



Salem Notes



Salem Welsh Church and
Salem Cemetery Society, Inc.
Rt 98 at Galen Hill Road
Freedom, NY 14065



100 Anniversary Edition

1926—2026 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY



JUNE 7, 2026
SALEM WELSH CHURCH
Freedom, NY

Celebrate the 100th Anniversary

This year marks 100 years since the first service of remembrance that became known as the White Service was held. For many years, the Salem Church had been a vibrant center of religious, cultural and artistic activities for the Welsh in the greater Freedom-Farmersville area.

Beginning in 1926, an annual service has been held at the "Little White Church" to honor our Welsh immigrant ancestors and to remember the contributions they have made to this area of Western New York State and beyond.

ALL are invited to join in the 100th year celebration!!



**100 Year
Anniversary**

**Greet old friends:
Meet new ones**

**11:00 AM
Service**

**Wonderful music
and singing**

**Luncheon to
follow**

ADDRESS:

**SR 98 & Galen Rd
Freedom, NY**

**For further information
contact:**

**Dr. Beth H. Hensley
bhensley22@gmail.com**

MEMORIALS and HONORS

One way of participating in the 100th anniversary milestone is by making a donation to the Salem Cemetery Society in memory of a loved one or to honor a special person. A list of donors will be included this year's White Service program listing the name of the person memorialized or honored and the name of the person or group making the donation.

Mail your donation to: Lorraine Conklin-Dudley, Treasurer, 3485 Promenade Avenue, CityVue2 - 203, Eagan, MN 55123. Please use the following format:

In honor of ___(person's name)___ given by ___(name)___

In memory of ___(name)___ given by (name)___

Your support of the White Service and the Salem Cemetery Society by donations of time, talent, finances, and service over the years is greatly appreciated. Membership fees, memorials, donations, and the White Service offerings provide the income that is needed for the White Service and Salem Cemetery to be maintained and thrive.

LUNCHEON and MORE CELEBRATING

After the service, the festivities will move to a rejuvenated FF&S Rod and Gun Club (RGC) at 11189 SR 98. We are excited to invite everyone to this year's luncheon with a refreshed environment at the RGC. Join us for a reimagined time of fellowship. We have taken the best parts of past luncheons with more fun and interaction.

We are refreshing our traditional menu. In addition to the usual meat and cheese tray, there will be a special entrée provided. Members are asked to bring a side dish and/or dessert as well as their own dinnerware and utensils.

Before coming to the service, attendees can stop at RGC drop off food, have a cup of coffee, and use the restroom. Refrigeration is available for cold foods; however, there is no stove. Use a crockpot or similar devise for hot food.

Some special activities include a displays about the church and White Service history. There will be time to share memories of past services along with awards for attendees and more. **COME - Be part of the our CELEBRATION**

This year's annual memorial service is most especially important as we are celebrating 100 years since the first service of remembrance was held in the summer of 1926. On June 7 the great grandchildren and great greatgrandchildren of Welsh ancestry along with many friends will again come and worship, renew acquaintances, make new friends,, and honor our Welsh ancestry.

The celebration will begin with a service in Salem Welsh Church (the Little White Church) at 11 AM EDT. The service will include singing of some traditional hymns accompanied by special vocal and instrumental music.

Note: See p.2 for "Sending a Personal Invitation)

REQUEST: SENDING a PERSONAL INVITATION

The Trustees and officers have been actively planning and promoting the 100th anniversary service and celebration with articles in Ninnau (the North American Welsh newspaper), contacts with Welsh organizations across the US and Canada, Facebook postings, and this newsletter. We are now inviting YOU to join us in promoting the events on June 7.

Included with the newsletter is a page with two samples of the promotional flyer for the June 7 celebration. You are asked to take this page and separate the two flyers, add a short personal message. Then send each flyer to a friend, family member, neighbor, or co-worker inviting them to join in attending the service and celebration at the Salem Welsh Church.

