

TIDINGS

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published in the Church Office

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10:00 am Sunday Worship



World Communion Sunday



Sometimes it's easy to forget that our congregation is part of a much larger group of Christians in the world. Back in 1900, there were around 558,346,000 followers of Jesus Christ worldwide. In mid-2023 there were approximately 2.6 billion and by 2050 the number of Christians is expected to reach over 3.3 billion!¹ People who believe that Christianity is fading away are not paying attention to the joyful spreading of the Gospel all over the world!

One way to connect with our global brothers and sisters in Christ is to take part in the celebration of World Communion Sunday, which will be on October 1st this year. Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church describes the liturgy of World Communion Sunday this way:

World Communion liturgy invites us to lean into the beautiful reality of the communal church at worship that is the global church. Every Lord's Day in every time zone, there are devoted Christians worshipping our Triune God. Whether under the shade of a tree, in a rice paddy, by a creek bed, in a grand cathedral, or in storefronts, Christ-followers all over the planet are praying and singing in indigenous ways using their languages. What a glorious picture of worship in the kingdom when we grasp the fullness of the body of Christ and sing and pray with brothers and sisters around the world.

Most Christians are likely aware of World Communion Sunday, but perhaps not as many realize that it was started by a Presbyterian minister as a gift from Presbyterians to the larger ecumenical church. The first time World Communion Sunday was celebrated was back in 1933 at the Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania. Dr. Hugh Thompson Kerr, who came up with the concept, said in an interview that at first the idea of a global celebration was slow to take off, but during the Second World War, "the spirit caught hold, because we were trying to hold the world together." Rev. Dr. Kerr spoke of keeping the world together in a spiritual sense and emphasized that we are all one in the Spirit and in the Gospel.

In some ways, every time we celebrate the Eucharist, we are joining all Christians in the world. As our Book of Order states, "When we gather at the Lord's Supper the Spirit draws us into Christ's presence and unites with the Church in every time and place. We join with all the faithful in heaven and on earth in offering thanksgiving to the triune God. We reaffirm the promises of our baptism and recommit ourselves to love and serve God, one another, and our neighbors in the world."(W-3.0409)

As we prepare our hearts and minds for World Communion Sunday let us remember that the Lord's Supper is a necessary nourishment for the work we are called to do. The Book of Order also reminds us that:

God calls the Church to continue the healing ministry of Jesus Christ, caring for one another, sharing joys and sorrows, providing support in times of stress and need, and offering admonition, forgiveness, and reconciliation. Relying on Christ's grace and the Spirit's gifts, the church seeks to shepherd its members through times of danger and death, illness and loss, crisis and celebration, struggle, and sin. In particular, these ministries flow from and are nourished by the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, signs and seals of our relationship in the body of Christ.
(W-5.0204)

What a celebration – Jesus offers his nourishment through the Holy Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper to the entire world! And the entire practicing world will be nourished so that we can carry out God’s’ mission in the world. Praise be to God!

**On World Communion Sunday, we will be returning to the traditional serving of the Eucharist with trays of cubed bread and trays of grape juice. **

1. Center for the Study of Global Christianity at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

Identity Statement

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

September Birthdays



- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 04 – Tom Eckrote | 22 – Mason Soeder |
| 06 – Nate Durkin | 26 – Kyle Rogers |
| 08 – Emily Giraudin | 24 – Carol Hovey |
| 15 – Mark Anastas | 29 – Elizabeth Bayer |
| 18 – Olivia Wachob | |

September Anniversaries

- 16 – Rick & Jackie Smith
 17 – Michael & Beth Soeder

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

2023 Session Elders

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Tricia Adams | Kathy Bowen | Andy Brussel |
| Mark Chamberlin | Jamie Gruppe | Victor Jenkins |
| Doug Russell | Stephanie Stine* | |

**Clerk of Session*

Highlights from August Session

The Rummage Sale was a huge success!!!

Thanks to so many people for their tireless efforts and in particular the Rummage Sale Committee for yet another successful event. Proceeds from this fundraising event shall be directed to a new Mission Committee that will be developed soon.

