

THE PORCH

Newsletter of the Presbyterian House
Chautauqua Institution
www.presbychq.org
Summer 2020

Greetings and Welcome to The Presbyterian House

This summer, we mourn the more than 100,000 lives lost to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are also deeply aware of the thousands of voices across our nation calling for an end to systemic racism and injustice, violence, and oppression. The board, staff and friends of the Presbyterian Association of Chautauqua lift our voices in prayer for you and all those who suffer from these conditions.

The Presbyterian House welcomes all persons regardless of race, ethnicity, religion or sexual preference. We are intentional about working toward greater inclusion among our staff as well as guests. Our inspiration is always the love of God as experienced in Jesus. We call upon the power and presence of the Holy Spirit for such a time as this.

Unfortunately, this is a summer of virtual visits to Chautauqua. Our House will be empty, but if you spend the summer here or live nearby, you can see the Presbyterian House is well cared for and still a vital presence on the Institution grounds. Read "The Porch" and learn all that continues even while we do not have a nine-week season in residence.

Thank you for your continued support of this mission which has been ongoing for over 140 years. Please pray for us as we lead in these difficult times and recharge for 2021 and beyond.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian Association of Chautauqua, Susan Vande Kappelle, President.



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www.presbychq.org



Our Mission

A HOUSE . . .

“Building on the history begun in 1883 to welcome Presbyterians to Chautauqua and to house missionaries for summer institutes, the Presbyterian Association

- includes all persons in our welcome,
- provides excellent weekly accommodations and meals at prices made affordable by generous donors.”

AND A COMMUNITY . . .

“Creating a Presbyterian presence through worship, study and hospitality, the Presbyterian Association

- shares our beautiful and functional facility,
- contributes financially to Chautauqua Institution and surrounding community,
- works in cooperation with denominational houses and religious communities.”

In the past the Presbyterian House has offered several opportunities to gather for fellowship and also to worship as a community. We look forward to the time when we be able to safely return and once again offer a variety of activities and worship to guests of the Presbyterian House and Chautauqua Institution.

In support of our mission, the Presbyterian Association

1. Provides affordable accommodations – all guest stays are subsidized.
2. Maintains the historic 1889 Presbyterian House at 9 Palestine Ave.
3. Welcomes a Chaplain of the Week who leads a Sunday worship and Thursday Vespers.
4. Offers hospitality to Presbyterians and others on our porches and living spaces.
5. Underwrites an annual afternoon lecture at the Hall of Philosophy.
6. Extends our facilities to the broader Chautauqua community that support our values.
7. Serves the community by providing an accessible facility with proximity to the Amphitheater.

"This pandemic has underscored the need for all of us to come together and to weave even broader, more inclusive stories of our humanity, struggle and triumph into a new Chautauqua."

words of CHQ President Michael Hill

The Presbyterian House: *Did you know?*

- There are 36 rooms.
- All beds are twins.
- Six singles share two bathrooms.
- All doubles have private bathrooms.
- A few singles have private bathrooms.
- There are three family rooms with bunk beds.
- Three meals/day are included.
- Fees are per individual, not by room.

The Presbyterian House Decorating Committee

Just after the 2019 Season the new year-round signage was installed. Later last Fall new interior window shutters were installed in the old Chaplin's room.

The major interior project for 2020 has been work on the manager's office, adding a new counter to make the space more functional and better able to meet current staff needs.

Alan Nelson, Chair Decorating Committee



Beautiful Hydrangeas welcome you in front of the Presbyterian House

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven..."

Ecclesiastes 3:1

Consider Becoming a Member of the Presbyterian Association

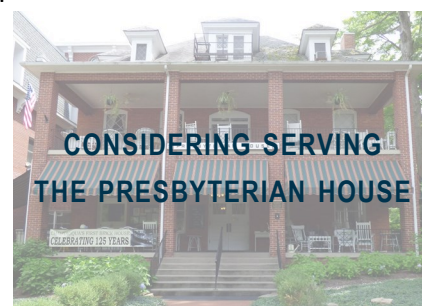
For just \$20 not only will you receive a free PH coffee mug, but you will be supporting our vibrant community of faith, which encourages hospitality and fellowship at our daily porch coffee hours and offers affordable housing on the grounds. Please stop by and join us....all are welcome!

