



June 2026 Newsletter

***Our Mission:** The Presbytery of Geneva lives to support and equip congregations and leaders to be Christ in the Finger Lakes and the world.*

***Our Vision:** Radiating the light of Christ, the Presbytery of Geneva thrives as a community of servants, lifting up every congregation and leader in ministering together.*

The purpose of the newsletter is to announce upcoming events and opportunities sponsored by the Presbytery, its congregations, the Synod of the Northeast, the PC(USA), neighboring presbyteries, and partner agencies. If you have an item for the July newsletter, please send the information to officeadmin@presbyteryofgeneva.org by **June25, 2026.**



Happy June

AS YOU CELEBRATE THE BLESSINGS OF JUNE,
MAY YOU ALSO CELEBRATE THE GIFT OF GOD'S
LOVE. FOR YOU!

Worship Through Music

"The Spark that Starts the Fire"

United Church Of Painted Post

201 N. Hamilton St. Painted Post, NY

Sunday, June 7, 2026 1-4PM

Yard
Games

Outside Yard

Maranatha Mobile DJ Service

Free to the Public

Bring a Chair or Stand & Dance

Free
Bounce
House

Featuring
Ray's Mobile Food Truck
for Purchase

Face
Painting

Sponsored By The United Church of Painted Post, YAW Automation,
Carpenter's, Phillip's, & Flint Funeral Homes

FREE COMMUNITY DINNER

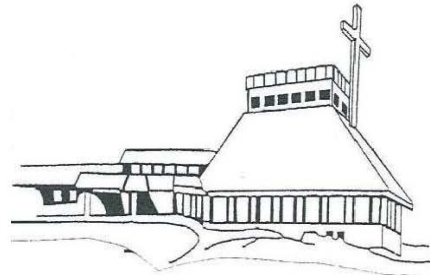


**BBQ Chicken Sandwich, Macaroni Salad,
Baked Beans, Dessert, Beverage**

Friday, June 12

4:30-6:00 PM

(dine in only, no takeout)



**First Presbyterian Church of Horseheads
2943 Westinghouse Road**

Upstate NY Presbyteries Event September 25-26, 2026,

SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars, Presbyterians! You won't want to miss what's coming. September 25-26, 2026 at the Presbyterian Church in Geneva, NY: Six Presbyteries, Andrew Root, Learning, Fellowship, Music, and More!

More details are coming soon, so save the dates and check out the next newsletter for more information.



From the Hector Presbyterian Church:

Hi Folks - We are wondering if any of the Churches in the Geneva Presytery are looking to sell or re-home any "Glory to God" Hymnals.

Regards,
Susan Rocholl
Clerk of Session

You can reach Susan at: hnrocholl@aol.com

**OAKS CORNERS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

(5 miles north of Geneva on County Road 6, Pre-Emption Road)

RUMMAGE SALE
(in the Hitching Shed)



FRIDAY-JUNE 12th, 2026 9:00 A.M.- 3:00 P.M.
SATURDAY- JUNE 13th, 2026 9:00A.M.-3:00PM

(Bag Sale -Sat.-Noon to 3:00pm)

Come & browse-something for everyone!

For information contact:

Dawn Durso - 941-412-5113

Sherrill Smith - 315-730-2464

Laura Rogers - 315-730-4554

WAITING, WITNESS AND THE WAY OF CHRIST

REIMAGINING THE CHURCH'S CALLING

Two days of learning, fellowship, and music.



Featuring Speaker: Andrew Root

Carrie Olson Baalson Professor of Youth and Family Ministry at Luther Seminary. Author of over a dozen books including "Evangelism in the Age of Despair."

