

JULY - AUGUST - 2018

# Twin Churches



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, HOLLAND TOWN, NEW YORK

## FROM THE PASTOR

*I love words. I respect words. I make my living with words. I'm called to use words. I believe words matter. Beautiful words artfully placed together by the likes of Pat Conroy and Alison McGhee and Mary Oliver and Lin Manuel Miranda can change lives.*

*But sometimes there are too many words - sometimes I feel bombarded by words. Maybe you feel that way, too, and wish my Front Page would use less words. So, since it's summer and we are busy, I decided to share just a few factoids - a quick read - about what happened at the meeting of our denomination's General Assembly last month.*

*Did you know that Presbyterians in St. Louis during the General Assembly bailed out over 3 dozen poor, non-violent offenders who could not pay their cash bail for minor offenses?*

*Did you know that there is an Arabic speaking Presbyterian Church in Des Moines, Iowa led by a clergywoman from South Sudan?*

*Did you know that members of our denomination have donated over 1.5 million dollars in grants to Puerto Rico since Hurricane Maria hit the island in 2016?*

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FROM THE PASTOR continued:

Did you know that the Presbyterian Church has 220 congregations and 22 schools serving 600 students in Pakistan?

Just a few words on information and inspiration. Enjoy the summer!!

- Susan Poole Solomon

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DELAWARE WORK CAMP

Several of our young people are in Delaware this week as part of the Presbytery of Utica Delaware Work Camp for Youth. Sarah and Shawn DePalma are along as counselors; along with the following youth from our congregation: Kathryn Buchanan, Trevor Harter, Nina Lemieux, Megan Baldwin and Jada from Finndale Farms. They are due back July 14.

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PIES IN THE PARK

Wednesday, August 15

Pies In The Park will return during the Holland Patent Village concert in the park on August 15th.

We need donations of homemade pies and other desserts. Please - no items in need of chilling.

We also need helpers to set up at 5:30 P.M. Peb, Kathy Lemieux, Gaby McGhee and Artis Finn are helping so far. We also need servers and someone to collect money during the concert.

Please contact Peg Curtacci if you can help in any way. Telephone: 315-865-7498. Caller text e-mail: pcurtacci.1947@gmail.com  
Facebook: Peg Curtacci.

Thanks in advance for your help.

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SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP IN THE PARK

Sunday worship at 10 AM will be in the Village Park all summer, weather permitting. You can bring your own chair or blanket, and we will have plenty of chairs set up. See you there.

### JULY CALENDAR

- SUN 1** Morning Worship with Communion, 10 AM
- SAT 7** Thrift Shop, Food Pantry, Farmer's Market, 9 AM - 1 PM  
A.A., 11 AM
- SUN 8** Morning Worship, 10 AM
- SAT 14** Thrift Shop, Food Pantry, Farmer's Market, 9 AM - 1 PM  
A.A., 11 AM
- SUN 15** Morning Worship, 10 AM
- SAT 21** Thrift Shop, Food Pantry, Farmer's Market, 9 AM - 1 PM  
A.A., 11 AM
- SUN 22** Morning Worship, 10 AM
- SAT 28** Farmer's Market, 9 AM - 1 PM  
A.A., 11 AM
- SUN 29** Morning Worship, 10 AM

July 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

### AUGUST CALENDAR

- WED 1** Foothill's Food Pantry open, 5 - 7 PM
- SAT 4** Thrift Shop, Food Pantry, Farmer's Market, 9 AM - 1 PM  
A.A., 11 AM
- SUN 5** Morning Worship with Communion, 10 AM
- SAT 11** Thrift Shop, Food Pantry, Farmer's Market, 9 AM - 1 PM  
A.A., 11 AM
- SUN 12** Morning Worship, 10 AM
- WED 15** Pies In The Park, 6 PM
- SAT 18** Thrift Shop, Food Pantry, Farmer's Market, 9 AM - 1 PM  
A.A., 11 AM
- SUN 19** Morning Worship, 10 AM
- SAT 25** Farmer's Market, 9 AM - 1 PM  
A.A., 11 AM
- SUN 26** Morning Worship, 10 AM  
Notices due for September Twin Churches

August 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

September 16 begins our new Sunday School season! The great news is that we are seeing enough young children in church to revive our pre-school class. We even have a teacher lined up!

This also means we will be needing a dependable schedule of Nursery Care volunteers and a co-ordinator. We will have a sign-up list available during Lemonade in the Park this summer.

