

March 2019

The 40 days of Great Lent includes Sundays, and begins on Clean Monday (also known as Pure Monday, Ash Monday, Monday of Lent or Green Monday, is the first day of Great Lent and is a moveable feast, falling on the 7th Monday before Pascha or Easter), and are immediately followed by what are considered distinct periods of fasting, Lazarus Saturday (the day before Palm Sunday which celebrates the raising of Lazarus of Bethany, the narrative of which is found in the Gospel of John - John 11:1-45) and Palm Sunday, which in turn are followed straightway by Holy Week. Great Lent is broken only after the Paschal (Easter) Divine Liturgy.



The Vine



March 2019

First Presbyterian Church of Penn Yan

Rev. Paul E. Malles, Pastor

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

Telephone 315-536-8235

www.pennyanpresbyterian.org

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9 AM – Noon



Coming Events



| | | |
|----------|---------------------|--|
| March 2 | 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM | Men's Breakfast at Wagner Restaurant |
| | 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM | Men's Bible Study |
| March 5 | 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM | Grandma's Kitchen |
| | 7:00 PM | Trustee's meeting |
| March 6 | 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM | Bible Study |
| | 5:30 PM | Ash Wednesday service |
| | 6:15 PM – 7:15 PM | Bell Choir rehearsal |
| | 7:00 PM | Choir rehearsal |
| March 7 | 12:00 PM | Lenten Luncheon – "Friend" |
| March 10 | | 2 Cents a Meal |
| | | Deacon's meeting following service |
| March 13 | 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM | Bible Study |
| | 6:15 PM – 7:15 PM | Bell Choir rehearsal |
| | 7:00 PM | Hattie Hardman Committee meeting |
| March 14 | 12:00 PM | Lenten Luncheon – "Bread of Life" |
| March 20 | 7:00 PM | Session meeting |
| March 21 | 10:00 AM | ARC worship |
| | 12:00 PM | Lenten Luncheon – "Light of the World" |
| March 27 | 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM | Bible Study |
| | 6:15 PM – 7:15 PM | Bell Choir rehearsal |
| March 28 | 12:00 PM | Lenten Luncheon – "Cornerstone" |
| | 6:00 PM | Supper Club |

Pastor's Ponderings

Making Lent More Meaningful

Lent is the season of preparation for Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday and lasts for 40 days excluding Sundays. Ashes on a forehead mark a person's commitment to Jesus Christ. The ashes symbolize mourning and repentance. In Middle Eastern cultures, symbols of commitment, like marriage, are marked by a round colored circle on a person's forehead.

There are two special days near the end of Lent, Maundy Thursday, which marks the Jesus' last meal with the disciples, and Good Friday, the day of Christ's death on the cross.

Lent is when we prepare ourselves for Easter by strengthening our faith. Many people decide to give something up for Lent. Frequently people refrain from eating a certain kind of food like candy. People also choose to develop new positive habits, such as watching less T.V.

What might be easy for one person to give up, for another person, it would be a great effort. If you would like to give something up for Lent but are having trouble deciding, consider this question 'What will help me draw closer to God?'

If something is a struggle to give up then it might indicate that we are too closely attached to it. Making a sacrifice for Lent is a sincere way of saying, 'God, you are more important to me than this thing I am giving up.' Our sacrifice reminds us of the costly sacrifice Jesus Christ made for us.

An anonymous author offered the following spiritual challenge for Lent.

- Give up complaining and focus on gratitude.
- Give up pessimism and become more optimistic
- Give up harsh judgments and think kindly thoughts.
- Give up worry and trust God.
- Give up bitterness and turn to forgiveness.
- Give up hatred and return good for evil.
- Give up pettiness and become mature.
- Give up gossiping and control your tongue.
- Give up sin and turn to virtue.

Let's make Lent especially meaningful this year by focusing on what the Lord wants us to do and by expressing our gratitude for the greatest expression of love ever given to us.

