



**Pendleton Center**

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Real Love. Real Hope.*

6864 Campbell Blvd., North Tonawanda, NY 14120  
716-625-8306 | [pcumc.org](http://pcumc.org) | [theoffice@pcumc.org](mailto:theoffice@pcumc.org)

May 18, 2025 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

## CURRENT SERMON SERIES

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# *The* Heart *of the* Matter

*Understanding the Message of Jesus*

What did Jesus truly want us to understand? Many wonder about the essential core of Jesus' message. A lot of people understand what He did, but not much of what He taught. This series, inspired by the book *The Message of Jesus* by Adam Hamilton, will provide an overview of some of Jesus' primary teachings. The series emphasizes how Jesus' ministry emphasized these lessons and their application to our everyday lives.

## WELCOME!

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Whether this is your first time watching or you're a member of our church family, we desire to welcome you and offer the opportunity for you to engage in worship and teachings from the Word of God.

If you're new to Pendleton Center or need to update your info, please fill out a **Friendship Card**. This helps us keep connected with you and let's us know you were watching online with us today.

To learn more about our church, visit [pcumc.org](http://pcumc.org).

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

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Prelude

Welcome

Centering Song

Opening Prayer

Passing of the Peace

Opening Music

Offertory

Doxology & Prayer of Dedication

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading: *Matthew 16:13-28*

Sermon: *"Who Do You Say That I Am" - Pastor Scott Johnson*

Communion

Closing Song

Benediction

## PRAYER CONCERNS

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*Please lift these people and circumstances to God in your prayers throughout the week*

**Prayer for Healing:** Larry, Mrs. O, Roger, Michelle, Sherry Z, Jamie D, Christa, Todd, Tom, Joann, Sarah P, Coleen, Jacquie B

**General Concerns:** Family, Finances, Good doctor visit, Fran, Britt, Dottie, Kari, Peter, Health & wellness, Our nation, Jen V & family, June, Judy

**Ongoing Concerns:** Pain, Family, Michelle, Sue, Becky, Adam, Ryan, Sarah, Open eyes of our nation's heart, John B, Sherry L, Jean P, Gary N, Ruth O, Our church, our country

**Random Prayer Selection:** Kevin & Bridgette Weller, Tom & Lynne Valentine, Sandy Houck, Peggy Lockwood, Matt Stacey & Amanda Scheeler, Tom & Diane Bush, Larry Weseman, John & Angela Miles, Bob & Lorraine Pierce, Anita Nelaimischkies

*Please be in prayer for these randomly selected names and those close to them.*

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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### This Week's Birthdays

17 - Kathy Hill

18 - Cal Crosby

19 - Jacob Earle, Madison Remillard

20 - Liz Fisher, Emily Reed

21 - Wes Terry

22 - Jeff Morris, Jenn Phillips, Paul Seegar

### This Week's Anniversaries

17 - Donald & Barbara Szpaicher - '86

18 - Darren & Lori Wildt - '91

21 - Ronald & Jane Diedrich - '88

22 - Ken & Sandy Leaver

24 - Jeffrey & Amy Volpe - '96

Altar flowers sponsored by Anne Steblein, "In memory of my Mom Carolyn and mother-in-law Carol on their birthdays."

Bulletins & communion elements sponsored by Harvey Joseph.

*Please consider sponsoring our worship elements by signing up in the back of the sanctuary or at*

[pcumc.org/worship-sponsor](http://pcumc.org/worship-sponsor). Leave a message or sponsor anonymously.

## **Mission Moment: Lockport CARES**

The shelter is used to assist men, women, and children (including veterans) who find themselves in need by providing temporary emergency shelter, material needs, and compassionate care with dignity and respect. Those who need assistance are greeted with welcoming smiles, clean clothes, a warm shower, a comfy bed with a homemade blanket to take with them when they leave, family-style home cooked meals, and a time of daily prayer and sharing. All this is done encouraging them to seek benefits, if they don't already have, to look for housing and look for employment if able. It's amazing how God works through the staff and volunteers, showing love, compassion, encouragement, and His love!

You can give by designating towards "Today's Mission Moment" on your giving envelope or online at [pcumc.org/give](https://pcumc.org/give).

