



THE MESSENGER

MAY 2014



INTERIM CO-PASTOR'S MESSAGE

“An Easter Season Update”

We are well into the Easter season, and that is an appropriate time for a congregation that is showing great signs of new life!

As of this writing, we are nearing the end of the Pastoral Nominating Committee discernment process. Much work, thought, and prayer has gone into finding those who will be charged with finding the candidate to be your next pastor. The session has been blessed with so many people who are willing to be on this journey. When the congregation elects the PNC, the presbytery's Committee on Ministry assigns a liaison to the PNC. There will be an initial meeting for orientation, and then, they're off and running!

It is common for congregations during interim time to tread water; if they can just hang on until the next pastor is called, then that's considered to be a victory. That hasn't been the case here. Banu and I are encouraged by the way First Presbyterian, Corning, has continued to move ahead.

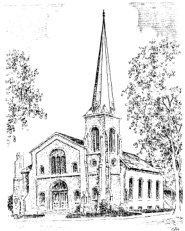
Attendance in worship has increased—we are nearing 100 people weekly. The Youth Sunday service in April had 33 kids participating. (I believe that number is correct.) Friends, that is a bunch of youthful energy! There have been a good number of people joining the church, as well as baptisms. More of that is planned.

This is to be even more celebrated when we consider where the congregation has been. It takes time to recover from pastoral misconduct. Healing takes months and years to happen. Feelings of betrayal and mistrust, in some cases, never fully disappear. That makes it all the more important to work out healthy and faithful ways of relating to each other.

That work will continue after Banu and I leave. There will, inevitably, be things we would like to have addressed, but simply were not able to. Fortunately, we are not in this all by ourselves. Aside from the resources that the larger church, the community, that we in the congregation are able to provide, we have the guidance of the risen Christ and the Spirit who is sent in the Lord's name.

Grace and peace to you in this Easter season,

Pastor James



CORNERS AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MISSION & OUTREACH

Food Pantry

Spring is here and the weather is finally beginning to improve. Our volunteers at the Corning Community Food Pantry continue to fight hunger. During the month of March we served: 537 households, 557 children, 1,029 adults, and 144 elderly.

If you are starting to plan your vegetable garden, please consider planting an extra row for our clients. It is a rewarding project for your family and our clients.

If you are spring cleaning, please remember that we can always use spring and summer clothing for our clients. We do not charge for the clothing.

Items we could use this month are tuna and pasta. We also rely on community donations for many of our personal items such as dish soap, laundry soap, and shampoo.

We appreciate your support of our agency and its attempt to alleviate hunger in the area.



* * * * *

Food Pantry Donations Update

Thanks to your generosity, our church has donated \$520 to the Corning Community Food Pantry through direct donations and 5 Cents a Meal for 2014 to date. Over \$40 was raised on April 6th alone, largely due

to our First Family Spring Fling event. We raised \$1,300 in 2013, and are now on track to exceed this amount in 2014.

Our church will continue to collect 5 Cents a Meal donations during the first Sunday of each month. Food Pantry donations are also welcome at any time. Anyone in need of donation jars for 5 Cents a Meal may obtain one at the church office. Thank you for helping to ease hunger in our community.



PARISH LIFE & MEMBERSHIP

Fellowship Time

The PL&M team would like to thank the Girl Scouts, the Holmes family, the Deacons, the Faith Formation Team (twice!), and the Mission & Outreach Team for recently hosting Fellowship Time.

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.



PRAYER CORNER



But if we trust all to God and stay our mind wholly on him, then all things come to us in perfect order and in perfect sequence, and our mind is kept in perfect peace, because we trust in him. Then the world becomes one vast home where all are our brothers and sisters. And so we give ourselves unresistingly to the schedule of the master planner, and stand still in the midst of a great stillness.

Collaborating with Eternity
Glenn Clark

MAJOR GIFTS & ENDOWMENTS

Wills Awareness Month

The Major Gifts and Endowments Committee (MG&E) would like to remind you that May is traditionally referred to as "Wills Awareness Month." We would ask you to consider the following questions: At the present time do you have a will, trust agreement, or similar legal instrument to carry out your wishes at the end of your life? If you have such an agreement, has it been updated to reflect your present life situations? Have you considered the possibility of making a bequeath to the church through that instrument? It is very easy to do and makes it possible for us to continue to support the work and programs of our church far beyond the end of our lives.

* * * * *

Endowment Funds

In each Messenger, MG&E plans to highlight one of our endowment funds. This month we are highlighting our newest fund, the College Scholarship Endowment Fund, initially funded by Dr. Milton and Margret Lapp, and adopted May 15, 2013. In its first year it is providing a scholarship of \$300 to a student enrolled in a college or university.

As it grows from additional donations and investment growth, it will provide scholarships in the future for the life of this church.

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

Betty Wheeler will be celebrating her 95th birthday on May 13th. Betty is currently visiting her daughter, so if you would like to wish Betty a Happy Birthday, you can send her a card in care of her daughter, Susan Yorio, 435 W. Thornapple Lane, Mequon, WI 53092.



IN MEMORIAM

NANCY JACKSON PERRIN
November 25, 1921 - April 9, 2014

A memorial service was held at First Presbyterian Church on April 26, 2014

SYMPATHIES are expressed to Liz Shoemaker and Janet Jones on the death of their brother and uncle, Robert Lee Kinner.

* * * * *

SYMPATHIES are also expressed to former member, Sheila Moore, on the recent death of her husband, Gene.

THANK YOU all for welcoming us into your church and celebrating Anthony's and Olivia's baptism with us. The cake and goodies at Fellowship Time was such a treat and made us feel very special.

Warm regards,
Amy Smaldone

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS AND FAMILIES

John and Kathy Keech
3046 S. Oakwood Dr.
Painted Post, NY 14870
607-684-6030

Amy Smaldone
Anthony and Olivia
12028 Townley Hill Road
Corning, NY 14830
607-542-7670

Susan and Rick Vermillion
2382 Stonegate Trail
Corning, NY 14830
607-973-2033

MONTH OF MAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

- 3 Dorothy West
Bethany Rudolph
- 7 Robert Brill
- 9 Steve Smith
* Alex Hevey
- 10 Martha Saunders
- 13 Betty Wheeler
- 14 Bob Behrens
Laura Palmesano
- 16 Shari Koval
* Kyle McEwen
- 17 Horace Bradley
- 18 Rose Houper
Susan McLaren
- 19 Ernie Danforth
Diane Rudy
- 20 Barbara Fawcett
- 23 Carol Lapham
- 24 Eric Meek
- 28 * Merrilees Craig
- 31 Denise Allen

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO

- 2 Al & Michele Johnson
- 7 Steve & Silky Smith
- 8 Curt & Diana Neuner
- 9 Angus Craig & Kim Newton
- 22 Kirk & Denise Allen
- 23 Galer & Karen Perreault
- 30 Christopher & Grace Kelly
Dave & Barb McLaughlin
- 31 Ernie & Kate Danforth



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

If we miss your special day, please call the church office so we can get you entered 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
Pastor Banu's Cell Phone: 607-664-7876
Pastor James' Cell Phone: 607-542-6889

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 & 1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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

Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Fellowship Time: 11:30 a.m.



2014

The Messenger is published monthly.

DEADLINE for June Messenger articles is May 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 July issue.