

March 2018



# First Pres. Press

At times you just need a friend to share something with. You don't need to them to talk and maybe you don't want them to talk. You simply want them to be with you. Their presence is comforting to you, it gives you strength, it gives you the sense that you don't need to carry everything alone.

We are grateful when we experience the presence of Christ with us in times of distress, loneliness, grief, or loss. What may be surprising is that Jesus asks us to be present with him, too, during his time of crisis as he faced his impending suffering and death. He wanted to be with his closest disciples and called them his friends. He needed their presence in order to be strong enough to be weak.

We, too, have an invitation to be present with Jesus in his divine weakness. If we are not then we will misconstrue his strength and glory and his resurrection. I encourage you this month to take time to be alone with Jesus and the scripture stories of his last days: entry into Jerusalem, Last Supper, praying at night in the garden, his arrest and crucifixion. Jesus needs a friend to be with him. Not to ask questions, not to relieve his pain (or yours), not to jump to the victory in the empty tomb. Just to be with him as a friend. Will you come?

Peace and grace,  
Pastor Garrett

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## Lenten Calendar at LFPC

### March 4

9:00 a.m. Faith Classes, 10:15 a.m. Worship, 11:30 "Mission" Study

### March 11

9:00 a.m. Faith Classes, 10:15 a.m. Worship

### March 18

9:00 a.m. Faith Classes, 10:15 a.m. Worship, 11:30 "Mission" Study

### March 24 (Saturday)

9:30-11:00 a.m. LFPC and FIF Family Easter Program

### March 25- Palm Sunday

9:00 a.m. Faith Classes

10:15 a.m. Worship

11:30 a.m. Pancake breakfast made by Men's Ministry

## Holy Week Schedule

March 29- Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m. Worship

March 30- Good Friday 12:00 p.m. Ecumenical Worship at St. Joseph the Worker Liverpool

April 1- Easter Sunday 10:15 a.m. Worship





### SONRISE

On **Saturday March 24**, families from the church and the preschool will gather to celebrate the Risen Son. We will have crafts, food, story time, and an Easter Egg Hunt! Bring your children, grandchildren, and neighbors' children ages 1-12 to this special event from **9:30-11:00** which will be held in the Fellowship Hall! Please sign up the number of children you will be bringing and/or if you are willing to help out with one of the stations! See Leigh Anne or Tracie for details!!!

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### March Mission Minutes:

#### MobilePack 2018!

The Vineyard Church in Solvay hosts their annual MobilePack fundraiser with Feed My Starving Children over Palm Sunday weekend March 21-24, 2018. No special skills required. This is a high energy group assembly line activity that packs nutritious soy, rice, and veggie ingredients into meal kits for distribution across the world. Just bring enthusiasm, willingness to follow directions, and a heart for feeding God's children.

A group from LFPC will be going on Friday March 23, 5:30-7:30p.m. To register with the LFPC group, see Rob Santos or call the church office at 315-457-3161. No donation is required to register or participate in the MobilePack event. You choose to donate if you want, value of your choice.



### One Great Hour of Sharing Offering



You shall be called repairers of the breach. - Isaiah 58

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by the One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. More information about the offering and the three programs can be found at:  
<http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/oghs>

*OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together to work for a better world.*

Look for special envelopes in the pews in March. Special envelopes are not required, though. Please write check to Liverpool First Presbyterian Church with OGHS in the memo line. We will collect the OGHS offering through Sundays in March and **dedicate it on Palm Sunday March 25.**

### An Urgent Request from PC USA Office of Public Witness

Those that participated in 2017 Be the Church Sunday may have written letters initiated through the PC USA Office of Public Witness. They have issued an urgent request for advocacy for a brother in Christ in Metuchen, NJ, to push for his immediate release from ICE detention. For more information you may call the The Office of Public Witness at (202) 543-1126.

## **News from PC USA mission co-workers Charles and Melissa Johnson**

February 16, 2018

Greetings from Lundazi! I hope this finds you, your families and everyone at Liverpool well. It's hard to believe it's been over 6 months since we were there with you all. We are well and busy with the work God has called us to here so we are happy! It is rainy season (although the rains have not been as consistent as usual) so everyone is busy in their fields. Charles will be teaching at Chasefu next week. Mr Willima and I are busy with Health Department programs, especially since there has been a cholera outbreak in Zambia. Most of the crisis was centered in the capital, Lusaka, but there has been a smaller outbreak here in Lundazi and everyone has been scrambling to educate communities on how to prevent the disease.

I am writing to give you an update on the status of the generous gift that Liverpool gave to the CCAP Health Department for hospital beds for Egichikeni Clinic. Because of the church's overwhelming generosity, we were able to purchase 20 beds and mattresses, double what we originally asked for. We have also had a local well wisher who has provided free transportation of the beds saving us additional funds. We will be providing 14 beds and mattresses to Egichikeni Clinic. We would like to provide the remaining 6 beds and mattresses to our other clinic at Ndaiwala, where there is also a great need for beds.

Thank you again for the amazing generosity of the people at Liverpool. Blessings and gratitude to you all! Melissa Johnson, [Melissa.Johnson@pcusa.org](mailto:Melissa.Johnson@pcusa.org). On behalf of LFPC I have consented to sending those 6 other beds to the clinic in Ndaiwala.

### **Help Vanderkamp raise funds for Fellowship Hall**

Bill and Penny James have made an urgent appeal for funds to restore Fellowship Hall on the Vanderkamp campus. They are seizing the opportunity given them by nature to go beyond resolution of a current maintenance concern impacting all aspects of Vanderkamp's outdoor ministry. The goal is to renovate and modernize Fellowship Hall to meet current and future needs; transforming this space into a suitable and welcoming place for worship, indoor sports and games, meetings, and more. To donate call you may call Vanderkamp at 315-675-3651.

