

February 2018



First Pres. Press

The "Soul of Christ" ("anima Christi" in latin) is an ancient prayer. The version below is a contemporary version by David Fleming. May it be especially meaningful to you this season of Lent and may you experience Jesus in freedom-giving ways.

Peace and grace,
Pastor Garrett

**Jesus, may all that is in you flow into me.
May your body and blood be my food and drink.
May your passion and death be my strength and life.
Jesus, with you by my side enough has been given.
May the shelter I seek be the shadow of your cross.
Let me not run from the love which you offer.
But hold me safe from the forces of evil.
On each of my dyings shed your light and your love.
Keep calling to me until that day comes.
When with our saints, I may praise you forever.
Amen**

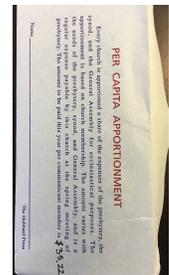
Per capita amount is \$35.22 per member.

What does it pay for?

- administrative costs of our local Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse
- training and ministry support events like the one held here on January 8 and others nationally
- salary and expenses for our Stated Clerk of the presbytery
- committees of the presbytery who help congregation accomplish mission and ministry
- work gatherings of our presbytery, Synod of the Northeast, and national General Assembly
- resources such as the *Book of Order* and *The Book of Confessions*
- preservation and record-keeping work of the Presbyterian Historical Society
- preparation, administration, and grading of standard ordination examinations for seminary students
- annual training events for presbytery executives, stated clerks, and others who help lead our work and mission

We do not believe in being lone rangers in the PC(USA). We need each other as we work together to share the good news of Jesus Christ. As we benefit from the gifts, skills, vision, and ministry of each other in this place, so, too, do we benefit from an even wider array of gifts and ministry of our Presbyterian brothers and sisters across the church. Your per capita pays for the programs, training, and resources that help us work together and discern the mind of Christ for the PC(USA).

Use the **blue envelope** in your Offering envelope box to submit your per capita of **\$35.22 per church member** including confirmed youth but not those children on the baptism roll.



LFPC Annual Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday Feb. 4th immediately following the Worship Service. The 2017 Annual Report is available in the Sanctuary. Please take 1 copy per family.

Spiritual Formation Ministry Report
For January 16, 2017 Session

1. Faith Classes-- classes were not held during the holidays and then cancelled due to the extreme weather on January 7. Classes resumed Jan. 14.
2. Elementals-- Elementals met on January 19 to play “broomball” and to put together craft kits for children at Vera House. The lesson was on perceptions and how people look at things differently because they don’t see the whole picture. This was tied into the “Time for Young Disciples” lesson on Sunday.
3. Worship-- we attended the Presbytery Workshop on Planning for Lent on Monday, January 8. We met at our table with Garrett, Joe Gorman, Dave Rudari, and Steve Uhl under the Reverend Mary Anderson’s leadership to debrief on Advent and to plan for Lent and Holy Week. Good gathering, lots of ideas shared between churches and great collaboration within our team!
4. Christmas Eve-- Elementals led a small pageant to the song “The Friendly Beasts” with Frank DeGross singing. The children did a great job and it was very sweet.
5. Coming up in Spiritual Formation:
 - Painting of mural by jr high in hallway across from restrooms
 - Connecting our youth with adult mentors
 - Mother daughter Bible Study
 - Prepare Lenten activities
 - Conclude “Waking up White” study
6. Friends in Faith-- Registration has begun and we already have three children signed up and gave a visit to a prospective family last week. New applications have been made and Rob Santos has graciously offered to help update the FIF website. Staff meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month. We have planned a computer in service for teachers on Jan. 30 to learn how to use the chromebooks. We also have planned fire drill practice the last week of February and making a spectacular display for the Preschool Fair at the Liverpool library on Feb. 10. We are excited to begin the work towards creating the updated and designated Chris Schauer playground this spring.

Prayerfully submitted, Leigh Anne Herd

Ash Wednesday

As the Lenten season approaches, please mark your calendar for Ash Wednesday on **Feb. 14**. Yes, it coincides with Valentine's Day. What better way to honor the day of love than to reflect on God's overwhelming love for us in His gift of grace through our Lord Jesus Christ. At 5:45, we will gather for a simple family style dinner.

After dinner, we will head up to the sanctuary for the Ash Wednesday service at 6:30. Young children will go with Leigh Anne and Tracie to hear the message of Ash Wednesday in a more child-friendly way. Children will meet with parents in the sanctuary to receive ashes at the end of the service.



