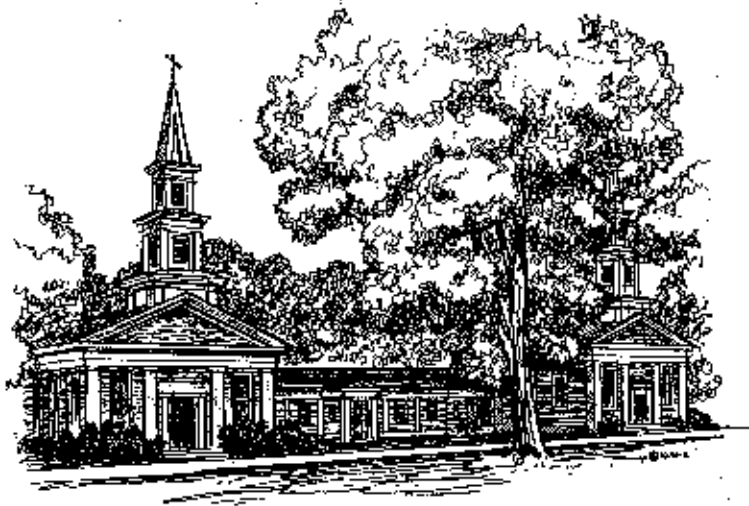


MARCH - 2018

Twin Churches



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, HOLLAND PATENT, NEW YORK

FROM THE PASTOR

It's still the season of Lent. So, please don't Easter my Lent. Because I'm angry - like shaking-my-fist-like-the Psalmist angry. I'm angry that every Sunday during the Joys and Concerns; there are so many concerns, and so often about cancer. I am angry that 18 year olds can buy assault weapons and shoot other teenagers with them. I am angry that the world has forgotten about Syria or that there are still places with no power in Puerto Rico. I am angry that a lot of people blame illness, poverty and desperation on the sick, the poor and the desperate, when actually the Holy One who walked alongside us expects us to walk alongside the sick, the poor, and the desperate, too.

This is the season when we remember that death is part of life and we are called to notice it. We are called to face it, we are called to let the reality of death reprioritize our lives. This is the time when it becomes less important to talk about how hard I have worked for all my toys than it is to work so that others get toys. This is the time to embrace activities that not only give me life, but that give others life, too. Lent reminds us that there is a world of suffering out there, and it asks how we are offering ourselves to stand with those who suffer.

There is an Easter. Just not yet.

- Susan Poole Solomon

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday, March - A date to be determined - Christian Education Committee meeting. Discuss nursery care and potential for "Junior Church"

Friday, Saturday, March 30, 31 - Famine 2018 - Good Friday-Easter Weekend
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ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Hunger - Disaster - Development

In Isaiah 58, God issues a call and a challenge—to love one another more deeply by sharing what we have with those in need. One great Hour of Sharing is our direct response to the ways in which God has called us to share.

"Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?"

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?...

You shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in." - Isaiah 58

Our One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be received on Easter Sunday, April 1. Envelopes will be available in the pews.

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CHURCHES PRAYER CYCLE

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

- March 4 - Forestport Presbyterian Church, Forestport
- March 11 - First Presbyterian Church, Holland Patent
- March 18 - Vanderkamp Center, Cleveland
- March 25 - Seminary Students

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"We live and die; Christ died and lived!"
- John Stott



Famine 2018: March 30 - 31

He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. (Psalm 146:7, NIV)

God tells us in Psalm 146:5-7, to put our hope and trust in Him. Through Him, great things can happen, but we must be faithful. It is up to us now to hear those words and act. To fast. To be transformed and to transform the lives of others.

BE HUNGRY ... so the world can be hunger-free!

- Who:** Youth Grades 6 to 12 (friends welcome!)
- Where:** Stittville United Methodist Church
- Start:** Friday, March 30 at 5 PM (begin your fast by noon)
- Finish:** Saturday, March 31 at 5 PM

➔ **Pre-Registration Required: March 11th, 4 PM at Stittville UMC** ◀

Students, you are welcome (and encouraged) to bring a friend, but they must pre-register so that we can plan.