A Community "Welcome Back" Picnic has been scheduled for September 17, 2023. Hamburgers and hotdogs shall be served and we ask that everyone bring a dish that can be shared with all.

We were sorry that the **Mets game** got rained out, but it was great to hear Pastor Daryl Strawberry’s Sermon!

A Presbyterian Nursery School Workday is scheduled for August 19, 2023. **Volunteers are needed** to help with painting and general repair.

Communion Sundays are continuing at Buckley Landing. Volunteers are badly needed to assist with this community service for those that can’t attend in person. Please consider giving your time for an opportunity to support our community.

-Stephanie Stine, Clerk of Session

**Welcome Back/
End of Summer Picnic!**



A Church Picnic will be held after worship on September 17. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided. Please bring a salad or dessert. Contact Andy Brussel (arb@twcny.rr.com or 315-491-8126 (with any questions.



From the Deacon's Desk

- Please remember to wear your name tags every week- we do have visitors and it's nice for them to see your name tag. You can leave them on the table when you leave so they will be waiting for you next Sunday!
- Several church members & friends visited Bob Lasher at Brookdale Bellevue and Peggy Suddaby at Buckley Landing for their birthdays.

They were both thrilled to see us.



- As the school year starts again, we will be collecting food and Aldi gift cards for the Bee-Full program at Baker High School. A HUGE thank you to everyone who gave gift cards during the summer months.
- Traditional Communion will start being served on Worldwide Communion Sunday October 1st. We will also have the "disposable juice & cracker" available for anyone who wants it.

WORLDWIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY

On Sunday, October 1st, Worldwide Communion Sunday, we will start with our "traditional way" of serving communion when your Deacon serves the bread, there will also be a "disposable juice & Cracker" container on the plate.

If you would prefer the disposable juice & cracker, please take it at this time and then partake when we all do together!

2023 Board of Deacons

Shane Adams*	Bea Boak	Peg Brussel
Marge Calkins	Andrea Ducharme	Tom Eckrote
Heidi Henderson	Marty Pond*	Nancy Runyans
Martha Stevens	Barb Winegard	
	*Co-Moderators	

The September Calendar

Sundays

9:15 – Choir practice in the Choir Room
10:00 – Worship in the Sanctuary

Mondays

6:30 - Bell practice in the Sanctuary

Sunday, Sept. 3

10:00 a.m. – Worship & Communion
2:00 – Worship & Communion at Buckley Landing

Mon., Sept. 4

10:30 – Worship & Music, Media Center

Tues., Sept. 12

7:00 – Session, Media Center

Weds., Sept. 13

PNS begins the school year

Tues., Sept. 19

7:00 – Deacons, Media Center

**Remember in Your Prayers
& Correspondence,**

♡ HEALTH CHALLENGES

Nancy Dobbins
Linda McMahon

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

September 3 – Matthew 16:21-28
September 10 – Matthew 18:15-20
September 17 – Matthew 18:21-35
September 24 – Matthew 20:1-16

From the Mailbox



Dear Special Gifts Committee,

I would like to thank you for selecting me to be a recipient of the Arlene and Elizabeth Walter Memorial Scholarship. I am grateful to be awarded this as it will help me to pursue a degree in Sound Recording Technology at Ithaca College. Once again, I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation for this scholarship and all the Church has done for me over the years.

Sincerely,
Kelly Rogers

First Presbyterian Church-

Thanks a bunch for being so thoughtful! The Bee Full Food Pantry thanks you abundantly for your continual generosity.

-Baker Bee Full



2023 was another successful year for the Rummage Sale. A very large quantity of items were donated. We had at least one of every imaginable item. Many people worked extensively to make this sale so successful. The profit is \$2038, which is earmarked for Mission. Next year's sale will be on Aug 2&3. Start saving! Thanks to all.

-Kathy Bowen

Help Wanted!!! No experience necessary. No age limits.

Choir is making a good start and it is a joy to welcome several new members. We would gladly welcome more singers as people often have family or work responsibilities that cause absences. More people would give us more options for musical offerings. We meet briefly and promptly at 9:15 am on Sunday in the choir room. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to worship in song.