-Kathy Birkett, Chair Membership Committee

Volunteer to Serve on Our Board of Trustees

The Presbyterian House is a busy place, not only all summer, but throughout the year. Not only a denominational house with a rich and long history at Chautauqua, we are also a complex operation managed by a dedicated handful of volunteers and paid staff with year-round tasks. Building maintenance, reservations, staffing, hospitality, food service and programming are among our responsibilities.

Would you be interested in serving on or would you suggest someone to serve on our Board of Trustees to set the policies for this endeavor? Please make yourself known to a current Board member or staff for further information. Come and gather with us to serve our community with purpose!



If you would like to volunteer to serve on the board, please send an email of interest to the Nominations Committee:

marlieb59@gmail.com.

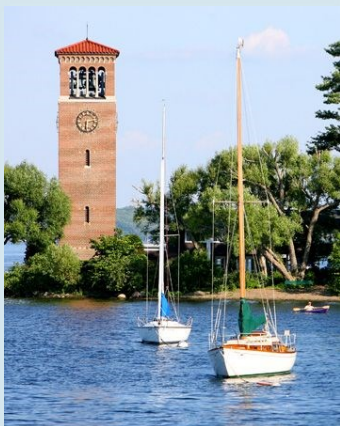


The Legacy Society of the Presbyterian Association of Chautauqua

When you make your charitable gift to the Legacy Society you will be supporting the place you love for years to come. The goal of the Legacy Society is to encourage estate giving which will help retire the debt and expand ministries of the Presbyterian Association. Consider including the Presbyterian Association of Chautauqua in your will so that you can continue to bless future generations.

Please consider the blessings The Presbyterian Association has brought to your life/lives and whether you might consider participating in this endeavor! Please let us know if you would like to register your intent to give an estate gift to the Presbyterian Association and we will give you more information including a codicil template which can be easily completed and attached to your will. Please contact Chris Martin, (csmprov@aol) or John Morgan, (jmorgan@mywpc.org)

Members of the Estate Planning Subcommittee are: *Chris Martin, Ralph Leatherman, Bruce Archibald, and John Morgan.*



Appreciation for the Staff of The Presbyterian House

The service provided by the staff of the Presbyterian House each season exceeded all expectations.

Their hard work was admirable, and it guaranteed a successful relationship between us and them, season after season.

We look forward to the returning of our faithful staff for the next season.

Presbyterian House Development

Since 1883, we have been sustained by the generosity of generations of Chautauquans. These gifts have enabled us to provide affordable housing, while creating a Presbyterian presence on the grounds through worship, study and hospitality.

We also offer financial aid to Presbyterian clergy families who would be unable to visit without assistance.

As we strive to build on the foundation laid before us, we are reminded of the words from Psalm 100, *"For the Lord is good; God's steadfast love endures forever, and God's faithfulness to all generations"*.

The Presbyterian House is Not Empty

By Rev. John E. Morgan

The House is not empty.

It is filled with the memories of summers gone by,
of families together and new friendships tied.

The House is not empty,

our hearts dwell in the rooms
where we slept and rested, got dressed and groomed.

The House is not empty.

The smells of coffee on the porch and flowers in the vase,
dinner in the dining room continue to be there,
the smells of joyful living still linger in the air.

The House is not empty,

because the presence of Christ
bound us to one another
as sisters and as brothers.

So Christ's presence is still there in that holy place,
as we lift one another in prayer and in grace.

The House is not empty,

because the Creator lives in all the earth,
Christ's presence is in every place
and the Spirit fills the world with breath.

So when we return we will certainly see

that the house is not empty,
but filled with you and with me.



