

July & August
2022

Inside This Issue:

Pastor's Corner -1

Reminders -1

Contact List - 2

Session Briefs - 2

Birthday List -2

Women's Circle -3

Members to Keep in our
Thoughts - 3

Church Family
News -4

Worship Schedule -5

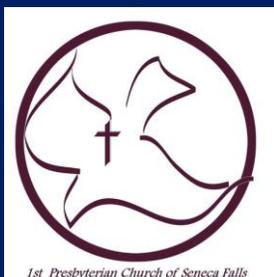
Liturgist List – 5

Coffee Hour -6

Prayer List – 6

Other News -7

Calendar -Insert



September Newsletter Articles
Are Due on August 25th

The First Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls

Pastor's Corner



It occurred to me that I was accepted into a Doctor of Ministry Program, but I didn't explain what it means or, more importantly, what it means for us as a church.

This degree is meant to be done in a particular context; the coursework is in relationship to the work I do for the church. Therefore, it doesn't involve moving or leaving the church to become a full-time student. The hope is this will enhance what I do for the church.

The Doctor of Ministry Degree is generally a cohort-driven professional doctoral degree providing space for renewal, growth, companionship among peers, and rich dialogue with faculty. The purpose of the Doctor of Ministry Degree Program at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary is to engage the challenges, opportunities and vocation of ministry through a systematic and sustained curriculum involving disciplined study and reflection over a period of three to four years. The program is based on a cohort model that facilitates peer relationships and shared learning throughout the D.Min. journey. Classes meet in two-week blocks twice per year for 2.5 years. The doctoral project at the end of coursework is undertaken under the supervision of carefully selected faculty. The project provides an opportunity for candidates to explore in-depth an aspect of their ministry to which they seek to bring new insight, knowledge, and imagination.¹

There are 12 of us in the program from a variety of states and denominations, though predominantly Presbyterian. For many of us it was the first time we had been students in 20 years. By the end of our two weeks together, we each had a starting Research Question, though we have been informed that this will change at least six more times. It has already changed twice.

The mission practice I intend to focus on is stewardship. My current draft of Research Question: What do the stories and practices of good stewardship say about our church identity in the surrounding community and the legacy we desire to leave?

I still have to define "good stewardship" and other ideas also need to be flushed out, but this is the start of this journey. While I will be doing the class work, reading, studying, etc., I will also need your input and help when the time comes, so thank you. Thank you for giving me the courage to bravely be me and become a student again after 20 years. Thank you for helping my family in this transition. Thank you for your support, it is a priceless gift for which I am grateful.

While the research doesn't start for two years, the work of ministry has never ended. Please feel free to ask me questions. Peace.

¹https://www.pts.edu/DMin_FAQ

Contact Us

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Seneca Falls, NY

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Laurie Weller- Office Manager

Kae Hoyle- Treasurer

Peter Snyder-Sexton

Jen Braun- Music Director

Carol Millis- Bell Choir Director

Joyce Lohr- Clerk of Session

Session

Session meets every
3rd Thursday at 10am.

Presently serving

Ruling Elders:

Jim Clark, Marion Crull, Dick

Damaske, Susan Derr,

Michele Edmondson,

Susan Harkey, Jay Hoyle, Ginny

Konz, and Susan Sholar

Session Briefs

At its Thursday, June 23, 2022 Meeting, the Session:

- Received the May Financial Report for the church showing Income: \$12,795.96 (pledge & non-pledge, investments, plate offerings, memorials & rentals) and Expenses: \$31,554.77 (includes maintenance of all church buildings, payroll, capital improvements in Eastman Hall, Manse) and YTD Fundraising Income: \$3,539
- Received card of thanks from Ginny Konz for cards, flowers and prayers at the time of her surgery
- Heard report of Pastor's participation in Geneva Presbytery Congregational Vitality Committee and recommendation of book, *Autopsy of a Deceased Church*, by Thomas S. Rainer with copies available to Elders and interested others
- Moved to approve additional four weeks of Continuing Ed., (including two Sundays) leave for Pastor during doctoral program in Mission Leadership
- Learned of current project completion for manse insulation and of donation of Ping Pong table for manse attic (and of historical significance of the latter); and of back-ordered items for heat pumps to be installed in Eastman Hall and manse
- Was advised of energy-efficient window (manse basement) replacement scheduled for Fall, this year
- Heard that Stillwell Co. will seal the church parking lot in July and a new floor-waxing machine was purchased for Eastman Hall
- Heard report of successful Ice Cream Social on June 19th enjoyed by many, with ice cream donated by Byrne Dairy and plans by Worship & Music ministry to host another in the Fall
- Heard request for consideration of officially becoming a Matthew 25 church
- Heard suggestion for installing a hand-rail at one end of pulpit steps

