

# May 2017

May is one of the most beautiful months of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. Usually the snow and ice are gone and the hot temperatures haven't arrived. The first garden begins to sprout in May, the wild flowers are blooming and the trees and grasses have turned green. Many birds have built their nests, and mother birds are sitting on the eggs, which will hatch very soon.

<https://www.thoughtco.com/may-holidays-lip-art-3455219/>



## The Vine



May 2017

First Presbyterian Church of Penn Yan

Rev. Paul E. Malles, Pastor

211 Main Street, P.O. Box 639, Penn Yan 14527

Telephone 315-536-8235

[www.pennyanpresbyterian.org](http://www.pennyanpresbyterian.org)

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9 AM – Noon



### Coming Events



<b>May 2</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Trustee meeting</b>
<b>May 3</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Choir rehearsal</b>
<b>May 6</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Men's Breakfast at Wagner Restaurant</b>
	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Men's Bible Study</b>
	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Spring Clean Up</b>
<b>May 7</b>		<b>Blanket Sunday</b>
	<b>1:00 PM</b>	<b>Yates Hunger Walk</b>
<b>May 17</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Session Meeting</b>
<b>May 18</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Supper Club</b>

## **Pastor's Ponderings**

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### **Growing In God**

Spring brings new life. Easter occurs in spring as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection to life eternal. In spring, nature grows. We too are called to grow. Our spiritual growth is for all seasons.

In Isaiah 58:11 we read, "You shall be like a watered garden." That's a magnificent image of how God's love inspires beauty to grow in us. God wants us to imagine ourselves spiritually as a flower garden. Through Jesus Christ we blossom into all God created us to become.

Have you ever imagined God as a Master Gardener? We are the seeds. God is the Gardener. God knows exactly how we can best grow. The Master Gardener knows the type of soil we need to be planted in, the amount of sun to properly grow, and the amount of rain that is best. God even knows what kind of plant we will become and the blossom we will share.

We can trust ourselves to God's care for us like a gardener's care for a flower. In Jeremiah 29:11 it states, "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." What new ideas might God want to plant in your mind?

My favorite flower is the Rose. It is the official state flower of New York, Georgia, Iowa, and North Dakota. The Rose is also the official flower of the United States of America. I appreciate its shape, color and fragrance.

Whenever I see a rose, I'm reminded of the old adage, "There's no Rose without a thorn." To enjoy something beautiful in life we are required to endure something difficult. To achieve success we must overcome challenges. For a Rose to grow at their best, they need pruning. Sometimes our own lives need some pruning.

This spring take time to notice the details God included in creating a flower. Appreciate the rhythms of the seasons by which God creates and sustains life. Consider how you also are intricately created and that you are uniquely created for a purpose. Additionally, just as flowers are rooted in the ground, we are rooted in God's strength. The light of God shines on us as we continually show forth the beauty of God's love.

See you in church,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Paul".

Pastor Paul



## Sunday Scriptures for May



May 7	Psalm 23	John 10:1-10
May 14	Deuteronomy 6:4-9	2 Timothy 1:1-7
May 21	Psalm 66:8-20	John 14:15-21
May 28	Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35	John 17:1-11



## Ushers and Greeters for May



	Ushers	Greeters
May 7	Linda and Phil Bracht	Jen and Phil Rouin
May 14	Phyllis Alderman and Daisy Heller	<b>Need Volunteers</b>
May 21	Beth Curtiss and Susan Irwin	<b>Need Volunteers</b>
May 28	<b>Need Volunteers</b>	<b>Need Volunteers</b>

The Deacons thank everyone for serving as ushers and greeters. If you cannot serve on the date assigned, please let the office know so the correct names appear in the bulletin.

Since there are only two ushers named for each Sunday, the greeters need to help with passing the offering plates. We appreciate your willingness to participate in the service.

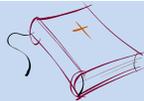
To save the cost of postage, the church office will not be mailing the usher and greeter schedule and duties to individuals. A copy of the duties can also be found on the church website. The schedule and duties are available from the church office upon request.