## 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:

- July 1 - Waterbury Memorial Presbyterian Church, Oriskany
- July 8 - College Chaplain Ministry: Hamilton College,  
The Reverend Jeffrey McArn
- July 15 - Westminster-Moriah-Olivet Presbyterian Church,  
Utica
- July 22 - Church of Christ Uniting, Richfield Springs
- July 29 - Personnel Committee; of the Presbytery of Utica
  
- August 5 - The Synod of the Northeast, Syracuse
- August 12 - First Presbyterian Church, Rome
- August 19 - Weaver Home of the Presbytery of Utica
- August 26 - The Coordinating Council of the Presbytery of  
Utica

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## A TASTE OF HEAVEN

When an admirer asked renowned pianist Valdmir Horowitz how he could play so beautifully, he's said to have replied that anyone could play the notes, but the true music lay in the pauses between them. The same can be said of life.

Rabbi Evan Moffic (*Shalom for the Heart*) writes, "It is in the pauses - the rests, the spaces in between - that meaning is made and that holiness is felt." Nowadays we keep so busy there's hardly a pause or space in our day.

"But that's not the way God created us [or] the world," Moffic continues. "God worked, then rested. God created, then paused. ...Thus, our Sabbath is the day when we can marvel at the beauty of the world God created. It is the day we enjoy what the ancient sages called 'a taste of heaven.'"

# OUR GRADUATES



*Nina Lemieux*

Nina Lemieux is a member of the Holland Patent Class of 2018. Nina has been very active in our church since birth. She attended Sunday School regularly from age 2 through her senior year of high school and joined the Mission Committee in her senior year. She has attended the annual 30-Hour Famine, gone 5 years with the Delaware Work Camp group, helped out at Hope House as a volunteer and with our Sunday School. She has also helped the Worship Committee throughout the years by lighting candles and posting hymn numbers. She is going to attend MVCC in the fall for Animation and Illustration/Graphic Arts. (Wanda would be very pleased!). Nina is the daughter of Jaime and Rusty Worden and grand-daughter of Kathy Lemieux.

John Taubert is also a member of the Holland Patent Class of 2018. He has participated in the Delaware Work Camp group at our church and the annual 30-Hour Famine. John has also helped with Hope House meals and works with his family setting up for Octoberfeast. He enjoys biking, fishing and working on bikes and ATV's. His future plans are uncertain. John is the son of Heidi and John Taubert, and grandson of Peggy and Jim Curtacci.



*John Taubert*





A sign-up sheet is available every Sunday morning in the church Narthex for those who could like to provide Lemonade in the Park following worship. Coffee Fellowship Hour returns September 16.

The total of our Blanket and Tools offering received during June, was \$245.00. Thank you all!

Several in our congregation have hearing problems and often miss the prayer requests. If you are planning ahead to ask for prayers, please put them in writing and give them to Susan, so she can read them. This would help our folks with hearing issues.

Please remember to keep your financial pledge up-to-date during the summer months. Thank you.

The summer delivery of toiletries to our sisters and children at Emmaus House was received with heartfelt thanks in June. The Director and Gaby send their thanks for your faithful generosity. Next delivery will be in December.

Marie Mueller received a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from the University of Vermont.

Don McGhee received the Volunteer Driver of the Year award from the Parkway Center, Utica.

Mable Converse has a new great-grandson! Brody was born to Dan and Nicole (Seelman) Riccardi on June 20th at St. Luke's Hospital, weighing 8 lbs. 3 oz., and 20" long. Brody is the grandson of Jill and Gary Seelman and is the great-grandson of Mable, all of whom are Holland Patent residents.

BAPTISM: Ian Murray Weir was baptized during morning worship on June 10. His parents are Eric and Theresa (Murray) Weir. Ian was born on April 8, 2017, and lives at 10666 Hinman Road, Barneveld.

Laura Grenier has retired after many years as a Registered Nurse, in June.

Kathy Harvey has moved to Lee Center.



Get-well wishes to:

Janet Broadbent, who broke her hip and pelvis and is now home recuperating.

Everson Clark, who is now in the Clark Wing of St. Luke's Home after suffering a stroke.

Pat Maclean, who had surgery and is now home.

Shirley Renninger, who had surgery and is now home.

Janet Stengel, who is in rehab following surgery for infection in her knee in New Jersey, until she is strong enough for her return back to Stittville.

The Reverend John R. Sisley, Jr., passed away on May 2nd in Shelburne, VT. Reverend Sisley preached at our church many times and was an advocate of Heifer Project International. A Memorial Service was held at the First Presbyterian Church, Utica, on June 9th.

Our Christian sympathy is extended to Laurence Roberts and family on the death of his wife Margaret 'Margie' Roberts, of Barneveld, in June. Margie was our choir director in September 1985 and held that position until accepting the position of co-president of Planned Parenthood. While at our church her parents Grosvenor and Asta Murray joined our church. She is survived by her husband and 2 daughters, Daria Helmer and Sonja Cutter and 5 grand-children. Services were held on June 15 at the Unitarian Church of Barneveld.

