

# The Word

---

So let us not  
become weary in  
doing good, for we  
will reap a harvest  
if we do not  
give up.

Galatians 6:9, NRSVue



---

Published by The United Ministry of Delhi

October 2025

## Pastor's Page

As autumn approaches once again, I find myself captivated by the fragrance of falling leaves and the brilliance of colors that adorn every tree and hillside. The golds, browns, and fiery reds carpeting the roads invite me to pause and reflect. Each



leaf has lived its season—offering shade in the summer heat, shelter for birds, and beauty for all who passed by. Now, in their falling, they remind us that life is both fleeting and fruitful. They ask us: Did we, too, bear fruit in our season? Did we bring joy, shelter, and nourishment to others? Or have we withered without leaving behind a blessing?

When I joined the Methodist Church in 2022, I wrestled with a similar question: *What lies at the heart of the Christian life that John Wesley so faithfully proclaimed?* As I studied his sermons and writings, I discovered that Wesley's vision was deeply rooted in what we might call a life of virtue—an intentional shaping of the heart and will in the pattern of Christ. Wesley reminded us that the Christian journey is not simply about belief but about "faith working through love."

For Wesley, to follow Jesus meant to practice the virtues that Jesus embodied: love that reaches out to the stranger, justice that uplifts the poor, forgiveness that reconciles enemies, generosity that loosens the grip of greed, and inclusivity that welcomes all into God's household. These are not abstract ideals but lived realities—practices that form our character and shape our witness.

In this way, the falling leaves of autumn become more than just a seasonal change for us; they are a spiritual invitation. Just as the trees surrender their leaves to prepare for renewal, so we, too, are called to let go of what is no longer life-giving and open ourselves to God's renewing Spirit. We stand in the long tradition of prophets, apostles, and saints who bore witness—often at significant cost—to God's

glory. Their lives remind us that each season, even one of letting go, paves the way for fresh growth.

This autumn, as you notice the beauty of the changing leaves, may you also hear God’s call to transformation. May we, as Wesley urged, seek holiness of heart and life, allowing our faith to take root in love. And may we trust that even in seasons of loss, God is preparing the soil of our hearts for renewal, so that we might once again bear fruit in due season.

Grace and peace,

Premkumar Immanuel Clement

### All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 2 is All Saints Sunday, when we remember all those who have died in the past year. Use the form below, or simply send a note or an email to the church office, to list friends, family or heroes whom you would like to include on our All Saints list. Please include the date of death, if known.

All Saints Sunday, November 2, 2025

\_\_\_\_\_

Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of death

## 9/15/25 Parish Council Meeting

Called to order by Carol Greene 6:35 PM – A quorum is present

Present: Barb Jones, Eloise Henault, Pastor Prem, Carol Greene,  
Susan Frisbee, Stephanie Trass, Ruth Vredenburg,  
Zoom: Joe Greenfield

Excused –Gideon Frisbee

Absent-Fred Onasch

Devotions: Joe Greenfield talked about the recent loss of his brother and the importance of family. He shared two Bible verses which spoke to the beautiful relationship between brothers and sisters and the need to take care of widows. He shared a photo and stories of his family who have camped together once a year for 50 years and shared good times. The love of family is priceless.

Topic of the Month: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration- Carol reminded everyone that we need to move forward with our plans for 2026 celebration. Discussion included the need to determine the amount of money we will earmark for the events including the historical tour/displays, concert and final dinner celebration. The committee needs to meet and set the dates for these events as well as developing subcommittees that will plan them.

Approval of Council Meeting minutes – Council reviewed the 7/21/25 minutes. There were two corrections needed. A motion to approve the minutes with the agreed upon corrections was made, seconded and approved.