With your help and support, the 2026 White Service can be the best, most festive celebration - EVER!!

MAKE IT a WEEKEND of WNY ADVENTURES

In addition to a delightful Sunday of activities at the "little white church," there are a numerous other possibilities for a weekend of fun in the area. So why not have experience 2 or 3 days excitement capped off with the White Service, luncheon, and celebration activities? Included with the newsletter is a page titled "Selected Resources for a Weekend of WNY Adventures." It is a variety of topics meant to be ideas or suggestions that could make for more individual or group fun.

A MOMENT OF REFLECTION

Heritage by Esther Winship Snyder

From out of God's surrounding hills,
They brought the rafters, beams, and sills;
And then they worked with hearts and mind,
To build the church they left behind.
Because of work of younger hands,
Our little church still proudly stands.
Surely His divining Grace,
Has blessed this lovely little place!



EXCITING NEWS: OUR NEW WEBSITE

The Trustees and officers are delighted to announce the arrival of our new website that was launched earlier this month. The website features the 100 year anniversary celebration on June 7 and also includes historical information of the church building, Welsh immigration in Western New York State, and history about the annual White Service.

We are indebted to Katherine Cruzei, a member of the Welsh Society of Philadelphia, Cor Cymru Gogledd America, Welsh Heritage Week, and friend to the Salem Cemetery Society for her assistance with making our website plans come to life.. Among her many talents, Kathy is a gifted soprano soloist, voice teacher, and website developer.

Our website address is: SalemWelshCemetery.org

You are invited to review the site and contents. It continues to be a "work in progress." Your comments, feedback, and ideas for continued development are welcomed and encouraged

MORE NEWS: SALEM WELSH CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE

There is a brand new page on Facebook with a "welcome" photo that may look familiar to many of you. It's a picture of Salem Welsh Church introducing our group Facebook page.

The group page is: Salem Welsh Church Freedom, NY

The page will focus on the activities of Salem Welsh Church - it's history and current happenings along with the activities of the Salem Cemetery Society, especially of the trustees and officers in maintain the facilities.

From time to time, the Facebook page may also feature announcements of other local or regional, national or worldwide Welsh associations, societies, and organizations.

2025-2026 OFFICERS

Dale Morgan	Trustee 1 year
Roger Vullo	Trustee 2 years
Nick Morgan	Trustee 3 years, Chair of Trustees
Lorraine Conklin-Dudley	Secretary-Treasurer
Beth Hensley	Administrative Chair

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

This is a very special year for our organization as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the first the service of remembrance or "White Service." I encourage everyone reading this newsletter to make the celebration on June 7th a very special experience. Invite your family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors to attend. Participate in the service, come to the luncheon, and enjoy the celebration activities.

Selected Resources for a WNY Weekend Adventure

Please Note: This list is for information purposes only and not meant as an endorsement. Call ahead.

Accommodations

Microtel by Wyndam, Springville – 270 Cascade Drive 716-222-3524

Microtel by Wyndam, Warsaw – 287 North Main Street, 585-213-1103

Roycroft Inn & Restaurant, East Aurora – 40 South Grove Street, 716-222-3167

Seneca Allegany Resort, Salamanca – 777 Seneca Allegany Blvd., 888-913-3377

Wingate by Wyndam, Ellicottville - 11 Mill Street, 716-210-9855

Hunter Hill Farm (B&B), Franklinville – 7205 Cadiz Road, 716-258-0259

Arts and Crafts

Baker Memorial UMC, East Aurora – 345 Main Street, 716-652-0500, call to arrange a tour featuring 17 Tiffany windows

The Center for the Arts, Springville – 37 Buffalo Street, 716-592-9038, multi arts center in historic 1869 Gothic revival church

Roycroft Campus, East Aurora - 31 South Grove Street, 716-655-0261, landmark birthplace of American Arts & Crafts Movement

