



Gabriel's Horn Newsletter

...Heralding the Good News to our neighbors!...

Website:
www.eastbloomfieldcongregationalchurch.org
E-mail: 1st.Cong.Church@gmail.com

May/June 2026

*** Our Sunday worship service begins at 10:00 a.m.**

* We are located at 10 South Avenue, Bloomfield, NY, 14469

CHURCH STAFF

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*Creator of the universe,
you made the world in beauty,
and restore all things in glory
through the victory of Jesus Christ.
We pray that, wherever your image is still disfigured
by poverty, sickness, selfishness, war and greed,
the new creation in Jesus Christ may appear in justice, love, and peace,
to the glory of your name. Amen.*

✿ *From the Pastor* ✿



As we enter the months of May and June, there is a renewed sense of energy and expectation in the life of our church. The deacons and I have been in conversation and prayer, and we are excited to begin introducing some fresh ideas for our fellowship hour as well as our “Last Friday of the Month” community dinners. These moments around the table are more than just meals—they are opportunities to build relationships, welcome new faces, and live out the love of Christ in tangible ways.

I am especially looking forward to the summer season ahead and the opportunities it brings for deeper connection within our community. Summer in a small town has a unique way of drawing people together, and my family and I are truly looking forward to being part of that rhythm—sharing in the fellowship, the conversations, and the simple joys that strengthen a church family.

I firmly believe that God is actively at work among us. We are not standing still—we are being gently and faithfully led into meaningful ministry. As we step into this next season, I invite each of you to be part of it: come, gather, serve, and extend the invitation to others. There is a place at the table, and there is work for all of us to do in sharing God’s love.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Angela Barrett

✿ *Upcoming Events* ✿

● **Camerata concert:** The church will host a free concert on **Sunday, May 3rd at 3:00 p.m.** in the sanctuary.

The Fingerlakes Camerata will present “From Darkness Into Light,” performing *Dark Night of the Soul* by Ola Gjeilo and *Illuminare* by Elaine Hagenberg. They will be led by director Anthony D’Agostino and accompanied by Sarah Reilly. We are very excited to host this concert and hope you will join us for an afternoon of music. See you there!



● **Rochester Red Wings ballgame:** It's that time of year again! On **Friday, July 17th**, the congregation will attend a Rochester Red Wings ballgame. The game will be followed by fireworks. We are in the process of getting a count of those wishing to attend so we can arrange for all to sit together in the same section. If you are interested in attending, please see Rodney at church or send an e-mail to mshafer33@gmail.com and let us know the number of tickets you would like. We will collect money closer to the event; we are just determining the numbers now. So please - join us! We have always enjoyed these games and the fireworks are wonderful. We'd love to see you.

● **Sensory Safe Vacation Bible School:** We are in the preparation stages for a sensory safe Vacation Bible School for special needs children. It's to be a free, one week long session of 2 hours a day in July. Scheduled activities are sensory safe activities for the kids and will include a Bible-based puppet show, all designed for children with special needs. The curriculum will be designed for ten kids. If we receive more than ten applications, we will open a wait list. If enough children are on the wait list, we will do another week in August.

If you wish to sign your child, or children, up for this special Bible school, please contact Pastor Angela at pastor.FCCEB@outlook.com or call the church directly at (585) 657-7755.

Holy One, hear our prayers and make us faithful stewards of the fragile bounty of this earth so that we may be entrusted with the riches of heaven. Amen.

✿ Birthdays ✿



May:

10 - Mary McClain
10 - Nick Mazzola
17 - Gloria Duffy
28 - Judd Rockcastle
27 - Bonnie Doles
30 - Marilyn Shafer

June:

16 - Nancy Walters
17 - Mona Eddy
19 - Jackie Shultz
20 - Janice Kelly
26 - Joan Hall
30 - Bethyn Boni

These people are celebrating birthdays during these next two months. When you see them, please wish them a Happy Birthday!

✿ Recurring Calendar Events (Monthly) ✿

- **Special Offering:** An extra offering plate is passed on the first Sunday of every month. This special offering supports church outreach to the local community and local missions and is kept in the Benevolence Fund for future distributions. The offering basket will be available at our live service. For this period, the special offerings will be on **May 3rd** and **June 7th**. If you are unable to attend, please contact Janice Kelly, our Benevolence Secretary, to make arrangements for your gift.

