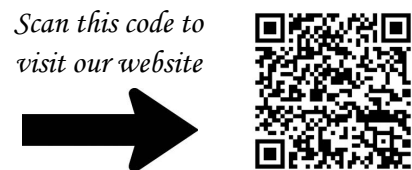


Church Office: 315-568-6636
 Hours: Thursday 8-1pm
 Manse: 315-398-4356
 E-mail: firstpres13148@gmail.com
 Website: www.fpressf.com



Sunday Worship at 10am. Nursery Care available

Rev. Leah Ntuala-Pastor
 Rev. Dr. Peter J. Crego-Pastor Emeritus
 Laurie Weller-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 4th of July to:



July/August Newsletter

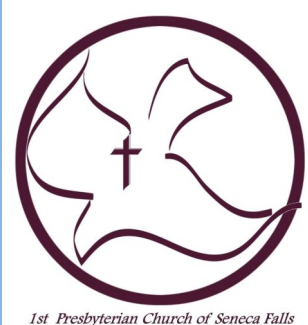
First Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls

Toward a Church as **GENEROUS**

and **JUST** as God's Grace....



July/August Newsletter 2020



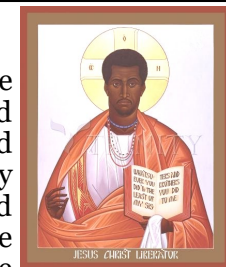
1st Presbyterian Church of Seneca Falls

Inside this issue:

Session Briefs	2
Birthdays	2
Women's Circle	3
Welcome Our New Office Manager	4
Special Thoughts	4
Thank You Trooper Dugan	5
Checkbook by Honey Lobdell	5
Church Family News	6
Prayers & Thoughts	6
Ushers & Candle Lighters	7
Liturgist List	7
Calendars	insert

Pastor's Corner

Jesus' ministry was one of intentionality. He dismantled systems and healed individuals. He intentionally read from the scroll letting the oppressed go free and declaring this the year of the Lord's favor. He intentionally fasted and prayed for 40 days and nights. He intentionally asked John the Baptist to baptize him in the River Jordan. He intentionally called his disciples. He intentionally healed on the Sabbath. He intentionally turned the other cheek. He intentionally blessed the gathered crowds. He intentionally calmed the waters. He intentionally put down his stone. He intentionally called Zacchaeus from that tree and ate in his home. Jesus intentionally told about the Samaritan. He intentionally drank water from the well with the woman. He intentionally asked for the coin from his pocket. He intentionally turned over those tables in the temple. Jesus intentionally washed their feet, broke the bread and drank from the cup. He did it all on purpose and with purpose- and it wasn't to make us feel good. It wasn't done to make us comfortable. It was an intentional light shining life to blind the eyes of the powerful so the captives could be set free. It was an intentional light shining life that brought the systems of oppression out into the open for the world to see. It was an intentional light shining life that said-*You are a child of God, even when the systems, the power and the people around you say otherwise. If any want to be a follower of mine, pick up the cross and follow me.* Be intentional. Love and Christ loved- with purpose and on purpose. Amen.



Intentional Steps you can take to become antiracist:

1. I happen to think children's books are awesome. Here is a list to read: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/18pOK3roiwPQqWF7D2wA0o7Ktr8KwAJeZfn-o6O8T_Y/mobilepresent?fbclid=IwARoVQ4EqgaQW7cl9xPhMhPuqyHUHR4wlNtC3PxRjbnb6BfzIN5Y_AIVr1Eg&slide=id.p
2. How to talk about race: https://nmaahc.si.edu/learn/talking-about-race?fbclid=IwAR1GYm1lw3LrNuj2_hfTF_6qM4_jBwV-D2erf4EOKLUwXYSGiEHdGQbsHE#.XuEcqu--dpg.facebook
3. Meme's- If you post them, please research it first and make sure it is true. Actually true and not because it simply says what you want it to say. Read the article, not only the headline if you are posting it. Check the dates and the sources.
4. Want to know what Black Lives Matters means and stands for, read what they say, not what the news has told you they say: <https://blacklivesmatter.com/> We want to be intentional, we have to do our own work.
5. Looking for more resources- this has books, movies, ted talks, podcasts: <https://debbyirving.com/recommended-resources/?fbclid=IwAR3B8oiPLNHwLopDLXDmeBxirWoddSadlhsVRw5F2lrgIEfFaM2KI-4Nmgs>
6. Take the implicit bias test. We all have a bias, know yours. Check yourself: <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>
7. Take a Course: <http://crossroadsantiracism.org/>
8. Study the Bible and pray, please remember the people you are reading about are people of color.

