

{2023 LATEST NEWS}

Please note that some links in this document may no longer active

Dec 27:

Safe Sanctuaries Training

Safe Sanctuaries training will be held on **Saturday, January 27, 2024**, from **9:00 AM - 12:00 PM** at the church. Adults 18 and older must receive Safe Sanctuaries training and be compliant before working or volunteering with children, youth, and adults of First United Methodist Church.

[View calendar...](#)

Community Game Night

We will be having another **Community Game Night** on **Friday, January 12, 2024**, from **6:00-10:00 PM** at the church. Please join us!

[View calendar...](#)

Dec 14:

Roof Construction Finished!

The **ADM Quality Construction** team of roofers has completed our roofing project replacing the roofs of the church, parsonage, three-bay storage barn, and bell canopy. All four structures have been reroofed in attractive heavy gauged metal that carries a long-term metal and workmanship warranty. The construction began in mid-September and was completed in advance of Christmas. Read and print our final report, and view the latest images, at the link below.

[Roof progress...](#)

Blue Christmas Tree

The Holiday Season can be very depressing for some people. "Sometimes our loved ones move, sometimes they pass away. That leaves us sad and wanting, with a sad unwanted change." **In honor of our loved ones**, we have placed the **Blue Christmas Tree** in the sanctuary. On the tray next to the tree, you will find a basket which contains cut out ornaments and pens. **Please write the name of your loved one or write a short message and place the ornament on the tree.**

[Printable flyer...](#)

Poinsettias

The sanctuary always looks so festive with the many-colored poinsettias during the holiday season. Unfortunately, the Fellowship Outreach Committee will not be selling plants as a fundraiser this year. **However, if you would like to purchase a plant and bring it in, it would be most appreciated.**

If you will be bringing in a plant, please **fill out the sheet on the table in the narthex**. From this sheet we will type up an insert for the Bulletin. When you bring a plant in, **please write your name on a popsicle stick and place it in the plant**. This way you will be sure to get the plant you purchased once services are over.

Please allow us time to type up the insert by signing up **before Saturday, December 23rd**. You may bring your plant at any time during the week of Christmas and leave it in the cry room. If you have questions, please contact **Deb Williams**.

[Printable flyer...](#)

Dec 8:

Christmas Eve Services

On **December 24th** at the church, we will have a **Family Christmas Service at 7:00 p.m.** and **Christmas Candlelight Service at 11:00 p.m.** Please join us to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, **Jesus Christ!**

[View calendar...](#)

Roof Progress

The three-month long **roof project is nearly complete**. We anticipate that new metal roofs will be completely installed on all three buildings and the bell canopy by December 15. Read and print the **latest update**, and **view the latest photos**, at the link below.

[View Roof Progress page...](#)

Nov 17:

Roof Progress

Please visit the **Roof Progress page** to see **new photos** showing the construction progress on our roof!

[View Roof Progress page...](#)

Oct 30:

Trunk or Treat

We will host a **Trunk or Treat** on **October 31st** from **4:30-6:30 p.m.** in the **church parking lot**. This event is **open to the public**. Learn about Trunk or Treat and its history at the link below.

[About Trunk or Treat...](#)

Oct 29:

Community Game Night

On **Friday, November 17, 6:00-10:00 p.m.** the church will host a **Community Game Night**. Bring games, cards, munchies & soft drinks to share lots of fun! Videos and games for the kids! Pizza provided!

[View printable PDF flyer...](#)

Roof Progress

Please visit the **Roof Progress page** to see **new photos** showing the construction progress on our roof!

[View Roof Progress page...](#)

Oct 23:

Lasagna Dinner 10/28/23

Please join us for a lasagna dinner at the church on **Saturday, October 28, 2023**, from **5-7 p.m.** Dine in or take out. View the link below for the menu and pricing, and to download a printable flyer.

[More information...](#)

Sep 28:

New Roof Progress Page

View our new Roof Progress page showing photos of the roof reconstruction process and downloadable, printable updates. The Roof Progress page is a sub-page of the main Raise the Roof page which is in the website's front page menu under the Giving tab. The direct link to the page is <https://www.cortlandumc.net/roof-progress>. Select the link below to

[Roof Progress pages page...](#)

Sep 28:

Church Roof Replacement to Begin

Roof replacement is underway. Roofers were hard at work late last week and into this week at the back of the Church stripping off old shingles, making the roof leakproof, and installing new metal roofing. Work will continue next week at the front of the Church. The church's windows and shrubs will be protected by tarps to protect them from debris falling from the roofing project.

The project may cause minor inconveniences with equipment and safety barriers in place. Please be aware of your surroundings and exercise care as you walk and drive on the grounds.

[View and print this update...](#)

Sep 20:

Church Roof Replacement to Begin

ADM Quality Construction plans to start replacing our building roofs next week if the weather cooperates. Please be aware of your surroundings and exercise care as you walk and drive on the church grounds.

[View and print this update...](#)

Sep 11:

Fall Harvest Day MUM Sale

We will have a **Fall Harvest Day “MUM Sale”** on **Saturday, September 16** at the church from **9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** There will be mums, pumpkins, and corn stalks. Hot dogs, coffee, muffins, and water. Download a printable flyer at the link below.

[Download a printable flyer...](#)

Raise the Roof Goal Met!

Thanks to God and to all our donors, after 3.5 years of fundraising, **we met the goal of \$96,000** needed to replace the aging roofs on our buildings. The roof work is scheduled to begin shortly after Labor Day! Read more at the link below.

