

The Word



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Celebrating 50 Years of Faith, Music and Community

September 2026

Pastor's Page

Ordinary People, Extraordinary Witnesses

"Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed and recognized them as companions of Jesus." — Acts 4:13

No one likes to be called ordinary. We want to be recognized as capable, gifted, or extraordinary. Yet Acts 4:13 reminds us that God often does extraordinary things through ordinary people. Peter and John were not scholars, political leaders, or people the authorities expected much of. They were ordinary fishermen whose lives Jesus transformed.

I often wonder about the power of words. As a professor and now as a pastor, I have been amazed by people whose sermons, lectures, and conversations have opened minds, strengthened faith, and changed lives. Peter's sermon in Acts is one such example. His words testified to what God had done through Jesus Christ, and they gave others courage, hope, and faith. But Peter and John did not merely speak. When a man asked them for alms, Peter said, "Silver and gold I have none; but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk" (Acts 3:6). The man's feet and ankles became strong, and he entered the temple "walking and leaping and praising God" (Acts 3:8).

The power was not in Peter and John's innate abilities. It came from their experience of Jesus and their willingness to witness to what they had seen and received. Their ordinary lives became instruments of extraordinary grace.

This truth has become especially meaningful to me as I reflect on three people in our own United Ministry community. In recent months, we mourned the passing of Fred Onasch and Charlotte B. Hill. Both were highly accomplished and well-educated people who contributed richly to our church and the wider Delhi community. Yet what stands out to me is not simply what they accomplished, but how their faith and life experiences were expressed in compassion, hospitality, service, and commitment to others. Through conversations about their lives and years of service, I have been deeply moved by the ways they touched and enriched the lives of many. Their lives remind us that transformation often happens quietly, through faithful presence, generous service, and relationships.



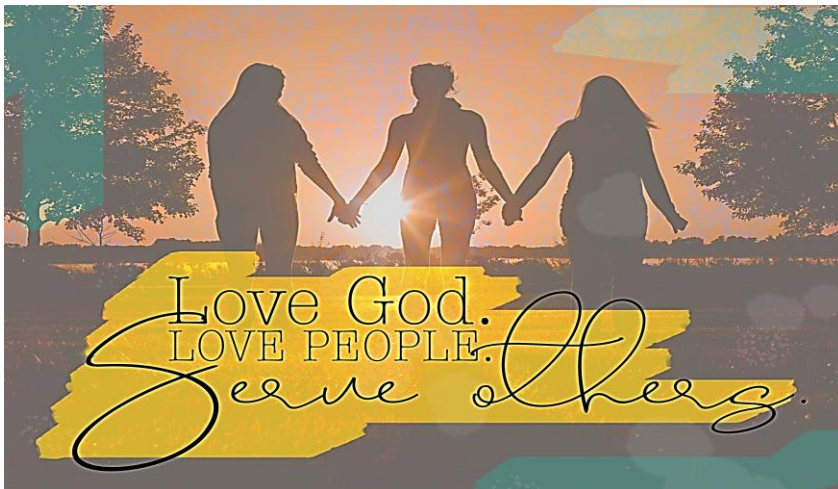
We have also received the joyful news that Edie Campbell has been named the 2026 Senior of the Year. Her response captures beautifully what Christian service can look like: "I don't think of it as anything special. I just do it. It's who I am." Her tireless work with our food pantry and her helping hands have blessed countless people. Like Peter and John, Fred, Charlotte, and Edie remind us that God can accomplish extraordinary things through people who simply offer themselves faithfully in service.

As summer gives way to fall, we enter another season of life and ministry. Children return to school, and our Kids Club, choir practice, and Bible study resume after the summer break. We also look forward to our special worship service celebrating the 50th anniversary of the United Ministry, remembering the coming together of the Second Presbyterian Church and the United Methodist Church and giving thanks for fifty years of shared ministry.

May this new season remind us that our calling is not to be extraordinary in the world's eyes, but faithful in God's eyes. As Paul writes, "Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord" (Romans 12:11). May our ordinary words, ordinary acts, and ordinary lives become extraordinary witnesses to the love of Christ.

