

March 19, 2026 - A weekly word from Pastor Brandon

Church family,

I just want to start by saying this - I love you, and I miss being with you in person more than I can fully express.

The truth is, what we've walked through - and what we are still walking through - has not been easy. This season has been challenging in real ways. There have been moments of grief, uncertainty, and even fatigue. And I want you to hear this clearly: if you've felt that too, you are not alone.

I feel it as well.

But at the same time, I am filled with hope. Because in the middle of all of this, we are seeing God's faithfulness in a way that is undeniable. What the enemy meant for disruption, God is using for strengthening. What could have scattered us has actually drawn us closer. Scripture reminds us, **"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1)**, and we are seeing that truth lived out right now.

And I am especially excited to share this - I will be back with you in person for **Palm Sunday and Easter**, and I'll be speaking at both services. I truly cannot wait to gather together again, worship with you, and explore the great adventure of God's Word with you. I am looking forward to it more than I can put into words.

Even from a distance, I am hearing the stories - people stepping up, serving in new ways, inviting friends, leaning into community, and showing up with faith and expectation each Sunday. Church, that is who we are. Not a building, but a people. Not defined by a space, but by the Spirit of God at work within us.

And I also want you to know this - if you are carrying something heavy in this season, you don't have to carry it alone. Our pastoral team is here for you. If you need prayer, counsel, or just someone to talk to, please reach out to us at [833-942-3093](tel:833-942-3093). It would be our honor to walk with you.

What We Did

This past Sunday was powerful. Seeing our church gathered together in the Adirondack Central School gym was a reminder that the presence of God is not limited by walls. The energy, the worship, the unity - it was real, and it was encouraging.

We are continuing to see new faces each week, which tells me something important: in the middle of disruption, God is still drawing people in. This is not a season to pull back - this is a season to lean in.

What We Are Doing

There is a lot happening right now - both behind the scenes and right in front of us.

We are making steady, intentional progress toward rebuilding - taking the right administrative steps, engaging the right partners, and making wise decisions that will serve our church well for years to come. It requires patience, but it is moving forward.

At the same time, we are building clear and meaningful pathways for people to get connected and grow. We are actively strengthening environments like youth group for our students, preparing Foundations classes for those who want to understand their faith and our church more deeply, and getting ready to relaunch growth groups where real community can take place.

We are also inviting more people than ever to step onto a serve team - because one of the fastest ways to find connection is to jump in and be part of what God is doing. From setup and teardown, to kids ministry, to hospitality and tech, these teams are not just filling roles - they are creating space for life change every single week.

We are not waiting to rebuild to be the church. We are the church right now.

Where We Are Going

We are moving forward - together.

In the coming weeks, we will continue to build out these next steps in a stronger and more intentional way so that every person - whether they've been here for years or just walked in this past Sunday - knows exactly how to take their next step.

You'll see more opportunities to get connected through Bible Study, growth groups, and serving, all designed to help people move from simply attending to truly belonging and growing.

At the same time, we will continue pushing forward with clarity and faith toward rebuilding. This next season will require unity, wisdom, and trust in God's timing - but I believe with everything in me that God is preparing us not just to rebuild a building, but to step into a greater season of impact as a church.

"And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works..." (Hebrews 10:24). This is our moment to stay engaged, stay connected, and stay expectant.

If you have questions, ideas, or just want to connect, I'd love to hear from you. We've provided a place for you to share anything on your heart. Email us at connect@getabundantlife.com or call us at 833-942-3093.

Thank you for your faith. Thank you for your consistency. Thank you for being the church.

We are moving forward - together.

With you in this,
Pastor Brandon