ADULTS: You can help in one of these ways:

- Lead a service project at our church** – Inside or outside clean-up, sweeping, dusting, organizing, picking up, etc. Identify an area of need and supervise.
- Drive for scavenger hunt on Saturday, 12:45 to 3:15 PM** – You need a vehicle that can hold 4, 5 or maybe even 6 participants (a van is perfect).
- Saturday Dinner** –The Stittville church is responsible for dinner but if you'd like to make any contribution let me know.
- Monetary donations** – we will soon be collecting during coffee hour and watch for the sale of "Hungry Cookies".

See **Carol Beasley** after worship or phone/text/email:
cbasley@twcny.rr.com.

THANK YOU!

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*"Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire."
- St. Catherine of Siena*

STEBENSTOCK VIII

Stebenstock VIII concert will be returning at the Steuben Town Hall, Steuben Corners, on April 21st. Refreshments and home baked goods will be available throughout the evening and we will need volunteers to provide baked goods. If you would be willing to bake, Heidi Taubert, deacon, will be the contact person. Cookies, brownies or baked goods that don't need to be served on a plate are a few suggestions. Call Heidi at 315-865-7498 (her mom's telephone number) if you have questions or need more information. The concert is dedicated to the memory of John Brett, founder of STEUBENSTOCK, and proceeds benefit the Capital Fund of the Holland Patent First Presbyterian Church. Thank you.

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AUCTION TIME!

Session and Fellowship Committee members have begun discussing plans for the church's TENTH Time and Talents Auction. Due to many other wonderful events going on in the church in March and April, this year's Auction will be on Sunday, April 29 - a bit later than in previous years. But a later date gives all of us more time to prepare.

Please remember that this event is an important fundraiser, and that it doesn't cost anything to hold.

Just as a refresher, here are some items from past years:

Yardwork, original art work or crafts, car-washing, music lessons, babysitting, the use of your camp or vacation home, a pie or dessert every month for a year, a dessert for a special occasion, tulip or daffodil bulbs planted for you, wine, a birdhouse, dinner at your home or at a restaurant, berries picked for you, a load of cut wood or compost, etc. etc.

New ideas are always appreciated and popular!

Sign-up posters will be available at coffee hour beginning in late March. This gives all of us plenty of time to think about how we could offer our time or talents!

We plan to have information from the 2016 Auction in church soon so that you can check what items were offered by whom, and who purchased them. This is usually helpful to any sellers or buyers who have forgotten to get together over the past 2 years.

We hope everyone will be involved in some way in this fun opportunity to support our church!

Sunday Schedule

FELLOWSHIP HOUR:

4 LeBuis
11 Harvey,
Niedzielski
18 Curtacci
Lemieux
Taubert
25 Rowlands

APRIL:

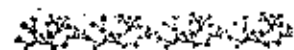
1 Volunteers

PRAYER CHAIN:

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

SPECIAL MARCH DATES:

Thursday, March 1, St.
David's Day
Friday, March 2, World
Day of Prayer
Sunday, March 11, Day-
light Saving Time
begins
Tuesday, March 20,
First Day of Spring
Sunday, March 25, Palm
Passion Sunday
Thursday, March 29,
Maundy Thursday
Friday, March 30,
Good Friday



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR FAMILIES

Jonah 3:1-10

The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: "Set out for the great city of Nineveh, and announce to it the message that I will tell you." So Jonah made ready and went to Nineveh, according to the LORD'S bidding. When Jonah had gone but a single day's walk announcing, "Forty days more and Nineveh shall be destroyed," then the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast and all of them, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, laid aside his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in the ashes. Then he had this proclaimed throughout Nineveh, by decree of the king and his nobles: "Neither man nor beast, neither cattle nor sheep, shall taste anything; they shall not eat, nor shall they drink water. Man and beast shall be covered with sackcloth and call loudly to God; every man shall turn from his evil way and from the violence he has in hand. Who knows, God may relent and forgive, and withhold his blazing wrath, so that we shall not perish." When God saw by their actions how they turned from their evil way, he repented of the evil that he had threatened to do to them; he did not carry it out.

In light of recent events, and the fact that this nation has, by far, the highest rate of gun violence of any first world country, my Lenten prayer for our nation is that "Every man, woman and child should turn from his evil way and from the violence he/she has in hand."

Shalom, Cathy

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EASTER MEMORIAL FLOWERS

Contributions for Easter flowers are being received by the Deacons again this year through Palm/Passion Sunday, March 25th. If you would like memorial names included in the Easter bulletin, please give information in writing to Patricia Aubry, 8015 Benson Road, Holland Patent, NY 13354. Information and checks made out to the First Presbyterian Church, may be mailed to Patty. Deacons will deliver the flowers and plants to shut-ins of our church family following the Easter service. Thank you.





