

PASTOR'S MESSAGE FOR JULY 2021 MESSENGER



Pastor's Message for July 2021 Messenger

*All the lonely people
Where do they all come from?
All the lonely people
Where do they all belong?*

"Eleanor Rigby," The Beatles

I think the saddest song in The Beatles catalog is "Eleanor Rigby." It tells the story, in alternating verses, of a childless, elderly woman and a parish priest, Father McKenzie, both of whom are desperately lonely. The tragic irony is that even though she cleans up the rice on the floor of the church after weddings and he is there working on sermons "that no one will hear," the two of them never connect with one another until Father McKenzie officiates at Eleanor's funeral. The tragedy is that the two of them could have eased each other's loneliness but neither of them makes the effort and both suffer for it.

We are emerging from a period of time when, whether we wanted to or not, we have had to distance ourselves from one another. Trying to keep six feet of distance in public and having to wear masks to protect one another, the pandemic has been an isolating experience for many people. I saw a statistic the other day that the average number of adults struggling with depression has risen from 10% to 30%, which does not surprise me at all. Human beings are made for community. As God says in Genesis 2:18, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner" (NRSV). Part of being fully human is living in community with one another and we suffer when we are separated from community. Beyond all the death, the second greatest damage COVID-19 has caused is how it separated us from the community that is our greatest source of strength and support.

As a church, I believe we have done our best the past 15 months to maintain community even when we had to keep our distance for one another's own good. Even in the worst days of the pandemic, there has not been one Sunday when we have not worshiped the Lord, even if we could only gather together online. We have studied the Bible and other religious books and fellowshiped together on Zoom. Church boards and committees continued to meet online and do the work of the body of Christ. We organized calling groups to check on each other's health and well-being. And now all of the restrictions the church has accepted to keep one another safe have been lifted and we pray that this pandemic is finally in its last days.

So now what? That is the question isn't it? What is the work of the church now as the pandemic wanes? I believe it is first to reconnect with one another and restore the strength of the bonds of community between us. We can do the work of reaching out to one another again and reestablishing our relationships by whatever means are available to us. We can be involved in Christ's work together and the study of God's Word. If we have been vaccinated (and if you are not, I pray you soon will be, for your sake and others), we can start showing up for worship and other church events together, which we can now do face-to-face again. The Parish Life & Fellowship Committee has many fun opportunities planned for us to gather together and enjoy one another's presence in the next several months. I pray we will all take advantage of those opportunities and make the effort to gather together again with our brothers and sisters in Christ. At first, it may take more effort to be with people than it used to; we are out of practice. Like a marathon runner who has been laid up with an ankle injury, we need to rebuild our interpersonal strength and stamina. But it is worth the effort to be with others again and to be the church together in all its richness and fullness.

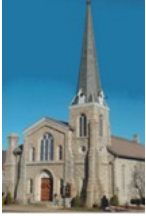
PASTOR'S MESSAGE FOR JULY 2021 MESSENGER



(Con't)

Eleanor Rigby and Father McKenzie made the tragic mistake of waiting for someone else to put in the effort to establish relationships with them when, with very little effort on their part, they could have enjoyed fellowship with each other that would have eased their loneliness and given them both joy. Let's not wait for that phone call or invitation from someone else; let's make the effort to reconnect with one another and show up to the events that make our church a living, joyful community of faith. Jesus said, "I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete" (John 15:11). Let us make the effort to experience the joy Christ has given us, in all its fullness, together.

Your brother in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Jeff



CORNERS AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

* * * * *

“SERVICE ABOVE SELF”

On June 19, two of our First Presbyterian Church leaders were honored by the Rotary Club of Corning. Our pastor, Rev. Jeff Ugoretz, began a 1-year term as president of the Corning Rotary Club and Elder Stuart Sammis transitioned from vice-president to president-elect. Stu will become club president this time next year when Pastor Jeff's term ends. Stu was also honored as the club's Rotarian of the Year for his many charitable efforts in our community, most notably his founding and promotion of Community Gardens, which addresses hunger and food insufficiency in our community.

