



2025 July Mission Emphasis: Back-to-School Program
Sponsored by the Family Service Association (FSA)
277 Chestnut Street, Oneonta, NY 13820

A Moment for Mission on Sunday, July 13, 2025

By Rebecca LaBarr at First United Presbyterian Church, Oneonta, New York

The Family Service Association has been an important part of the community since 1909. Their mission is to support individual and family strengths and to assist residents in meeting their own needs. This year, they are combining two projects, The Back-to-School Project and The Clothing Guild Project.

The Back-to-School Project has been offered to families for over 20 years. In 2024, they helped 256 children, a total of 115 families, by providing new school supplies and hygiene packets. The project is open to all families, regardless of income or where they live. In addition to Back-to-School supplies, hygiene packets containing deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste and toothbrushes, bar soap and laundry detergent are given to each family.

The Clothing Guild Project will be open to all eligible school age children from Pre-K to 5th grade. Eligible students can receive new sneakers, socks and underwear for back to school, and during the winter may receive snow pants and boots to participate in outdoor activities. In years past, The Clothing Guild has only served Oneonta City School children, but based upon current needs they are expanding to serve other districts throughout the county.

The projects will run from August 25-29, 2025, so we ask all donations to be in before that. Below is a list of supplies that are needed if you wish to go shopping. Please drop your items in the box outside the church office before August 20th.

FSA is asking for financial donations of any amount to assist in funding these projects. If you wish to make a financial donation, checks may be made payable to *First United Presbyterian Church with FSA Back to School* on the memo line.

We look forward to working with the community to continue providing area students with new school supplies, hygiene products and Clothing Guild items. Thank You for your generosity.

School Supplies being collected:

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| Backpacks | 3/5 subject notebooks | Expo markers |
| Colored pencils | Clorox wipes | Markers |
| Composition notebooks | Sandwich bags & gallon bags | Pens / Pencils |
| Crayons | Sketch books | Glue sticks |
| Erasers | Flash drives | Folders |

Sneakers for boys/girls (*new or gently used sneakers, all sizes requested*)

Hygiene Supplies: Shampoo, Conditioner, Deodorant, Laundry soap, Dental floss