In Christ,

Pastor Prem



Parish Council August 2026

8/10/26 Parish Council meeting

Called to order by Carol Greene 6:35 PM

Present: Gideon Frisbee, Ruth V, Carol Greene, Susan Frisbee, Eloise Henault, Joe Greenfield (zoom), Stephanie Trass, Barb Jones, Pastor Prem

Devotions: Pastor Prem shared a devotion about our 50th Anniversary, using Bible verses from Deuteronomy, Isaiah, and Acts, that reflected about the past and future. The group concurred that he did an excellent job with this and suggested he consider sharing it as part of the 50th Anniversary Worship.

Topic of the Month: The July 18th Music event went very well with over 30 performers. Many thanks to Pat Nabinger and Sandie Reynolds for their work on this! The next steering committee meeting is this week on Thursday. The pledging has flatlined recently. A press release will be going out about our culminating event in October. Discussed the planning of Charlotte's service for the upcoming Saturday.

Approval of Meeting minutes – June 15, 2026. Susan moved to approve, Barb 2nd, motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Reports were provided for June and July. Barb made a motion to approve the reports, 2nd Stephanie. Motion carries unanimously.

Finance: Finance met on July 6. Did not meet in August. One discussion point was Meadow Electric. There is only one bill now and the savings is only 5% currently instead of the previous 10%. Barb shared that it is endorsed by the village and the town. Encouraged Fran to find out more information about using this company. Giving statements were sent out. Next meeting is September 1st.

Trustee's Report: Trustees met earlier this evening after not meeting in July. Various minor repairs have been made recently. Looking at locking in a price for fuel oil for the heating season.

SPR- met on August 4th. Continuing to work on staff evaluations. We will work on organizing a collection for support of Deb, her daughter, and new granddaughter.

Pastor's Report- Prem attended the Annual Conference June 2-6 in Manchester NH. 5 in person pastoral care visits and 1 online in July through August 10. Carol makes motion to approve Sujatha Pauline Premkumar and Varun Immanuel to become members of the United Ministry on August 30th. 2nd by Joe, Motion carries unanimously. Prem has applied for his provisional membership examination which will be on February 3, 2027. The Bible study concluded on July 30, 2026. A new, shorter in duration, Bible study will begin in October with a focus on the parables of Jesus. Prem will attend a one-day clergy family day away at North/South Lake on August 20th. Prem and Sujatha will be hosting the congregation following church on August 30th by providing a meal for all of us at the church, in celebration of Varun's graduation.

Motion to baptize Samuel on August 30th if available or on a future date. 2nd by Susan. Motion carries unanimously.

Church attendance: 5/31 (Communion) – 29 served, 6/07 – 24, 6/14-38, 6/21 – 20, 6/28- 21, 7/05 (Communion) -27 served, 7/12 – 28, 7/19- 35, 7/26-24, 8/02 (Communion) -24 served.

Eloise – Playschool- Did a basket raffle at Fair on the Square. Unsure of current enrollment for the fall of 2026.

Building Use – Approved via email, 2 previous requests. On 7/14- Kathy Hardison requested to use the Harder Room on July 28th from 6-9PM for an Adult Education Lecture. A \$250 donation was offered.

The 2nd was Dawn Reed on 7/7/26, to use McIntosh Hall on 8/2 for her grandson's birthday. \$100 donation offered, has used the building before with no issues.

New forms to approve

- Helios care 11/22/26- Sanctuary and Harder Room for the tree lighting ceremony

- Marissa Miller Kaplan 10/17/26 – McIntosh Hall for 100-day birthday event. No donation necessary.

Motion by Joe to approve both requests, second Barb. Motion carried unanimously.

Next meeting of Parish Council will be September 14th, 2026, at 6:30 PM.