Prepared by Joyce Lohr, Clerk to the Session

The next meeting of the Session is Thursday, August 18th at 10am



Eric Elyseev-7/13

Isabella Dugan-7/16

Christina Lopez-7/20

Joyce Johr-7/23

Greg Dugan-7/24

Michelle Geraghty-7/25

Becky Jessop-7/26

Dorothy Dickieson-8/06

Marion Crull-8/10

Tom Montgomery-8/20

Cherie Clark-8/24

Louis Lobdell-8/24

Mason Ntuala-8/28

Matt Crull-8/29

Members and Friends to Keep in Our Thoughts

Dorothy Dickieson
303 Ferris Hills
Canandaigua, NY 14424

Betty Geraghty
8 Iroquois Lane
Waterloo, NY 13165

Carson Lankford
3120 Patton Road
Seneca Falls, NY 13148

Jean Morris
5465 Upper Mountain Rd.
Lockport, NY 14094

Jean Stenlake
Steuben County
Healthcare Facility
Room 194, 7009 Rumsey
Street Ext.
Bath, NY 14810



Women's Circle



Lunching Brunch, June 6th at Wolffy's on Cayuga Lake

Jay & Kae Hoyle, Muriel Horle, Rita Frankenfield
Joyce Lohr, Susan Derr, Ginny Konz, Barb Van Kirk
We missed Pastor Leah, who was away
At Pittsburgh Seminary that week

Please remember the House of Concern over the summer months
Special items are:

JULY - Condiments
AUGUST - Peanut Butter & Jelly/Jam

As always, our sincere thanks to the folks who donate on Communion Sundays to help with Circle works and projects, and to everyone who faithfully helps fill the food baskets. **THANK YOU!!**

*Wishing everyone sunny summer days and lovely sunsets...see you in September
On Monday, September 12th at 12:30pm*

*May the Lord watch
Between me and thee, while we are absent
One from the other*



Church Family News

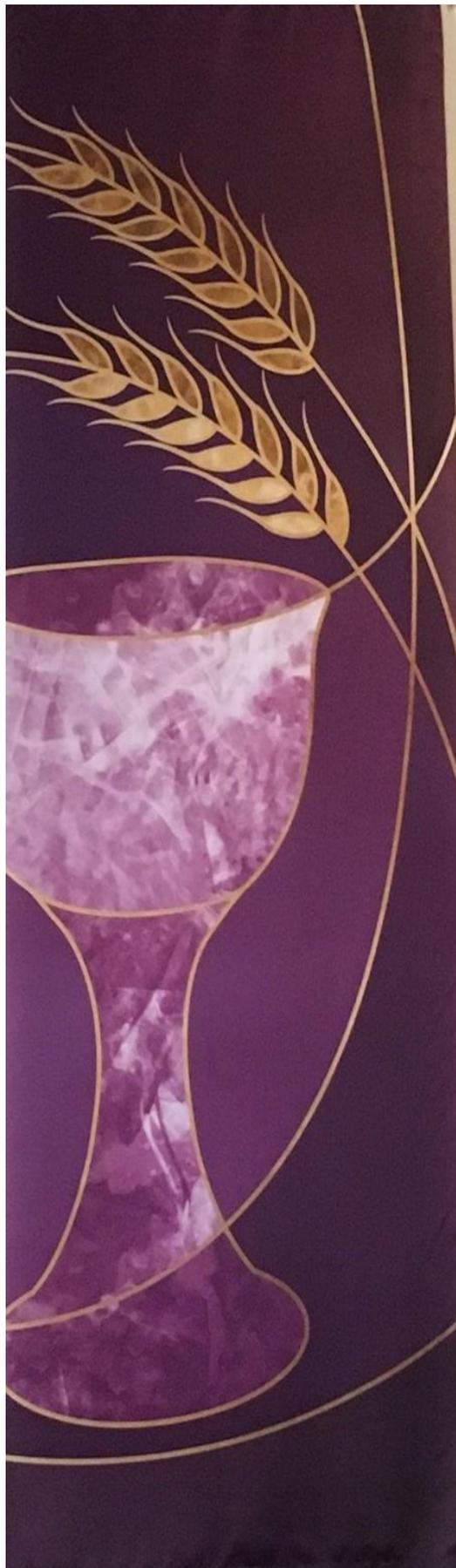


- **Ice Cream Social** - our kickoff to summer was held on June 19th right after worship - a perfect sunny day



The ice cream was graciously donated by Byrne Dairy...
“It was a great day to celebrate our Dads and recent graduates. Above is a photo of some of our group enjoying the ice cream. Zoom in on Mason Ntuala, holding our sign of thanks for Byrne Dairy’s support.”

Submitted by Bob Seem



Worship Schedule

Join us online: www.fpressf.com on our YouTube Channel

July 3rd - Communion - Ephesians 6:10-20; Matthew 10:28-31

July 10th - Psalm 46; Acts 2:37-42

July 17th - Psalm 84; Romans 6:1-11

July 24th - Psalm 65; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

July 31st - 1 Samuel 21:1-9; Mark 14:12-25

August 7th - Communion - Revelation 4:1-11; John 17:1-5



Liturgist List

July 3rd- Ginny Konz

July 10th- Bob Seem

July 17th- Michele Edmondson

July 24th- Marion Crull

July 31st- Claire Damaske

August 7th- Barry Porsch

Coffee Hours - on YouTube

No new Coffee Hours for the summer. You can watch the videos from our website, or under the Coffee Hour Playlist on our Church YouTube Channel.



