

# February 2016

Mind-blowing facts: Australia has over 10,000 beaches. You could visit a new beach everyday for over 27 years

<http://www.thefactsite.com/2015/04/100-mind-blowing-facts.html>



## The Vine



February 2016

First Presbyterian Church of Penn Yan

Rev. Paul E. Malles, Pastor

211 Main Street, P.O. Box 639, Penn Yan 14527

Telephone 315-536-8235

[www.pennyanpresbyterian.org](http://www.pennyanpresbyterian.org)

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9 AM – Noon



### Coming Events



<b>February 2</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Trustees Meeting</b>
<b>February 3</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>February 4</b>	<b>4:00 PM</b>	<b>Grandma's Kitchen</b>
<b>February 6</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Men's Breakfast at Wagner Restaurant</b>
<b>February 7</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Worship with Communion</b>
<b>February 9</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Supper Club</b>
<b>February 10</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday Service</b>
<b>February 11</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>	<b>Lenten Luncheon</b>
<b>February 14</b>	<b>11:45 AM</b>	<b>Deacons' Meeting</b>
<b>February 17</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Session Meeting</b>
<b>February 18</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>	<b>Lenten Luncheon</b>
<b>February 25</b>	<b>12:00 PM</b>	<b>Lenten Luncheon</b>

## **Pastor's Ponderings**

---

### **Showing and Sharing Christ's Love**

Helen Keller once said, "The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart."

In February, Valentine's Day is a time to celebrate the invisible gifts from the heart of love and friendship. The holiday reminds us that the most important things in our life are not things at all, but people. Our relationships are the most significant and rewarding part of our lives.

On Valentine's Day, people often send cards, and give gifts of candy or flowers. The holiday is thought of as a romantic celebration but it can be even more meaningful and expansive. Even the patron Saint Valentinus, for whom Valentine's Day is named, is recognized by the Catholic Church as having more expansive duties than we might think. Did you know he is seen not only as the Patron Saint of engaged couples but also intervenes for beekeeping, epilepsy, the plague, fainting and travelling?

We can think more broadly about how Valentine's Day is an opportunity to share Christ's love and friendship with others. We can intentionally tell people how much they mean to us. In 1 Corinthians 14:1 we read, "Let love be your highest goal."

One meaningful and inexpensive way to celebrate Valentine's Day is to write down the qualities you appreciate about your spouse, family member, or dear friend. This can become your personal Valentine's card. Because you will have taken the time to express specific qualities you treasure and admire, your Valentine will be more precious than any card purchased in a store.

The best way to show your love for someone is through your presence not presents. We offer our presence by being attentive to each other's feelings and by thoughtful listening. We can't be fully present to someone else while on the computer, staring at our phone, or watching television.

Offering our presence also means focusing on what makes the other person deeply happy, not just us. By helping the people we love experience happiness, we also find happiness ourselves. When we are thoughtful, respectful and caring in our conversation, all of our relationships are happier and more harmonious. Colossians 3:14 states, "Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony."

See you in church,



Pastor Paul



## Article of the Month



**Living Well**

By Jeanine Santelli, PhD, APRN, AGPCNP-BC, FAAN

### **Spiritual Wellness is:**

- Seeking a universal value system.
- Being able to engage in the formulation of a systematic world view, and system of values that give unity, purpose and goals to one's hopes, striving, thoughts and action.
- Seeking meaning and purpose to one's life and human existence.
- Seeking one's values, rights, and responsibilities, ethics, and code of living (may or may not be part of formal religion) through discussion and thought.
- Being engaged in transcending oneself in order to question the meaning and purpose of life and the lives of others.
- Being involved in the process of questioning all that is around them.
- Act in a manner congruent with one's values and the values of the community/society.
- The appreciation for that which cannot be completely understood.
- Seeking harmony between that which lies within (oneself) and what lies outside such as social and physical forces from the environment and other individuals.
- Being tolerant of the opposites and contradictions that exist within one's world and beliefs and influences of others.
- Having a sense of purpose, direction, and awareness.
- Developing values by first examining one's own values.
- Being comfortable talking about your spirituality.
- Spiritual Wellness is one of the interconnected eight dimensions of wellness.
- Values include:
  - respect
  - honesty
  - human life
  - family
  - education
  - religion
  - health
  - wealth
  - community service
  - diversity

Feelings that accompany this quest include:

- doubt
- despair
- fear
- disappointment
- dislocation
- feelings of pleasure
- joy
- eagerness
- discovery

In a nutshell, spiritually well people seek a universal value system and take time out of their day for spiritual growth and learning. They have a sense of right and wrong, and they act accordingly.

