



THE MESSENGER

JULY 2013



INTERIM CO-PASTOR'S MESSAGE

We are now well into the period of time on the church calendar that is known as “Ordinary Time.” There are actually two such stretches of time. The first, the shorter one, runs between Epiphany and Lent. The second and longer one runs between Pentecost and Advent.

The word “ordinary” has more than one meaning. It first refers to the “ordinal” numbers of the Sundays: for example, the 14th and 15th Sundays in Ordinary Time, or the 7th and 8th Sundays after Pentecost. But it’s more than a description of the numbers!

Hearing the word “ordinary” might prompt a yawn. There’s nothing glamorous about “ordinary”—that’s why it is ordinary! But that’s where the majority of life is lived. It’s in between the spectacular events, whether we’re thinking of holidays, like Easter and Christmas, or in our own lives, like graduation, marriage, or watching your team win the Super Bowl! (For me, that’s been a while!)

In her book, *The Liturgical Year*, the Benedictine author Joan Chittister describes how life meshes with Ordinary Time:

“It is what we do routinely, not what we do rarely, that delineates the character of a person. It is what we believe in the heart of us that determines what we do daily. It is what we bring to the nourishment of the soul that predicts the kind of soul we nurture. It’s what we do ordinarily, day by day, that gives an intimation of what we will do under stress. It is the daily—the way we act ordinarily, not rarely, that defines us as either kind, or angry, or faithful, or constant.”

That sentence, “It is what we do routinely, not what we do rarely, that delineates the character of a person,” is both challenging and comforting.

It is challenging in the sense that there **really is** no time like the present. The present is what we’re given; if we imagine that we’ll wait until something remarkable happens, we’re likely fooling ourselves. (I’ve often thought that I would get a bicycle for the exercise it provides. I have yet to do it!)

But it is comforting in the sense that we **don’t need** to wait for something remarkable. We’re surrounded by an infinite weight of glory right now. And looking at the church calendar, we’re reminded that every Sunday is a “little” Easter, every Sunday is the Lord’s Day, the celebration of resurrection.

Celebrating the splendor of the ordinary,

Pastor James



**CORNERS AT
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

MISSION & OUTREACH

Food Pantry

The Corning Community Food Pantry May 2013 statistics indicate that there are still many households in our area who struggle with food insecurity. In May we served 611 households, 818 children, 1,194 adults, and 160 elderly.

Since school is almost over and the kids will be home for the summer months, we encourage you to "Plant a Row" in your garden for the Pantry households. Fresh vegetables are so important to the nutritional needs of young people.

When you shop, consider adding an item to donate to the Pantry. Suggestions are: canned vegetables, canned fruits, and pasta. We could also use baby food and baby cereal.

We also ask you to collect your gently used plastic bags to help out with our packing needs. It's an easy way to involve your household and help with the hunger issue.

Our dedicated volunteers work each day to ensure that the nutritional needs of those who come to us are met in the most generous and respectful manner possible. We appreciate your support of our mission. If you wish to make a monetary gift, please send your donation to: CCFP, PO Box 1255, Corning, NY 14830.



PARISH LIFE & MEMBERSHIP

Fellowship Time

The PL&M Team would like to thank the following committees for hosting a weekly Fellowship Time in May and June: the Personnel Committee, the Men's Fellowship Group, the Family Ministry Team, the Mission and Outreach Team, and the Choir.

If you would like to host a Fellowship Time some Sunday, please call Rose Houper, Susan Sheldon, or the church office. It is not difficult. Help is available and expenses are covered.

MAJOR GIFTS & ENDOWMENTS

A new endowment, the College Scholarship Fund, has been created thanks to a generous donation from Dr. Milton and Margret Lapp in memory of their son, Dr. Josef (J.C.) Lapp.

A donation has been made to the new College Scholarship Endowment Fund by Frank and Phyllis Hamm. The gift was made in honor of Ken and Mary Baer for their many years of service in public education.

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MEMORIAL GARDEN

The Memorial Garden Committee is looking for a few volunteers to help out in the gardens once again this summer. Duties include watering and light weeding. If you are interested, please sign up for a week. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in front of the office. Thanks!



DEACONS

Christmas Day Dinner

The Deacons are searching for a chair for this year's Christmas Dinner. After several years of capable service, Kate Danforth is ready to step down. The Deacons split the preparation tasks—the duties of the chair are mostly organizational between Thanksgiving and Christmas, and supervisory on Christmas Day. If you are planning to be in Corning on Christmas Day and are willing to help keep this tradition going, please speak to Marty Coates or Kate Danforth. Thank you.



WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL is now accepting applications for the 2013-2014 school year. We still have openings in both the 3-year old and 4-year old classes. Please call the church office at 937-5419 for more information or for an application.

SYMPATHIES are extended to Patty Chang and her family on the death of Patty's mother.



PRAYER CORNER

“In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” I Thessalonians 5:18

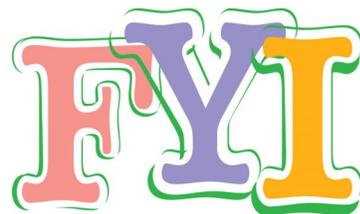
Rejoice in the Lord always, for as you rejoice and give thanks, you release heaven's treasures and shower upon your head the blessings of a delighted Father. Nothing so thoroughly delights the Father's heart as the praises of His children.

For praise exercises the heart toward gratitude, and gratitude nurtures contentment, and you may know for a certainty that no fruit ever appears on the tree of discontent.

So praise, My children, and never cease in your praising, for in the midst of it I will manifest Myself, and you will understand that when I demand of you your praises it is for your highest good.



Frances Roberts



• FOR YOUR INFORMATION •

Child Release has been suspended for the summer. We will resume Child Release in September with the Welcome Back Breakfast on September 8th.

Thanks to all who participated in taking care of our children during the past year!

MONTH OF JULY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

- 1 * Jacob DeRosa
- 2 Dorothy Cawley
Cheri Crozier
- 7 * Brittney Millhollen
- 8 Evelyn Wood
Danielle Beres
- 10 * Owen Sharman
- 13 Wayne Templer
- 14 Gary Yoggy
Kay Rogus
- 15 Marilyn Hagy
Brendan Holmes
- 16 Liz Shoemaker
- 17 Ray Hampson
- 23 * Victoria Holmes
- 24 Gwen Watson
- 25 Matthew Smith
- 27 Albert Johnson, III
- 29 Chet Chang
- 30 Becky Speciale
* Anya Beres
- 31 Forrest Behm

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

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

- 15 Carolyn & Jim Woughter
- 19 Jimma & David Powers
- 20 Frank & Phyllis Hamm
- 31 Liselotte & Robert Lull - 60th
Kimberly & Brendan Holmes



If we miss your special day, please call the church office so we can get you included on our calendar.

THE MESSENGER

*First Presbyterian Church
1 East First Street
Corning, New York 14830*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**Jesus Is
Our
Focus
In All
We Do**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1 EAST FIRST STREET
CORNING, NEW YORK 14830**

**Reverends James & Banu Moore, Interim Pastors
Home Phone: 607-654-7875
Cell Phone: 607-664-7876**

**Interim Pastors' Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - noon**

**Church Phone: 607-937-5419
Church Fax: 607-937-9731**

**Church Hours: Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - noon**

**Church Email: office@corningpresby.org
Visit us on the web: www.corningpresby.org**

**Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Fellowship Time: 11:30 a.m.**

July 

2013

The Messenger is published monthly.

DEADLINE for August Messenger articles is July 15th. Articles may either be emailed to the church or left in the church office. Any information received after the 15th will appear in the September issue.