

TIDINGS

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10:00 am Sunday Worship

A Pilgrim Life

My life is a pilgrimage following the path of long obedience toward God, the source of all life. It has taken decades to come to this realization and begin to articulate all it means for the purpose and meaningfulness of my life. My pilgrimage began, of course, with my birth in the Los Angeles County Hospital about six weeks later than was anticipated and my first home was a tent on the beach with my four older siblings and mother and father, signifying the Kairos moment of my life and the nomadic life of a pilgrim.

Indeed, the nomadic life of a pilgrim speaks to my interim pastoral ministry because I move serving one congregation then another congregation using all the gifts God has given to me from storytelling; my ability to discern patterns of behavior throughout the history of a congregation; my oral and written communication skills to my gift of lifelong learning about change theory and the processes of transitions that include the disorientation of grief, the movement toward a new future using the new orientation of identity and adapting cultural anthropology's research indicating that every life change is accompanied by the death of the old self leading to a resurrection of a new self with community rituals to signify the life change; my continued thirst for knowledge whether of math, science, anthropology, or history, or computer coding; my ability to use contemporary culture examples as illustrations when teaching, using understandings of how people learn and coupling all of this with biblical narratives particularly Psalm 121, the pilgrim's song; the book of Jeremiah, Paul's letters to the Corinthian and Roman house churches as well as adapting Walter Brueggemann's work on the psalms as a movement of orientation to disorientation to re-orientation that has opened up the whole of scripture to me as a narrative structure for congregations in transition.

Yet, congregations also live a pilgrim's nomadic life though they stay in one place because their pilgrimage of long obedience toward the same direction is about seeking to faithfully discern how the community within which they dwell is changing and will be changing, so they might serve the community now and in the future as God has called them to do.

This is what you all will be doing in 2023 as the congregation continues to serve the community through Bee Full, the Food Pantry, the Samaritan Center, the Community Dinners, the Presbyterian Nursery School, the Garden of Eating community garden growing vegetables for the Food Pantry, supporting Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, the Baldwinsville Theatre Guild, and the Volunteer Center. It is also what you will be doing during 2023 by discerning what the needs of the community will be when the building of the new Micron manufacturing facility begins and manufacturing starts. What will be the impact on the community? How will people respond to the changes brought by thousands of new residents moving into the community? What should the congregation be doing to anticipate some of these changes and how can the congregation bring proactive hospitality to new residents this year and into the coming years, demonstrating the gospel of Jesus Christ and inviting new neighbors to participate in the ministries this congregation is doing?

Nomadic Pilgrims ask these questions because we are always engaging change and change will abound in 2023 just as change always has. May we embrace change and the opportunities to proclaim the good news of God's love.

Finally, may Christ's peace that brings healing to wholeness be with you all.

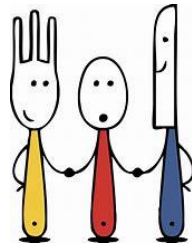
Peace,
Pastor Carson

Identity Statement

We are a loving family of God, following Christ by practicing our legacy of worship, education, and mission to neighbors.

Community Dinner!

Our next Community Dinner will be held on Thursday, February 2. We'll have a "Mid-winter Picnic" with Pulled Pork Sliders, BBQ chicken, Macaroni Salad, Devilled Eggs, Baked Beans, Watermelon, and Brownie Hot Fudge Sundaes. Save the date and join in the fun!



Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of First Presbyterian Church of Baldwinsville will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, January 29 in the Sanctuary. Copies of the Annual Report will be available.



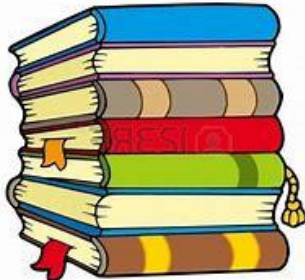
January Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 05 – Megan Gruppe | 07 – Beth Soeder |
| 08 – Lauren Benedetti | 08 – Lynn Brussel |
| 09 – Tricia Adams | 18 – Shane Adams |
| 20 – Pam Loomis | 21 – Heather McCoy |
| 30 – Roberta Roloff | 31 – Barb Church |

Add your or a loved one's birthday or anniversary date to our list by contacting the church office.

BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS!

Do you enjoy reading? Looking for good books? Let's organize a book club!!! If you are interested, we will meet on Tuesday, January 10 at 10:00 a.m. in the Media Center. Questions or conflicts, please email Victor Jenkins at victor.lee.jenkins@gmail.com



From the Deacon's Desk



The Deacons would like to express their most heartfelt thanks to the entire congregation for their contributions to our Angel Tree this holiday season. With your gifts we were able to give the spirit of Christmas to 2 families in our Baldwinsville Community- 1 family through PEACE, Inc. and the other through the BeeFull program at Baldwinsville Baker High School

The spirit of giving was truly evident from this congregation this holiday season!!!!



A Welcome and Meet the Candidate

event is set for 1-3 pm Jan. 7 in the Fellowship Hall of the CE Building and the entire congregation is invited to attend. This will be a time for fellowship and conversation with Pastor Kirsty. In addition, Pastor Kirsty will be leading worship Jan. 8.

A congregational meeting for the sole purpose of calling Kirsty Dickson-Maret to be the installed pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Baldwinsville will be held immediately following worship Jan. 8, 2023.



2023 Board of Deacons

Peg Brussel	Pam Keckison	Martha Stevens
Marge Calkins	Matt McGivney	Peggy Suddaby
Mark Chamberlin	Marty Pond*	Barb Winegard
Heidi Henderson	Joanne Rodriguez	
	*Moderator	

The January Calendar

Sundays 10 am

Worship in the sanctuary

Mondays

6:30 - Bell practice in the Sanctuary

7:00 - Scouts in the Fellowship Hall

Sat., Jan. 7

1-3:00 - Meet and Greet with Pastor Kirsty Dickson-Maret, Fellowship Hall

Sun., Jan. 8

10:00 - Worship and a congregational meeting for the sole purpose of calling Kirsty Dickson-Maret to be the installed pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Baldwinsville will be held immediately following worship

Mon., Jan. 9

10:00 - Music & Worship, in the Media Center
11:00 - Acts of the Apostles Bible Study in the Media Center (every Monday this month)

Tues., Jan. 10

10:00 a.m. - Book Club in the Media Center
7:00 p.m. - Session, Media Center

Weds., Jan. 11

2:00 p.m. - Parkinson's Support Group, Media Center

Thurs., Jan 12

7:00p.m. - Acts of the Apostles Bible Study via Zoom (every Wednesday this month)

Tues., Jan. 17

7:00 p.m. - Deacons, Media Center

- Jan. 1 - Matthew 2:13-2**
- Jan. 8 - Matthew 3:13-17**
- Jan. 15 - John 1:29-42**
- Jan. 22 - Matthew 4:12-23**
- Jan. 29 - Matthew 5:1-12**

Remember in Your Prayers & Correspondence,

since our last newsletter

♡ GRIEVING

The family of Ellie Lyness, a long-time beloved member of our church, upon her death in October

♡ HEALTH CHALLENGES

- Barry Bullis
- Nancy Dobbins
- Mimi Dundon
- Freida Mason

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Generally, names remain on the prayer list for one month. Please let the church office know if you wish otherwise.

Nursery School News!



It's hard to believe another New Year is upon us. In our preschool world that means we will be focusing on nursery rhymes with the 3 year old class. Nursery rhymes play an important role in developing vocabulary and pre-reading skills. The children have lots of fun learning and acting out many of them.

The 4/5 year old class start off the new year reviewing colors, shapes, numbers and doing a lot of practice cutting. Winter also lends itself to lots of interesting themes! Every month in preschool is a busy one.
-Jessica Newcomb-Director

News on the Scouting Front

As we headed into the holiday season, the scouts started their time with Gavin's eagle scout project where we went to Sleep in Heavenly Peace, where the scouts helped build beds for kids in need. We helped with the fall leaf clean-up. We did the B'ville parade of lights to kick off the holiday season where we decorate a float with lights and were a part of the parade. Then in December we went to the Elbridge Rod and Gun club where we made food, we shot bows and arrows and guns. We have many more fun things planned for the next couple of months.



-Noah Arnold, First Class Troop Scribe

Our church member, **Marion Sleight** is a resident at Hamilton Manor Nursing Home in Rochester. Unfortunately she has dementia. Her family is requesting that if we send cards that we send them to her son's Jim's house-then Jim will take the card to Marion and read it to her.

Jim's address is Jim Sleight
100 Winston Drive
Rochester, NY 14626



PARKINSON'S SUPPORT

We will be offering an in-person Parkinson's support group for both people with Parkinson's Disease and their care partner.

Date: Wednesday, January 11

Time: 2-3 p.m.

Place: Media Center, First Presbyterian Church

Facilitator: Marty Pond

If you have any question, please contact Marty at 315-440-0779

From the Mailbox

First Presbyterian Church-

Abundant "thank you's" for all the Christmas gifts for the Baker High School family. Your incredible generosity is amazing and it is appreciated greatly!

Thank you also for the Aldi cards and food. Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!



Take care,
Bee Full



A Message from the Resource Presbyter

Dear Ones,
 In a little over a week, I will have finished my ministry as the Resource Presbyter for Cayuga-Syracuse. While everyone seems to be counting down to Christmas, my countdown continues through the following week as we round out the year. I've decided my to-do list is a sad substitute for opening those little windows and doors on cardboard Advent calendars.

When I first began my work here, I quoted college president J. Gordon Kingsley. A year later, in August of 2020 I quoted him while we were knee-deep in COVID test kits and wondering if we would ever gather in person again. Kingsley said that leaders "need to learn the song of the tribe in order to sing the song of the tribe so that others can find their place in the song and then, together, write the next verse".

What followed were several incredible months of traveling throughout the Presbytery and listening to your greatest joys and deepest needs. I saw ministry and mission happening in so many different settings and heard questions about what it meant to be a connectional church in this time and place. When I met with the leadership in this Presbytery those questions continued.

The running joke when I arrived was "what the heck is a Resource Presbyter", but the underlying question has always been "what does it mean to be a Presbytery?". Beyond the questions of "what does a Presbytery do" or "what is the purpose of a Presbytery?" is this deeper question of meaning. It begs us to identify if there is value in a Presbytery apart from its function. As this Presbytery continues to explore possibilities of shared leadership beyond its boundaries ... this question of worthiness is a critical one.*

Is there goodness in being a Presbytery beyond its function?

My biggest regret over these three plus years is that we didn't often have a chance to sing together. Presbytery singing is different than congregational singing. If you know, you know. At our last in-person meeting when we gathered around the Table and sang "For Everyone Born a

Place at the Table" the Spirit in that place was downright palpable. It is evidence enough for me that the Presbytery is more than its function and more than the sum of its members: it is yet another way for us to join in God's song. My prayer for you all is that you find new ways of "singing" together – gathering voices and hearts in worship and work. Worrying less about the work of the Presbytery and more about *being* the Presbytery.

I don't know what the next verse looks like for me or this Presbytery. What I believe is that the song continues, and that is enough.

Blessings – Karen

Church Office – Education Center 64 Oswego St.

*Interim Pastor-----Rev. Dr. Carson O. Mouser
 Administrative Assistant-----Elizabeth Bayer
 Clerk of Session-----Stephanie Stine
 Deacon Moderator-----Marty Pond
 Director of Music & Choir-----Rheta Jenks
 Organist -----Lee Johnston
 Nursery School Director-----Jessica Newcomb*

B'Ville Express

The B'Ville Express Senior Transportation program desperately needs drivers. They provide



transportation to the seniors of Baldwinsville, helping them access essential services. Many of our seniors cannot get to crucial appointments because they have lack of transportation. If you would like to help your senior neighbors and friends, please volunteer today. Volunteers average 3 hours per week. This is a rewarding volunteer program that will help ensure our program will still be available as we head into our Golden Years! To volunteer, please call Gina at 315-638-4536.