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E-mail: firstpres13148@gmail.com
Website: www.fpressf.com

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Sunday School (K-4th grade) and Youth Group (5th-12th grade)- 9-9:45am
Sunday Worship at 10am. Nursery Care available
Coffee Hour following worship.

Rev. Leah Ntuala-Pastor
Rev. Dr. Peter J. Crego-Pastor Emeritus
Karen Beals– Office Manager
Marion Crull—Treasurer
Peter Snyder-Sexton
Hedra Harrison-Music Director
Joyce Lohr-Clerk to the Session

Session meetings are on the 4th Monday of each month at 7pm.
Presently serving Elders: James Clark, Marion Crull, Dick Damaske, Susan Derr,
Michele Edmonson, Susan Harkey, Jay Hoyle, Marc Smith and Peter Snyder.
Joyce Lohr, Clerk to the Session and with Pastor Leah as Moderator

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



Happy Valentine’s Day to

February Newsletter 2020



First Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls

Toward a Church as GENEROUS
and JUST as God’s Grace....



February Newsletter 2020

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Pastor’s Corner

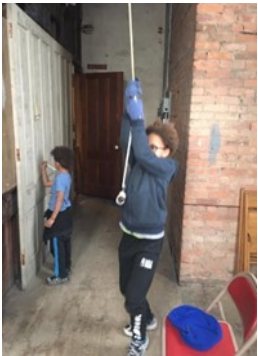
On January 15, 2020, Virginia became the 38th state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. In doing so, the ERA, has become the 28th Amendment to the US Constitution. This event began 96 years ago from the pulpit of our church. Alice Paul said, ‘I never doubted that equal rights was the right direction. Most reforms, most problems are complicated. But to me there is nothing complicated about ordinary equality.’



Ordinary uncomplicated equality, a statement we sometimes lose sight of as we struggle to succeed. We forgot we are not independent systems. We are an overlapping, interconnected people. We are not any one thing, but in many we are one. Our equality is diminished, if the rights of those we connected too, are denied or abridged.

We are called to be stewards of the Earth. We are commanded, by our God, to love one another as Christ loves us. We can’t do this and proclaim that somehow another person is anything less than a child of God. God created us, with all our beautiful skin colors, our gender identities and called us good. We need don’t need to be afraid to love one another.

So on January 16, 2020, we rang our church bells, all day, by many people, to remind us of ordinary equality. The equality that says I will love you as Christ loves me. It was powerful and moving. It was bittersweet and joyous. The work is not over. So catch your breath, take a nap and refuel.



We will keep ringing the bells until there are no more chains or ceilings to break. We will ring the bells of freedom. The freedom for all people, to be equal citizens under the law.
Peace, Pastor Leah

PS. Thank you to everyone who rang the bell, spread the word and signed the wall.



Session Briefs

At its Mon., January 27, 2020 meeting the Session:

- Welcomed three Elders beginning three-year terms: Jim Clark, Marion Crull, and Dick Damaske and Elder Michele Edmondson, to serve the remaining one year of Elder Donna Montgomery's term
- Heard notes of thanks for Christmas poinsettia plants received by Dorothy Dickieson, Jean Morris, Ed Chase, Nadine Held, and Betty Geraghty; from Susan Avery and The Seneca Singers in appreciation for concert use of our sanctuary and for special helps from Office Administrator, Karen Beals; from Pastor Val White of the Seneca Falls United Methodist Church for a fruit basket sent during her family bereavement. Thanks received also from the House of Concern for donations of diapers and food items and for church use during BBQ fund-raiser
- Approved Marion Crull to serve as church treasurer and Joyce Lohr as clerk to Session
- Established Ministry Team chairs and liaisons for 2020: Christian Ed. ...Susan Derr; Outreach ... Marc Smith and Jim Clark; Membership/Parish Life ...Sue Harkey; Personnel ...Dick Damaske and Marc Smith; Buildings/Property...Dick Damaske, Jim Clark, and Jay Hoyle; Stewardship/Finance ... Jay Hoyle and Marion Crull; Worship & Music...Marion Crull
- Approved repair of pipe organ tremolos by Parsons Company for up to \$3700
- Approved repairs costing up to \$1500 for manse upstairs bathroom and replacement of a section of kitchen countertop, for which a contractor is being sought
- Agreed to seek information and a possible grant for north steeple repair from Historic Gateways [NYS program]
- Learned that church kitchen stovetop is cleaned and repaired; oven work continues
- Heard that Property people will look into improved lighting for Rug Room and replace ceiling tiles
- Learned that Pastor's work with Synod of the Northeast Action Review Commission for Susquehanna Presbytery is completed and reported
- Discussed possibilities for streaming worship services with YouTube
- Agreed to await Presbytery of Geneva specifications for new office space
- Learned of Pastor's upcoming participation in phone conference with Camp Whitman committee on Feb. 3rd
- Heard Pastor's plans to review notes from table discussions at Annual Meeting and to share and discuss with Session in upcoming meetings

