



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SENECA FALLS

## July/August Newsletter 2013

### PASTOR'S CORNER

Can you believe how quickly 12 weeks have passed? I can't wait to see you all in the pulpit on July 14th and just in time for Vacation Bible School! I couldn't have planned it better myself. We have had a very great time getting to know the newest member of our clan, Atticus Tonkei. Atticus is very excited to get to know all of you and Mason can't wait to show him off!

As you have all heard by now my mother, Jo Ann Mason, has been diagnosed with cancer. Here is a letter she wrote to her friends when she informed them of her illness. I wish to share it with you all as well....

"Dear Friends and family, it is so difficult to tell you that I have pancreatic cancer, especially because I will not have the time to hug and kiss you. I am in a mental and physical good place. While I am dramatic, I am not unrealistic. I now have an expiration date, but I will continue to give life 100% until that date. I look forward to hearing from you- I need a lot of your positive thoughts and love. Thank you for being there and a part of my amazing life. I have no regrets about life decisions- they are always teaching moments. Be supportive of my wonderful family."

I have always known God is amazing and I don't believe life happens by accident. God had a plan in bringing new life into our family and you all blessing me with 12 weeks off at the exact time my mother was diagnosed with a disease that is quickly causing her to leave this world. God had a design in making it possible that my brothers and their families would be able to come and stay with us for 4 weeks and spend some quality time with our mother, which is the only gift she has ever wanted. Thank you all for your prayers and love during this time for our family. God had a great design in placing us in each other's lives and I am so thankful to be a part of this church. I can't wait to return and continue the work God has asked us to do together.

Peace, Pastor Leah

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## Session Briefs

The June 24, 2013 Session Meeting was a short and sweet meeting with eleven out of the twelve of the Elders present.

Jim will be sorry he missed this one! Due to the fact that whomever was supposed to Moderate our meeting did not show up.

We had a nice chat session, no motions, no actual business took place. Don did talk about the blacktop resurfacing that is going to be done soon and also the trees at the Manse, which will be coming down soon. Both of these issues either did not need Session approval or had it earlier, so they will be taken care of soon.

Hopefully our next meeting on August 26th, will have Pastor Leah back on as our Moderator and we will have a regular meeting at that time.

Respectfully submitted by Elaine G. Ritter the Clerk of Session.



<u>JULY BIRTHDAYS</u>	<u>AUGUST BIRTHDAYS</u>
Samual Rescorl-7/3	Marika Beals-Kraus-8/4
Vivian Rescorl-7/11	Dorothy Dickieson-8/6
Lorienne Beals-7/12	Marion Crull-8/10
Eric Elyséev-7/13	Paul Elyséev-8/22
Joyce Lohr-7/23	Cherie Clark-8/24
Curtis Porsch-7/23	Mason Ntuala-8/28
Michelle Geraghty-7/25	Matt Crull-8/29
Kaitlin [Richardson] Parish-7/25	
Howard Van Kirk-7/25	
Becky Jessop-7/26	



The September Newsletter articles are due on **Aug 22nd**.

The newsletter will be sent out on Aug 29th.

## Women's Circle

The Women's Circle met June 3rd at Abigail's for an end of the year luncheon. We were delighted to have Liza back. Other members of the congregation joined us in fellowship for a total of 10.

Virginia Champlin from Geneva Presbytery entertained us with her adventure working at the Church World Service Distribution Center in Maryland.

We do not meet in July and August. Our next meeting will be Sept 9th due to the Labor Day holiday when we will begin a new Bible study.

Don't forget the House of Concern over the Summer.

### **The 3rd Sunday House of Concern items are:**

July: Cereal

August: Any form of pasta

Enjoy the Summer-

Jean Morris



## News From The Presbytery

In 2005, 1.4 billion people in developing countries lived in extreme poverty, living on less than \$1.25 a day. Every day, almost 16,000 children die from hunger-related causes. In the United States, 14.5 percent of households struggle to put food on the table. More than one in four American children are at risk of hunger. More than one in five children live in households that struggle to put food on the table.

Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. By changing policies, programs and conditions that allow hunger and poverty to persist, we provide help and opportunity far beyond the communities where we live. God's grace in Jesus Christ moves us to help our neighbors, whether they live in the next house, the next state, or the next continent.

We can end hunger in our time. Everyone, including our government, must do their part. Together, we can build the political commitment needed to overcome hunger and poverty. By making our voices heard in Congress, we help to ensure laws which are fair and compassionate towards people in need.

Visit [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org) to learn more about Bread for the world and to discover how you can help their effort to end hunger and poverty around the world. Reflect on how you, your family and your church can help end hunger in your community.





## Christian Education

### Vacation Bible School July 15-19 from 9am-Noon

We are looking for as many volunteers as we can get. If you are unable to help the whole time or only want to help with specific activities you can sign up for just a certain day/time/activity. High Schoolers (including those entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade this fall) looking for community service time towards graduation are welcomed. Please either email or sign up on the sign-up sheet that will be downstairs in the church. If there is anyone that can help place signs for advertising please let us know.

If you are unable to be there to help that week we are looking for donations. Suggested items for donations:

#### **Snack items:**

2 Cans of chunk pineapple

Assorted Fresh fruit (Watermelon, Apples, Bananas, Grapes, Fresh peaches, Fresh Blueberries, Fresh Strawberries)

Gold Fish Crackers (need to be fish shaped, following fish snack)

Gold Fish Pretzel Crackers (need to be fish shaped, following fish snack)

Fresh Veggies (baby carrots, celery, broccoli, cucumbers cherry/grape tomatoes, etc)

Tortilla chips

Fruit Juice (kids will be drinking it every day with their snack)

1 box Small Round Crackers (caring coins snack)

1box Large Round Crackers (ex: Ritz crackers, caring coins snack)

#### **Craft Items:**

Sand (not a lot, a pint jar amount would be more than enough)

Sponges

Drinking straws

Paper towel tubes

#### **Themes for each day and snack schedule:**

Days	Theme	Bible Story	Critter	Snack
Day 1: Monday July 15th	Trust	Genesis 12:1-9	Faye - Zebra	Zebra Veggie Grazers
Day 2: Tuesday July 16th	Love	Genesis 37, 41-45	Amy - Monkey	Monkey Muffins
Day 3: Wednesday July 17th	Follow	Luke 5:1-11, 27-32; 6:12-16; 8:1-3	Bud - Elephant	Following Fish
Day 4: Thursday July 18th	Care	Luke 10:25-37	Sam - Meerkat	Caring Coins
Day 5: Friday July 19th	Share	Acts 8:26-40	Jonathan - Giraffe	Fruit Salad Share-kids will make for lunch with adults

#### **Daily Schedule:**

9:00 - 9:25	opening/games
9:25-9:50	story time
9:50-10:15	craft
10:15-10:40	bells
10:40-11:05	snack
11:05-11:30	science
11:30-11:55	songs/closing





## Handbell/Handchime Choir

July and August will be busy with bells and chimes. The plan is to work with the children in summer camp in July and also work with a small ensemble with bells. In August I want to rehearse and then perform a chimes piece and also to work with the Walsh Family. The full bell choir will begin regular rehearsals in September.

Starting in September the one-hour regular weekly bell rehearsal schedule will be broken into two parts. The first part will be to work on a 5-octave bell piece that will be performed in late October or early November. The second part will be to practice the piece that will be played for a particular Sunday each month. On June 5th we ran through 6 pieces of music that were written for 5-octaves of bells. It was a fantastic rehearsal! Everyone was focused on their music and several ringers were sight-reading or ringing a different part. The sound was amazing and exciting. It will be a very special performance when all 5 octaves of bells are ringing!

I am still researching bell music for a piece written just for the handchimes. We have 5 octaves of handchimes, also. The sound of chimes is beautiful so hopefully some composer has written something for just the chimes.

