

Collamer United Church Circuit Rider

November 2025



Sat. 01 Chicken & Biscuit Dinner - 4:30 p.m

Sun. 02 Morning Worship 8:45 a.m. -
Communion Sunday - All Saints Day

Mon. 03 Al-Anon 7:30 p.m.

Tues. 04 Election Day
Blood Drive - First United Church

Sun. 09 Morning Worship 8:45 a.m.

Mon. 10 Al-Anon 7:30 p.m.

Tues. 11 Veteran's Day

Wed. 12 Senior Luncheon - Bridgeport UMC
- 11:15 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.

Thurs. 13 Arise - Exceptional Family Resources
- 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Sat. 15 4-H Leader Training -
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Sun. 16 Worship Service 8:45 a.m.

Mon. 17 Al-Anon 7:30 p.m.

Tues. 18 Master Gardeners
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Fri. 21 Arise - Exceptional Family Resources -
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Sun. 23 Worship Service 8:45 a.m.
Christ the King

Mon. 24 Al-Anon 7:30 p.m.

Thurs. 27 Thanksgiving Day

Sun. 30 Worship Service 8:45 a.m.

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!

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

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

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

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

Larry and Louise Claflin – 2001 Tweed Court, Leesburg, FL 34788

Grace Brignall - 7220 E. Genesee St., Apt. 225, Fayetteville, NY 13066.

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



Well, we made it!

The summer is all gone, and now here we are, getting ready for the stress that always comes at the end of the year. The stress of putting together travel plans for Thanksgiving and Christmas, cooking, visiting, giving. All of that starts now, in November.

For many of us, this is a joyous occasion; for many of us, this is a stressful occasion; for most of us, it's a combination of both. Sometimes it seems like we need God's blessing more these last couple months of the year than the rest of the year combined! We try to submit annual budget reports, justify our jobs, and we do it while adjusting to the new Daylight rules and trudging through the snow.

I think it's fair to call November and December "a mad dash to the finish line." And so, in this marathon we're running, I want us to savor the moments of rest we get. I want us to take walks or drives through the chilly fall air, looking at all the colors, knowing they will be gone soon, so we might as well appreciate them. I want us to savor the flavors of fall that we love so dearly: soup, apples, and the ever-popular and ever-present pumpkin.

This may seem like a small ask, but it will help us to appreciate the moment we're in right now: to remember there's just as much to be thankful for, as there is to bemoan. And, from a Christian perspective, that God is with us through all of it.

The seasons will change, just as the world will change; but God never does. God continues to be a shepherd through the hot of summer, the cool of fall, the cold of winter, and the warm of spring (even if spring is just 2 days, as so often happens in Central New York). Let us savor this season like a hot cup of cider, knowing God is the constant.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, and amen.

~ 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.

Pastor Eric will be on vacation from Monday, November 24, through Friday, November 28.



01 - Jack Oswald
10 - Doug Kliphon
18 - Karen Brignall
24 - Jim Schuyler
26 - Leslie DuMond
28 - Gloria Kyser
29 - Josh Kliphon



Daylight Savings Time ends November 2. Don't forget to turn your clocks back. You don't want to be early for church on All Saints Day!

October 2025 Worship Report



Image used for "Visions," 10/26 message title

Naan represented the body of Jesus Christ during World Communion Sunday, which was served by intinction to 26 on October 5. We welcomed the return of the choir that morning, who blessed us this month with favorite anthems from previous years.

October's messages included "The Summons," "Acceptance," "OK, Fine - You Wore Me Down!" and "Visions."

Pastor Eric explored additional passages in 2nd Timothy, Luke, and Joel. He reminded us that prayer is holy intervention (cool, right?!?) and asked "What is our vision of the church, with God as our guide?" He also mentioned that "God has not brought us this far to leave us." He explained Reformation Sunday, which was celebrated October 26.

November is a month full of special Sundays, including All Saints (turn your clocks back an hour!), honoring our Veterans, Christ the King and the first Sunday of Advent.

Thank you for lifting prayers, joys, and concerns for our church family, our community, our nation and around the world. See you in church!

Respectfully submitted,
~ Connie Oliver



Tuesday, November 4, is Election Day. Please get out and vote!

"The vote is precious. It is almost sacred. It is the most powerful non-violent tool we have in a democracy."

~ John Lewis

Advent & Christmas Services



The following list of special December services was planned by the Joint Worship Teams of the Collamer United Church and the First United Church of East Syracuse (823 Franklin Park Drive, East Syracuse).

Please mark your calendars and join us!

Wednesday, December 17, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

Longest Night/Blue Christmas Joint Service - the chapel @ First United of East Syracuse.