Treasurer's Report – Susan Frisbee reviewed with council the Treasurer's report as of 9/11/15. Council discussed the report, and a motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the report

Finance Report- Barb Jones and Stephanie Trass brought forth a motion that had been unanimously approved by the SPRC and the Finance Committees. This motion recommended that United Ministry pay the \$3000 attorney fee for processing Pastor Prem's (R-1) and Sujatha's (R-2) Visa applications. Pastor Prem will pay the \$500 filling fee (which the conference will reimburse to him) and the \$410 filing fee for his wife, Sujatha. Pastor Prem is covered under hi Optional Practical Training Visa until June 2026. It is estimated that this process will take 4-8 months, and we

wanted to get it started as soon as possible. As Pastor Prem's employer, United Ministry will need to submit a significant number of materials to the attorney, who comes highly recommended by and works closely with the NY and New England Annual Conferences.

Barbara noted that while United Ministry was obligated to cover up to \$5000 for Pastor Prem's moving expenses, the expenses totaled less the \$750 which was fully refunded by the NYU Conference. Additionally, United Ministry is also obligation to cover Pastor Prem's health insurance which at the current time is fully covered through NYS. SPRC felt that under these circumstance, it made sense for the church to cover these legal fees, and the Finance Committee concurred.

Stephanie Trass made the motion that the Parish Council authorize United Ministry to pay the attorney fee of \$3000 to cover the R-1 Visa Application Fee for Pastor Clemente and his wife Sujatha Clemente. The motion was seconded and approved.

In addition, Stephanie Trass made a motion that the Parish Council authorize the Bookkeeper to temporarily increase the credit limit on the United Ministry's credit card at the Delaware National Bank to \$3000 to cover this one-time payment as soon as possible. The motion was seconded and approved by council.

Stephanie also reported that Finance discussed that income was good during July and only \$45,000 had been withdrawn from our investments. Also discussed was the need to inform employees in 2026 there would be an extra paycheck in that year which will lower the amount of their checks during the year. They will all be informed by email.

In addition, Carol discussed the research that had been done to answer various questions that Playschool had asked about Memorial Funds that could be used for scholarships. Carol, Fran Ackerly and Susan Frisbee will attend the Playschool Board meeting at the end of October to present some information and answer any questions.

Trustees' Report: Trustees met on 9/9. A new hearing assist system has been ordered for the Sanctuary and will be installed on 9/22. This will have different headset/ear bud options and compatibility with hearing aids. Quantities of each option will be available with the opportunity to purchase more if needed. We are

locked in with CE Kiff for heating fuel at \$3.199 per gallon for the winter season ahead.

Trustees approved to designate the Dottie Cook memorial funds for Play School scholarships, which had previously been recommended and approved by the PC back in 2022, but not officially by Trustees as necessary. Trustees are working on purchasing a new desktop computer for Deb as the current one will no longer be compatible with the Windows operating system next month. Next meeting is 10/14

Barb reported the SPR met on 8/25 and discussed the above-mentioned decision to support Pastor Prem's need for attorney fees. He has been doing many visitations and SPR members have helped make that happen by driving and accompanying him on the visits. It has been well received by everyone involved. Barb noted that Prem has been putting in many hours each week. It was suggested that we do an Installation or Celebration of Pastoral Appointment in worship on November 9<sup>th</sup> followed by a dish to pass meal. Council agreed and plans will follow.

Pastor's Report- Pastor Prem reported that he has been busy attending meetings, visiting congregation members, participating in New Pastor Orientation and supporting regular church programs.

He has attended two Farms and Forests Cooperative Parish Committee meetings. The group is suggesting a community carol singing/concert on 12/20/25 but details need to be explored. He has also attended a Delhi Clergy Association meeting during which the Pastors explored the possibility of hosting a "monthly lunch for the community". Pastor Prem asked council for input about this, and Council felt they needed more details about what hosting this monthly luncheon for the community would involve from our church. He also asked about an Ecumenical community service on the Sunday before Thanksgiving which we discussed and let him know the history of this event. We agreed that it was too soon for him to be the preacher for that service.

On 9/13 he attended the Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley Assembly in Dryden and was able to meet many clergy from the area.

Pastor Prem reported making 5 home visits during the month as well as attending Causal Café, Men's Breakfast, Farmer's Market. In addition, he has been

attending New Pastor Orientation twice a week since August 12<sup>th</sup>. That will conclude at the end of September.

