

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SENECA FALLS

April Newsletter 2011



Pastor's Corner-Rev. Leah Ntuala

Now that spring cleaning is finished (can I get an Amen!) we have to begin a new phase. This is the programming phase. I have heard some of your suggestions for programs and activities you would like to do as a church family, but I am always open to hearing more. One suggestion has been holding a worship service during another day and time in addition to our Sunday service. Another suggestion has been a movie group. Another has been restarting the progressive dinners. There are many more and many more yet to be brainstormed. Please share these ideas with me and one another. The next phase has to do with strengthening our current membership and inviting more people to be a part of our congregation.

I would like to begin a book discussion group. The first book we will be exploring is Martin Thielen's *What is the Least I Can Believe and Still Be Christian*. I would like to hold the book group on Tuesday evenings beginning on May 3rd at 7pm in the stage room. All people in the church and community are invited. Please purchase a copy of the book and begin reading!

Peace,  
Pastor Leah

P.S. It has come to my attention that you need my contact information, so here it is for records:

**Home Phone: 315.257.0028; Cell Phone: 315.398.4356; Email: revntuala@yahoo.com**

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I'VE ALWAYS  
LOVED  
HOW JESUS  
FACES DOWN  
TEMPTATION.

YEAH.



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

HIS POWER  
IS IN THE  
WORD OF GOD.



I WISH I KNEW  
WHICH VERSE TO USE  
AGAINST ANOTHER  
PIECE OF  
CHOCOLATE CAKE.



MATTHEW 4:1-11

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**SESSION BRIEFS**  
**Meeting of March 28, 2011**

- ◆ Elder birthdays were acknowledged with cupcakes served by the pastor
- ◆ Correspondence included thanks from the American Red Cross for the Church's part in hosting the February blood drive
- ◆ Session recorded the deaths of **John Webb, Carolyn Moran, and Thomas Dowd**
- ◆ Pastor reported that spring cleaning is finished !
- ◆ Accepted with regret, the resignation of **Music Director, Tom Harris**, effective May 22
- ◆ Approved a 3-day leave in mid-April for the church secretary
- ◆ Reminded of Maundy Thursday combined service with United Methodists at our church and urged to attend
- ◆ Learned that church insulation project is on course and being overseen by the task force

Respectfully submitted by **Elaine Ritter**, Clerk of Session  
Next meeting is Monday, April 25, 2011

\* \* \*

**WOMEN'S CIRCLE TO MEET APRIL 4**

**The Women's Circle** met on March 7. Due to a number of conflicts, we were small in number. Several hats and afghans were sent through Family Counseling.

The study in the Book of Revelation led by **Joy** had the key idea: despite the violent imagery, it is God's non-violent love that ultimately changes the world. In John's view, God's people were experiencing a new Exodus, with Jesus as the new Moses.

Armageddon and the Rapture created much discussion.

The **next meeting** will be on **Mon., April 4th** at 12:30. The usual sandwich lunch and Lesson Eight in The Horizons Bible Study. Come join us. - **Jean Morris**

**FYI: We took 22 boxes of Breakfast Cereal to the House of Concern on Mar. 21st .**  
**We thank everyone who donated to this effort !**



**April special item is PEANUT BUTTER & JAM/JELLY**

\* \* \*



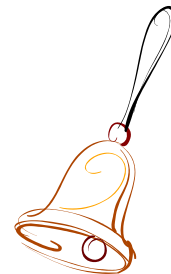
***Easter Flowers***

***Please use the sign-up sheet in the church office to list names of your loved ones you wish to remember with Easter plants or flowers, which we will list in the Easter worship bulletin.***

[ plants may be brought to the church anytime on Good Friday and Saturday morning, when they will be arranged in the sanctuary]

# HANDBELL REPORT

APRIL 2011



Many thanks have been extended to Carol Millis who directed the Handbell Choir During January and February. She is an exceptional bell ringer and has now had the experience of directing a handbell choir. She said that she enjoyed working with our bell choir and having the chance to work with a [mostly] 5 octave bell choir.