[Raise the Roof Updates...](#)

July 19:

Church Conference Meeting

The next step in the denominational disaffiliation voting process -- after the previous discernment conversation meeting on Tuesday July 18 will be a **church conference meeting** held **Wednesday July 26 at 6:30 p.m.** in the church Fellowship Hall. Our district superintendent Sherri Rood will preside over this meeting. Only persons who are verified as members of First United Methodist Church and present at the meeting will be allowed to vote. Other people may attend but may not vote.

[Read about the disaffiliation process...](#)

July 13:

Exploring Disaffiliation

The **discernment conversation meeting** is scheduled for **Tuesday July 18** at **6:30 p.m.** in the church **Fellowship Hall**. Our district superintendent Sherri Rood will lead the meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The **church conference** is scheduled for **Wednesday July 26** at **6:30 p.m.** in the church **Fellowship Hall**. Our district superintendent Sherri Rood will preside over this meeting. Only persons who are verified as members of First United Methodist Church and present at the meeting will be allowed to vote. Other people may attend but may not vote.

Read about the [disaffiliation process](#).

May 24:

Follow-up Meeting | May 28

Last Sunday, May 21, the church held an informational congregational meeting with conversation following the church service regarding the guidelines given by the UNYUMC Conference. The guidelines regarding disaffiliation were explained followed by discussion and questions that were answered. On **May 28** there will be a **follow-up meeting after the church service**. At that time people can vote if they wish to explore disaffiliation or not. **It is important that everyone attends this short meeting.**

[Printable notice...](#)

"Raise the Roof" Campaign Update

As a result of a generous gift of **\$25,000** made by an anonymous donor, our roof replacement campaign fund has increased to **\$79,328**. Thank you! Based on recent roofing contractor estimates we still need to raise **\$91,000** to complete the roofing project.

May 13:

Congregational Meeting | May 21

The church Council will hold an **Informational Congregational Meeting with Conversation** to be held immediately following the church service on **May 21, 2023**. It is **very important that everyone attend this meeting** as the topic will be **the direction of our church**. There will be a **follow up meeting** on this topic after the church service on **May 28, 2023**.

[Sharon Signor](#) (S/PPRC and Council Chair)

Spring Flower Sale | May 20

The Fellowship Outreach Committee will hold a fundraising sale on **Saturday, May 20**. Unlike previous years we will not be taking preorders. This year we are using a different vendor and cannot request specific plants. If you would like combination pots, please let a committee member know, and we will put them together. We will have a few made for the day of the sale. Another change pertains to selling perennials. If you are thinning your plants, please consider donating them. Please come and support our event and brighten your outdoors with beautiful plants. We will have **hanging baskets** (10" for \$22, and 12" for \$28), **annuals, perennials, vegetable plants, herbs, and combination pots**. A little bit of something for everyone.

Fellowship Outreach Committee

Upcoming Leadership Change

Rev. Eunice Kim has informed the church Council that she will be moving to another church. Her last Sunday with us will be **June 11, 2023**. Please pray for her move and her spiritual journey, and for the pastor who will be coming and the transition for everyone. Read more...

The Pastor's Page

April 27:

Spring Cleanup

Spring is here and it is time to spruce up **inside and outside** of our church. The Trustees have scheduled a **Spring Clean Up Day** for **May 6 from 9:00 AM to Noon**. We are asking for **volunteers**. Many hands make light work. Various tasks, so there will be something for everyone. Hope to see you there! --Ron Bailer, Trustee Chair. Download a printable flyer at the link below.

Download printable flyer

April 16:

"Raise the Roof" Campaign Update

We have raised nearly **\$55,000** toward the replacement of the church roof and are working to secure a grant from the Wilkins Foundation. We are in the process of receiving proposals from roofing contractors. Recently we were quoted a cost to replace the roof at **\$83,000**. This quote leaves us short of our goal by about **\$28,000**, so we are asking for your support.

Read more...

April 9:

Easter Sunday Celebration

Join us for **Easter Sunday Celebration** at **10:00 a.m.** We will be reaching out to the community and our church family with **Easter Blessing Baskets!**

April 6:

Holy Thursday Prayer

Please join us in the sanctuary at **1:00 p.m.** for **Holy Thursday Prayer!** All are invited.

March 17:

"Raise the Roof" Campaign Update

To date, we have received **\$53,724** in donations from 61 church individuals and families, businesses, and friends of the church.

March 13:

AmazonSmile Results

Though we had only a short time with AmazonSmile before Amazon **discontinued the program**, the church was issued a **\$10.84 donation** from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of program activity between October 1 and December 31, 2022. We are grateful for the donation, and we will look for other similar giving opportunities. Thank you!

February 23:

"Raise the Roof" Campaign Update

The total raised to date through donations and fundraising has reached **\$53,618**. So far, **59** individuals/families, businesses, and friends of the church have donated.

January 19:

AmazonSmile to be Discontinued

Amazon will discontinue AmazonSmile on 2/20/2023. **Please continue to donate through the end of the program.** "To help charities that have been a part of the AmazonSmile program with this transition, we will be providing them with a one-time donation equivalent to three months of what they earned in 2022 through the program, and they will also be able to accrue additional donations until the program officially closes in February (Amazon, 2023-01-18)."

January 6:

"Raise the Roof" Campaign Update

The past year has been a whirlwind with our effort to recover from the pandemic, continue to raise funds for our roof replacement, and support our mission projects such as the Food Pantry and Tabitha's Closet clothing giveaway. We ended the year with **over \$50,000** toward our goal.