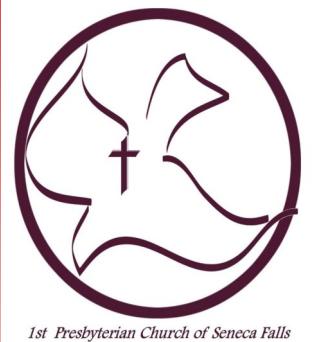


First Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls



1st Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls

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

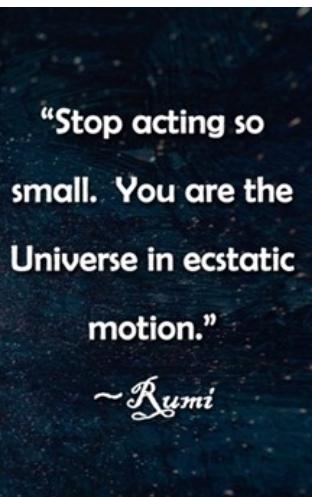


February Newsletter 2022

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Pastor's Corner



I have been thinking a lot recently about sledding as a kid. We had this four-person wooden sled that was my dad's. He used to sit my two brothers and I in the front and he would sit in the back, and he would take us down a huge hill with some trees and masterfully steer us through what felt like the a dense forest on Mount Everest, because I was at most four years old. I was 100% confident, safe, and secure. I knew we would make it to the bottom of the hill, so I could stay in the present moment and enjoy the ride. Pure Joy! I was too young to

think there was danger, too young to get out of breath climbing up the hill again and again and wrapped in a snowsuit so the cold couldn't touch me.

At some point in my life, living in the present became a tougher chore. The part of me that would sled down a hill in pure joy with no fear and all the confidence in the world started to worry about failing or succeeding. She started to wonder if the three second ride was worth all the work of climbing to the top of a hill while carrying the sled. Couldn't I just drink the hot cocoa without getting cold and wet? All these excuses and obstacles and barriers, and sooner or later one finds themselves boxed in. Unlike a kid who would take that box, turn it into a space shuttle and fly away, we adults just get used to it and soon grow accustomed the living small.

I don't believe God created us to live small. God invites us on a giant wooden sled -where we are safe, secure and able to joy the ride with eyes wide open. This is the invitation for February 2022; do something you enjoyed as a child. Grab a sled, drink the hot cocoa, spin around in your living room, make a spaceship out of a box- live BIG! Live Present. Live in the Joy!

Peace, Pastor Leah



Session Briefs

At its Thursday, January 20, 2022 meeting the Session:

- Received the church financial report for December 2021, showing Total Revenues of \$35,660.46; Total Expenditures of \$41,446.57; and end of year Net Fundraising Income of \$4,000.00
- Approved the proposed Budget for 2022 totaling \$223,608
- Received notes of thanks from Dorothy Dickieson and Betty Geraghty for Christmas poinsettia plants and from the family of Shirley Sage for flowers, thoughts and prayers at the time of her death. Also received a note from Barbara Lohr, wishing the congregation Blessings in the new year
- Moved to remove the name of Linda Shavemaker from church rolls, due to her death
- Approved Baptism for infant, Lilith Rose Sharow
- Heard report of Annual Report 2021 to be printed and available at Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 23, 2022
- Heard plans and discussion for frozen pies available by pre-sale order for March 14th PI Day sale, and settled on pricing at \$12.00 per pie
- Heard plans for fresh painting of wall in Eastman Hall; also plans for scheduled floor maintenance
- Heard plans for researching heat pump options, for all church buildings
- Learned of Stewardship/Finance committee's plans for audit, beginning on February 21st
- Heard plans from Building and Property committee to write pamphlet of instructions and guidelines for maintaining church heating systems, elevator and various equipment, and for maintenance scheduling

The next meeting of Session is Thursday, February 17th at 10 am

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Barb Wagener- 2/9

Elizabeth (Lohr) Olmstead-2/17

Susan Sholar- 2/20

Jan Day-2/29

Happy Birthday everyone!!