Altogether, 5 people in our congregation participate actively in the Corning Rotary Club, whose motto, “Service Above Self,” is a good example of how we can live our faith. Ernie Danforth has served as club secretary, and Dave Smith and Don Creath have been active members, for many years. For more information on the Rotary Club of Corning, feel free to visit its website <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/7812/>.



THE CHURCH MONTHLY INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT

JUNE 24, 2021

INCOME

Jan 1 - June 18 **\$48,549.64**
(pledges and special offerings)

EXPENSES

Jan 1 - June 18 **\$108,101.64**
(salaries for staff of 4,
utilities, office and cleaning
supplies, maintenance, insurance,
Local and global mission)

DEFICIT TO DATE **\$59,552.00**

NOTE: The PPP (Payroll Protection Program) Loan for the church has been forgiven.

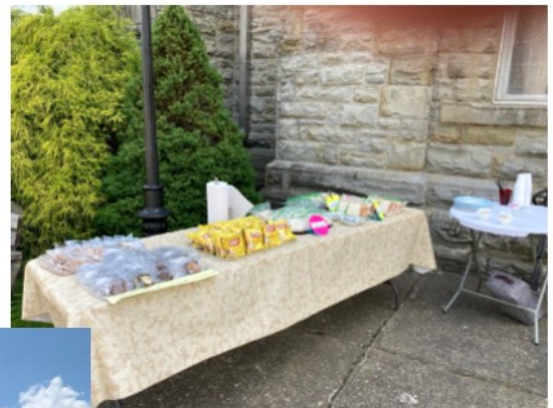


“Thanks for understanding, in lieu of
our malfunctioned sound system.”

GREAT GATHERING IN THE MEMORIAL GARDEN

Thank you PL&F for organizing an enjoyable "Lunch in the Garden" this past Sunday, June 6, after worship. What a wonderful time reconnecting with Bob and his wife Jean Boell, and sharing fellowship time with our parish family for the first time since the pandemic started. Stay tuned for our next social gathering coming soon. Photos courtesy of Ken Baer, Kim Holmes, Janet Jones and Lynde Ugoretz.





BAMPAS HOUSE WAS A TRUE BLESSING



Bampa's House is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization that was established by the family and friends of long-time resident Jim Dugan. It was first conceived after Jim Dugan's family struggled with finding an appropriate place for him to spend his final days. After he passed away, Jim's family decided that if there was any way to help others in this situation, even if it was just one or two families at a time, they would like to do so in Jim's honor. And so the idea for a comfort care home was conceived. A comfort care home allows the terminally ill to spend the final days of their lives receiving compassionate care in a peaceful, home-like environment.

The house, first built in 1878, had been a doctor's office and home, as well as more recently offices for Corning Hospital. Its location, 170 East First Street, Corning, was convenient for its proximity to Corning Hospital, when the latter was still on Denison Parkway. The structure was acquired by the founders of Bampa's House, who closed on the building in October of 2018 and immediately began renovations to update and retrofit the home for the needs of a comfort care home. The majority of the renovations were completed in early 2020, at which time preparations began to hire staff and train volunteers in order to open the home. In 2018, our church provided some of the seed money through the Swenson Fund, to assist in the work needed to establish it. (Check out the sign at the front of the house!) Our contractor, Barney Croft, was hired to make the renovations, and we would hear from him about the wonderful building and project.

I would never have guessed that two groups with which my husband Pro and I are connected would become an important part of our family's lives. Pro was moved to Bampa's House on May 11, and stayed there until his death on May 21. The ambience of the beautiful home, with doors open to family and friends 24/7, and 24 hours devoted staffing made both Pro and family feel comfortable and cared for. In addition to the two bedrooms, there is a family room, dining room and complete kitchen. We found quiet places to read or work, and the inviting dining room allowed us to share meals. Staffing is done by both daytime volunteers (in 4 hour shifts) and night staff. The director is a nurse and Bampa's House is part of the Carefirst organization, which has medical staff and social workers.

If you need more information, please look at their website.