The Martin House, Buffalo – 125 Jewett Parkway, 716-856-3858, Frank Lloyd Wright prairie house, advance tickets recommended

Attractions / Entertainment

Arcade and Attica Railroad, Arcade - 278 Main St. 585-492-3100 Historic train ride, round trip take about 2 hours, reservation is a must

Six Flags Darien Lake, Darien Center– 9993 Alleghany Road, 585-599-4641 Theme park, water park campground, & lodging with cabins & hotels

Delevan Twin Drive-in Theatre, Delevan – 11771 Route 16, 716-496-5660 Both screens showing double features each night

Silver Lake Drive-In, Perry, - 7037 Chapman Ave, 585-237-3372 Two screens showing double feature, adjacent to restaurant, arcade & mini-golf

Camping

Arrowhead Campground, Delevan – 10487 NY State Route --16, 716-492-3715

Dream Lake Campground, Warsaw – 4391 Old Buffalo Road, 585-786-5172

Houghton/Letchworth KOA, Houghton – 7632 Centerville Road, 585-567-4211

Jellystone Park of WNY, North Java – 5204 Youngers Road, 585-457-9644

Letchworth State Park Campground, Castile/Perry/Portageville/Mt. Morris (near) – 585-493-3600

Rushford Lake Campground, Caneadea – 8699 Taylor Hill Road, 585-469-5260

Woodstream Campsite, Gainesville – 5440 School Road, 585-493-5643

Festivals / Special events

Fairport Canal Days (June 6), Fairport - Popular arts festival, consult site: fairportcanaldays.com for updates

Holley JuneFest (June 6), Holley - 29 East Avenue, Canal Park Trail 585-638-6367

Food – beverages

Schutt's Apple Mill, Webster – 1063 Plank Road, 585-872-2924 Apple cider, baked goods, local cheeses, honey and maple syrup

Winery of Ellicottville, Ellicottville – 14 Monroe Street 716-699-1055 Wine tastings, hard cider, & artisan chocolate, open Wed-Sun

Silver Lake Brewing Project, Perry – 14 Borden Ave 585-969-4238 Belgian & Amer. craft beers, local cheeses, and BYO food

Food – meals

Farmhouse Café, Arcade – 223 Liberty St (SR 98), 585-492-4608 BL&D, all-day breakfast, extensive menu

John & Mary's, Arcade – 496 W. Main St., 585-492-0880 Pizza, subs, salads and more

Glen Iris Inn, Letchworth Park – 7 Letchworth Park, 585-493-2622 BL&D, extensive menu, outdoor patio for drinks & appetizers

Charcoal Corral, Perry – 7037 Chapman Ave., 585-237-5270 L&D American cuisine, extensive grill, game arcade and mini-golf

Brian's USA Diner, Mt. Morris – 5524 Mt. Morris Rd. (SR 36), 585-658-9380 BL&D, all-day breakfast, family-style Amer. comfort food
Apple Dumplin' Restaurant, Springville – 521 So. Cascade Drive, 716-592-0171 All-day breakfast, home-style Amer. fare, cash ONLY
Parkside Diner, Castile – 6240 SR 19-A, 585-493-4058, All-day breakfast, burgers and pizza
Silverlake Family Restaurant, Warsaw – 105 W. Buffalo Street, 585-786-5213 Amer. comfort food, salad bar, Friday fish fry
Turkey Run Golf Club & Restaurant, Arcade – 11836 Bixby Hill Road, 716-492-2888 restaurant and 9 hole public golf course

