

# The Messenger

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY, SUNDAY JUNE 15, 2025!**



**NEED NAMES OF GRADUATES, YOUNG AND OLD  
FROM KINDERGARTEN THRU COLLEGE- PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH  
OFFICE OR DROP US A NOTE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE A  
GRADUATE IN THE JULY/AUGUST MESSENGER.**

## Scheduled to Serve in June

Head Usher—JonnyAnn Roach

### Ushers

06/01 Carol Ann Obrochta, Emerson Ward  
Carrie Ward-Marcynski, Eric Marcynski

06/08 Kathy Bienias, Dale Ketterer

06/15 Michelle Becker, Gayl Weinheimer

06/22 Laurie Ludwig, Bill Ludwig

06/29 Paul Becker, Rob Ingrassia

### Greeter

Marjorie McCarthy

Gayl Weinheimer

Sally Needham

Marcia Whittemore

Donna Nagel

### Reader

Eric Marcynski

Darlene DePasquale

Carrie Ward-Marcynski

Jessica Ludwig

Michelle Becker

### Counters

06/01 Michelle Becker, JonnyAnn Roach

06/08 Annette Reynolds, John MacPherson

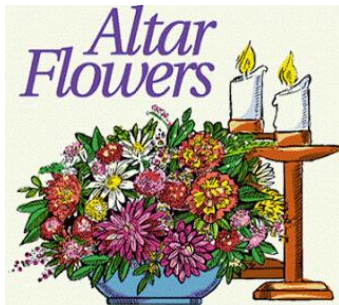
06/15 Judy Strade, Darlene DePasquale

06/22 Laurie Ludwig, Jessica Ludwig

06/29 Judy Fuerst, Marcia Whittemore

## ALTAR FLOWERS

We would like to thank May Altar Flower Dedicators:



Rachel & Lia Garrasi  
Marcia Whittemore  
The Ludwig Family  
Maria & Tom McMullen  
Michelle Becker  
Sally Needham  
Nancy & David Volker

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

## We would like to thank May Bulletin Dedication:



The Ludwig's gave this month's bulletins to the Glory of God, and In Honor of our daughter Allison and Laurie's birthdays.

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



Not all who wander are lost! I believe that's how the saying goes. Throughout scripture there are stories of the trials and adventures of wanderers:

- the Israelites and Moses spent 40 years wandering in the dessert,
- Jesus spent 40 days wandering in the wilderness and then traveled (wandered) from town to town teaching, preaching and performing miracles,
- there were other wanderers, too—Jacob, David, Joseph (OT and NT), the early disciples.

These wanderings were not just journeys of location and geography, but of mind and imagination, as well. They were times of exploring their faith, times of transformation, times of deepening their relationship and listening to and for God.

We are about to step into the summer season here in WNY. Summer is full of adventure—the Strawberry Social, Father's Day, pool-parties, vacations, time with family and friends. Kids are on a break from school (and parents are beginning the countdown until they go back). Summer offers us a great time to try something new, enjoy the outdoors and live life to its fullest!

For me, summer is the time when I get a “wandering spirit”; I wonder if others do to. I find myself day dreaming and wondering what lies beyond WNY? What new skill can I learn? How can I challenge myself and broaden my understanding of the world? These are the questions I ask myself as the hours of daylight grow longer and I get the urge for a new adventure. Summer is a great chance to shake the dust off, and push ourselves out of our comfort zones...even if just a little bit. It's an opportunity for us to discover new things about the world around us and about ourselves. It is a time for Sabbath and self-care. Maybe I could learn to crochet, or find that going for a short jog is actually energizing. Perhaps trying a new food, or creating a new garden, or reading a book by a new author could be the inspiration I've been looking for. There are so many possibilities and options! Who knows!! And that's exactly the point!

I am looking forward to the summer months, as I get to do some intentional wandering. I will be traveling with Gayl and Manni to our NY Conference (UCC) meeting in Albany to learn about the work and missions of our conference. I'll be traveling to Kansas City, Missouri in July for the UCC General Synod—our denomination's national conference—where I will have the opportunity to learn and worship with others UCC members from across the country. I'll then spend some time on the shores of Lake Erie during a week at Dunkirk Conference Center. For the first time since my time with First Congregational UCC, I'll get to be at VBS and “wander” through that adventure with children and volunteers. This summer, I encourage each of you to embrace this “wandering spirit” and stretch and challenge yourselves to move out of your comfort zone, shake the dust off, and try something new! You'll be amazed how much you discover about yourself and this beautiful world in which God has created for us to live!

Peace,  
Pastor Jen

### **JOY Fellowship**

J.O.Y. fellowship met on May 18<sup>th</sup> after worship. The following was discussed; possible outings including tour of Erie Canal, church picnics at Niawanda Park in Tonawanda and Herman Park on Mill St., bingo in September, Arcade Attica Railroad during Fall and supper club. We will keep you posted on any upcoming dates during announcements on Sundays and future newsletters.

