

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SENECA FALLS

June Newsletter 2012

PASTOR'S CORNER

Rev. Leah Ntuala

"We are God's people" Psalm 100 (The Message)

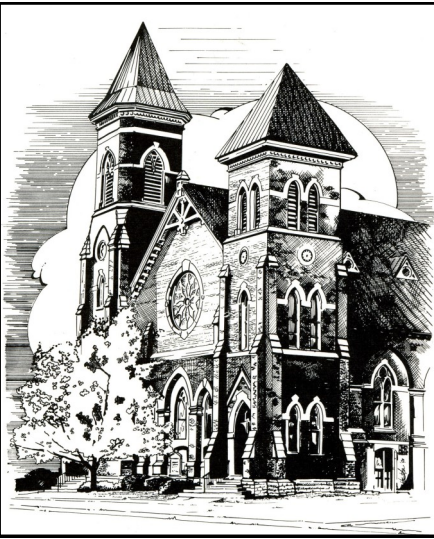
This past meeting of the Presbytery I had the privilege of hearing some great speakers from our denomination, Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson from The Office of Public Witness in Washington D.C. and Elder Rick Ufford-Chase, former Moderator of the Presbytery and co-director of Stony Point Center, Executive Director of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship.

J. Herbert extended the call to us as followers of Christ to "be transformers of the present reality". He said, "Right now is the time for PCUSA to be what it has been, a light on the hill. We need to be involved in our communities." The role of The Office, as well as our role as followers of Jesus is "to be advocates; speaking truth to power in love." J. Herbert stressed that "We need to be vigilant and engaged. We can't run from responsibility."

Elder Rick Ufford-Chase encouraged all of us in our journeys saying, "It is a challenge to be a church that stands for something." He encouraged us with the scripture from 1 John which reminds us that we abide in God and God abides in us. This scripture calls us to live boldly with God. Rick reminded us that Jesus was with the people, on the edge. Jesus reminds us that reconciliation is always possible and Love trumps everything. Rick encourages us to live out on that edge with Jesus saying, "We often can be interested in everything and committed to nothing. However, the more we commit ourselves, the more we come alive."

Our church is doing just that. This summer our church is involved in a Summer Feeding Program with other area churches and organizations. We will be feeding 100 youth in our community, who would otherwise go without food for the majority of the summer. The cost per child is \$9 per week. There are 10 weeks in the summer and we would like to feed them for the whole summer. The food will be provided from Foodlink, who will assemble 4 days worth of food in bags which we will distribute throughout the community. Our hope is that with full bellies, our youth will be able to have full minds when they enter school again in the Fall. We are "speaking truth to power in love." Thank you for your help. Additionally, our church, along with The House of Concern and The Children's Committee, are sending 10 youth from Seneca Falls to camp who would otherwise be unable to go. Let us be committed to our call from God and Jesus' call to love one another as he loved us. Let us live boldly, remembering that

We are God's People! Peace, Pastor Leah



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SESSION BRIEFS

Pastor Leah is the co-chair on the Steering committee to Feed the children over the summer, the Back Pack program through the House of Concern. Anyone wishing to help please contact Leah.

The Geneva Presbytery has given funds for 10 half scholarships for Camp Whitman and we will put up the other half from the Jewel Fund for 10 children who are otherwise unable to go to camp from Seneca Falls.

Barb Van Kirk will be selling Pecans again this year so be prepared to hear more about this from her in the near future.

Wednesday night Worship and Dinner have been going very well and we would like to continue this throughout the summer. All we need are three volunteers per Wed. night to put the dinner together.

Personnel Ministry Team has posted some advance advertisement for a Music Director since Mina is leaving us around the end of July, she is moving to Illinois at that time. Lucky Illinois and we all will sadly miss her as she moves forward in her Music and life.

Stephen Beals has been doing some research for us for a PA system for the Social Hall, Wed. night worship, that can easily be moved to Eastman Hall for the Coffee Hour program so that the speakers will be heard by all. Session did approve the purchase of this system with Capital Improvement Funds.

