

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SENECA FALLS

## October Newsletter 2013

### PASTOR'S CORNER

Rev. Leah Ntuala

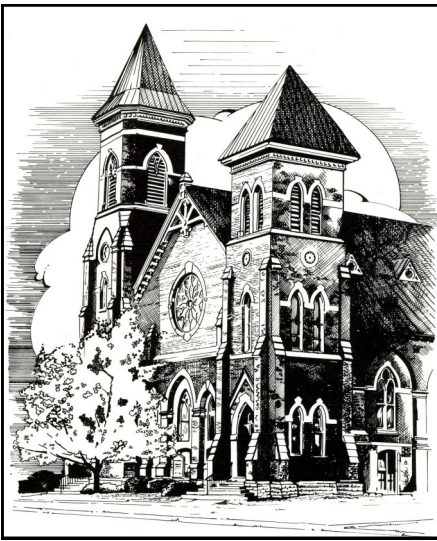
Over the last 3 years our church family has experienced a great deal of loss. I was noting to a couple of church members the other day that it must be difficult at times to come to church and see the empty pews that your friends and loved ones once occupied.

On November 3rd we will honor all those in our church family who have passed away in the last year. Additionally, we will also honor all those who have gone before us. Last year for All Saint's Sunday we asked people to bring in stones with the names of their loved ones. This year, we invite you to bring in an item that reminds you of your loved ones. Don't worry you will get it back. We will place these items in front of the communion table during the service. This will help us feel as though our loved ones have gathered with us at the communion table, as they are always with us in our hearts.

As death never has the final word, we will celebrate our life together too. There is great joy in our life as a church. We have a variety of ministries for people to be a part of in the life of this congregation. You can use your talents to sing in the choir, or play with the handbell choir. You can serve as an usher or in the nursery. You can join one of our lovely Ministry Teams (Worship/Music, Parish Life, Christian Education, Building/Property, Outreach, or Stewardship). You can help us out on Wednesday Night. We have several ways to plug in with our Book Discussions, Movie Discussions, Yoga, Java and Justice or Game Night/Church Pot Luck Suppers. You could also serve on Session as a Ruling Elder. You could join the Women's Circle or Speak at a Coffee Hour.

Our church, congregation and ministry is still very much alive. Let us honor those saints who have gone before us, by serving God and God's people in vibrant and exciting ways!

Peace, Pastor Leah



#### *Inside this issue:*

<i>Session Briefs</i>	2
<i>Birthdays</i>	2
<i>Women's Circle</i>	3
<i>Membership and Parish Life</i>	3
<i>News from the Presbytery</i>	4
<i>Volunteer Opportunities at The House of Concern</i>	4
<i>Handbell/ Handchimes Report</i>	5
<i>Church Family News</i>	5-6
<i>Ushers, Nursery &amp; Candle Lighters</i>	7
<i>Coffee Hour and Prayer List</i>	7
<i>Calendar</i>	insert



## Session Briefs

It was brought to our attention that the congregation used to be informed on a regular, maybe quarterly basis about the financial situation of our church. This has not been done in a long while and the Session did decide that everyone needed, or has the right to know our financial standings. As of August 31, 2013 we are just a little over \$21,000 in the RED! If anyone has any Fund Raising ideas please tell Pastor Leah about them.

I am sure you are going to read this news more than once in this newsletter. Marge needs able bodied Bell Ringers to join our Bell Choir. If you have any interest in music you might find this fun to do and if so contact Marge.

We are still in need of someone to make out the Usher and Nursery schedule. Notice I did not say Greeters. From this time on the Ushers will do double duty, one out front and the other in the back Lobby, greeting folks as they come to church and hand them both your hand and the Bulletin.

If any of you folks have time, occasionally, to drive folks who can not drive to Dr.'s appointments, the grocery store or other places that they would need to go, please let a member of Parish Life and Membership know that you are available. We would like to make up lists with phone numbers for those that need this kind of assistance.

Submitted by Clerk of Session-- Elaine G. Ritter



### October Birthdays

Ruth Ferrel-10/1  
 Phil Plummer-10/2  
 Kris [Lohr] Witherspoon-10/2  
 Zachary Rescorl-10/10  
 Bennet Becker-10/11  
 Frances Webb-10/11  
 Luanna Day-10/12  
 Diana Becker-10/16  
 Peter Crego-10/18  
 Bob Seem-10/22  
 Don Ritter-10/27  
 Sue Ellen Crego-10/28  
 Alberta Stuck-10/29  
 Wendy Proctor-10/31  
 Matthew Walsh- 10/31



November Newsletter  
 articles are due on  
 Thursday, October 24th

The newsletter will be sent  
 out on  
 Thursday, October 31st.

