

# TIDINGS

The Rev. Monica E. Styron, Interim Pastor

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10:00 am Sunday Worship

## The Pastor's Corner

### Sisters and Brother's in Christ:



The Easter Season is a seven-week worship celebration with a liturgy and scripture that reminds us that it takes time to integrate the significance and the meaning of the resurrection of Christ Jesus into both our personal lives and the community of faith. It involves walking with and providing hospitality to those outside our circle of friends, our comfort zone, taking on the call to be God's disciples in the larger community.

Do you think we demand enough of ourselves as a community to enrich and support our journey with God? Are you, as an individual in your own pursuit of God, taking advantage of the opportunities that do exist within the church, for example: worship, study of scripture, adult education, serving and caring for others?

The Christian Education Team has found ways to provide Adult Education regarding the Life of Jesus. The video discussions on Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm delve into the living Word and Witness of the Scriptures, including its historical context and relevance for us today.



The Deacons have taken on Mission. They are dedicated to exploring the needs of those in our congregation, our college students, and others in our larger community both nationally and internationally. Opportunities are being made available to each of us to serve, advocate and increase our compassion for others.

A new Stewardship and Finance Team Committee is forming under the chairpersonship of Miranda Pennock. If you are interested in thinking year-round about generosity, involving our young people, and exploring opportunities to serve youth in our community please join and share your ideas.

Change is all around us; it is the constant we can count on in every moment and in every human situation. Given that, it is ever more critical that we recognize and embrace the task of making choices in how we deal with the evolution of life. Each moment gives us the choice and the opportunity to open our hearts and lives to create something new that can edify the community. May we all choose wisely and without fear.

In this season of resurrection there is much to be thankful for, especially one another as we continue to grow in our relationships with one another, welcome the stranger, and lay the foundation of a revitalized faith and commitment to service here in Baldwinsville.

Christ is Risen Indeed, *Alleluia.*

*Pastor Monica*



CATCHING UP WITH

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**The Easter Egg Hunt** was a hopping success! Youngster searched for and collected 350 colorful eggs, each filled with at least one surprise. Thank you to everyone who filled eggs, placed them outside, and organized the hunt!



★ **Grades K-6** – Godly Play continues on Sunday mornings at 10 am for children in grades K-6.



★ **Grades 7-12**

Children in grades 7-12 will meet in the Media Center May 6 & 13 and June 10.



Our youth will leave the worship service during Passing of the Peace. They will read and discuss the scripture from the worship service, watch a video from the "Dream.Think.Be.Do" series and will finish at 11 am.

★ **Adult Education Continues** on Wednesdays from 6-7 pm in the Media Center each week until June 6. This is an exciting and informative video series.



You'll explore a credible Jesus for the third millennium and learn from teachers, scholars and theologians who come from protestant, Catholic, and Jewish traditions. You'll hear about the latest discoveries of documents in the deserts of the Middle East. You will be astonished and wonder why you didn't know this before.

Come and check it out!

*The more we do for others  
the more we do for ourselves.*

**Board of Deacons**

- |                 |                |                  |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Bea Boak*       | Mary Anne Luke | Marty Pond       |
| Mark Chamberlin | Freida Mason   | Joanne Rodriguez |
| Margaret Groman | Matt McGivney  | Martha Stevens   |
| Victor Jenkins* | Fred Miller    | Peggy Suddaby    |
| Pam Keckison    |                | Barbara Winegard |

\* Co-Moderators



**OF SEVEN YOUNG PEOPLE TAKES PLACE THIS MONTH...on May 20<sup>th</sup> Pentecost Sunday**

Since January, along with their Mentors, seven young people have completed their preparation for Confirmation. It is part of their "Journey of Faith", their relationship with God, what it means to be part of an interfaith community, serving others, and what it means to become a member of this church.