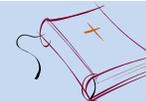
## Nursery and Communion Help for May



	Nursery	Communion
May 7	<b>See sign-up sheet</b>	Beth and Carl Dickinson, Sandy Carlson
May 14	<b>See sign-up sheet</b>	
May 21	<b>See sign-up sheet</b>	
May 28	<b>See sign-up sheet</b>	



## Bible Studies



During May, the Wednesday Morning Bible Study Class speaks of:

- May 3 - God's Sustaining Love, Jonah 1
- May 10 - God's Love Preserved Jonah, Jonah 2
- May 17 - God's Love for Nineveh, Jonah 3 and Nahum 1-3
- May 24 - God's Pervasive Love, Jonah 4
- May 31 - God's Love is the Greatest, 1 Corinthians 13

If you would like to host a Bible Study in your home, please let the office know at 536-8235. Your hospitality is appreciated. Otherwise, please join us in the Pastor's Study at 10:00 AM – everyone is welcome.



## Prayer Line



Charlotte Gillespie  
Judy Wilbert

315-536-7185  
607-292-6958

Nancy Burt

315-536-8286

Please keep the following in your prayers: Nellie Beecher, Toni Gable, June Gnagy, Sue Goodrich, Jay Sadden, Gene Spanneut, Jennifer Stollery, Shirley Whyman, and Joan Wiley.



## Food For The Needy



Non-perishable goods such as pasta, pasta sauces, peanut butter, cereals, canned vegetables, and fruits are always needed. Thank you to everyone for contribution to this program to help feed the hungry in our area and other areas. Helpers are always welcomed. Please have your contributions here at the church, in the box in the entry hall, by Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> for distribution on Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

Also, the mobile food pantry will be available on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>.



## Let's Celebrate



The following have birthdays and anniversaries in May. Feel free to cut this portion out and pray for those whose birthdays and anniversaries are listed below:

Faith Craver	May 2	Justin Matteson	May 18
Karen Snow	May 2	Wava Matzat	May 20
Jennifer Craver	May 8	Jim Matzat	May 23
Teresa Jackson	May 9	Mary-Howell Martens	May 24
Katie Gates	May 10	Kaden Steele	May 27
Don Clarke	May 13	Elizabeth Martens	May 28
Christine Marshall	May 14	Alan and Rachel Doan's Anniversary	May 28
Kyle Pallischeck	May 14	Karen Miles	May 30
Keegan Baxter	May 16	Nellie Beecher	May 31
Nancy Burt	May 17	Sonja Simpson	May 31
Isabelle D'Ingianni	May 18		

### Congratulations To All!

Have we missed your birthday or anniversary? If so, we are very sorry – please let us know by filling out the form below and bringing it to the Church Office!

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Church /Local News



### News from Session

**News from our Treasurer:** We have very good news to share about some recent financial activities. A number of years ago, a portion of the mineral rights to a property in West Virginia were donated to the church. Several new wells just came into production. On February 9<sup>th</sup>, we were blessed to receive the proceeds from April-November 2016 in the amount of \$157,343.34. On February 23<sup>rd</sup>, we were blessed to receive \$15,332.43, and on March 29<sup>th</sup> we were again blessed to receive \$21,651.62 – equaling a total of \$194,327.39. At this time, we are not aware of how long the church will continue to receive these proceeds. As good stewards of this wonderful windfall, we want to keep in mind that the church will need to pay real estate taxes, which we have continued to do since the church received this donation. The money is currently being invested in a separate designated account under the counsel of the Investment Committee. The money is not allocated for anything special within this segregated account – there will be an opportunity in the future for the church to discern the appropriate allocation of this money. We are truly blessed. We are especially thankful to our Trustees and particularly Peter Martens whose leadership has been most helpful, and to Gary Montgomery and all those who took the initiative over the years to handle this property. We will keep you updated.