Joe moves to adjourn, Gideon seconds, motion carries.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Gideon Frisbee





Food Mission

Food Pantry Receives Donation

On July 21st Carole Green, Edie Campbell, and Patti Speenburgh were on hand at the Food Pantry to receive a donation of \$5000 from Sidney Federal Credit Union. This donation was made possible through SFCU's 1 Million Reasons initiative. This is a year-long initiative created to support four essential areas: Housing, Food & Basic Needs, Education, and Transportation. On their website, SFCU says, "This isn't just about donations, it's about meaningful, lasting impact."

This generous donation will certainly have lasting impact for members of our Delhi community navigating the current increases in cost of food, gasoline, and everything else that life requires.

We are grateful to all the volunteers and supporters of the Bill Cash Memorial Food Pantry. Without all these working parts, nothing would be possible.



Edie Campbell Honored as Senior of the Year

"A Life of Helping Hands: Delhi's Edie Campbell Named 2026 Senior of the Year"

(copied from The Walton Reporter, posted August 17, 2026, Lillian Brown)

After retirement, Campbell found a new way to serve - helping run a food pantry and making sure older residents have food, dignity and a connection to their community.



Lillian Browne/The Reporter

Edith "Edie" Campbell of Delhi has been named the 2026 Senior of the Year.

By Lillian Browne

DELHI - When Edith "Edie" Campbell learned she had been selected as Delaware County's 2026 Senior of the Year, her first reaction was disbelief.

"I was very surprised. I could not understand," she said with humility, adding she doesn't think she does anything special or out of the ordinary.

She has, in fact, done quite a bit.

Campbell, of Delhi, spent about two decades organizing the annual CROP Walk, a community fundraising event that supported hunger relief locally and around the world. Since

retiring in 2019, she has become a central volunteer at the United Ministry food pantry in Delhi, where she helps make sure shelves are stocked, volunteers are scheduled and the operation keeps moving.

The work has given Campbell something more than a way to fill her time after retirement. It has kept her connected to the people around her and given her a continuing sense of purpose.

"I don't think of it as anything special," she said. "I just do it. It's who I am."

Campbell grew up in Delhi, moved away and returned in 1994. Around that time, she became involved with her church's mission committee and took over organizing the CROP Walk when no one else was available to do it.

The walk brought together churches from throughout the community. Church World Service organized the broader effort, with funds raised supporting hunger relief locally and around the world.

Campbell recruited walkers, distributed materials and coordinated the local event for about 20 years, until around 2014.

"It's just my nature to want to help people," she said. "And I feel you can give more help by volunteering and doing things than by donating money."

Before retiring, Campbell spent 19 years working as a secretary for attorney Chuck Hill. Retirement opened the door to a different kind of work.

She began volunteering at the food pantry in 2019. The COVID-19 pandemic and other changes eventually left her taking on much more responsibility, including overseeing many of the pantry's day-to-day needs.

There is no typical week. "When it comes to the food pantry, it's as predictable as the weather," Campbell said.

About 19 volunteers are currently on the roster, she said, with most working once or twice a month when the pantry is open. Campbell helps coordinate the operation behind the scenes, including making sure there is enough food, handling paperwork and reporting and helping arrange supplemental supplies.

The pantry receives much of its food through the regional food bank and supplements those supplies with perishable items.

Every six weeks or so, Campbell also helps distribute boxes of food to the senior center and other local residents.

For Campbell, the most meaningful part of the work is not the paperwork or logistics. It is the brief human connection that happens across the pantry counter."

Edie will be honored at the Delaware County Senior Council's annual meeting and luncheon on Sept. 14, 12 noon at the Carriage House on Main Street in Roxbury. Reservations are required to attend. Contact the Delaware County Office for the Aging at 607-832-5750. Cost is \$20 per person.

To read the article in its entirety, please see a hard copy of The Reporter/Catskills – August 20 issue, or online at the-reporter.net

Women's Open Circle

Women's Open Circle will meet on **Thursday, September 10** at **12 noon** in the **Harder Room**. Bring a bag lunch, dessert and beverages provided.

The Women's Open Circle is an organized women group in our church. There is no membership roll. Our stated purpose is to contribute to the life of the church. We meet the second Thursday of the month during the school year weather permitting. We support the missions of the Methodist Catskill-Hudson District and the Women in the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery. Our group is small but we believe that women' denominational should be supported.