Thank you to all who donate money through dues and bake good sales. All were reminded of the upcoming hot dog and village wide yard sale on June 7<sup>th</sup> as well as the Strawberry Social June 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up to help with these events. Thank you.

Anne Becker

## **PLEDGES and CONTRIBUTIONS**

Summer is almost upon us and we know how busy it can be!  
If you would like to stay up to date with your pledges and contributions,  
you can by mailing them into the office.  
Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

## **TRUSTEE'S REPORT**

May Trustee Meeting was held on Tuesday 5/13/25 from 4pm-5:25pm. Opened the meeting with prayer by Pastor Jen Mazur, approval of April Minutes, agenda additions, financial reports and Bills to be Paid were heard.

Properties were discussed: water line replacement at rental was approved; parking lot to be sealed and striped soon as per weather; HVAC in church office-bid was accepted and to be completed soon; generator pad to be done as per weather.

Second quarter mission for OCWM was discussed and will be Dunkirk Conference Center and Camp.

Strawberry Social planning: new event is a “Dunk Tank” from 3-8pm both days. Looking for volunteers to be in the dunk tank for both days, if interested please see Carol Ann Obrochta. Food prices to be adjusted. Road closure approved from 2-8pm each night. Set-up Wednesday 6/11 from 9am till done.

Village Yard Sale - June 7<sup>th</sup>, church will have hot dog combo for sale, few children items and a few vendors.

Two cell phones for Pastor Jen Mazur and Michelle Becker will be purchased for business use so their own personal phone numbers aren't public.

With longer days and better weather – summer will be off and running soon. Enjoy and have a safe Memorial Day holiday!

Memorial Day is the “day we pay homage to all those who didn't come home – a day to contemplate the cost of freedom.” It is a somber occasion, thank you to all who have served and currently serve.

God Bless America!

Peace – Jean Galfo

## **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.



Summer is coming!

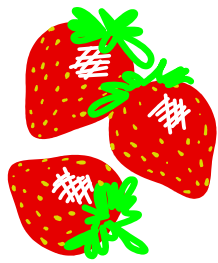
The kiddos are READY for summer break! If you're interested in helping out this summer with the Sunday school classes please see Tiffany Hurd or Michelle Becker. The closing of Sunday School will be June 15<sup>th</sup>. We will need some volunteers from June 22<sup>nd</sup> thru Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>. Everything will be provided for the class we just need you!

Once again if you have any tasks the big kids could add to a "to do" list please let us know. We are excited to have a consistent group of youth showing up and working together, building relationships together and with God.

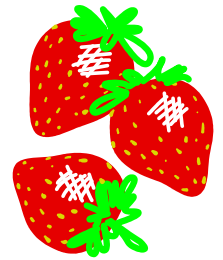
This year at our Strawberry Social, we will be decorating Main St. again with chalk on Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-7:30pm. If your child is participating please make sure there is still adult supervision. If you have chalk at home and would like to donate it for this event please see Michelle. Can't wait to see all the beautiful artwork from our children again this year!

Have a safe and fun summer!

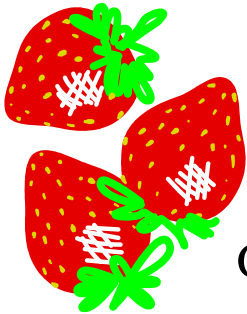
Go in Peace  
Tiffany Hurd



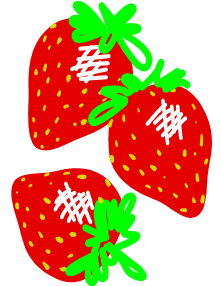
# **53rd Annual Strawberry Social 2025**



First Congregational UCC  
132 N. Main Street  
Angola, NY 14006



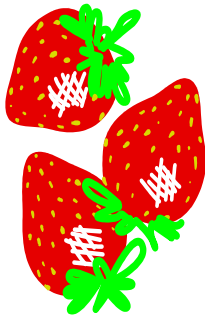
**Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup> 11am-8pm**  
**Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup> 11am-8pm**



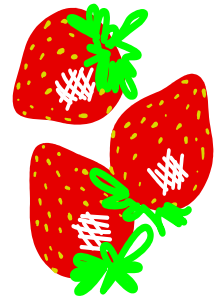
Hot dogs, Hamburgers, Cheeseburgers,  
Grilled Cheese, Italian Sausage, Grilled Chicken,  
French Fries and Sweet Potato Fries,  
Sundaes, Milkshakes, Cones, Strawberry Shortcake,  
Pop, Water & Coffee

