



First Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls

Toward a Church as **GENEROUS**
and **JUST** as God's Grace....



May Newsletter 2014

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Pastor's Corner

The following is the transcript of a Ted Talk given by an author for the NY Times. I thought it was wonderful and wanted to share it with you. My prayer is that we all live our Adam II.

So I've been thinking about the difference between the résumé virtues and the eulogy virtues. The résumé virtues are the ones you put on your résumé, which are the skills you bring to the marketplace. The eulogy virtues are the ones that get mentioned in the eulogy, which are deeper: who are you, in your depth, what is the nature of your relationships, are you bold, loving, dependable, consistent? And most of us, including me, would say that the eulogy virtues are the more important of the virtues. But at least in my case, are they the ones that I think about the most? And the answer is no.

So I've been thinking about that problem, and a thinker who has helped me think about it is a guy named Joseph Soloveitchik, who was a rabbi who wrote a book called "The Lonely Man Of Faith" in 1965. Soloveitchik said there are two sides of our natures, which he called Adam I and Adam II. Adam I is the worldly, ambitious, external side of our nature. He wants to build, create, create companies, create innovation. Adam II is the humble side of our nature. Adam II wants not only to do good but to be good, to live in a way internally that honors God, creation and our possibilities. Adam I wants to conquer the world. Adam II wants to hear a calling and obey the world. Adam I savors accomplishment. Adam II savors inner consistency and strength. Adam I asks how things work. Adam II asks why we're here. Adam I's motto is "success." Adam II's motto is "love, redemption and return."

We happen to live in a society that favors Adam I, and often neglects Adam II. And the problem is, that turns you into a shrewd animal who treats life as a game, and you become a cold, calculating creature who slips into a sort of mediocrity where you realize there's a difference between your desired self and your actual self. You're not earning the sort of eulogy you want, you hope someone will give to you. You don't have the depth of conviction. You don't have an emotional sonorosity. You don't have commitment to tasks that would take more than a lifetime to commit.

I was reminded of a common response through history of how you build a solid Adam II, how you build a depth of character. Through history, people have gone back into their own pasts, sometimes to a precious time in their life, to their childhood, and often, the mind gravitates in the past to a moment of shame, some sin committed, some act of selfishness, an act of omission, of shallowness, the sin of anger, the sin of self-pity, trying to be a people-pleaser, a lack of courage. Adam I is built by building on your strengths. Adam II is built by fighting your weaknesses. You go into yourself, you find the sin which you've committed over and over again through your life, your signature sin out of which the others emerge, and you fight that sin and you wrestle with that sin, and out of that wrestling, that suffering, then a depth of character is constructed. And we're often not taught to recognize the sin in ourselves, in that we're not taught in this culture how to wrestle with it, how to confront it, and how to combat it. We live in a culture with an Adam I mentality where we're inarticulate about Adam II.

Finally, Reinhold Niebuhr summed up the confrontation, the fully lived Adam I and Adam II life, this way: "Nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in our lifetime; therefore we must be saved by hope. Nothing which is true or beautiful or good makes complete sense in any immediate context of history; therefore we must be saved by faith. Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone; therefore we must be saved by love. No virtuous act is quite as virtuous from the standpoint of our friend or foe as from our own standpoint. Therefore we must be saved by that final form of love, which is forgiveness."

http://www.ted.com/talks/david_brooks_should_you_live_for_your_resume_or_your_eulogy?awesm=on.ted.com_e087n&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_content=awesm-publisher&utm_medium=on.ted.com-facebook-share&utm_campaign=

