

Castile United Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 512 Castile, NY 14427  
Church Phone: 585-493-2840  
Church E-Mail: Castile\_UCC@yahoo.com  
Pastor: Tammy Lathan  
Pastor Tammy's Cell Phone: 585-969-0695  
United Flyer Editor: Marlene Loomis



April 2026

"United Flyer"

A large heart-shaped graphic with a silver border. Inside the heart, there is a wooden cross surrounded by a bouquet of purple lilies and lavender flowers. Several purple butterflies are scattered around the flowers. To the right of the heart, there is a list of phrases in a purple, cursive font, each preceded by a small purple butterfly icon.

Happy moments,   
*Praise God.*

Difficult moments,  
 *Seek God.*

Quiet moments,  
*Worship God.*

Painful moments,  
 *Trust God.*

Every moment,  
*Thank God.*

D. James Kennedy

For many centuries the men and women in Europe looked out upon the western sea, what we call the Atlantic Ocean, and they saw the sun sparkling upon the glittering surface of the waters and they wondered.

**They wondered if there was anything beyond.**

Scholars said that you could sail off the edge of the world—there was nothing out there at all. In fact, inscribed on the finger plate of the coat of arms of the nation of Spain was its national motto, 'Ne Plus Ultra', meaning, "There is nothing beyond."

One day Columbus went westering on the shiny waters. He sailed off into the sunset as people waited expectantly, and finally after a long time the sails reappeared and the crowds were elated. They shouted with joy, and Columbus announced that there was a land beyond the sea that was rich beyond their dreams. The king of Spain changed the motto of that land until it reads as it does today, "Plus Ultra," meaning, '*There Is More Beyond*'.

For many centuries countless people stood beside the dark hole that we call a grave and watched the remains of their loved ones lowered into the earth, and they wondered: Beyond the dark waters of death, is there anything beyond?

Then one day, a young explorer went westering into the setting sun and descended into the blackness of the pit. He sailed off the edge of the world and crashed into hell. Finally on this Resurrection morning, as the sun arose in the East, the Son of God stepped forth from a grave and declared, "**There is something beyond.**" There is a paradise beyond your greatest expectations. And there awaits a heavenly Father, waiting with outstretched arms to wipe away every tear from your cheek."

**Lenten Fireside Chats**

at 6:00 PM on Facebook



**"Lent in Plain Sight"**  
by Jill J. Duffield

In this devotional for the season of Lent, Jill draws readers attention to ten ordinary objects that Jesus would have encountered on his way to Jerusalem.

Each week, readers encounter a new object to consider through Scripture, prayer, and reflection to open ourselves to the kingdom of God.

**Wed., March 25 at 6:00 PM** on Facebook

**Wed., April 1 at 6:00 PM** on Facebook

(Final 2026 Lenten Fireside Chat)

**Church Directory**

**Pastor: Tammy Lathan**

**Pastor Tammy's Winter Office Hours:**

**Tuesday & Thursdays: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**Wednesdays – By Appointment**

**Pastor Tammy's Cell: (585) 969-0695**

**Church Phone: (585) 493-2840**

**Church E-mail: [Castile\\_UCC@yahoo.com](mailto:Castile_UCC@yahoo.com)**

**Website: [www.castileucc.com](http://www.castileucc.com)**

**Administrative Coord.: Marlene Loomis – 493-2968**

**Church Moderator: Dennis Miller – 233-8933**

**Bd. of Elder Chair: Cindy Feroletto – 493-2696**

**Bd. of Trustees Chair: Scott Chamberlain – 752-3454**

**Custodian: Leilani Helmer – 813-4164**

**Director of Music: Barbara Meyer – 322-7396**

**Supt. of Build/Grounds: Greg VanSlyke – 493-5874**

## Facebook Live

Most of our worship services can be viewed on Castile UCC Facebook Live or you can view it anytime at your leisure for up to 30 days.