Kids Club will start on 9/24/25 and he has asked Deb to order curriculum materials from Cokesbury to use for lessons. Evelyn will be leading the first couple of lessons until the children adjust to his accent but he will be present and working with them as well.

He reported 31 people received communion on 8/3

33 people received communion on 9/7

Mission: Eloise gave an update on Play School. There are 8 students enrolled, and they are off to a good start. There was a Play School Board meeting on 9/8/25 during which Ruth Kazmierski was elected the Chair, Larura Mills the Secretary/Treasure and Kelsey Whittaker the parent representative. They will be selling baked goods at the Harvest Festival and are inviting everyone to bake. Eloise shared her quilt for which she has been selling tickets. The winner will be drawn at the festival. Prem inquired about joining them on the square with the church's sign.

The next Food Giveaway will take place on October 4<sup>th</sup>.

Other Business:

A motion was made, seconded and approved for the following building use requests:

Delhi Community Dinner 9/21/25 -Use of table and chairs and Mac Hall in case of rain

Helios Tree of Lights Memorial Service- 11/23/25 -Use of sanctuary and Harder Room

Little Delaware Youth Ensemble- 1/11/26- Use of sanctuary and Harder Room

Girls Scouts (renewal for 2025-2026 school year) Use of Harder Room

Girl Scouts Leaders (renewal 2025-2026 school year) Use of Harder Room once a month.

Joe Greenfield wanted to give a big thanks to Pastor Prem for all that he has been doing to become part of the community which included attending the Activity Fair on the Delhi Tech Campus.

The meeting closed with prayer at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted;

Carol Greene



### **Women's Open Circle**

The Women's Open Circle will meet **Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>** in the Harder Room at noon. Bring your own lunch, beverage and dessert will be provided.

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).

Join us!

## Food Mission

As always we have several things going on this month. Carol has been busy shopping and the 3rd we will be setting up and the 4th delivering boxes to the senior community. This is always a big task but greatly appreciated by those who receive boxes.

The 7th is a food pantry meeting in Hamden where we will be discussing any problems the various pantries are experiencing and what Hamden might be able to provide for the Thanksgiving boxes that the pantries hand out.

We have 2 dates when we will be going to Oneonta for Shop the Lot to pick up any produce they may have and on the second trip to also get some Chobani yogurt.

The middle of the month we will be delivering boxes to those without homes. We will also be signing clients up for Thanksgiving boxes and getting prepared to fill them. Of course we still have our usual shopping to do for perishables and sales. Although the pantry is only open 2 days a week we are always busy to be sure it is open, well stocked and functioning well to meet the needs of our clients.

I'm feeling more positive this month, maybe because I am more thankful. Not just for the things I'm usually thankful for such as a beautiful day or friends or the support the pantry receives but for things that normally get overlooked in a list of things to be thankful for. I'm thankful for the church elevator, the cart that we use to move bags and boxes of food from the parking lot to the pantry and even for Price Chopper with their BOGO and 10 for 10 sales that help us to stretch our dollars.

I ask each of you when you think of things you are thankful for to look for things you overlook and give thanks for them as well.



## Play School News - October 2025



Play School is off to a great start with 8 children enrolled into the program for the 2025-26 school year! We have already had the children playing, building, coloring, painting, singing, dancing, making applesauce with Mrs K, listening to stories, and on the obstacle course! They are excited to see what each day brings!

Thank you to everyone for all of the donations (supplies, snacks, time, space, etc.), support, sponsorship, and love given to the families of Play School! Your kindness and generosity means so much!

Play School held a bake sale at the Harvest Festival on the square September 27<sup>th</sup> and auctioned off the Mystery Quilt made by Mrs. Henault later that day, by 4 pm. What a beautiful day for the Play School Bake Sale! We made \$287 on the quilt raffle! Thanks Eloise for all of your hard work!! We had Shawn Ackerly pull the winning ticket for the quilt raffle and it was RUTH KAZMIERSKI!!! Congratulations Ruth!!! We also made \$415 on the bake sale. There wasn't much left at the end so we decided to keep it for the Play School kids!! Thank you to everyone who baked and helped out!! We couldn't have done it without all of you!!