Presbyterian House Building and Grounds

It has been a quiet year for the building. We did get new signage for the building at the end of last season which looks really nice. We had a very mild winter with few surprises or breakdowns. There were no major projects this year, but we did a bit of work in the office to create better working space and we replaced a couple sink/vanity units in the staff area. Wish we could have been open this season but was not to be. With the loss of revenue this year, we do not even expect to do much in the next year.

Jim Kullberg, Building Manager

A Brief History of The Presbyterian House

The Presbyterian Association of Chautauqua, New York has been active since 1883.

The construction of the Presbyterian House, the first brick building on the grounds, was begun in 1889, expanded in 1908 and designated an Historical Site in 1987 by the Philadelphia Presbyterian Historical Society. In 1927, the Mary Willis House was willed to the Association by Mrs. O. G. Franks and occupied until 2004, when the house was sold.

Presbyterian House then...



...and now



To meet the need for more affordable housing, a process was begun in 1999 to expand the existing Presbyterian House. A hospitable environment, in which a multigenerational group of people could experience Chautauqua was the goal. The expanded Presbyterian House was completed and opened in June 2004. The Mary Willis House Wing is part of this expanded facility.

Guest charges are kept to a minimum through contributions to the Association from faithful members and friends. No support is received from any board of the Presbyterian Church.

*From the Presbyterian Association of Chautauqua website
www.presbychq.org*

“ For 140 summers, people have come to Chautauqua’s 750-acre community to experience arts, education, concerts, lectures and lively discussions.”

from turchautauqua.com

Nominate a Chaplain for the 2022 Season

If you would like to nominate a chaplain, the next season available will be 2022.

We look forward to your submissions and hope to have an online application later in 2020.

Chaplains must be an ordained Presbyterian Minister of Word and Sacrament who have not visited Chautauqua Institution in the past.



2021 Season Chaplains of the Week at Presbyterian House

We are pleased that all of the chaplains we had scheduled for 2020 have agreed to serve as chaplains for the 2021 season.

- Week 1:** **Rev. Jane Anabe**
Silver Spring Presbyterian Church, Mechanicsburg, PA
- Week 2:** **Rev. Rebekah Maul**
Wake Forest Presbyterian Church, Wake Forest, NC
- Week 3:** **Rev. Steve Wright**
St. Peter's By the Sea Presbyterian Church
Huntington Beach, CA
- Week 4:** **Rev. Cynthia Jarvis**
HR Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill, Chestnut Hill, PA
- Week 5:** **Rev. Dr. B. DeNeice Welch**
Bidwell Street United Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, PA
- Week 6:** **Rev. Lindsay Harren-Lewis**
Fairmount Presbyterian Church, Cleveland Heights, OH
- Week 7:** **Rev. Jim C. Campbell**
Faith United Presbyterian Church, Butler, PA
- Week 8:** **Rev. Henry G. Brinton**
Fairfax Presbyterian Church, Fairfax, VA
- Week 9:** **Rev. Donald Steele**
Central Presbyterian Church, Summit, NJ

The Stephen Phillips Scholarship Fund



The Stephen Phillips Memorial Scholarship is a fund established by Mrs. Betty Phillips in memory of her husband to enable young Presbyterian clergy families to experience a week at Chautauqua while staying at the Presbyterian House. Families selected receive room and board at the Presbyterian House, gate tickets for the pastor and spouse, and enrollment for the children in Children's School, and Boys Club and Girls Club according to the children's ages.

Five families were selected for the 2020 Chautauqua Season. However, with the Chautauqua Institution's unprecedented need to cancel the onsite 2020 season, these five families will not have this unique opportunity as planned. We are hopeful that all five families will be able to attend for a week of their choice during the 2021 season.

As a part of your contribution to the ministry of the Presbyterian Association of Chautauqua, please consider a gift to this special scholarship fund. The scholarships are not only a gift to these young families, the families are also a gift to us all, blessing us in many ways by their presence among us. -Nancy Waasdorp, Chair

Affordable Housing Committee