This will be a contemplative worship service that acknowledges feelings of sadness, grief, and loneliness during the holiday season. Unlike typical Christmas celebrations, this service provides a safe space for reflection, prayer, and quiet acknowledgment of hardship through scripture, song, and candle lighting.

Wednesday, December 24, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

Hosting Christmas Eve @ Collamer United Church, with combined church choirs.



Reminder:

First United Church of East Syracuse hosts a blood drive the first Tuesday of every month, from 1:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Chicken & Biscuit Dinner Results



Our first fall dinner was held on October 4. It was a beautiful day and we sold 116 dinners via our drive-thru. Our profit was \$1,820.00. Thanks to those who donated towards expenses: Mary Dineen, Janet Krak, Pam Laroche, Judy McCallops, Wayne & Karen Brignall, Dave Vollmer, and Merle Oswald. Thanks to Scott Hudson of the 4-H Program who was a great help in the kitchen. Special recognition to Pam Laroche and her daughter, Monique Kocienski, who ran that kitchen expertly while having a shortage of help.

On Friday, the workers were treated to hotdogs cooked on the grill by Ed Busco. We also had macaroni salad made by Leslie DuMond. Ginnie and Ed Busco provided chips. Judi Parker brought in ice cream treats for dessert. Thanks to everyone!

See you on November 1st!

~Submitted by Judi Parker

Holiday Craft Sale and Baked Ziti Lunch/Dinner

Saturday, December 6, 2025

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



We are going to try something new...

The Collamer United Church will be having a Holiday Craft Sale along with a Baked Ziti lunch/dinner in our Fellowship Hall on Saturday, December 6. The meal will include baked ziti, homemade meatballs, garden salad, Italian bread, and dessert. Eat-In or Take-Out. The cost will be \$12.00 for adults and \$5t.00 for children under 10.

All are welcome!

Crafters get crafting! If you know of anyone who would like to rent a table/space to sell crafts or have any questions, please contact the church office.



Bridgeport United Methodist hosted their first fall senior ("Young at Heart") luncheon Wednesday, October 8, from 11:15 - 1, with 25 in attendance. Ginnie and Ed Busco, Carol Burleigh, Merle Oswald, , Val Warfield, and Leslie DuMond attended from CUC. Pat Dougherty of First United attended as Merle's guest.

The fellowship hall was decorated with a fall theme, and a Love Offering canister was near the sign in sheet for those able to help defray the cost of the meal. Hot water for tea, coffee, and pitchers of water were waiting. Shirley Pease welcomed us back after the summer break. She talked about their current mission projects, including Operation Christmas Child and collecting healthy snacks for Bridgeport Elementary School. Diane Taylor noted they are also having a Fall Flower fundraiser that was ending October 15.

Pastor Omar read a devotion, Psalm 133, and talked about the "me culture" and the church bringing people together. He led us in singing "One Bread, One Body." As usual, we played a game, Fall Multiple Choice, and gifts were given to those with the most correct answers.

Lunch was blessed by Pastor Omar and included meatball subs, green salad, fruit salad, and dessert. Dessert included brown breads made by members of BUMC and cakes left over from CUC's recent Chicken & Biscuit dinner.

After the meal, we listened to a presentation from Kristin Clark, Disaster Response Coordinator of UMCOR, Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church. She talked about how the churches can train for and help in the event of disasters at home and around the world, including putting together Hygiene and Cleaning Kits.

The next senior luncheon is **Wednesday, November 12**. Please let Leslie know if you will be attending. She will RSVP on behalf of CUC. Come check it out! It's wonderful fellowship.

~Submitted by Leslie DuMond



by Merle Oswald

For October, we collected 70 cans of pumpkin pie filling, 3 boxes of food, and 19 egg cartons for St. Matthew's Food Pantry. They were dedicated by Pastor Eric on October 26, 2025. They were delivered by Merle Oswald on October 27, 2025. 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:



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.



November 11, 2025

We will recognize the veterans during our worship service on Sunday, November 9, 2025.

Adopt-A-Highway



On October 26, 2025, immediately following the worship service, 6 of us enjoyed a beautiful fall day by picking up garbage from the corner of Route 298 and Fly Road up to the Thruway Bridge. Ginnie and Ed Busco, Leslie DuMond, Merle Oswald, Connie Oliver, and Pat Pease collected 5 bags of trash along the way. This is always a nice time of community service and fellowship.



We will be having a special mission to support Mercy House of the Southern Tier located in Endicott, New York. Mercy House is a community care shelter which provides a home and a supportive family to people with terminal illnesses who can no longer remain at home.