The spiritual dimension recognizes our search for meaning and purpose, while appreciating that which cannot be completely known.

Being spiritually well does not mean being religious; it refers to pondering the meaning of life and being tolerant of the beliefs of others and not being close minded or intolerant.

Further reading:

- <http://www.hettler.com/History/spirit.htm>
- <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hrb/hw/spiritual/>

Source: <http://www.seekingwholeness.com/terms-definitions/the-definition-of-spiritual-wellness>



## Sunday Scriptures for February



February 7	Exodus 34:29-35	Luke 9:28-36
February 14	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	Luke 4:1-13
February 21	Genesis 15:1-12	Luke 13:31-35
February 28	Isaiah 55:1-9	Luke 13:1-9



## Ushers and Greeters for February



	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Greeters</b>
	<b>Need Volunteers</b>	<b>Need Volunteers</b>
February 7		
February 14	Susan Irwin and Beth Curtiss	Wava and Jim Matzat
February 21	Carol and Bob Worden	Joy and Marv Pallischeck
February 28	Linda and Phil Bracht	Tay and Lyn Fitch

The Deacons thank everyone for serving as ushers and greeters. If you cannot serve on the date assigned, please let the office know so the correct names appear in the bulletin.

Since there are only two ushers named for each Sunday, the greeters need to help with passing the offering plates. We appreciate your willingness to participate in the service.

To save the cost of postage, the church office will not be mailing the usher and greeter schedule and duties to individuals. Instead, the Vine for February will include the usher and greeter schedule for the year, and the duties of each. A copy of the duties can also be found on the church website. The schedule and duties are available from the church office upon request.

## **GREETER DUTIES**

Only two Ushers are assigned; therefore, the Greeters have the added responsibility of passing the collection plates.

Reminder: Please be at the church 30 minutes before worship begins.

### Before the service, please:

1. Make the coffee in the kitchen first. Directions for making the coffee are posted on the wall next to the coffee pots.
2. Make juice for children. Dry powdered juice is in the upper cabinet next to the refrigerator. Use pitchers to the right of the sink.
3. Put water on the stove for making tea.

Note: If you use the last of any items, please add to the grocery list on the bulletin board by the kitchen door to Crosier Hall.

4. Put coffee mugs, creamer, sugar, napkins, four to five spoons, plastic juice cups, tea bags, etc. on the rolling pushcart located in the kitchen.
5. Put on your nametag.
6. Warmly greet those coming into the sanctuary, paying particular attention to newcomers who should be asked to sign the Guest Book listing name, address, and telephone number.

### During the service, please:

1. Stay at the back of the church for the first ten minutes of the service so you can greet any latecomers.
2. Assemble at the back of the sanctuary for the offering collection as the Lord's Prayer ends. (Bring your bulletin with you as you may wish to take part in the dedication prayer.)

The two people collecting offerings from the left side of the church should stand one behind the other on the left side of the center aisle. The two people collecting offerings from the right side of the church should stand one behind the other on the right side of the center aisle.

Proceed down the center aisle, two-by-two, to the front. The first two people go around the front pew to the outside aisles. The next two people turn in the center aisle. Collect offerings from the front of the church to the back, sending the plate from one end of the pew to the other, if the pew is full of people.

Wait at the back of the church for the organist to play the Doxology. Proceed forward, two-by-two, and form a semi-circle before the minister. After the prayer, hand the plates to the minister, turn, and go back up the center aisle to your pew, except on Communion Sunday, do not hand the plates to the minister, but instead take the plates to the back of the church.

3. During the last hymn, go to the kitchen and place the coffee pot, teapot, and juice container on the rolling pushcart. Roll the cart into Crosier Hall.

