

THE MESSENGER



Pastor's Message for April 2020 *Messenger*

This is a strange time for us all and for me in particular as your pastor. All of my training and expertise has been in how to bring people together as the body of Christ. This is still a necessary part of what it means to be a pastor and for any Christian. The paradox in this pandemic is that, for the time being, we must keep apart for the sake of everyone's health at the same time we are trying to draw everyone together. No easy task and not likely to get much easier for the next several weeks.

That is why I think it is so important for all of us to remember that our true unity comes from the Holy Spirit which dwells within every believer and unites us all as one body in Christ Jesus. Although it is much easier and more satisfying for us to be together in the flesh, that is not what is best for us right now and is especially not good for those among us more likely to have severe health problems if they become infected. How good it is then that our unity and love for one another come from the Spirit of God and not from our proximity!

But still we crave closeness and connection. This is part of what it means to be created in the image of the triune God: we were created for community. We have been doing our best to maintain the bonds of community with the tools at our disposal, namely the telephone and laptop and tablet computers. Our care group coordinators will continue to call you and check in with you and your families. Let them know if you need a hand or call me directly. We will continue to attempt to connect with you as best we can and hope you will reciprocate by participating in our Sunday 10:30 am online worship on Facebook Live and our Acts Bible Study on Wednesdays and Fellowship time on Thursdays, both on Zoom at 11:00 am. Information on how to participate has been sent to you by email and the church staff stand ready to help you should you have difficulty trying to connect. All you need do is call and we will do our best to help. This does not have to be a time of stagnation but can be a time of spiritual growth for us all if we will only avail ourselves of the opportunities hidden in this crisis.

As we prepare to enter Holy Week, please remember this always: we are Easter people! We are the people of the resurrection. This too shall pass. Even as we await the day when we can once again physically embrace one another, let us not neglect to embrace the opportunities that are available to us for connection and care. As I said at the conclusion of last week's sermon: "Hold on! Easter is coming!"

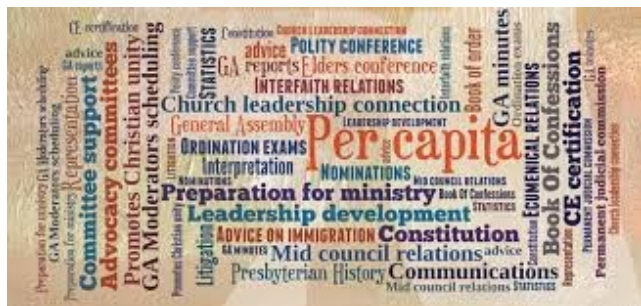
God bless and keep you all healthy and safe.

Your brother in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Jeff



CORNERS AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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PER CAPITA GIVING FOR 2020

During this time when we are not gathering in church for worship, let us be mindful that the financial needs of the church continue, including salaries for staff, utilities, maintenance, and other costs. Please continue to pay your pledge or make regular offerings by mailing them to the church or dropping your envelope in the church mail slot at the main entrance. If you do that, please call Rosie in the office so she can pick it up promptly. This is also a good time for members to pay the annual Per Capita fee of \$50 if you have not done so. Thank you. Remember to live by faith, not by fear.

With the church currently closed, please mail your offerings to the church office, or place them in the mail slot at the courtyard entrance door. Be sure to designate this fund.

It is now also possible to donate online by going to the church website at www.corningpresby.org and clicking the online button at the top of the page.

Ken Baer
On Behalf of the Stewardship Committee

A Little History...



A beautiful memorial window given by the Edwin P. James family in memory of Mrs. Laura James was dedicated on November 17, 1963. Called "The Disciples Window," it is located in the arch at the eastern end of the sanctuary, and each of the twelve sections represents a disciple of Christ, with an appropriate symbol for each disciple.

