  
Fall Bazaar**



Saturday, October 25th, 2025



First Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
132 North Main Street  
P O Box 231  
Angola, New York 14006-0231

TIME VALUE MAIL  
Mailed on June 26, 2025  
**Please deliver promptly.**

**Sunday Worship**- 10:00 AM

**Sunday School – 10:00 AM**

OFFICE HOURS: MON., TUES., THURS., FRI., 9:00am-1:00pm

For **Emergency Pastoral Services**, please call  
Pastor Jen Mazur at 716-264-7026, Michelle-Church Office 716-549-2115 or  
716-262-6171, or Deaconess Darlene DePasquale at 716-549-1331

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of this church shall be to bring together followers of Jesus Christ,  
to live and preach His gospel, to celebrate the sacraments  
and to be a beacon and model of faith for all.

- **The Next Newsletter deadline is  
August 13, 2025**
- **There is PLENTY of room  
for your article!!!**