Our next meeting is our Luncheon meeting and it will take place on June 25th at 6:30 p.m. at Parkers Restaurant's.



Clerk of Session, Elaine Ritter

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Nancy Shuster -6/03
 Sharon Stuck-6/03
 Jannette Monterville-6/04
 Claire Damaske-6/06
 Wayne Lohr-6/07
 Jeff Richardson-6/08
 Bob Wright-6/11
 Andrea [Day] Silverman-6/15
 Marvin Lay-6/19
 Scott Jessop-6/21
 Sarah "Sally" Porsch-6/26



Please note:

July/August Newsletter
 articles are due on
 June 21st
 Newsletters will be
 mailed
 On June 28th.

WOMEN'S CIRCLE



The Women's Circle met on May 7th. We completed our study of the Beatitudes where Jesus now says "you" rather than "they" are blessed, moving from the abstract to the personal. The end is joy regardless of circumstance because God has promised never to leave even in face of persecution.

Next years study will be of the General Epistles: 1Peter, 2Peter, 1John, 2John and Jude. These lesser known Epistles are the most recent and not directed to specific communities. This promises to be a most interesting study and we hope more of you will join us.

The Women's Circle luncheon will be at Abigail's on June 4th at 12:00pm.

We voted to send \$100 to the Back Pack Program at the Seneca Falls Central School District, \$50 to Church World Service Mission, and \$50 to the House of Concern. 21 t-shirts were given on May 6th to Camp Whitman. We will continue preparing personal care kits for Family Counseling in Geneva.

The 3rd Sunday donations for The House of Concern are:

The House of Concern



June: Mac and Cheese

July: Cereal

August: Peanut butter and jelly

September: Canned fruit/vegetables.

We thank all of the congregation who generously help us carry out these mission projects.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



It is not too early to begin to think about how you can help with Vacation Bible School . Our theme this year is Dr. Seuss and the Bible. We have all the activities and snacks planned, but we need help in preparing the snacks, running the activities and spreading the word about our amazing VBS. It will be **July 16th-20th, 9am-Noon with a concert and luncheon at noon on Friday, July 20th.** Please contact Marion Crull if you wish to help out with these events!

Camp Whitman

Camp Whitman has over 117 acres on the west side of Seneca Lake. Campers live in small cabins clustered in family groups around a village lodge, and they eat in a large dining hall. Many opportunities for exploring abound in the woods, ravines, meadows, Punnett's Pond, and the lakefront. Organized recreation takes place on the playing field, in canoes and sailboats at the lakefront, and at the pool for supervised swimming. Visit their website to sign up for camp. We have camperships! www.campwhitman.org



WEDNESDAY NIGHT WORSHIP

The folks who have been preparing and serving the Wednesday meals need some new working hands. Summer is approaching and we all want to have some flexibility in our schedules as we travel. The meals have been very well received and attended and there is a need for such an outreach. We are averaging around 25-30 who enjoy the meal. We would like to continue over the summer, but for this to happen we need some volunteers. We do not want to discontinue this outreach, but it might have to be suspended until September and if that happens the momentum would be lost and the folks we serve will be abandoned. If we can get everyone involved and have people sign up to help with a meal we can keep this service and the meals going throughout the summer.

Meal 1-Pasta / Sauce / Frozen Meatballs or sausage / salad/ bread

Meal 2-Cold Cuts/rolls Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, / Jell-O / Chips/tossed salad

Meal 3-Hamburgs / Hot Dogs / Sausage if we could get a grill - pick from items above not used

Meal 4-Pulled Pork in Crock Pot. Salt Potatoes / Salad / Jell-O

Jim will purchase items once a meal is determined and leave them at the church, but a crew of 3 people for cooking, cleaning and set-up needs to work each week. If you have a crew of 3 please contact Jim Clark if you are able to help.