THE MEANING OF THE WINDOW

Following the sections, clockwise, the symbols each followed by the disciple it is symbolic of:

The Keys to the Kingdom	Peter
The Square and Lance	Thomas
The Bible and Ax	Matthias
The Cross shaped like an X	Andrew
The Three Purses	Matthew
The Three Knives	Bartholomew
The Saw	James the Less
The Ship	Jude
The Cross & Two Loaves of Bread	Philip
The Serpent in the Cup	John
The Three Shells or Scallops	James the Greater
The Fish and Book	Simon



OUR WEBSITE NOW HAS NEW ONLINE GIVING CAPABILITIES

The basic sequence of tasks to make an online donation to the Church are as follows –

► Go to the Church’s website (www.corningpresby.org) and click the button that says “Online Giving” (see the screen shot that follows). This will direct you to a new page with a box that has two (2) options – “Donations” or “Log In” (see the second screenshot)

The screenshot shows the homepage of the First Presbyterian Church website. The header features the church's name and a celebratory message. A navigation bar includes links for Home, Info Center, Online Giving, Staff, Ministries, and Member Directory. A pink arrow points to the 'Online Giving' link. Below the navigation bar, there is a 'Welcome' section with a message from the church. The main content area is divided into two columns: 'Donations' and 'Log In'. The 'Donations' section includes a form for entering a donation amount, frequency, and start date, with a 'Continue' button. The 'Log In' section includes a form for entering an email address and password, with a 'Log In' button and a 'Create Profile' button. A 'Forgot your Email Address or Password?' link is also present.

► To make an immediate donation, enter a dollar amount, payment frequency (one time, weekly, etc.), start date (current date or another) and then click on “Continue”.

► To set up an account (for future log-in, donation tracking, address, etc.), click on “Create Profile” (Note: By creating your profile, you will be able to “Log In” in the future with a password you select). If you do not set up an account, you will have to enter name, address, email address, etc. each time you log in to make a donation. Once you “Continue” (either by doing the direct donation or by setting up an account now), you will be forwarded to a page to “Create Account Payment”.

► Payment can be done by entering checking or savings account information, or by registering a current credit card (if you set up an account, this information will be saved for future use). Once done, you will be directed to “Process” the payment amount.

► Note that the online payment service does charge 2% for any online payments. You will be asked if you want to add the 2% to your total (this would allow the Church to get the entire amount of your desired donation), which you can either agree to do or not,

► Then you will be asked to confirm your final amount (including the 2% if you agree to add that amount to your donation) and payment method, and the transaction will be completed.

► You can print out a receipt if desired, but you will receive confirmation by email immediately after the donation to your email address (which you are asked to enter earlier in the process whether you set up an account or not). Note: By setting up an account, you will be able to track your donations online, and print out a full record at any time.



PLEASE JOIN US ON ZOOM!

BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAYS AT 11:00 AM

FELLOWSHIP TIME THURSDAYS AT 11:00 AM

**Protect yourself and be supportive to others.
For example, check-in by phone on neighbors or people in your community who may need some extra assistance.**

Working together as one community can help to create solidarity in addressing COVID-19 together.

#Coronavirus

#COVID19



**World Health
Organization**





MAJOR GIFTS AND ENDOWMENTS UPDATE

We have had an email communication from Anita Clemons, Vice President and Managing Director of Investments of the Presbyterian Foundation. She works with our church in regards to our endowments in the Foundation. Anita was scheduled to visit our church and speak about our investments on May 20, but that has been canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

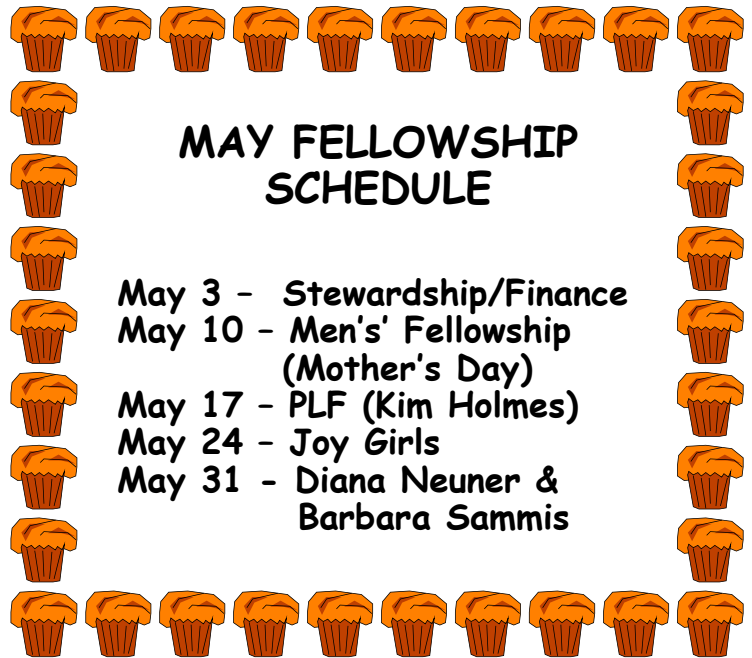
The following is an excerpt from her email communication to us:

It has been an extraordinary couple of weeks in the markets. Given the unprecedented nature of recent developments, we wanted to provide you with additional insights and updates. Times of uncertainty and market fears are when a long-term investment horizon matter the most. We would expect a meaningful drop in both U.S. and global economic activity at least over the first half of 2020. That said, the U.S. financial system remains sound, in our view, and banks are healthy and well capitalized. These are important foundations for the economy broadly and for companies and consumers as the economy downshifts to stave off a catastrophic public health crisis. There is no guidebook for this current scenario.

Our team has worked and invested through challenging markets and environments before, including severe recessions/financial crises (e.g., 2007-09), and exogenous shocks that have roiled the economy and financial markets (e.g. 2001). We have

significant experience navigating choppy waters such as these, as I always recall our oldest endowment fund was set up in 1821 and still distributes money for mission and ministry today.

The MG&E Committee has confidence that, as in the past, our funds will be managed in a professional manner to offset the negativity caused by the current coronavirus pandemic.



MAY FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

May 3 - Stewardship/Finance
May 10 - Men's' Fellowship
(Mother's Day)
May 17 - PLF (Kim Holmes)
May 24 - Joy Girls
May 31 - Diana Neuner &
Barbara Sammis

CARE GROUPS FORMED

Congregational care groups have been created and groups assigned to each of our church officers. They will be calling to see how you are doing and if you have any present needs we can assist you with.





Bad Church Secretary
@ChruchSecretary

Somebody saw this and complained that another person's photo was in their spot.



CHANNEL 1--SPECTRUM NEWS

Corning Girl Binding Families Together From Afar Through Blankets

When so many people are feeling disconnected with people they love, Victoria Holmes is tying together the bonds of family. No matter the distance. No matter the virus.

Victoria is 12 years old, and she has a hobby. She takes the time to cut half-inch by four-inch strips of fleece. She's making blankets. But they're not so she can sell them and make a profit. They're for other people.

"Some of them were crying when I gave it to them and it feels really good because I can see the impact that I'm having on people's lives," said Victoria Holmes, founder of Operation Starways.

The star-patterned blankets come in sets of two. One for a cancer patient, and a matching one, for someone they love at home.

"In her letter she says, the blankets can kind of talk to each other, when your mommy squeezes the big one, the little one in the hospital with you will feel the love," said Kimberly Holmes, Victoria's mom.

Victoria knows what it's like to be far away from someone you love.

"When my mom was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia and pregnant with my brother, I was separated from her because I was only 7 at the time; I wasn't allowed to be near her or be in the hospital room with her," said Victoria.

She was living with her aunt during her mom's treatment.

"She took me over to the window and she said Tori, do you see the moon and the stars and I'm like yeah I see the moon and the stars, and she said those are the same moon and the same stars that your mom is looking at right now. And that gave me hope and a connection to her," said Victoria.

In the years that followed her mom's return home, she donated her hair to Locks of Love, and shaved her head for St. Baldrick's. But that wasn't enough for her. So she started Operation Starways.

"Just knowing that I'm impacting people and their life is different with me in it than without me in it," said Victoria.

