

Collamer United Church Circuit Rider

September 2025



- Mon. 01 Labor Day**
Al-Anon 7:30 p.m.
- Tues. 02 Blood Drive - First United Church**
- Fri. 01 Arise - Exceptional Family Resources -**
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall
- Sun. 07 Morning Worship 8:45 a.m.**
- Mon. 08 Al-Anon 7:30 p.m.**
- Fri. 12 Arise - Exceptional Family Resources -**
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall
- Sun. 14 Morning Worship 8:45 a.m.**
- Mon. 15 Al-Anon 7:30 p.m.**
- Tues. 16 Master Gardeners**
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Fri. 19 Rummage Sale 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. -**
Vollmer's Greenhouse
Arise - Exceptional Family Resources -
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall
- Sat. 20 Rummage Sale 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.-**
Vollmer's Greenhouse
- Sun. 21 Worship Service 8:45 a.m.**
- Mon. 22 Al-Anon 7:30 p.m.**
- Wed. 24 CUC Board Meeting - 6:00 p.m.**
- Fri. 26 Arise - Exceptional Family Resources -**
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall
- Sun. 28 Worship Service 8:45 a.m.**
- Mon. 29 Al-Anon 7:30 p.m.**



02 - Victor Oliver
 05 - Wayne O'Neill
 27 - Georgia Clifford

Prayer REQUESTS

Linda Oswald – upcoming surgery - at home, 8701 Knowledge Lane, Apt 116, Cicero, NY 13039 –
SPECIAL PRAYERS PLEASE!

Helen Fischer – 139 Dormar Drive, North Syracuse, NY 13212 – We learned that she has moved to an assisted living facility in Horseheads. Once her address is received, we will share. Mail appears to be forwarded.

Carol Burleigh – 102 Watertree Drive, East Syracuse, NY 13057

Savanna Colabufo and Courtney Clark – at home – 4296 Seeber Road, Canastota, NY 13032

Maryjane and Joe Molina – 502 Oot Lane, Apt. 2 Kirkville, NY 13082 – **SPECIAL PRAYERS PLEASE!**

Ryan Hill – at home – 7060 Cattleman's Crossing Road, Cicero NY 13039 – **SPECIAL PRAYERS PLEASE!**

Patti Monday – **SPECIAL PRAYERS PLEASE -**
 Bernadine Apts., #1304, 417 Churchill Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13205.

JoAnn Tongue – 2 Sacketts Road, Central Square, NY 13036

Doug Kliphon (and Sheri too) – 7088 Ferstler Road, Kirkville, NY 13082

Gloria and Jim Kyser and Family – 6844 Schuyler Road, East Syracuse, NY 13057
 Sonny Ellis – 226 W. King Street, Jackson, TN 38301
 Lorraine Vollmer – 6564 Collamer Road, East Syracuse, NY 13057

Rev. Steve Deckard – 16353 Wallingford Ave N, Shoreline WA 98133

Megan Wilbur - 1500 Whispering Hills Road, Loris, SC 29569

Fred Galster - 59 Hulton Farm Road, Hammond, NY 13646

Diane Stevenson – St. Camillus, 813 Fay Road, Room 206, Syracuse, NY 13219

Please reach out by card, phone, or email to our friends on the Prayer List. If you would like to call someone but don't have their number, please contact the church office.

Pastor's Message



"Welcome back!"

That's what so many of us are going to hear in September: welcome back to school, welcome back to work, welcome back to monthly obligations, welcome back to the Rummage Sale and dinners and lunches back at Bridgeport.

After the months of summer, we fall back into the normal routine of work, social obligations, anything centered around the school year.

We might be tempted to wring our hands because we're going back to "normal" life.

And yet... there's also a lot of value in our routines.

There's comfort in waking up on the same day instead of sleeping in for a lazy summer morning.

There's comfort in returning to the tasks we have to do.

It's familiar, and that's not a bad thing. Partly because we find comfort in it, but also because we have infinite chances to do things slightly differently.

To come into the office a little differently,

To try a new recipe or restaurant.

To find a new hobby that we like, and will help us broaden our horizons.

Our routines aren't just chances to keep doing things exactly the same; they're chances to mix it up! Much like an improvisational jazz musician might take a melody and stay within the key, while finding something completely new that wasn't there before.