*Marge*

**Heartfelt thanks-** I feel truly fortunate and blessed to have become a part of such a loving, compassionate and considerate group as the First Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls. From the moment my daughter posted the information about my emergency surgery I have felt surrounded by prayers and concern. A lovely basket of plants arrived almost immediately, and you began calling, dropping in and sending cards, breaking up the days and lifting my spirits, in the hospital, in the nursing home and at home. Since I have been home at 22 Ridge Street, calls and visits have continued. I am feeling better, stronger, more energetic every day but still have a long way to go before the surgeon will schedule a reversal of the colostomy. It is great to be feeling well enough to go to church and wonderful to be welcomed back so enthusiastically. Some of you had volunteered to help with my move, but as I was in the hospital this was accomplished by my family and friends from other parts of my life. However, if some of you want to unpack boxes, as opposed to packing them, you have not missed that opportunity since that activity will be going on for months, maybe even years. Give me a call at 712-4182, and we can schedule a work party – not much work, more chatting and shifting things around.

Thanks again.  
Ginny Konz

*thank you!*

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Ed and Bobbi Chase	1 Leland Drive, Seneca Falls NY 13148
Doreen Christopher	<b>(NEW ADDRESS)</b> 149 Ballston Ave, Ballston Spa NY 12020
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
Liza Merriam	114 Ashton Court, 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 3001 N Hurstbourne, Louisville KY 40241

## Church Family News



**Nursing Home-** On Sun., June 9 several from our church took part in the worship service at the Seneca Nursing & Rehab Center. Bernie Horle led the service, using the format from our morning worship. Muriel Horle, Phil Plummer, Jack LaValley, & Wayne & Joyce Lohr also participated, along with 7 residents and activity aide, Kathy Follette. We sang several hymns and visited with the residents. Our church is scheduled next for Sunday, August 11th Please consider joining us. [ A piano or guitar-player would be great!]

**TOPS Cards-** Stop at the table in the lobby, downstairs and stock up on those TOPS Cards! If you buy anything at all at a TOPS super market, you can use the card just as you would use cash or a personal check. Spend the whole card at once or carry a balance. They're good until the amount on the card (\$10,\$25,\$50, or \$100) is gone. Using these cards makes money for our church and we all need things at the grocery store; so, it's really quite simple. Let's all get in the habit! Membership & Parish Life will have cards for sale each Sunday following worship. If you pay for your card with a check, please make it payable to First Presbyterian Church .

**Congratulations!** to George & Joanne Elysée, who celebrated their 50th Wedding anniversary on June 8th.

**New Member of the Family-** Don and Elaine Ritter would like to announce they have a new “hopefully temporary” member of their family. They have custody of their 7 month old Great Grandson Logan!

**Celebration of Life and Remembrance-**On Saturday, July 13th from 11am-3pm there will be a celebration of life and remembrance for Betty Batty at the Red Jacket Yacht Club on Route 89 in Fayette. Please come join us and bring a fond memory, funny story or “Bettyism” to share.

**Greeters, Ushers and Nursery-** Marion is no longer able to do the list for greeters, ushers, and nursery. We need a volunteer to take this over. You would make the list each month to be published in the newsletter. You don't have to make any phone calls. You would just email the list to Chris in the office each month and if someone couldn't serve on their given Sunday, they would find their own replacement. Chris will print out several months lists for you to get started. Please contact the church office if you could do this. Thank you.

**Art Classes-** Do you draw, paint or do other artwork? Come to the Senior Center at the Seneca County Office Building on Mondays and work alongside other artists. Wayne Lohr will be there, setting up a still life for you to draw or paint, and he'll offer suggestions or other help, if you wish. Or, you may bring your own projects. Seniors working in any medium are invited to participate in this interesting (and very informal!) class. Attendance can be as often or seldom as you wish, on Mondays 1-3 pm. and it's FREE! See Wayne if you think you may enjoy this class, or just drop in at the County Office Building on any Monday.