Those joining the church are the following:

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Brennan Gruppe</b> | <b>Sarah Dusse'</b>  |
| <b>James Brussel</b>  | <b>Stephen Adams</b> |
| <b>Nate Durkin</b>    | <b>Quinn Gruppe</b>  |
| <b>Olivia Wachob</b>  |                      |



**May Birthdays**

- |                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 02 – James Brussel   | 22 – Vincent Keckison  |
| 03 – Kevin Todd      | 23 – Gwen VanDerveer   |
| 12 – Diana Anastas   | 25 – Briana Robbins    |
| 13 – Frank Anastas   | 26 – Vincent Benedetti |
| Marion Sleight       | 27 – Bea Boak          |
| 15 – Virginia Miller | John Northrop          |
| 16 – Jackie Smith    | Kelly Rogers           |
| 21 – Emily Smith     | 30 – Laura Alt         |
|                      | Sheila Rogers          |

**May Anniversaries**

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Bob & Peg Brussel    | May 8 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Andy & Lynn Brussel  | May 9 <sup>th</sup>  |
| John & Janne Murphy  | May 16 <sup>th</sup> |
| Pat & Carol Hovey    | May 28 <sup>th</sup> |
| Tom & Sheila Rogers  | May 29 <sup>th</sup> |
| Shane & Tricia Adams | May 31 <sup>st</sup> |



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

**Deposit Bottles, Empty Printer Cartridges & Printers**  
**Keep'em Coming!**

There are receptacles in the Education Center entryway for deposit containers and ink cartridges, which provide funds for the CE program and for our office supplies.



## Nursery School News



It seems that spring has finally arrived. This month we are looking forward to incubating and hatching baby chicks. The 4's will take a field trip to the zoo, and the children will have their mothers at school for a special day celebrating them.

Thank you to all who came out and supported the plant sale. The money made for the scholarship fund allows for more children to have a preschool experience and is always appreciated. As always, the selections of hanging baskets were beautiful!!

- Jessica Newcomb, PNS Director

What do bulletproof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers & laser printers have in common?

All were invented by women!



**" NO ONE Goes Hungry "**

is part of the Center's mission. When we serve our once-a-year meal, we experience the generous and loving attitude of the staff toward their clients. It's a very humbling experience to be able to help.

Our chance to serve this year will be on **Sat., May 19<sup>th</sup>**. We need many volunteers to serve the meal at the Samaritan Center. The time frame is approximately 12:30 to 3 pm. Carpooling will be arranged. Cash donations are also gladly accepted to finance the meal.

Please help in any way that you are able. Thanks!

- Kathy Bowen, 315- 638- 8749  
Jkbowen@gmail.com

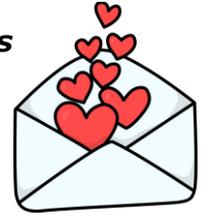


Our annual Rummage Sale on April 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> was a huge success.

Thank you to everyone who participated by donating items; advertising, setting up, working at or cleaning up the sale; and shopping!...and to the Girls Scouts for their delicious bake sale items!

Unsold items were donated to the Eastern Farm Workers Assoc. and P.E.A.C.E. Inc. Items were also provided for local hospital residents as well as students in need in the Baldwinsville School District.

## **Remember in Your Prayers & Correspondence,** *since our last newsletter*



### ILLNESS / INJURY / SURGERY

Barbara Brodie, Sean Ferguson, Nancy & Bob Lasher, Sherley Matteson, Cathy Mocyk

### AT CARE FACILITIES

Janice Bitz, Aaron Bradshaw, Louise Harkins, Ruth Henderson, Betty Naylor, Beth Northrop, Marion Sleight, Roger Todd

### PLEASE ALSO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING RELATIVES & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS:

Michelle Brockman, Grace Lord, Elizabeth Paige, John Prall, Mary Slater

### SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Ethan Derr (Marines), Connor Murphy (Navy)



Rummage Sale bargain finders.





**Make-Your-Own  
Loaded Baked Potato Bar**



In recognition of Wills Emphasis Sunday, the Special Gifts Committee will host the annual Make-Your-Own Loaded Baked Potato Bar on **Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> following worship**. We'll serve perfectly baked Idaho potatoes along with 12 toppings for you to create your own delicious masterpiece. Please join us for lunch followed by brownie hot fudge sundaes for dessert. Chicken nuggets will also be available for the folks who are not baked-potato fans. Hope to see you there!

**This SMOKING IS GOOD!**

We hold our 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Pulled Pork & Chicken Drive Thru on **Sat., May 29<sup>th</sup> from 12 noon until 6 pm.**

Complete meals include either a loaded pulled pork sandwich or smoked half chicken along with salt potatoes, Cole slaw and a chocolate chip cookie for \$9.00.