That's also a calling from God: to find new ways of looking at our world, seeing where we can serve it as our most authentic selves.

So, as we come back to Earth from the dog days of summer, let us embrace the opportunities to see things a little differently.

For it is in those opportunities that we see God the most: in the small things of life.

And Thank God for that!

~ Pastor Eric

Pastor's Office Hours

The following is Pastor Eric's schedule for office hours:

Monday @ Collamer, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Tuesday @ First United, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Wednesday @ First United, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

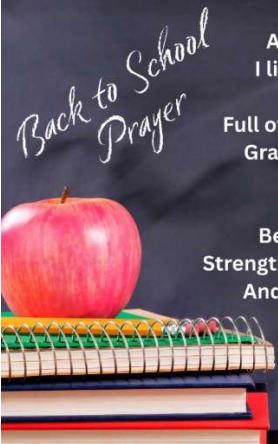
Thursday @ Collamer, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Of course, this schedule is subject to change. If you would like to schedule a meeting with him, please contact the church office.

Rest in Peace Lois




Our dear friend Lois Hale Klein went to be with the Lord on August 19, 2025. Lois was our longest member – 75 years. She dedicated the majority of her life to serving CUC. A memorial service was held at CUC on August 28, 2025. Lois will be truly missed by all. Well done, thou good and faithful servant.



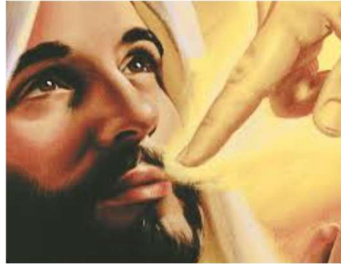
Back to School Prayer

Lord,
As this new school year begins,
I lift up each student walking into
classrooms,
Full of potential, questions and dreams.
Grant them courage in uncertainty,
Focus in their learning,
And joy in their growth.
Be with the teachers and staff –
Strengthen their hearts, renew their energy,
And let their work bear lasting fruit.
May every hallway be filled
with peace
And every child be
surrounded by love.
Amen.



CAYUGA-SYRACUSE
PRESBYTERY

August 2025 Worship Report



Time For Our Appointment

What a nice summer it's been at CUC! We seem to enjoy our "weekly appointment" of worship and fellowship every Sunday, and August was no exception. Communion was served by intinction on August 3. It was a joy that Nikolai Adydan was baptized during that service.

August's messages included "Bending Over backwards," "Offering", "Missed It By That Much" and "Time For Our Appointment." We look forward to hosting First United at 9:30 a.m. on August 31 (Labor Day weekend).

Pastor Eric *always* provides teaching moments — from exploring passages in Hosea to Isaiah to Luke then back to Jeremiah this month, he shared historical context from prophets and priests in the Bible. Fascinating to me that Jeremiah went from being a priest (pastoral care) to becoming a prophet (go out and demand action) and how God encouraged him even as Jeremiah felt inadequate. Another tidbit was to ask someone "What can I do for you?" and listen to their response. Then be obedient and open to God working through you.

Thank you for caring for our community and the world by lifting prayers for one another, for Pastor Eric, our mission in this community, and around the world. See you in church!

Respectfully submitted,
~ Connie Oliver

Baptism of Nikolai Edward Adydan



On August 3, 2025, we were honored to witness the baptism of Nikolai Edward Adydan. Nikolai is the son of Kristen Eric Adydan, the grandson of Doug and Mary Vollmer and great grandson of Lorraine Vollmer. He has a big sister, Natalia.

Congratulations!



We recently learned that Josh Kliphon and Jennifer Cross were married on Saturday, August 23, 2024. Josh is a member of CUC and the son of Doug and Sheri Kliphon. Congrats Jennifer and Josh!



We will be having more chicken and biscuit dinners on: October 4 and November 1.

Unfortunately, due to poor attendance during our recent in-house dinners, we will be going back to drive-thru only dinners.

If you would like to make a monetary donation to help defray the cost of the chicken and other groceries for these dinners, you may contact the church office or leave a donation in the collection plate clearly marked as funds for the dinner.



by Merle Oswald

For August, we collected 115 toothbrushes and 42 tubes of toothpaste for the St. Matthew's Food Pantry. They were dedicated by Pastor Eric on August 31, 2025. We also collected several egg cartons. Thank you all.



