

SESSION BRIEFS

Contact US

The First Presbyterian Church

of Seneca Falls, NY

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Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday and

Thursday

8am-3pm

Staff

Rev. Dr. Leah Ntuala-Pastor

Rev. Dr. Peter J. Crego-

Pastor Emeritus

Laurie Weller- Office Manager

Kae Hoyle- Treasurer

Jim Clark-Sexton

Jen Braun- Music Director

Carol Millis- Bell Choir

Director

Anne Millis – Clerk of Session

Session

Session meets every
2nd Thursday at 10am

Presently serving

Ruling Elders:

David Hall, Jim Hinman,

Kae Hoyle, Ginny Konz,

Anne Millis, Carol Millis and

Susan Sholar

At its Thursday, March 12th Meeting, the Session discussed several issues. The following is a brief overview:

- Pastor Leah opened the meeting with a reading and a prayer. A quorum was present; the Agenda and the February meeting minutes were approved.
 - Clerk reported that a Thank You card was received from the Morgans, a couple who was married here in February. The PC(USA) sent a notice regarding church-wide Special Offerings; we will be having World Communion offerings this year.
 - Treasurer Kae H. provided an update regarding Stewardship, and reported that funds will be transferred for budgeted repairs to be made and for general Operating Expenses. Total Revenue \$11,124.65 and Total Expenditures \$24,675.06.
 - Pastor Leah led communion services at Huntington (20 people), and at the Seneca County jail (10 people). She attended various meetings and, in addition, the “The Hangout” will be held on March 20th. Community meeting will be at the Rec Center on April 13th. Leah applied for and received a grant to attend a Con Ed wellness retreat in South Korea, from July 28th - August 1st; she will be out of the pulpit on July 26th and August 2nd. Session approved moving communion from August 2nd to August 9th.
 - Christian Education - the Youth Group collected 85 soup items. They plan to do landscaping, and there is talk of a Dance/Foam Party.
 - Outreach - did not meet; next meeting to occur on March 25th.
 - Parish Life/Membership - soup, sandwiches and dessert to be served on Palm Sunday after the service.
 - Personnel - no report.
 - Property – no report.
 - Worship & Music - looking to have flowers on Easter - anyone can bring in flowers or plants. Brass will play, along with choir and handbells.
- Had discussion about nominating Ginny Konz for the Antonio Varacalli Community Angel award.

Submitted by Anne Millis, Clerk to the Session



The next Session meeting will be held on Thursday, April 9th at 10am



April Birthdays

Ken Saunders - 4/03

Carolyn Seem – 4/05

Ruby Anderson – 4/11

Atticus Ntuala – 4/18

Ginny Konz - 4/22

Simon Ntuala - 4/24

Romona Lobdell – 4/30



WOMEN'S CIRCLE



Members and Friends
to Keep in Our
Thoughts

Jean Morris
3094 Andrews Road
Ransomville, NY 14131

Carol Rook
2878 Hopewell-
Manchester
Townline
Clifton Springs, NY 14432

Bea Jones
Living Center at Geneva -
North
75 Mason Street
Geneva, NY 14456
Room #233

Please remember
(personal care items,
dish & laundry
detergents, paper
napkins, bathroom
paper, cleaning
supplies, etc.)
as you shop



Will Meet on Monday, April 6th at 12:30pm
In the Hawley Room

After cancelling both the January and February meetings for frigid weather reasons Circle members ventured out on the second day of March. It was cool but sunny and coming in “like a lamb,” or so we liked to believe. We enjoyed a delicious lunch at Barb’s house, which included a Romaine/Blueberry/Glazed Walnut salad (thanks, Zoe!), Spinich Quiche, and a lovely dessert (and it took us longer than usual to get to our book discussion and plans for next month!)

Kae offered our opening prayer.

Joyce shared some information about Mariann Edgar Budde, present Episcopal Bishop of Washington DC diocese and author of our 2026 study book *How We Learn to Be Brave: Decisive Moments in Life and Faith*. Avery/Penguin/Random House, 2023. Born in 1959 in Summit, NJ to an American father and Swedish-American mother, she also lived for a time in Colorado, following her parents’ divorce. In the years following college (which included study at the University of Rochester) and before studying for the Clergy, she worked in Arizona in urban ministry and as a missionary in Hondouras. Ordained as a priest in 1989 she went on to serve parishes in Ohio and Minnesota.* In the traditional Prayer Service following President Trump’s inauguration in January 2025, the now, Bishop Budde gave a sermon in which she asked the President to “have mercy” on people targeted for deportation; people “who are scared.” The President had announced earlier that his administration would recognize only “two sexes: male and female.” On social media, the President spoke critically and unkindly about Bishop Budde and demanded that she apologize. Bishop Budde did not apologize.