## **The Wesley Challenge Tuesdays & Thursdays, 7p Connection Room 2 Begins this Tuesday, May 20**

Do you desire to be part of a small group focusing on growing your faith? *The Wesley Challenge, 21 Days to a More Authentic Faith* is a book by Chris Folmsbee. Meetings follow the pattern followed by the Wesley's in the Holy group at Oxford. People attending the meeting will discuss their day and how the day's question pertains to them. Meetings will be in person or by zoom. Send an e-mail to [Scot Jaynes](mailto:Scot.Jaynes) if you plan to attend by zoom.

## **Peanut Butter & Jelly Drive**

The Peanut Butter & Jelly Drive has a great need for jelly. Peanut butter and jelly is distributed to our local food pantries. Please bring in donations and put them in the blue bin in the Fellowship Hall food collection area. [Sandy Houck](#)

## **Genesis Preschool Director Opportunity**

If you or anyone you know has an interest in directing our Genesis Preschool program, please reach out to a member of the SPRC or [Pastor Scott](#). More info: [pcumc.org/jobs](https://pcumc.org/jobs)

## **New Soccer Ball Ministry Collecting May through August**

Soccer balls? Yes! Clara's Closet in Buffalo is requesting new or used soccer balls (in good condition) for the children they serve. Clara's Closet is a large ministry housed in the Central Park United Methodist Church and primarily serves the immigrant community, as well as others in need. The soccer balls will provide much-needed recreation and occupation for these children. If you would like to donate, there is a collection box in Mission Central. Thank you! Questions? Contact [Cindy Smist](#).

## **Mom's Morning Out Registration Open**

This program is designed to enhance social and emotional growth. Little ones have fun playing with others, growing social skills, and strengthening their large motor skills in our spacious gym. Trained and nurturing adults supervise and care for your child while you get some time to yourself or run errands! Registration is now open. Visit [pcumc.org/mmo](https://pcumc.org/mmo) for more info.

## **Tough Stuff Bible Study Tuesday, May 29, 7p, Fellowship Hall**

Join us for our next Tough Stuff Study where we will be talking about cremation. Come ready with scriptures and/or questions! We hope to see you there! *Pastor Scott and Linda Barczykowski*

## **Thursday Night Dinners Thursdays, 5p, First UMC, 8210 Buffalo Ave., Niagara Falls**

We will kick off the summer season with our traditional hot dog dinner, complete with potato salad and baked beans, on the Thursday before Memorial Day weekend. If you could help us get the packages of Sahlen's hot dogs we need - that would be awesome! We have been serving approximately 225 meals per week to some very grateful people who join us for not only a delicious dinner, but for the fellowship and prayers, and we love to be able to serve them this hot dog dinner- one of their favorites! Please leave your donated dogs in the fridge in the collection area by Wednesday, May 21, so we can serve them up! [DJ Mahar](#)

**Multi-Church Fall Retreat - "Trust & Faith"**  
**October 10-12, at Camp Asbury in Silver Lake, NY**  
**Friday evening through Sunday noon**  
**Cost: \$195 per person, includes room & meals**



**What is the hardest thing you do as a Christian?** Some of us find that it is difficult to trust in God when the going gets tough. Join us to discuss how we can keep our faith in God's goodness, and relinquish control to God, when life gets overwhelming.

Our Retreat is an opportunity to learn more about God through private and corporate

worship, prayer, Bible study, devotion and fun together. It is a chance to develop closer relationships with God and each other. Join us for faith, fellowship and fun!

A non-refundable deposit of \$50 holds your reservation. **Deposits are required by August 1.** Some need-based scholarships may be available on request.

For more information and registration visit [pcumc.org/fallretreat](http://pcumc.org/fallretreat).



**LIVE IT OUT**  
**DISCOVER HOW TO LOVE LIKE JESUS**

**Save the date for**  
**Vacation Bible School!**  
**K-6<sup>th</sup> grade, August 4-8, 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM**

**Mark your calendars for an unforgettable week at Vacation Bible School 2025!**

We'll dive into this year's exciting theme: **Live It Out**. This week-long adventure empowers kids to go beyond learning bible stories; they'll discover how to love like Jesus and explore what it means to truly live out their faith every day.

This year, we're focusing on one powerful action: loving like Jesus. Inspired by John 13:34, kids will discover how Jesus taught His disciples to love one another through kindness, forgiveness, prayer, service, and simple acts of love.

**Registration opens in June - [pcumc.org/vbs](http://pcumc.org/vbs)**