All women of The United Ministry are invited to attend any or all meetings!

Play School Update September 2026

Play School is proud to announce that we will be open for in-person learning as we go into our 58th year of service for children in our community and surrounding communities! We will hold Orientation on Wednesday, September 9th at 6 pm and our first day of school will be Monday, September 14th. If you would like to donate snacks, school supplies or make a monetary donation to the Play School program, that would be very much appreciated! There will be a box set up by the church mailboxes for any donations you'd like to give. Please remember to write Play School in the memo part of your check for any monetary donations. Thank you for making a wonderful space for children's growth and learning!

Play School will be hosting a bake sale at the Harvest Festival on Saturday, September 26, 2026. Time TBD. If you would like to donate any baked goods for this event, please let Pam, Ruth K., Eloise or Laura M. know. All baked good donations are very much appreciated!!

Thank you for your continued support with the Play School program. We appreciate all of you! Growing Strong Together!

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam

Pamela Savage, Play School Director



The 50th Anniversary Concert

On Saturday, July 18th, we held a special music event as part of our 50th Anniversary Celebration and it was an incredible success! Old friends and new faces graced the sanctuary to participate and to enjoy the musical offerings of our church family.

The choir of the day, made up of former Youth Choir members, current Chancel Choir members, and friends that joined just for the occasion, sounded wonderful! The sound filled the sanctuary with beautiful and inspiring sound and our hearts with joy.

We forgot to count the number in the Sanctuary, but we had 23 watching the live stream and have had 224 views of the concert on our YouTube channel @unitedministryofdelhi.





Chelsea Frisbee Johnson on flute: We Gather Together



Sandie Reynolds directing the Combined Choirs



The tone and texture of Liz Frisbees vocal performance of *I Don't Know How to Love Him* from 'Jesus Christ Superstar' was amazing! Chelsea Frisbee held us twice with her talent as a flutist playing first *We Gather Together*, then later in the program *Air* from 'Overture in D'.

During the concert we were verbally walked through the Musical History of The United Ministry. Ron Frisbee spoke about *The Don & Bev Shaver* era, which was followed by an impromptu session on the piano by Bev Shaver that delighted everyone.

Later, Johana Arnold Patterson and Kim Patterson played a piano/organ duet – *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*. After which they entertained us with a lighthearted piano duet of *This Little Light of Mine*.

Then Ruth Kazmierski walked us through *The Sandie Reynolds* era.



The concert was followed by a reception in the Harder Room, where old friends shared stories from the 70's and 80's with new friends that came to The United Ministry later.

The tone of the day, from the morning rehearsal through the reception afterwards, was joyful and celebratory. 50 years of The United Ministry of Delhi is indeed something to celebrate!

Thank you to everyone who shared their time and talents to make this event so memorable.

A special 'Thank you' to Pat Nabinger, who was instrumental in bringing together a showcase of the Music of The United Ministry.

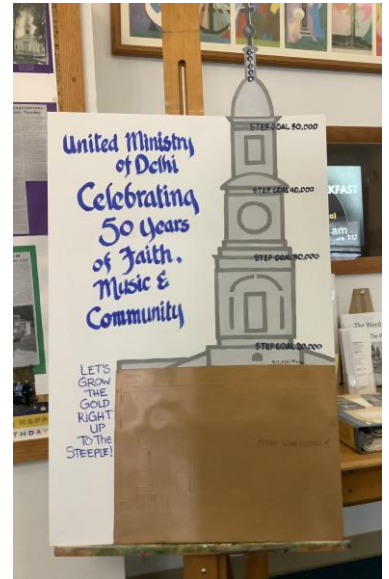
View the Concert in it's entirety on our YouTube Channel:
@unitedministryofdelhi





50th Anniversary Fundraising Campaign

We are at 36% of our goal to raise \$50,000 this year to help us maintain our church building, ongoing operations (worship, staff, etc), and community building use now and for the future. If you've already made a pledge or donation, thank you so much! If you haven't, please consider helping us meet our goal by making a gift or pledge. As you know, every year, 30+ community groups use our building at no or low cost, making United Ministry a vibrant and integral part of our village, including groups like the Food Pantry, Play School, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Rotary Club, Al Anon, Helios Care, play groups, senior Tai Chi, physical therapists, and many more. Your support is essential as we work to continue to keep our building open for these important community activities. Would you consider making a gift to help us meet our goal and carry on our rich history of faith, music, and community? You can donate online at www.umdelhi.org - or mail a check to the church - or use the special 50th anniversary pledge card in your pew with your offering. Thank you so much!