March Newsletter articles are due on

February 24th, and it

It will be sent out on February 28th!





Sing on Hedra

The Heavenly choir now sings a few octaves higher,
With Hedra as director of that great Angelic choir.
We presbyterians here at the Seneca Falls church,
Miss her as with God's doves, she shares Heaven's perch.

Hedra did her part to share the gifts that God her gave,
And not merely through music from behind the church nave.
But Hadra through her spirit and her love for the Lord,
Helped others through her witness don the armor and the sword.

Now Hedra has for this earth, left a lasting legacy
For she left a lot of smiles on a lot more than just me.
As Hedra passed through those gates beyond the sun,
Jesus Christ has greeted her with, "My servant, well done."

Written by : Louis L. Lobdell

A fellow parishioner

Women's Circle

We will meet on Monday, February 7th at 12:30pm in the Hawley Room

It will be good to be together again in Circle. This will be our first meeting in the new year, since we haven't met since the December meeting.

Barb will lead us in discussion of Chapter 4: "Deborah and Jael: Women of Valor," in *The Women of the Bible Speak*. We each will have some meaning in our mind for the word "valor," and this will be enriched by our reading and discussion; perhaps even enlarged upon.

We'll talk about what we'll focus on this year, in Scripture and Mission. We'll discuss further how to proceed in our exploration of race and racism.

By the looks of Barb's Treasury Report in the Annual Report, we'll soon be able to get another case of infant formula over to the House of Concern.

Michele is hoping to form a mid-week Bible Study group, to which the congregation and the wider community will be invited. She will need at least a few people from our church to begin. We can each think of joining her. She has done a great deal of study online and on her own, and a new group for reading, thinking, discussing, sharing and praying together is a wonderful idea. I hope we will support Michele in this!

The House of Concern



In the Annual Report, we neglected to thank the congregation for donations each month for The House of Concern. AND we thank Peter Snyder for delivering the December donations.

In FEBRUARY, the special item is SOUPS

All canned and packaged food items, personal care and household paper products, cleaning supplies, etc. are always welcomed in any month.

See you on February 7th - New members are always welcome. Come join us!

"...let us turn our thoughts to God and the call of Christ in our lives;
Be intentional about slowing down, breathing deeply and letting God
speak to you in the calm."

Jessica Miller Kelley, Editor ~ *These Days*

To the Congregation:

**Please continue to help us fill those baskets each month for the House of Concern.
The NEED is great**



Pie Sale on Pi Day March 14, 2022



**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
23 Cayuga Street | 315.568.6636 | www.fpressf.com

PI Day is approaching, and the plans for our pie sale are proceeding! Jim Clark has an idea to gather bakers in the church kitchen to mass-produce pies, particularly the ones that would be pre-ordered on our websites. I prefer to work at home, baking one or two as I have time and putting them in my freezer. If that's the way you work as well, please continue doing that. The important thing is that we have pies available for buyers, either pre-ordered or for those who show up on PI Day. Cost this year will be \$12.00 per pie. Because March 14th falls on a Monday, the times to bring in your pies, and when we will be open for sales, are not yet determined. In the meantime, stay tuned and start baking...March 14th will be here before we know it.

~ Submitted by Ginny Konz ~

Church Family News



- ◆ Thank you to everyone who attended the **Annual Meeting** on Sunday, January 23rd!!
- ◆ 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 on Amazon, encourage them to purchase items through Amazon Smile.
- ◆ Let us know in the church office **if anyone needs a card or flower basket**. We never want to miss sending a special prayer to our friends and members.
- ◆ **TOPS CARDS** are always available after every Sunday service. Several denominations are available (\$100, \$50, \$25 or \$10).
- ◆ **Thank you to the Women's Circle and others** for donating diapers for local families who can't afford them.
- ◆ Do you enjoy Coffee Hour Zoom after the church service? It's your turn to share your favorite topics, so please let us know what you would enjoy.