### **FACEBOOK Volunteers Needed: FREE TRAINING**

The Board of Elders are looking for volunteers to help with the Sunday morning FACEBOOK recording of our Worship Service. If you would be willing to help out, please contact Pastor Tammy. Thank you!



## Newsletter Deadline

All newsletter articles for the "United Flyer" are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month and are at the discretion of the church office. We welcome your submissions.



## April Preaching Schedule

Sun. 5 – Easter Sunday – "HE IS RISEN"  
Sun. 12 – Second Sunday of Easter  
Sun. 19 – Third Sunday of Easter  
Sun. 26 – Fourth Sunday of Easter



### Upcoming Easter Events

Sun., March 29 – Palm Sunday  
"Blessed is He That Cometh"



Thur., April 2 – Maundy Thursday  
6:30 PM – Tureen Dinner

(Please bring a dish to pass, your own table service and a beverage.)

7:15 PM- Sanctuary Program featuring  
Jackie Swaby



Sun., April 5 – Easter Sunday  
10:00 AM

(In person and Facebook Live)  
No Sunday School so that families  
may worship together.



## Sunday Brunch

Sun., April 12

Hosted by Colleen Bean, Jeff Mattingly, Beth Pond  
& Bonnie Stenshorn



## Clerks Record

### Deaths:

**Donald Johns** - Feb. 13, 2026 (Donna James's father)

**Jackie Gelser** - Feb. 21, 2026

**Mona Kenyon** - March 5, 2026 (M. Loomis's sister)  
(Memorial Service will be held on April 11, 2026)



## Church Council Meeting

Sun., April 19 – Church Council Meeting

Please have your reports in to the church office  
by Wed., April 15 to be copied.



## Pastoral Search Committee

### Committee members:

Cindy Feroletto – Co-Chair - Elders

Bonnie Miller – Co-Chair - Missions

Scott Chamberlain – Trustees

Linda Little – Music Committee

Julia Foote – Bd. of Christian Education

Brooke VanEpps – Stewardship

Michelle Post – Women's Fellowship

Marlene Loomis will serve as an ex-officio member  
with no voting rights. She will be the contact  
person between the UCC and our church.

## Christian Education News

### **SERMONS4KIDS**

You can also check out the weekly lessons by logging on to **Sermons4Kids Schedule**:

**Sun. April 5 – “I’ve Just Seen Jesus” (Easter)**

**NO Sunday School**

**Sun. April 12 – “Doubting Thomas”**

**Sun. April 19 – “The Road to Emmaus”**

**Sun. April 26 – “The Good Shepard’s Voice”**



The next Youth Group meeting has not been scheduled at the time of this printing. Please watch for it in the Sunday announcements.



### **Thank You’s**

**To the Castile UCC Handbell and Church choir** for working so hard to bring us all of the special music during Lent and preparing for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Easter. 🎵

**To Eastern Rural Roman Catholic Community of the Diocese of Buffalo** (Now known as Fields of Grace) for their recent donation of **\$360.11 to our Church’s Food Pantry.**

**To Fran Priestly** for knitting another 12 Baby Hats.

**To Beverly Edwards** for returning another \$50.45 in pop cans.

**To Sheri Brandes** for donating another quilt to raffle for our May Breakfast.



## Missions News

**Latest Scrap Metal total: \$60.00.** Thank you to Chuck Klein for taking care of this.

### **Scrap Metal Mission**

- cast iron • copper • stainless steel • steel • brass
- aluminum • lawn mowers • electric motors • old machinery • power tools • hand tools • batteries

**NO:** T.V.’s, computers, air conditioners, freezer, refrigerators (nothing with Freon in it.)

**Contact Chuck Klein at 567-8204 for pick up.**



### **Castile UCC Food Pantry**

The Food Pantry is open to any resident in the Town of Castile and **may be visited monthly.**

Contact the church office at 493-2840 to set up an appointment.

Please double check the bulletin board in the Embling Dining Hall for the current list of items needed for the Food Pantry.