### Following the service, please:

1. Serve parishioners coffee, tea, juice and goodies (if you brought some).

2. When all have finished their drinks, roll the pushcart to the kitchen. Use the dishwasher to wash cups and spoons. Wash the coffee pot, teapot, juice container, etc. Put all back where you found them.
3. Turn lights out in the kitchen.
4. Turn lights out in Crosier Hall.
5. Check to make sure lights are out in the church.
6. Close any windows that may have been opened in the sanctuary or Crosier Hall.
7. Close the doors to the sanctuary and Crosier Hall.
8. Make sure the water faucets are off in all of the bathrooms.
9. Lock outside doors at front and back of the church.

If you have any questions, about these responsibilities, feel free to ask for help or call someone who has already served.

## **USHER DUTIES**

Only two Ushers are assigned; therefore, the Greeters will assist in passing the collection plates.

### Before the service, please:

Usher #1:

1. Turn on the lights in the church, front and back.
2. Light the candles at the front of the church.
3. If the nametag box is not on the table near the nametag board, get it from the lower right side of the marble top cabinet and place it on the table near the nametag board.
4. Have a heightened awareness for first-time visitors and give them a warm welcome.
5. Stand at the entrance to the center aisle and hand-out bulletins, which can be found on the table at the left of the aisle.
6. Get the microphones from the cabinet near the couch and the accordion door. Be ready to take the microphone to members of the congregation who are speaking during announcements and joys and concerns.

Usher #2:

1. Stand near the front door in case someone coming in from the parking lot needs help walking in, opening the door, and/or getting off his/her coat and handing it up.
2. At 10:20, using the small rope, ring the bell 10 times (the bell is located on the south wall at the back of the sanctuary).

### At the beginning of the service, please:

Ushers:

1. Seat latecomers during hymns, but not during prayers, scripture readings, and anthems. Be sure each has a nametag and bulletin.
2. Count everyone present for worship, including children and choir members. Record attendance and weather on the sheet located in the drawer of the visitors' book stand.

### During the service, please:

Ushers and Greeters: Pass the offering plates during the offering.

Assemble at the back of the sanctuary for the offering collection as the Lord's Prayer ends. (Bring your bulletin with you as you may wish to take part in the dedication prayer.)

The two people collecting offerings from the left side of the church should stand one behind the other on the left side of the center aisle. The two people collecting offerings from the right side of the church should stand one behind the other on the right side of the center aisle.

Proceed down the center aisle, two-by-two, to the front. The first two people go around the front pew to the outside aisles. The next two people turn in the center aisle. Collect offerings from the front of the church to the back, sending the plate from one end of the pew to the other, if the pew is full of people.

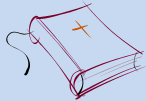
Wait at the back of the church for the organist to play the Doxology. Proceed forward, two-by-two, and form a semi-circle before the minister. After the prayer, hand the plates to the minister, turn, and go back up the center aisle to your pew, except on Communion Sunday, do not hand the plates to the minister, but instead take the plates to the back of the church.

Following the service, please:

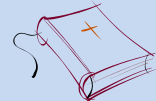
Ushers:

1. Introduce visitors to members.
2. Snuff-out the candles.
3. Remove the first sheet of the Partners in Worship pad located in each pew.
4. Put hymnals and Bibles back in the racks neatly.
5. Remove bulletins and scrap paper left in pews.
6. Re-supply Partners in Worship pads, sharpened pencils, and pew envelopes, if necessary. (Supplies can be found in the upper right drawer of the marble top chest at the back of the sanctuary)
7. Take any 'found' items and Partners in Worship sheets to the church office.
8. Be sure nametags are returned and placed alphabetically on the board (pin-on) or in the box (clip-on). Close the nametag box and leave it on the table.
9. Turn out the lights.

If you have any questions, about these responsibilities, feel free to ask for help or call someone who has already served.



## Bibles Studies



During February, the Wednesday Morning Bible Study Class speaks of:

February 3	Death of a Friend, John 11
February 10	Passover, Exodus 12
February 17	Feast of Weeks, Leviticus 23
February 24	Day of Atonement, Leviticus 16

Please join us in the Pastor's Study at 10:00 AM – everyone is welcome.



## Prayer Line



Charlotte Gillespie 536-7185  
Judy Wilbert 607-292-6958

Nancy Burt 536-8286

Please keep the following in your prayers: Art Alderman, Ken Belanger, Toni Gable, Bruce LeClaire, Ruth Soles, and Gene Spanneut.