Following our book discussion, Barb gave Circle’s treasury report...Balance \$585.13. We didn’t discuss where we could put some of it to good use but in later E-mails and phone calls we settled on buying hams again, for the the House of Concern. TOPS supermarket had both 5 and 3 lb. canned hams. Joyce and Ginny would buy and deliver at least 10 hams; the 5 lb. ones if we can get them. We were told that foods for Easter dinners had already been made available to people in need; through the House mobile distribution in mid-March. House Director, Delores Morgan said they’d welcome more hams if we decided to donate them.

HOUSE OF CONCERN special item for APRIL is Breakfast items and cereals
Thanks to everyone who made donations in March!

Barb will offer a prayer for the April meeting Circle.

Ginny will share a “cultural bridge” item.

Everyone should come prepared to discuss the first several chapters of Bishop Budde’s book.

*Wikipedia

GOD, HELP ME TO SEE MYSELF AND OTHERS, WITH LOVE

Nicole Newton, in *These Days*

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS



coffee and conversation

WE MEET THE 4TH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT CAFE 19.

WE CHAT ABOUT WHATEVER IS ON OUR MINDS THAT DAY AND WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU JOIN US.

InterFaith Music Event

All are welcome to this FREE Event.
Hosted by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Join us as we celebrate the UNITY in Community. Musicians, Choirs, and Soloist from various local Faith groups will perform. Located at the Historic Peter Whitmer Farm.

April 25, 2026
6 PM – 7:15 PM

The Little Black Dress Looks to the Future

A fundraising fashion show and luncheon featuring teens from area schools. Proceeds to benefit the Seneca County House of Concerns.

April 17 & 18, 2026
The Lux Hotel & Conference Center

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Door open at 10:30
- Raffles, 50/50
- Wine Pull
- Hors d'oeuvres by Simply Homemade
- Fashion Show & Luncheon

Tickets \$40
Tickets available at the Seneca County House of Concerns (515) 568-2433

- In March, our Lenten Lunch discussion group met on Tuesdays to discuss *Separation of Church and Hate*, by John Fugelsang. This is a very interesting read, primarily focused upon varying interpretations of the Bible, and the ways the cross-section of religious beliefs is impacting separation of church and state in America.
- Youth Group - On Friday, March 20th the Youth Group got together at “The Hangout” for their monthly arcade party; the next meet-up is scheduled for Friday, April 10th - Middle School from 6pm to 8pm and High School from 8pm to 10pm. In addition, they will be going to Roseland Bowl in Canandaigua on Sunday, April 26th; plan to be at the UMC by 1pm to carpool. Please RSVP!
- PI DAY! As always, our PI DAY sale was a great success, with proceeds in the amount of \$2,189 raised. HUGE thanks to all of our bakers and volunteers. We really outdid ourselves this year.
- Coffee and Conversation will be held on Tuesday, April 28th at Café 19. Come by, order your favorite beverage, and catch up with your church friends.

POETRY MONTH

The Woman

*This world could not move forward without the help of women,
For men would be like finless fish who need them to be swim'n.
We'd have no need to grow smart so we would just grow dumber,
Or like a long cold winter without the hope of summer.*

*We'd be like a long pitch black night with no stars or no moon,
And with no love to guide us we would wither all too soon.
For women are our teachers who show us what we're worth,
And not merely a vessel that to whom gave us our birth.*

*Every man on this earth owes no thanks to any other,
Than the God who did give us life inside a loving mother.
So 'lest we take for granted the place of every human,
Not one man would be here without the help of a woman.*

~ Louis L. Lobdell ~

WORSHIP

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

April 3 - Good Friday - First Presbyterian Church - 12 noon

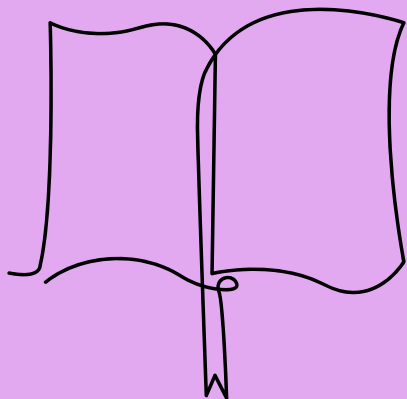
April 5 - Easter Sunday - Communion - Psalm 118:21-29; John 20:1-18