Each month in 2025, we will collect specific items for St. Matthew's Food Pantry. The items we will be collecting are as follows:



September – Canned (Evaporated) Milk

October – Pumpkin Filling

November – Boxed Stuffing

December – Brownie Mixes

You are welcome to donate other non-perishable food items as well. We continue to collect cardboard egg cartons. Please note that the food pantry can only use cartons holding a dozen eggs.

School Supplies



In August, collected school supplies to be provided to children in need attending East Syracuse Schools. They were dedicated by Pastor Eric on Sunday, August 31, 2025. The supplies collected are: #2 Pencils – 182, 3-ring binders – 16, filler Paper for 3-ring binders – 28, crayons – 22, composition books – 24, glue sticks – 46 jumbo markers – 31, folders with pockets – 32, erasers – 40, pencil sharpeners – 13, pens – 44, pencil cases – 8, 1 or 3 subject spiral notebooks – 27. Thank you again for your generosity! The school counselor will pick up the supplies soon.

Brown Memorial United Methodist Church



On August 24, 2025, along with First United Church of East Syracuse, we hosted a picnic meal at Brown Memorial United Methodist Church. Those attending from CUC included Pastor Eric, Leslie and Judd DuMond, Judi Parker, Pat Pease, and Valerie Warfield. We also had two representatives from First United, Anne Coughenour and Dale Greabel. We provided hot dogs, salads, watermelon, and white and chocolate milk. Approximately 100 were served, including several children who were having a wonderful time singing and dancing! Thank you to all who donated items and participated in this wonderful mission project!



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE July 23, 2025 CUC BOARD MEETING

The regular meeting of the Board of the Collamer United Church was called to order on July 23, 2025, at 6:05 p.m. in the Collamer United Church lounge.

ELECTION: It was noted that it was necessary to elect a Moderator to complete the 2025 term. A motion was made by Elder Leslie DuMond and seconded by Elder Gill Laroche to elect Elder Judith Parker to serve as Moderator. Motion passed.

GUEST: Sierra Smith, of Arise, Exceptional Family Resources, was invited into the meeting. She introduced herself and briefly discussed the programs offered. She distributed a flyer outlining the programs and activities for August. She expressed her organization's appreciation of our accommodating their need for space. Ms. Smith was thanked for her presentation and excused from the meeting.

MINUTES: A motion was properly made by Elder Emeline McShane and seconded by Elder Judith Parker to approve the regular Session minutes of May 21, 2025. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Elder Pamela Laroche presented the financial reports of the church for the months of May and June 2025. A motion was made by Elder Leslie DuMond and seconded by Elder Connie Oliver to accept the Treasurer's Report for April 2025. Motion passed.

VITAL STATISTICS : Nikolai Adydan, Lorraine Vollmer's great-grandson, will be baptized on Sunday, August 3, 2025.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Rev. Adamcik will be out July 27 – August 1 to chaperone Triennium (PCUSA high school youth conference) in Louisville for our presbytery. He will take Monday, August 4, off to make up for working on his Friday day off. We will have a service run by the worship team on July 27 in his absence.

Rev. Adamcik indicated he is looking into Continuing Education opportunities: probably Union Theological Seminary, depending on class offers. A pulpit swap with Pebble Hill Presbyterian likely will take place sometime in August.

The Synod gathering will take place September 18-20. He is waiting for more information.

Rev. Adamcik said he mentioned Superman at a recent service at First United. They suggested having a movie showing of Superman.

-Board Minutes Continued -

BUILDING AND GROUNDS: Elder Gill Laroche expressed his thanks to Ginnie Busco who continues to clean the church on a weekly basis. Pam Laroche weeded the front flower beds. Gill Laroche, Dave Vollmer and Sean, his employee, mowed the grounds. Gill Laroche constructed a new ramp for the shed. He also collected and returned the bottles and cans. He is waiting to hear from the Town of Dewitt concerning scheduling the fire inspection.

Discussion took place concerning securing the upstairs of the building so that it cannot be accessed by individuals using the fellowship hall or kitchen. It was also noted that, on several occasions, the downstairs door has been found unlocked. It was suggested that an announcement be made concerning this during weekly worship services. We will also consider installing a new, more secure, handle.