**Summer Break-** Christian Ed Sunday School, Chancel Choir rehearsal, Bell rehearsal and Women's Circle will all be on break for July and August, starting up again in September.

**Pastor Leah will be returning on Sunday, July 14th!!** We have all missed her . Welcome her back and if you haven't met Atticus yet, I'm sure he'd like to meet you! He's absolutely adorable and it's going to be wonderful having a new addition to the church family!



## Greeters, Ushers and Nursery

### July 7th– Communion

Greeters: Marion Crull and Susan Derr  
Ushers: Andy Batty and Gerry Gray  
Nursery: Susan Derr



### July 14th

Greeters: Jeb and Diana Becker  
Ushers: Marvin and Iva Lay  
Nursery: Susan Derr

### July 21st

Greeters: Wayne and Joyce Lohr  
Ushers: Scott and Becky Jessop  
Nursery: Marion Crull

### July 28th

Greeters: Dick and Claire Damaske  
Ushers: Bob and Carolyn Seem  
Nursery: Marion Crull

### August 4th– Communion

Greeters: Jannette Monterville and Barb Van Kirk  
Ushers: Gerry Gray and Neil Walsh  
Nursery: Marion Crull



### August 11th

Greeters: Marion Crull and Joanne Elyséev  
Ushers: Jim and Cherie Clark  
Nursery: Barb Van Kirk

### August 18th

Greeters: The Walsh Family  
Ushers: Marvin and Iva Lay  
Nursery: Barb Lohr

### August 25th

Greeters: Dick and Claire Damaske  
Ushers: Marion Crull and Elaine Ritter  
Nursery: Susan Derr

### September 1st– Communion

Greeters: Marion Crull and Betty Geraghty  
Ushers: Paul and Connie Richardson  
Nursery: Neil Walsh



If you are unable to serve, please find your replacement. Thank you.

## Prayer List

**Know someone ill or hospitalized?** For July and August, please call: Joyce Lohr: 568-9639

**To keep in our prayers:** Johnny Boyd, Alice Burgdorf, Bobbi and Ed Chase, Doreen Christopher, Reverend Scott Cupp, Keith Davis, Sam Dickieson, Bob Didsbury, Joanna Fuller, Cindy Granger, Margaret Greene, Mary Headley, Ben Heckman, Charlene Hooper, Crystal Jones, Jo Ann Mason, Liza Merriam, Tyler Morgan, Helena Peacock, Bruna Perin, Sally Porsch, Don Proctor, Ann Ritter Rayner, Alberta Stuck, Dorothy Tuthill, Fran Webb, Loraine Worthington, Robert Wright and Margaret Yells.

Please contact the church office with any changes to this list.



Church Office: 315-568-6636  
Church Fax: 315-568-6616  
Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 7:30-12:30  
Manse: 315-257-0028  
E-mail: [fpresf@verizon.net](mailto:fpresf@verizon.net)  
Website: [www.fpressf.com](http://www.fpressf.com)

**Sunday Worship at 10am. Nursery Care available.**

Rev. Leah Ntuala-Pastor  
Rev. Dr. Peter J. Crego-Pastor Emeritus  
Chris Sweet- Office Manager  
Karen Beals-Treasurer  
Kyle Bruzda- Sexton  
J. Carl Vollbracht- Director of Music & Organist  
Marjorie Fahrenholz- Handbell Choir Director  
Elaine Ritter-Clerk of Session



*Session meetings are on the 4th Monday of each month at 7pm.*

Presently serving Elders: Jim Clark, Marion Crull, Richard Damaske, Scott Jessop, Jannette Monterville, Paul Richardson, Don Ritter, Bob Seem, Carolyn Seem, Nancy Shuster and Neil Walsh  
Elaine Ritter, Clerk of Session and Rev. Leah Ntuala, Moderator.

First Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls  
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**VBS**

**July/August Newsletter 2013**

