



New City United Methodist Church

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July 2026 from Pastor Amanda

As I'm writing this, Gregory and I just returned from a trip to the Bronx zoo with one of our thrift shop volunteers. Evelyn is a sassy, spunky Jew who has volunteered to run tours at the zoo once a week for the past 20+ years. As a volunteer, she gets some perks, which Greg and I had the luxury of enjoying today. We arrived (and entered) before the zoo officially opened, so our first hour was one of peace and quiet while getting an early view of the animals. Our entrance fee to the zoo, and to the add-ons we participated in, were all free. Our lunch was even heavily discounted, which we ate in the staff lounge. While eating, we enjoyed the company of a wildlife photographer, her oversized camera sitting on the table between us. Through it all, Evelyn was our personal tour guide. We felt like privileged, special people!

Which got me to thinking . . . Aren't we all privileged, special people? God is our personal tour guide wherever we go. There is plenty of free beauty to explore in nature. It doesn't cost a cent to sit outside, close our eyes, and listen to the sounds of the birds -- and what peace that can bring!

I'm so grateful to Evelyn for sharing her day with us and giving us the opportunities we experienced at the zoo. I'm also grateful to God that when we want to feel loved, cherished, SPECIAL, all we need to do is look toward the incredible creation God created. A deer in the woods can be just as splendid as a lion in a zoo exhibit, when we take the time to notice.

Though the gorillas DID take the cake today. They were magnificent!

Whatever you do this summer, do it with joy, whether you are privileged to participate in special encounters, or simply to put your bare feet in the cool grass of your own backyard.

Tidings

YOU are special.

We are all God's VIPs.

Peace,

Pastor Amanda



Birthdays...

July 1-Lupe E. Villanueva

July 2-Sachiko Soong

July 3-Benjamin Alexandro; Matthew McGuy

July 4-Nicole Rohrs Richey

July 10-Rev. Amanda Hemenetz

July 13-Frank Brooks, Jr.

July 16-Gayle Rasso

July 21-Doris Atzl

July 25-Norbert Rainford

July 20-Peter Alexandro; Konrad Soong

July 31-Donna Fimmano

Anniversaries...

July 3-Sue & Chuck Delo

July 5-Marcy & Omodele Akingboye

July 13-Sheila and Pat Conroy

July 19-Claire & Steve Seward

Prayers...

for Doug Caulk as he continues chemo;

for Ray Castel, as he recovers from his double lung transplant;

for Burt Renfroe as he has entered hospice care;

for Senya Renfroe and all those in nursing facilities;

for Gregory Hemenetz as he continues his rehab;

for Rita Negrón Maslanek following her back surgery;

for Konrad Soong and family at the deaths of his father and aunt;

for all those with cancer;

for the Suffern church as they have had their last service in their building;

for those facing or healing from surgery;

for caregivers;

for those experiencing summer illness;

for all who mourn;

for those on dialysis;

for those who consider, attempt, or complete suicide and their families;

for Venezuela after the earthquakes;

for natural disaster in other parts of the world;

for our students, teachers, and families as they begin their summers;

for peace on earth.





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 August 2nd. 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.

Thrift shop visitors



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's July Mission:

Center for Safety and Change

Since 1979, the Center for Safety and Change has provided a round-the-clock safe haven for families in crisis. As Rockland's only victim-centered non-profit, they offer free, confidential, and life-changing services for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking.

To donate to this cause, please write "July Mission" or "Center for Safety and Change" in the memo line of your check and put it in the offering plate or donate at newcityumc.org



Worship Service Time:

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

**Worship/Sermon Topics**

During the summer months, we will be enjoying spiritual reflections from the book "Jesus Calling" by Sarah Young, with accompanying scriptures and sermons. "Jesus Calling" has been acclaimed as one of the most influential spiritual writings of the modern era, selling over 50 million copies worldwide and being translated into 35 different languages.

July 5: Stars and Stripes and Human Rights! Celebration of 4th of July. Here from a number of churchgoers as they reflect on human rights championed by Jesus. Sacrament of Holy Communion. Food Pantry Sunday.

July 12: 7th Sunday after Pentecost; "Jesus Calling" - Week 1

July 19: 8th Sunday after Pentecost; "Jesus Calling" - Week 2

July 26: 9th Sunday after Pentecost; Pastor Amanda on vacation; Norma Christian preaching/leading worship

Pastor Amanda upcoming vacation days:

Pastor Amanda will be on vacation from the afternoon of Sunday July 19 - Monday July 27, and then again from the afternoon of Sunday August 2 - Monday August 10.

Pastor Woo Lim Kwak will be available for pastoral care emergencies during the July dates. His cell: 908-922-6673. Rev. Gabrielle Corbett will provide coverage for the August dates. Her cell: 201-410-6518.

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!

Important Dates

Wednesday, July 1 - Trustees Meeting on Zoom, 7:30pm

Saturday, July 4 - Fourth of July

Sunday, July 5 - Stars, Stripes, and Human Rights! (see p 7)

Monday, July 6 and 13 - Line Dancing w/Lyn (see p 10)

Sunday, July 12 - Church Council Meeting on Zoom, 9:00am; Building Committee Meeting after worship

Sunday, July 19 - Monday, July 27 - Pastor Amanda vacation days (see p 7)

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.

Altar Flowers - Volunteer to provide flowers for our altar for worship! What you bring is up to you. It's also up to you whether you take them home again, offer them to a churchgoer, or leave them for Pastor Amanda to distribute. The first Sunday of each month is already taken! To volunteer, speak with Pastor Amanda. Also needed - someone to head up this ministry, make sign-up sheets, etc.