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#### GOD'S LEFT HAND

A 6-year-old and his grandma went for a walk one autumn day. "Look at the gorgeous leaves!" Grandma exclaimed. "Just think, God painted each one of them just for us!"

"Yep," said her grandson, "and he did it left-handed."

Perplexed, Grandma asked, "Why do you think God used his left hand to create all this beauty?"

"Because," said the boy matter-of-factly, "we learned in Sunday school that Jesus sits on God's right one."

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There is progress in a Christian's life when he may not seem to be going ahead - like a canal boat in a lock, when it stands still but is rising all the time.

- D. L. Moody

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR FAMILIES

## The Essence of Our Faith

*"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength."... "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."*

Mark 12:30-31

"Love God; love your neighbor." In direct, plain language, Jesus lets us know what it means to be his followers. And, while the two commandments seem simple enough, we all know they challenge us all the time. To love God with all our heart and soul might seem fairly easy. But an unexpected death of a loved one or an inexplicable tragedy can have us blaming the Almighty. Loving our neighbor—in the way Jesus means it—is incredibly difficult. It means loving that nosy person next door. It means somehow tolerating that mean-spirited bigot you see every day at work. It means opening your heart for that child searching the Manila garbage dumps for food. It means caring for those in your family and those you barely know. Our faith is boiled down to its essence in these two commandments—the most important, Jesus tells us.

- Paul Pennick

Writing in the Living Faith daily devotions booklet. This is a litmus test for all of us!

Shalom, Cathy

## SUNDAY SCHOOL'S ORIGINS

Sunday school began in England as early as 1751. Better known is Robert Raikes' work in Gloucester 30 years later. Concerned about poor children who worked in factories six days a week and often turned to crime, he offered classes on the only day kids were free. Soon various organizations offered a loose network of such Sunday schools, which taught basic reading and writing, using the Bible as a text. Ten years later, Samuel Slater started the first U.S. Sunday school in his Rhode Island textile mills. By the mid-1800s, Sunday school attendance was an almost universal childhood experience. As society became more secular and public education was mandated by the 1870s, Sunday schools focused on spiritual practices; prayers, hymns, catechism knowledge and Scripture memorization. Well into the 20th century, Sunday school served as the church's main outreach tool. Many adults fondly remember their teachers and lessons, and Sunday school continues to play a significant part in faith development.





BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 17 Jim & Bethany Marconi A
- 18 Janet Broadbent  
Julia Ferris
- 20 Pat MacLean  
Anna Niedzielski
- 21 Troy Finn
- 23 Arlene Wozna  
Mary Vannicola & Sven Smith  
A
- 27 Trudy (Finn) Dunlap  
Casimir Niedzielski
- 30 Dustin Dorsino  
Gary & Kathy Harvey A
- 31 Mary Alice Hughes  
Gary VanVranken

\* \* \* \*

OUR GOOD GOD

For the love of God is broader  
 than the measure of man's mind;  
 and the heart of the Eternal  
 is most wonderfully kind.  
 If our love were but more faithful,  
 we should take him at his word;  
 and our life would be thanksgiving  
 for the goodness of the Lord.

- Frederick W. Faber.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Sheila Saunders
- 4 John & Shelley Wall A
- 6 Gary Niedzielski
- 8 Anna Beasley & Patrick Pease  
A  
Larry & Carol Beasley A
- 10 Nancy Baum  
Shawn & Sara DePalma A
- 13 Kyle Erway  
Rachel Wengert
- 16 Christopher Hardie  
Bob Murphy
- 22 Doug & Bonnie Churcher A  
Ken & Janet Hoover A
- 24 Laura & Evan Grenier
- 26 Colin Baldwin
- 28 Gail & Milt Smith A
- 29 Jon & Tina Dziekan A
- 30 Mary Beth Olney

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- SEPTEMBER -

- 1 Laura Howard
- 4 Patty Aubry  
Mable Converse
- 5 Eric Koenig  
Taylor & James Fitzgerald A

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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 September Twin  
Churches is August 26th

HUGGING

Hugging is healthy. It helps the body's immunity system, it keeps you healthier, it cures depression, it reduces stress, it induces sleep, it's invigorating, it's rejuvenating, it has no unpleasant side effects, and hugging is nothing less than a miracle drug.



Hugging is all natural: it is organic, naturally sweet, no pesticides, no preservatives, no artificial ingredients and 100 percent wholesome.

Hugging is practically perfect: There are no movable parts, no batteries to wear out, no periodic checkups, low energy consumption, high energy yield, inflation-proof, non-fattening, no monthly payments, no insurance

requirements, theft-proof, non-taxable, non-polluting and, of course, fully returnable.

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Reverend Susan Pool Solomon, Pastor  
Victoria Stockton Allen, Director of Music  
Church Office Phone: 315-865-5754 -  
Sunday Morning Worship 10 A.M.