Connie Oliver, Leslie DuMond, and representatives of the Master Gardeners program weeded the memorial garden.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Elder Jeannine Parks reported that we honored graduates in June. They were presented with a card of congratulations and a token gift. She is hoping to schedule a Bible study in the fall.

MEMBERSHIP AND EVANGELISM: Elder Emeline McShane reported cards/calls/visits continuing.

MISSIONS: Elder Merle Oswald reported concerning the following mission projects:

St. Matthews Food Pantry - For May, we collected shampoo for the St. Matthew's Food Pantry. We collected a total of 39 bottles! For June, we collected 58 boxes and 12 bags of various pasta for the St. Matthew's Food Pantry. They were delivered by Pat Pease and Merle Oswald on June 30, 2025. For July, we are collecting regular size men's and women's deodorant. For August, we will collect toothbrushes and paste.

The Family of Richard Way sent us a \$500 donation for the food pantry. This was delivered to St. Matthew's by Merle Oswald and Pat Pease. We received a nice thank you note. A note was also sent to the Way family.

Ronald McDonald House – We collected the following items for Ronald McDonald House: Small individual snacks (including chips, pretzels, gold fish, pop tarts), Various decks of cards (including Old Maid, UNO, Crazy 8's, Regular cards), and puzzles for all ages. An overwhelming number of snacks were donated. We also collected 8 puzzles and 24 decks of various cards. They were delivered by

-Board Minutes Continued –

Merle Oswald and Carol Burleigh. They also had a tour of the beautiful facility.

Sleep In Heavenly Peace – On May 28, 2025, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. five of our members (Ginnie and Ed Busco, Connie Oliver, Georgia Clifford, and Merle Oswald) helped build children's beds for Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

School Supplies – For August, we will collect school supplies for the ESM schools. Merle Oswald will distribute a list of the supplies needed.

Brown Memorial UMC - On August 24, 2025, we will be hosting a picnic meal at Brown Memorial United Methodist Church. We will be providing hot dogs, salads, etc. First United Church of East Syracuse will join us in this mission project. We will obtain discounted hot dogs from Hoffman's as well as donations of other items.

PASTOR/PARISH RELATIONS: Elder Edward Busco reported he is learning about how the Presbytery and Methodist Conference operate, and the responsibilities of the PPRC. He is also learning about the history of CUC and its relationships with other churches.

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE: Elder Leslie DuMond reported we are generating additional funds through our recent efforts to rent the fellowship hall and kitchen. We hope this will continue on a regular basis and help balance the budget.

TECHNOLOGY: Elder Judith Parker reported the Facebook page and website continue to be updated on a regular basis.

WORSHIP: Elder Connie Heidt-Oliver reported as follows:

- Communion - Rev. Adamcik served communion by intinction to 24 on June 1.
- Father's Day was celebrated June 15. Pastor Eric blessed the token gifts, magnets with a faith-based message.
- Our graduates were recognized June 22; coffee hour followed after the service.
- June 29 Shirley Pease from Bridgeport UMC covered our pulpit supply need.
- July 6 was a 9:30 a.m. combined service at FUCOES. Rev. Adamcik served communion by intinction to ~ 37. 17 attended from CUC; 16 took communion.
- July 20 Gill Laroche was installed as an Elder.

OLD BUSINESS: Della Brown the proprietor of Puddinglicious, LLC continues to use the kitchen to make various varieties of banana pudding. She sells the pudding at Green Hills Market and other locations. She recently provided some samples which were delicious. KJ Robinson continues to use the kitchen to make moss algae smoothies. He sells this at the regional market and other locations. Both arrangements are working out nicely.

-Board Minutes Continued -

We have still not received the check from Planet Aid. Leslie followed up on July 16. It turns out that they sent the check to the wrong address. This should be straightened out now and we should receive the checks shortly.

Ed & Ed Business Technology has replaced the old copy machine with a newer one. The new machine is much larger. It will be necessary to rearrange the office to accommodate this.

Elder Connie Oliver reported concerning the offer of a free piano. The piano is no longer available. Our piano tuner, Nick Smith, indicated he would help us locate another suitable piano once we are ready in the fall.