Peace, Pastor Leah



Session Briefs

At its June 15th meeting, [via Zoom Teleconferencing] the Session:

- Received the May budget report of \$6,349 Income and \$12,841 Expenses
- Was advised that Pledge and non-pledge income has been down, during the pandemic
- Heard notes of thanks from Kae Hoyle for flowers; Jean Morris for bulletins, newsletter, cards, prayers; Back Pack Program for volunteers and church monetary support
- Learned of new hire Laurie Weller to the position of church Office Manager
- Heard positive feedback for ‘Communion Kits’ delivered on June 6
- Discussed suggested guidelines from Geneva Presbytery for future re-opening of church buildings and in-person worship with consideration for elevator, rest room, seating, cleaning issues, among others
- Discussed possibility of location[s] and time[s] for outdoor worship
- Heard news that church parking lot and driveway paving is complete and contractor engaged to mark parking spaces; ceiling and drywall work in balcony closet underway; pigeon-screening and clean-up completed in steeple
- Heard plans and discussed rationale for conducting Rummage Sale in Fall 2020 or Spring 2021
Discussed church’s participation in FaceBook, YouTube, Boost, and Instagram media
- Looked at estimates for replacing roof over church rear entrance and planned to seek additional estimates
- Formed a Task Force to work with Pastor in planning for re-opening the church; Elders Marc Smith, Jim Clark and Marion Crull have volunteered

+ + +

Happy Birthday!

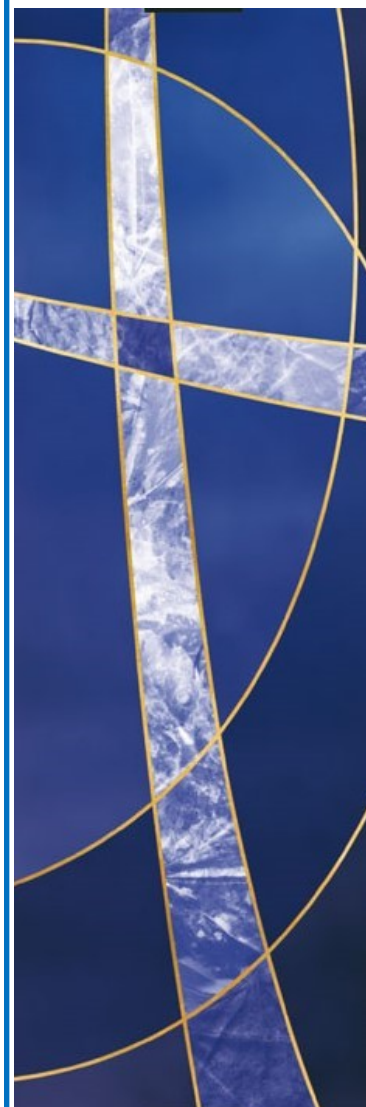
JULY BIRTHDAYS

- Samuel Rescorl-7/3
- Vivian Rescorl-7/11
- Lorienne Beals-7/12
- Eric Elyséev-7/13
- Isabella Dugan- 7/16
- Christina Lopez—7/20
- Joyce Lohr-7/23
- Greg Dugan- 7/24
- Michelle Geraghty-7/25
- Becky Jessop-7/26

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- Marika Beals-Kraus-8/4
- Dorothy Dickieson-8/6
- Marion Crull-8/10
- Tom Montgomery- 8/20
- Paul Elyséev-8/22
- Cherie Clark-8/24
- Louis Lobdell-8/24
- Mason Ntuala-8/28

Ushers and Candle Lighters



July 5th– Communion- Psalm 5; Job 41:1-8; 42:1-1
Join us <https://fpressf.com/online-worship>
Use your own cup and bread to join us for communion

July 12th–Psalm 6; 2 Cor 1:1-11
Join us <https://fpressf.com/online-worship>

July 19th–Psalm 7; 2 Cor 2:1-10
Join us <https://fpressf.com/online-worship>

July 26th–Psalm 8; 2 Cor 4:1-18
Join us <https://fpressf.com/online-worship>

August 2nd– Communion- Psalm 9; 2 Cor 5:1-21
Join us <https://fpressf.com/online-worship>
Use your own cup and bread to join us for communion

August 9th-Psalm 10; 2 Cor 8:1-15
Join us <https://fpressf.com/online-worship>

August 16th- Psalm 11; Ephesians 1:1-14
Join us <https://fpressf.com/online-worship>

August 23rd- Psalm 12; Ephesians 2:1-22
Join us <https://fpressf.com/online-worship>

August 30th- Psalm 13; Ephesians 4:1-16
Join us <https://fpressf.com/online-worship>

September 6th– Communion- Psalm 14; Ephesians 6:10-20
Blessing of the Backpacks

Ushers: Rachel Olsowske and Mason Ntuala
Candle Lighter: Atticus Ntuala
Communion Servers: Susan Derr and Susan Harkey

Ushers are to open and close the outside doors; making sure all doors are locked before leaving. Ushers are to turn on and off all the lights in the Sanctuary and Narthex. They are to light the candles during summer. They also ring the bell at five of ten.

