

OCTOBER - 2018

Twin Churches



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, HOLLAND PATENT, NEW YORK

FROM THE PASTOR

I guess I just spend too much time on Facebook, but I'm getting pretty tired of all the hate and the division. I am done trying to figure out, or defend, my fellow Christians who use God to justify hate. I am done allowing faith to be used as a casual part of public life, a shorthand to get elected or to justify various levels of discrimination and hatred. Actually, the prevailing message of the Bible is a story of a loving God, who desires mercy from us, who gets really angry sometimes at the way we treat one another, who implores us to remember the outsider and to welcome the refugee. Jesus sums this all up very nicely by telling us many, many times to love one another as he loves us.

Our faith is not a casual tool to be used to hurt others while exalting ourselves. It does not allow those of us who confess the faith of Jesus to stand silently while God is used as a weapon to wound and kill the souls of others. Jesus expects us to love in thought, word and deed and recognize love as God's grace for all of us, not just a select few. Jesus' words actually mean something to those who believe in him.

- Susan Poole Solomon

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School classes resumed on September 16th. Beside some of our infants having grown into toddlers, we have also been blessed by having a new family whose children span all our classes and have helped us to have a sustainable pre-school class being taught by Heidi Taubert.

The teachers have been meeting informally in the hall the past two weeks. Sunday, October 21st, we will plan a more formal meeting.

- - - -

NEW BIBLES

New pew Bibles have been donated to the Church. The Session is offering the opportunity for individuals to purchase personalized dedication bookplates for insertion placement into the new Bibles. Dedication bookplates can be purchased for \$5 each and can be "in memory of" or "in honor of" a loved one or friend.

. . .

FALL FESTIVAL OF SONG

All are invited to attend the Fall Festival of Song in the Welsh Tradition, sponsored by St. David's Society of Utica. Known in Welsh as a Gymanfa Ganu, it will be held on Sunday, October 7 at 3 PM at the Clinton United Methodist Church, 105 Clinton Road, Clinton. Leading the singing will be conductor Jay Williams III from Clinton. He will be accompanied by Susan Bartholomew on the organ and Jeanne Jones on the piano. Special music will be provided by harp soloist Peggy Behrendt. Following the singing, a "te bach" (afternoon tea) will be held in the social hall. All are welcome to attend.

.....

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR FAMILIES

"You have been told, O man, what is good, and what the Lord requires of you: Only to do the right and and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8, (New American Bible)

What a changed and better world this could be if all, or even most people would make this their style of life! Let's teach this well to our children, and live it as an example ourselves!

Shalom, Cathy



Enclosed in this issue of Twin Churches is an Octoberfeast flyer. Please put it at your work-place, a local business or in a side window of your vehicle.

New addresses in our church family: Kathy Harvey, 110 Helson Drive, Rome, NY 13340, and William Doyle, 148 Par. Dr., Macon, NC 27551.

The Foothills Thrift Shop and Food Pantry will be closed on Saturday, October 20, due to Octoberfeast. The Food Pantry will be open on Wednesday, October 3 from 4-6 PM. The Food Pantry and Thrift Shop will be open on Saturday, October 6, 13 and Thursday, October 25, from 9 AM - 1 PM. The Farmer's Market, located on the Village Green all summer, will close for the season on October 6th.

Fred VanNamee, Community Relations Director for seven years for Foothills Rural Community Ministry, has recently retired from that position. Foothills will be seeking a new staff member to write grants soon.

Your prayers and get-well wishes are asked for the following:

Brenda Castle, who had neck surgery and is now home.

Stuart Gates, who had hip surgery and is now home.

Sheila Harris, whose son, Ian, is having health problems.

Marlene Koenig, who is grieving and has health issues.

Allen Solomon, who had a lung infection and spent several days in the hospital, and is now home.

A black, cotton jacket, size M, styled by 'Claiborne' has been hanging in the church narthex since last spring. If it is yours, please reclaim it. Thank you.

