

*The Network... a Publication of  
University Presbyterian  
Church July 2022*



Message from our Pastor

Summer is upon us. Western New Yorkers savor summer with the vigor of those who are familiar with long winters and want to make sure to cherish every second of the fleeting season. It's hard to find anything more delightful than sitting outside on a warm summer evening, visiting with friends and loved ones.

Such peaceful moments of repose are essential for our wellbeing. The modern world is a stressful place. Our schedules can leave us exhausted. And our communities are fractured by violence, discord, and inequities. Anxiety becomes our default emotion.

And so we need times in which we can find mental, physical, and emotional peace. Even Jesus went off by himself at times or gathered just his disciples together and retreated for prayer and rest.

What state of mind, body, and spirit describes you this summer? And what might afford you restoration and renewal?

I came upon a line in a prayer about summertime that I share with you:

“Let this season be for me  
a time of gathering together the pieces  
into which my busyness has broken me.”

*(Guerillas of Grace, by Ted Loder)*

May this season bring you such blessings!

Shalom,  
Tracy



**On July 24, 2022, at 4:00 p.m.** the **Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and BPO Diversity council** will present:

***A Concert for Healing***

The concert is being provided in the spirit of comfort and healing for all of those affected by the recent tragedy in the Buffalo community. It is being held at the Johnnie B. Wiley Pavilion at 1100 Jefferson Ave. Buffalo.

This **free performance**, conducted by Maestro JoAnn Falletta along with Assistant Conductor Jaman E. Dunn, will feature the full orchestra and vocalists Sirgourney Cook and Rev. Julian Armand Cook performing music that allows for moments of quiet reflection and celebrates the resiliency of the City of Good Neighbors. No tickets or reservations are required. details.

## Worship Column

### **Sunday, July 3**

*4th Sunday after Pentecost*

2 Kings 5:1-14, Psalm 30;

Isaiah 66:10-14, Psalm 66:1-9;

Galatians 6 (1-6) 7-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

### **Sunday, July 10**

*5th Sunday after Pentecost*

Amos 7:7-17, Psalm 82;

Deuteronomy 30:9-14, Psalm 25:1-10;

Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37

### **Sunday, July 17**

*6th Sunday after Pentecost*

Amos 8:1-12, Psalm 52;

Genesis 18:1-10a, Psalm 15;

Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42

### **Sunday, July 24**

*7th Sunday after Pentecost*

Hosea 1:2-10, Psalm 85;

Genesis 18:20-32, Psalm 138;

Colossians 2:6-15 (16-19); Luke 11:1-13

### **Sunday, July 31**

*8th Sunday after Pentecost*

Hosea 11:1-11, Psalm 107:1-9, 43;

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23; Psalm 49:1-12;

Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21





# BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

- 2 Emily Sarzyniak
- 2 Elissa Diaz
- 4 Willie Fisher
- 5 Tiffany Whitefield
- 9 Tim Wadkins
- 9 Sophie Smith
- 10 Nancy Chia
- 13 Thelma Monteith
- 16 Hilde Smith
- 22 Gladys Spielberger
- 29 William (Bill) Rugg
- 31 Henry Safulko

*“The Love of God is active goodness. Ceaseless mercy and unending grace. It encourages, supports, disciplines, edifies, and corrects because it is holy love”*

## What's Happening in July ...

July 1	Friday	5:30 pm	Taize Service
July 3	Sunday	10:30 am	Worship Service
July 4 <i>Closed</i>	Monday	<i>Independence Day Church Office</i>	
July 5	Tuesday	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
July 6	Wednesday	11:00 pm	Church Open for Prayer
July 7	Thursday	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
July 10	Sunday	10:30 am	Worship Service
July 11	Monday	11:00 pm	Church Open for Prayer
July 12	Tuesday	10:30 am 12:00 pm	Youth Support Team meet- Food Pantry Open
July 13	Wednesday	11:00 pm	Church Open for Prayer
July 14	Thursday	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
July 16	Saturday	10:00 am 8:00 pm	Capen Garden Walk Capen By Night
July 17	Sunday	10:30 am	Worship Service
July 18	Monday	11:00 pm	Church Open for Prayer
July 19	Tuesday	12:00 pm 2:30 pm	Food Pantry Open Zoom Ministry to Community Mtg.
July 20	Wednesday	11:00 pm 7:00 pm	Church Open for Prayer Session
July 21	Thursday	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
July 24	Sunday	10:30 am	Worship Service
July 25	Monday	11:00 pm 1:30 pm	Church Open for Prayer Mobile Food Pantry @ Trinity Methodist
July 26	Tuesday	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
July 27	Wednesday	11:00 pm	Church Open for Prayer
July 28	Thursday	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
July 31	Sunday	10:30 am	Worship Service



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## Chancel Flowers

Russell's Florist has decided they can no longer provide flowers for UPC. Due to this we are in the process of securing another florist. It has been decided that temporarily we will purchase our arrangements from Mischler's Florist.

The cost of the flowers will be \$60 for two vases of flowers. Those who have already reserved a future date are welcome to make changes if you wish, just notify the church office of the change asap.