**Electronic statements:** With the computer input of our giving, the church is posed to send statements electronically by email – this will help decrease our spending for postage. The church office will continue to maintain manual record-keeping simultaneous with the computer record-

keeping, so you may still request manual statements. The church office has emailed those with known email addresses to ask if you would like your statement emailed – we have had a number responded positively. If you have not seen the email from the church office and would like to receive your statements through email, please contact Linda Bracht at [firstprespy211@yahoo.com](mailto:firstprespy211@yahoo.com)

**Penn Yan Area Council of Churches:** The minutes from the Penn Yan Area Council of Churches will be posted in the office hallway.

### **News from Trustees**

**Spring clean-up:** Save the date for our Trustee spring cleanup on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> – more information to follow!!!

**Celebrate Service, Celebrate Yates:** We had a group from Lyons Bank work on the leaves around the church – what a wonderful job they did!!! We are most thankful for all the help.

**Sound system training:** Wouldn't you like to learn about the church sound system??!!! Jon Burt will be doing training on the system so we can have others available when help is needed. Please see Jon if you are interested.

**Help on the church bus:** The Trustees are looking for volunteers to help during the transportation of disabled church goers to their churches. At least 2 volunteers are needed each Sunday of our defined month. The volunteers assist with the church goers getting on and off the bus at their residence and their desired church – you are not responsible for driving the bus!! Please see Jon Burt – a sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board.

### **News from the Presbyterian Women**

**Blanket and Tool Sundays:** Each year the Presbyterian Women collect donations for the Church World Services “Blankets and Tools Program” around Mother's Day. This year we will have the collection at church on Sundays April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 7<sup>th</sup>. A card and envelope to honor either a mother or father will be given for each \$5 donation. This amount, \$5, supports the cost of a blanket or a tool which can be given to help someone in need. The churchworldservice.org web site reports some of the many places blankets, tools, health kits and other supplies are needed. The U.S., Syria, Serbia, and numerous countries in Africa are just a few of the locations where supplies are sent. Your gifts transform the lives of mothers, fathers, and children struggling to build a better life. And we get transformed in the process...hearts get bigger, lives are richer, and we are more connected to our world.

**Chicken BBQ:** Thank you to all who made brownies, bought dinners and helped with the Presbyterian Women's annual chicken BBQ on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. The Presbyterian Women made \$801 from the sell of the chicken, and then another \$106 in donations for a total of \$907.

**Miracle Cloths:** The Presbyterian Women are selling streak-free microfiber Miracle Cloths as a fundraiser – \$5.00 for each cloth. The cloth fiber is a special yarn that is strong and is virtually lint-free - it does not damage any surface. The fibers grab and hold dirt, dust and grime - tough on dirt and gentle on surface - these cloths are GREAT for cleaning windows and almost anything else. Please see Sandy Carlson.

## **News from the Worship and Music Committee**

**Gluten-free Communion elements:** We are happy to announce that we have gluten-free elements for Communion, starting with our Communion in February on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Both plates contain these elements so feel free to get in either line when Communion is performed by intinction.

**Layreaders:** We are in need of layreaders for our Sunday morning services – please sign-up on the sheet on the church bulletin board. Please note that the readings for each Sunday of the month are noted under ‘Sunday Scriptures’.

**Communion List for 2017:** We are in the process of setting up the communion list for 2017. If you are interested in serving and have been ordained in any Presbyterian Church please let Jean Constantine know (585-451-8741 or ladyseneca@aol.com). Also, if you have a date you would like to serve that would be helpful. Once the list is generated you will receive a copy and if you need to change your date you will be easily able to do that. Bread and grape juice are provided. We need 3 people each month to help Pastor Paul serve. Thank you in advance for your willingness to help.

