

May 2026



# THE BRIDGE

## GOD FILLS YOUR EMPTY PLACES

*When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." John 4:7-14*

It was a source she had come to depend on. A place she went to get her needs met. But it was never enough; every day she came back for more. Filling her jar with water, the woman looked up and heard Him ask her for a drink. Then He offered her something in return: living water.

Unlike the water she came to get that day, He said the water He offered would satisfy her so deeply she'd never thirst again. But she had a hard time believing His promise. "You have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water?" (John 4:11) She asked.

What she didn't realize was that Jesus wanted to satisfy a deeper thirst in her heart - a longing He'd created to lead her heart to Him: the One and only Source that could satisfy her soul. All He needed to draw with was His Spirit, for it would draw her near to Him. And as far as the depth of the well, it was her heart He was looking into. She was the only one who

could stop Him from reaching the parts that needed Him most.

Do you know that place of needing Jesus to look into your heart and show you the emptiness only He can fill?

Like the woman at the well, maybe we have depended on other means to get our needs met. Yet when we look to them, instead of Him, they are never enough. We have looked to other people. We have longed for their approval and the affirmation that comes with it. We have also looked to possessions and positions and put our hope in recognition. We have thought "if only I had or could ..." But no matter how much we do or get, it's never enough to fill us up. And it's not supposed to be. Why? Because the empty places in our hearts were created to be filled by God alone. The deepest thirst of our soul can only be quenched by Him.

The same thing happened to the woman Jesus met at the well that day. She drank deeply of His love and was filled to overflow, and we can be too. Just like the woman at the well, God put a longing in our hearts that was intended to lead us back to Him. Only His unconditional acceptance, approval and affirmation can fill the empty places in our hearts - the deepest thirst of our souls. Until God's love and acceptance is enough, nothing else will be.

Grace & Peace,  
Pastor Bob

But whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.

**John 4:14**



**Our Mission** is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

**Our vision** for doing that is to be people who know God through faith in Jesus Christ, grow in our experience and understanding of God, and go to live our lives guided by the Holy Spirit in love and service to others so they also may become disciples of Jesus Christ.

## MUSIC MINISTRY

### Nothing Between

*The United Methodist Hymnal Number 373*

*Text: Charles Albert Tindley*

*Music: Charles Albert Tindley; arr. by F.A. Clark*

*Tune: ---, Meter: 10 9.11 9 with Refrain*

*1. Nothing between my soul and my Savior,  
naught of this world's delusive dream;  
I have renounced all sinful pleasure;  
Jesus is mine, there's nothing between.*

*Refrain:*

*Nothing between my soul and my Savior,  
so that his blessed face may be seen;  
nothing preventing the least of his favor;  
keep the way clear! let nothing between.*

*2. Nothing between, like worldly pleasure;  
habits of life, though harmless they seem,  
must not my heart from him ever sever;  
he is my all, there's nothing between.*

*(Refrain)*

*3. Nothing between, like pride or station;  
self or friends shall not intervene;  
though it may cost me much tribulation,  
I am resolved, there's nothing between.*

*(Refrain)*

*4. Nothing between, e'en many hard trials,  
though the whole world against me convene;  
watching with prayer and much self denial,  
I'll triumph at last, there's nothing between.*

*(Refrain)*

# KNOWING GOD TOGETHER

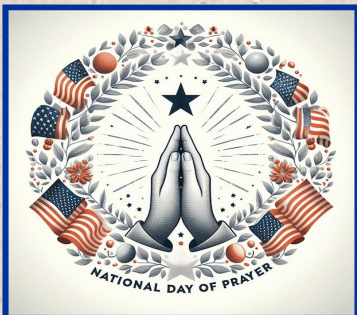


## Worship Service Sunday at 11:00 am



In-Person and FB Live.:  
<https://www.facebook.com/FUMCofCB/>

Choir Practice  
Wednesdays at 11:00 am in  
the Choir Room  
See Lois Bales for more information



**National**  
**Day of Prayer**  
**May 7, 2026**



*Armed Forces Day*

May 16, 2026

Thank you to all who served.



# HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

May 10, 2026

And now these three remain:  
faith, hope and love. But the  
greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13:13



## GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER



**Youth Sunday School:** Class will be at 10:00-10:45am in the *Knitting For The Lord Room (B2)* on Sunday mornings for all youth. Please email Robin Stolarcyk @ [rstolarcyk1@yahoo.com](mailto:rstolarcyk1@yahoo.com)

**ADULT Sunday School:** The Christian Fellowship Class meets on Sundays from 9:30-10:30am in Room B6. Everyone is invited to attend when they can for learning and fellowship. Please call Tom James 607 648-7934 for more information



**Pastor's Study & Prayer Group:** Sundays @12:15 pm in the Disciple Room (B4). Contact Pastor Bob at 910-260-0551 or 607-648-4326 or [rclark@nccumc.org](mailto:rclark@nccumc.org) Everyone is welcome!!

