



August 16, 2026



**UNITED CHURCH
of PITTSFORD**

American Baptist & United Methodist

Liturgist: Verna Hazen

Musical Director: Alan Murphy

Guest Minister: Reverend Jennifer Lessard

*A hearing loop is available for the hearing impaired.
Please ask the ushers if you need assistance.*

** Those who are able may stand.*

PRELUDE

Musical Selection

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN #188 (1,2,4)

Christ is the World's Light

***PRAYER OF GATHERING** (*in unison*)

Open our hearts not only toward each other, God of love and life, but help us to see your presence in every life we share, here in this community and around the world. May we not need a reminder about the humanity of every soul that surrounds us. Instead, speak to us in our gathering today so that we may answer the needs of all, rather than a select few, recognizing your image in each precious person. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*One and All in Unison*)

How very good and pleasant it is when we can come together in unity! It is as if we gathered on someone's porch enjoying the breeze, ignoring the summer's heat, and waving at each other as we pass by on the street. It is life the dew of the morning, cooling the day, like mountains on the horizon, reminding us of God's blessings, for God has come down to us from on high, and settled with us here in our church home, to guide us in our worship, and strengthen us as a family.

***UNISON READING**

God of all, creator of all things larger than our imagining and small beyond our notice, we praise you that your image resides in each of us, and that everything bears your mark. Hear us, heal us, deliver us from boundaries we create, and set us free to serve you in the ministries you have called us to. This we pray in your mighty name. Amen.

***HYMN #700 (1-3)** Abide With Me

SCRIPTURE Genesis 45:1-15 NRSV

***HYMN #347 (1,2)** Spirit Song

Sing Hallelujah - ALL

GOSPEL/MORNING MESSAGE

Matthew 15:10-28 NRSV

“WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?”

Guest Minister: Reverend Jennifer Lessard

***HYMN #375 (1-3)** There is a Balm in Gilead

MORNING PRAYERS/ SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

Pastoral Prayer

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Musical Selection*

***Response:** #95 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye
heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*** Prayer of Dedication for Offering**

***RECESSIONAL HYMN #557 (1-4)**

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

BENEDICTION

***CLOSING HYMN** Halle, Halle, Halle

POSTLUDE

Musical Selection

~ Those who are able may stand! ~

Guest Minister

Rev. Jennifer Lessard



Rev. Jennifer Lessard is an ordained American Baptist minister, originally from Rochester, NY. She served years in pastoral church ministry and pastored a handful of churches in ABCRGR before heading God's call to live in Ecuador full-time.

Rev. Lessard is now deeply engaged walking alongside indigenous women who are defending their communities, lands and cultures from predatory resource extraction. Rev. Lessard is an adherent board member of Global View Foundation of Ecuador, Special Assistant to Ecuador for ABC's International Ministries, and supported through connections with many local and international organizations. Her purpose, guided by Jesus' commission in Mark 16:15, is to continuously reimagine ways to reveal God's divine love, hope and peace to humanity within all of creation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us outside for lemonade on the lawn.

Calendar

August = *Canned meals and healthy snacks for food pantry*

TODAY Guest Minister – Rev. Jen Lessard

TODAY PUNS yard sale dropoff in HH 2-4pm

M-F, Aug 17-20 PUNS set up in HH (All week - 9am-3pm)

Fri/Sat, Aug. 21-22 PUNS Yard Sale in Howard Hall

Sun., August 23 CRCDS Sunday - Rev. Dr. Angela D. Sims

Deadline for School Supply Drive

Sun., August 30 Hymn Sing Sunday

September

Tues., Sept. 22 John Williams “Fabulous Fifties” – 7 pm

Sun., Sept. 27 Hispanic Heritage Sunday

School Supply Drive

ONE WEEK LEFT UNTIL THE DEADLINE! UCP is supporting Cameron Community’s back to school supply drive this August. See the insert in today’s bulletin. **The deadline is NEXT Sunday, August 23rd.** Questions? Contact Jen Cranch: 749-4758 or jenerator12@gmail.com

PUNS Yard Sale in Howard Hall

PUNS will be holding a yard sale in Howard Hall **THIS COMING** Friday, August 21, from 7 am to 2 pm and Saturday, August 22, from 8 am to noon. This will be a big fundraiser for them, so please drop by, browse, and help support their sale! (*Note that PUNS will be using Howard Hall this afternoon as well as all this week to prep for the sale. See the online calendar or bulletin board calendar for more details.*)

LECTIONARY TEXTS FOR NEXT WEEK

(August 23, 2026)

CRCDS SUNDAY:

Exodus 1:8- 2:10

Psalm 124

Romans 12: 1-8

Matthew 16:13-20

DEADLINE IS NEXT SUNDAY!

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE



ITEMS NEEDED:

Deadline: Sun., 8/23/26



BACKPACKS

(variety of colors/sizes

for ages PreK thru High School)

- Pencils, Mechanical Pencils
- Pens (Black)
- Highlighters
- 3 ring Binders (2") with lined paper (college or wide rule)
- 5 subject dividers
- Composition notebooks (black & white type)
- White Out
- Mini staplers
- Graphing calculators. (Costly. If there are a few people who want to go in on a few, let's do it.)
- **NO CRAYONS OR MARKERS, please**
- Underwear & socks for preK-12
- Healthy snacks (NO NUTS)
- **Cash/check donations welcome (See Jen C.)**



**Questions? Contact Jen Cranch
749-4758 or jenerator12@gmail.com**