**Bake Sale Inside**

**NEW THIS YEAR**  
**Dunk Tank 3-8pm**



**BACK AGAIN THIS YEAR**  
**Decorating Main Street with chalk**  
**Friday June 13<sup>th</sup> 4:30-7:30pm**



Entertainment: Thursday from 2:00-5:00pm Michael Skowronski,  
5:00-6:00pm “The Love Movement” Exercise and 6:00-8:00pm  
“Gang of Scoundrels” and  
Friday from 3:00-5:00pm Burdick, Kody & Herren and  
5:00-8:00pm “Gang of Scoundrels”

**Please Bring Your Lawn Chair**

*Menu subject to change*



# Lakeshore Association of Christian Churches Presents...

## COMMUNITY EVENING OF PRAYER

### “In God’s Presence”

Date: Thursday, June 19th Time: 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Location: Village of Angola Gazebo Featuring:

- Praise & Worship Music
- Inspirational Messages
- Food for sale by Lions Club

*In case of rain, we will gather at  
First Congregational United Church of Christ  
132 N Main St, Angola, NY 14006  
Please bring a lawn chair or blanket for seating.*





### **Last Day for Choir is June 15<sup>th</sup>**

Anyone interested in singing or doing music over the summer please see Heather Pappas.

### **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**

# VBS Student Registration Form

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Family/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Last school grade completed \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Friends of your child at this church \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs/Allergies/Medical Information/Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contacts:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of person(s) who may pick up this child from VBS

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Photo Release:** \_\_\_\_\_ Church/VBS has my permission to use my child's photograph publicly in VBS materials. I understand the images may be used in print publications, online publications, presentations, websites, and social media. I also understand that no royalty, fee or other compensation shall become payable to me by reason of such use.

Parent/Guardian's signature:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

----- (for church use only) -----

Assigned Group:

\_\_\_\_\_

Are family members helping with VBS? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, where? \_\_\_\_\_

# Community Events

**Memorial Day Parade**

**Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Line up at Angola Fire Dept. at 9:30am**

**Parade begins at 10am**

**Angola Public Library**

**Annual Summer Kickoff!**

**Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Hot Dog Fundraiser ~ 11:00am – 1:00pm**

**With special appearance by Mr. Paul the Balloon Guy**

**Big summer book sale - \$2 per bag**

**\$1 per bag June 16<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>**

**Wednesday Night Lawn Chair Concerts**

**At William G. Houston Gazebo**

**July 9<sup>th</sup>-August 27<sup>th</sup>**

**7:00pm-9:00pm**



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

Month	Event
May 17	Children's Bike Rodeo Children 5-12 year old: 11am-1 PM/2:30 and water provided. Bike inspections. Helmets required to participate. Parents required to stay with child.
June 07	Village Wide Yard Sales Sign-up at Village Hall 734-049-2226, 9am-5pm. Map will be placed in the Angola PennySaver and on social media. Rain date - Sunday, June 8th.
July 12	10th Annual Main Street Cruise 12th Annual Main Street Cruise: 12-4pm. Trophies plus Fun for the Whole Family with Children's Tattoos, Bullwinn and Live Music!
July 25	Country Line Dancing Country Line Dance Instruction & Show: 7-9pm. Lower section of Corner Street will be blocked off for line dancing on the street!
Sept 20	3K-5K Fun Run/Walk 1st Village of Angola Run/Walk: 9am-11am. Fun, exercise or competition runs get your name on! Trophy for 1st place man and woman!
Sept 27	Build-A-Boo Come kick-off the Halloween season with a guided workshop building an outdoor ghost: 11am-3pm. Just in time for Everhaunts Fall Event!
Dec 13	Christmas in the Village 20th Annual Christmas in the Village: 10am-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  
**HAUNTED CHRISTMAS in JULY**  
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  
164 LAKE STREET  
ANGOLA, NY 14006  
EVERHAUNT.COM  
SATURDAY  
JULY 19TH 7PM  
**ALONE AT HOME**  
STOP THE ROBBER!  
HAUNTED LASER TAG EXPERIENCE



# EXERCISE CLASSES

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 June 25<sup>th</sup> at 6pm with Lisa Watkins. Come join in the fun!  
If interested please see Jean Galfo.

All classes are \$5 donation!





# 2025 Summer Concert Series

PRESENTED BY:  
ANGOLA PARK & GAZEBO COMMITTEE  
VILLAGE OF ANGOLA

JUL 9	NERDS GONE WILD	AUG 6	DIAMOND SOUND
HYTS	JUL 16	Boogies Monsters	AUG 13
JUL 23	HAZZARD COUNTY	AUG 20	Past Masters
OUT OF THE TILES	JUL 30	BOYS OF SUMMER	AUG 27



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



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

TIME VALUE MAIL  
Mailed on May 29, 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 in the 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 (July/August) deadline is June 11, 2025**

**There is PLENTY of room for your article!!!**