



New City United Methodist Church

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April 2025 from Pastor Amanda

In all things, there is Easter.

This is a year in which I really think we need to remember that.

Many are stressed this year. We are worried. We are worried about our families and our communities, our church, our country, the world. We're feeling a bit beaten down. But in all things, there is Easter.

Easter is a happy time – a time to rejoice, and sing, and eat chocolate, and hunt for Easter eggs. Easter brings a smile to everyone's face and joy to our hearts. But Easter doesn't just "appear" that way. There's a path to get to Easter, and that path goes through Good Friday. That path takes its toll – it's a difficult path to follow. It's a path of pain, sorrow, torture, betrayal.

Just as no Easter comes without hardship, no hardship comes without an Easter. Sometimes we have to look for it. Sometimes it's not as obvious as an empty tomb or angel's singing, but every time we face a Good Friday moment, Easter is coming. Easter is in the works. Because that's what our God does. Our God lead us THROUGH Good Friday moments and points us in the direction of Easter, in the direction of joy.

In all things, there is Easter. Even now. Even here. If we're open to it.

My prayer for you is that we all experience some wonderful, joy-filled Easter moments this month, knowing our Good Friday moments are never the end.

Happy Easter!

Peace,

Pastor Amanda

Birthdays

April 4-Nicholas Behr; Patrick Mensah

April 7-Kelley Behr; Pat Ekedal

April 14-Lisa Rohrs; Winsome Downie
Rainford

April 16-Thomas Atzl

April 18-Carol Kepler; Gregory Morano;
Lisa McGuy

April 19-Delia Mahaffey; Kimberly Behr

April 21-Melanie Campbell

April 23-Jean Craig

April 24-Dillon Mahaffey

April 28-Linda Kontos

April 29-Elizabeth Forchelli



Prayers...

for Burt & Senya Renfroe and all those in
nursing facilities;

for Doug Caulk as he continues chemo;

for Doris Atzl who has shingles;

For Pat Conroy, and the healing of his
broken ankle;

For Anita Staats, who broke her knee and
is in rehab;

For those who have been sick;

for those who have been hospitalized or
are in rehab;

for all who have or will lose their jobs;

for those who mourn;

for Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, Yemen, Sudan,
Syria, and all areas in the world with war
and conflict;

for all who are worried about our country;

for all who have cancer;

for our church and our Building Committee.





Mission Updates
OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

“SERVING GOD THROUGH SERVING OUR COMMUNITY”

Food Pantry Sunday is the first Sunday of the month. Our next Food Pantry Sunday will be April 6th. Donations of non-perishable food can be brought to in-person worship, or left outside the office door (first door with an overhang) anytime the week prior.



Monthly Mission for 2025



JANUARY: UMC Native American Ministries (scholarships, grants, advocacy, and education)



FEBRUARY: UMCOR. Support those affected by wildfires in California



MARCH: Health Lifeline Clinic— our own Norbert Rainford's free Nyack Clinic



APRIL: The Nature Conservancy. Preserving important habitats & beautiful places



MAY: Martin Luther King Jr. Multi-Purpose Center Nanuet. Education, food, programs



JUNE: The Trevor Project. LGBTQ+ suicide prevention hotline and support



JULY: World Central Kitchen. Feeding the hungry in the US and the world



AUGUST: Innocence Project. Proving innocence and releasing the wrongfully accused



SEPTEMBER: Hatua Likoni. Helping Kenyan youth through school & into professional careers



OCTOBER: Spring Valley UMC Food Program. We'll cook for a Thursday dinner!



NOVEMBER: Project Joy. People to People's Christmas gifts program for Rockland children



DECEMBER: Helping Hands. Support for Rockland County homeless

New City UMC Monthly Mission

April 2025 Mission Project: Nature Conservancy



They work in dense rainforests, remote coral reefs and the heart of major cities.

They work in more than 80 countries.

They operate more than 100 marine conservation projects.

They have protected more than 125 million acres of land.

They have more than 400 scientists on staff.



Their goal for 2030:

They are racing to help the world reverse climate change and biodiversity loss.

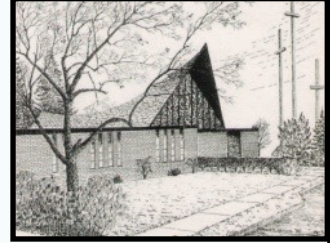
Together we can find paths to make change possible.

If you wish to contribute to this mission, please indicate on your donation envelope, either April 2025 Mission OR Nature Conservancy

Thank you for your consideration. 2025 Missions Team.

Worship Service Time: 10:30am

Both in-person in Fellowship Hall (masks optional)
and on Zoom

**Worship/Sermon Topics**

From now through Easter, we'll be celebrating a sermon series in worship entitled "Tell Me the Stories." We'll consider many of the stories about Jesus found in scripture and see what they can teach us today.

April 6 - Fifth Sunday in Lent; Earth Day Celebration with our Church & Society Committee. Jeannine Alexandro preaching. Potluck lunch following worship.

April 13 - Palm Sunday. Worship begins in the courtyard. Special Called Church Conference 12:00pm regarding our sanctuary (see p 10).

Thursday, April 17 - Maundy Thursday Worship and Communion. 7:30pm at our church (in conjunction with the Pearl River and Congers UMCs).

Friday, April 18 - Good Friday Worship. 7:00pm at the Congers UMC (in conjunction with the Congers and Pearl River UMCs).