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Everson O. Clark who passed away September 11, 2018. Everson joined our church by letter from the First Baptist Church in Rome on February 4, 1962. He was ordained a Deacon in February of 1964 and an Elder in September of 1964. He served as Clerk of the Session from 1964 through 2004, observing the required year off after two 3 year terms. He was Chairman of the Christian Education committee and taught Senior High students in 1964, moving to Superintendent of the Sunday School, with Catherine Snell as Primary Superintendent, teaching the 5th grade in 1968. In the '70's he was secretary of L.H.S. and served on many committees, - Nominating, C-E Building addition, Major Mission Fund, Property, and his favorite,

- continued



the Bi-Centennial Coordinating Committee for our 200 year observance. After he retired from Griffiss AFB, he replaced Walt Clement as Food Bank Coordinator for the Utica Community Food Bank, delivering food from our church to Utica and picking up surplus food from organizations in Oneida County who gave their surplus food to the Food Bank. In 1991, upon the death of Alda Stirling, he filled the position as Church treasurer, until we found Kathy Lemieux. He sang in the choir from 1961 to 2013. He designed and drew Annual Report covers from 1962 through 1992. He spent his later years making wooden furniture, which can be seen throughout the Holland Patent First Presbyterian Church. On Sunday, June 4, 2017, Susan had a special Pentecost Service recognizing 24 members who had 50 years or more as members at that time, of which Everson was part of. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn. His funeral was held September 15, from the church, the Reverend Susan Solomon officiating, followed by burial in the Holland Patent Cemetery.

+ + +

LIFELONG SAINTS

Rather than limit the celebration of saints to one Sunday, some churches now observe a Season of Saints from World Communion Sunday (the first Sunday in October) to All Saints' Sunday (the first Sunday in November).

Saints aren't merely exceptional Christians, writes worship director Taylor Burton-Edwards. Instead, they're simply believers, all of whom are undergoing a lifetime of transformation into Christ's own people.

Pointing to a saint-themed hymn by Charles Wesley, Burton-Edwards notes that the lyrics are intended to be an "anthem for a lifetime," not a once-yearly occasion.

Come, let us join our friends above who have obtained the prize,
and on the eagle wings of love to joys celestial rise.
Let saints on earth unite to sing with those to glory gone,
for all the servants of our King in earth and heaven are one.

.. ..

A WELL-SHAKEN TREE: For several years I have read the Bible through twice in 12 months. It is a great and powerful tree, each word of which is a mighty branch. Each of these branches have I well shaken, so desirous was I to know what each one bore and what it would give me. And the shaking of them has never disappointed me.

- Martin Luther

AYA MISSION PROJECTS

"Aya Project Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the health and education of rural communities in The Ivory Coast. We will accomplish this goal through short term mission trips and programs that work with local agencies in the Ivory Coast empowering communities to sustain and improve the health and education of their people. Aya Project and its partner organizations are committed to providing assistance to those in need regardless of ethnicity, gender, religion or political affiliation."

The Mission Committee and Team Aya would like to thank the congregation for their amazing response to the shoe collection to support Team AYA's mission work.

"All donated shoes will be redistributed throughout the Funds2Orgs network of micro enterprise partners. Funds2Orgs works with micro entrepreneurs in helping them create, maintain and grow small businesses in developing countries."

Congratulations to Team Aya on their successful completion of the complicated process of obtaining 501(c) exempt status.

"It's been a long road for AYA Project working hard to get to this stage and we couldn't be prouder! With a lot of determination and many obstacles and missteps in our way we finally did it! We are a registered 501(c) exempt organization!! This is wonderful news for all of our donors and trip participants as your donations can now be claimed on your taxes! Our new status also helps us become partners with other organizations that can help support our growing projects. Today's a very good day."

In thanks for our church's support of team Aya, Jenifer Bouchard and Carrie Kangagh worshiped with us on September 23 and presented us with gifts the villagers hand-crafted for us. A hand-woven stole, a hand-woven blanket and a hand carved wooden mask. Jenifer and Carrie are thankful for having made friends with our church.