## Getting to know one of our own .... David Winiarski



Although Dave has been with us for a while, due to all the confusion with Covid and lockdowns I hadn't gotten around to interviewing our sexton, David Winiarski, until now. So please forgive me and enjoy learning about our sexton.

Dave is a homegrown and lifelong Buffalonian, the eldest of two younger brothers. He graduated from Emerson Vocational High School with a regent's diploma in drafting and tool design. He was raised Catholic, and became a member at St. John Kanty's Church when he married his first wife. They raised their five children in the Broadway/Bailey area. While they were attending grammar school he was involved with the home school Association. He also became a member of the school board that was formed to consolidate the remaining catholic elementary schools on the east side and city line limit of Cheektowaga. In 1991 they made a move to West Seneca and joined St. Gabriel's Church where he is still a member. He became involved with St. Adalbert's Church when his son married and he helped his new in-laws as they worked to help keep the parish open. He has a history of ties with St Adalbert's since both sets of his grandparents attended there after relocating from Poland. His father, aunts and uncles were baptized there. He currently works with other volunteers in order to keep the Basilica building and the grounds clean.

After high school, his first job was at Tops, where he worked his way up to assistant manager at the Broadway Market location. After leaving there he started at Buffalo Electric Inc., ordering and receiving material for the custom panels they built while utilizing his drafting skills. In time he was promoted to making the quotes for all the projects they had bid on and after thirteen years the business closed. With the contacts he had made previously, he was able to land a job as a salesman handling contractors at Wehle Electric. After seven years, he moved to WESCO Distribution working in the same capacity and retired in 2018 after 20 years in that position.

After twenty-six years of marriage Dave lost his first wife to cancer. They had six grandchildren which have kept him very busy through the years. After the loss of his first wife, Dave met our former secretary Denise, and was fortunate enough to share sixteen years of marriage with her. At the time of her passing, our congregation was looking to replace our former sexton Joe Maiwald. Tracy asked Dave if he was willing to take on the part time position. Since he was familiar with the congregation and the building, he agreed.

Working at UPC gives him the opportunity to use his skills to help the congregation, in return for all the support given to him during the loss of his wife. Dave was brought up to be kind and helpful; whenever there's a need and he can assist, he will do it. -Amy Erickson



June 2022

University Presbyterian Church  
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Dear Friends,

In the book of Acts, the story of Pentecost tells of the amazing way the Holy Spirit pulled together a fragmented and frightened group of Jesus' followers, resting on them and filling them with fresh ways to speak the good news of God's love. The story is told in a way that reminds believers of the old story of the tower of Babel in Genesis, where the unity and common purpose of humanity was shattered through pride, misunderstanding and confusion. It was a disaster that shattered human community. I am thinking today how that old story unfolds again and again in the disasters we witness—the ongoing ravages of war and civil conflict in Ukraine, Syria, Tigray, the Democratic Republic of Congo and others; tired and fearful refugees from North Africa, Cameroon, Latin America, and Eastern Europe; the hard, ongoing work of recovery after fires in the West and hurricanes in the Gulf and Caribbean, and the fearful vulnerability of communities shattered by the ferocious intensification of incidents of mass gun violence.

Yet, I am also filled with gratitude for the ways that *new* story of Pentecost is also unfolding, as good news is demonstrated, transcending differences of language, culture and race, through the gifts, prayers, and volunteer hours of so many in the Presbyterian family. By your generous gift to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, you have spoken the language of love in a tangible, impactful way, offering a gift that helps to bring renewed hope and joy to those individuals and communities suffering from disaster and its aftermath. On behalf of them, we thank you.

I rejoice in the PCUSA's partnership with friends like you, who, along with our ancestors in the early church, gave when asked and served with compassion and faithfulness.

Please know that your gift of \$3,905 on 5/23/2022 for DR000156 blesses those who walk the hard road toward recovery, letting them know they are not alone, helping them to find hope in the midst of chaos, and making real the promise of Pentecost—the tangible demonstration of the "mighty acts of God" in healing and restoration...in the language each one needs most to hear.

In Christ's peace,

The Rev. Dr. Laurie A. Kraus  
Director, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

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

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*Too many of us lead hectic lives.*

*Our communities are filled with violence and suffering.*

*Our personal pain and struggles can overwhelm us.*

*How do we respond? How can we cope?*

University Presbyterian Church welcomes Christians from all traditions to unite in a special contemplative worship experience as we seek spiritual strength for the living of our days. Based on the style of worship practiced in the Taizé Christian community in France, these services offered on the First Friday of each month provide an oasis at the end of the week for all who are weary, troubled, or rushed. Special music from guest musicians, meditative songs, prayers, candles, and scripture readings allow each of us to find a quiet place of prayer and spiritual centering.

Please join us on Friday, July 1st from 5:30 to 6:00 PM.

*A Taizé Service of Prayer, Music, and Meditation*

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

(The Taizé' Service in August is scheduled for Friday, August 5, 2022)