We would like several volunteers to host our Easter Sunday Fellowship Hour on April 1st. A sign-up sheet will be available during March coffee hours.

Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday morning, March 11. Set clocks ahead 1 hour.

Boy Scout Troop 55 will hold their annual Spaghetti Supper in the church house dining room on Saturday, March 10, from 4-7 PM. All are welcome.

Foothills Needs - Seeds needed - Foothills Food Pantry offers packages of seeds to clients to encourage them to plant vegetables and harvest the fruit for themselves. Packets of flowers, vegetables and herbs are being requested to be donated to the pantry so that we can offer them to our clients. The seeds can be dropped off at the Foothills office. Thanks in advance for your donation.

Congratulations to our Sunday School student Mara Erway, who won an award for Integrity.

Also, congratulations to Dwight "Buzz" Putnam, science teacher at Whitesboro High School, who is retiring in June and will also step down as the official "Voice of the Warriors" at the end of the 2017-18 high school basketball season. Buzz was awarded a crystal microphone as a token of appreciation for his impact on Whitesboro Athletics and the Whitesboro Central School District as a whole. He is the son of Gail and Dwight Putnam.

Your prayers are asked for -

- * Dorothy Buley, who is undergoing tests.
- * Vera Furmanski, who was in the hospital, but is now home.
- * Bob Griffith, who was hospitalized and is now home.
- * Sandy MacLean, who is now a resident of the St. Luke's Home.
- * Dwight Putnam, who has an infection in the knee he had surgery on in December.
- * Heidi Taubert's father-in-law, who is in ICU and improving.
- * Bob and Arlene Wozna's son Bob, who has been in the hospital and is improving.

- continued



March

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Megan Hinge
- 3 Ebony Finn
- 4 Geri Gates
Paul Mueller
John Niedzielski
- 5 Kerry Welcome
- 6 Ryan Meade
- 8 Bob VanGorder
- 10 Lawson Condrey
- 11 Josh Dittl
Evan Grenier
- 12 Todd Finn
- 13 Ian Phillips
- 14 Donald McGhee
- 16 Audrey VanVranken
- 19 Virginia Kelly
- 20 Gary Harvey, Jr.
- 23 Taylor Fitzgerald
Marcia Jones
- 24 Trace Finn
- 26 Ryan Bliss
- 31 Harry Finn
Joanne Gates
Nancy Golly
Gail & Dwight Putnam A (60)

- APRIL -

- 1 Connor Dorsino
- 2 Doug Churcher
- 4 Kate Vannicola
Jaime Worden
Douglas Wynne
- 5 Shelley Wall

MORE BITS & PIECES

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to Linda and Mark Hoffman and family on the death of Linda's mother, Dayle Butterworth, St. Cloud, FL, in December.

Also, to Linda Bamford and family on the death of her sister, Cheryl Lee Kupiec of New Hartford, on February 24.

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REMEMBERING OUR PAST

March 18, 1822: Terms of Call for the Reverend William Goodale were \$300.00 annually; furnish sufficient fuel; secure a convenient house; use of land sufficient to pasture a horse and cow; a garden.

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 worshipping in the Welsh Church.

March 26, 1964: First Office of Tenebrae service with communion was introduced on Maundy Thursday.

March, 1971: A request was issued to start a Thrift Shop. It was open in April, May and June and September, October, November, on Fridays and Saturdays.

March, 1987: Dismantling of steeples started. Boy Scouts began meeting in basement of Christian Education Building.

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 April Twin
Churches is March 25th

DISPELLING THE DARKNESS

On Good Friday, many churches hold a Tenebrae worship service. Tenebrae (Latin for "darkness" or "shadows") is an ancient Christian tradition that re-creates the emotions of Jesus' Passion and death. The sanctuary gradually grows darker. As the service concludes, a Christ candle stands alone on the altar, reminding worshipers that victory is coming on Easter morning.

When Scottish missionary Peter Milne died in 1924, the thankful people he'd served in the South Pacific inscribed this message on his headstone: "When he came, there was no light; when he died, there was no darkness."

Death's darkness couldn't conquer Jesus, the light of the world, so it does not conquer us. "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:5, ESV).

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 6 years of age available during 10 AM service