September 25-26, 2026

The Presbyterian Church in Geneva
24 Park Place
Geneva, NY 14456

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE



SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER



\$75.00 per person

includes conference registration,
Friday dinner, Saturday lunch
and a walking exhibit by
The Presbyterian Historical Society

HOTEL INFO



Brought to you by the Presbyteries of: Cayuga-Syracuse, Genesee Valley, Geneva, Susquehanna Valley, Utica and Western New York

Rooted in Hope

Equipping Leaders for
Ministry with Older Adults

OLDER ADULT MINISTRY CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 15-18, 2026 KNOXVILLE, TN



Registration Open for 2026 Conference

Join with colleagues around the United States in Knoxville this fall for an inspiring conference focusing on older adult ministry. Whether you are a member of the clergy, a lay leader, a volunteer, or an older adult yourself, you will find plenty to learn.

[VIEW SCHEDULE AND SESSIONS](#)

Meeting Facility

POAMN is happy to partner with churches in Knoxville to present the 2026 conference. Our event will be held at First Presbyterian Church in downtown Knoxville, with support by Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Church.

First Presbyterian Church
620 State Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

Conference Hotel

If you need lodging while attending the conference, comfortable rooms are available at the Courtyard by Marriott, just one block from First Presbyterian. We have negotiated reduced rates for conference attendees.

Courtyard by Marriott Knoxville Downtown
210 West Church Avenue
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

[VIEW HOTEL RATES](#)

Save on Registration

Save on your registration cost by registering on or before August 10 and becoming a POAMN member. If you are not currently a member, add a membership during registration to take advantage of member registration rates.

[REGISTER](#)

[MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS](#)

Financial Assistance Available

Interested in attending the conference, but finances are a constraint? POAMN has limited funds to assist participants with conference expenses. POAMN members will receive first consideration for financial help. Apply by June 1.

[LEARN MORE](#)



New York State Council Of Churches

May 13, 2026

Special Announcement

We are pleased to announce the unanimous election of Rashida Tyler as Executive Director of the New York State Council of Churches.

Ms. Tyler, who previously served as Deputy Executive Director and Acting Executive Director, is the first African-American woman elected to lead the historic statewide ecumenical organization. Her leadership will focus on strengthening congregations, advancing housing affordability, helping end homelessness, and continuing the Council's long public witness for human dignity, civil rights, workers' rights, criminal justice reform, and economic and social justice.

"On behalf of the Executive Committee, I am delighted to congratulate Rashida Tyler on her unanimous election as Executive Director of the New York State Council of Churches," said Gary VanKennen, President of the Executive Committee. "Rashida brings deep faith, strong organizational leadership, and a lifelong commitment to justice to this role. We are confident that Rashida's leadership will build on the Council's historic legacy while charting a new path for its future."



"I am honored to continue building on the Council's historic legacy," said Tyler. "I am committed to congregational vitality, the Council's core principles, deepening relationships with clergy and denominations, strengthening statewide public witness, expanding outreach to underrepresented communities, and continuing to strengthen the Council as a resource hub for congregations across New York State."

[Read the Press Release Here](#)



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF PROTESTANT CHAPLAINS

Annual Chaplains Conference

October 6-8, 2026

Liverpool, NY

Plans are in the works for an educational opportunity
for Chaplains in all areas.

This year's theme will be:

"Spirituality: Discernment, Direction, Discipline, and Devotion"



Mark your calendars &
watch for registration to
open soon.

Worship in Lafayette Park!

The Presbyterian churches of Watkins Glen, Burdett, Hector, and Rock Stream will be conducting a combined worship service in Lafayette Park, 303 N. Franklin Street, Watkins Glen, NY June 28th at 9:30am. All are welcome!

Coffee and light refreshments will be served. Please remember to bring lawn chairs if you have them. In case of rain, services will be moved into our sanctuary at 520 Decatur Street.

This is the first of our summer's special off-site worship services, which will take place on the last Sundays of June, July and August:

- **June 28**, 9:30am Lafayette Park, Watkins Glen, NY
- **July 26**, 9:30am Lafayette Park, Watkins Glen, NY

August 30, 9:30am Lawrence Chapel, Alpine, NY (*located on State Route 228, about 3.5 miles northeast of Odessa*)

Blessings, from the First Presbyterian Church of Watkins Glen

From the Synod Coach Network Leadership Team:

Coaching scholarships are available for individual leaders and teams through the Synod Coach Network.