If you are interested in helping, please call me at 315-491-8126. - *Andy Brussel*

**Looking ahead to June -**

- June 10<sup>th</sup> - Moving Up Day  
Congregational Picnic follows worship
- June 13<sup>th</sup> - Community Band Concert (free)  
6 pm in Fellowship Hall
- June 16-23 - General Assembly meets in St. Louis, MO



**GRADUATE  
INFORMATION**

It's that time of year again. If you, a member of your family, or someone you know in the congregation is graduating this spring or early summer from high school, technical school, college or *any* other type of educational process, we'd like to know in order to recognize their accomplishment in our July/August *TIDINGS*.

Please call the church office at 315-635-9964 or email [admin@presville.com](mailto:admin@presville.com) and notify us of persons who should be so rightfully recognized.



**WILLS  
EMPHASIS**

In May, we emphasize the importance of including your church in your estate planning.

*\* What if no one cared to show their gratitude by providing for their church in wills or as beneficiaries on IRA's or annuities?*

*\* What if the Special Gifts funds never got replenished?*

Well, then, there would be *no* extra money for new boilers for the buildings or roof repairs or community activities or improvements to our buildings. There'd be *no* chance to have community outreach like the scholarships for deserving B-ville seniors or support for our Christian Education program (Godly Play). There would be *no* scholarships for our nursery school and funds to try new concepts and ideas that benefit our congregation and community.

*Would you want to be part a of this???????*

If you have questions or need help with how to include the church in your Estate Plan, please contact a member of the committee. Thank you!

~ ~ ~

Special Gifts Committee: Peg Brussel; Doris Hildebrandt, secretary; Victor Jenkins; Tom Rogers; Beth Soeder; Al Winegard, Treasurer; Barb Winegard, Treasurer

**Session Elders**

Harry Boak	Jeanne Le Porte	Miranda Pennock
Kathy Bowen	Luella Oakes	Margaret Sollish, <i>Clerk</i>
	Rush Pond	

Church Staff

Interim Pastor-----	The Rev. Monica Styron
CE Coordinator-----	Karyn Cavallo
Church Secretary-----	Nancy Landon
Clerk of Session-----	Margaret Sollish
Deacon Co- Moderators-----	Bea Boak, Victor Jenkins
Director of Music & Choirs-----	Rheta Jenks
Organist-----	Lee Johnston
Financial Secretary-----	Nancy Dobbins
Treasurer-----	Diana Anastas
Nursery School Director-----	Jessica Newcomb



## A FEW NOTES ON WHAT YOU ARE RECEIVING FROM THE OFFICE

One of the suggestions from the CAT survey is that we become more aware of what other churches are doing. As Presbyterians we are governed through representation of members to all councils. Thus, the members and churches are represented by those elected to serve in leadership. We elect ruling elders and deacons. We elect our elders to represent us and serve at Presbytery, and we elect representatives to Synod and to General Assembly (GA). We are a 'connectional' church in ministry and mission inspiring and supporting one another.

During this interim period the congregation and I have five 5 areas of focus for our work together. One of the five being: "connecting the congregation with the Presbytery and the larger church."

So, we, generally via email, are sending you on occasion the:

### 1. **The CAYUGA-SYRACUSE PRESBYTERY NEWSLETTER...**

that helps us get a sense of what is going on here in NY. The Presbytery is made up of congregations from the counties of Cayuga, Madison, Onondaga, and Oswego.

### 2. **The SYNOD OF THE NORTHEAST NEWSLETTER...**

that geographically covers New York, New Jersey, and all of New England. The Synod includes 22 presbyteries, about 1,000 congregations, and approximately 200,000 members. .

### 3. **"ACTION ALERTS" from PCUSA Office of Public Witness**

The Presbyterian Office of Public Witness is the public policy information and advocacy office of the GA, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Its task is to advocate, and help the church to advocate, the social witness perspectives and policies of the Presbyterian GA. The church has a long history of applying these biblically and theologically-based insights to issues that affect the public — maintaining a public policy ministry in the nation's capital since 1946.

### 4. **PCUSA & Mission** [presbyterianmission.org](http://presbyterianmission.org)

- Communications from our denominations General State Clerk J. Herbert Nelson, II. (see article to the right)

- Communications from our Co-Moderators of the General Assembly (changes every two years). The Rev. T. Denise Anderson, Co-Moderator of the 222nd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), added her voice earlier this year (see article below) to the many faith leaders present for the launch of The Poor People's Campaign in Washington, D.C.