## Food For The Needy



Non-perishable goods such as pasta, pasta sauces, peanut butter, cereals, canned vegetables, and fruits are always needed. Thank you to everyone for contribution to this program to help feed the hungry in our area and other areas. Helpers are always welcomed. Please have your contributions here at the church, in the box in the entry hall, by Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> for distribution on Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!



## Let's Celebrate



The following have birthdays and anniversaries in February. Feel free to cut this portion out and pray for those whose birthdays and anniversaries are listed below:

Art and Phyllis Alderman Anniv.	February 1	Margaret DelBono	February 11
Shirley Whyman	February 1	Minda Hopkins	February 12
Betty Peer	February 6	Jack Lighthouse	February 12
Matthew Fitch	February 6	Allan Belcher	February 13
Jack Wilbert	February 8	Allan and Barbara Belcher Anniv	February 14
Pamela Ayers	February 8	Lyn and Taylor Fitch Anniv.	February 15
David Gates	February 9	Deb Snyder	February 16
Joan Wiley	February 10	Bill Schleigh	February 26
Teresa Ballard	February 11	Ed and Carol Seus Anniv.	February 28

### Congratulations To All!

Have we missed your birthday or anniversary? If so, we are very sorry – please let us know by filling out the form below and bringing it to the Church Office!

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Church /Local News



### Annual Meeting of Congregation and Corporation

On Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, we had the annual meeting of the congregation and corporation. Following a call to order and an opening prayer, our congregational meeting began. The Pastor's Report, Clerk's report and committee reports were presented. The nominating committee noted that there is an opening for one more Deacon, the Christian Education committee noted that a



chairperson is needed, and the Scherer Education committee noted that there is an opening for another member – if you are interested in serving, please contact one of the committee members. The budget for 2016 was presented. The Pastor's Terms of Call was overwhelmingly approved – a special 'Thank you' to Pastor Paul and Linda for all that they do! The congregational meeting was adjourned, then the corporation meeting was begun with a presentation of the Trustee's report. Following adjournment of the congregational meeting, a closing prayer was offered. If you would like the annual report, it is available from the church's website (please note that the on-line report does not include any financial information).

### **News from Trustees**

**Sound system training:** Wouldn't you like to learn about the church sound system??!!! Jon Burt will be doing training on the system so we can have others available when help is needed. Please see Jon if you are interested.

**Help on the church bus:** The Trustees are looking for volunteers to help during the transportation of disabled church goers to their churches. At least 2 volunteers are needed each Sunday of our defined month. The volunteers assist with the church goers getting on and off the bus at their residence and their desired church – you are not responsible for driving the bus!! Please see Jon Burt – a sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board.

### **News from the Deacons**

**Board Book of Bible stories:** The Deacons have ordered several copies of a cute board book of Bible stories to have on hand for new babies in our church. They decided to purchase a few extra copies that will be on sale at the Presbyterian Women's Advent program on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Mothers, grandparents, aunts, friends, etc. are welcome to buy one as a Christmas gift for a child they know.

### **News from the Presbyterian Women**

**Lenten Lunch:** We are in charge of the first Lenten Luncheon on February 11<sup>th</sup> at the Baptist Church. We will be serving the same menu as last year- chicken and biscuits. We are responsible for providing the dessert. The lunch starts at noon so we need to be there to help set up by 11:15. Please let Robyn know if you can help.

**Valentines:** The Presbyterian Women are continuing the tradition of sending valentines to our young people in college and in the military. The project began many years ago when boxes of homemade cookies "from home" were sent to them. Unfortunately, the postage became too expensive. Recently, we've sent \$15 Walmart gift cards. If you would like to contribute, please give your donation to Carol Worden on or before February 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **News from the Worship and Music Committee**

**Layreaders:** We are in need of layreaders for our Sunday morning services – please sign-up on the sheet on the church bulletin board. Please note that the readings for each Sunday of the month are noted under 'Sunday Scriptures'.

## News from the Christian Education Committee

**Chair person needed:** Christian Education is in great need of a chair person and possibly another teacher – if you are interested or want to find out more information, please contact Char.