See you in church,



Pastor Paul



Sunday Scriptures for March



| | | |
|----------|------------------------|---------------------|
| March 3 | Exodus 34:29-35 | Luke 9:28-43 |
| March 10 | Deuteronomy 26:1-11 | Luke 4:1-13 |
| March 17 | Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 | Luke 13:31-35 |
| March 24 | Isaiah 55:1-9 | Luke 13:1-9 |
| March 31 | Joshua 5:9-12 | Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 |



Ushers and Greeters for March



| | Ushers | Greeters |
|----------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| March 3 | Rachel and Rob Anderson | Phyllis Alderman, Daniel Martens |
| March 10 | Bill Turner, Connie McNamara | Robyn Ballard, Teresa Ballard |
| March 17 | TBA | TBA |
| March 24 | TBA | TBA |
| March 31 | TBA | TBA |

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. 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.



Nursery and Communion Help for March



| | Nursery | Communion |
|----------|--------------------|--|
| March 3 | Rebeccalynn, Kerri | Mary Foster, Daisy Heller, Joy Pallischeck |
| March 10 | Rebeccalynn, Kerri | ----- |
| March 17 | Rebeccalynn, Kerri | ----- |
| March 24 | Rebeccalynn, Kerri | ----- |
| March 31 | Rebeccalynn, Kerri | ----- |



Bible Studies



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

- March 6 - Called to Humility and Hospitality, Luke 14:7-14
- March 13 - A Costly Call, Mark 1:1-20, Luke 14:25-33
- March 20 - Calling the Lost, Luke 15
- March 27 - Calling to Salvation, Luke 19:1-10

If you would like to host a Bible Study in your home, please let the office know at 536-8235. Your hospitality is appreciated. Otherwise, please join us in the Pastor's Study at 10:00 AM – everyone is welcome.



Prayer Line



Charlotte Gillespie
Judy Wilbert

315-536-7185
607-292-6958

Nancy Burt

315-536-8286

Please keep the following in your prayers: Judy Darling, Jay Fadden, June Gnagy, Sue Goodrich, Callie Hopkins, Marilyn Malles, Alexander Martin, Karen Miles, Bev Pinckney, Joe Simpson, Jennifer Stollery, Mary Tennes, Joan Wiley.



Keuka Food Pantry



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. Hours of operation for the Hope Center Keuka Food Pantry are Monday, 9AM-2PM, Tuesday, 11AM-4PM and Thursday, 10AM-2PM – clients can visit the pantry for your monthly distribution on a day/time that works best for them.



Let's Celebrate



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

| | | | |
|------------------|----------|---------------------|----------|
| Janice Liebe | March 1 | Scott Steele | March 18 |
| Duane Ballard | March 4 | Rob Anderson | March 19 |
| Hanna Paulsen | March 4 | Art Alderman | March 28 |
| Jordan Hopkins | March 8 | Samuel Craver | March 28 |
| Lyman Beecher II | March 9 | Lyman Beecher III | March 29 |
| Jean LeClaire | March 10 | Charlotte Gillespie | March 30 |
| Linda Jackson | March 14 | Jen Rouin | March 30 |
| Gene Spanneut | March 18 | | |

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



News from Session

Electronic statements: With the computer input of our giving, the church is posed to send statements electronically by email – this will help decrease our spending for postage. If you currently do not receive your quarterly statement by email and wish to receive it through email, please contact Linda Bracht at firstprespy211@yahoo.com. Otherwise, the church office will distribute computer-generated quarterly statements during service for the first two Sundays after each quarter; those not distributed will then be mailed.

Penn Yan Area Council of Churches: The minutes from the Penn Yan Area Council of Churches will be posted in the office hallway.

News from Trustees

Renovations: We are still working on renovations to our church – our latest is that we had the sanctuary rugs cleaned, and now we are working on railings for the steps to the altar (thank you Jack Wilbert). Please feel free to let us know your suggestions!!!

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 Presbyterian Women

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. Tuesday, March 5th is our church's date to assist with this community project. Please see Bernie to sign-up to help with setup and serving. Last year, our church served the students – what a wonderful experience – so many 'thank you' from the students!

Meeting in February: Thank you to everyone who attended our Presbyterian Women meeting following service on Sunday, February 3rd. We discussed our event calendar and various duties and responsibilities.

Miracle Cloths: The Presbyterian Women are selling streak-free microfiber Miracle Cloths as a fundraiser – \$5.00 for each cloth. The cloth fiber is a special yarn that is strong and is virtually lint-free - it does not damage any surface. The fibers grab and hold dirt, dust and grime - tough on dirt and gentle on surface - these cloths are GREAT for cleaning windows and almost anything else. Please see Sandy Carlson.