Thank you to all who help pack food, shop and financially donate to our pantry.

***A Special Thank you to Jenifer Wallace for doing all of the Food Pantry Shopping.***



### **Board of Trustees News**

#### **Church Rental Fees**

**Member Fee: \$50.00**

**Non-Members Fee: \$100.00**

This includes use of the church dining room, kitchen facilities, handicap lift and bathroom.

**NOTE: If you rent the church, you will need to take your trash home with you. Thank you!**

**St. Pauly’s Shed: \$96.89.**

**What to Donate:** Used clothing, shoes, belts, purses, linens, blankets, curtains, and stuffed animals.

**What NOT to Donate:** Furniture, electronics, household items.

## April Birthdays

1 - Christopher McNamara  
4 - Nancy Gebauer  
8 - Tom Scott  
10 - Matthew Andrews  
10 - Anthony Feroletto  
12 - Noah Chamberlain  
13 - Dennis Miller  
15 - Beth Pond  
16 - Ronald Ikeler  
19 - Mya Edwards  
19 - Weston Weaver Jr.  
20 - Bill Dake  
20 - Stella Shappy  
21 - Roxanna Backer  
23 - Beverly Edwards  
28 - Barbara Meyer  
29 - Brooke VanEpps



## Parables of the Bible

### **The Good Samaritan** (Luke 10:25-37)



Lately, I have been meditating on the Parable of the Good Samaritan. The context of the story stems from a lawyer (someone schooled in the many Jewish laws) who asked Jesus, “Who is my neighbor?” If I dismiss the lawyer and Jesus to focus on the parable itself, there are five roles:

1. The traveler who is robbed, beaten, and left for dead. 2. The thieves. 3. The two men who passed by—both having essentially the same role as religious leaders (a priest and a Levite). 4. The Samaritan, and 5. The host of the inn.

Jesus invites the lawyer to put himself in the role of the Samaritan, the one who rescued the beaten man. This is notable because the people of Samaria were in a culture war with the mainstream Jewish people. The Jewish people in power saw the Samaritans as being of mixed race and practicing an impure version of Judaism. The auditor/reader seems to have two choices: be like the hypocritical religious leaders or be like the humble Samaritan.

But we also have other roles depicted in this parable that we might adopt. At times we are the man beaten and robbed, near death. We are vulnerable to the world, and—God willing—a Samaritan comes to our aid.

We are also, on our very worst days, the thieves. How might we rob people and victimize them, even if it’s with a microaggression or with neglect? We might rationalize that others deserve our scorn or neglect. Can we invite the spirit to root out contention and recognize our responsibility to care for others? True, we do not have enough time and energy to minister to everyone. But we can certainly work to do no harm.

Finally, are we the host at the inn? We might be occupied with responsibilities with family, school, work (volunteer or paid), and self-care. However, we might receive an unexpected invitation to care for another because a Good Samaritan invites us help someone in need.

I know that I am more willing to accept an assignment if I volunteer. If it’s someone else’s idea, I often find myself declining out of a strong need to be my own boss. I need to remember the host of this inn and how he accepted the assignment to nurse the beaten man back to health. The Samaritan even gave him extra resources (money) to fulfill this assignment. We do not get to see what happens next, but the parable implies that the host fulfilled his duty and that the man beaten and robbed returned to health.



## Women's Fellowship

Our Mission Statement: "Through the belief in our Living God, our mission is to reach out and support families and individuals in need, by sharing ideas and creativity, using our time and talents to strengthen ties in the community."

**2026 Chairperson:** Michelle Post  
**Co-Secretaries:** Marcy VanZandt & Joan Maddison  
**Correspondence:** Carol Becker & Beth Pond  
**Treasurer:** Cindy Feroletto

### Home Touch Newsletter

This is a monthly newsletter filled with puzzles, scriptures, Bible stories, etc.



If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please contact the church.