## **News from the Christian Education Committee**

**Chair person:** Thank you so much to Rachel Dillon for volunteering to be the chair person for Christian Education!!!!

## **News from the Outreach**

**Alternative Spring Break:** Outreach is supporting the spiritual and religious development of Keuka College students by making a gift to support the Alternative Spring Break trip to Costa Rica. This is an opportunity for the students to learn about other cultures and themselves, to develop leadership skills and to grow spiritually, as they wrestle with injustices they see. In the past, in Costa Rica, they have taught English, sang songs, played soccer, dodge ball, volleyball and basketball with boys (ages 8-18) in an orphanage; painted a house and a school; attended a recovery meeting; drank freshly harvested coconut ‘milk’ with the men at a farm for drug addiction rehabilitation; visited with senior citizens in a retirement community; attended worship service in Spanish, zip-lined through the forest canopy and swam in the hot springs. Alternative Spring Break reinforces the values of service and social responsibility. By interacting with the people of Costa Rica, spending time with two incredible missionaries – Ralph and Mary (Curtis) Miller, Penn Yan Academy and Keuka College graduate, and also with one another, students’ lives are changed.

**One Great Hour of Sharing:** Thank you so much to everyone who donated to One Great Hour of Sharing – our wonderful church donated \$632 to serve people in our community and around the world by alleviating hunger, rebuilding after crises or catastrophe, and working with communities to overcome oppression.

## **News from the Higher Education Gifts Committee**

The Edward L. Scherer Higher Education Gift fund is available for all members of the church who are going on for higher education. These gifts are given out twice a year, in September and in January. If you want to apply, you need to find an application form on the table in the back of the sanctuary, fill it out with as much information as possible, and mail it to Linda Jackson, 364 Rt. 54 East Lake Road, Penn Yan, NY 14527 or email the application to:

[jackson.linda1959@gmail.com](mailto:jackson.linda1959@gmail.com). The committee especially needs to know whether you are a full time or part time student, how many credit hours you will be taking if applicable, your major, and when you hope to complete your education. Later in the year you will be asked to provide the committee with a copy of your official registration for courses for the upcoming semester. An application needs to be filled out each year you are in school. You may also contact any member of the committee: Chairman - Charlotte Gillespie; Student Coordinator - Linda Jackson and Judith Wilbert. The students receiving higher ed gifts for the 2016-2017 school year are Joshua Baxter, Keegan Baxter, Abbey Duncan, Megan Fenton, Amanda Pereira, Alexandra Rouin, Geoffrey Rouin and Derek Strickland.

In the 23 years that the gift fund has been used, the church has distributed \$451,791 – thank you so much to the higher ed committee and the Investment Committee for their support of our church members.

### **News from the Deacons**

**Usher/Greets List for 2017:** The Deacons are in the process of setting up the usher-greeter list for 2017. If you are interested in helping, please see Linda Malles. Once the list is generated you will receive a copy along with the usher and greeter duties. Thank you in advance for your willingness to help.

**Opening:** We have an opening on the Board of Deacons – if you are interested or want to find out more information, please contact any one of our Deacons.

**Wanted:** The Deacons are looking for a person(s) from our church family who would be willing to volunteer to organize the pews for Sunday Worship. This monthly task might require about one hour of time (at person's convenience) to check hymnals, pew Bibles, Red Music Books, Partners in Worship pads/pens, pew offering envelopes, book marks, etc. Pencils may need to be sharpened. Old information/trash may need to be removed. All materials that are needed to replenish the pew racks are stored in the marble-top buffet in the lounge area behind the sanctuary. If you have the time to volunteer, please contact the church office.

### **News from Church Life**

**Supper Club:** Let's get together for delicious food and a fun talk with Chris and Bri Hanson from the Climbing Bines Craft Brewery. Chris is a Penn Yan Graduate and a teacher at Penn Yan Schools. It is great to hear success stories and this is truly one. They have worked hard to grow a local business and have created a place where families and friends can gather. They have a booked summer at their pavilion and use many New York State ingredients and services. So join us Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm, bring a dish to pass and your own table setting. See you there.

### **2017 Stewardship Campaign: “Reaching in – Reaching out”**

The Stewardship Committee would like to thank everyone for their continued strong support of our Stewardship Program. As we recognize that the sharing of our stewardship gifts lasts through the year as the Reaching In and Reaching Out lists continues here, the committee can provide an update to this portion of the program.