Valentines: Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Presbyterian Women's annual 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.

News from the Worship and Music Committee

Worship and Music Committee is looking forward to spring and planning our Lenten/Easter season. Ash Wednesday is March 6th and there will be a service at 5:30. This is a quiet service with the placing of ashes if you choose. Choir will meet after the service. Palm Sunday is April 14th and is the start of Holy week. There will be Palm Branches being waved and beautiful Palm Crosses for everyone. Maundy Thursday is April 18th. In coordination with Church Life there will be a "supper service" at 6:00 PM. This is a beautiful service with the choir singing and Communion served in Crosier Hall. There will again be a community sunrise service on Easter morning. Please watch for details on the information for that. Easter Sunday service will be April 18th at 10:00AM.

Organist: Our search for an organist is continuing. If anyone knows anyone that might be able to fill the position please let Bob Gillespie (personnel) or Pastor Paul know. Once again thank you to Idelle for helping us through this transition.

Communion: Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to serve Communion for 2019. The list will be posted in the bulletin each week and a copy is on the bulletin board.

Choir: If you would like to join the choir they are always looking for new voices to join them. Rehearsals are on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM, and then each Sunday morning at 9:00 AM in the choir room.

Layreaders: Pastor Paul has all of the scriptures chosen through December so that you do have time to practice the readings in advance. Please note that the readings for each Sunday of the month are noted in the Vine under “Sunday Scriptures”. If you would like to take part in a worship service and read the scripture on Sunday morning, please sign up on the bulletin board.

News from Outreach

Superbowl Subs: Thank you to everyone who purchased the Superbowl subs which is a fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity of Yates County. All proceeds from the sale of the subs goes to Habitat of Yates County to help build another home.

News from Church Life

Supper Club: We had such fun on Tuesday, February 19th with our chili cook-off and a fun evening of bingo, and who can forget ALL those luscious desserts including the chocolate fountain!!!! Congratulations to our fun prize winners, Nancy Burt and Phyllis Alderman!!!



We are going to have another super Supper Club on Thursday, March 28th when Eric Detar and his students will tell us about their experiences in Puerto Rico on their Alternative Spring Break mission!!! Please bring a dish to pass and your own table service.

Hattie Hartman Tithe Committee

While Mother Nature has tried its best to interfere with our meetings so far this year, the committee has been able to keep moving forward. Based on grants established in 2018, checks for 2019 commitments have been sent to Camp Whitman, Dundee Our Town Rocks and Reads,

Keuka College Alternate Spring Break Mission, Literacy Volunteers, Pro Action Hope Center, Milly's Pantry and The Living Well. These grants have placed over \$111,000.00 to work in our community to help others. The task is not over and we seek other areas that we can help those in need to hear God's words and live a productive, happy life.

We hope you all enjoyed the potluck luncheon on January 13, 2019. Hopefully the information shared provided a clear picture of the efforts this committee has been working on over the last year. If you have any questions or ideas for this committee please let us know. Thank you to all that brought the wonderful meals and also to the Church Life Committee for sponsoring the event.

Peace,
Robert Constantine, Chairperson

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 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 Char Gillespie, 2888 Sherman Hollow, Penn Yan, NY 14527 or call at 315-536-7185 or email the application to: charlottegillespie41@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 - Judith Wilbert. The students receiving higher ed gifts for the 2018-2019 school year are Joshua Baxter, Keegan Baxter, Anna Detar, Abbey Duncan, Megan Fenton, Elizabeth Martens, Alexandra Rouin, Geoffrey Rouin, and Lin Dickinson.

In the 23 years that the gift fund has been used, the church has distributed \$451,791 – thank you so much to the higher ed committee and the Investment Committee for their support of our church members.

News from the Deacons

Opening: We have 4 openings on the Board of Deacons – if you are interested or want to find out more information, please contact any one of our Deacons.

2019 Stewardship Campaign: “The Blessing of Giving”

The current total amount pledged is \$131,659. We are pleased to continue to offer the choice of using an automated electronic procedure for pledged offerings. If you wish to take advantage of this method, please contact Linda Bracht, our church Treasurer and team member. She will need your bank account and routing numbers, the amount and frequency you desire for your offering. Of course, the usual method of presenting offerings continues to be available.