## News from Church Life

### Supper Club:

We had a wonderfully beautiful and inspiring Supper Club on Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, when the Seneca School of Performing Arts performed their 'Declare' dance show for us. They danced classical ballet as well as lyrical and modern dance, and some told their story of what inspired them to dance and to continue dancing into their late 20's – amazing and heart-warming!!! They will have a recital on May 21<sup>st</sup> at the Dundee High School if you did not get enough of their beautiful choreography. They do have a Finger Lakes Community Endowment Fund to support others interested in dance but need financial assistance (please note that donations are tax-deductible) – for more information, please visit their website at [www.senecaschoolofperformingarts.com](http://www.senecaschoolofperformingarts.com).



Please join us on Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM for our next Supper Club. The topic is entitled "Living with a Diagnosis", presented by Rev. Dr. Cynthia Huling-Hummel. Cynthia was diagnosed in 2011 with amnesic Mild Cognitive Impairment ( a precursor to Alzheimer's Disease). She will share her perspective on how to deal with losses in life and living with a diagnosis which may change over time. Her faith is an important part of her response to loss. Cynthia received her BS from Rutgers College, her MDiv. (Masters of Divinity) from New Brunswick Theological Seminary and her DMin ( Doctor of Ministry) from McCormick Seminary. She had to leave parish ministry in 2011 because of cognitive problems due to her

diagnosis of amnesic Mild Cognitive Impairment (a precursor to Alzheimer's disease). Cynthia stays active by volunteering for the Alzheimer's Association. She is a member of the Speakers Bureau and speaks in the southern tier about the work of the Alzheimer's Association. Cynthia was selected to serve on the 2015-16 National Early - Stage Advisory Council. She is one of 12 advisors from around the nation representing the needs and voices of individuals in the Early-stages. She is passionate about research and has also been in several clinical trials for nearly 5 years. She sings in a band called "Country Magic". She is auditing classes at Elmira College and has taken 26 classes in the last four years. She is taking French this semester. Cynthia is doing everything that she can to slow down the progression of the disease. She is the author of three books and loves to travel. You will find her talk very engaging. Please bring a dish to pass and your own table service.

### **News from the Outreach Committee**

**Grandma's Kitchen:** Grandma's Kitchen serves warm, home-cooked meals, served with a smile. It is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays every week from 2:20-3 PM in the Penn Yan Academy Cafeteria. 40-50% of Penn Yan Academy students rely on the school for 2 of their 3 daily meals. The goal is at least 15 churches will be involved so our church will only have to cook every 7 weeks. This has been initiated by the Penn Yan National Honor Society – leadership, character, scholarship and service. Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> is our church's date to assist with this community project – please see Joy to sign-up to help with setup and serving.

**Superbowl Subs:** Don't forget to pick-up your pre-ordered subs after service on Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. Remember, this is a fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity of Yates County - all proceeds from the sale of the subs will go to Habitat of Yates County to help build another home. The Board of Missions of the First Baptist Church is making the 12" subs on Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **News from the Higher Education Gifts Committee**

The Edward L. Scherer Higher Education Gift fund is available for all members of the church who are going on for higher education. These gifts are given out twice a year, in September and in January. If you are starting in the winter semester and want to apply, you need to find an application form on the table in the back of the sanctuary, fill it out with as much information as possible, and mail it to Linda Jackson, 364 Rt. 54 East Lake Road, Penn Yan, NY 14527 or email the application to: [jackson.linda1959@gmail.com](mailto:jackson.linda1959@gmail.com). The committee especially needs to know whether you are a full time or part time student, how many credit hours you will be taking if applicable, your major, and when you hope to complete your education. Later in the year you will be asked to provide the committee with a copy of your official registration for courses for the upcoming semester. An application needs to be filled out each year you are in school. You may also contact any member of the committee: Chairman - Charlotte Gillespie; Student Coordinator - Linda Jackson and Judith Wilbert.

### **2016 Stewardship Campaign: "Reaching in – Reaching out"**

The Stewardship Committee would like to thank everyone for their continued strong support of our Stewardship Program. As we recognize that the sharing of our stewardship gifts lasts through the year as the Reaching In and Reaching Out lists continues here, the committee can provide an update to this portion of the program.

With great thanks the committee can report that, at this time with ~75 cards returned, our total amount pledged is \$135,408. Of course, cards may be returned at any time to the church office or in the offering plate at your convenience.