During the month of October, we are planning a Bottle Drive, more information to come. We are planning with the class a field trip to Delhi Pizza Co. for letter P week, fall projects, Halloween Safety with Chief Mills, and Halloween trick or treating around the church.

Wishing everyone a Happy Fall! 

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam



## Acolytes

Katie Palm took over scheduling the Acolytes when Rick left. Thank you, Katie, for stepping in and handling this vital part of worship for us!

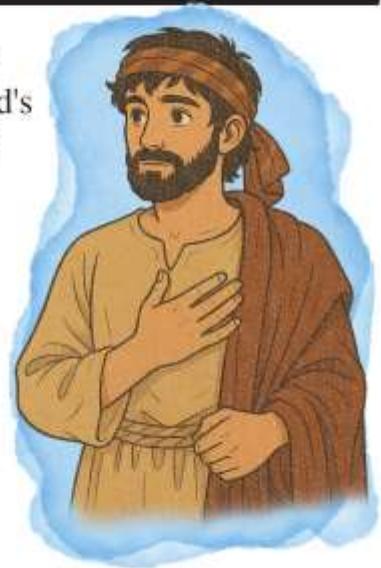
Our Acolytes this year are Virginia Mills, Wyatt Frisbee, Olivia Kruppo, and Madison Vredenburgh. We are grateful to all of them for committing to this service for us, the church family!



## Bible Quiz

The book of Jonah tells the story of a prophet who ran from God, faced a storm and learned about God's mercy. Which of the following statements is **true**?

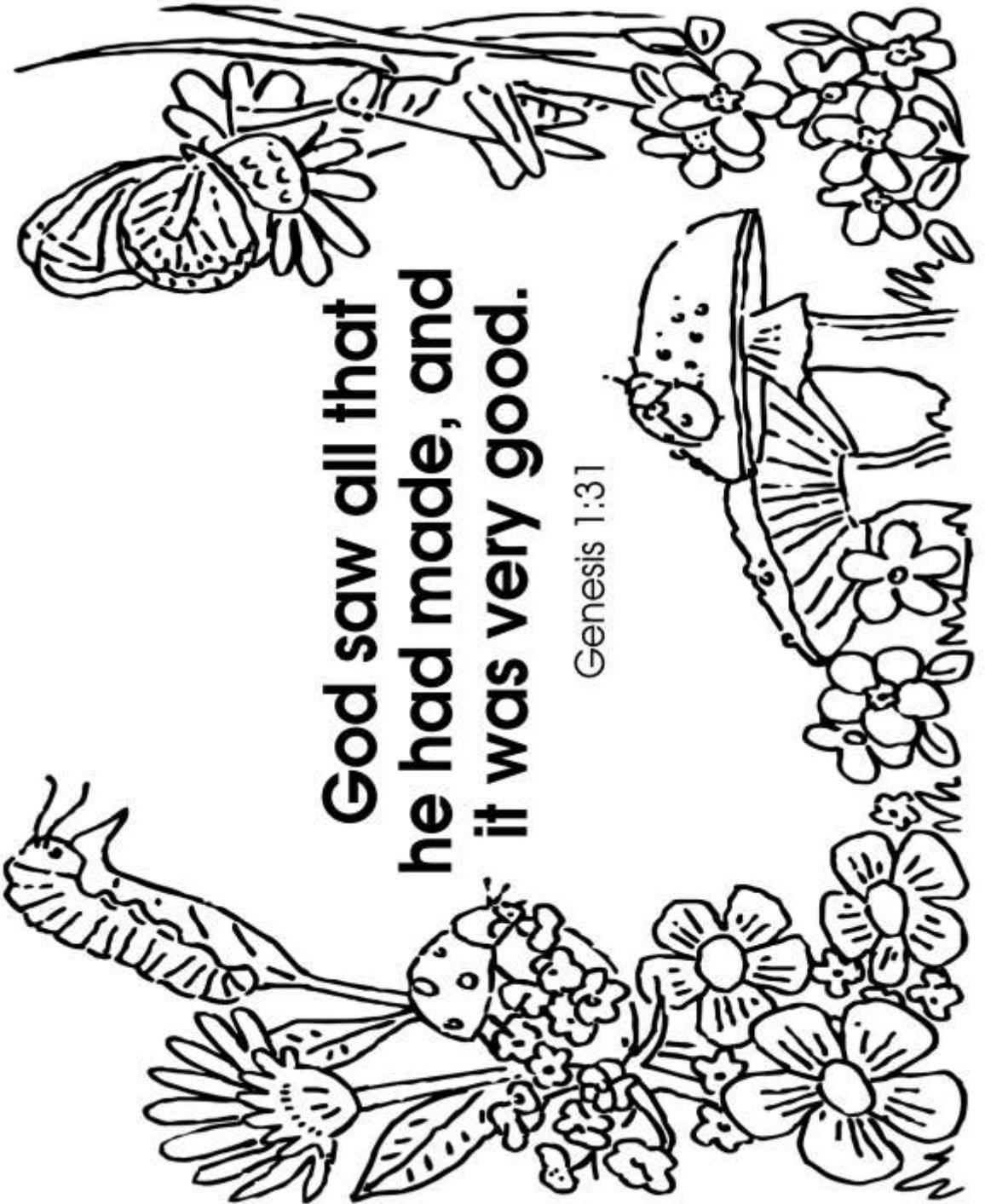
- A. Jonah told the sailors he was running from God, and they threw him overboard.
- B. The fish that swallowed Jonah washed up on the shores of Joppa.
- C. Jonah preached in Nineveh for forty days and forty nights.
- D. After the city repented, Jonah rejoiced and built an altar to the Lord.