We make no follow-up visits for completion of cards so we encourage your attendance and participation in our Stewardship events.

Joyful Noise Memorial Bell Choir

The Joyful Noise Memorial Bell Choir has joined the chime and bell choir of the Methodist Church. We rehearse on Wednesdays from 6:15 PM -7:15 PM alternating between our church

and the Methodist Church. We are planning to play on the 3rd Sunday of each month (but if the Buffalo Bills are playing at home on the 3rd Sunday, then we will play on the 4th Sunday!!!). If you know someone or if you are interested in playing with us, please join us on Wednesday evening. We are so fortunate to have handbells and we want to continue making Joyful Noise with them.

Lenten Luncheons

The community Lenten luncheons at the Baptist Church start Thursday, March 7th and **we are the first group to be serving**. The meal except dessert is provided. We need to provide approximately 7 dozen cookies or brownies as well as people to set up, take money, serve and clean up. We need to be there at 11:15 and the luncheon ends at 1:00; we are usually out by 2:00 (depending on number of people working). If you can help with the luncheon and/or make brownies or cookies please sign up on the bulletin board. If you choose to eat there the cost is \$7.00. This is a great community project. Please help out.

Theme for 2019 is “Names of Jesus”. Lunches begin at 12:00 PM at the First Baptist Church, 224 Main Street. The cost is \$7.00 per person. Meals are being prepared by the Wagner Restaurant with the area churches serving and providing dessert.

Thursday, March 7th, “Friend” by Rev. Paul Malles

Scalloped potatoes and ham, California blend veggies, roll, fruit cup

First Presbyterian Church of Penn Yan serving

Thursday, March 14th, “Bread of Life” by Rev. Kathy Brown

Chicken and biscuits, mixed vegetables, tossed salad, applesauce

Milo Center UMC, Dresden UMC and Second Milo Baptist Church serving

Thursday, March 21st, “Light of the World” by Rev. Leo Reinhardt

Ziti, tossed salad, Italian bread, fruited Jell-O

St. Mark’s and St. Luke’s Episcopal Churches serving

Thursday, March 28th, “Cornerstone” by Rev. Sandi Perl

Sloppy Joes, corn, tossed salad, fruit cup

St. Paul’s Lutheran Church and Bluff Point UMC serving

Thursday, April 4th, “Immanuel” by Rev. Lori Nickoloff

Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, fruit cup

Our Lady of the Lakes (St. Michael’s) Catholic Church serving

Thursday, April 11th, “Rabbi” by Rev. Jeff Childs

Beef stew, tossed salad, roll, fruit cup

Penn Yan UMC and Benton UMC serving

Name Tags

Is your name tag up-to-date, or do you need a name tag??? If so, please drop a note in the collection plate, or see an usher or greeter, or tell someone in the church office!!!

Men’s Bible Study

The Men's Bible Study typically meets at 9:00 AM on the first Saturday morning of each month in the church office.

‘Paul’s Place’

“Paul’s Place”, the Respite Care Program initiated by the Living Well, welcomed its first group to St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Penn Yan, on Thursday, November 15th, from 10:30 AM - 2:30 PM. Thereafter, the program is held the third Thursday of each month at St. Paul’s. This program is geared to serve people living and dealing with Dementia or early stage Alzheimer’s. If someone you know, or care for, could benefit from this program, please contact Kim Lyons at the Living Well at (315) 536-0838 for information and arrangements to attend.

Sunday Hospitality

Helping With Hospitality

Sunday morning is for many the core of our congregational life, a special time of the week when we gather to reflect and contemplate, celebrate, and revere life's mysteries and things of ultimate concerns. During this time, we are spending with each other and getting involved in each other's lives, deep fellowship is experienced. The relationships are the glue that hold the church together.

Sustaining each service is a group of volunteers who perform hospitality duties to make the service comfortable and pleasing for our congregation.

Many hands make light work. Everyone is encouraged to participate. As a congregation, we all share the responsibility of welcoming each other and hosting our guests. Newcomers are also invited to participate. Helping with hospitality is a great way to get to know other newcomers and longtime members and feel more a part of the church family.

Each week it takes about seven volunteers and two additional volunteers are needed monthly to support our Sunday Service. When everyone volunteers a few times during the church year, every task can be comfortably covered.