April 20 - Easter Sunday! Sunrise Service in the courtyard at 6:00am (bring a breakfast item to share). Easter Celebration Worship at 10:30am. Easter Egg Hunt for our children following worship.

April 27 - Holy Humor Sunday! Bring some clean jokes to share.

Potluck Lunch and Holy Humor Sunday

Potluck Lunch! Following our Earth Day Service on April 6. Bring a dish to share!

Holy Humor Sunday! Bring some clean jokes to share on April 27 as we RESURRECT an ancient tradition of the church in which we celebrate the joke played on the devil with the rising of Jesus on Easter morning.

Volunteer Opportunities

Contact Pastor Amanda to volunteer or with questions.

Be a Sunday School Assistant! — Get to know our kids and help out in the classroom on a rotating schedule. No prep work involved. Speak with Pastor Amanda if interested.

Thrift shop sorting—We are in need of some additional sorters on Monday mornings and during Saturday shop hours. Come join a fun group of workers who love what they do and have a great time together! Monday sorting is 9am-12pm (unless otherwise noted in worship announcements). Saturday hours are 9am-2pm. Come for an hour, come for two, come for the whole time! Totally up to you. Any and all help is appreciated.

Work Our Thrift Shop!—Thrift shop hours are Thursdays 10-12 and Saturdays 9-2. We are in need of additional volunteers as cashiers and "floaters" on BOTH days. Speak to Sue Delo.

Fellowship Hour

We need volunteers for set-up, clean-up, and to provide food.

THANK YOU to Joanne Hegarty for heading this important ministry!



Important Dates

4/6 - Earth Day service and potluck lunch

4/10-4/12 - Pastor Amanda at a continuing education event. Rev. Warren Brandt is on-call for pastoral care emergencies. His cell - 845-800-0113.

4/13 - Palm Sunday. Church Council Meeting 9am on Zoom. Special Called Church Conference 12pm (see p 10).

4/17 - Maundy Thursday worship at our church 7:30pm.

4/18 - Good Friday worship at Congers UMC 7:00pm.

4/20 - Easter. Sunrise Service in our courtyard at 6:00am. Easter Celebration Worship at 10:30am. Easter Egg Hunt following worship.

Angel's Attic Thrift Shop

Hours

Saturday's 9:00-2:00

Thursday's 10:00-12:00 noon

***To volunteer in any way, please call
Sue Delo (845-304-8798)***

Sorting is Monday's 9:00 am-12:00 pm



Sunday School

Sunday School is up and running! We've been hearing GREAT reports from both our students and teachers since Sunday School began. Sunday School is for those Pre-K (potty trained) through 6th grade



Youth Group!

March's meet up was another success! We gathered at the Thiells-Garnerville UMC for fun, food, games, and worship. We were given "leprechaun names" (Pastor Amanda's was "Dandy Shamrock") and enjoyed guitar music by Pastor Woo Lim Kwak.

We're taking a break for April, as our pastors are super busy with Easter preparations. Our next Regional Youth Group gathering will be Sunday, May 4 at the Suffern UMC, 6:00-8:00pm. Youth Group is for those in 6th grade - high school. Spread the word and plan to join us!



Note of thanks from Meals On Wheels

Thank you for your generous donation of \$1,336.00 received February 25, 2025 to Meal on Wheels Rockland. Your contribution directly impacts seniors in our community by helping to provide them with fresh, nutritious meals in the comfort and safety of their own homes. Our mission of enhancing the wellness of Rockland's older adults and families is possible because of you. Meals on Wheels Rockland does much more than simply provide fresh, home cooked meals. Our volunteers also perform essential safety checks for the clients they visit each day. For many of our seniors, this interaction may be the only human contact they experience in their daily lives. . . Thank you again for your generosity and support. (donation given in memory of Mary Gardella)



Special Called Church Conference.

When: Sunday, April 13, beginning at 12:00pm.

Where: In our Fellowship Hall.

Why: To vote on installing shoring in the sanctuary, with the goal of moving forward with a plan to either "fix" or rebuild the roof in/by 2028. The shoring will reestablish the safety of the building, and the three years will allow us time to hire an architect, confirm building estimates, and fundraise.

All full members of the church are encouraged to attend and vote. A Zoom option will be available. More info will be shared via email prior to the meeting.

Holy Week 2025

at the United Methodist Church of New City



Palm Sunday (April 13): Hybrid worship (in-person and on Zoom) at 10:30am. Procession of the Palms--we'll start in the courtyard and process into the sanctuary.



Maundy Thursday (April 17): at our church 7:30 pm. Communion will be offered. Joint service with Congers & Pearl River UMCs.



Good Friday (April 18): at Congers UMC (3 Old Haverstraw Rd. Congers, NY). 7:00pm. Joint service with Congers & Pearl River UMCs



Easter Dawn Service (April 20): In-person only outside in our courtyard. 6:00am. Bring a breakfast item to share. Short service followed by food and fellowship.



Easter Celebration Service (April 20): Hybrid worship (in-person and on Zoom) at 10:30am. Children invited to stay in worship (no Sunday School). Easter Egg Hunt following worship for our kids

Our District Superintendent Rev William Williams III)



Pastor Amanda, Ken, and Janice attended our District's 'Service of Healing' in Paramus.



Women's History Month Worship with our Church and Society Committee. Thank you for a FABULOUS service, ladies!



Ash Wednesday service at
Pearl River UMC



BINGO!