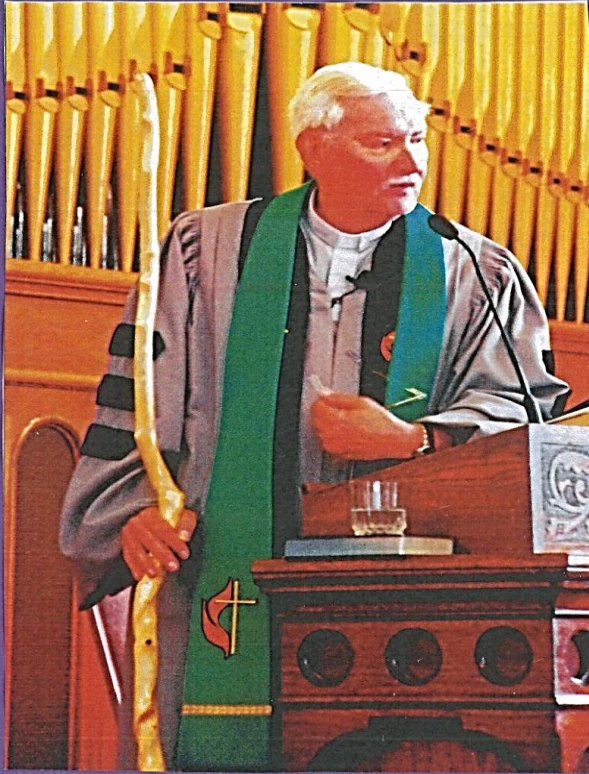
SAVE THE DATE

Our 50th Anniversary Fall Worship and Celebration is coming up soon so be sure to mark it on your calendar. **October 25th** we will gather at a worship service during which we hope to bring together many people, including previous Pastors, who have been an important part of United Ministry over the years. Invite any family members and friends who you think would enjoy joining with us to reminisce and celebrate. There will be a catered luncheon following the service where everyone can enjoy delicious food and fellowship. **Please RSVP to Deb Kearney at office@umdelhi.org by October 15th so we know we have enough food for everyone!**

A Look Back at Our Pastors

Fifty years. Many faithful pastors. One shared story. Each month, we'll feature memories from pastors who served our church — in their own words.

Rev. Duane Buddle



*Dear friends at The United Ministry of Delhi,
I send my congratulations on what you've been able to do. You had
the foresight to realize that churches can work together, survive and do
ministry together. It's been a remarkable adventure!
I sing your praises. I felt very much at home at United Ministry, and
appreciated your wonderful support and people to work with.*

Rev. Duane Buddle

February 22, 2026

Rev. Cathy Schuyler

Congratulations, United Ministry of Delhi!

Fifty years together is an excellent witness to the inclusive love of Jesus Christ made manifest in the world. Thanks be to God for your willingness to live and share the gospel in the middle of Delhi.