### **Presbytery Youth Summer Mission**

Camillus/Syracuse, June 24 to June 30, 2018. 400+ youth from around our country and adult leaders will help with home repairs at no cost for elderly, disabled, and disadvantaged people living in the Camillus/Syracuse area. Work crews will typically serve the same resident for the entire trip, creating an environment where meaningful relationships can develop. Most projects will be designed to be completed during the trip, allowing your group to experience the satisfaction of a job well done. Youth will serve the needs of others through projects such as interior and exterior painting, building or repairing porches and wheelchair ramps, building or repairing steps, weatherization, and other home repairs. No skills are needed, just passion!

Respectfully submitted, Rob Santos

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### **Honoring Chris Schauer**

Due to the generosity of our church family with offerings, a generous memorial fund, and a successful program, we have the funds to add on to our play yard and replace pieces of equipment. We are putting together a new and improved play yard for our preschool children and our own young children of the church. A dedication of the play yard in honor of Chris will be celebrated with our combined LFPC and FIF families on **Saturday, May 5 from 11-12**. *Rain date will be May 6 from 1-2*. We hope you can come and honor our dear sister, Chris Schauer, on this very special day.

Dear Sir,

Greetings from CCAP Synod of Zambia.

I would like to thank you for the beds, mattresses and blankets given to our clinics through our Healthy department. It has made our evangelism be complimented through your assistance. We value the gifts given to us and were given to the two clinics with joy. We hope this will go a long way.

Through your kind donation, CCAP will be doing the work in Lundazi with joy and many people will be able to give a testimony. I indeed thank you so much for this precious gift, your support and partnership is highly valued.

Thank you,

Rev Sevatt Kabaghe  
General Secretary



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### **Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast, March 25th**

The youth are cooking with the men's ministry to provide our church family with a delicious pancake breakfast on Palm Sunday. The breakfast will be ready for you to enjoy right after the worship service!



#### **Thank You**

Thank you to our guest speaker, Rev. Pamela Gnagy, who filled in for Pastor Garrett on Sunday February 25th!

The Annual Congregational Meeting was held on Sunday Feb. 4th, copies of the Annual Report are still available. Stop by the church office, and pick one up if you would like one. Thanks!

#### **RUMMAGE SALE NEWS**

Before we know it, spring will be here and at time the Women's Association will have its semi-annual Rummage Sale. **The date has been set for Saturday, April 28, 2018 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Please think about helping by donating clothing, small knick knacks, children's toys etc. We will not be accepting used shoes or books this year. There is also a need for bakers, so consider making something delicious for the sale. We need many hands to sort the items, work the day of the sale and clean up after it is over. (men helping is always appreciated).

If you have never been a part of this ministry, please think about helping. We would like very much to have you join us. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 315-457-3161.

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

Per capita amount is \$35.22 per member. 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.

#### **From the Church Office:**

The Office will be CLOSED on Fri. March 30th for **GOOD FRIDAY.** The Liverpool Ecumenical Good Friday worship service will be held at **St. Joseph the Worker Church, 1001 Tulip St., at 12 noon.**

All are welcome!



***It's time to Order Easter Plants***



**To Order a plant to decorate our sanctuary for Easter**, fill out the form in church and place it in the offering plate along with the money for what you've ordered. This year you may order from the following: lily, daffodil, tulip or hyacinth. You may also place your order at [lfirstpr@twcnny.rr.com](mailto:lfirstpr@twcnny.rr.com) or call the church office at 457-3161. The cost is \$10.00 per plant and you may take your order home after the Easter Sunday service on 4/1. Please make checks payable to the First Presbyterian Church. Orders must be placed by **March 25th**.

**ARE YOU A DEMENTIA CAREGIVER?**

*Attend an Alzheimer's Association Caregiver Support Group*

*Do you feel like you're all alone? Would you like to learn from others dealing with the same challenges as you? Support groups provide emotional, educational and social support for caregivers.*

Join an Alzheimer's Association support group and learn how the power of your peers can help you navigate your journey. **We meet the 2nd Saturday at 11 a.m. at LFPC.** Facilitators: Florence Felt & Skip Collins. For more information, call (315) 472-4201.

**March Birthdays**

- 1 – Clarajane Pfeffer
- 2 – Trevan Signorelli, Pam Carges
- 5 – Kristin Overend
- 10 – Toria Herd
- 12 – Mike Herd
- 13 – Tiernan McConnell
- 19 – Shawn Calnan
- 22 – Erik Folley, Rosanne McDougall
- 23 – Jerry Stewart
- 30 – Lindsey Raitt

**Please drop off any gently used men's boots for Isaiah's Table** in the laundry basket in the narthex. Thank you for your donation!

**Preschool Collection 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.

**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. Please drop off any items in the baskets in the narthex.



**The April 2018 Newsletter Deadline is Tuesday March 20th by 12 noon.** Heather is in the office **Monday-Friday from 9:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m** Please get all articles and pictures into the church office by 3/20. You may call Heather at 315-457-3161 or email [lfirstpr@twcnny.rr.com](mailto:lfirstpr@twcnny.rr.com).

**Crafters with a Mission-Artisan Fair**

A group of LFPC members are putting together an **Artisan Fair to be held Saturday, May 19**. That is the same day as our annual plant sale for Friends in Faith Preschool. 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! If you are interested, please contact Lisa Bricault (315-715-4303).

**Artisan Fair Task Force**

**Meeting March 11 at 11:45** to organize the Artisan Fair on May 19. All interested in renting a table or helping, please come to the meeting in the library. Thank You!!!