The Heburn family (Peg Curtacci, Carol Heburn, Dave Heburn, Kathy Lemieux and Susan Niedzielski) also thank the congregation for welcoming our Oswego family. Jenifer and Carrie are the daughters of our cousin, Cindy Heburn-Herrman and her husband John Herrman, from Oswego.

Peg Curtacci
Mission Committee Member

+ + + +

"Vegetables are a must on a diet. I suggest carrot cake, zucchini bread and pumpkin pie."

- Jim Davis

REMEMBERING OUR JOURNEY

February 9, 1927 - The matter of publishing a church paper or bulletin was discussed, but Session decided that the expense was not justified at the present time.

March 12, 1935 - Church repairs were underway and all agreed that the entire job, including everything that needs to be done, should be done now while we are worshiping in the Welsh Church. In May we reimbursed the Welsh Church 1/2 ton of coal and paid lighting bill, which we used for a time.

June 12, 1938 - During morning worship on Children's Day, 3 little girls were Baptized - Glenyce Marian, Hazel Elizabeth and Evelyn Kathryn Jones - the Reverend Samuel Holt officiating.

March, 1976 - A volunteer group called "Church Mice" was founded to do some tasks and repairs to save maintenance and money. Mert Kraft was made the Chairmouse.

** ** *

"What is an epistle?" asked Mrs. Shrode in the kindergarten class. Little Frank raised his hand excitedly. "Yes, Frank?" "An epistle is the wife of an apostle!"

- Mary Hollingsworth



October

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Julie Baum
Shirley Renninger
- 2 Kathryn Baldwin
- 5 Kathy & David Heburn A
Allen & Susan Solomon A
- 7 Grayson Marconi
- 8 Laura & Richard Gurdo A
- 9 Rich Aubry
Dan Seifried
- 10 Jessica & Ryan Meade A
- 15 Hannah Bochniak
- 18 Don & Gaby McGhee A (60)
- 20 Ken Hoover
- 21 Shawn Lemieux
- 22 Ben Phillips
- 24 Janet Hoover
- 25 Allan Stirling
- 27 Lorie Phillips
Mary Preston
- 28 Pat Bliss
- 30 Russ Golly

- NOVEMBER -

- 1 Jeff Dittl
Benett Marconi
- 4 Dale Jones
- 6 Cindy Rye

FAITH

*Is being sure of what we hope
for & certain of what we do
not see.*

Hebrews 11:1

Sunday Schedule

FELLOWSHIP HOUR:

- 7 Werbovetz
- 14 Hoover
Thayer
- 21 Coffee & Doughnuts
- 28 Beasley
Castle

PRAYER CHAIN:

Call Peggy Curtacci,
at 315-865-7498 with
any prayer requests.

SPECIAL OCTOBER DATES:

- Sunday, October 7,
World Communion
- Monday, October 8,
Columbus Day
Observance
- Sunday, October 28,
Reformation Sunday
- Wednesday, October 31
Reformation Day



First Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 303
Holland Patent, NY 13354



RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

Church E-mail Address: _____

HPPres@dreamscape.com

Church Web Site:

www.twinchurches.com

Deadline for November Twin
Churches is October 25th

CHURCHES PRAYER CYCLE

To help us be intentional in holding each other in prayer, we ask you to remember the following church, committees and ministries:

- October 7 - Three Voices: Cochran Memorial, Oneida Castle; Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church, Vernon; and First Presbyterian Church, Verona
- October 14 - Health Care Chaplain Ministry: Bassett Medical Center, Reverend Betsy Jay; Presbyterian Home, Reverend Tom Lorenz
- October 21 - Presbyterian Women, in the Presbytery of Utica
- October 28 - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program (PDA) of the PC(USA)

Reverend Susan Poole Solomon, Pastor
Victoria Stockton-Allen, Director of Music
Church Office Phone: 315-865-5754
Sunday School 8:45 AM - Sunday Morning Worship 10 AM
Nursery for children under 5 years of age available during 10 AM service