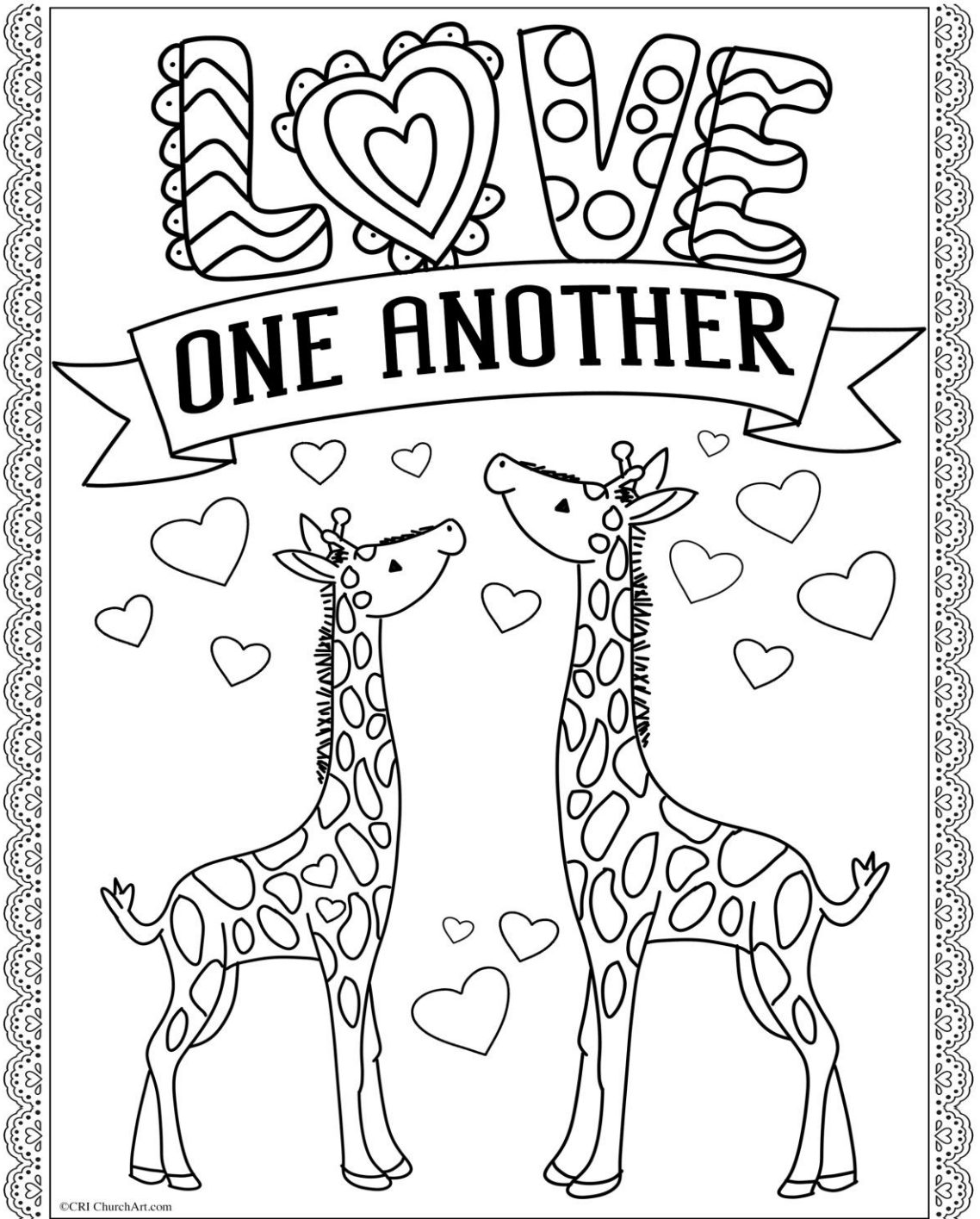
I loved serving with you in Delhi for four years. Worship, music, Kids' Club, community involvement, Bible Study, and the Food Pantry and food distribution all were part of the joy of my work at The United Ministry. Those same ministries have been central to your witness as the body of Christ for the last fifty years. I spent Wednesday mornings at the Farmers' Market, ready to share the goodness of the United Ministry with whomever stopped to chat. Rick, I, and our dog Obadiah were the first to live in the new parsonage; we especially loved the gardens and the big back room. It was fun to host the Women's Circle for picnics and to hold an Open House so everyone could 'meet' the new parsonage. The love you shared with me and with each other was, and continues to be, welcoming, joyful, and healing. Thank you.

