



New City United Methodist Church

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August 2026 from Pastor Amanda

Gregory and I had a lovely trip down to Florida to throw a 90th birthday party for my dad's Aunt Marge. The ride down was pleasant. The ride back was, too. While in Florida, we stayed at the Lodge at Wakulla Springs, located in a state park showcasing the biggest natural spring in the world. We took the boat ride, saw numerous alligators and five manatees, swam in the spring, watching the jumping mullet, and had a wonderful time. The only damper on our trip - Tropical Storm Bertha.

Bertha decided to get a bit closer to the Florida panhandle than was expected, and she stayed around for a little longer than expected, too. When I say "torrential rain," I mean it. And that torrential rain came just as we arrived at the restaurant, with Aunt Marge in tow, for her 90th birthday party. As the ankle-deep water rushed through the parking lot, I realized there was no way to get Aunt Marge out of the car and into her wheelchair without her having to step in the water. She didn't mind getting wet, but I thought it was terrible. I'd driven all the way down to Florida to make sure my beloved Aunt Marge had a 90th birthday celebration, and I couldn't even keep her feet dry! I cringed as she stood to pivot her way toward her wheelchair. Her feet hit the water with a splash and disappeared beneath the deluge, the waterline over her ankles. Her slipper socks and shoes were completely soaked. What a way to enter your 90th birthday party!

But she didn't care. Though I was mortified, she was all smiles. She entered the restaurant, complete with sash and tiara, greeted her friends, and laughed through dinner. I was soaked. Greg was soaked. Aunt Marge's friends' comment to us northerners - "Welcome to Florida!"

I was so preoccupied worrying about Aunt Marge's uncomfortable feet that I was having trouble enjoying dinner. Everyone else seemed to be having a good time, including Aunt Marge, but I was stuck on what had gone wrong. Until I remembered -- Aunt Marge has substantial neuropathy. SHE CAN'T FEEL HER FEET. She wasn't acting uncomfortable with wet feet because she couldn't feel them.

On realizing I was worried about a literal non-issue, I relaxed and enjoyed our time together. I even laughed about our ordeal in the rain.

Sometimes the difficulties of life arrive unexpectedly. Sometimes they slow us down. Sometimes they shake us up. But there is always either a silver lining (if you recognize it), or something better around the corner. That is one of the lessons of the cross and the empty tomb. To stay stuck in that which is wrong is to miss that which is right -- there is always something to be thankful for, something to enjoy, something to celebrate. Sometimes, there is even cause to celebrate neuropathy!

We've endured many storms lately, but we're still here; and if we're still here, there is reason to celebrate. So notice the good, celebrate the milestones, and find those silver linings even in the midst of the storms. Even if you have to get your feet wet.

Happy August!

Peace,

Pastor Amanda





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.



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 August Mission: **Mercy Ships**

People around the world are suffering from treatable diseases because of the lack of access to medical care. Mercy ships are floating hospitals staffed with volunteer surgeons and medical staff. Professionals provide life saving treatment for the sick and training for the local health care workers.



To donate to this cause please write “August Mission “ or “Mercy Ships” in the memo on your check or donate online on our church website 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.

Aug 2: 10th Sunday after Pentecost; "Jesus Calling" - Week 3

Aug 9: 11th Sunday after Pentecost; Pastor Amanda on vacation; Ray Boyd preaching/leading worship

Aug 16: 12 Sunday after Pentecost; "Jesus Calling" - Week 4

Aug 23: 13th Sunday after Pentecost; "Jesus Calling" - Week 5

Aug 30: 14th Sunday after Pentecost; "Jesus Calling" - Week 6

Pastor Amanda upcoming vacation days:

Pastor Amanda will be on vacation from the afternoon of Sunday August 2 - Monday August 10.

Rev. Gabrielle Corbett will provide coverage. 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

Sunday, August 2 - Monday, August 10 - Pastor Amanda vacation days (see p 7)

Monday, August 3 - Line Dancing w/Lyn 7:00pm in Fellowship Hall (see p 10)

Wednesday, August 12 - Trustees Meeting on Zoom, 7:30pm.

Sunday, August 16 - Church Council Meeting on Zoom, 9:00am.

Monday, August 17 - Line Dancing w/Lyn 7:00pm in Fellowship Hall (see p 10)

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! ★

Notes received

From the Hudson Valley Humane Society -

Thank you for supporting the Hudson Valley Humane Society. 100% (of donations) are dedicated to our veterinary expenses. It is because of your generosity, combined with our voluntary staff, that we are able to help our animals. The HVHS has been serving Rockland County for more than 135 years and we could not exist without your kindness.



From Mary and Dick Witford (along with a generous donation to our sanctuary fund) -

Hearing the sanctuary will be saved brought joyous tears to my eyes. So many memories of the 40 plus years we have with this church always deepens our faith, makes our hearts smile and reminds us how blessed we are even in some challenging times.