Peace, Pastor Leah

Session Briefs



Meeting of Monday, April 21, 2014
prepared by Joyce Lohr, Clerk to the Session

- Heard options described for new phone and internet service with Time Warner and approved moving ahead on installation of necessary modems
- Appointed Elder Ginny Konz as Commissioner to a special Presbytery Meeting at Lyons on May 2
- Learned of corrections required for compliance with Fire Code regulations; involving front door locks and emergency lighting in the church building. Building and Property ministry will order a key box for use by the SF Fire Department to gain access to the church building and to Eastman Hall in times of emergency
- Heard praise for Christian Ed's Pancake Breakfast/Bake Sale & Easter Egg Hunt. Over \$200 was raised
- Announcement of Elder Ericka Walsh's plans to be a youth advisory delegate to Synod in 2015
- Praise expressed for the beauty of the sanctuary on Easter Sunday.
- Heard suggestions for usher training and printing extra bulletins when necessary
- Advised that the Reverend Jim Gerling will conduct worship on Sunday, May 4 while Pastor Leah is away on study/travel leave and that Elder Ginny Konz will conduct worship on the following Sun., May 11
- Heard report from Stewardship and Finance ministry: Bill Kunda, fund mgr. will pursue a better growth plan for the church's investments
- Membership and Parish Life reported plans for a 'Bargains in the Basement' sale on Sept. 20
- TOPS cards sales are reportedly strong and increasingly profitable for the church
- Learned of plans by Boy Scout Troop #88 to camp this coming weekend in two locations: Peoples' Park and Elks Club Lodge

There will be no meeting of the Session in May.

May Birthdays

Sue Charles-5/5
Lauren Gee-5/8
Marya (Lohr) Vigil-5/16
David Lay-5/17
Karen Kelley-5/18
Shirley Sage-5/20
Al Johnson-5/23
Steve Kane-5/24
Paul Novack-5/24
Richard Damaske-5/28
Paul Damaske-5/28
Jase Clark-5/29
Gerry Gray-5/30
Lisa (Shuster) Lopez-5/30



*June Newsletter
 articles are due on
Thursday, May 22nd.
 The Newsletter will be sent
 out
 On Thursday, May 29th.*

Women's Circle

The Women's Circle met April 7 with 4 members present. Our lesson led by Joy had the key idea that the story of The Golden Calf shows how quickly anxiety and fear can lead us to turn from God. The story also shows the infinite measure of God's grace, mercy and steadfast love. Lessons for today.

Ten personal care kits were prepared for Family Counseling.



The 3rd Sunday contribution for The House of Concern in May: Peanut Butter and Jelly

Come join us on May 5th at 12:30 as we complete our study: An Abiding Hope: The presence of God in Exodus and Deuteronomy. We enjoy sharing sandwich and discussion together.

Jean Morris

Vacation Bible School

**July 14th-18th
9am-Noon**

Discovering God's Creation VBS:
Come experiment with us!



Come join us as we explore the wonders of God's Creation using Bible stories, crafts, music and hands-on science experiments. On Friday, July 18th at Noon we will be serving lunch for all the families and having a short concert to showcase your child's work.



Discovering
God's Creation
July 14th-18th
9am- Noon

More information to follow in June's newsletter

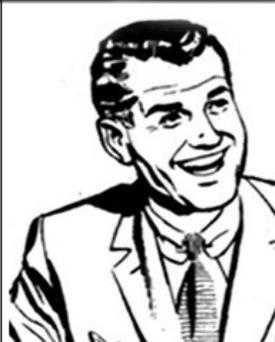
**COFFEE
WITH
JESUS**



The young men need to see a tough Jesus. A sword-wielding, muscle-bound, long haired, take-no-prisoners, action hero badass.



You guys are always trying to remake me. It wasn't that long ago you painted me as a Southern California surfer. With blue contact lenses!



How about we emphasize the carpentry aspect a little more? Maybe your gimmick could be a huge hammer. Or better yet, a saw!



Wait! I've got it! What if my superpower was...*oh this is so good*...Forgiveness! That would be *so radical!* You guys think you could work with that?

New Beginnings Boutique Reopens in New Space

The New Beginnings Boutique, a Project of the Seneca County House of Concern, has reopened in new larger quarters just down the street from the original location. The new store is located at 103 Fall Street and is nearly three times the size of the original with expanded merchandise.

A shoe rack is among the additions in the new facility built by Board member Dave Saunders, who also made new counters, a dressing room and much more.

That enterprise has provided a new retail storefront in the downtown area, helping build traffic for all downtown businesses, and the sales generated by the Boutique provide funds to help stock the shelves in the food pantry. HOC Executive Director Diane Draheim says the store has been a great success both in terms of customer feedback and in sales. By getting a better return for the many high quality women's clothing items donated to the HOC, the store has generated new revenues while offering a great shopping experience. Items can also be taken on consignment at the store.

The store is open Wednesdays through Saturdays. Spring hours will be Wednesday, 10-5; Thursday and Friday, 11-6; and Saturday 11-4.