We hope to meet face to face in the Fall, please note this is open to change. There is a Covid 19 Task Force who will be looking into the re-opening our doors and making sure everyone remains safe and healthy. Please continue to hold one another in prayer. In the meantime, we hope to gather outside, social distanced and with masks, from time to time in the summer.



July

- 5th– Marc Smith
- 12th– Barb VanKirk
- 19th– Barry Porsch
- 26th– Marion Crull



August

- 2nd– Bob Seem
- 9th– Marc Smith
- 16th– Ginny Konz
- 23rd– Barry Porsch
- 30th– Barb VanKirk

Church Family News

Summer Backpack Program- For the last several years this community has provided meals to over 90 children for the entire summer, twice a week from the end of June until the beginning of September. Families in need are already signing up. We are also in need of six people to deliver these backpack meals. **Our Church is scheduled to deliver on Monday, June 29th and Thursday, July 2nd then again Monday, August 31st and Thursday, September 3rd.** We meet at Generations Corporate Office at 9:00 am. If you are able to drive or go along with a driver to help deliver, please contact the church office. Thank you!



TOPS Gift Cards- We just placed another order of Tops gift cards in April. When those get sold, the Church will have made \$3,360. This was all done in less than seven years. Thank you for your continued support of this fundraiser. Remember also that they make great gifts!!



2 Cents a Meal/Cents-Ability – if you don't like returning all your plastic bottles and cans to the redemption center, think about donating them! There is a bin in the Social Hall to put them in. Peter Snyder has been bringing them to the redemption center for us and the money is then donated to the 2 cents a meal program (more recently known as Cents-Ability) through Presbyterian Mission Foundation.

Our Camp Reimagined program is an attempt to provide for all campers of all ages and abilities opportunities to grow -- spiritually, emotionally, socially, and intellectually -- in their own home environments, in their own patches of soil. This summer, campers need to stay at home, growing where God has planted them. To that end, for our Camp Reimagined we've created a program around the theme of "Grow Where You're Planted." The program is a combination of on-demand videos and hands-on mailed to home activities. Camp Reimagined includes games, arts & crafts projects, nature lessons, cooking tutorials and faith-based reflections. To learn more: <https://www.campwhitman.org/camp-reimagined>



The 224th General Assembly did take place online. To learn more visit: <https://ga-pcusa.org/>
Please meet our new co-moderators. Elona Street-Stewart & Gregory Bentley.

Prayer List

Know someone ill or hospitalized?
For July & August, please call: Joyce Lohr- 315.568.9639



To keep in our prayers: Gloria Chandler; Kathy Cole; Jennifer Colbert; Sue Ellen and Peter Crego; Cindy Danielson; Joanna Fuller; Betty Geraghty; Pat Gordon; Tori Guerina; Crystal Hanes; Greta Hauser & Family; Minni Hergert; Jay Hoyle; Gary Ippolito; Al Johnson; Bea Jones; Debra Kemp; Timothy Kent; our Law Enforcement Officers; LewAnn Backus Lawhorn; Bruce Levine; Romona Lobdell; Lucy and Nancy Lopez; Liza Merriam; Tyler Morgan; Patsy Mott; Cheri Murphy; Dean Potter; Shirley Sage; Jean Stenlake; Linda Warner; Darryl Wells; Paul Wenderlich; Gretchen Whittacre; Linda Zona; and all those suffering in the world.

Women's Circle

Not meeting during the summer months



We're sending out "Hello and how are you?" greetings to members and congregation. Needless to say, we will not be enjoying our annual Spring/Early Summer Luncheon outing this year. We greatly regret having to omit this popular activity but are sure everyone understands. You've all certainly had to waive any plans for many family and club activities you normally would have enjoyed. As the saying goes: "We're all in this together!" and we join in our hopes for a return to, if not normal, at least some form of togetherness possibly in the fall.