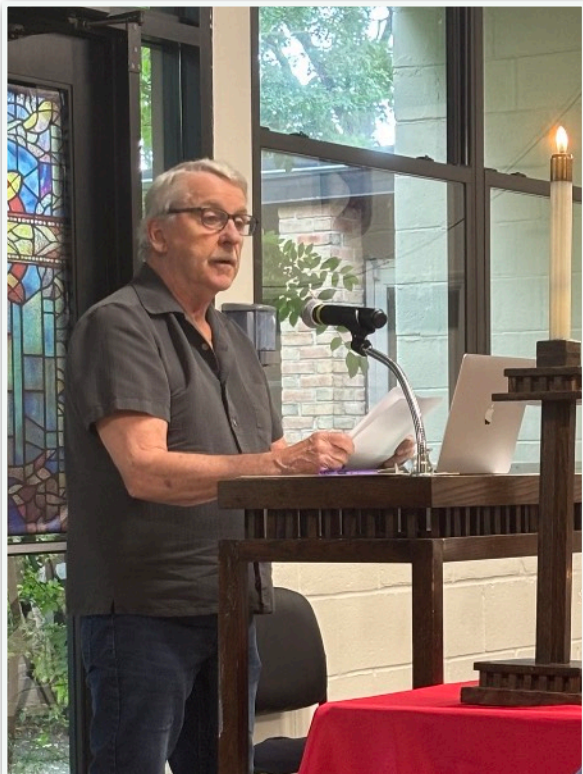
Sharing what we love about our country

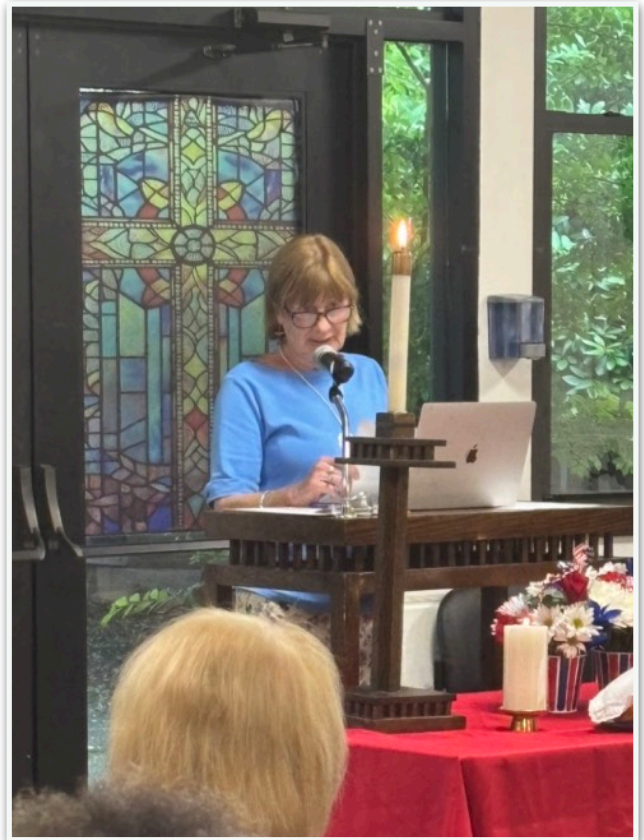
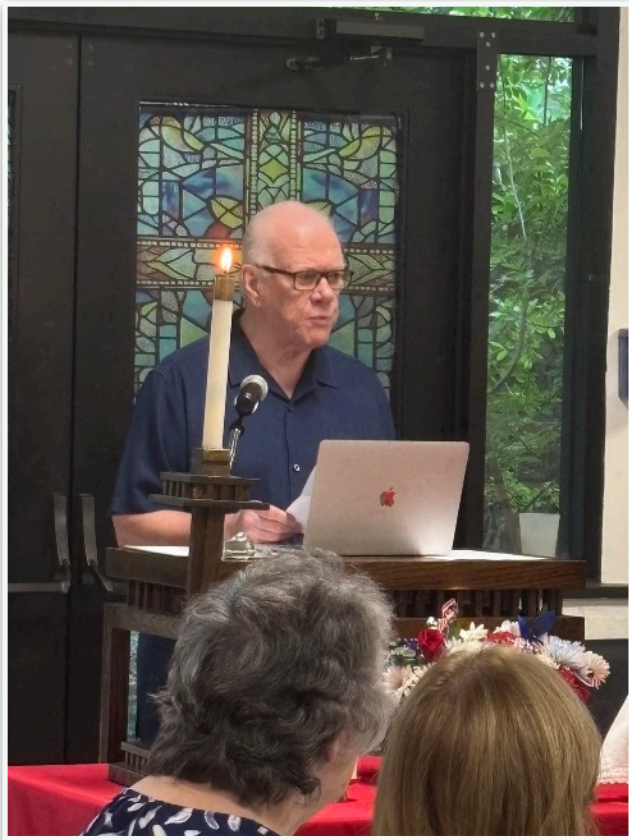


thrift shop mascot



Speakers for 'Stars, Stripes, and Human Rights!'
Thank you Norma, Rita, Chuck, Beverly, Jeannine, Maureen, and Bill!





Line Dancing w/Lyn



Thank you for singing, Jennifer!



Muriel's olive and fig tree looking fabulous