Bells will again meet on Mondays at 6:30 pm starting on Sept. 18th. New ringers are welcome. As with choir, more members give more choices of musical offerings. Any questions or comments, send me a message at Bvillercj@gmail.com or call me at 315-635-3291. Rheta, music coordinator

"Brain cells die, skin cells die, even hair cells die. But FAT CELLS must have accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior because they seem to have eternal life."

Church Office – Education Center 64 Oswego St.

*Pastor-----Rev. Kirsty H. Dickson-Maret
Administrative Assistant-----Elizabeth Bayer
Clerk of Session-----Stephanie Stine
Deacon Co-Moderator-----Marty Pond
Deacon Co-Moderator-----Shane Adams
Director of Music & Choir-----Rheta Jenks
Organist -----Lee Johnston
Nursery School Director-----Jessica Newcomb*

What is Per Capita?

As Presbyterians, we are part of a “connectional church.” That connection begins in the congregation. As a body we are in relationship with one another as we live out our communal worship — a worship that has us confess together before we engage the Word and where we come to the table together and meet our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who has died for us all. We connect with one another in worship that seeks to lift one another up in faith.

Jesus said, “I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing” (John 15:5). It is the same within our denomination. As we seek to follow Christ, we are made up of many branches. Our church here in Baldwinsville is connected to the branches known as the Presbytery, the Synod and the General Assembly. Being a connectional church takes both the contribution of gifts to per capita and the work of pastors and elders who together advise, guide and govern our General Assembly, Synods and Presbyteries.

Per capita is a set amount of money (apportionment) per member that congregations pay to the larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Said another way, it is a Presbyterian Covenant Community Fund — part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together. Because every Presbyterian shares in the benefit of the PC(USA)’s system of government, the expenses associated with coordinating and performing the functions of that system are rightfully shared by everyone as well. Specifically, the amount charged to the church each year is \$39.50 per member. The cost can change from year to year. The Presbytery receives \$25.55 of that amount, while \$4.10 goes to the Synod and \$9.85 to the General Assembly (National).

The work of the PC (U.S.A.) is extensive both in the US and throughout the world. Our church has benefitted from Presbytery in many ways, to include helping us through times of pastor illness; providing a pulpit supply list of pastors available to preach or address other needs; aiding in finding a new pastor; and paying for “Early Minister Training” (directed by Synod) for our new pastor, to name a few. The General Assembly also provides ready-made retirement and health plans

so that we do not have to provide those things in a vacuum.

There are too many amazing ministries in our connectional church to list, but a few of the other things that your per capital goes to support are:

- Funding the staff that organizes, disseminates, and sustains the Presbyterian Disaster Relief Fund to areas of immediate relief. These funds allow Presbyterians to connect with people of other Christian churches to organize mission work on a larger scale to reach places around the globe.
- Publishing (in multiple languages) and distribution (in multiple format) of the *Book of Order*, *The Book of Confessions*, and other General Assembly publications.
- Gathering church leaders from presbyteries and synods for training events.
- Providing grant monies to churches and to seminary students.
- Providing necessary tools to develop and administer ordination exams to seminarians preparing to become future pastors.
- Maintaining Church Leadership Connection, the online system that supports the call process for pastors and congregations.
- Providing information, advice, and counsel to presbyteries and pastors whose members have immigration issues.
- Supporting the Presbyterian Historical Society, ensuring that our witness to the gospel today will be preserved for future generations, just as we have learned about the history of past generations.
- Providing a Presbyterian presence at ecumenical groups and gatherings in this country and worldwide-- extending our mission efforts and our work for peace and justice far beyond what we can do by ourselves to promote Christian unity.

When we give our per capita gifts, we are not only supporting our local mission and ministry – we are supporting the overall mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) throughout the world. Please understand that this per capita is paid by our church to cover each individual member. In light of this, we ask that each individual member, who can afford to do so, prayerfully consider adding their per capita amount to their annual pledge. In doing so, you will be actively supporting the amazing mission of the PC (U.S.A.) both locally, and throughout the world!