During the period October 19 through November 16, 2026, we will collect the following items which will be delivered to Mercy House:

Ground Coffee

33 Gallon Garbage Bags (with ties)

Plastic Forks, Knives and Spoons

Large size liquid dish soap

Bulk boxes of individual snacks



We will be collecting gifts for families of children attending the East Syracuse-Minoa schools. The lists of gifts will be posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. The deadline for collection is December 15. The gifts should be placed under our Christmas tree in the sanctuary. They will be blessed by Pastor Eric on December 14.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SEPTEMBER 24, 2025 CUC BOARD MEETING

The regular meeting of the Board of the Collamer United Church was called to order on September 24, 2025, at 6:05 p.m. in the Collamer United Church lounge.

MINUTES: A motion was properly made by Elder Connie Oliver and seconded by Elder Merle Oswald to approve the regular Session minutes of August 27, 2025. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Elder Pamela Laroche presented the financial reports of the church for the month of August 2025. A motion was made by Elder Leslie DuMond and seconded by Elder Judith Parker to accept the Treasurer's Report for July 2025. Motion passed.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Rev. Adamcik reminded the Board that he will be on vacation October 7 – 10. He will be traveling to Los Angeles to visit his sister. He will also be on vacation November 24 – 28.

Rev. Adamcik reported he will be doing two online continuing education programs, both of which are offered through Union Theological Seminary, his alma mater. The first is about connectional ministries, and meets on Thursday evenings, from October 16 through November 6. The second is about preaching, and will meet on Thursday evenings in February.

He is also planning to attend an Emerging Leaders Cohort that will gather March 22-25, 2026 in Lake Tahoe, presented by Auburn Seminary, a separate entity from Union.

Rev. Adamcik discussed the status of the merger of the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse with the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery. He noted that either Geneva or Genesee Presbytery is also considering joining the merger. Such a merger should allow us to have more resources.

Rev. Adamcik reported he presided over the funeral and burial service of Lois Klein on August 28. He presided over the burial service of John and Heidi McCallops at Collamer Cemetery on September 6.

Discussion took place concerning use of the Google calendar feature to coordinate events between the two churches. Rev. Adamcik will set this up for use by the two churches to coordinate the scheduling of events.

-Board Minutes Continued -

The Fall Conference of the Crossroads District of the United Methodist Church will take place on Saturday, November 8.

Rev. Adamcik reported the Committee on Preparation for Ministry accepted the candidate that he voted to approve and the candidate may now seek a call.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS: Elder Gill Laroche reported he Dave Vollmer and Sean, his employee, mowed the grounds. Gill Laroche weed whacked. He also adjusted the timers on the outdoor lights.

Gill Laroche installed a new handle on the downstairs door and took all necessary steps to secure the upstairs of the building.

Gill Laroche delivered bottles and cans to the redemption center.

We have learned that it is not an option to install an electric ignitor on the stove. We are investigating the possibility of replacing the stove which is at approximately 25 years old. On September 17, 2025, Gill and Pam Laroche and Leslie DuMond met with representatives of Gerharz Equipment Co. concerning options and they are currently accessing our needs.

Gill Laroche switched the residential water heater to the boilers in preparation for the upcoming dinners and winter.

Ginnie Busco continues to do weekly cleaning of the church. Shawn Ellis scrubbed the downstairs bathroom floors and mopped the Fellowship Hall.

MEMBERSHIP AND EVANGELISM: Elder Emeline McShane reported cards/calls/visits continuing. It was suggested that a card be circulated among the congregation for signing to thank Vollmer's for all they do in connection with our rummage sale. Elder McShane noted she prepared a first draft of her Annual Report which was reviewed by her committee members. She advised that, due to other commitments, she will be resigning her position on the Board at the end of the year.

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

St. Matthews Food Pantry - For September, we are collecting evaporated milk. 66 cans have been collected. For October, we will collect pumpkin pie filling.

School Supplies – In August, we collected school supplies to be provided to children in need attending East Syracuse Schools. They were

-Board Minutes Continued –

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. The school counselor picked up the supplies.

Crop Walk- This year's Crop Hunger Walk location has changed. It will take place on Sunday, October 5, 2025, from noon until 2:00 p.m. at Onondaga Lake Park – Willow Bay Parking Area. Please contact Merle if you would like to walk, would like an envelope for collection of donations, or if you would like to donate to this very worthy cause.

Adopt-A-Highway- On October 26, 2025, immediately following the worship service, we will pick up garbage from the corner of Route 298 and Fly Road up to the Thruway Bridge.