Coach training scholarships are also available for the cohort that starts January 7, 2027 through **Loaves & Fishes Coach Training**. This ICF-accredited program is designed for faith leaders and changemakers who want to deepen their impact through coaching.

🔗 **Apply for a Scholarship:** <https://forms.gle/GRQPSJyAgwDmUu5T9>

🔗 **Learn more about coach training and apply:** www.loavesandfishescoachtraining.com/faqs

📅 **Upcoming Training Schedule:**

📅 **Orientation Meeting:** Thursday, January 7, 2027 (for registered participants)

• **First Online Retreat:** January 11–13, 2027

• **Monthly Online Classes:** Two Thursdays per month, 1–3 PM Eastern

Second Retreat: June 2027

🌱 **Why Coach Training?**

- Skills that enhance your leadership, deepen your listening, and empower others to grow
- Integrate coaching into the development and discernment of team ministry
- Preparation for **ICF certification** (ACC level), including 60 hours of training and mentor coaching

A supportive cohort model with **interactive retreats, observed coaching, and personalized feedback**

Whether you're seeking certification or simply want to integrate coaching skills into your ministry or leadership, this program is designed to meet you where you are.

If you have any questions, please be in touch.

Synod of the Northeast Coaching Network

www.snecoachingnetwork.weebly.com

Leadership Team:

Rev. Dr. Betsey Crimmins, ACC

Rev. Laurie J. Ferguson, PhD, PCC

Rev. Chris Garrison, ACC



July 12 – 17, 2026
in Oneonta, New York

SUMMER
INSTITUTE of THEOLOGY
at Hartwick College

*Ecumenical faith-based
Christian education for everyone*



SAVE the DATE for the 35th annual
Summer Institute of Theology at Hartwick College

*Open to all for personal enrichment and continuing education.
People of every faith (and those seeking) are welcome.*

Seminar topics to include:

- Art & faith
- Biblical studies
- Church history
- Practical ministry
- Preaching
- Social justice
- Spirituality
- Theology

*offered three times a day Mon–Thurs
& on Friday morning, 2½-hr classes*

Faculty faith traditions include
Baptist, Episcopal, Latter-Day Saints, Lutheran,
Methodist, Orthodox Church in America,
Presbyterian, and Roman Catholic

For more information, contact

info@sithc.org

or Rev. Paul Messner, 607-287-4534


or prpaul_theoinst@hotmail.com

Watch for updates at
https://sithc.org



Donate to the Presbytery online!

Presbytery of Geneva

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Presbytery of Geneva General Fund

Give now



Camp Whitman

Give now



Individual per capita contribution

Give now



Ordination and Installation Offerings

Give now



Presbytery Meeting Offerings

Give now

Online Giving for Camp Whitman and the Presbytery of Geneva is available from our website. Make contributions to Camp Whitman, the Presbytery's General Fund, Individual contributions to per capita, Ordination and Installation Offerings, and Presbytery Meeting Offerings. This is through the Presbyterian Foundation and long-time partner, Vanco, so it is very secure to use.

On our homepage www.presbyteryofgeneva.org, click on the "Make a Contribution" link or go directly to our Vanco donation page Donate to Presbytery of Geneva. You can select our general fund, Camp Whitman, per capita, Ordination and Installation Offerings, Presbytery Meeting Offerings, and others in the future as we roll them out.





Top PC(USA) News *of the Week*



[San Diego prayer vigil draws hundreds after Islamic Center attack](#)

Presbyterians join interfaith community in response to mosque shooting and call for peace



[Mark's gospel speaks to Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary graduates](#)

The Rev. CeCe Armstrong finds parallels between the plight of the graduate and the cost of spreading God's good news



[Panel calls for more help for people facing eviction, homelessness](#)

Discussion follows Louisville screening of PC(USA) documentary



[The Presbytery of Milwaukee is just about set to host the 227th General Assembly](#)

The Committee on Local Arrangements practices its warm welcome on PC(USA) national staff



[Promoting 'positive peace' in Lebanon](#)

