

"Red Door" News: September is underway...

*Sent: Friday, September 12, 2025 * Sunday Worship: 10 AM*

Dear "Red Door" members and friends,

To view or print info about Office of Public Witness mourning recent violence, M4M about Oneonta Thanksgiving Dinner, HCOC: Mohawk Valley Gives and/or this RDNews – see attachments.



On 9/11 many of us remembered where we were 24 years ago. I hope that you too paused to reflect on the day. Violence of various kinds has increased in our country. Our PC(USA) Office of Public Witness mourns with us over the shootings on Wednesday this week at Evergreen High School near Denver, CO and at Utah Valley University. See article attached.

Worship & Music

Summer Music: Thank you to our choir members and guests who enriched our worship services this summer. In August special music was provided by our trio (Linda, Elaine, and Fran) who sang "Dona Nobis Pacem" – Oliver Wilson who played a classical piece on his trumpet and Madelyn Wilson performed "Simple Gifts" on her clarinet – and Elaine's quartet from Sweet Adelines "Just 4 Fun" who sang a beautiful rendition of Amazing Grace.

The Chancel and Bell Choirs have begun midweek rehearsals on Wednesdays. "Bells" begins at 5:45 PM followed by the Chancel Choir at 6:30 PM in the Music Room. All are welcome to join our choirs. For more info, contact Jean Giuda at 607-435-6681 or jmford3@hotmail.com

Guest Preacher on September 21st will be the Rev. John Monroe who grew up in the south-east and joined the Presbyterian Church while at Davidson College in North Carolina. He graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1984 and served churches in Ridgewood and Rumson, NJ and Glendale, AZ. He and wife Rose retired to our area in November 2022, where they seek a life of balance between prayer and work.

T-shirt and Invite a Friend Sunday is set for September 28th. Everyone is encouraged to wear a favorite T-Shirt – and to bring a friend to church on this day – or any Sunday. Our Church School participants will be commissioned, and ice cream is on the menu for hospitality time!

Mission & Outreach

September Mission Emphasis: Peace & Global Witness (PGW)

PGW, one of our PC(USA) special offerings, supports efforts to share Christ's peace locally and worldwide by dividing this offering three ways:

- 25% will be donated to the Oneonta Community Thanksgiving Dinner
- 25% will go to Presbytery to support peacemaking work in our region
- 50% of this offering supports Presbyterian peace efforts across the globe

Moments for Mission: Guest speaker Deb Bruce told us last Sunday more about the Oneonta Community Thanksgiving Dinner and her part coordinating deliveries to homebound neighbors and take-out meals. See her M4M attached.

Rebecca LaBarr will tell us more about PGW this Sunday – look for her M4M in the bulletin.

PGW Mission Donations: Please indicate *Peace & Global Witness* (or *PGW*) on the memo line.
Checks may be made payable to *First United Presbyterian*.

Mohawk Valley Gives (MVG): The Hunger Coalition of Otsego County (HCOC) is part of our church's community service with Pastor Walton-Leavitt serving as Network Coordinator and on the Grants Committee. Office Administrator Carol Sprague helps to maintain the Network list. HCOC food pantries and meal sites serve more than 11,000 individuals annually across Otsego County. More than 150 volunteers donated over 900 hours in the last year.

HCOC is one of more than 80 nonprofits serving Otsego County participating in the 2025 Mohawk Valley Gives campaign from Monday, September 15th until 9:00 PM on Friday, September 19th. The easiest way to support HCOC and other Otsego County nonprofits is to go to: <https://www.givemv.org/info/otsego>

FUP Book Club will gather at church on Monday, September 29th at 6:00 PM (note change of time for this month). The group will discuss Black Cake by Charmaine Wilkerson. All are welcome. For more information, contact Rebecca LaBarr.

Community and Presbytery News

"American Agitators: Ordinary People, Extraordinary Change" film screening and Q&A with film producer John Heffernan (Carolyn Palm's brother-in-law) about how collective action can combat racism, bigotry, and greed. It will be shown at 6:00pm on Thursday, September 18th at SUNY Oneonta in the Great Room, Lee Hall. Refreshments served. Co-sponsored by Office of Equity & Inclusion and History Department. For more info email – oei@oneonta.edu

Harvest Dinner on Saturday, September 20th at 4:00 to 6:30 pm at First PC, 156 Main St., Unadilla. Menu: Pork tenderloin, gravy, mashed potatoes, dressing, winter squash, home-made applesauce, quick breads and homemade apple or pumpkin pie for dessert. Eat at church or get take-out. Tickets: \$14 each to benefit church and prevent domestic violence.

Attached:

- 1) OPW: Mourning Recent Violence
- 2) M4M: PGW-Oneonta Community Thanksgiving Dinner
- 3) MVG: Mohawk Valley Gives flyer from Hunger Coalition
- 4) Harvest Dinner at First PC, Unadilla - flyer
- 5) This RD News

Thank you for sharing this news with others – especially those who do not have email.



First United Presbyterian (the "Red Door" Church)

Worship at 10:00 am on Sundays at 381 Main Street, Oneonta

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