With great thanks the committee can report that, at this time with ~65 cards returned, our total amount pledged is \$132,228. Of course, cards may be returned at any time to the church office or in the offering plate at your convenience.

With our campaign title, here are a few of the 'Reaching In' and 'Reaching Out' items listed by Robyn and Char:

**'Reaching In'**

Hosting baby showers  
 Donating items for the Red Wagon  
 Delivering a Minute for Mission  
 Making grape juice and bread for Communion  
 Welcoming newcomers

**'Reaching Out'**

Dundee Rocks (Our Town Rocks)  
 Dundee Scottish Day  
 Yates County Legislature  
 Milo Town Board  
 Yates County Jail Ministries

Your Stewardship Team:

Pastor Paul Malles  
 Phoebe Baker  
 Phil Bracht  
 Robert Gillespie  
 Jennifer Rouin

the Rev. Anne Waasdorp  
 Linda Bracht  
 Charlotte Gillespie  
 Marcia Kneeland  
 Sonja Simpson

**Current Estimated Giving**

	<b>2017 Actual</b>	<b>2017 Budget</b>	<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>
January	\$19,189.42	\$11,057.33	\$8,132.09
February	\$8,097.42	\$11,057.33	-\$2,959.91
March	\$7,223.42	\$11,057.33	-\$3,833.91
April		\$11,057.33	
May		\$11,057.33	
June		\$11,057.33	
July		\$11,057.33	
August		\$11,057.33	
September		\$11,057.33	
October		\$11,057.33	
November		\$11,057.33	
December		\$11,057.33	
<b>YTD</b>	<b>\$34,510.26</b>		
<b>Full Year</b>		<b>\$132,688.00</b>	<b>\$1338.27</b>

**Men's Bible Study**

The Men's Bible Study typically meets at 9:00 AM on the first Saturday morning of each month in the church office. We usually meet for about an hour. We pray, read, and discuss how we can apply our faith in daily living. We study the Bible through the book, We Make the Road by Walking by Brian D. McLaren.

**Summer Mission Trip**

The youth will be participating jointly with Kirkwood Presbyterian Church on a summer mission trip again in 2017. This year we will be staying local and working with Camp Whitman. Camp Director Lea Kone has agreed to add a second "mission camp" week July 16-21 to accommodate the schedule of our group. We will be working with her to find projects in Penn Yan, Dundee, and surrounding areas that the group can tackle. Youth will be doing fundraising in coming months to help underwrite camp cost (\$175/youth) and to purchase some of the supplies needed

for the projects. It is especially exciting that we will be able to help members of our extended community this year. We also look forward to sharing the beauty of our region with the volunteers from Virginia. More details will be shared as we finalize all of our plans.

## **Sunday Hospitality**

### *Helping With Hospitality*

Sunday morning is for many the core of our congregational life, a special time of the week when we gather to reflect and contemplate, celebrate, and revere life's mysteries and things of ultimate concerns. During this time we are spending with each other and getting involved in each other's lives, deep fellowship is experienced. The relationships are the glue that hold the church together.

Sustaining each service is a group of volunteers who perform hospitality duties to make the service comfortable and pleasing for our congregation.

Many hands make light work. Everyone is encouraged to participate. As a congregation we all share the responsibility of welcoming each other and hosting our guests. Newcomers are also invited to participate. Helping with hospitality is a great way to get to know other newcomers and longtime members and feel more a part of the church family.

Each week it takes about seven volunteers and two additional volunteers are needed monthly to support our Sunday Service. When everyone volunteers a few times during the church year, every task can be comfortably covered.

*Ushers (2)* - Each Sunday one usher welcomes people at the church entrance; one distributes bulletins in the aisle. Ushers help collect offerings, light candles, restock pew racks, ring church bell, manage microphone during announcements and joys/concerns, etc.