The next meeting of Session is Monday, February 24, 2020

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Barb Wagener- 2/9

Liza Merriam-2/16

Elizabeth (Lohr) Olmstead-2/17

Susan Sholar- 2/20

Ed Chase-2/25

Jan Day-2/29

Happy Birthday everyone!!



March Newsletter
articles are due on
February 20th
It will be sent out
On February 26th

Ushers, Nursery and Candle Lighters

February 2nd-Communion

Ushers: Aryanna Dugan and Keara Dugan
Candle Lighter: Isabella Dugan
Communion Servers: Jim Clark and Marion Crull



February 9th

Ushers: Sharon Esposito and Dave Sklair
Candle Lighter: Logan Walker

February 16th

Ushers: Marion Crull and Christina Lopez
Candle Lighter: Marion Crull and Christina Lopez

February 23rd-Transfiguration of the Lord

Ushers: Susan Sholar and Susan Derr
Candle Lighter: Susan Sholar and Susan Derr

March 1st- Communion

Ushers: Mason Ntuala and Atticus Ntuala
Candle Lighter: Atticus Ntuala
Communion Servers: Dick Damaske and Susan Derr



Please trade dates with someone if you are unable to serve on your designated Sunday. Thank you for serving.



Liturgists

2nd- Marion Crull
9th- Christina Lopez
16th- Bob Seem
23rd- TBD

Coffee Hour and Prayer List

Feb. 2nd: Social Hour; Host: Elyseev

Feb. 9th: Coffee Hour: Valentine Sunday; Host: Christian Ed

Feb. 16th: Coffee Hour: ; Host: TBD

Feb. 23rd: Coffee Hour: ; Host: Susan Derr

Know someone ill or hospitalized?

This month, please call: Cherie Clark 315.568.8987

To Keep in our prayers: Kathy Cole; Sue Ellen and Peter Crego; Cindy Danielson; Tony DeSarro; Cindy Felice; Joanna Fuller; Cassandra Fuller; Betty Geraghty; Pat Gordon; Tori Guerina; Crystal Hanes; Greta Hauser & Family; Minni Hergert; Kae and John Hoyle; Gary Ippolito; Max Jessop; Al Johnson; Debra Kemp; Timothy Kent; LewAnn Backus Lawhorn; Lucy and Nancy Lopez; Peggy McIntyre; Liza Merriam; Tyler Morgan; Patsy Mott; Cheri Murphy; Ken Poormon; Dean Potter; Pete Snyder, Jean Stenlake; Tina Tuttle; Linda Warner; Paul Wasicek; Darryl Wells; Gretchen Whittacre; Linda Zona; and all those suffering in the world.



Church Family News



- ♦ Thank you to everyone who prepared for the **Annual Meeting** on Sunday January 26th. It was a wonderful lunch!
- ♦ Please remember to **shop Amazon Smile** and designate our church as the beneficiary of your online purchases. Anyone can help, so if you have a loved one who shops Amazon, encourage them to purchase items through Amazon Smile.
- ♦ Please let us know in the church office **if anyone needs a visit, card or flower basket**. We never want to miss sending a special prayer to our friends and members.
- ♦ A **HUGE THANK YOU** to everyone who brought in items for the mitten tree. We had more handmade items than anything this year, so extra thanks to those nimble fingers! This is what was collected: gloves, mittens (some handmade), hats, handmade scarves, socks. Thank you all again and thank you to all of our knitters! Great color combinations!
- ♦ **Thank you to the Women’s Circle and others** for donating diapers for local families who can’t afford them!
- ♦ On Wednesday, February 12th the American Red Cross with the Seneca Falls Rotary Club will be hosting a **Bloodmobile** here in our Social Room. There is currently a great shortage of blood supply so if you are able, please continue our ministry by donating blood right here in our church. They will be here from 1:30-6:30, just call 1.800.733.2767 to reserve your table!
- ♦ All are invited to join in the discussion on Wednesday, February 12th at 10am for **Won’t You Be My Neighbor** at Café 19 .
- ♦ Do you enjoy Coffee Hour after the church service? What type programs do you like best? Well, we are in need of programs, so line one up and let us know who, when and topic. It’s your turn to share your favorite topics...
- ♦ FYI—we now have a suggestion folder by Leah’s office. All ideas, thoughts, concerns are appreciated!