The brick installation in the Memorial (Serenity) Garden was completed on June 21. Melanie, a new member of the MGV, weeded twice during July so far. Leslie DuMond and Connie Oliver have also helped. The garden is looking better. No more progress at this time on the garden diagram to show locations of the various plantings.

NEW BUSINESS: Elder Leslie DuMond reported that on July 10, she and Pastor Eric met with Max Smith and Sierra Smith (not related) of Arise - Exceptional Family Resources (a non-profit 501 C (3) organization) concerning use of the Fellowship Hall every Friday from July 25 - September 12. They will be here from 9 a.m. until around 3 p.m. which includes set up and breakdown. As indicated, they provide programs for disabled adults from age 18 and up. There are approximately 30 participants and each has a mentor. The downstairs parking will be more than sufficient.

After polling the Board, we offered a reduced rate of \$100 per day and waiver of the security deposit. They have been provided with the Building Use Policy and completed the application. The insurance certificate naming CUC as insured has also been received. Sierra is the program coordinator. She will have a check sent monthly. The trash will also be removed and everything put back to the way it is found. It was decided to provide Sierra Smith with a key to the building.

Arise likely will have other events for which they would like to use our facilities. For instance, in November, they host a Friendsgiving meal. We are hopeful that this will become a mutually beneficial relationship.

Elder Leslie DuMond reported the rummage sale will take place on September 19 – 20. We will not hold it on the second Saturday since that is too close to the upcoming dinner. She has confirmed with Dave Vollmer that we are again welcome to use the greenhouse.

-Board Minutes Continued -

Elder Judith Parker discussed the Sunday coffee service schedule and reminded the Board members that all committees are scheduled to take turns providing a snack.

Discussion took place concerning the possibility of installing air conditioning in the sanctuary and/or the upstairs of the building. Elder Gill Laroche will look into obtaining quotes.

The next meeting of the CUC Board will be August 27, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Church Secretary/Notary Services



Reminder

I am generally in the Church Office Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. until noon. Other times vary. When I am not in the office, I monitor the Church e-mail regularly. I am also available to provide notary services.

Leslie DuMond

PLANET AID DONATION BOX



You may have noticed the yellow clothes and shoes donation box that arrived at Vollmer Farms last fall. Arrangements have now been made for CUC to benefit from those donations. Please drop off your donations to benefit our church!



The deadline for any items for the upcoming Circuit Rider is September 25, 2025. Thank you for your cooperation in meeting this deadline. We are accepting donations for postage for the monthly newsletter. Any donations will be appreciated. Also, if you are still receiving the newsletter via U.S. mail and would like to receive it via e-mail, please contact the church office.

CollamerUnitedChurch@verizon.net

Bottles & Cans



We have an arrangement with ESM Bottle Return. They have recently moved to Arterial Road in Lyncourt. They will provide our Church the redemption money from the returns. You may also put your bottles and cans in the container in the lower entrance to the church.

We would like to thank Gill Laroche for delivering the cans and bottles on a regular basis. Thanks, Gill!

Fellowship Hall Rental



Our church fellowship hall is available for rent for special occasions and meetings. Maximum capacity is 140 with seating for 110. The kitchen is also available for rent. Please contact the church office for information.



Collamer United Church
6865 Fly Road
East Syracuse, NY 13057
(315) 463-4939
collamerunitedchurch.org



**COLLAMER UNITED CHURCH
IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE WILL ONCE AGAIN HOLD OUR ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE
@ VOLLMER'S GREENHOUSE ON
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2025, 9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. and SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2025 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 p.m.**



We will once again be holding our huge annual rummage sale! We cannot do it without you ... the general public. We depend upon your faithful donations, year after year, after year!!! Hopefully, you have held on to all of your purged items from cleaning throughout the year. **We will begin accepting donations at the greenhouse on Monday, September 1.**

WE NEED

Donations of clothes, small furniture, kitchen items, books, toys, small appliances, jewelry, tools, etc. (but we do urge you, PLEASE do not bring us broken or soiled items.)

IMPORTANT

We cannot accept donations of microwaves, TV's, large appliances, large furniture, entertainment centers, humidifiers, dehumidifiers, skis, computers, or large exercise equipment as we have to pay to dispose of these items if they are left over after the sale. If you have any questions, you may call the church office at 315-463-4939.