*Greeters (2)* - Greeters welcome people as they enter the sanctuary, encourage people to wear name tags, help with collection of offering, host Coffee Hour and chooses to make it as simple or as complex as wants (the quality of fellowship is more important than quality of the food).

*Nursery* - Volunteer provides adult supervision in the nursery after the Youth Message until church is over. The sermon can be heard in the nursery.

*Lay Reader* - Volunteer reads the Scriptures assigned by the pastor at the podium.

*Communion Server* - Volunteer helps serve Communion, usually the first Sunday of the month.

*Birthday Cake Maker* - Volunteer provides cake/cupcakes for the Coffee Hour the second Sunday of the month.

### *How Do I Sign Up?*

The easiest way to sign-up to volunteer as a Greeter, Usher, Lay Reader, helper in the nursery, server of Communion, birthday cake baker, etc. is to sign your name in a blank space on the scheduling sheet that is posted on the bulletin board in the foyer. A complete list of duties for each task is also posted there. If you have not yet had the opportunity to volunteer at one of these tasks, feel free to ask for a coach.

It is suggested that each person volunteer for greeter and usher two times per year, once during January - June and once each July - December.

## **Keuka Comfort Care Garage Sale**

The Keuka Comfort Care Home is having its famous 12<sup>th</sup> annual garage sale on Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9 AM – 4 PM and Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9 AM – 2 PM, at the Yates County Fairgrounds located on Old Route 14a, Penn Yan, New York. The take-in dates are Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> from

10 AM – 2 PM and Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM – 4 PM at the Yates County Fairgrounds. Please no electronics such as TVs, computers, printers, stoves or any exercise equipment, skis or Christmas trees, etc. If you have a questionable item, please call Keuka Comfort Care Home at 315-536-1690. You can find more information on their Facebook page: KCCH Big Barn Bonanza.

### **Sign Me Up! -- The Blessing of Greeting**

One of the foundations of any vibrant church community is fellowship. This is played out weekly in our church in the gathering before and after the service. The opportunity to greet our brothers and sisters in Christ is one that the Deacons would love to see you be blessed by. You will have the perfect opportunity to put new faces and names together, check in on old friends, and be the friendly face that welcomes a guest.

Providing snacks for the fellowship time after church can be a bit daunting, or maybe just a hassle. If hospitality happens to be a gift of yours and you look forward to baking and all the rest-have at it! If having to provide food is something that usually deters you from greeting, please know that the refreshments are the last thing you should worry about! There is no need to cook or even buy more than you feel led to or are able. We have simple tastes-and there is almost always something in the freezer that can be defrosted. Also, there are friends ready to give a coffee maker tutorial if needed.

The most important part of greeting is just that-greeting. Welcome your church family to a morning of worship and fellowship! Please keep this in mind when you are called upon to greet, and if you would like to volunteer, please let the deacons know!

### **Reconnecting with Planet Earth**

This spring and summer, Jack Wilbert will be working on a garden in the church back yard – please stay tune for further information!!!!

### **Literacy Volunteers of Ontario-Yates**

Do you know an adult who can't read? Someone who would like to read better or earn a high school equivalency diploma? A non-English speaker who would like to communicate better or earn U.S. citizenship? Literacy Volunteers of Ontario-Yates can help. We also welcome new tutors and now have online tutor training available. For more information, please call us at (585) 396-1686 in Ontario County or (315) 536-6799 in Yates County.

### **Nursery Help**

We are working on setting up a nursery schedule in advance. Thank you to everyone who has signed up for a Sunday. We have filled every Sunday through the end of the year (excluding Christmas Sunday). We will be looking for people to help again starting in January. If you are not on the list yet and are willing to help, please contact Rachel Anderson at 315-481-9623 or Jean Constantine at 585-451-8741 or email Jean at [ladyseneca@aol.com](mailto:ladyseneca@aol.com).