Members and Friends to Keep in Our Thoughts:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Ed Chase	1 Leland Drive, Seneca Falls, NY 13148
Dorothy Dickieson	303 Ferris Hills, Canandaigua, NY 14424
Betty Geraghty	8 Iroquois Lane, Waterloo, NY 13165
Carson Lankford	3120 Patton Drive, Seneca Falls, NY 13148
Liza Merriam	369 E. Main Street, Huntington Living Ctr Rm 108, Waterloo, NY 13165
Jean Morris	Lockport Presbyterian Home, 305-327 High Street, Lockport, NY 14094
Jean Stenlake	Steuben County Healthcare Facility, Room 194, 7009 Rumsey Street Ext. Bath NY 14810



Renewing Friendships



Recognize this smiling face? It is Jean Stenlake, who used to be a member here and moved to Bath NY to be near her family.

Her family sent a Christmas letter to Peter Snyder and he, knowing many would remember Jean, shared it with us. Here is an excerpt:

Hope this note finds you and your family happy and healthy. Mom has addressed all of her Christmas cards but has asked me to type up a newsletter.

Mom’s health is currently good but 2019 started out a little rocky for her. This past winter and early spring Mom made several trips to the local emergency room along with several short stays. After numerous tests and doctoring, it was determined that she was having some heart issues along with a post-polio related respiratory issue. The addition of a Bi-Pap machine at night and the successful management of new heart

medications has stabilized her conditions and she is back to her old self.

At Steuben Center she is still the queen of activities: bingo, happy hour, sewing circle, crafts, baking, cards and musical events. Last year she pieced together seven lap quilts that she gave to various family members and this year she embroidered a pretty floral piece to hang on her wall. I’m continually amazed at the job she does with the amount of arthritis in her hands. She’s happy that Syracuse University basketball has started but I think she’d be happier if they were having a better season. She continues to read about 7-10 books a week on her Kindle.

...I’ve enclosed a picture of her at The Top of the Lake restaurant where we went for a lovely Thanksgiving buffet. The weather was kind of grey but she still enjoyed the view overlooking the lake along with the yummy meal.

...I’ve included Mom’s address and phone number below. I’m sure she would love to hear from you.

Jean Stenlake
Steuben Center, Room 125
7009 Rumsey St. Ext.
Bath NY 14810
Phone: 607.776.5435

May you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Diane and Jim Walling and Jean

**Be sure to check out the church’s new
website and event calendar!**

www.fpressf.com

Women's Circle

Meets Monday, February 3rd, 2020 at 12:30pm in the Hawley Room

Come Join Us !

We'll be finishing discussion of the Jen Wilkin book: *Women of the Word*
And talk about where/what next to go/read/do . . .

February special item for The House of Concern

*** SOUPS ***

And LET'S FILL UP THOSE BASKETS !

[in backdoor church entry, upstairs landing, and narthex]

"The weather outside is frightful . . ." so, we'll have another cup of SOUP, if we find one in the pantry . . .

As the Sunday Worship Bulletin urges us: "Please remember the House of Concern when doing your shopping!"

Remember our needy neighbors.



Pie on Pi Day

On March 14 (3.14) we will be holding our next fundraiser to support our church and our mission. We need YOUR assistance to make this successful:

1. We need your favorite pies to sell by the slice or whole
2. Please make these in a 9" disposable pan
3. Deliver to the church by 3pm on March 14 OR call the office and we will pick up at your convenience.
4. Tell your friends, family and neighbors to stop by 4-6pm on March 14th and buy some PIE!



(Check out our poster on Page 5 and share!)

Pie Sale on Pi Day
March 14, 2020
3pm-6pm



Who says Science and Religion aren't compatible?
Please join us for Pi Day on 3.14 for our
Homemade Pie Sale

The First Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls
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