-Pastor Monica



### **From the General Assembly Stated Clerk J Herbert Nelson II**

Stated Clerk Nelson issued a statement from the Holy Land - where he was traveling with a delegation of Presbyterian Church leaders – criticizing President Trump's decision to officially recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capitol and instruct the US State Dept. to begin moving the US Embassy from Tel Aviv. His statement is similar to that of the National Council of churches, which praised the PC(USA) delegation and asked for prayers for its safety.

*(Check [PCUSA.org](http://PCUSA.org) for the full text of the statement.)*

## **PCUSA MISSION news...**

[presbyterianmission.org](http://presbyterianmission.org)

The Rev. T. Denise Anderson, Co-Moderator of the 222<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), added her voice to the many faith leaders present for the launch of The Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival in Washington, D.C.



*"... the PC(USA) made a number of social justice commitments to include measures to dismantle racism, to address climate change and to engage with a new civil rights movement," she said, noting the overture from the Presbytery of the Cascades that called our denomination to recommit ourselves at all levels of our church to locate ourselves with the poor, to advocate with all of our voice for the poor and to seek opportunities to take risks for and with the poor."*



## **General Assembly**

What is it? What does it do?

Meetings - 223<sup>rd</sup> GA, June 16-23, 2018 St. Louis  
224<sup>th</sup> GA, June 20-27, 2020 Baltimore  
225<sup>th</sup> GA, June 23-July 2, 2022 Columbus

The GA consists of commissioners elected by presbyteries – half are ruling elders, half teaching elders. Few have served before but most have served in other church governing bodies such as the **Session**, which serves a local congregation; **Presbytery**, which serves a group of congregations; and the **Synod**, which oversees several presbyteries.

Meeting every two years, the GA reviews the work of synods, resolves church controversies, deals with common concerns of the whole church, and is a symbol of church unity.

The General Assemblies' specific responsibilities are outlined in Chapter 3 of the Book of Order.

### **How does it work?**

Reports and recommendations come from various arms of the Mission Agency and the Office of GA, headed by the Stated Clerk and staff. They work to ensure that the Church maintains itself as a church, carrying out constitutional and most ecumenical functions at the General Assembly.

The Presbytery Mission Agency carries out mission programs, supervising work directed to be done by the GA.

A second source of GA business are synod and presbytery overtures, which are used to bring recommendations and concerns before the whole church.

Commissioners' Resolutions are a third source of business, which will come before the whole assembly.

After electing a Moderator, the assembly breaks into committees, considers a number of actions and reports back with completed actions and recommendations. If approved, they guide the church in the years to come.

## **First Presbyterian Ch ch What's Missing ?**

U R ! Perhaps not you, but many *are* missing the weekly joy and inspiration of worship as a church community. If you were here on Easter, you experienced the beauty of unison prayer and singing. You can experience that every Sunday. Ask others to participate as well.

Think of all the ways we feel satisfaction as we work and play with others who have similar interests. Why do we enjoy a sports event, concert or party? Often it is simply because we are with others. The same effect can happen in church. Worship is an even greater opportunity as it is not a performance to observe but a place to participate.

We tend to get more out of something when we invest something into it. If you enjoy being part of a team, there are fundraising events such as the Ham Dinner, Drive-thru Dinners and the Rummage Sale as well as mission outreach such as our work with the Samaritan Center and Eastern Farm Workers. The Deacons are developing several projects and would enjoy your help.

Worship is a chance to seek understanding of how a Bible passage applies to us today. It's a place to learn about discipleship and loving ourselves and one another. It's a place to find friendship, search for meaning in our lives, and seek strength and courage to deal with our daily lives. God doesn't judge us by our clothes or singing ability. Everyone is welcome, whether you have been here recently or not. Jesus spoke to and taught people from all levels of society and walks of life.

We need to do the same. Hope to see "U" in church.

– Rheta Jenks, *Worship & Music Committee*

*Talk is cheap because  
the supply exceeds the demand.*

## **YOU KNOW YOU ARE LIVING IN 2018 when...**

1. You accidentally enter your PIN on the microwave.
2. You haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.
3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
4. You e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you.
5. Your reason for not staying in touch with friends and family is that they don't have e-mail addresses.
6. You pull up in your own driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the groceries.
7. Every commercial on television has a website at the bottom of the screen.
8. Leaving the house without your cell phone, which you didn't even have the first 20, 30 or more years of your life, is now a cause for panic; and you turn around to go and get it!
10. You get up in the morning and go on-line before getting your coffee.
11. You are too busy to notice there was no #9 on this list.