Food – specialties

Barbara's MapleHaven, Franklinville 103 No. Main Street, 716-676-9910 BL&D, all-day breakfast, family friendly
Elm Street Bakery, East Aurora – 72 Elm Street, 716-652-4720 Artisan breads, pastries, wood-fired pizza, vegan options, café & market
The In-Famous Welsh Cookie Co., Hornell – 24 Church Street, 607-661-2994 Traditional Welsh cookies/cakes in MANY flavors
Cuba Cheese Company, Cuba – 53 Genesee Street, 800-543-4938 NYS cheddar cheeses, cheese curds, jams, maple syrup, gift baskets & more
Yummies Ice Cream, Warsaw - 12 Center Street, 585-786-0430 Homemade ice cream and soft-serve, drive-thru and walk-up, vegan options
Denise's Desserts & Smile's Sundaes, Freedom – 11583 Sparks Road, 716-492-4878 Selection of sundaes, ice cream, soft serve & baked goods

Golf

10th Hole & Golf Course, Attica – 95 Bunnel Street, 585-591-0133 9-hole course, Ameri. Cuisine, esp. fish fry and wings
Byrnclyff Country Club, Varysburg – 2357 Humphrey Road, 585-535-7300 18-hole course, driving range, restaurant and hotel
Spruce Ridge, Arcade – 798 Genesee Road, 585-492-4122 9-hole course, practice greens, driving range, clubhouse with beverages
Rolling Hills, Chaffee – 10739 Olean Road, 716-496-5016 9-hole course, driving range, practice green

History

Arcade & Attica Railroad, Arcade, 278 Main Street, 585-492-3100 Scenic rail excursion, 28 miles round-trip approx. 90 minutes
Genesee Country Museum, Mumfords 1410 Flint Hill Rd, 585-538-6822 Living history museum, 19th century village, 68 bldgs. & costumed hosts
Lucille Ball Desi Arnaz Museum, Jamestown 2 W. 3rd Street, 716-484-0800 Rotating exhibits celebrating Lucy & Desi, gift shop and theater
National Comedy Center, Jamestown – 203 W. 2nd Street, 716-484-2222 The art of comedy, history & cultural impact, vaudeville thru stand-up
National Warplane Museum, Genesee – 3489 Big Tree Lane, 585-243-2100 Aircraft of WWII and Korean War era
Buffalo Maritime Center, Buffalo – 90 Arthur St. 716-881-0111 Erie Canal, Great Lakes shipping, & Indigenous watercraft hx, hands-on learning
Sam Patch Erie Canal Tours, Pittsford – 12 Schoen Place, 585-662-5748 90 min. narrated tour, pass thru 1 lock, on-board restrooms & snacks
Lockport Lockes & Erie Canal, Lockport – 210 Market St, 716-433-6155 2hr tour, pass thru double locks),live commentary, snacks & restrooms
Seneca Iroquois Nation Museum, Salamanca, - 82 W. Hetzel Street, 716-945-1760 Artifacts, history, & culture of the Seneca Nation

Nature

Llama Adventures, Arcade – 360 Park Road, 716-393-5262 Guided Hikes with llamas, hands-on experience, farm tours
Erie Canal Boat Company, Fairport – 7 Liftbridge Lane W, 585-748-2628 Kayak, canoe, & bike rentals
Hawk Creek Wildlife Center, West Falls (near East Aurora) - 1963 Mill Road, 716-652-8646 Groups of raptors, wild cats, & other native wildlife
Letchworth State Park, Castile (near) 585-493-3600 – "The Grand Canyon of the East" includes history museum, nature center & hiking trails
Rock City Park, Olean (near Portville), 505 NY SR-16, 716-372-7790 Moderate walking trail, ancient massive quartz formations, museum

Shopping

Country Cottage Shop, Darien Center – 10448 Harper Road, 585-547-9591 Flower & water gardens, workshops, local jams & baked goods
Hanna's Little Shop, Delevan – 11050 NY SR-16, 716-560-7763 Unique antiques, collectibles, gift baskets and toys
Vidler's 5 & 10, East Aurora – 676-694 Main St, 716-652-0481 Lg. nostalgic store with old-time candy, gadgets, toys, crafts, gifts AND more
Windmill Farm & Craft Market, Penn Yan – 3900 NY SR-14A, 315-536-3032 175+ vendors, local produce, cheese, crafts, art, honey, open Sat.

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