With only a few rehearsals our very talented bell ringers were able to ring bells for Pastor Leah's Installation Service. We chose *Prayer* by Jeanne Warsyn, which we have played before, and played once with just our handchimes. It is a beautiful, meditative composition and most ringers are responsible for only 2 bells which makes it a comfortable piece to play and concentration can be on the ringing style. It was a reflective piece to be played during the Offering.

The Handbell Choir will play once during Lent and again on Easter. I have chosen *Gethsemene* by Nancy Hascall, to ring during Lent. Lisa Van Delinder has given this piece in memory of her Uncle William Harter. The composer worked with Finger Lakes Bronze several years ago when I was a member and told us about composing this piece. She said that as she wrote the music, something, [in her words] "took over and the piece was writing itself." It is a difficult bell piece, so we will be working on notes and rhythms before we tackle the meaning. The Easter piece is a version of a familiar hymn and the title is *Alleluia*.

It is good to be back and rehearsing with the bell choir. It is always my pleasure to work with our talented and dedicated bell ringers.

*Marge*

\* \* \*



One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing  
Sharing resources, changing lives



Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities.

Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in our hope for one another, we respond with gifts that help our sisters and brothers around the world find the hope for a brighter future.

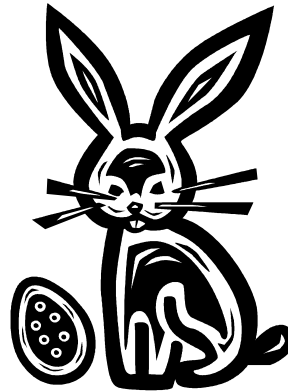
Where does the money go?

The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36 percent of undesignated One Great Hour of Sharing gifts, while the Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance each receive 32 percent.

When is the offering received?

Most congregations receive the offering on Easter Sunday, Palm Sunday or both, while many receive it throughout Lent.

[www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org)



**Easter Egg Hunt  
Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>  
10am~Noon**

The First Presbyterian Church  
23 Cayuga Street, Seneca Falls, NY 13148  
315.568.6636

Easter egg hunt, crafts and more!  
All welcome. Free.

**Christian Education**

**Sunday School began on Sunday, March 6th.** This is for children K-6th grade. Children will be excused after the Children's Message to their Sunday School Classroom located downstairs next to the church office. We are using the One Room Sunday School curriculum which allows us to teach a variety of children who are various ages in one classroom. The program includes lessons, crafts and music. Through Sunday School your children will receive more knowledge of the Bible while developing a deeper relationship with God.

Please keep your calendars free this summer for Vacation Bible School! We will be offering a VBS program for the whole community! We will need the help of the whole church for this to be a success, so keep your eyes and ears open for ways you can volunteer. The dates for Vacation Bible School are July 18-22. The Theme is Noah's Ark and the times are still to be determined.

**Church Family News**



**Thank You ... to all who helped with the Installation. You went above and beyond!**  
*The day was wonderful and spirit-filled.*

...To March newsletter helpers: **Claire Damaske, Sue Derr, & Carolyn Seem**

... To Robin Pulver [Claire Damaske's sister] for gifts to our church of her most recent children's books: *Thank You, Miss Doover*, by Robin Pulver; illustrated by Stephanie Sisson; Holiday House/New York 2010 and *Christmas Kitten Home at Last*, illus. Layne Johnson, Albert Whitman & Co. 2010. They can be found downstairs in the nursery room. Please have a look!

...to **Stephen Beals** who posts the newsletter to our church website each month. Stephen does this voluntarily and we are most grateful.

...to **Wayne Lohr** [& sometimes, Joyce], who counts up the House of Concern items each month and delivers them.

...to **Don Ritter** and crew, for their work on the stage area and getting it done by Installation weekend! And to **Wayne Lohr, Wendy Kain, Jack LaValley, Tom Harris, Dick Damaske, Pastor Leah, Jan Owen & Don Ritter** who all put in many painting-hours with such colorful results! .

..to **Marvin Lay**, for his work in repairing the lighting and wiring for the church school room, stage, nursery, and Hawley Room.