April 12 - Psalm 145:13-21; John 20:19-31

April 19 - Matthew 6:24; Acts 9:1-19a

April 26 - Acts 16:16-34; Luke 6:18-19, 22-23

May 3- Acts 17:16-31; John 1:16-18



LITURGISTS

April 5 - Marion Crull

April 12 - Anne Millis

April 19 - Michele Edmondson

April 26 - Sue Derr

May 3- Carol Millis

GREETERS

April 5 - Susan Sholar and Kae Hoyle

April 12 - Hope Wilson and Andrea Tillinghast

April 19 - Louis and Romona Lobdell

April 26 - Christina Lopez and Paul Dill

May 3 - Ginny Konz and David Hall



NURSERY

April 5 - Zoe Van Kirk

April 12 - Carol Millis

April 19 - Zoe Van Kirk

April 26 - Anne Millis

May 3- Marion Crull



COFFEE HOURS



April 5 - No Coffee Hour - Easter Sunday

April 12 - Finger Lakes Agronomics

April 19 - Karen with Finger Lakes Machine Shop

April 26 - Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge

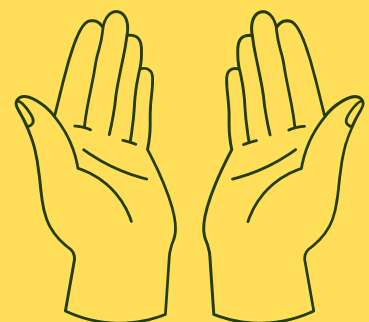
May 3 - No Coffee Hour - Committee Meetings

Please let us know if you have any suggestions
for Coffee Hour Programs!

TO KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

Kathleen Albert; Reatha Bishop; Lori and Steve Clayton; Jennifer Colbert; Peter Crego; Cindy Danielson; Joanie Duval; Carl Feltus; Joanna Fuller; Diane and Cal Goodman; Pat Gordon; Tina Graef; Gerald Gray; Amy Guarino; Tori Guerina; Crystal Hanes; Cindy Hinman-Cosola; Susan Horton; Bea Jones; Bob Lamphere; Josh Lenard; Stephanie Lesinski; the Lobdell family; Wayne and Joyce Lohr; the Lopez family; the Mack family; Kim Martin; Ken Mell; Kathy Minnier; Roger Morin; Timothy Mosher; Joy Novack; Paul Novack; Linda Parker; Paula Paxton; Gene and Dean Potter; Bob Seem; Susan Sholar; Nora Sibley; Shelley Vanderbogart; Lori Varallo; Robert Wagner; Linda Warner; Gretchen Whittacre; the Wilson family; and all those suffering in the world.

Know someone ill or hospitalized?
Please call Anne Millis 315-246-6264



IN OTHER NEWS...

Meet David Hall

David was born in Ithaca when his dad was in Veterinary School at Cornell. The family moved to Seneca Falls, where his dad joined the practice of Dr. Morris on Stevenson Street, and then on Cayuga Street, right next to the railroad tracks with Van Cleef Lake in the back yard.

One of eight, David has always been a helper, it seems, as he would take care of the lawn and drive and walk at his house, then head up to Prospect Street to care for the grounds of the Presbyterian Church secretary, sometimes visiting her “just because.”

He graduated from Mynderse and went to Colgate as a liberal arts major focusing on math, and managed to get the science courses he really wanted by taking them in the pre-Med curriculum. The family moved back to Ithaca after he graduated from high school because his dad had joined the faculty at Cornell in the Veterinary school.

He was in grad school in statistics at Cornell, hoping to be able to design experiments in biometrics, and got the chance to work at FDA. He then got to go to Alaska with the CDC to do research in the Arctic. While there, he wrote papers on Hepatitis B that are still referenced by others. He also married and started a family, having a son and a daughter.

The next step was Atlanta at the Center for Infectious Diseases (CDC) where he was involved in national programs, and another son was born. He then got the opportunity to work with Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals in Connecticut, as they were just starting their AIDS research. He eventually retired from there, moved to the family compound on Seneca Lake down in Ovid, and reconnected with First Pres.

~ submitted by Ginny Konz ~



A Monthly Online Gathering – Fourth Wednesday of Every Month Hosted by the PC(U.S.A.)



The Presbyterian Advocacy Hour brings together committed people of faith every fourth Wednesday of the month to recharge your spirit and empower your advocacy with:

- Spiritual grounding
- In-depth analysis of pressing justice issues
- Practical tools for faithful action

Each session concludes with an optional 30-minute breakout for:

Networking · Movement-building · Community connection



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HAPPY EASTER to you, a fearfully and wonderfully made
child of God:

