

The Word

A photograph of a rustic wooden ladder leaning against a reddish-brown rock wall. The ladder is made of two main vertical logs and several horizontal rungs, some of which are tied with dark bands. The background shows a clear blue sky and the rugged texture of the rock face.

Seek the
LORD and his
strength:
seek his
presence
continually.

Psalm 105:4 NRSV

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September 2025

Pastor's Page

Dear Friends,

It's a joy to reconnect with you after our two-month summer break. Although the calendar says it has been a while, to me it feels like only yesterday that I began my new role in ministry here in Delhi, NY. These past two months have been a season of learning, discovery, and deep gratitude.

One of the most memorable moments was serving the Holy Eucharist for the very first time. I felt the Spirit moving among us, filling the moment with joy and reverence. Working through Scripture and shaping new themes for sermons has been both a spiritual discipline and a creative delight. I continue to discover what it means to serve as a priest through Word, Sacrament, Order, and Service.

At the same time, I've been learning to be present—not only within the church walls but also in the broader community. Visiting with members in their homes, being warmly welcomed, and praying that God would use me as a vessel of His love has been a great blessing. My time at the farmers' market every Wednesday has allowed me to connect with many from our community; casual conversations and simple greetings have begun to build friendships. Some have received invitations to church, and I remain hopeful that the Spirit will continue to open the doors.

The men's breakfast gatherings and the casual café meetings have also been rich opportunities to share ideas, stories, and even parts of my own Indian background while learning more about the history and culture of Delhi. My participation in SUNY Delhi's student activities fair in August gave me the chance to meet eighty-eight students, share invitations to worship, and begin planting seeds of relationship that I pray will grow in the months ahead. I look forward to being present again at the Harvest Festival in September, where I will have the opportunity to meet students and their families and extend Christ's welcome to them.

The children's ministry, although quieter during the summer months, has already given me glimpses of joy. Even in small moments during children's time, I find myself being called to embrace a childlike spirit in the ministry. I am also grateful to the staff of our church, who have been supportive and cooperative as I settle into this new role.

On a broader level, these past weeks have also been filled with opportunities to connect with colleagues in ministry—through the New England Conference's new pastors' orientation and through my growing relationships with pastors in the Farms and Forests Cooperative Parishes of the Hudson-Catskill District of the New York Conference.

Through all these experiences, I have come to see Delhi as a beautiful and welcoming place, and I am thankful to be serving this congregation and community.

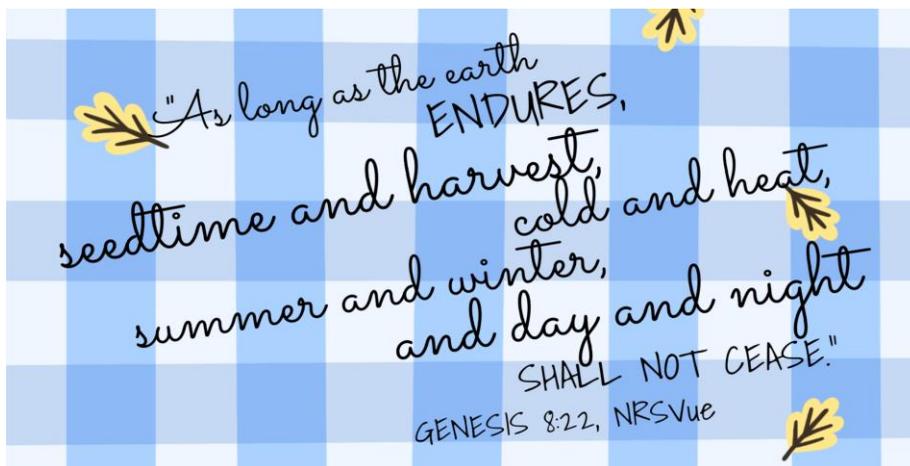
As we enter this new season, I would like to close with a special word of blessing for our children who are starting another school year. May this year be filled with new friendships, fresh opportunities, and growth in knowledge and wisdom. May you know that God is with you in every classroom, every challenge, and every joy.

"Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9). And may you walk with trust in this promise: *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths"* (Proverbs 3:5–6).

May God bless you all.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Prem



Highlights of July/August Parish Council

Council did not meet in August so this summary will include the July meeting and some notes from August.



During the Topic of the Month Pastor Prem talked about the church and new families. He felt that one of the things he can do is to add more families to our congregation. He would like to meet people who are members of church but have not been attending. Once he can get his license he wants to visit with more members. He would like to find ways to welcome children into the church, perhaps going back to having movie nights. He has been going to the farmers market with coffee and meeting people. He shared some of the visits he has made to members so far. He is attending the Men's Breakfast and Casual Café. He is trying to meet with someone new once a week. He has met a few pastors from the Delhi Clergy Association. He is working on compiling and submitting documents for becoming a licensed local pastor.

Finance Committee meet in July and were pleased to accept the \$25,000 check from the O'Connor Foundation Grant we were awarded. We will receive an additional \$25,000 in 2026. We discussed that reimbursement was completed for Pastor Cathy. It was reported that Pastor Prem has been seeking health insurance coverage under the State Plan. Also discussed was the need for Pastor Prem to change his VISA status by June of 2026 and the potential cost of this process. The Annual Conference recommended an attorney which appears to be quite costly. Discussion of this will continue once District Superintendent Karen Monk returns from her leave of absence.

Gideon reported that Trustees were very busy with the Pastor transition. Appliance Plus replaced the microwave at the parsonage and booked the installation of new carpeting in the master bedroom for the beginning of August. Trustees are working with our sound system person to find a replacement for the existing hearing assistance system which is not currently working. The coffee maker in the Harder Room stopped working and has been replaced. Many thanks to Leanne Nabinger and her daughter Autumn for pulling weeds and sprucing up the church gardens.

Barb Jones shared that SPR was very involved in the transition process and was appreciative of all the people who pitched in and helped. Many people are

vested in Pasto Prem's success and have been very supportive. The next meeting is July 23rd. Barb reminded council that on October 8th NYAC is holding a Zoom meeting on Healthy Transitions.

Eloise shared the Playschool report that they have 6 registrations for fall with a possible addition. During Fair on the Square, there was a book giveaway and a basket raffle. In addition, tickets are still available for a quilt made by Eloise. She also reported there will be a Bake Sale at the Harvest Festival in September.

An article in the Walton Reporter, which was written by a loyal supporter of our pantry (from Washington DC.) appeared in the paper August 20th. As a result, two different groups will be holding food drives during events they are sponsoring. In addition, we once again received a \$2000 grant from the Delhi Community Fund which has generously supported the pantry in the past few years.

As Fall approaches, we will need to firm up our contact list and decide on those activities we want in place for our 50th Anniversary celebration. Anyone interested in contributing to our celebration please talk with any member of council.

Just a reminder that the first Sunday of September is Faith Giving.

The next meeting of Parish Council will be September 15th.

The meeting was closed in prayer.

Any questions about anything that goes on at our council meetings? Please feel free to contact me or any member of council.

Carol Greene

ARE YOU SAVING YOUR LOOSE CHANGE?
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH
WILL BE OUR 3RD FAITH GIVING OF THIS YEAR.





The United Ministry of Delhi

Wednesdays after school until 4:30

Starting September 24, 2025

Kindergarten through 5th grade

All kids welcome

(The school bus can drop them at the church)

Bible stories and crafts, snacks and singing

Questions? Call 607-746-2191

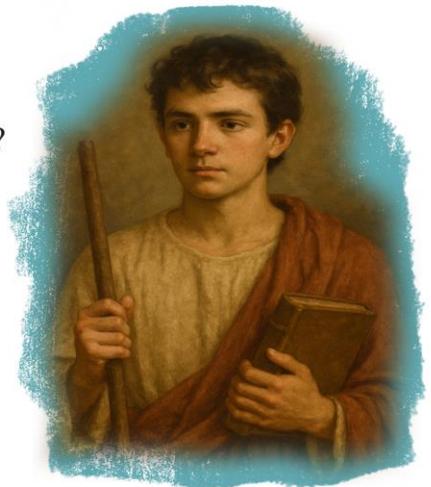


Bible Quiz



Timothy was a young man who became a trusted companion and co-worker of the apostle Paul. Which of the following statements is *not* accurate?

- A. Timothy's mother and grandmother taught him the Scriptures.
- B. Paul considered Timothy his spiritual son.
- C. Timothy was born in Rome and raised as a Roman citizen.
- D. Paul wrote two New Testament letters addressed to Timothy.



Play School News - September 2025

The Play School Program will be open for the 2025-26 School Year! As we begin to get ready for our **57th** School year, we currently have 8 students registered, ages 2-5 for the new year (with a few possibilities to grow). We are looking forward to welcoming our new class starting Friday, September 4th we will have Play School Orientation and on Monday, September 8th is our First Day of School. Again this year we will collect donations of school supplies for this year's class. If anyone would like to donate some supplies, there is a School Supply list located on the bulletin board and a box outside Pastor Prem's office by the church mailboxes. Monetary donations are also welcome. Please note in the memo section Play School Supplies. Thanks!!

Keep watch for more information on our Play School Bake Sale that will be held on Saturday, September 27th at the Delhi Harvest Festival on the Village Square. We will also do the drawing for Eloise's Mystery Quilt that day. If you'd like to get tickets or for more information on the quilt raffle please see Ruth K., Eloise, Pam or Laura M.

This year we plan to work on the alphabet/ letters of the week, numbers and counting, colors, shapes, the calendar, weather, seasons, holidays, social interaction, gross and fine motor skills, projects, painting, stories, songs and music, to name a few. We will reach out to the community and families and bring them into the classroom to share their knowledge and talents with the children. Celebrate holidays and include special events. We will also do a few field trips. So many fun things are planned to make this year special for the kids and their families! If anyone in the congregation would like to share something with the class, please let me know at playschool.umod@gmail.com and we can set up a date and time.

