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The chance of a lifetime; the trip of a lifetime: The Camino de Santiago. What I learned was: *solvitur ambulando*. It is solved by walking. We don't walk very fast, or at least I don't. Life at 3mph is how we make the necessary changes we imagine and it's also

the speed at which we build long-lasting relationships! I hope to start sharing some of the life lessons I learned while hiking the Camino as my continuing education project and as a form of spiritual renewal.



I learned a lot about life and how the Christian life shapes us and forms us. We are each called to be pilgrims, on the Way. How are you on your journey? Are you able to sustain your pace? I learned that my pace mattered a lot while hiking the Camino. I needed to pay attention to each step, so that I wouldn't fall in the mud or off the cliff! We have much to learn from each other and from nature. We are not masters of creation; in fact, creation groans with signs of new life. How might we dance together with new life, which is all around us?

I'll be starting a sermon series on the Gospel of Mark in the fall. I hope you will join me to explore Mark's stories!



Paz, —Roberto Che Espinoza



Church People

Senior Recognition Sunday

Submitted by Melissa Jusianiec



On Sunday, June 23rd, the UUC congregation gathered to celebrate our youth and to honor and recognize our two graduating seniors, Samantha (Sam) McCormick and Candy Zhou. A lovely covered dish breakfast was shared before church, and Mary Perkins and the youth prepared an activity, Prayer Pails, that attendees may use at home as a way to visibly be reminded of those in our prayers.



During the church service, Sam and Candy were remembered with kind words from congregants that were read by our youth, Cuhlyn, Isabel, Jackson, and Lillie.* Rich Hoffman also shared thoughtful sentiments about Sam and her family. The diaconate

generously gifted Candy and Sam with journals, bracelets, and personalized mugs. Candy graced us with her beautiful violin throughout the service.

Congratulations to Sam and Candy on their graduation!

* **Lillie:** Members of our church submitted inspirational words or memories to be shared with the seniors of our church family. We, the youth, will take turns sharing these wonderful remarks. Beverly Snyder wanted to share with both of you one of her favorite scripture verses- James 1:22, "Be doers of the word, and not hearers only. Otherwise, you are deceiving yourselves." Within the book of James, he continues to describe what the life of genuine, trusting and saving faith looks like. James makes it clear that those who trust God don't merely become experts at listening to God's Word but rather acting on what we hear. We all hope that your life is filled with moments that are filled with acting in God's reflection.



Isabel: Laurel Buckwalter shared that it has been a joy watching Candy grow up and that the church has benefited and greatly appreciated the sharing of your musical talents. To see you blossom on stage at the musical performances at Alfred Almond when playing Lucy in the Charlie Brown play and Ariel in The Little Mermaid. Laurel will miss seeing your great smile and sweet personality on a regular basis and hope that you will be back from college to visit often!

Jackson: Jan Porter wants to honor and remember Sam's independence and creativity. Jan remembers breakfasts with her as part of youth Sundays and you volunteering for the pancake supper. Sam served many pancakes and ham with friendliness and grace. Jan is glad you will still be a part of our community as a student at Alfred State.

Church People

Senior Recognition Ceremony: Words & Memories Continued

Cuhlyn: Mary-Lou and Jerry Cartledge cannot believe Candy is graduating from Alfred Almond already! They have enjoyed your music on the violin so very much over the years when you would play in church. They think you are a very talented violinist and will miss hearing your music regularly.



Lillie: Dave Porter wants to share what a pleasure it was to work with Sam on the Pastoral search committee. You provided insight from a youth's perspective which was beneficial in selecting Pastor Roberto to lead our church. Dave's hope for your future is that you continue to become involved in helping others and organizations beyond high school and college.

Isabel: Jan Porter wants to honor and remember Candy for your humility, good humor, and willingness to serve in Christmas services. And, just as importantly, Jan has been very thankful for your musical offerings to all of us at UUC church services. We recognize Candy's talent and are grateful for you sharing it with us. We join her family in hoping for college success and blessings.

Jackson: The Bellows Family wanted to share with Sam that people that move ahead in life exude talent with enthusiasm just like you do! Congratulations on your graduation and for discovering math can be your friend! Warmest wishes on your new adventure!

Cuhlyn: Dave Porter has enjoyed Candy's splendid violin playing during church services. You are a talented young lady! Dave's hope is that she continues to share her wonderful music beyond high school and college!

Lillie: Laurel Buckwalter shared that Sam's personality captures a quiet strength.