With our campaign title, here are a few of the ‘Reaching In’ and ‘Reaching Out’ items listed by Robyn and Char:

**‘Reaching In’**

Making a cake for birthday Sunday  
 Stepping into greeter/usher duties when assigned person(s) have not arrived  
 Helping someone take off and hang up coat  
 Giving someone a compliment  
 Sharing a hymnal

**‘Reaching Out’**

Once Again Shoppe board  
 Safe Harbors board  
 Lyons Club  
 Keuka Comfort Care Home volunteer  
 Keuka Comfort Care Home board

Your Stewardship Team:

Pastor Paul Malles  
 Phoebe Baker  
 Phil Bracht  
 Robert Gillespie  
 Jennifer Rouin

the Rev. Anne Waasdorp  
 Linda Bracht  
 Charlotte Gillespie  
 Marcia Kneeland  
 Sonja Simpson

**Estimated Giving for 2015**

	<b>2015 Actual</b>	<b>2015 Budget</b>	<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>
January	\$15,109.00	\$11,010.00	\$4,099.00
February	\$7,812.00	\$11,010.00	-\$3,198.00
March	\$9,599.00	\$11,010.00	-\$1,411.00
April	\$14,381.00	\$11,010.00	\$3,371.00
May	\$11,668.00	\$11,010.00	\$658.00
June	\$9,160.00	\$11,010.00	-\$1,850.00
July	\$8,522.00	\$11,010.00	-\$2,488.00
August	\$8,890.00	\$11,010.00	-\$2,120.00
September	\$12,294.25	\$11,010.00	-\$1,284.25
October	\$9,488.00	\$11,010.00	-\$1,522.00
November	\$12,230.00	\$11,010.00	\$1,220.00
December	\$8,981.00	\$11,010.00	-\$2,029.00
<b>YTD</b>	<b>\$128,134.25</b>		<b>-\$3,985.75</b>
<b>Full Year</b>		<b>\$132,119.00</b>	

**Lenten Lunches**

The theme for the 2016 Lenten Luncheons is ‘Fruits of the Spirit’. The lunches begin at noon at the First Baptist Church on Main Street, Penn Yan. The cost is \$6.00 per person. Meals are being provided through the Wagner Restaurant again this year with area churches serving and providing the desserts. The following is a schedule of the lunches

**February 11:** “Love” by Pastor Rich Norman  
 Chicken and Biscuits, mixed vegetables, tossed salad and applesauce  
*First Presbyterian Church serving*

- February 18:** “Joy” by Pastor Paul Malles  
Sloppy Joes, corn, tossed salad and fruit cup  
*Milo Center UMC, Dresden UMC and Second Milo Baptist Church serving*
- February 25:** “Peace and Patience:” by Pastor Sandi Perl  
Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll and fruit cup  
*St. Mark’s and St. Luke’s Episcopal Churches serving*
- March 3:** “Kindness and Goodness” by Pastor Jeff Childs  
Beef Stew, tossed salad, roll and fruit cup  
*St. Paul’s Lutheran Church and Bluff Point UMC serving*
- March 10:** “Faithfulness” by Pastor Stephen Sanden  
Ziti, tossed salad, Italian bread, fruited Jell-O  
*St. Michael’s Catholic Church serving*
- March 17:** “Gentleness and Self-Control” by Anne Alderman, SSJ  
Scalloped Potatoes with Ham, California blend veggies, roll and fruit cup  
*Penn Yan UMC and Benton UMC serving*

### **Sign Me Up! -- The Blessing of Greeting**

One of the foundations of any vibrant church community is fellowship. This is played out weekly in our church in the gathering before and after the service. The opportunity to greet our brothers and sisters in Christ is one that the Deacons would love to see you be blessed by. You will have the perfect opportunity to put new faces and names together, check in on old friends, and be the friendly face that welcomes a guest.

Providing snacks for the fellowship time after church can be a bit daunting, or maybe just a hassle. If hospitality happens to be a gift of yours and you look forward to baking and all the rest-have at it! If having to provide food is something that usually deters you from greeting, please know that the refreshments are the last thing you should worry about! There is no need to cook or even buy more than you feel led to or are able. We have simple tastes-and there is almost always something in the freezer that can be defrosted. Also, there are friends ready to give a coffee maker tutorial if needed.