NEWS FROM THE PRESBYTERY

Open House & Chicken BBQ at Camp Whitman on Seneca Lake Saturday, June 2nd , 2012, 12:00 NOON – 4:00 P.M. Come and see what Camp Whitman has to offer. Explore our trails and visit the waterfront. Guided tractor pulled wagon tours are available. Chicken BBQ dinners @ \$8.00 and halves @ \$6.00 available for purchase on a first come first serve basis until sold out. Reservations are not required. See you at camp!

The Geneva Presbytery wants you to come to DC with us over Columbus Day weekend in October. We will be visiting our PC USA Office of Public Witness, doing some mission work, as well as exploring the fun the city has to offer! There will be opportunities to fund raise before the trip too! If you are looking to bring your multi-generational family or if you are a 20 something we may be able to assist the cost with a grant we have received to focus on multi-generational involvement in mission! Please email me for more details: rhonda@presbyteryofgeneva.org! It is going to be an amazing trip to not be forgotten!



HANDBELL REPORT
May/June



Thank you to the bell choir members who worked with Carol during January and March. Carol is a fine bell ringer who has had much experience playing all positions in her bell choirs, and she also performs in small ensembles and as a soloist.

Bell Choir is back on our schedule of rehearsing Wednesday evenings and performing for worship at least once a month. We played “Rejoice” on Mother’s Day and we will be ringing “Prelude and Dance” on June 24. It’s good to be back! During the summer months we will be having small ensembles and ringing with our full 5-octaves of handchimes.

Sing and Ring children are rehearsing and will play on June 10. The ages are from Kindergarten to eighth grade. They are amazing.

The Bell Choir and I would like to thank Phil Plummer for his wonderful gift in memory of Bobbi. We were 3 bells short of being a full five-octave bell choir and Phil has donated these very expensive bells and case plus the add-on 5th-octave of handchimes. The chimes have arrived and they are beautiful. I am hoping to be able to have a piece for just handchimes ready for performance this summer. The 3 bells will arrive later in September as they are individually hand-crafted at the company.

Thank you, again, Phil, from all of us.

If there are people in the congregation who would like to have the experience of ringing bells just to “try” them I will be offering a workshop with the bells sometime in August. If there are a few people who would like to ring in the bell choir we would welcome you to come to any rehearsal on Wednesdays from 7:15 – 8:15 pm in the Bell Room . We would really appreciate working with you and I am sure you would enjoy the experience.

Marge

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS



♦ The 2 winners of the wine raffle were Barb Lohr and Ashley Pratt. As you can see, Barb is very happy with her prize. Congratulations to both!! The wine raffle was a big success and was a good fundraiser for the church. Thank you again to all who donated wines and to all who helped with the BBQ and donated food for the bake sale.



♦ **REMINDERELECTRONIC MAILING of the newsletter begins in September.** Beginning with the September 2012 newsletter, everyone who has email will receive the newsletter electronically. This is a necessary cost cutting measure and will save paper and copying costs. Please email the office at fpresf@verizon.net so we will have your updated email address. If you still **need** it mailed to you via “snail mail” because you don’t have a computer with internet access, please call Chris and let her know so she can put your name on that list. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

- ♦ **Congratulations** to Scott Jessop who graduated with his Masters Degree in May!!!!
- ♦ Remember before you go shopping at Tops Markets, pick up a gift card to use or buy one as a gift!
- ♦ **Roast Beef Dinner:** There will be a Roast Beef Dinner on Father’s Day, Sunday June 17th at 6pm. The cost is \$8 for individuals and \$20 for a family. Please bring a dish to pass of a salad, vegetable or dessert. Hope to see you there!



♦ **SAVE YOUR STUFF** for the all day rummage sale in September!! We are accepting household goods, tools, furniture, toys, curios, etc. (NO Shoes or clothing).