## Women's Circle

The Women's Circle met Sept 9th at 12:30. Most of the meeting was devoted to planning for the Presbyterian Women from Presbyteries of Western New York, Genesee Valley and Geneva who will meet in our church on Sept 28th at 9:30. This involves snacks at registration and lunch at 12:30. Thanks to the Membership and Parish Life Committee for helping prepare. Ginny Champlin from Geneva Presbytery was there to assist in planning. Attendance is expected to be 60.

House of Concern has expressed a need for non-food items so that will be our 3rd Sunday collection in October.

**3rd Sunday House of Concern items are:  
Personal care items, toilet paper, laundry/cleaning supplies**

Due to the length of the other business, we will cover two lessons in October: Lesson One and Two in "An Abiding Hope" based in The Books of Exodus and Deuteronomy.

The next meeting is October 7th at 12:30. Bring a sandwich lunch. All are welcome.

Jean Morris



## Membership & Parish Life

**Membership & Parish Life** is forming a *Transportation Network* and compiling a list of volunteer drivers and phone numbers. Several members have already signed up to help provide transportation to drug store, bank, medical appointments, or grocery store, etc. **People in need of occasional or regular assistance with rides may contact one of us for a copy of the volunteer list.** If there are others in the congregation who could **volunteer** on a regular or occasional basis, we'd like to hear from you, too!

\* \* \* \* \*

**Has it "been awhile" since you last sat and chatted with your fellow church members over a delicious meal? If your answer is , "Hmmm. Yes, it has been... " Keep reading! We have the perfect solution...**

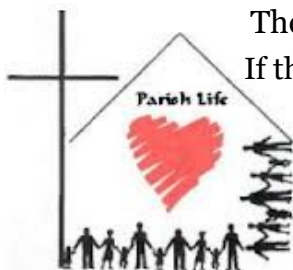
**POTLUCK SUPPER...Friday, Oct. 4 @ 5:30 PM...Social Rooms**

Come join us the first Friday night in October. Bring a dish to share and stay on to play your favorite card or board game!

Beverages will be provided.

The First Friday of the month is usually designated **Game Night.**

If there's enough interest, we could do this (a potluck **and** games) on a monthly basis.



*(Promoted by your favorite Membership & Parish Life Ministry)*

## News From The Presbytery



### **Gun Violence Conversation at Stony Point**

Regarding the important topic of gun violence, there will be a seminar offered on October 24-25 at Stony Point Center. The featured speaker is Jim Atwood, one of our denomination's key voices around this issue, he will guide a discussion about the church's responsibility for a faithful response. This event is open to anyone who can attend. Our 2012 Mission and Learning Experience members heard from Jim Atwood while we were in DC and we have shared a lot of information about the documentary Trigger that Jim Atwood was heavily involved with creating. We still have copies for loan of this documentary at the Presbytery office. The organizers of this gathering would like you to RSVP and contact Rhonda K. Kruse with any questions at: rhonda@hudrivpres.org.

### **Genesee Valley has invited our Presbytery to Join in the Fun**

Mark Yaconelli is internationally-known and a renowned author, retreat leader, conference speaker, and ministry veteran is coming to Rochester, NY. Take advantage of this time to GROW in your faith, RECHARGE spiritually, and CONNECT with others. And there's many ways to do this while Mark is here with us! There are several opportunities during the week of 11/14-11/17 to attend different events. There will be more information sent out once the registration forms are ready and event fliers are completed. Check out Mark's Blog at <http://markyaconelli.wordpress.com/blog/> Want to help? Want more information? Contact Niki Brodeur at [ncbrodeur@gmail.com](mailto:ncbrodeur@gmail.com).

## Volunteer Opportunities at The House of Concern

### **This is an excerpt from HOC's newsletter:**

There are many opportunities to help the House of Concern that do not entail giving of food or money, but rather of your **time**. Because we are a nonprofit helping those in need, we rely heavily on volunteer labor. Every part of our organization can use more volunteers at present, as follows:

**Sorting Room:** Monday is an extremely busy day in the sorting room, since many donations are brought in over the weekend. If you have time to sort through and price clothing and household goods, let us know.