Partner of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance promotes harmony and provides humanitarian aid during fragile time for the region





[Church Bullies](#)

Thursday, June 11, 2026

2:00 – 3:00 PM EST

Leader – Keith Clark-Hoyos

[Life After Publisher: Mastering Page Layout with Affinity](#)

Tuesday, June 16, 2026

2:00 – 3:00 PM EDT

Leader – Jo Nygard Owens

[When Giving is Flat: Faithful Response Beyond Panic](#)

Thursday, June 18, 2026

2:00 – 3:00 PM EST

Leader – Keith Clark-Hoyos

Join Hands to Work, Hearts to God Crafting group

Gather monthly on the third Thursday, 7:00–8:00 pm via Zoom. Bring your “lap work” and connect through creativity and community.

Join an Online Book Club

Meet every other month (January, March, May, July, September, and November) on the second Saturday from 11:00 am–12:00 pm via Zoom. Enjoy thoughtful conversation around bestsellers, Christian fiction, and uplifting reads in a welcoming community.

If interested in either, please call or email Karen Smith at PRC

Phone: 631-821-2255

Email: karen@prcli.org

COMMUNITY

FOAM PARTY

@Academy Square

JUNE
13
2-4PM

SPONSORED BY THE SENECA FALLS YOUTH GROUP
UMC & PCUSA CHURCHES



Walking
with
hope

United Way of
Seneca County



*in the heart of the
Finger Lakes*

Seneca Falls First Presbyterian Church Youth Group is 'Walking with Hope in the Heart of the Finger Lakes 2026' to support the Seneca County Suicide Prevention Coalition. We walk with hope for those who walk in darkness and shine the light of love, hope, and life, reminding people how much they matter.

A promotional poster for the event. At the top left, a purple banner says "JOIN US" in white. Below it, the text "Walking with hope" is written in a mix of purple and white cursive. A large purple butterfly is positioned behind the word "hope". Below this, "in the heart of the Finger Lakes" is written in purple cursive, followed by "Suicide Awareness Walk" in a smaller purple font. In the top right corner of the poster is a small version of the Seneca County Suicide Prevention Coalition logo. A large QR code is on the left side, with the text "Scan to" above it. To the right of the QR code is a white box with "SAVE THE DATE" in bold black letters. Below that, "DONATE OR" is written in purple cursive, followed by "Create a TEAM" where "TEAM" is in large, bold, purple block letters. At the bottom, a white box contains the text "Sunday, June 7, 2026 12 pm" and "The Vista at Sampson State Park" in bold black font.

Save the Date

**ANNUAL RETIREE'S
LUNCHEON
SEPTEMBER 10**

Camp Whitman



More Info to Follow

Looking for a volunteer opportunity?



*Formerly called
"Cities RISE"*

Building Hope

Community Clean-up

WORKING TOGETHER. IMPROVING OUR COMMUNITY.

Join us!

*We need your help to spruce up
a neighborhood in Elmira*

**Friday & Saturday, June 26 & 27, 2026
9 am to Noon—Elmira, NY**

**REGISTER TO VOLUNTEER BY
June 15th**

www.chemungcountyhabitat.org/events or scan QR code.



2026 Mileage Rate Increased to 72.5 cents per mile

The IRS has set the 2026 mileage rate as 72.5 cents per mile, which is up 2 cents from last year. If you are doing any reimbursements for your church members, Presbytery committee members, pulpit supply, or moderator supply, please be aware of the change. Here is the information from the IRS website.

<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/irs-sets-2026-business-standard-mileage-rate-at-725-cents-per-mile-up-25-cents>

THE PRESBYTERY OF GENEVA ADDRESS HAS CHANGED!!

Please take note and change our address in all places you maintain it.

The new address is:

**The Presbytery of Geneva
PO Box 17
Penn Yan, NY 14527**



New
email
address?



New staff
or session
member?



Upcoming Event?

Please share!

If your church has photos of recent events, has news of an upcoming event, or some updated information to share, please email the presbytery office at:

officeadmin@presbyteryofgeneva.org