Dinner 5:45

Service 6:30

Thank You

Margaret Kathryn Gouger was born on January 3rd at 9:28 p.m. She weighs 6 lbs 14 oz and is approximately 19 inches long. We are all doing great and are thrilled she is here. Thanks to all for your prayers!
-Ashley & Jason Gouger

David Rudari, our choir director, has donated a new Blood Pressure Monitor, for our use. We are so appreciative of this much needed gift. It is being kept in the choir room, on the bottom of our music rack. Our deepest thanks to David for his insight, in needing one & kindness for donating it.

Elsie O'Neill Circle-How we began as a group

[the text below is from Elsie O'Neill's obituary]

Elsie Scheidt O'Neill, 95, a former resident of 603 Fourth St., died Oct. 14, 1992 at Crouse Irving Memorial Hospital.

Mrs. O'Neill was a life resident of Liverpool. She was formerly employed by Miller Paper Company. Her husband, Thomas H. O'Neill, died in 1984. Mrs. O'Neil was a member of the Liverpool First Presbyterian Church for more than 70 years. She taught Sunday School for over 25 years and was the first woman ordained an elder in the Syracuse-Cayuga Presbytery.

Mrs. O'Neill was a member and the first president of the church's Florence Bentley Guild which was organized in 1929. She was also a member of the Berith Circle and an honorary member of the Elsie O'Neill Circle which was formed in 1981. She was a member of Liverpool Chapter 219, Order of the Eastern Star, and a charter member of the Center Village Senior Citizens. Surviving are three nieces, Judy Montgomery of West Chester, PA, Joanne Klock of Baldwinsville and Ruth Fisher of Brewerton, and several Grandnieces and grandnephews.

Services were held Oct. 17 at Maurer Funeral Home, 300 Second St., The Rev. Raymond Gausman officiating. Burial was in Liverpool Cemetery. Contributions may be made to the memorial fund of the Liverpool First Presbyterian Church.

A mission committee report for the January 16 session meeting consent agenda is as follows:

LFPC sent a full group of volunteers to serve at Samaritan Center on Sunday December 31st. We will be paying for the cost of the meal.

No mission committee meeting has been scheduled yet to discern what local mission to apply the 25% from P&GW offering. Rob will try to get a final count for P&GW offering to report on Tuesday.

Mission committee team members are tasked with brainstorming ideas for how to respond to the season's Christian Education study on racism.

Instead of LFPC hosting its own meal packing event Rob is looking to bring a larger group from LFPC to the 2018 Feed My Starving Children MobilePack event at the Vineyard Church. (Here is a link to an explanatory video.) This event is staged in stacked two hour packing intervals over the weekend of March 21-24, 2018. They have an impressive operation, and the facility to match. The meals are packed in assembly lines while the raw material rice, soy, and dry vegetables are resupplied in a total high-energy team effort. The fundraising ask is about \$50 per person per session. This is a really neat mission that requires no special skills and brings churches together across the region. Rob will ask LFPC groups to see if there is a common two-hour window on the Friday evening March 23 or Saturday March 24 where we can go as one church group!

Mission committee will also begin promotion for One Great Hour of Sharing Offering to be collected during lent, final day with fish banks on Palm Sunday March 25, 2018.

Items to elevate for new business:

1- Rob would like Session assent to promote the MobilePack event as a church mission event for winter 2018, to try to get more than a few families to go. Doing this event could replace an April mission-oriented Be the Church Sunday if we decide to advance the listening walk Sunday as the alternate plan for April 2018.

Respectfully submitted, Rob Santos

The Nominating Committee for 2017/18 is made up of the following disciples: Jason Gouger, Bonnie Santos, Tracie Folley, Marianne Van Houte (Deacon), Bill Newell (Elder), and Leigh Anne Herd (Elder).

The role of the Nominating Committee is to discern who God is calling to lead our church, not just the work inside the doors, but even more importantly to minister and share the gospel outside the doors of LFPC. The Holy Spirit has been at work with us and all of the churches in CNY **to become more aware of who we are and how we are to integrate into the community as God's people without the sense of "fixing" but with the joy of becoming one through Christ's love and mission.**

The Nominating Committee is seeking **three elders and four deacons** to serve a three year term beginning in June. The Book of Order (G-2.0104) states *to those called to exercise special functions in the church—deacons, ruling elders, and ministers of the Word and Sacrament— God gives suitable gifts for their various duties. In addition to possessing the necessary gifts and abilities, those who undertake particular ministries should be persons of strong faith, dedicated discipleship, and love of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.*

G-2.0201 Deacon Defined

The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this ministry.