**Food Pantry:** Help is needed to sort through and shelve food donations and to fill baskets for clients. Every Tuesday and Thursday a truck delivers food from Food Link and we need extra hands to help put it away.

**Office:** Our Executive Director can use help with sorting, organizing and filing in the office.

We'd love to hear from you at 568-2433, if you would like to volunteer at the House of Concern. Please ask for our Volunteer Coordinator, Sharon Snover.

**New Beginnings Boutique:** Lynne Wimmer is looking for volunteers to help out in the shop on Saturdays and in the late afternoon on weekdays. If you enjoy working with people and fashions, this one's for you! Call Lynne at 568-4401.

**Do you have a pick-up truck?-** If you own a truck and would be willing to donate your time (an hour or two a week, but not necessarily every week), to drive it to pick up or drop off donated furniture or large items, we need you! You would not need to lift anything – we have HOC employees who can do that. You would just need to drive.





## Handbell/Handchimes Report

Regular rehearsals have begun with a different format. We will rehearse the full 5 octave bell choir for the first half of the rehearsal and will rehearse the second half for the upcoming service. We will ring on September 29 with 3 octaves of bells. We will be performing Intermezzo”.

On October 27 there will be a handbell solo and on November 3 there will be a chimes ensemble. November 10 the full 5 octave bell choir will be performing. This is a busy fall season for bells!



*Marge*

## Church Family News

**Wine Raffle**—Wine raffle tickets are available for sale for the December drawing. They will be available at the Tops Card table after service each Sunday. Pick some up and sell them to your friends and family. Don't forget to bring in some wine if you would be willing to donate to this raffle. It's one of our biggest fundraisers.



**Pecans**—Pecans are in and available for sale! They come in 1 pound bags and are \$10.00 per bag. They are the large pecans which are great for making pecan pie! You can also give them as a gift!

**Donation**— There were Chux (absorbent pads for bed or chair) donated and are available to anyone who needs them. Contact the church office if you want them or know of someone who needs them.

**Gas Free Seneca Group**— On Saturday, October 12th, this group will be staying overnight at the church as they walk 20 miles per day for 4 days. They are an interfaith prayer group.....“We are a group of concerned citizens and business owners who have joined together to stop a proposed liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) industrial storage facility on Seneca Lake that presents innumerable risks to our safety, our water and our livelihoods. Our mission is to increase public awareness and local officials' understanding of safety and environmental risk factors for all area residents, as well as harmful economic impacts to the wine and tourism industry, that would result from the establishment of a massive liquid petroleum gas storage facility on Seneca Lake. “

### 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	149 Ballston Ave, Ballston Spa NY 12020
Luanna Day	2705 Lower Lake Road, Seneca Falls, NY 13148
Ruth Ferrel	c/o Stephen Ferrel, 62 Valley View Drive, Brockport NY 14420
Liza Merriam	114 Ashton Court, Clifton Springs NY 14432
Jean Stenlake	Steuben County Healthcare Facility, Room 194, 7009 Rumsey Street Ext. Bath NY 14810
Robert 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

**Coffee Hour** on Sun., Sept. 15th was hosted by Dorothy Dickieson and led by Pastor Leah. Church family members took turns telling about their summer doings:

**Nancy & Bill Shuster** celebrated their 39th wedding anniversary on Aug. 2. They also participated in 2 family reunions [hers & his] with relatives from Texas, Colorado, Florida, & South Carolina.

**Andy Batty** & daughter, Susan Santoski reported an "absolutely wonderful!" celebration of Betty's life which took place in July at Red Jacket Yacht Club, with over 200 people in attendance. Susan also reported on Andy's recent surgery for an abdominal aneurysm and news of her oldest son, Mark's progress in hiking the Appalachian Trail.

**George Elyseev** said he grew "tired easily" during the summer adjusting to his new pacemaker. **Joanne** ended up "doing most of the work" around their house, he said.

**Bernie & Muriel Horle** reported a "very quiet, but eventful summer and were happy to be together." Their 60th wedding anniversary was July 4th and they enjoyed a dinner out.

**Stephen & Karen Beals** celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary and were in Italy visiting daughter, Lorraine & her husband, Alessandro. A highlight of their stay was hearing tenor, Placido Domingo in a 3-hr coliseum opera performance. On Aug. 9, they welcomed grandson, Grayden Charles Kraus into the family of daughter, Marika & son-in-law Josh.