Isabel: Sally Hopkins wanted to share Candy's wonderful community recognition as she has performed the leads in the last three musical plays at Alfred Almond, played violin with the Alfred University orchestra for the least several years and even preformed a solo in the Spring! Candy is the co-salutatorian of her graduation class!

Jackson & Cuhlyn:

Sam – your family wants to recognize how much you have embraced life's challenges and excelled in the process. You have a spirit like no other and it has unfolded like no other! They are so proud of you for all the challenges you have overcome to grow into the beautiful human you are today. Keep growing! To sum it up here is the ABCs including a descriptive word for your character:

Amazing, Beautiful, Compassionate, Determined, Empathetic, Friendly, Genuine, Humorous, Inspirational, Jokester, Kind, Loyal, Marvelous, Nova lover, Original, Perseverant, Quick-Witted, Radiant, Samita, Treasured, Unique, Vivacious, Willful, Xenas, Yelder, Zealous.



Lillie: Mary Beth shared that you, Candy, are amazingly talented and loved by all—adults and peers alike. We, as a congregation, have been blessed and fortunate to have had the opportunity to hear you perform many times. Mary Beth admires the relationship you have with your mother and loves to see the love they emanate for each other!

Church People & News



Buckwalters on Tour

Submitted by Laurel Buckwalter

John and Laurel Buckwalter will be touring in France and Switzerland with the Rochester Oratorio Society this summer, leaving on June 26. After ten days with that group, they will meet daughter Martha and family in Milan to visit northern Italy and Rome for ten days. Return is July 18.

UUC's Flying Graduate!

Submitted by Jenella Bellows



Prayer Breakfast

Mark your calendars! This year's Prayer Breakfast will be held on **August 4**. Stay tuned for more details from the Fellowship Board as July progresses.



On Friday, June 14, 2024, the United States Naval Test Pilot School held the graduation ceremony for Class 164. Travis Bellows was one of the 34 graduates in this class. These 34 graduates represented 6 countries, including all branches of the military in the USA. The graduation festivities lasted all day, including a morning reception, a patching ceremony, and a tour of the hangar containing some of the helicopters and jets they had been flying. The day's events ended with a dinner and the presentation of diplomas.

The United States Test Pilot School was founded in 1945, and is located at the Patuxent River Flight Test Center. The rotary curriculum was added in 1961. The school takes 11 months to complete. Travis has been flying both helicopters and fixed wing aircrafts.



Graduates — and all Christians — can trust in the promise of Joshua 1:9 (NIV): "Be strong and courageous ... for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."



“I drifted into a summer-nap under the hot shade of July, serenaded by a cicada lullaby, to drowsy-warm dreams of distant thunder.”

~ Terri Guillemets

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 11:30 am: Nutrition Site	2 11:30 am: Nutrition Site 6 pm Boy Scouts	3	4 11:30 am: Nutrition Site 1 pm: UUC Offices Open 6 pm: Knit Night	5 1 pm: UUC Offices Open 7 pm: AA	6
7 10:30 Worship Communion	8 11:30 am: Nutrition Site	9 11:30 am: Nutrition Site 6 pm Boy Scouts	10	11 11:30 am: Nutrition Site 1 pm: UUC Offices Open 6 pm: Knit Night Library Program 5:30	12 1 pm: UUC Offices Open 7 pm: AA	13
14 10:30 Worship	15 11:30 am: Nutrition Site	16 11:30 am: Nutrition Site 6 pm: Boy Scouts	17	18 11:30 am: Nutrition Site 1 pm: UUC Offices Open 6 pm: Knit Night 3 pm: MostArts Program, Church	19 1 pm: UUC Offices Open 7 pm: AA	20
21 10:30 Worship	22 11:30 am: Nutrition Site	23 11:30 am: Nutrition Site 6 pm Boy Scouts	24	25 11:30 am: Nutrition Site 1 pm: UUC Offices Open 6 pm: Knit Night	26 1 pm: UUC Offices Open 7 pm: AA	27
28 10:30 Worship	29 11:30 am: Nutrition Site	30 11:30 am: Nutrition Site 6 pm Boy Scouts	31			

July Board Members of the Month

Deacon Mary Smith (msmith648@msn.com; (607) 382-8825)
Elder Lana Meissner (fmeissnerl@alfred.edu; (607) 661-5159)
BOCE
Fellowship
Trustee

Whom do you call? Flowers or lay leading—call an Elder; greeting or coffee hour—call a Deacon; Sunday school—call BOCE; building issues—call a Trustee.