"She wants to let those families know there is hope, because you can get on the other side of cancer," said Kimberly Holmes. "So it's come full circle. Wilmot Cancer Center treated me, Victoria is now donating back to Wilmot Cancer Center."

Which led her to win the Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

"Even without it I would still be proud of what I've done," said Victoria Holmes.

With the award comes a \$1,000 scholarship to any college she chooses. Her ambition? Becoming a pediatric cancer doctor.

You can tell her who she should donate blankets to next at operation-starways@gmail.com

Corning Girl Binds Families From Afar Through Blankets

Page 1 of 6



<https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/binghamton/news/2020/03/20/binding-family-together-from-afar/?fbclid=IwAR2Qj72yFWWWd2...> 03/31/2020

Thank you to the Holmes family for donating proceeds from Victoria's labor of love Operation Starways to our church! We are truly grateful for your generosity. It is so wonderful to see you doing the Lord's work.



Great response to the Mission and Outreach Committees request for pancake breakfast pictures on Saturday, March 28. This event was cancelled but not forgotten. You can still send in your check donations today to the church in support of the Winfield Elementary School Literacy Program--Pancake Breakfast for Books.





**Going outdoors
is not cancelled, listening
to music is not cancelled,
quality time with our
families is not cancelled,
reading a book is not
cancelled, sharing with
friends is not cancelled,
singing out loud is not
cancelled, laughing has
not been cancelled,
sharing **HOPE** with others
has not been cancelled.
Let's **EMBRACE** what
we have.**



WORSHIP WHILE YOU WASH!

Here are some ways you can
praise God in 20-30 seconds
while you wash your hands!



SING A VERSE OF A HYMN!
THE DOXOLOGY
MORNING HAS BROKEN
BE THOU MY VISION

SING THE CHORUS OF
HERE I AM LORD
HOW GREAT THOU ART
GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

SAY THE LORD'S PRAYER



HERITAGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5323 BELLS FERRY ROAD, ACWORTH, GA 30102

**THE PARISH LIFE AND FAMILY
COMMITTEE ASK THAT
YOU SHARE YOUR
FAMILY PHOTOS
WITH US!**



Thursday, April 9, 2020 is Maundy Thursday.
Unfortunately, due to current circumstances, PLF will be unable to host our annual
Soup Supper in Fellowship Hall.

Please have your own soup supper at home!

Post pictures of yourselves having soup to Facebook, attach as emails, or text them to Rosie in the Church Office. Take pictures of your family enjoying their meal at home. Then send your pictures to Rosie via text 727-501-3904, email the church office at office@corningpresby.org, or post them on Facebook and tag Corning First Presbyterian Church.

We look forward to the time when we can all be together physically, but for now, we are all together spiritually in Christ.

Sincerely, Parish Life & Fellowship Committee

Share your family photos of Easter Sunday throughout the day.



THE LORD IS RISEN!

Sunday, April 12, 2020 is Easter Sunday. Unfortunately, due to current circumstances, PLF will be unable to host our annual Easter Sunday supper in Fellowship Hall.

Please join Pastor Jeff as he leads us in the celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday at 10:30 a.m. On Facebook Live!

Please have your own Easter celebration at home!

Post pictures of yourselves having soup to Facebook, attach as emails, or text them to Rosie in the Church Office. Take pictures of your family enjoying their meal at home. Then send your pictures to Rosie via text 727-501-3904, email the church office at office@corningpresby.org, or post them on Facebook and tag Corning First Presbyterian Church.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS), one of our church's four special offerings during the year, is collected during the Easter season. This offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. Certainly the worldwide coronavirus pandemic we are experiencing is among the most devastating natural disasters in memory. The elderly, poor, homeless, and those with mitigating health conditions are at greatest risk. Those of us whose lives have been blessed in so many ways, and live some distance from the pandemic centers, can make a difference.

OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. **When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!** Live by faith, not in fear, and give generously. Please make your offering to OGHS by April 15.

With the church currently closed, please mail your offerings to the church office, or place them in the mail slot at the courtyard entrance door. Be sure to designate this fund.

It is now also possible to donate online by going to the church website at www.corningpresby.org and clicking the online button at the top of the page.