The Boutique is one of the ways the House of Concern Board of Directors has met the rising needs for food in Seneca County. In January alone, the food pantry was able to furnish over 31,000 meals to hungry residents. "With growing need and cuts in funding, we are facing a double whammy," says HOC Board President, Stephen Beals. "We are determined to keep our doors open for as long as there is a need. The New Beginnings Boutique is one small example of how we are thinking 'outside of the box' to meet those needs. Our recent very successful Traveling Little Black Dress Fashion show is another example. This Board and dozens of volunteers have spent hundreds of volunteer hours trying to raise much needed funds and think of new ways to engage the community. We owe a great deal to those volunteers and could not meet the need without their support and energy." *Excerpted from <http://houseofconcern.org/>*



Thank You from The House of Concern

Dear friends, On behalf of the Seneca County House of Concern I want to thank you all for your recent generous donations. As you know our numbers have risen dramatically, over 35% in one year. We would not be able to meet all the needs without the ongoing support of our church community.

Thank you and God Bless you all!

Diane Draheim



Are You in the Picture?

Take a look at the Celebrate '98 picture in the narthex. If you were here in front of the church on that July day, during the Convention Days weekend and were standing somewhere among the women in the picture, please let us know, so that we may add your name for history! To date, we have the following names: Karen Beals, Sue Ellen Crego, Bernice Filiatreau, Barbara Lohr, Joyce Lohr, Liza Merriam, Betty Watkins & daughter [Ohio] descendants of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Kristine Lohr Witherspoon. You may leave your name in the church office or contact: Joyce Lohr wlohr@seneca24.net

News From The Presbytery

WCC member church in Kenya ordains the Rev. Dawn Gikandi-Woman pastor with physical disabilities breaks African boundaries

NAIROBI- Dawn Karungari Gikandi, a 31-year-old Kenyan, has been ordained as a minister by the Presbyterian Church of East Africa (PCEA), a member church of the World Council of Churches (WCC). Gikandi is among only a few people who are both women theologians and persons with physical disability who serve the church as an ordained pastor.

Gikandi was born with physical challenges due to an accident suffered by her mother. Coping with this physical disability, she walks mostly with the support of a back-brace and a walking stick. "I have many hopes and aspirations," said Gikandi, following her Palm Sunday ordination April 13 by the PCEA Thiririka Presbytery in Juja parish. "I hope to reach out to even more people, explain matters of faith, encourage all and improve conditions. This I can do by setting an example, through my life, by setting worthwhile goals and striving to achieve them," Gikandi said. "I want to tell people's stories of hope."

"I realize that everyone has a story, and some are really incredible as a result of things that one has experienced, overcome and achieved. I firmly believe that everyone has something to offer humanity, something unique and beautiful – no matter how seemingly minor," she added.

Gikandi was a steward at the WCC 9th Assembly in Brazil, 2006, and participant at the World YWCA Young Women's Summit in Ethiopia, in January 2013. Gikandi has worked as a volunteer with her home church and community to highlight issues of faith, poverty, HIV and AIDS and concerns especially related to youth. She has served as chairperson of the youth fellowship of the PCEA congregation in Membley and parishes in Ruiru and Kamiti.

Excerpted from pcusa.org



Handbell/Handchime Choir

Handbell Choir rehearsal will resume, again, on May 7 at 7:15, in the Bell Room. The absent Director will return and is looking forward to rehearsing with the Ringers! Many thanks to Carol for all her work during the last months. We are very lucky to have Carol able to sub for us and I know she enjoys working with the Bell Choir members. Thanks again, Carol.

I was able to attend a concert at the Presbyterian Church in St. Petersburg in which a 100 voice choir and a 5-octave bell choir with 5-octaves of handchimes performed several pieces. This is an annual Memorial Concert that was given by this church and they invite all of the church choirs in St. Pete to participate. It was a beautiful tribute. The Bell Choir is their choir and I was able to spend some time before the concert talking with the ringers and looking at the music they were to perform.

See you soon –

Marge



Church Family News



Save your stuff! Don't toss, sell, or give it away. Do put all your presently unused and in good condition: household items, toys, games, small tools, and furniture aside for this fall's **Bargains in the Basement!** Membership & Parish Life plans an all-church fund-raising sale in mid-September. You'll be welcome to bring items to the social rooms **beginning Sept. 15. Please! No books or clothing, this time.** [We made \$2000 on our last sale. We need everyone's help to make this one equally as great.] Stay tuned !