Blessings to you for the years ahead. May the Holy Spirit continue to inspire you and challenge you to love one another and to serve Jesus by loving others in his name.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Cathy Schuyler
April 2026





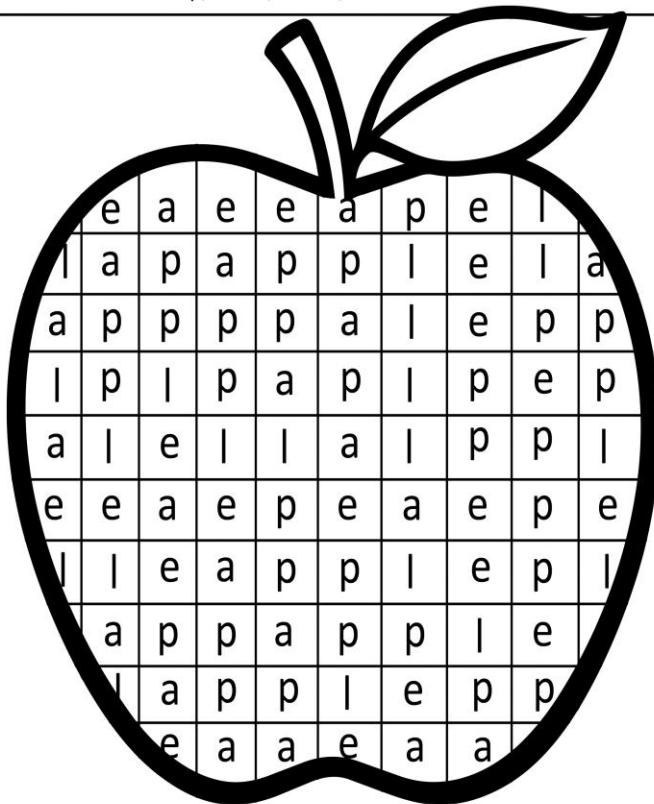
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Apple of Your Eye

“Apple of your eye” means something very special that you protect. As school starts again, remember what God says in Proverbs 7:2 (NIV): “Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye.”

Can you find the word “apple” 12 times in the puzzle?
Look up, down, across, and even backward!



A sweet reminder that God is always growing something new, no matter the season. As summer winds down and a new school year begins, remember He is at work in your life, helping you grow in faith, kindness and courage. With His help, you can grow in wisdom, build friendships and shine His love wherever you go.

What you need:

- 2 cups milk
- 1 (4-serving) box chocolate instant pudding mix
- 1 (8 oz.) tub whipped topping, thawed
- 1 (16 oz.) package Oreo cookies, crushed
- 8 (9 oz.) clear plastic cups
- Gummy worms or frogs (optional)



What you do:

1. In a large bowl, whisk together milk and pudding mix for 2 minutes. Let stand for 5 minutes until thickened.
2. Gently fold in the whipped topping.
3. Add a layer of crushed cookies to the bottom of each cup.
4. Spoon pudding mixture on top, filling the cups about $\frac{3}{4}$ full.
5. Sprinkle more crushed cookies on top to look like “dirt.”
6. Add gummy worms or frogs for fun.
7. Chill until ready to serve, or enjoy right away.

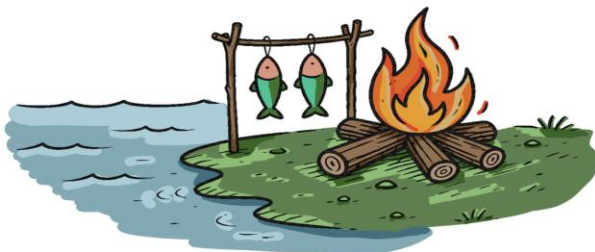
See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not
perceive it? — Isaiah 43:19 (NIV)

???