G-2.0301 Ruling Elder Defined

*As there were in Old Testament times elders for the government of the people, so the New Testament church provided persons with particular gifts to share in discernment of God's Spirit and governance of God's people. Accordingly, congregations should elect persons of wisdom and maturity of faith, having demonstrated skills in leadership and being compassionate in spirit. Ruling elders are so named not because they "lord it over" the congregation (Matt.20:25), but because they are chosen by the congregation to discern and measure its fidelity to the Word of God, and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life. Ruling elders, together with **ministers of the Word and Sacrament**, exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of a congregation as well as the whole church, including ecumenical relationships. When elected by the congregation, they shall serve faithfully as members of the session. When elected as commissioners to higher councils, ruling elders participate and vote with the same authority as **ministers of the Word and Sacrament**, and they are eligible for any office.*

We ask that you, the congregation, join the Nominating Committee in praying for discernment of who God is calling to provide leadership to the church in the class of 2018. If in your prayers, names of disciples in our church come to you, please provide those names in the tear-off found in the Sanctuary and give to a member of the committee. Please state the gifts you believe this person has that can be used to further the kingdom of God in the role of deacon or ruling elder.

From the Floral Committee: Please sign up for flowers for a Sunday of your choice to remember a special occasion on the Floral Chart outside the Church Office.

In January we celebrated: On Jan. 21st-The rose on the baptismal font is in honor of

Margaret Kathryn Gouger.

CNY Photographers Meets 6:30pm every third Monday of the Month at LFPC. This month's meeting is on **Monday Feb. 19th** in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

****Please remember to take your offering envelopes if you have not done so already. Thank You!****

February Birthdays

- 1 – Jason Gouger
- 3 – Aiyana Gamory
- 4 – Brynne McConnell
- 6 – Austin Westphal
- 9 – Dode Lipton
- 12 – David Spak
- 19 – Heather Brown
- 25 – Melissa Beerman



Remember the Food Pantry

Just a gentle reminder that as you shop for the food pantry consider purchasing lots of fruits and vegetables. Foods with 7 grams of protein are considered “protein”.

LFPC Food Pantry Shopping List:
-Canned Vegetables, -Canned Fruit in juice or water (not syrup), -100% juice

Protein rich foods 7 grams per serving: -Beans, -Canned meats, -Canned fish, -Peanut butter

Bottle Drive

We are still collecting returnable cans and bottles for the preschool. There is a bin downstairs outside of Fellowship Hall to place your donations. Please rinse the cans and bottles out first.
Thanks!



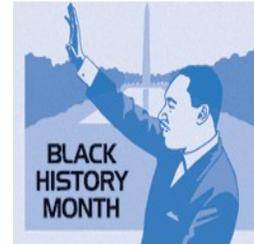
From the Church Office:

The Office will be CLOSED on

Mon. Feb. 19th for Presidents' Day.



February is



TEAM effort, Youth Group Mission Trip
Presbyterian Youth Network of Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery
2018 Summer Mission, will be held from June 24 to June 30, 2018
See: <https://groupmissiontrips.com/trip-types/home-repair/camillus-ny-2018>

The February Newsletter Deadline is Feb. 23rd by 12 noon. Heather is in the office **Mon.-Fri. from 9:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m** Please get all articles and pictures into the church office by 2/23. You may call Heather at 315-457-3161 or email lfirstpr@twcny.rr.com.

Crafters with a Mission

A spring craft fair project is in the planning stages and we hope you will all join in the fun. A group of LFPC members are putting together a craft fair to be held **Saturday, May 19**. That is the same day as our annual plant sale for the Friends in Faith group. We hope to hold the event outdoors ~ weather permitting. If you are a crafter and would like to join in the fun, please start making and saving up your handiwork (all types welcome) and become part of our Mission. Our only exclusions will be edible or topical items as we don't want any allergy issues! The fees of \$20 to enter the show and get a table to show your wares will all go to supplement the funds of Friends in Faith!

Each crafter will price and sell their items during the **9:00 - 2:00** show. We are sure to have a wonderful variety of craft items from all our talented crafters. We'll feature home made cards, jewelry, knit and crochet items, watercolor paintings, handmade soaps, paper crafting, quilted items, tote bags, zippered pouches and more. We hope to also add some woodworkers / metalworkers and photographers..... all handmade items are welcome!

So, start creating and spend the winter months in preparation for the big Crafters with a Mission event. If you have questions, please contact Joan Halsted (jshalsted@gmail.com) or Lisa Bricault (lisajean66@live.com) or Coleen Clapper (ccrn52@aol.com). In a couple of months we will ask you to sign up to reserve your table.