The most important part of greeting is just that-greeting. Welcome your church family to a morning of worship and fellowship! Please keep this in mind when you are called upon to greet, and if you would like to volunteer, please let the deacons know!

### **Literacy Volunteers of Ontario-Yates**

Do you know an adult who can’t read? Someone who would like to read better or earn a high school equivalency diploma? A non-English speaker who would like to communicate better or earn U.S. citizenship? Literacy Volunteers of Ontario-Yates can help. We also welcome new tutors and now have online tutor training available. For more information, please call us at (585) 396-1686 in Ontario County or (315) 536-6799 in Yates County.

### **Nursery Help**

The church needs volunteers to help in the nursery during our Sunday service. Please see the Nursery Rotation Schedule on the bulletin board to sign-up. We greatly appreciate your help!!!!

## **Do you know???**

In a closet in the church office, there are wonderfully old, old Bibles and related books. Do you have any background information about them??? If you do, we would be so excited to learn about them!!!

## **Ring in the New Year!**

The Penn Yan First Presbyterian Church's *Joyful Noise Memorial Handbell Choir* had a very successful open house in Crosier Hall on Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>. We are so excited about our new members – Alex and Jen Rouin, Lin and Beth Dickinson and Phil Bracht. If anyone was not able to come to the open house and is interested in joining the group, please contact Steve Matteson

## **Walking Can Be Fun!!!**

On Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 9 AM – 10 AM, we have an exercise group in Crosier Hall. It started with a group that used to go to Curves, then they were at the Owl's Nest, but the flooding stopped them. The group requested use of Crosier Hall until they can find another home. All are welcome – the group walks in place to a video which can be from 2-3 miles but is very low impact. This good exercise program is free but the walkers give a donation into a bucket – about once a month, they put names of local charitable organizations in a hat and choose one to give the donated money. Please come and join the fun!!!!

## **Per Capita**

The Presbytery of Geneva has worked hard to keep the Per Capita apportionment at the same amount as last year - this year they are continuing this effort to keep the amount at \$44.00.

## **Have you considered electronic giving?**

Several of our members have chosen this newer way of giving – how about you? If you wish to make church contributions automatically via electronic transfer, please request an authorization form from Linda Bracht (315-279-1545 or [pjb29@cornell.edu](mailto:pjb29@cornell.edu)).

## **Presbytery of Geneva**

Have you ever considered serving on a committee of the Geneva Presbytery? There are many ways to serve. If you are interested or know of someone with wonderful gifts, the Presbytery's Nominating Committee would like to hear from you. Please contact Rev. Leah Ntuala, Chair of Nominating at [nominating@presbyteryofgeneva.org](mailto:nominating@presbyteryofgeneva.org). If you have any questions, please let our church office know.