### **Walking Can Be Fun!!!**

On Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 9 AM – 10 AM, we have an exercise group in Crosier Hall. It started with a group that used to go to Curves, then they were at the Owl's Nest, but the flooding stopped them. The group requested use of Crosier Hall until they can find another home. All are welcome – the group walks in place to a video which can be from 2-3 miles but is very low impact. This good exercise program is free but the walkers give a donation into a

bucket – about once a month, they put names of local charitable organizations in a hat and choose one to give the donated money. Please come and join the fun!!!!

### **Per Capita**

The Presbytery of Geneva has announced that for the first time in many years, they are needing to raise the Per Capita apportionment to \$50.00.

### **Have you considered electronic giving?**

Several of our members have chosen this newer way of giving – how about you? If you wish to make church contributions automatically via electronic transfer, please request an authorization form from Linda Bracht (315-279-1545 or pjb29@cornell.edu).

### **Presbytery of Geneva**

The Nominating Committee seeks your suggestions for presbytery committee positions. All suggestions will be gratefully received and reviewed by the Nominating Committee. You may even suggest yourself for a position. Special consideration will be given for persons in churches with members not currently serving on committees, and for persons who may increase Presbytery's diversity.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 informs us, "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." We are called into the church of Jesus Christ by Baptism, and marked as Christ's own by the Holy Spirit. This is our common calling; to be disciples and servants of our Lord. Within the community of the church, some people are called to particular service.

In an effort to make our Presbytery stronger, we need all the gifts of the people in the Presbytery, which includes Teaching Elders, Ruling Elders, and parishioners of 60 churches in the Presbytery of Geneva. We are asking you to provide names of people to serve on the presbytery committees. Please give us a little information about the person you are suggesting, including some of the gifts you feel they possess. This will enable us to do our work as a committee to discern where best to ask people to serve.

Please send your list of names to Elder Phoebe Bakes, Chair of Nominating. You can email her at [phbbaker@gmail.com](mailto:phbbaker@gmail.com) or send a letter to Phoebe Baker, 3695 Bay View, Penn Yan, NY 14527. If the Nominating Committee does not hear from you, we will be calling you to ask for your suggestions. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

The Nominating Committee – Elder Phoebe Baker, Elder Larry Bates, Sylvia Dorschel, the Rev. James Gerling, the Rev. Cynthia Huling Hummel, the Rev. Cheryl Peoples, Elder Paul Salisbury

If you are interested in learning about what is happening at the Presbytery of Geneva, you are welcome to go on their website at [www.presbyteryofgeneva.org](http://www.presbyteryofgeneva.org). Click on 'Meeting Info' then enter the username 'directory' and the password 'fingerlakes'.

### **Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Geneva:**

For news of the Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Geneva, go to the presbytery website, then 'Presbyterian Women', and 'The Link' at the bottom of the page. Also, take a look at the Quarterly News – download the resource at [www.presbyterianwomen.org](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org); select 'about PW', then select 'Quarterly Newsletter'.

## **From the Moderator's Letters:**

**Organist Available** - If you are looking for a substitute (or full time) organist, you might want to contact Mark Brown from Lodi on the east side of Seneca Lake. Mark has just returned to his home town after spending the past 40 years teaching music in public schools as well as at the higher ed level. He also has extensive experience as a church organist. Contact info: (845) 399-4094 (cell); (607) 582-6466; [knodish1@mac.com](mailto:knodish1@mac.com)

**Contact the Moderator?** While you can always communicate with me through the Presbytery office, you may also contact me directly. Phone contact: (607) 583-7975 h (best choice); (607) 725-0785 c ; [moderator@presbyteryofgeneva.org](mailto:moderator@presbyteryofgeneva.org). Peace and blessings, Dick

**Help Wanted** - Quarter-time Administrative Assistant position available at the First Presbyterian Church, Watkins Glen, NY. Annual salary is \$7000. Applicant must have strong PC, MS Office, and internet skills. Ability to maintain confidentiality and work with people are key to this position. Send cover letter and resume to the attention of Karen Rhodes, First Presbyterian Church, 520 N Decatur, Watkins Glen, NY, 14891.