Thank you.



Illustrated Ministry LLC

prayer for the sick

May you be wrapped up in God's love,
Found deep in His everlasting wings,
Carried and kept, safe and cherished.
May the healing power of Christ
Breathe across your being now.

www.lords-prayer-words.com



March 16, 9:00 a.m.

C-PP School District Emergency Meal Plan

Meals are available for C-PP School District children who are in need and are 18 years old or younger at no charge. Bagged breakfast and lunch will be available for pickup Monday through Friday at the times and locations that are listed below. Meals **will be** available Spring Break – Monday, April 6th through Monday, April 13th.

If you require delivery of your meals, please contact the C-PP School District transportation department between 7:30am to 1:00pm, Monday through Friday, to request delivery to your residence for next day service. Note that requests on Friday will be for Monday delivery. Please call **607-962-2493** for delivery assistance.

Breakfast includes main item, fruit, and milk.

Lunch includes main item, fruit, vegetable, and milk.

10:45-11:15 a.m.

Hugh Gregg Elem.
164 Flint Avenue
Corning, NY 14830

Gibson Fire Department
2985 College Avenue
Corning, NY 14830

Calvin U. Smith
3414 Stanton St.
Painted Post, NY 14870

**Frederick Carder
Elementary**
289 State Street
Corning, NY 14830



11:30-12:00 p.m.

C-PP High School
201 Cantigney St.
Corning, NY 14830

C-PP Middle School
35 Victory Hwy.
Painted Post, NY 14830

Wm. E. Severn Elem.
36 McMahon Ave.
Corning, NY 14830

Hornby Fire Hall
4838 Hornby Rd.
Beaver Dams, NY 14830

12:15-12:45 p.m.

Coopers BOCES
1 Vocational Drive
Painted Post, NY 14830

Erwin Valley Elem.
16 Beartown Road
Painted Post, NY 14830

Winfield Elem.
193 Winfield St.
Corning, NY 14830

1:00-1:30 p.m.

Watson Homestead
9620 Dry Run Road
Painted Post, NY 14830

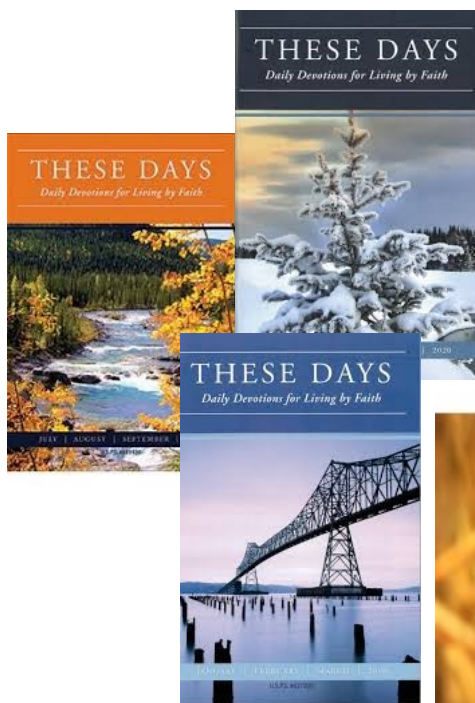
Lindley Comm. Church
9607 Morgan Creek Rd.
Lindley NY, 14858

**Grace Lee Memorial
Wesleyan Church**
2075 Chambers Rd.
Beaver Dams, NY 14812

For ongoing updates:

CorningAreaSchools.com

@CPPSchools  



THESE DAYS

Daily Devotions for Living by Faith

The New THESE DAYS
Daily Devotions for Living by Faith
have arrived for

APRIL MAY JUNE
2020



The Daily Devotionals are available
in the office entryway, along with
copies of The Messenger, next to
the Red Book Shelves. Please stop
by and pick one up or let us know if
you would like a copy mailed to
your home.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

MONTH OF APRIL

Happy Birthday to:

- 1 Mark Rogus
- 3 Trevor Sammis
- 6 Joan Woodhouse
*Sadie Beres
- 7 Skip Moore
- 8 Stu Sammis
Kirk Allen
- 13 Susan Sheldon
- 14 Janet Jones
- 15 Kim Ecker
- 20 *Justin Lapham
- 22 *Graham Robert Wightman
*Chloe Ann Wightman
Ann Blood- Smith
- 24 *Quintin Fisher
- 26 Patti Bradney
*Benjamin Smith
- 27 George McLaren
- 29 Barbara Twombly

Happy Anniversary to:

- 1 Scott & Sue Conklin
- 8 Joe & Deborah Marino
- 25 Michael & Carol Flook



Members, *children under 18, and non-member participants for whom we have birthday and anniversary information.

If we miss your special day, please let us know so we can include the information on our calendar.



APRIL 2020

First Presbyterian Church
1 East First Street
Corning, NY 14830



Jesus is our focus in
all that we do.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>Call the church office for more details on our new Zoom account. Be a Host to your own committee meeting or a group party with your parish family and those who are isolated using either Zoom or Facebook Messenger.</p>			<p>1 11:00a Zoom Bible Study 9:00a-3:00p Church Office Open for Calls and Emails</p>	<p>2 11:00a Zoom Fellowship Time 9:00a-3:00p Church Office Open for Calls and Emails</p>	<p>3 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5  PALM SUNDAY COMMUNION SERVICE 10:30a Facebook Live Worship Service</p>	<p>6  Holy Week 9:00a-3:00p Church Office Open for Calls and Emails</p>	<p>7  Holy Week 9:00a-3:00p Church Office Open for Calls and Emails</p>	<p>8  Holy Week 11:00a Zoom Bible Study 9:00a-3:00p Church Office Open for Calls and Emails</p>	<p>9  9:00a-3:00p Office Open 11:00a Zoom Fellowship Time 7:30p Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Worship Service</p>	<p>10 Church Office Closed </p>	<p>11  Holy Week</p>
<p>12  EASTER SUNDAY 10:30a Facebook Live Worship Service</p>	<p>13 Church Office Closed For Easter Holiday</p>	<p>14 9:00a-3:00p Church Office Open for Calls and Emails</p>	<p>15 11:00a Zoom Bible Study 9:00a-3:00p Church Office Open for Calls and Emails</p>	<p>16 11:00a Zoom Fellowship Time 9:00a-3:00p Church Office Open for Calls and Emails</p>	<p>17 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 10:30a Facebook Live Worship Service</p>	<p>20 9:00a-3:00p Church Office Open for Calls and Emails</p>	<p>21 9:00a-3:00p Church Office Open for Calls and Emails</p>	<p>22 11:00a Zoom Bible Study 9:00a-3:00p Church Office Open for Calls and Emails</p>	<p>23 11:00a Zoom Fellowship Time 9:00a-3:00p Church Office Open for Calls and Emails</p>	<p>24 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 10:30a Facebook Live Worship Service</p>	<p>27 9:00a-3:00p Church Office Open for Calls and Emails</p>	<p>28 9:00a-3:00p Church Office Open for Calls and Emails</p>	<p>29 11:00a Zoom Bible Study 9:00a-3:00p Church Office Open for Calls and Emails</p>	<p>30 11:00a Zoom Fellowship Time 9:00a-3:00p Church Office Open for Calls and Emails</p>		

THE MESSENGER

First Presbyterian Church

1 East First Street

Corning, New York 14830

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
At 10:30 AM
FACEBOOK LIVE ON OUR PAGE

I, the Lord your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, 'Do not fear, I will help you.'

Isaiah 41:13

Reverend Jeffrey Ugoretz, Pastor

E-Mail: pastorjeff@corningpresby.org

Church Phone: 607-937-5419

Church Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
(closed 12 - 1 for lunch)

Church E-Mail: office@corningpresby.org

Web Page: www.corningpresby.org



[Fb.me/CorningFirstPresby](https://www.facebook.com/Fb.me/CorningFirstPresby)

April

2020

The Messenger is published monthly.

DEADLINE for Messenger articles is the 15th of the prior month. Articles may be emailed to the church or left in the church office.