Members and Friends to Keep in Our Thoughts

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	
Dorothy Dickieson	303 Ferris Hills, Canandaigua, NY 14424	
Betty Geraghty	8 Iroquois Lane, 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	

Prayer List

Know someone ill or hospitalized? This month, please call: Cherie Clark, 568-8987

To Keep in Our Prayers: Reatha Bishop; Jennifer Colbert; Sue Ellen and Peter Crego; Norine Crull; Dorothy Dickieson; George Elyseev; Joanna Fuller; Betty Geraghty; Pat & Marvin Gordon; Amy Guarino; Tori Guerina; Crystal Hanes; Teall Harkey; the family of Hedra Harrison; Jack Hassler; Greta Hauser & family; Al Johnson; Bea Jones; Wendy Kain; our Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters and EMTs; Carson Lankford; David Lobdell; Ronald Lobdell Jr.; Lucy and Nancy Lopez; the Lowry family; Eleanor Mirabito; Tyler Morgan; Jinny Noone; Joy Novack; John Schavemaker; Barb Squires; Jean Stenlake; Linda Warner; Darryl Wells; Gretchen Whittacre; and all those suffering in the world.

Service Schedule



Join us <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMY7YsXpd6y>



February 6th – Communion-Psalm 40:1-5; John 4:46-54
Healing official's son, faith in the word of promise; Jesus heals one who shows no faith.

February 13th– Psalm 34:1-10; John 6:35-39
Bread of life from heaven.

February 20th– Psalm 147:1-11; John 7:37-52
Jesus' promise of the Spirit's living water.

February 27th– Psalm 27:1-4; John 9:1-41
Jesus is the light of the world - brings light to the eyes of a man born blind.

March 2nd – Ash Wednesday-Psalm 23; John 10:1-18
Jesus as gate and good shepherd, who lays down his life.

March 6th – Communion-Psalm 104:27-30; John 11:1-44
Raising Lazarus, Jesus as the resurrection and life.



Liturgist List

6th– Claire Damaske
13th– Michele Edmondson
20th– Ginny Konz
27th– Marion Crull
March 6th– Barry Porsche

Coffee Hour

Being Presbyterian: Foundations of Presbyterian Discipleship

To be Presbyterian is to join a way of life informed by a particular rhythm: God *calls us in grace and love; we respond in gratitude*. This video series will introduce this basic rhythm of life all Presbyterians are asked to be part of.

You can watch the videos from our website or under the Coffee Hour Playlist on our church YouTube Channel.

Feb. 13th: Lesson 1: A People of Grace

Feb. 20th: Lesson 2: Wicked Bad

Feb. 27th: Lesson 3: Who do they say I am?

March 6th: Lesson 4: Update Your Faith System

March 13th: Lesson 5: Blessed to Be a Blessing

Note: Coffee Hour on Feb. 6th will be “Daily Prayer” - the final installation of Dr. David Gambrell’s series



Church Office: 315-568-6636
Hours: Thursday 7-12pm
Manse: 315-398-4356
E-mail: firstpres13148@gmail.com
Website: www.fpressf.com

Scan this code with
your smart phone
to visit our website



**Sunday Online Worship at 10am.
Coffee Hour via Zoom at 11am.**

Rev. Leah Ntuala-Pastor
Rev. Dr. Peter J. Crego-Pastor Emeritus
Laurie Weller – Office Manager
Kae Hoyle—Treasurer
Peter Snyder-Sexton
Jen Braun-Director of Music
Joyce Lohr-Clerk to the Session



Session meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 10am

Presently serving Elders: Jim Clark, Marion Crull, Dick Damaske, Susan Derr, Michele Edmondson,
Susan Harkey, Jay Hoyle, Ginny Konz, Susan Sholar
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 2022