**FYI: Sermons are now available as mp3's** on our church website, [www.fpressf.com](http://www.fpressf.com). To share and enjoy. Please find a Photo Release Form to be filled out and returned to the church as soon as possible. In this digital and technical age, we wish to make sure we have your permission to use your image on our website, face book page, newsletter and other possible publications. There will also be forms available in the Narthex and Church Office. Thank you!

<b>April Birthdays</b>	
Carolyn Seem	4/05
Andrew Batty	4/11
Doreen Christopher	4/11
John Damaske	4/15
Carolyn Jessop	4/16
Dorothy Lorenz	4/17
Paul Richardson	4/20
Betty Howland	4/24
Simon Ntuala	4/24
Abigail Rescorl	4/29



**April 3rd ...4th Sunday in Lent- Communion, Bells play**

Ushers: Kathy Gee and Lindsey Gee  
Greeters: Marion Crull and Matt Crull  
Nursery: Marion Crull and Matt Crull

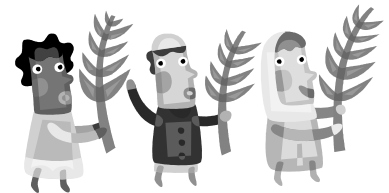


**April 10th...5th Sunday in Lent**

Ushers: Don & Elaine Ritter  
Greeters: Susan Derr & Paul Richardson  
Nursery:

**April 17th...Palm Sunday**

Ushers: Barry Porsch  
Greeters: [ Will you volunteer? Call the church office.]  
Nursery:



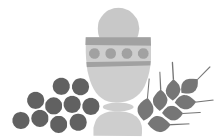
**April 24th-Easter**

Ushers: [Will you volunteer? Please call the church office]  
Greeters: Jerry & Barb Gray  
Nursery:



**May 1st...2nd Sunday of Easter...Communion**

Ushers: [Will you volunteer to usher or greet on this day? Please call  
Greeters: the church office]  
Nursery:



**Coffee Hours**

**April 3rd:** Fellowship Hour in the Social Hall  
**April 10th:** *Walk Around Cambridge, England w/Mike and Jan Day*  
**April 17th :** No Coffee Hour- *Palm Sunday Brunch*  
**April 24th:** No Coffee Hour- Easter



**Know someone ill or hospitalized?** This month, please call: **Sue Ellen Crego 568-4181**

**To Keep in our prayers:** Liz Brown, Alice Burgdorf, Terry Cooke, Ginger Davis, Paul Foote, Florence Foster, Denny Haynes, Mary Headley, Laura Hoatland, Crystal Jones, Doug Kraus, Sally Porsch, Tom Sage, Christopher & Jennifer Simpson, Katherine Schaertl, Alberta Stuck, Cathy Van Vechten, Ruby Vogel, & Fran Webb



MAY Newsletter items due Thurs., April 21...Mailing will be Apr. 28

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Phone: 315.568.6636  
E-mail: [fpresf@verizon.net](mailto:fpresf@verizon.net)  
Website: [www.fpressf.com](http://www.fpressf.com)



Church Office: 315.568.6636  
Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30-2:30

**Sunday Worship at 10am. Nursery Care available. Sunday School 10:15am.  
Coffee Hour in Eastman Hall following worship.**

Rev. Leah Ntuala-Pastor  
Rev. Dr. Peter J. Crego-Pastor Emeritus  
Elaine Ritter-Clerk of Session  
Karen Beals-Treasurer  
Tom W. Harris-Director of Music & Organist  
Marjorie Farenholz- Hand bell Choir Director  
Kyle Bruzda- Sexton  
Joyce Lohr-Secretary

Session meets of the 4th Monday of each month at 7pm.  
Presently serving Elders: Jeb Becker, Richard Burtless, Richard Damaske Susan Derr, Kathy Gee, Scott Jessop, Wendy Kain, Marvin Lay, Barbara Lohr, Jannette Monterville, Paul Richardson, Elaine Ritter, Clerk of Session and Rev. Leah Ntuala, moderator.