<https://bampashouse.org/>

Thanks, First Presbyterian, for your support of this special place.

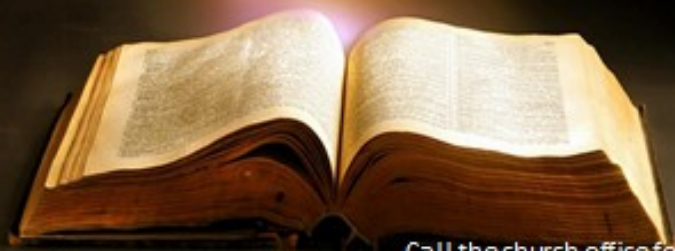
Gail Bardhan

**BIBLE STUDY IS TAKING A BREAK ON JULY 7 & JULY 14
FELLOWSHIP TIME AS USUAL ON THURSDAYS**

Join Us For Our Weekly Zoom Meetups

**BIBLE STUDY (open forum)
with Pastor Jeff
THE GOSPEL OF JOHN
WEDNESDAY AT 11:00 AM**

**FELLOWSHIP TIME
WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY
THURSDAYS AT 11:00 AM**



Call the church office for more information at 937-5419

FUN AND FELLOWSHIP ON THE FOURTH!

After Sunday Worship on July 4th

Let's celebrate the 245th birthday of our country with a bit of fellowship after church on July 4th. Stop by the table in front of church after the worship service.

PL&F will have "goodies" and beverages for all to enjoy and the Memorial Garden is only a few steps away. See you there!

JOIN US FOR AN ICE CREAM SOCIAL JULY 18 AFTER WORSHIP



The Parish Life and Fellowship Committee will be serving ice cream after the worship service on Sunday, July 18. Ice cream will be served in bowls with choices of several toppings. People are free to enjoy their treats in the Library or walk out to the Memorial Garden. In case of rain or extreme weather, we will hold the social in Fellowship Hall.



THESE DAYS

Daily Devotions for Living by Faith



THESE DAYS
Daily Devotions for
Living by Faith For
July/August/September
2021

are now available in the back of
the church and in the courtyard
entryway in both regular and
large print editions.

**OMG... Willie Nelson
is in the house! Be
sure to give him the
peace sign the next
time you see him at
Sunday Worship!**



SCHOLARSHIPS

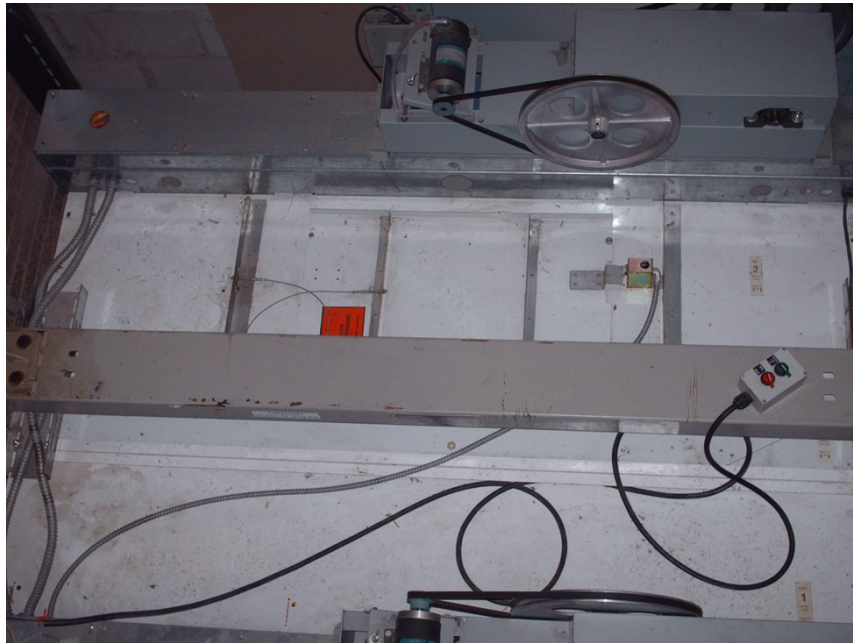
Congratulation to our Lapp Scholarship recipients, Owen Fisher, Nicholas Jubilee and Mary Parker and Youth Worship Leadership Award recipient Garrett Smith. Each recipient provided a brief video of their future plans during the Worship Service on Sunday, June 13. Then Ernie Danforth, Worship Committee Chair and Frank Hamm, Major Gifts and Endowment Committee Chair presented each of them with a checks for \$500.00. Heavenly Father, please be with these students as they go where they do not know. As they seek to grow in knowledge, we ask that they grow in faith. Photos courtesy of Susan Vermillion and Lynde Ugoretz.