- ♦ **FEINSTEIN CHALLENGE:** The House of Concern took in 4,451 cans of food. That’s \$22,745.25 and it was their best year yet!!! Thank you to everyone who participated in this wonderful challenge.
- ♦ Thank you to Wayne Lohr for the painting which will soon hang in our Social Hall.
- ♦ Bobbie Plummer’s sister, Lynne sent a thank you note and it is on the bulletin board in the social hall.
- ♦ A Thank you from Marion Crull.....Thank you for the beautiful flowers. I have them in my kitchen window, were I can see them every morning and evening. I got the stitches out of my hand on Friday, May 25th and should be able to go back to work on the 29th. Again thank you for the flowers.



Members and Friends who are shut-in or in special need:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Luanna Day	2705 Lower Lake Road, Seneca Falls, NY 13148
Al and Ruth Ferrel	c/o Stephen Ferrel, 62 Valley View Drive, Brockport NY 14420
Dr. Paul Foote	40 Cayuga Street, Seneca Falls, NY 13148
Jean Loar	Seneca Nursing Home, Rm 104 A, 200 Douglas Drive Waterloo NY 13165
Margaret Marsh	114 Ashton Ct, Clifton Springs, NY 14432
Robert and Jean Stenlake	18 Carol Avenue, Seneca Falls, NY 13148
Alberta Stuck	2999 Williamson Road, Seneca Falls, NY 13148
Dorothy Tuthill	1901 Gravel Road, Seneca Falls, NY 13148
Fran Webb	c/o Parr’s Springhurst Pines Box 215B, 3101 N Hurstbourne Parkway Louisville, KY 40241

GREETERS, USHERS and NURSERY

June 3rd– Communion

Greeters: Jack LaValley and Jan Owen
 Ushers: Matt Crull and Marion Crull
 Nursery: Jo Ann Mason



June 10th

Greeters: Liza Merriam and Barb Van Kirk
 Ushers: Jim and Cheri Clark
 Nursery: Jo Ann Mason

June 17th

Greeters: Andrew and Betty Batty
 Ushers: Mike and Jan Day
 Nursery: Jo Ann Mason

June 24th

Greeters: Dick and Claire Damaske
 Ushers: Susan Derr and Barb Lohr
 Nursery: Jo Ann Mason

July 1st– Communion

Greeters: Elaine Ritter and Sarah Walsh
 Ushers: Bob and Carolyn Seem
 Nursery: Jo Ann Mason



PRAYER LIST

Know someone ill or hospitalized? This month, please call: Janette Monterville 568-8474



To Keep in our prayers: Alice Burgdorf, Bobbie and Ed Chase, Keith Davis, Bob Didsbury, Paul Foote, Margaret Greene, Mary Headley, Charlene Hooper, Crystal Jones, Jean Loar, Margaret Marsh, Joan Olmstead, Sally Porsch, Don Proctor, Mickey Schaertl, Nancy Shuster, Joyce Sinicropi, Duane Snyder, Peter Snyder, Sarah Snyder, Alberta Stuck, Dorothy Tuttle, Cpl. Geoffrey Tyler, Cathy Van Vechten, Fran Webb, Loraine Worthington, and Margaret Yells.

Please let Chris know if a name needs to be added or removed from this list.

Church Office: 315-568-6636
Church Fax: 315-568-6616
Hours: Tuesday-Thursday: 7:30-12:30
Manse: 315-257-0028
Email: fpressf@verizon.net
Website: www.fpressf.com

**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
Mina Choi- Director of Music & Organist
Elaine Ritter-Clerk of Session
Karen Beals-Treasurer
Marjorie Fahrenholz- Hand Bell Choir Director
Kyle Bruzda- Sexton
Chris Sweet- Office Manager

Session meets of the 4th Monday of each month at 7pm.

Presently serving Elders: Jeb Becker, Jim Clark, Richard Damaske, Susan Derr, Scott Jessop,
Karen Kelley, Barbara Lohr, Jannette Monterville, Paul Richardson, Bob Seem, Carolyn Seem,

First Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls
P.O. Box 383
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Seneca Falls, NY 13148



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