



New City United Methodist Church

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June 2026 from Pastor Amanda

Sometimes it's hard to see what's really happening when we're too close.

While at Annual Conference in Wildwood, I drove down to Cape May (my "happy place") and hung out at Sunset Beach as the sun descended and the world grew dark. On my way back to Wildwood, I decided to drive by the Cape May lighthouse. I was used to seeing the rotating beam from a distance, specifically from the cove, but I couldn't recall if I'd ever seen it up close at night. I drove into Cape May Point State Park, where the lighthouse lives, and there I stopped the car and stared, waiting to be blinded by the beam of light. But nothing happened. No blinding beam. I began to panic -- Did Cape May STOP using the lighthouse??? It was lit up at the top, and it looked like something was turning up there, but there was NO BEAM OF LIGHT! I was angry. I had watched that lighthouse blink from afar all my life, but it blinked no more. I drove away despondent.

I stopped the car one more time to look again, this time a couple blocks from the lighthouse. To my astonishment and relief, it was blinking! The beam was turning! It was as beautiful as ever and working just fine!

With all the times I've been to Cape May, and all the other lighthouses I've visited, you'd think I would have known you cannot see the rotating beam of light from below if you are too close. It was a lesson learned. And it got me to thinking . . .

Sometimes the beauty of what we're experiencing can only be fully grasped from a distance. Sometimes God's grace is like that, too. When we're in the thick of things, when we're too close to whatever it is we're dealing with, it can be hard to see God's hand. But when there's some distance between us and our troubles, we can then look back and notice little glimpses of grace that we somehow missed while in the trenches. God always sees "the big picture." We cannot. But that doesn't mean it isn't always there. Someday, we'll look back and see the beauty of it all.

Sometimes the light of Christ can only be seen at a distance. But to know it's there, all the time, whether we can see it or not (or feel it, or hear it, or sense it) -- that's what keeps us going.

As we venture into the summer months, remember that God always lights your way, even when all you can see is darkness. Remember the light of Christ is shining continuously.

And look for lighthouses!

Peace Pastor Amanda

Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi



Seen at Annual Conference, Wildwood,NJ





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 ~~June 7th~~. 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.

Annual Conference



2026 Monthly Missions



JANUARY Hudson Valley Humane Society



FEBRUARY Black History Month. MLK Jr. Multipurpose Center



MARCH Nyack's Health Lifeline Clinic



APRIL Earth Day month World Wildlife Fund



MAY World Hunger Month Spring Valley UMC Food Program



JUNE Rockland's Pride Center



JULY New City's Center for Safety and Change- a haven and advocacy center



AUGUST Mercy Ships bring Healthcare to the poorest areas



SEPTEMBER Nanuet's Foundation Recovery Community Center



OCTOBER UNICEF- help families in need worldwide



NOVEMBER Project Joy- gifts for Rockland County Children



DECEMBER Autism Research Institute



**NEW CITY UMC JUNE
MONTHLY MISSION:**

Rockland County **PRIDE CENTER**



WHAT IS THE ROCKLAND COUNTY PRIDE CENTER?

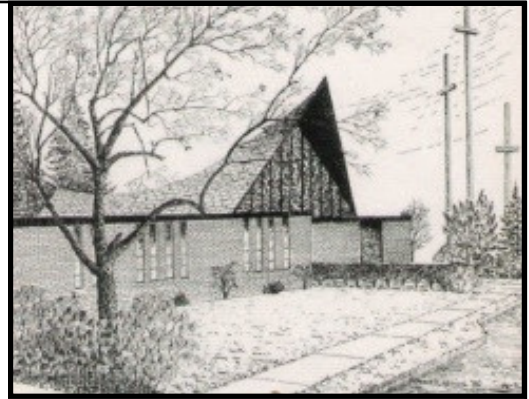
THE ROCKLAND COUNTY PRIDE CENTER IS A 501(C)(3) LGBTQ+ (LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, AND QUEER) COMMUNITY CENTER WITH A JUSTICE FOCUSED MISSION. THE CENTER STRIVES TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF LGBTQ+ PEOPLE BY CREATING LOW COST/FREE EVENTS, SUPPORT GROUPS, SENIOR DROP-INS, YOUTH GROUPS, AND REFERRALS (LEGAL, MENTAL HEALTH, HOUSING, ETC).