Please note that if you are unable to attend worship service yet wish to make a donation to the church (pledge, benevolence or faith), you can mail your donation to Marilyn Shafer at 12 Howard Avenue, Bloomfield, NY, 14469.

- **Woman's Breakfast:** Meets the first Monday of every month at Brady J's restaurant (24 Maple Avenue, Bloomfield) at **9:00 a.m.** All interested women are invited; being a member of the church is not a requirement. For this period, the breakfasts will be on **May 4th** and **June 1st**.

- **Men's Breakfast:** The men meet the last Sunday of every month at Brady J's restaurant (24 Maple Avenue, Bloomfield) at **7:45 a.m.** All interested men are invited; being a member of the church isn't a requirement. For this period, the men will meet **May 31st**, and **June 28th**.

- **Book Club:** The church book club meets every third Thursday at **9:30 a.m.** in the Memorial Room. For this period, the club meets on **May 21st** to discuss the book *Last of*

the *Breed* by Louis L'Amour and on **June 18th** to discuss the book *To Kill A Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. Please join us.

● **Choir Practice:** The choir meets every Wednesday evening for choir rehearsal at **7:30 p.m.** There also is a short rehearsal every Sunday (before the worship service); this rehearsal starts at **9:15 a.m.** As always, they are looking for singers and all are welcome.

✿ May and June Specific Calendar Events ✿

Sunday, May 3: Council meeting (meets after the worship service)

Sunday, May 3 (3:00 p.m.): Free Fingerlakes Camerata concert

Monday, May 4 (9:00 a.m.): Women's breakfast at Brady J's

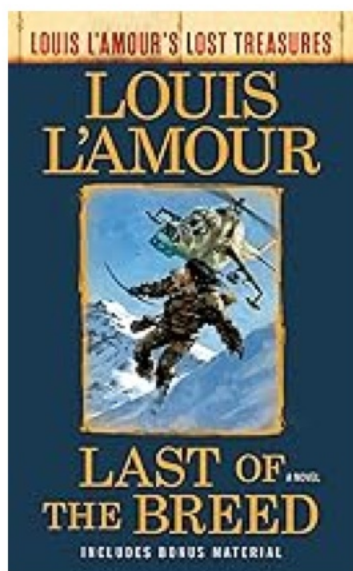
Thursday, May 7: National Day of Prayer 🙏

Sunday, May 10: Mothers' Day

Thursday, May 14: Ascension Day

Saturday, May 16: Armed Forces Day

Thursday, May 21 (9:30 a.m.): The church book club meets in the Memorial Room; they will discuss the novel *Last of the Breed* by Louis L'Amour.



Amazon synopsis:

Here is the kind of authentically detailed epic novel that has become Louis L'Amour's hallmark. It is the compelling story of U.S. Air Force Major Joe Mack, a man born out of time. When his experimental aircraft is forced down in Russia and he escapes a Soviet prison camp, he must call upon the ancient skills of his Indian forebears to survive the vast Siberian wilderness. Only one route lies open to Mack: the path of his ancestors, overland to the Bering Strait and across the sea to America. But in pursuit is a legendary tracker, the Yakut native Alekhin, who knows every square foot of the icy frontier —and who knows that to trap his quarry he must think like a Sioux.

Sunday, May 24: Pentecost



Monday, May 25: Memorial Day

Sunday, May 31 (7:45 a.m.): Men's breakfast at Brady J's

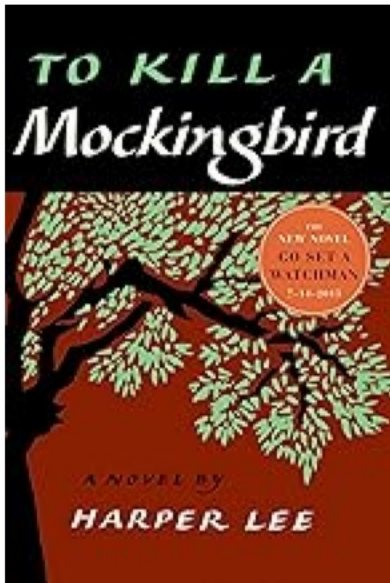
Monday, June 1 (9:00 a.m.): Women's breakfast at Brady J's

Saturday, June 6: D-Day remembrance and observance

Sunday, June 7: Council meeting (meets after the worship service)

Sunday, June 14: Flag Day 

Thursday, June 18 (9:30 a.m.): The church book club meets in the Memorial Room; they will discuss the novel *To Kill A Mockingbird* by Harper Lee.