Membership/Directory Assistance - We are need of one or two people to help with contacts toward our new Directory. We've been working on this for quite some time, and we'd love to have it ready for this year's holiday season. Volunteers reach out with phone calls & emails to confirm info and check on those we haven't seen a while. If interested, please speak with Pastor Amanda.

Fellowship Hour

FELLOWSHIP HOUR THANK YOU! Fellowship Hour is now on break for the summer. THANK YOU to all who baked, bought, set-up, and cleaned up for this important ministry! Thank you especially to Joanne Hegarty for chairing this initiative, and to Sue Delo for being our coffee maker extraordinaire!

**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!



Yay, Graduates! We congratulate all those celebrating educational milestones!

From Middle School

Kate Nolan - from Pearl River Middle School. Going to Pearl River High School.

Graduating High School

Brianna Atzl -- from Clarkstown South High School. Going to Rockland Community College.

Ethan Kemp (Pastor Amanda & George's nephew) -- from New Bern High School. Going to Craven Community College.

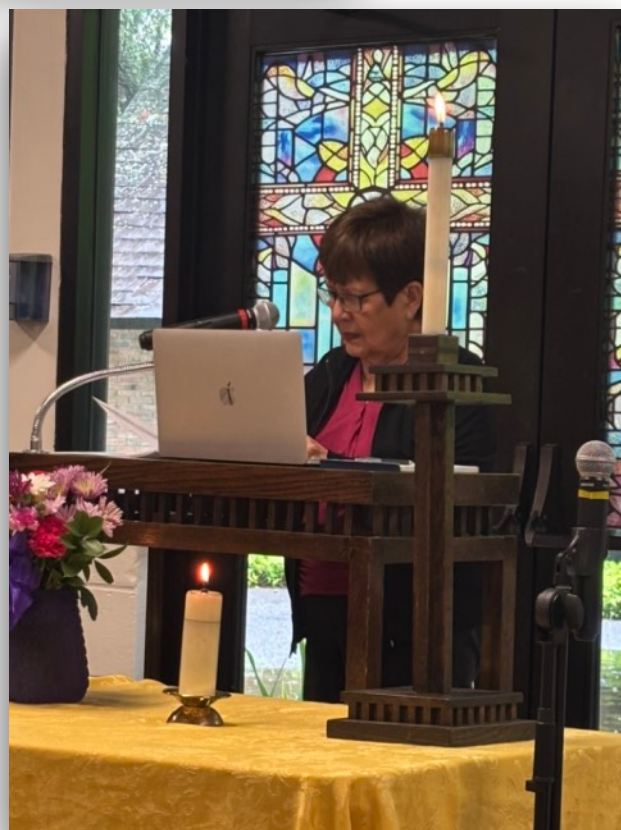
Kalia Soong-- from Clarkstown South High School. Going to George Washington University.

Graduating College and Higher Education

Shana Christian -- from Fordham University with a Bachelors of Science degree.

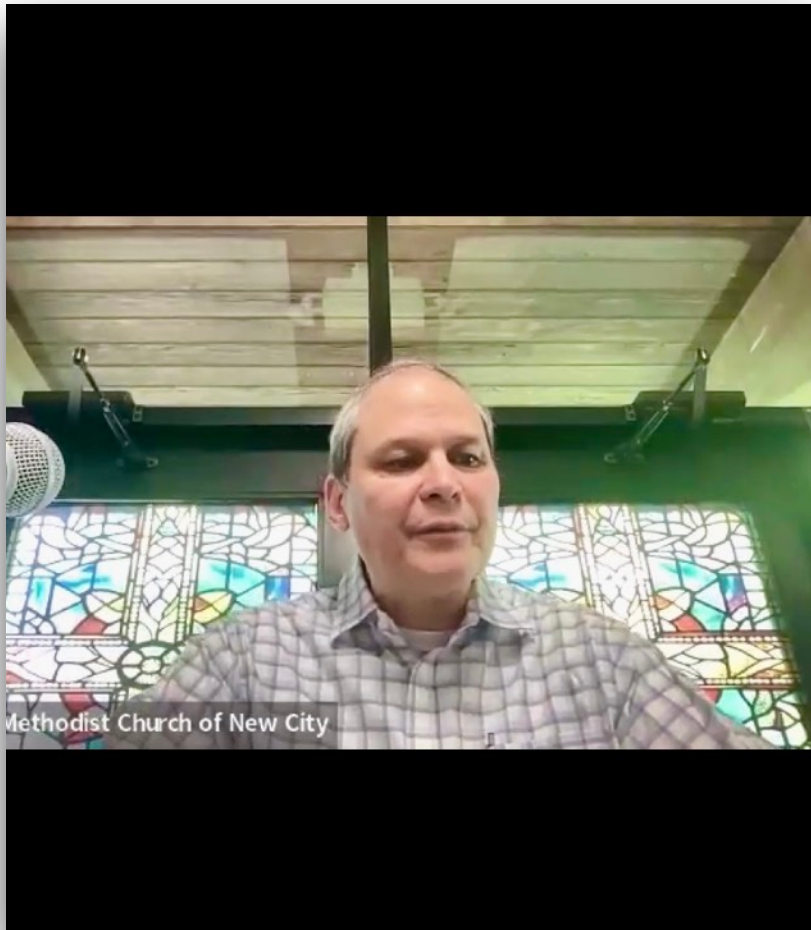
George Hemenetz, III -- from William Paterson University with a Bachelors of Science in Financial Planning.

Jonathan Troia (grandson of Judy & Joe Troia) -- from Belmont University with a Bachelors of Arts in Music, Business, & Law.





Konrad preaching



Thanks for singing, Tiger!



Pastor Amanda at Trinity UMC in Hackettstown, NJ for Pride presentation (with Rev. Deb De Vos)



Father's Day Worship



Line Dancing w/ Lyn