Prayer for July 4th

The following lines are from a long prayer, “[That America Fulfil the Promise of Its Founding](#),” by Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan. Though written in 1945, it rings true yet today. (Full text at <https://tinyurl.com/nhc8747x>.)

O God, who is Liberator and Redeemer, Lawgiver and Judge...

May America remain loyal to the principles of the Declaration of Independence, and extend their application to ever-widening areas of life.

Keep out of our life all manner of oppression, persecution, and unjust discrimination; save us from religious, racial and class conflicts;

may our country be a haven of refuge to the victims of injustice and misrule.

Instruct us in the art of living together, of reconciling differences of opinion and averting clashes of interest, of helping one another to achieve a harmonious

and abundant life... That the Star-Spangled Banner, the symbol of our American democracy, may ever wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave. Amen.



From ChurchArt Online July 2023

Upcoming Sunday Leaders

If you are not able to serve as scheduled, please switch with someone listed on the charts below and notify the Church Office. If you are unable to find someone to switch with you, please contact either the Elder of the Month or the Deacon of the Month.

Date	Greeter	Lay Leader	Flowers	Coffee	Usher
July 7	Bob Heineman	Lana Meissner	Communion	Shaune Henry	J. Porter
July 14	J & M-L Cartledge	Amie Acton	Amie Acton	B & D Keefer	J. Porter
July 21	Mary Smith			Mindy Smith	
July 28	Mary Smith	Dave Porter		Mary Smith	
Aug. 4	Amie Acton	Larry Casey	Prayer Breakfast	J. & L. Casey	
Aug. 11	D. & R. Stephens	Lana Meissner	Lana Meissner	Regina Burke	
Aug. 18	Amie Acton	Sharon Burdick			
Aug. 25	MB McDonough	Anna McHale			

Just for Fun



"I downloaded them from a cloud."

Comparatively Speaking...

There were two brothers who were the worst criminals in town. One of them died. The surviving brother went to the local priest and said, "I'll donate \$10 million to the church if you give the eulogy, but you have to say that he was a saint. You have to actually use those words."

The priest thought a minute and said, "ok, I'll do it." The brother was shocked that he agreed so fast, but he kept his word.

At the funeral the priest gets up and says, "This man was thief, a rapist, a liar and a crook. There wasn't one good thing about him!" Then he stares at the brother in the audience and continues, "but compared to his brother, HE WAS A SAINT!"

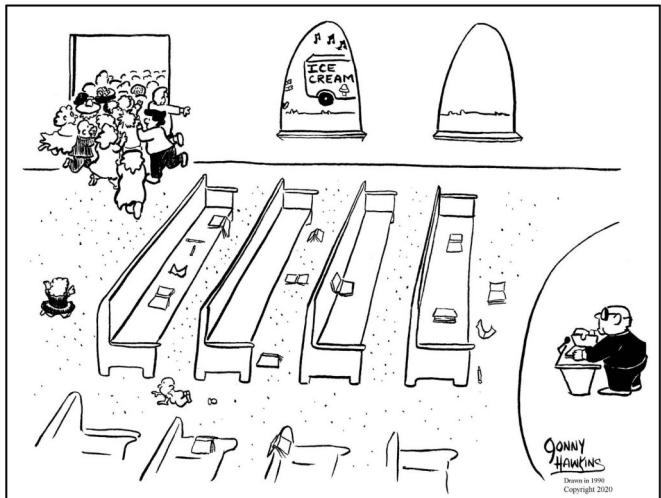


"Some religions don't eat meat on Friday because there's separation of church and steak."

Revival

After the revival had concluded, the three pastors were discussing the results with one another. The Methodist minister said, "The revival worked out great for us! We gained four new families." The Baptist preacher said, "We did better than that! We gained six new families." The Presbyterian pastor said, "Well, we did even better than that! We got rid of our 10 biggest trouble makers!"

Services in July



The Importance of Proper Signage

Two pastors are standing together by the road, holding up a sign that reads, "Turn back! The end is near!" A man driving by reads their sign and yells, "Go away, you religious nuts! Don't shove that down my throat!" Minutes later, the pastors hear a loud splash. One of them turns to the other and says, "Maybe we should change the sign to say, 'Warning, Bridge Out Ahead'."

"Seize the moment. Remember all those women on the 'Titanic' who waved off the dessert cart."

— Erma Bombeck



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