If you know of someone interested in the Play School Program for their child or a friend, Please pass along my contact information. Pam Savage (607)746-6869 (home), find us on Facebook at Play School of Delhi, email us at playschool.umod@gmail.com or contact through our webpage at <http://playschoolumod.wixsite.com/home> ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!!

Looking forward to a great year and growing strong together!! Wishing you all the best,

Pamela Savage, Play School Director

Casual Café

Casual Cafe continued to meet over the summer. We meet in the Harder Room for lunch from about 11:30 - 1:30 - come join us as your time allows during that time. Beverage and dessert is provided - just bring your lunch and enjoy a time of fellowship with others! We visit, laugh and enjoy a time together. Plan to join us as your schedule allows - there is always room at the table.

Women's Open Circle

The Open Circle is the organized women's group in our church. There is no membership roll, and all United Ministry women are encouraged to participate in the fellowship, programs, and outreach projects. Our stated purpose is to contribute to the life of the church. We take part in and support the programs and missions of the Methodist Catskill-Hudson District and the Women in the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery (PWP).

The Women's Open Circle will meet **Thursday, September 11th** in the Harder Room at noon. Bring your own lunch, beverage and dessert will be provided.

Music Notes

Chancel Choir will begin rehearsing on Wednesday, **September 3rd, 7:30 pm** in the Music Room



We would love to welcome new members. There are definite perks in being a choir member: a "family" to be part of, a deeper understanding of many of the scriptures we hear and lessons given on Sunday, a spiritual break in the middle of the week and a true sense of enhancing the worship in a very special way. If you have some conflicts it is not a huge problem to miss a Sunday, we all have a life and I don't want you to feel restricted by choir. Please come and try it out. It is a special time to get away from the outside forces that are around us, renew our spirit and make music.

Play School Bake Sale

Mark your Calendar! Saturday, September 27th at the Delhi Harvest Festival on the Village Square. Watch for announcements asking for donations of baked goods. And be sure to stop by their booth and pick up some yummy treats during the Festival!

Food Mission

I have an out of state woman who has been a generous donor to the pantry for a couple of years now. I had a chance to meet with her in Feb and show her the pantry and discuss our other food missions, monthly boxes to the homeless and bi-monthly boxes to seniors. At her request I keep her updated on how things are going and the challenges we are facing. She loves to write and offered to write an article or two that we could use for publicity. I provided information, she wrote 2 articles, Carol Greene edited, tweaked and submitted an article to the Walton Reporter. Perhaps you saw the article in the August 21st issue of the paper. We have since heard from 2 people who plan to include a fund-raiser as part of the events they are planning. We have also received donations from the Lake Delaware Boys Camp, Delaware Academy and the Yoga festival as well as our usual donors.

We continue to distribute boxes to the homeless on a monthly basis and Carol is hoping to have another senior distribution in September so keep your eye out for details as it takes a lot of help to purchase food, pack and distribute 70 boxes.

Twice a month we go to Oneonta to Shop the Lot for free produce provided by the regional food bank - you take your chances on what is available. We can also order shelf stable milk and yogurt from Chobani which we pick up on the second Shop the Lot date.

I hope everyone had a good summer and once again I thank each and every one of you for your support.

Edie

Mystery Quilt Raffle

One of Eloise's Mystery Quilts is being raffled off to benefit Play School. The drawing will be during the Harvest Festival, Saturday September 27th. To get your tickets or for more information on the quilt raffle please see Ruth K., Eloise, Pam or Laura M.

Coffee Hour Hosts & Flowers for the Sanctuary



Have you signed up to host Coffee Hour yet? Coffee, tea, lemonade, and paper goods are supplied. Cookies are optional. Sign up on the sheet on the Bulletin Board or call the church office to pick your date.

Coffee Hour

Sept 7 _____

Sept 15 _____

Sept 21 _____

Sept 28 _____

Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board outside the office.

Would you like to commemorate a loved one or special event in your life? Garden and wild flowers are always welcome! If you are uncomfortable creating the arrangement, call the office and we can make the arrangement for you.



Flowers

Sept 7 _____

Sept 15 _____

Sept 21 _____

Sept 28 _____



SEPTEMBER

birthdays

Bill Cash	9/5
Michele Trelease	9/7
Lisa Tessier	9/25
Ruth Kazmierski	9/28
Lisa Heckman	9/29

Word and Worship

Sunday, September 7

Communion

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Jeremiah 18:1-11; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18;
Philemon 1:17-27; Luke 14:25-33

Sunday, September 14

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm 14;
1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10

Sunday, September 21

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Jeremiah 8:8-9:1; Psalm 4;
1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13

Sunday, September 28

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15;
Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16; 1 Timothy 6:6-19;
Luke 16:19-31

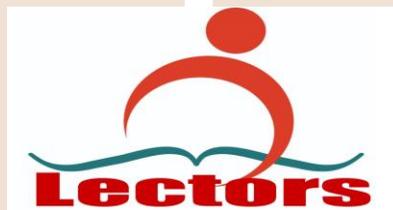
Lectors

Sept 7 Ann Peet

Sept 14 Evelyn Jacksto

Sept 21 Liz Frisbee

Sept 28 Carol Greene



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