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

**Know someone ill or hospitalized?
Please call:**

Church Office 315-568-6636

In Other First Pres News...

CONCERT TO HONOR HEDRA HARRISON

Following a valiant eight-month battle with pancreatic cancer, Hedra Ruth Harrison went to be with Jesus on January 1, 2022. We thought in order to honor Hedra's life, we would have a music concert to raise money in support of the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. Hedra was an incredible musician. She sang, played the piano, the organ, the trumpet, the drums, the guitar, the banjo...honestly, it might be easier to name the instruments she didn't play. Hedra loved music - all genres and styles.

The Concert will be held on FRIDAY, AUGUST 26th at 7pm, at The First Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls, NY, where Hedra served as the Music Director and Organist. Featured will be musicians that Hedra played with and taught, and you'll hear a variety of styles and genres of music. We encourage you to attend the concert, and to make donations to end pancreatic cancer. By giving to our team, you are helping to accelerate progress and improve patient outcomes.

Please make a donation today to help us reach our fundraising goal, and join us on August 26th for an evening of wonderful music!

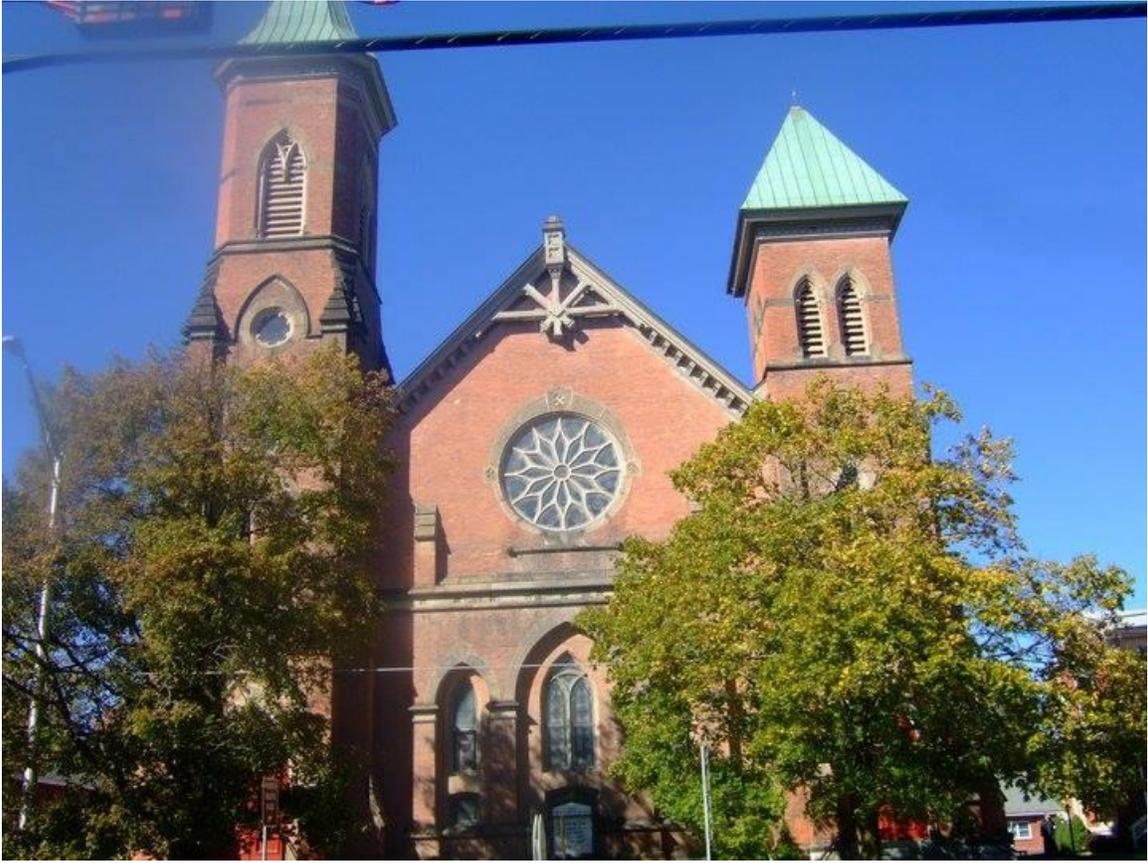
<http://support.pancan.org/goto/Hedra>

The concert will also be live streamed on the day of the event:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMY7YsXpd6ybud2LmWC0ijA>



**PANCREATIC
CANCER
ACTION
NETWORK**





The First Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls
P.O. Box 383 Cayuga Street
Seneca Falls, NY 13148

Greetings to You, a fearfully and wonderfully made child of God:



Toward a Church as Generous
and Just as God's Grace