POTLUCK & GAME NIGHT, FRI. MAY 2- If you've been meaning to join us on the first Friday evening of the month, we'll be looking for you, so save the date! Membership & Parish Life is hosting and asks that you kindly bring a supper dish to share: entree, salad, rolls/bread, or dessert. We'll supply the drinks. We'll have some table games and cards or if you prefer, a table of conversation, only! Kids are welcome, so bring your own or borrow some grandchildren for the evening. If the weather [early May] is already sultry, you'll enjoy the cool comfort of the social rooms in the basement of the church. Dinner bell rings at 5:30 pm. See you there !



Church Member Biography- Linda Schavemaker

Linda's hometown is Easton PA., which is where she moved from to join us, but she has moved around. Most of the time her children were growing up she lived in New Jersey, but she also has lived in Tenn. and briefly in Fayette, where daughter Cheryl lives. Daughter Susan lives in Seneca Falls, son John near Auburn, and their presence is what brought her here. Her daughter JoAnn lives in NJ.

In spite of loving sewing and design, her life's work was driving school bus, primarily for special needs children, whose parents were confident of Linda's loving care for their children. A lot of summer traveling has taken her as far away as Utah and Alaska.

She still loves to sew but has added crochet and other crafts to her repertoire, and also raises tropical fish.

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
Dottie Lorenz	Huntington Living Center, Room 121, 369 E Main Street, Waterloo NY 13165
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
Dorothy Tuthill	c/o Mary Jane Tuthill, 30 Wycliffe Road, Waterloo NY 13165
Fran Webb	c/o Parr's Springhurst Pines Box 215B 3001 N Hurstbourne, Louisville KY 40241

Ushers, Nursery & Candle Lighters

May 4th– Communion



Ushers: Aryanna Dugan and Keara Dugan
Nursery: Ben Jessop and Becky Jessop
Candle Lighter: Matt Walsh

May 11th– Mother's Day

Ushers: Bob and Carolyn Seem
Nursery: Marion Crull and Aryanna Dugan
Candle Lighter: Sean Walsh

May 18th

Ushers: Iva and Marvin Lay
Nursery: Matt Crull and Sean Walsh
Candle Lighter: Keara Dugan

May 25th

Ushers: Becky and Scott Jessop
Nursery: Sarah Walsh and Matt Walsh
Candle Lighter: Ben Jessop

June 1st– Communion



Ushers: Matt Walsh and Sean Walsh
Nursery: Marion Crull and Keara Dugan
Candle Lighter: Isabella Dugan

Coffee Hour and Prayer List

May 4th: Fellowship Hour in the Social Hall; Hosts needed
May 11th: Mother's Day– No Coffee Hour
May 18th: Pastor Leah's Wanderings; Hosts needed
May 25th: Prayers for Oppa– Teresa Santoski; Hosts needed



Know someone ill or hospitalized? This month, please call: Shirley Sage– 568-6980

To Keep in our prayers: Dorothy Baker, Joanna Baxter, Johnny Boyd, Alice Burgdorf, Bobbi and Ed Chase, Debbie Chase (Wendy Kain's sister), Doreen Christopher, Keith Davis, Bob Didsbury, Cindy Granger, Margaret Greene, Bill Greer and his family, Mary Headley, Charlene Hooper, Bob Knight, Dottie Lorenz, Samuel Martins, Liza Merriam, Tyler Morgan, Cormac Morris, Diane Paradise, Helena Peacock, Sally Porsch, Don Proctor, Larry Scesney Jr., Bob and Jean Stenlake, Dorothy Tuthill, Fran Webb, Loraine Worthington and Margaret Yells.



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
Website: www.fpresf.com
facebook: Presbyterian Church Seneca Falls

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us!



**Sunday Worship at 10am. Nursery Care available. Sunday School 11:00am.
Coffee Hour 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
Joyce Lohr- Clerk to the Session



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

Presently serving Elders: Andy Batty, Jim Clark, Marion Crull, Matthew Crull, Scott Jessop,
Ginny Konz, Wayne Lohr, Bob Seem, Carolyn Seem, Nancy Shuster Ericka Walsh and Neil Walsh
Joyce Lohr, Clerk to the Session and Rev. Leah Ntuala, Moderator.

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



Wishing Warm Spring Weather to:

May Newsletter 2014