

“Red Door” News: Ethiopian Partnership

*Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2025 * Sunday Worship: 10 AM*

Dear “Red Door” members and friends,

To view or print invitation to or info about Ethiopian Partnership, and/or this RDNews – see attachments



It has been 26 years since Linda & Jeremy Allen went to Ethiopia to represent our Presbytery and to help solidify our partnership with Western Wollega Bethel Synod (WWBS) which is part of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church of Mekane Yesus (EECMY) denomination. Last Sunday (10/12), Linda shared what it was like to see Ethiopia “up close and personal” then. Over the years the Allens have hosted various WWBS leaders in their home.

Subsequently several of our church family visited Dembi Dollo and Addis Ababa. They returned to tell us about WWBS’s Ethiopian Rural Education Project (“School in a Shoebox”) – Birhane Yesus Elementary School -- Bethel Evangelical Secondary School (BESS) -- Gidada Bible College -- two hostels for orphans – water access projects – and more.

We have celebrated with our Ethiopian brothers and sisters in times of student successes and joyful anniversaries. We have prayed with them through times of meager harvests as the poor and the needy served the poorer and more needy – and during battles between the Oromo Liberation Army and government soldiers that ravaged their Dembi Dollo compound.

Ethiopian Partnership Mission Talk in Oneonta on October 19th

Invite a friend to church! See half-sheet flyer attached.

After worship and our hospitality time, we will have a Soup Lunch (11:30 AM) when Juni Brooks will share slides and stories the 2024 visitation team’s trip to represent our Presbytery for the 100th Anniversary of Bethel Mekane Yesus School.

All are welcome to join us at any time – especially our brothers and sisters from area Presbyterian churches. For more about our Ethiopian Partnership – the history, photos and video links from visits here and there – see attached info sheet or go to:

<https://www.susvalpresby.org/EPMT>

Worship & Music

Remembrance Sunday is November 2nd. To list a relation or dear friend in the bulletin, contact Carol by Thursday, October 30th at 607-432-7520 or reddoorchurch@stny.rr.com

Note: Daylight Saving Time ends November 2nd (“fall back”).

Visit with Rose Niles, our Presbyterian Foundation Ministry Relations Officer, and the Budget & Finance Committee on Thursday, October 23rd at church. Join us at 5:00 PM for supper (RSVP by 12 Noon that day with Pastor Walton-Leavitt). Meeting is 6:00 -8:00 PM.

Special Congregational Meeting: The Session of First United Presbyterian Church, Oneonta NY calls a special meeting of the congregation and corporation at 11:05 AM on Sunday, October 26, 2025 in the sanctuary to elect Elders to serve on Session beginning in January 2026.

FUP Book Club: 6:00 PM on Monday, October 27th will discuss Becoming Madam Secretary, a novel by Stephanie Dray about the life of Frances Perkins - the first ever woman cabinet member (and longest serving) to FDR as Secretary of Labor along with being an activist deeply involved in societal issues. All are welcome. For more information, contact Rebecca LaBarr.

Update: Oliver Wilson's Eagle Scout Project

The new outdoor sign on the Walling Ave. lawn was installed by Oliver Wilson, his parents, and members of Boy Scout Troop 23 on October 11th. The sign was made by Deb Fleming (aka the SignLady). It looks great! The driveway sign and other improvements are coming. Mark all donations *Eagle Scout Project*. Make checks payable to *FUPC*. Thank you.

Upper Room Devotionals (*November/December*): Many find these daily readings a blessing. Extras are on the small table in front of the sanctuary and outside the church offices.

Community and Presbyterian News

Pumpkin Carving Workshop: 5:30PM on Wednesday, October 2nd

Gut and carve your own jack-o-lantern to be entered into the library's annual Pumpkin Glow!

Pumpkin Glow: 6:00 to 7:30 PM on Friday, October 24th

Both events at Huntington Memorial Library, 62 Chestnut St, Oneonta, New York 13820

For more information call 607.432.1980 or go to hmloneonta.org

Connection to Transformation: Building a Partnership Culture in Faith Communities

Conference -- Saturday, October 25 from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM in Ithaca, NY

Through worship, storytelling, interactive workshops, and keynote conversations, we will reflect on how churches can move beyond transactional relationships toward deeper engagement in our small towns and rural communities. For more info, contact Pastor Walton-Leavitt

First PC of Hancock: Closing of Witness Service – 3:00 PM on Sunday, October 26th

First Presbyterian Church (217 West Main St., Hancock, NY), established in 1830, invites you to join the Presbytery in celebrating this congregation's life at 3:00 PM on October 26, 2025. A reception will follow. To carpool, contact Pastor Walton-Leavitt. All are welcome.

Attached:

- 1) 2025-10-19 Ethiopian Partnership invite x2
- 2) 2025-09-30 EPMT info from PSV website
- 3) This RDnews

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



First United Presbyterian (the "Red Door" Church)

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

Mail: 2 Walling Avenue, Oneonta, NY 13820

Church Office: (607) 432-7520 // reddoorchurch@stny.rr.com

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Cynthia Walton-Leavitt at (607) 242-8184 cell; or cynuff@aya.yale.edu

Website: www.reddoorchurch.info