JUNE 2021 - TRIVIA ANSWER

Last month's Trivia picture from 2011 shows Curt pulling wire to a switch box in a newly constructed building to house the H.O.P.E. Center for Orphaned Girls in Croix de Bouquet, Haiti. First Presbyterian Church of Corning sent 7 adults and 3 youths on a weeklong mission trip to Haiti to help with construction of the new orphanage, to put on a Vacation Bible School program at a local school and to immerse ourselves in the local culture.

First Presbyterian Church Building Trivia July, 2021



Can you guess where in the church I can be found? What is it I do?

Email Curt at sexton@corningpresby.org with your guess.

Check out next month's Messenger for the answer and another bit of Church Building Trivia.



Lennon Kate Danforth was born on Thursday June 24th to Teresa Danforth and her spouse Kelly Sweeney. Lennon was 7 pounds 4.3 ounces and 20.5 inches long. According to Teresa's brother, Larry, Lennon is the perfect median as to newborn weight and length.

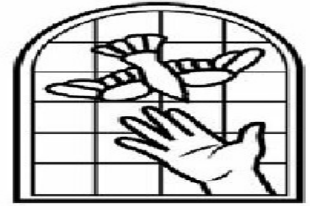
All are doing fine including grampa.

Pentecost Puzzles

The Day of Pentecost

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.
Acts 2:4 (NIV)

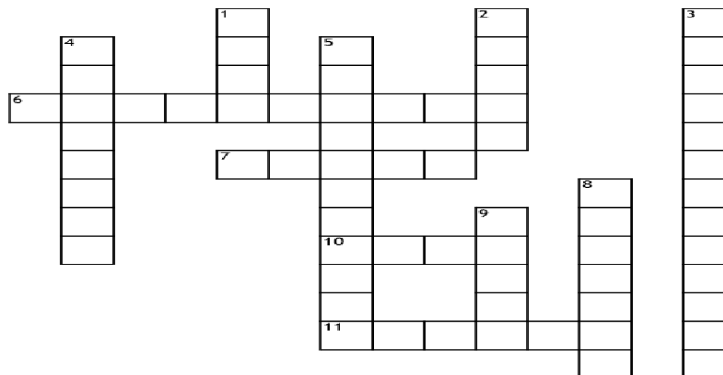
Based on Acts 2:1-21



X	T	O	B	P	P	H	W	G	H	X	U	E	X	I
T	G	T	F	Z	J	V	J	Y	I	O	C	G	M	B
Y	B	H	J	P	X	I	L	P	F	F	U	Z	Z	X
L	L	E	L	E	J	O	Z	J	M	D	E	S	I	W
I	W	R	Y	N	H	L	A	N	G	U	A	G	E	L
S	Q	Z	I	T	E	Z	F	I	L	L	E	D	A	L
J	C	C	E	E	L	J	W	H	K	K	A	Q	D	J
R	E	G	G	C	S	F	V	Q	A	T	L	Q	W	X
T	Q	S	G	O	R	W	I	E	S	O	W	H	J	M
M	D	P	I	S	H	G	P	B	O	N	J	I	V	J
F	A	I	M	T	E	S	K	J	U	G	A	R	N	H
I	Y	R	J	N	A	B	Y	N	N	U	H	X	K	D
R	N	I	A	E	V	W	Q	K	D	E	E	R	L	Z
E	L	T	R	H	E	X	M	K	Y	S	A	P	N	A
Z	H	O	C	R	N	S	T	F	I	A	R	K	X	K

Name: _____

Pentecost



Across

6. A holy promise
7. _____ Christ
10. A symbol representing purity and freedom
11. The Holy _____

Down

1. Symbol of Pentecost
2. How many days Pentecost goes for
3. What the holy spirit came down as
4. The 12 _____
5. Also called _____
8. On the _____ sunday after easter
9. An apostle beginning with Pe

ANSWER KEY ON THE BOTTOM OF BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY PAGE 12.