**Knitting for the Lord:** Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month from 6-7pm in the Knitting for The Lord room (B2). Please contact Sue Alcott at 607-648-6340, or Jill Lyon if interested in joining or if knitted items are needed



**Rachel Circle:** Meets @10:00am (on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of month) the Disciple Room (B4) **ALL LADIES WELCOME TO ATTEND** For questions call office 607-648-4339 or Jill Lyon

**Men's Small Group:** *This group meets every Wednesday from 2:30-4:00pm In the KFL room- Contact Pastor Bob at 910-260-0551 or 607-648-4326 or [rclark@nccumc.org](mailto:rclark@nccumc.org). if interested in joining.*



**Ladies Small Group:** *This group meets on Wed. from 2:30-4:00pm in the Library--(When scheduled) Email Robin Stolarcyk @ [rstolarcyk1@yahoo.com](mailto:rstolarcyk1@yahoo.com) for more information.*

# Welcome May

Thank You Lord for blessing us  
with a new month

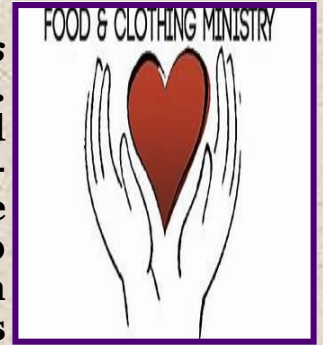


Love of Faith

## GOING TO SERVE OTHERS WITH LOVE IN JESUS' NAME

### Feeding and Clothing Outreach Ministry.

**Outreach Ministries of the Southern Tier @ St. Cyril's Church on Clinton Street in Binghamton (formerly at St. Pats) Make some sandwiches, pack some food, help unload the CHOW truck! They are open Mon.Wed,Thurs.Fri. 10:30-12:30 and are in NEED of volunteers on any of those days. The ministry is providing food to an average of 100 families a day! They also provide bagged lunches. In addition, they also have a clothing ministry and assistance is always welcome. Thank you, David Carter.**



### Quality Steam Cleaning Fund Raiser for First UMC of Chenango Bridge

**10% of all work done will be donated to the church. Coupon is available from the church office or from the website. You may also let Quality Steam Cleaning know that it is for our church fundraiser. For all questions and appointments please contact Quality Steam Cleaning: (607) 754-3462 or [qualitysteamcln@aol.com](mailto:qualitysteamcln@aol.com).**

**We are collecting food for The Local Food Bank**  
**Every 4th Sunday of the month *Please bring your non-perishable food items to the church* No glass please**



## Chenango Bridge Senior Center

**Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays**  
**10 am—2 pm**

A variety of activities will be offered including:

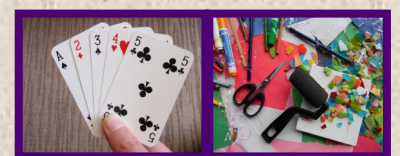
- ♥ Lunch (*Lunch reservations are needed one day in advance by 12pm*)
- ♥ Tai Chi, Bingocize
- ♥ Chair Yoga and other Health and Wellness activities
- ♥ Crafts, cards, games and chat groups

**Come Explore all the possibilities!**

**For more information or to make a reservation call Vet @ 607-663-0406**

**First United Methodist Church of Chenango Bridge**

**740 River Road, Binghamton NY**



**GOING TO SERVE OTHERS WITH LOVE IN JESUS' NAME**

**SOUP - SALAD & CONVERSATION**

*Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month  
from 5:00pm - 7:00pm*

First United Methodist Church of Chenango Bridge  
740 River Rd., Binghamton, NY - In Fellowship Hall

***Everyone is Welcome!***

*Donations gladly accepted*

***May 20th will be last gathering before summer***

***We will resume in September***



**New Online Giving Information**

**First UMC of Chenango Bridge  
is now able to accept Online Offerings**

*To better support all ministries of our church;*

*Please consider primary giving to the **General Fund***

*Any questions -please call Christian Harris 607-427-5993*

***Thank You!***

(hold ctrl button on keyboard and right click with mouse)

**on Link Here>>>> <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZXY4/home>**

**OR**

**Scan QR Code with cell phone>>>>**



**ONLINE GIVING**

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.  
2 Corinthians 9:7

# GOING TO SERVE OTHERS WITH LOVE IN JESUS' NAME

BARNES & NOBLE  
**BOOKFAIRS**  
supporting

**First UMC of  
Chenango Bridge**  
Saturday, May 23, 2026  
Vestal  
2443 Vestal Parkway East



12947974

Please present this voucher prior to making your purchase. A percentage of the net sale will be contributed to your school/organization.