**Message from Family Counseling Ministries** - The Family Counseling Ministry of the Susquehanna Association of the United Church of Christ wants to remind our church members that mental health is important for everyone. We ask you to prayerfully consider making a financial contribution to this 40-year old ministry. You, and/or your congregation, can do so by making your check out to: *Family Counseling Ministry* then send to: Phebe A. Gustafson, Business Manager, 201 Rachel Carson Way, Ithaca, NY 14850: Thank you.

**Travel Communion Set Available** - A retired pastor has offered a travel communion set to a church that might be in need of one. If you know of a church that could use such a resource, contact Alan Schenck at [schenck@rochester.rr.com](mailto:schenck@rochester.rr.com)

**Got Four Wheels and a Motor?** - Stony Point Conference Center lost its transport vehicle in a recent crash (no one hurt but the Toyota)! If you have a vehicle to donate in good mechanical condition (newer or older), contact Rick at (845) 608-4056 by text or phone or by email at [rickuffordchase@gmail.com](mailto:rickuffordchase@gmail.com).

**Young Adult Volunteer Applications Are Available** - The application process for the 2017-18 YAV year began October 1 and continues to be available. Please share this with young adults you know who are interested in applying or who would benefit from a faith-based year of service. Contact Blake Collins at [blake.collins@pcusa.org](mailto:blake.collins@pcusa.org) or go to the program website at [www.youngadultvolunteers.org](http://www.youngadultvolunteers.org)

The Disaster preparedness training is offered April 4-5, 2017 by Presbyterian Women at Vander Camp.

## **PCUSA – General Assembly news**

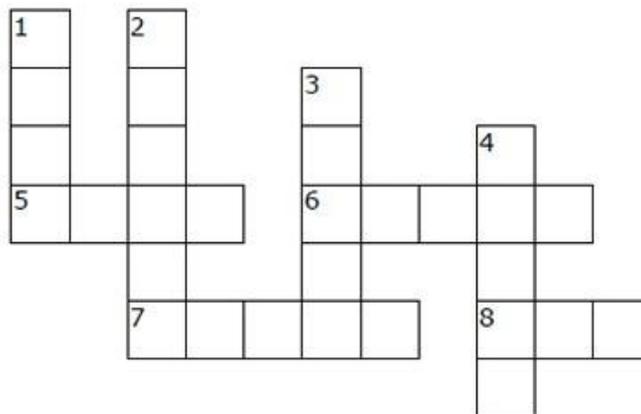
If you are interested in learning about what is happening at the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), you are welcome to go on their website at [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org). Click on 'News & Announcements' then 'General Assembly News'.

# Kids Corner

## Ready for His Return

"No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him." Matthew 24:36,44 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 24:36-44



### ACROSS

5. A period of time sixty minutes long
6. One who steals something
7. The time period from sunset until sunrise
8. The period from sunrise until sunset

### DOWN

1. Man in the Bible who built an ark
2. To come back
3. To look or observe attentively or carefully
4. To be prepared or available for service or action

HOUR	NIGHT	WATCH	READY
DAY	NOAH	RETURN	THIEF

## May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>National Day of Prayer 4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
			10AM Bible Study	3-4:30PM Girls Club		8AM Men's Bkfast 9AM Men's Bible Study 9AM Spring Cleanup
		7PM Trustee mtg	7PM Choir Rehear			
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
10:30 Worship; Communion Sunday school Blanket Sunday 1 PM Hunger Walk			10AM Bible Study	3-4:30PM Girls Club		
<b>Mother's Day 14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Armed Forces Day 20</b>
10:30 Worship; Sunday school 2¢ meal; birthdays			10AM Bible Study	3-4:30PM Girls Club 6PM Super Club		
			7PM Session mtg			
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Ascension Day 25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
10:30 Worship; Sunday school			10AM Bible Study	3-4:30PM Girls Club		
<b>28</b>	<b>Memorial Day 29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			
10:30 Worship; Sunday school			10AM Bible Study			

First Presbyterian Church  
211 Main Street, PO Box 639  
Penn Yan, NY 14527

# May 2017