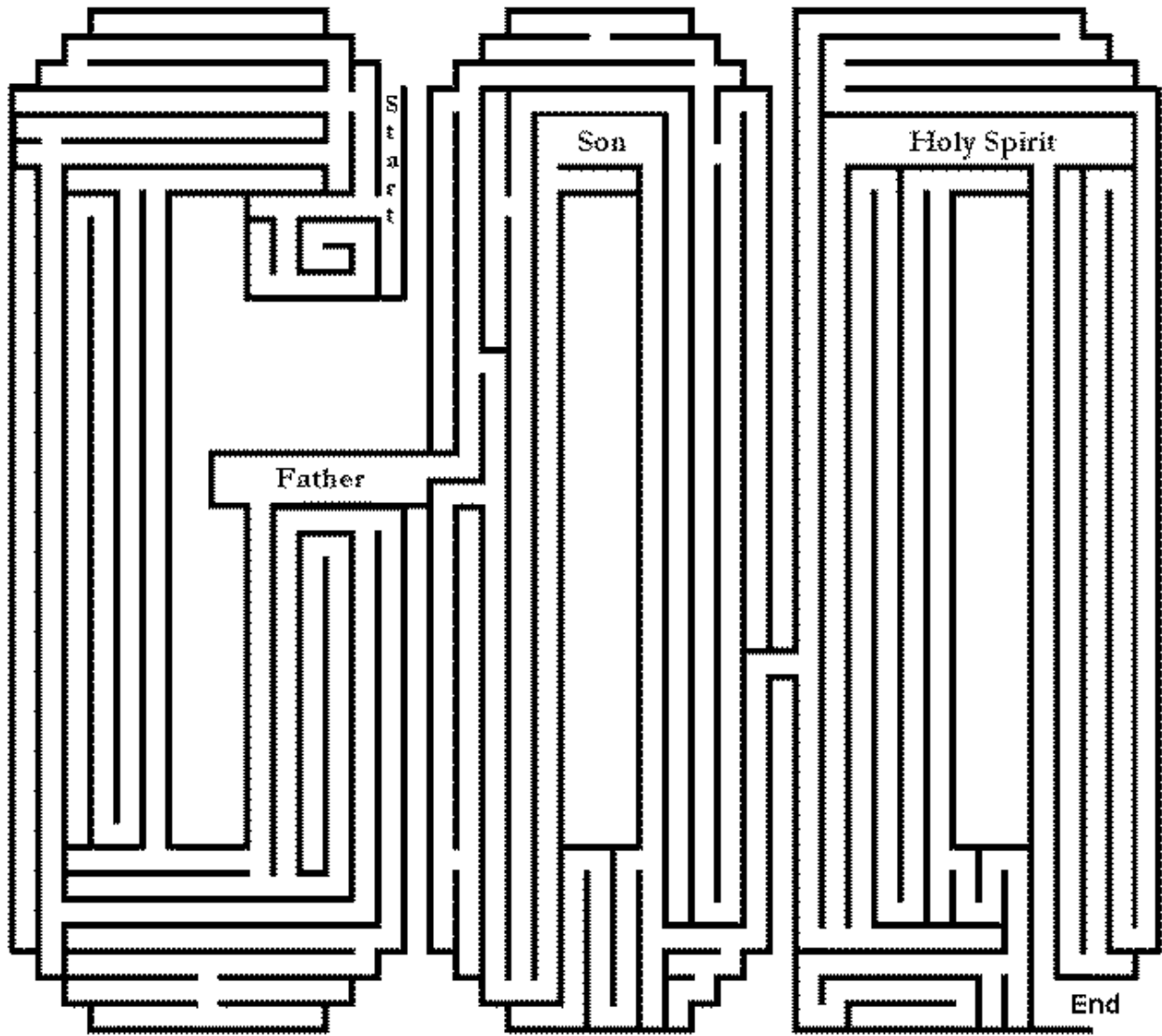
If you are interested in learning about what is happening at the Presbytery of Geneva, you are welcome to go on their website at [www.presbyteryofgeneva.org](http://www.presbyteryofgeneva.org). Click on 'Meeting Info' then enter the username 'directory' and the password 'fingerlakes'.

**Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Geneva:** For news of the Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Geneva, go to the presbytery website, then 'Presbyterian Women', and 'The Link' at the bottom of the page. Also, take a look at the Quarterly News – download the resource at [www.presbyterianwomen.org](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org); select 'about PW', then select 'Quarterly Newsletter'.

## **PCUSA – General Assembly news**

If you are interested in learning about what is happening at the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), you are welcome to go on their website at [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org). Click on ‘News & Announcements’ then ‘General Assembly News’.

# Kids Corner





## February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>Groundhog Day 2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
			10 Bible Study	2 PM Grandma's Kitchen		8 AM Mens Bkfast
		7 PM Trustee mtg	7 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 PM After School Group		9 AM Mens Bible study
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Mardi Gras 9</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday 10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
10:30 Worship Sunday School Communion			10 Bible Study	12PM Lenten Luncheon		9 AM Mens Bible Study
		6PM Supper Club	5 PM Ash Wed. Service	3 PM After School Group		
<b>Valentine's Day 14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
10:30 Worship; Sunday School 2¢ meal; birthdays 11:45 Deacon mtg			10 Bible Study	12PM Lenten Luncheon		9 AM Mens Bible Study
			7 PM Session mtg	3 PM After School Group		
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
10:30 Worship; Sunday School			10 Bible Study	12PM Lenten Luncheon		9 AM Mens Bible Study
				3 PM After School Group		
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>					
10:30 Worship; Sunday School						

First Presbyterian Church  
211 Main Street, PO Box 639  
Penn Yan, NY 14527

# February 2016