THANK YOU STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR ARRANGING MEETING WITH PRESBY FOUNDATION INVESTMENT ADVISORS

Anita Clemons and Ellie Johns-Kelley, Financial Advisors from The Presbyterian Foundation, Louisville, KY hosted five members of the Stewardship/Finance Committee at Sorge's restaurant prior to the 6:30 meeting scheduled at the church on Wednesday, June 23. The dinner was an informal gathering to get acquainted. Twelve members of the church attended a very informative Investment Review presentation of the New Covenant Balanced Growth Fund. FPC has 20 investment accounts with this specific portfolio. Stewardship strategies were presented at the meeting as well. It was a very well received meeting by all. Photos courtesy of Peggy Schuckers.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

MONTH OF JULY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

- 1 * Jacob DeRosa
- 2 Cheri Crozier
- 5 Deborah Marino
- 8 Evelyn Wood
Danielle Beres
*Michael McNaughton
- 13 Wayne Templer
- 14 Gary Yoggy
Kay Rogus
- 15 Brendan Holmes
- 16 Pastor Jeff
- 17 Ray Hampson
- 27 Albert Johnson, III
* Anya Beres



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

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO

- 19 David & Jimma Powers
- 23 John & Kathy Keech
Eli and Kailee Van Brunt
- 31 Brendan & Kimberly Holmes



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

PENTECOST WORD SEARCH KEY FROM PAGE 11

PENTECOST	FILLED	HEAR	HOUSE	WIND
HEAVEN	FIRE	TONGUES	LANGUAGE	OTHER
DAY	HOLY	SOUND	SPIRIT	SPEAK

PENTECOST CROSSWORD KEY FROM PAGE 11

Word Bank

Peter	Jesus	Fifty	Tongues of Fire
Apostles	Convenient	Seventh	Spirit
Dove	Whitsundays	Fire	

JULY 2021

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
				1 11:00a ZOOM Fellowship Time	2 Church Office Closed	3
4 10:30a Communion Worship Service FACEBOOK YOUTUBE Fun & Fellowship on the Fourth	5 Church Office Closed for the 4th of July Holiday	6	7 11:00a ZOOM BREAK No Bible Study "The Gospel of John"	8 11:00a ZOOM Fellowship Time	9 Church Office Closed	10
11 10:30a Worship Service FACEBOOK YOUTUBE	12	13 6:30p Deacons	14 11:00a ZOOM BREAK No Bible Study "The Gospel of John"	15 11:00a ZOOM Fellowship Time	16 Church Office Closed	17
18 10:30a Worship Service FACEBOOK YOUTUBE Ice Cream Social in the Garden	19	20	21 11:00a ZOOM Bible Study "The Gospel of John" 6:30p Faith Formation	22 11:00a ZOOM Fellowship Time 6:30p Session	23 Church Office Closed	24
25 10:30a Worship Service FACEBOOK YOUTUBE 5:00p Shepherd's Table	26	27	28 11:00a ZOOM Bible Study "The Gospel of John"	29 11:00a ZOOM Fellowship Time	30 Church Office Closed	31

THE MESSENGER

First Presbyterian Church

1 East First Street

Corning, New York 14830

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



CORNING
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Jesus Is
Our
Focus
In All
We Do

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

Our Facebook Page:

www.fb.me/CorningFirstPresby

The YouTube Channel:

www.bit.ly/CorningWorship

Bless the Lord, all his works, in all
places of his dominion. Bless the
Lord, O my soul.

Psalm 103:22

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



2021

The Messenger is published monthly.

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