In the meantime, we hope you are continuing to support the House of Concern by taking your donations of food and household products directly to the house on State Street. **Its hours are 9 or 9:30 a.m.— 3:00 p.m. Special items for July/August are: Condiments** (mayo, salad dressing, mustard, pickles, olives, relish, etc.) and **Peanut Butter, Jam and Jelly.**

As always, the House welcomes donations of all canned and packaged food items, diapers and, of course, monetary help. If you haven't been a donor in the past, please do consider sharing now with our needy neighbors. Many have been furloughed from their regular employment. Because schools were closed, children needed to eat meals at home, and food items such as cold cereals and sandwich fixings had to come out of a family's oftentimes strained grocery budget.

We wish you all a pleasant and healthful summertime. Keep one another in your prayers, as well as those who continue to be at risk in the workplace. Make a phone call or send a card to someone you haven't seen over the last 3 1/2 to nearly 4 months since church worship was stopped. Give our Pastor a call or an email. She would be pleased to hear from her church family, as well.
May the Lord watch between Thee and Me, While we are apart, One from the other...

Stewardship



Dear church friends,
Happy Summer! I'm sure we are all missing gathering (in person) in worship but it is soul nourishing to have the virtual services!

So as our "church" looks differently now, the business and expenditures of the church continues. This letter is a reminder to keep paying your pledge. It is easy to pay on the church's website (www.fpressf.com); scroll down until you see DONATE NOW. Then click on that, fill out an easy form and designate the amount. Or, of course, you can still snail mail in your check. Karen and Laurie are in the office to process either of the above.

Until we are together again may God be a real comfort and guide to us all.

The Stewardship Ministry Team



The September Newsletter articles are due on **Aug 20th**
The newsletter will be sent out on Aug 27th.

Meet Your New Office Manager—Laurie Weller



A little bit about me:

I grew up in Apalachin, NY, and graduated from Owego Free Academy and Elmira College. I moved to Stamford, CT right after I got my degree, and worked at a small publishing company for three years. I then ended up relocating to the Washington, DC area where I met and married my husband, Joe. I have one son, Eddie, who is 34 and lives in Rochester, NY. I worked as a commercial Property Manager in the DC metro area for over 20 years, until Joe retired from the federal government in 2014. He is from Buffalo and since both of us still have family and friends here, we decided to come home to NY state. I spent many summers at Owasco Lake with my childhood friend Beckie, and because she still spends half of the year here, we bought a house in Auburn. Once we settled in, it became apparent to me that I still wanted to work. Full time retirement was just not for me! In December of 2014 I took a job as the administrative

assistant at the Vineyard Church in Auburn, and worked there until June of 2019. At that time, I left to become the part time Office Manager at Land of Lakes Realty in Moravia. In October, I started studying for my NY real estate license, and I took the test and became a licensed realtor in December.

I'm still working at Land of Lakes, but on a limited basis. I happened to see your advertisement for an Office Manager on Indeed, and something just spoke to me. I can't tell you how happy I was to learn that I'd been chosen for this position, and I'm really looking forward to meeting and working with everyone at First Pres!

Hope to see you soon,
Laurie



FAITH
is daring the soul
to go
beyond what the
eyes can see



Members and Friends to Keep in Our Thoughts:

Name	Address
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
Liza Merriam	369 E. Main Street, Huntington Living Center Rm 108, Waterloo, NY 13165
Jean Morris	Lockport Presbyterian Home, 305-327 High Street, Lockport, NY 14094
Jean Stenlake	Steuben Center, Room 125, 7009 Rumsey St Ext, Bath NY 14810



How NOT to Balance Your Checkbook—Honey Lobdell

In 2009 I had a joint checking account with my now ex-boyfriend. Things were going well at first when pay day came, we would put some of our check in our checking account. Then one day I wrote out a check for a bill and sent the bill in the mail. But the check bounced because my ex took too much money out of our account. I was so mad at him but that did not stop him: he kept charging things on the Debit Card like it was a Credit Card. Years later I still can't get a savings or checking account until that bill is paid because I am the second name on the account. I hope the bill is paid off soon so I can get a savings and checking account of my own.

The moral of the story is: Neither a borrower nor a lender be.

Reminder to keep your pledges up to date over the summer and pay your per capita (\$50 each) if you have not already. Thanks!

Thank you Trooper Dugan!

We wanted to take a moment to say Thank You to State Trooper Greg Dugan. Officer Dugan helps out the community every chance he gets. He works at the local races, hosted Isabella's Girl Scouts in the barracks, volunteers at every parade and he has won awards two years in a row for getting drunk drivers off the road. Thank you for all you do.