Honoring Veterans- For October we will prepare to recognize our veterans, both those who have served in the past and those who are currently serving. We will collect names and information concerning veterans that our congregation and friends would like to recognize. We will recognize the veterans on Sunday, November 9, 2025. A form will be available to be completed and returned to the church office or to Merle Oswald concerning veterans you would like to have recognized. You may also submit a picture. The deadline to return the forms is Sunday, October 26.

Rummage Sale Leftovers – Items left over from the rummage sale have been/will be donated to the following organizations: Bridgeport UMC (Winter Clothing Drive), United Methodist Restart Program, St. Matthew's Secondhand Store, Priscilla's Save the Animals, Fayetteville Free Library, New Hope Family Services (baby clothes and toys), Helping Hounds, East Syracuse Minoa Schools (evening gowns), Syracuse Crunch (stuffed animals), and Ralph Rotella, the Shoe Repair Guy (shoes and purses for donation to the Rescue Mission at Christmastime.)

PASTOR/PARISH RELATIONS: Elder Edward Busco reported he met with Christy Knowlton concerning her evaluation. He will schedule a meeting of the committee after the October Chicken & Biscuit dinner.

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE: Elder Leslie DuMond reported we are continuing efforts to rent the fellowship hall and kitchen. The pledge request letter will be sent in early November.

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

-Board Minutes Continued -

Edward Busco suggested we poll people waiting to enter the greenhouse for the rummage sale to determine how people are hearing about the sale.

Elder Connie Oliver reported that the electronic sign is not operating. A service call has been placed. She noted the sign is covered by warranty until 2026 and that she inquired concerning an extended warranty.

WORSHIP: Elder Connie Oliver reported as follows:

- Communion - Rev. Adamcik served communion by intinction to 27 on September 7.
- Christy Knowlton will be away on September 28. Andrea Scerbo will accompany on that day.
- The choir resumes on October 5.
- A combined worship committee meeting with FUCOES has been scheduled for October 5.

OLD BUSINESS: Elder Leslie DuMond reported Arise - Exceptional Family Resources has added two weeks to its use of the fellowship hall. They are now scheduled for the two open Fridays in October. They also just added November 21. We have been receiving monthly payments from them.

Elder Connie Oliver reported the Christmas Eve candles have arrived.

NEW BUSINESS: Christy Knowlton completed the required Sexual Harassment Training in September. Leslie DuMond will do this online in October.

Arise-Exceptional Family Resources has asked to use the Fellowship Hall and kitchen on Thursday, November 13, 2025 for a Friendsgiving event. They will require use of the stove. Motion was made by Elder Leslie DuMond and seconded by Elder Gill Laroche to permit this use of our facilities. Motion passed.

The Cornell Cooperative Extension has provided an updated Facility Use Agreement for the period July 12, 2025 through July 12, 2026. The terms have not changed. They have also provided the updated insurance certificate. Motion was made by Elder Leslie DuMond and seconded by Elder Judith Parker to approve and sign the updated agreement. Motion passed.

Elder Judith Parker noted we are planning to have a Holiday Craft Sale on Saturday, December 6. We are hoping to expand the sale so will plan to hold it in the Fellowship Hall rather than in the Narthex. It was noted that discussions have taken place concerning having a baked ziti lunch/dinner in conjunction with the craft sale. After discussion, it was determined that it is necessary to

-Board Minutes Continued -

table the discussion concerning the baked ziti lunch/dinner until we have more information concerning replacement of the stove.

The next meeting of the CUC Board will be October 29, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. The following meeting will take place on December 3.

PLANET AID DONATION BOX



Reminder:

CUC benefits from donations placed in the Planet Aid box located at Vollmer Farms. Please drop off your donations to benefit our church!

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.



The deadline for any items for the upcoming Circuit Rider is November 24, 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
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

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.



POINSETTIAS

The cost of each plant is \$8.00

Sorry-but we must insist on CASH (and we won't be able to make change)

DEADLINE DATE IS NOV.9

please give completed forms to Leslie

PLANT GIVEN BY: _____

PLANT GIVEN IN MEMORY OF: _____

PLANT GIVEN IN HONOR OF: _____

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



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Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits—

— PSALM 103:2 NIV



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



Chicken & Biscuit Dinner



Saturday , November 1, 2025 – Drive-Thru Only

@ COLLAMER UNITED CHURCH

6865 FLY ROAD IN COLLAMER (463-4939)

Serving will start at 4:30 P.M.

(Collamer Church is known for its great cooks!)

***This delightful, home style chicken and biscuit dinner will include
mashed potatoes, gravy, freshly cooked vegetables, and delicious desserts.***

Tickets may be purchased upon arrival:

\$15.00 for ALL Adults; \$6.00 for Children 10 and under.

Sorry - we cannot accept credit cards.