Amazon synopsis:

In a dusty Southern town during the Great Depression, a white woman accuses a black man of rape. Though he is obviously innocent, the outcome of his trial is such a foregone conclusion that no lawyer will step forward to defend him - except Atticus Finch. Finch's compassionate defense costs him many friendships but earns him the respect and admiration of his two children.

One of the most cherished stories of all time, *To Kill a Mockingbird* has been translated into more than forty languages, sold more than forty million copies worldwide, served as the basis for an enormously popular motion picture, and was voted one of the best novels of the twentieth century by librarians across the country. A gripping, heart-wrenching, and wholly remarkable tale of coming-of-age in a South poisoned by virulent prejudice, it views a world of

great beauty and savage inequities through the eyes of a young girl, as her father - a crusading local lawyer - risks everything to defend a black man unjustly accused of a terrible crime.

Friday, June 19: Juneteenth

Sunday, June 21: Father's Day

Sunday, June 21: Summer solstice

Sunday, June 28 (7:45 a.m.): Men's breakfast at Brady J's



* Miscellaneous *

● **Church Membership:** Please e-mail Pastor Angela at Pastor.FCCEB@outlook.com for information on joining the First Congregational Church of East Bloomfield or to arrange Home Communion for a shut in.

● **Advertising A Church Event:** To advertise any church event, please contact Alice McConnell, 8291 Wesley Road, Bloomfield, 14469; (585) 402-5397 or e-mail her at beehive270@gmail.com. Please ensure you get the written details of the event to Alice 4 weeks before the date of the event.

● **Worship Services:** For those who cannot attend the in-person service, we will livestream the gospel readings and the sermon every Sunday morning during the regular worship service. Usually, the stream will begin around 10:00 - 10:15 a.m. each Sunday morning. If you should miss the start of the live service, we will keep the videos on our Facebook page. They can be viewed any time (along with all the other videos we've posted) by accessing the Video tab on our Facebook page (link: <https://www.facebook.com/First-Congregational-Church-Bloomfield-NY-357770224341588/>).

● **Food Cupboard:** As a continuing reminder, please keep the food cupboard's needs in your minds and hearts. We collect/deliver for the cupboard on a monthly basis, however, donations are welcome at any time.

* Picture Us *

● **Youth Sunday:** We had the joy and pleasure of having the youth of the church assist in our worship service in April. They passed out music, read the day's Bible passages and provided us with several selections of special music. It was wonderful to see and really added to our worship service.



● **Easter Celebrations:** The church celebrated Easter with a potluck, followed by communion and a walk through the garden for a Good Friday service. Then we attended worship service on Easter Sunday and saw the church ablaze with light to celebrate the day. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!



✿ May/June Lectionary

	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Sunday, May 3rd	* Acts 7:55-60	Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16	1 Peter 2:2-10	John 14:1-14
Sunday, May 10th	* Acts 17:22-31	Psalm 66:8-20	1 Peter 3:13-22	John 14:15-21
Ascension of the Lord Thursday, May 14th	* Acts 1:1-11	Psalm 47 or Psalm 93	Ephesians 1:15-23	Luke 24:44-53
Sunday, May 17th	* Acts 1:6-14	Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35	1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11	John 17:1-11
Day of Pentecost Sunday, May 24th	* Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30 Genesis 1:1-2:4a	Psalm 104:24-34, 35b	1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21	John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39
Trinity Sunday, May 31st	Psalm 8		2 Corinthians 13:11-13	Matthew 28:16-20
Sunday, June 7th	Genesis 12:1-9	Hosea 5:15-6:6		Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26
Sunday, Jun 14th	Psalm 33:1-12 Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7) Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19	Exodus 19:2-8a Psalm 100	Romans 4:13-25 Romans 5:1-8	Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23)
Sunday, June 21st	Genesis 21:8-21 Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17	Jeremiah 20:7-13 Psalm 69:7-10, (11-15), 16-18	Romans 6:1b-11	Matthew 10:24-39
Sunday, Jun 28th	Genesis 22:1-14 Psalm 13	Jeremiah 28:5-9 Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18	Romans 6:12-23	Matthew 10:40-42

Italicized readings, complementary to the standard reading, may be used with, or in place of it.

Holy, holy, holy God, fill us with strength and courage, with discernment and compassion, that we may be your instruments of justice and love in this world, that it may be on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

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of East Bloomfield
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