Answer: A (See Jonah 1:9-15).

**God saw all that  
he had made, and  
it was very good.**

Genesis 1:31



## 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.

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.



### Coffee Hour

Oct 5 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Oct 12 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Oct 19 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Oct 26 \_\_\_\_\_

### Flowers

Oct 5 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Oct 12 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Oct 19 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Oct 26 \_\_\_\_\_

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



Will Frisbee	10/2	Tristan McCann	10/19
Maggie Reinmann	10/4	Cameron Mills	10/19
Marcie Hamilton	10/5	Carol Greene	10/22
Cheryl Greenfield	10/10	Charlotte Vetter	10/23
Autumn Unger	10/12	Peg Baldwin	10/25
John Bramley	10/13	Eloise Henault	10/29
Donna Briggs	10/14	Marisa Miller	10/30
Kathy Whittaker	10/15	Bryan Hillis	10/30
Porter Frisbee	10/18		



## Word and Worship

### Sunday, October 5

*World Communion Sunday*

Lamentations 1:1-6, Psalm 137  
2 Timothy 1:1-14; John 17:15-23

### Sunday, October 12

*18<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost*

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7; Psalm 66:1-12  
2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19

### Sunday, October 19

*19<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost*

Jeremiah 31:27-34; Psalm 119:97-104;  
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5; Luke 18:1-8

### Sunday, October 26

*20<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost*

Joel 2:23-32; Psalm 65;  
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14

## Lectors

- October 5 *Gideon Frisbee*  
October 12 *Carol Greene*  
October 19 *Ruth Kazmierski*  
October 26 *Fred Onasch*



## Acolytes

- October 5 *Wyatt Frisbee*  
October 12 *Olivia Kruppo*  
October 19 *Virginia Mills*  
October 26 *Olivia Kruppo*



## Contents

Pastor's Page.....	2
All Saints Sunday .....	3
9/15/25 Parish Council Meeting.....	4
Save the Date!.....	8
Women's Open Circle .....	8
Food Mission.....	9
Play School News - October 2025.....	10
Acolytes .....	12
Bible Quiz.....	12
Coloring Page .....	13
Coffee Hour Hosts & Flowers for the Sanctuary.....	14
October Birthdays .....	14
Word and Worship .....	15
Lectors.....	15
Acolytes .....	15