Ushers (2) - Each Sunday one usher welcomes people at the church entrance; one distributes bulletins in the aisle. Ushers help collect offerings, light candles, restock pew racks, ring church bell, manage microphone during announcements and joys/concerns, etc.

Greeters (2) - Greeters welcome people as they enter the sanctuary, encourage people to wear name tags, help with collection of offering, host Coffee Hour and chooses to make it as simple or as complex as wants (the quality of fellowship is more important than quality of the food).

Nursery - Volunteer provides adult supervision in the nursery after the Youth Message until church is over. The sermon can be heard in the nursery.

Lay Reader - Volunteer reads the Scriptures assigned by the pastor at the podium.

Communion Server - Volunteer helps serve Communion, usually the first Sunday of the month.

Birthday Cake Maker - Volunteer provides cake/cupcakes for the Coffee Hour the second Sunday of the month.

How Do I Sign Up?

The easiest way to sign-up to volunteer as a Greeter, Usher, Lay Reader, helper in the nursery, server of Communion, birthday cake baker, etc. is to sign your name in a blank space on the scheduling sheet that is posted on the bulletin board in the foyer. A complete list of duties for each task is also posted there. If you have not yet had the opportunity to volunteer at one of these tasks, feel free to ask for a coach.

It is suggested that each person volunteer for greeter and usher two times per year, once during January - June and once each July - December.

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

Thank you to our Personnel Committee for continuing the staffing of our nursery with Rebecalynn and Kerri. Please stop in to say hello if you have not met her yet!!!

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

What is Per Capita? In essence, per capita is a set amount of money (apportionment) per member that is paid to the Presbytery of Geneva, the Synod of the Northeast, and the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Just as a train cannot move without an engine, our church councils require a power source to enable them to provide basic services which support our mutual mission as the Body of Christ. Per capita covers the ecclesiastical expenses of the denomination: the coordination and evaluation of mission, and the performance of ecclesiastical, legislative, and judicial functions. Per capita is an opportunity for all members of

the Presbyterian church to participate equally, responsibly, and interdependently by sharing the organizational costs of the larger church.

What does the Book of Order say about Per Capita? “Each council above the session shall prepare a budget annually for its operating expenses, including administrative personnel, and may fund it with a per capita apportionment among the particular churches within its bounds. Presbyteries are responsible for raising their own funds and for the timely transmission of per capita funds to their respective synods and to General Assembly. Presbyteries may direct per capita apportionments to the sessions within their bounds but in no case, shall the authority of the session to direct its benevolences be comprised.” (G-3.0106)

How is per capita paid to the Synod and General Assembly in the Presbytery of Geneva? Different denominations have different ways of collecting revenue. Some receive a “head tax” of more than \$50 per member. Others receive a certain percentage of a congregation’s receipts (up to 25%). In the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), per capita is an obligation of the Presbytery. The Presbytery of Geneva affirms the interdependent nature of our church by allocating funds in the annual operating budget for Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly per capita regardless of income from the churches.

What are the consequences if a Church does not contribute to the Presbytery? The majority of congregations in the Presbytery generously contribute funds every year. When particular churches do not contribute, a greater burden of responsibility is placed on sister churches in the Presbytery to fund our mutual mission including our partnership with Synod and General Assembly. Per capita establishes a minimum level of financial participation in the vital work of our connectional church as the Body of Christ, strengthening the sense of community among all Presbyterians. It is a moral obligation we share with one another. Some sessions encourage each member to contribute per capita beyond regular giving to the church. For more information about per capita: <http://oga.pcusa.org/section/departments/per-capita/frequently-asked-questions/>

The Presbytery of Geneva is grateful for your congregation’s partnership in mission and ministry!

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).

**Presbytery of Geneva
Camp Whitman**



Camp Whitman is hiring: Camp Whitman is looking for a Maintenance Technician, Experienced Lifeguard and Kitchen Assistant – please see the April 2018 newsletter for more information but interested inquiries should email director@campwhitman.org. The camp has an Amazon wishlist at

https://www.amazon.com/registry/wishlist/16L3FFK1Q2AMZ/ref=cm_sw_r_cp_ep_ws_QVdbBb7F55EJF

Camp Whitman Capital Campaign: Help us meet our \$250,000 match – ways to give (1) checks may be written to ‘Presbytery of Geneva’ with ‘Camp Whitman Capital Campaign’ in the memo line, mailed to 2472 Route 54A, Penn Yan, NY 14527; (2) donate online at www.campwhitman.org/donate; (3) make a gift of stock at www.presbyterianfoundation.org/make-a-contribution and designate the gift to Presbytery of Geneva and add “Camp Whitman Capital Campaign” in the notes.