### Cabin Fever Totals:

We served 93 people  
Basket Raffle: \$1,015.00 Quilt: \$250.00  
Cabin Fever Dinner: \$1,061.00

Thank you to all who donated, served & attended.



## Remembrance Sunday

On **Sunday, May 17, 2026** during our 10:00 AM Worship Service we will be holding our annual Remembrance Sunday.

If you would like to add a loved one who has passed in the last year, please contact Marlene Loomis at the church office.



### This is our current list:

Daniel Barber	Joan M. Coffey
Kathleen Cooley	Barbara Dwire
Joyce Everingham	Terry Frank
Jackie Gelser	Edward James
Donald Johns	Mona Kenyon
Alvis O'Connor	Mabel Paul
Marsha Redden	Robert Scott, Jr.
Marian Seymour	Charlotte Wallace



## Wyo. County Community Warming Center

We are proud to announce that we are able to operate an overnight warming center in Perry, NY at the Brick Presbyterian Church located at 6 Church Street in Perry, NY.

They will operate on an on-demand basis during CODE BLUE conditions.

### The typical hours of operation:

Monday – Friday 8:00 AM- 8:00 PM,  
Saturday 2:00 PM through Monday at 8:00 AM.  
If someone you know needs a warm place to stay, please contact 585-340-1355.



## Military Personal Addresses

### Lt. Col. Michael McLaughlin

7184 Sky Meadow Drive  
College Grove, TN 37046

### Page, Christopher Michael

3742 Patriot Drive  
Apt. 201 Mail Box 5  
Abilene, Texas 74606

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Briana Miller (NEW)

507 Marlandwood Rd  
Apt. 1801 Temple, Texas 76502

### SGT Nathan Scott

110 Vibbert Avenue Box 53476  
Fort Moore, GA 31995

### Chief Petty Officer Joshua Soble

2726 Trojan Ct.  
Lenmore, CA 93245



### Colonel Sara Torres

11537 Laurel Lake Square  
Fairfax, VA 22030

### OC Torres, Magali (NEW)

OCS Class No 11-26  
Officer Training Command Newport  
1356 Meyerkord Av.  
Newport, RI 02841-1644

**Christopher Meyer** \*\*No address at this time.

# 13<sup>th</sup> Annual May Breakfast



Friday, May 1, 2026  
from 7:00-9:00 AM!



Menu: Sausage, French Toast, Home Fries,  
Scrambled Eggs, Baked Oatmeal,  
Sweet Rolls, Coffee, Tea, Juices  
& REAL MAPLE SYRUP

Tickets are: Adults: \$10.00 Children: \$5.00  
Pre-school – Free



## A Grounding Place

In the stillness of the pews,  
hearts find solace,

A refuge from life's tumultuous flow.

Church stands as an anchor, a blessed grace,  
Where souls seek respite  
and God's presence know.

For within these walls, whispers of peace thrive,  
Melodies of faith whispering through souls.

A sanctuary where weary spirits revive,  
Church binds us close to our purposeful goals.

From Sunday's embrace to each week anew,  
Church, a grounding place guiding us through.

Poet: Catherine Pulsifer



## Castile Library's Tea Party

Saturday, May 2, 2026

at 11:00 AM

at the Castile United Church of Christ

Tickets available at the Castile Library and all  
proceeds benefit the Castile Library.

The 2026 American Girl Doll of the Year is:

**Raquel Reyes**

Raquel Reyes is an adventurous, music-loving ten-year-old from Kansas City, Missouri. Raquel is both creative and courageous, with dreams of DJing at her family's paleta shop, "Paleta-Palooza." An exciting summer journey leads her to the East Coast for her cousin's wedding, family reunions, and a heartfelt quest to reconnect with her cousin Sloan.

Along the way, Raquel embraces her family heritage and the importance of animal rescue, and uncovers her great-great-grandmother Samantha Parkington's™ diary, connecting past and present in a powerful tale about family ties and taking pride in who you are.