**Jack LaValley & Jan Owen** traveled to Westfield MA and enjoyed returning home on scenic Rt. 20, where they especially enjoyed visiting Lee, MA ..."a quaint little village". Jack also read a book about a sub-glacial lake in Antarctica, which he found fascinating. He & Jan also attended the annual Skaneateles music festival.

**Bea Jones** and her sister traveled to Saratoga and the Jersey Shore, where they especially enjoyed walking the boardwalk, she said. In Aug., they visited Howe Caverns. [Bea is newly retired and for the first summer in many years, she's thrilled to have travel time!]

**Barb & Howard Van Kirk** said, "We didn't go anyplace; our kids won't let us - we get lost!" Barb said their kids enjoyed gathering on the Atlantic shore in So. Carolina. Daughter Mary makes dolls and bears to support pediatric cancer patients and this summer, had her own head shaved. Barb & Howard celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary during the summer. They also visited the annual St. Anthony Festival in Seneca Falls.

**Jean Morris** enjoyed a Morris family reunion in Penn Yan. She reported over 130 people in attendance "from the mid-west, south & NY State". At one point, Jean said she turned to a nephew and commented that they were "two of the oldest people here!" She was pleased that 3 great grandchildren were able to be there, too.

**Bob & Carolyn Seem** visited New York City and spent time in North Carolina. They enjoyed a stage production, *Bang!* in Asheville and an audience-participation play, *I-Land* performed by a NYC improv company.

**Wayne & Joyce Lohr** reported being frustrated in their attempts to host 'backyard' suppers due to frequent rainfalls. And, they were [once again] unable to successfully grow tomatoes, but got beautiful ones from other people's gardens. A visit to Lively Run Dairy Goat Farm was a birthday treat for Joyce, and Wayne discovered he does like goat cheese; the *beer* flavored one. They enjoyed swimming with granddaughters, Lauren & Sarah and tasty visits to Mac's Drive-In and Max's Custard.



## Ushers, Nursery and Candle Lighters

### October 6th– Communion

Ushers: Carrie Jessop and Ben Jessop  
 Nursery: Ericka Walsh and Marion Crull  
 Candle Lighter: Ericka Walsh



### October 13th

Ushers: Becky and Scott Jessop  
 Nursery: Barb Lohr and Susan Derr  
 Candle Lighter: Sean Walsh

### October 20th

Ushers: Jeb and Diana Becker  
 Nursery: Michelle Geraghty and Marion Crull  
 Candle Lighter: Carrie Jessop

### October 27th– Reformation Sunday

Ushers: Iva and Marvin Lay  
 Nursery: Carrie and Becky Jessop  
 Candle Lighter: Ben Jessop

### November 3rd– Communion

Ushers: Gerry Gray and Neil Walsh  
 Nursery: Cherie Clark and Marion Crull  
 Candle Lighter: Matthew Walsh



## Coffee Hour and Prayer List

- Oct. 6th:** Fellowship Hour in the Social Hall; Host: Muriel Horle
- Oct. 13th:** TBA- Hosts needed
- Oct. 20th:** TBA- Hosts needed
- Oct. 27th:** Pumpkin Sunday; Hosts: Christian Education



**Know someone ill or hospitalized?** This month, please call: Joanne Elysée – 568-9993



**To Keep in our prayers:** Marcia Arnold, Johnny Boyd, Alice Burgdorf, Bobbi and Ed Chase, Doreen Christopher, Reverend Scott Cupp, Keith Davis, Bob Didsbury, the family of Al Ferrel, Joanna Fuller, Cindy Granger, Margaret Greene, Mary Headley, Ben Heckman, Charlene Hooper, Crystal Jones, Ginny Konz, Dottie Lorenz, Liza Merriam, Tyler Morgan, Helena Peacock, Sally Porsch, Don Proctor, Ann Ritter Rayner, Bob and Jean Stenlake, Alberta Stuck, Dorothy Tuthill, Fran Webb, Loraine Worthington and Margaret Yells. Please contact Chris with any changes.

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)

Scan this code  
with your  
smart phone to  
visit our  
website



**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  
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  
P.O. Box 383  
23 Cayuga St  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148

Happy Autumn To



**October Newsletter 2013**