HOW TO DONATE:

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE OUT TO THE NEW CITY UMC WITH "JUNE MISSION" OR "PRIDE CENTER" IN THE MEMO LINE OR YOU CAN DONATE AT NEWCITYUMC.ORG

Worship Service Time:

10:30am Both in-person in Fellowship Hall and on Zoom



Worship/Sermon Topics

We continue into June with our "Forgotten Books of the Bible" series. Join us!

June 7 : 2nd Sunday after Pentecost; "Forgotten Books of the Bible" - Week 4; Sacrament of Holy Communion; Food Pantry Sunday

June 14: 3rd Sunday after Pentecost; Guest preacher/worship leader (Pastor Amanda at Trinity Hackettstown for LGBTQ+ educational event)

June 21: 4th Sunday after Pentecost; Father's Day; "Forgotten Books of the Bible" - Week 5

June 28: 5th Sunday after Pentecost; "Forgotten Books of the Bible" - Final Week

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



Children's Church Table

We're trying something new for our youngest worshippers this year. We're calling it the "Children's Church Table."

Our children (pre-k through 6th grade) will be invited to move to the Children's Church Table in the "narthex" (area just outside Fellowship Hall) after the Children's Message in worship. A Table "Host" will join them, and there they'll find activities geared toward the worship theme of the day. If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer as a "Host," please speak with Pastor Amanda. Thank you to all our "hosts" and families!

Volunteer Opportunities

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

Hooray for Fellowship Hour! Thank you to Joanne Hegarty who leads this important ministry. And thank you to all who set up, clean up, bake, and purchase goodies! To offer your time and talents, speak with Joanne or sign up on the Fellowship Hour sign-up sheet after worship.

Important Dates

Monday, June 1 - Line Dancing w/Lyn (see p 11)

Wednesday, June 3 - Trustees Meeting on Zoom, 7:30pm

Sunday, June 7 - Church Council Meeting 9am on Zoom

Sunday, June 14 - Church Pride Sunday in Nyack (see below); Political Talk & Action Group Meeting (see p 10)

Friday, June 19 - Juneteenth

Sunday, June 21 - Father's Day



June 14 is Pride Sunday! The Rockland County UMCs are joining together to host a table at the Nyack event and march in the parade. To be involved in either/both, reach out to Pastor Amanda for info.

Politics can be holy, too, when centered in Jesus Christ.

We are faced with crazy times in which the church in the United States is often used to promote what is wrong rather than what is right. Let's change that.

Join with other UMCs of Rockland in this collaborative meeting to establish ways of being involved politically, with Jesus as our guide.



This is NOT Christian Nationalism; this is CHRISTIANITY, where the downtrodden are uplifted and we love all neighbors as we want to be loved ourselves.

JOIN US!

Sunday, June 14. 6:30pm - 8:30pm.

**at the Thiells-Garnerville UMC, 102 Rosman Road,
Thiells, NY.**

**BUILD THE ROOF.
BLESS OUR COMMUNITY.**

*Dancing
= on the =
Ceiling*



BEGINNER LINE DANCING LESSONS

\$15
PER CLASS



1st & 3rd Mondays



7:00 - 8:30 pm

8:30 - 9:00 pm

Next level class +\$5



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NEW CITY

..... 76 CONGERS RD. • NEW CITY, NY

Instructor: Lyn Harper

- ★ No experience needed – just come ready to have fun!
- ★ Great exercise, great music, great community!



★ All are welcome! Bring a friend! ★

Tidings
Let's Celebrate Our
Graduates!



Are you or a loved one graduating (*middle school, high school, college, higher ed. or trade school*)? Congratulations! Fill out the following info, place this form in the offering plate, and our graduates will be celebrated in July's Tidings.

Your name: _____

Graduate's name: _____

Your relationship to the graduate: _____

Where are they graduating from? _____

With what degree/certificate? (if applicable) _____

Where are they attending next? (if applicable) _____

Completed forms/information due to the church office no later than June 22.

Jazz Concert Fundraiser with Albert Ahlf and the Ahlfabet Singers.
An incredible time!