Presbytery of Geneva

The Nominating Committee seeks your suggestions for presbytery committee positions. All suggestions will be gratefully received and reviewed by the Nominating Committee. You may even suggest yourself for a position. Special consideration will be given for persons in churches with members not currently serving on committees, and for persons who may increase Presbytery’s diversity.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 informs us, “Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.” We are called into the church of Jesus Christ by Baptism, and marked as Christ’s own by the Holy Spirit. This is our common calling; to be disciples and servants of our Lord. Within the community of the church, some people are called to particular service.

In an effort to make our Presbytery stronger, we need all the gifts of the people in the Presbytery, which includes Teaching Elders, Ruling Elders, and parishioners of 60 churches in the Presbytery of Geneva. We are asking you to provide names of people to serve on the presbytery committees. Please give us a little information about the person you are suggesting, including some of the gifts you feel they possess. This will enable us to do our work as a committee to discern where best to ask people to serve.

Please send your list of names to Elder Phoebe Bakes, Chair of Nominating. You can email her at phbbaker@gmail.com or send a letter to Phoebe Baker, 3695 Bay View, Penn Yan, NY 14527. If the Nominating Committee does not hear from you, we will be calling you to ask for your suggestions. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

The Nominating Committee – Elder Phoebe Baker, Elder Larry Bates, Sylvia Dorschel, the Rev. James Gerling, the Rev. Cynthia Huling Hummel, the Rev. Cheryl Peeples, Elder Paul Salisbury

The Presbytery of Geneva is seeking a Presbytery Leader: for more information, go to the Presbytery of Geneva website.

Small Church Network Gathering: The Committee on Ministry is having a Small Church Network Gathering on Saturday, March 30th from 9:30-12:00 at the First Presbyterian Church of Bath, at 6 East Morris Street, Bath. The topic is ‘Facebook’. Please RSVP to the Office Administrator at the Presbytery office at officeadmin@presbyteryofgeneva.org or call 315-536-7753.

Congregational Training for Disaster Preparedness: Are you ready? – the Presbyterian Women is partnering with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) to promote disaster preparedness in local congregations. Virginia Champlin (Presbyterian Church of Geneva) and Linda Werts (Park Presbyterian Church in Newark) have received specialized training and are available to work with your congregation. You can contact them at danvirginia@aol.com or

lwerts@aol.com. PDA also offers resources to assist congregations at this link <https://pda.pcu.org/page/disaster-preparedness/>.

Presbyterian Youth Triennium 2019: The Presbytery needs a registrar in order to send a delegation from the Presbytery of Geneva. Office Administrator, Alicia Alvarez can provide the clerical support but we need a leader to shepherd this process. There is also a lot of support available through the excellent leadership of National Registrar, Molly Atkinson. Please prayerfully consider if God is calling you to provide this leadership on behalf of the youth of our Church. The reality is that without a registrar, the Presbytery cannot send a delegation. Contact leader@presbyteryofgeneva.org.

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. 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; select 'about PW', then select 'Quarterly Newsletter'.

From the Moderator's Letters:

Contact the Moderator? While you can always communicate with me through the Presbytery office, you may also contact me directly. Phone contact: (607) 583-7975 h (best choice); (607) 725-0785 c; moderator@presbyteryofgeneva.org. Peace and blessings, Dick

Help Wanted - Quarter-time Administrative Assistant position available at the First Presbyterian Church, Watkins Glen, NY. Annual salary is \$7000. Applicant must have strong PC, MS Office, and internet skills. Ability to maintain confidentiality and work with people are key to this position. Send cover letter and resume to the attention of Karen Rhodes, First Presbyterian Church, 520 N Decatur, Watkins Glen, NY, 14891.

Message from Family Counseling Ministries - The Family Counseling Ministry of the Susquehanna Association of the United Church of Christ wants to remind our church members that mental health is important for everyone. We ask you to prayerfully consider making a financial contribution to this 40-year old ministry. You, and/or your congregation, can do so by making your check out to: *Family Counseling Ministry* then send to: Phebe A. Gustafson, Business Manager, 201 Rachel Carson Way, Ithaca, NY 14850: Thank you.