\*The purchase of gift cards, Barnes & Noble memberships, textbooks, video games, digital devices including NOOK, purchases made at Cafés owned and operated by Starbucks, and other items Barnes & Noble may exclude from time to time in its sole discretion are not included in bookfair totals. Institutional discounts may not be applied. See BNCOM/bookfairs for more details and to shop online.

#BNBOOKFAIRS



# BARNES & NOBLE

# BOOK FAIR

**Saturday, May 23, 2026**

*Sign up sheet is on welcome table  
to volunteer to hand out vouchers and  
greet customers*

*A percentage of the sales will go directly to  
First UMC of CB*

*Print and share voucher with family and friends!*

## Church Fundraiser!

BARNES & NOBLE  
**BOOKFAIRS**  
supporting

**First UMC of  
Chenango Bridge**  
Saturday, May 23, 2026  
Vestal  
2443 Vestal Parkway East



12947974

Please present this voucher prior to making your purchase. A percentage of the net sale will be contributed to your school/organization.

\*The purchase of gift cards, Barnes & Noble memberships, textbooks, video games, digital devices including NOOK, purchases made at Cafés owned and operated by Starbucks, and other items Barnes & Noble may exclude from time to time in its sole discretion are not included in bookfair totals. Institutional discounts may not be applied. See BNCOM/bookfairs for more details and to shop online.

#BNBOOKFAIRS



## Stepping In Faith

Will be starting back up on Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 5:30pm  
Every TUESDAY from 5:30-6:30pm (till September)

We meet weekly at:

Otsiningo Park (North End Entrance)

For inclement weather :

Oakdale Commons - In front of Auntie Annes pretzels  
See Michelle Stoll with questions 607-245-6880

**Come and walk with us!!**



## Broome County Council of Churches

### Volunteers are always needed!

The Broome County Council of Churches is a volunteer driven nonprofit organization. Without our volunteers our programs could not provide the assistance that they do. **All are in need of volunteers—do you have some time? Where would you like to volunteer?**

**Faith in Action Volunteers** helps adults 60 and over maintain quality of life and independence.

**The CHOW** program provides needed food and healthy lifestyle assistance.

**The Jail Ministry** gives support to those incarcerated and their families and reentry assistance to those just released from jail.

**The Hospital Ministry** gives support to the patients and families of those who are hospitalized.

Some of these programs require no more than a bit of your time, a short orientation, and a drivers license or a strong back. Others, such as the Jail and Hospital Ministries, require specialized training which is provided.

For more information about the various programs and for volunteer applications you can go on line at [www.broomecouncil.net](http://www.broomecouncil.net) or call 607-724-9130.

**You make a living by what you get,  
but you make a life by what you give.-  
Winston Churchill**





**The Church of the Holy Family of Endwell is Hosting Rise Against Hunger 20k meal packing event**

**Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

Beginning at 10:00 am at the Church of The Holy Family

**3600 Phyllis Street Endwell NY**

*First United Methodist of Chenango Bridge is participating once again in this mission-*  
Please call Andrea Wolf 607-765-3879 or Matt Wolf 607-743-5619 with any questions

If you can't participate but would like donate to this cause;  
please place check made out to First UMC of CB or cash in offering plate,  
write Rise on memo line of check or on envelope.

Thank you!

*Please use this Link to sign up for event shift:* <https://act.riseagainsthunger.org/event/e793526>



*Thank you to everyone who baked treats for the bake sale,  
donated their time to volunteer, or donated money!  
We raised over \$600! Everything sold!  
Your kindness and dedication are much appreciated! God Bless!  
We are planning to have another bake sale around Thanksgiving!  
Pies and homemade sweet breads will be perfect!  
Date will be announced soon!  
Thank You again!  
Andrea & Matt Wolf*



*Home bound members  
that may like to hear from  
their church family:*

Mary Williams - Elizabeth Church Manor  
863 Upper Front St.  
Binghamton N.Y. 13905

Ron Quackenbush  
1944 Colesville Road  
Harpursville NY 13787

Donald Prentice- Willow Point Nursing Home  
3700 Old Vestal Rd  
Vestal, NY,13850

Pam Wasley-Susquehanna Nursing Home  
282 Riverside Drive  
Johnson City, N.Y. 13790

*If you know of anyone that would like  
to be added to this list  
please email the church office at  
[chenbridgeumc@outlook.com](mailto:chenbridgeumc@outlook.com)  
or call -607-648-4339*

**Pastor:**

**Robert J. Clark**

**(607) 648-4326 cell:(910)-260-0551**

**Email: [rclark@nccumc.org](mailto:rclark@nccumc.org)**

**Office Hours**

**Mon.- Wed.-Thurs. 8:00 am —1:00 pm**

**(607) 648-4339**

**Email: [chenbridgeumc@outlook.com](mailto:chenbridgeumc@outlook.com)**

**[www.ChenangoBridgeUMC.org](http://www.ChenangoBridgeUMC.org)**