Bible Quiz

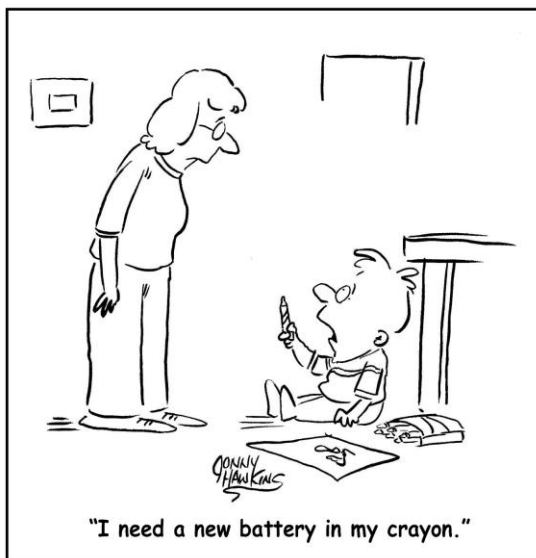
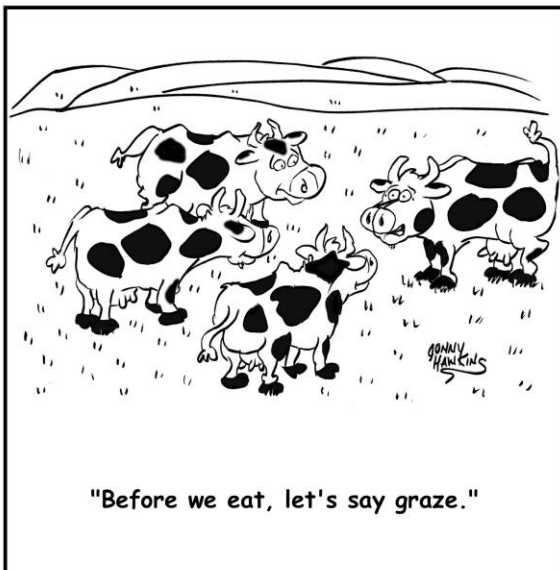
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After his resurrection, Jesus asked one of his disciples the same question three times: "Do you love me?" The disciple felt hurt, wondering why Jesus kept asking. Who was this disciple?



- A. James
- B. John
- C. Philip
- D. (Simon) Peter

Answer: D (John 21:17)





THE DELHI  D  SH TO PASS

FREE 7th Annual
**Community
Harvest Dinner**

[SUN] [SEPT. 20] [4PM TO 7PM]

Courthouse Square, Delhi, NY

Updates on Facebook @TheDelhiDish

RAIN OR SHINE!

**LIVE
MUSIC!**

BYOE:

Bring Your Own Everything

(yes, everything: food to share, beverage of choice,
table settings, good humor)

**ONE LONG TABLE WITH A
PLACE FOR EVERYONE**



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

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 6 _____
Sept 13 _____
Sept 20 _____
Sept 27 _____

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 6 _____
Sept 13 _____
Sept 20 _____
Sept 27 _____

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

Word and Worship

Sunday, September 6

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 148

Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

Sunday, September 13

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 14:19-31; Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21;

Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

Sunday, September 20

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 16:2-25; Psalm 78;

Acts 1:14-21, 33-35; Matthew 20:1-16

Sunday, September 27

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

Lectors

September 6 *Evelyn Jacksto*

September 13 *Ruth Kazmierski*

September 20 *Glenn Reynolds*

September 27 *Patti Kruppo*

Acolytes

September 6

September 13

September 20

September 27

TBD

Contents

Pastor’s Page2

Ordinary People, Extraordinary Witnesses.....2

Parish Council August 20264

Fall Worship and Celebration.....6

Food Mission.....7

Food Pantry Receives Donation.....7

Edie Campbell Honored as Senior of the Year8

Women’s Open Circle10

Play School Update September 202610

The 50th Anniversary Concert.....11

50th Anniversary Fundraising Campaign15

SAVE THE DATE.....15

A Look Back at Our Pastors16

Rev. Duane Buddle16

Rev. Cathy Schuyler17

Coloring Page18

Puzzle Page19

Bible Quiz.....20

Annual Delhi Dish to Pash.....21

September Birthdays.....22

Coffee Hour Hosts & Flowers for the Sanctuary.....22

Word and Worship23

Lectors23

Acolytes23