Travel Communion Set Available - A retired pastor has offered a travel communion set to a church that might be in need of one. If you know of a church that could use such a resource, contact Alan Schenck at schenck@rochester.rr.com

Got Four Wheels and a Motor? - Stony Point Conference Center lost its transport vehicle in a recent crash (no one hurt but the Toyota)! If you have a vehicle to donate in good mechanical condition (newer or older), contact Rick at (845) 608-4056 by text or phone or by email at rickuffordchase@gmail.com.

Hurricane Relief - Monetary Help: You can write a check to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance directly or through your home church. Write the PDA or donate online, be sure to include your church's PIN. PDA channels 95% of all cash received directly to those affected by disasters. Grants are determined through PDA teams in consultation with presbytery teams and local PCUSA churches and their networks. Grants have been used to assist church

reconstruction, and some churches have simply used grants to assist those who need food or clothing, or even those who have lost church jobs. And for the long-haul PDA is best known for regional home repair needs-housing, supervising, and resourcing volunteer work teams from across the US.

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. Click on ‘News & Announcements’ then ‘General Assembly News’.

Kids Corner

An Angel Visits Mary

You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. Luke 1:31 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 1:26-38



K V G J E U J H T U Z G T J N
X I Y K V V V Z S H N U B K J
P D N W U E J N F O R M O O B
C J K G L L I O W N N O R S D
H B E E D G X E S N R O N Z B
I C G S R O F V B E M W D E I
H N L I U P M I I B P A V Q B
A Q V B I S H L R M W H R L A
Z Z J P J P L X T C D Q W Y G
D F H H D P F P H N A C I K A
A D A F R A I D W N V X K N B
E B W Q K U P O V X I J X Y R
Q G P L T C T L R X D L F H I
E L I Z A B E T H Q B O C Y E
Y K C N P O S T D N F E E O L

| | | | | |
|-----------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| ELIZABETH | JESUS | JOSEPH | BORN | AFRAID |
| SON | KINGDOM | DAVID | GABRIEL | BIRTH |
| MARY | TOWN | ANGEL | THRONE | VIRGIN |

March 2019

| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|--------------|-----------------------|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| | | | | | 9AM Exercise | 8AM Men's Bkfast |
| | | | | | | 9AM Men's Bible Study |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | Ash Wednesday 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 9 Choir rehearsal; 10:00 Worship; Sunday school | 9AM Exercise | 10:15-3:15 IAH 1PM Grandma Kit | 9AM Exercise 10AM Bible Study 5:30 service 6:15 Bell Choir 7PM Choir rehear | 10AM PathStone 12-8:30PM WIC 12 Lenten lunch 3:30-5 Girls Club | 9AM Exercise | |
| | 5:30PM Daisy Scouts | 7PM Trustees mtg | | | | |
| Lent 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 9 Choir rehearsal; 10:00 Worship; Sunday school 2¢ meal; birthdays Deacons mtg | 9AM Exercise 10 PW clean kitch | 10:15-3:15 IAH | 9AM Exercise 10AM Bible Study 6:15 Bell Choir 7PM HH mtg | 10AM PathStone 3:30-5 Girls Club | 9AM Exercise | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 9 Choir rehearsal; 10:00 Worship; Sunday school | 9AM Exercise | 10:15-3:15 IAH | 9AM Exercise 10AM Bible Study 6:15 Bell Choir 7PM Session mtg | 8-4:30PM WIC 10AM ARC worship 10AM PathStone 3:30-5 Girls Club | 9AM Exercise | |
| | 5:30PM Daisy Scouts | | | | | |
| 24 | Annunciation 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 9 Choir rehearsal; 10:00 Worship; Sunday school | 9AM Exercise | 10:15-3:15 IAH | 9AM Exercise 10AM Bible Study 6:15 Bell Choir | 10AM PathStone 3:30-5 Girls Club 6PM Supper Club | 9AM Exercise | 2 Hanna baby shower |
| 31 | | | | | | |
| 9 Choir rehearsal; 10:00 Worship; Sunday school | | | | | | |

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

March 2019

