

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE FOR MAY 2021 MESSENGER



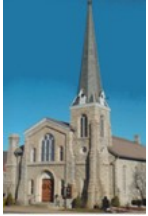
Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

I hope you all are well and have been able to get your COVID vaccinations (if not, call the church office and we'll do what we can to help). Although no one likes getting a shot, I found the experience relatively painless. Getting vaccinated not only protects us but protects our neighbor, so even if we were somehow convinced that we didn't need the vaccine for ourselves, we should get it just the same to show our love for our neighbor. Jesus commanded us to love the Lord our God with all our being and to love our neighbor as ourselves (Mat. 22:35-40; Mark 12:28-34; Luke 10:27). As the old hymn says, people will know we are Christians by our love. Getting vaccinated is a very important way we can follow Jesus' commandment to "love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12).

I pray that COVID-19 will soon become a thing of the past, just as polio, smallpox, measles, and other killer diseases have been relegated to the dustbin of history almost everywhere. Of course, this did not happen by accident. It happened because people and their loved ones got vaccinated not only for themselves, but out of a sense of serving the common good. One need only look at the news footage coming out of India of vast fields of public cremations to see what the future will look like for us if we allow our own willfulness and obstinacy to replace love and common sense. As we pray for and seek to help other nations end the pandemic around the world, let us also not neglect to do what protects ourselves and our neighbors.

It feels like winter lasted forever this past year, but now that the trees and the flowers are blooming and pandemic restrictions easing, there is a new hopefulness in the air as we look forward to the sunlight and warmth of the summer months and the opportunity to gather together safely again at last. I pray that we will all do our part to make this truly a summer of hope and renewal for our communities, our nation, and our world.

Your brother in Christ Jesus,  
Pastor Jeff



## CORNERS AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

\* \* \* \* \*

### SHEPHERD'S TABLE UPDATE

We served our first Shepherd's Table meal of 2021. Our chef was Rose Houser. The meal was chicken thighs, macaroni salad, tossed salad and dessert. Approximately 35 diners were served. The format has changed due to COVID. We just prepare and box up the meals in TO GO containers and the folks from the Salvation Army distribute to the diners. The Salvation Army helpers said they always look forward to when First Presbyterian prepares the meal because it is always DELICIOUS. Thank you Rose - - - for making us stand out.



We want to again thank our chef – Rose Houser and our servers Rick and Susan Vermillion and Cheri Crozier. And we cannot forget our bakers were Diana Neuner, Barb Sammis and Martha Saunders.

Our next opportunity is Sunday, July 25, 2021.



## THE CHURCH MONTHLY INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT

APRIL 22, 2021

### INCOME

**Jan 1 - Apr 9** **\$32,079.43**  
(pledges and special offerings)

### EXPENSES

**Jan 1 - Apr 9** **\$65,350.56**  
(salaries for staff of 4,  
utilities, office and cleaning  
supplies, maintenance, insurance,  
Local and global mission)

**DEFICIT TO DATE** **\$33,271.13**

**PRAYER FOR GENEROSITY**  
Lord you are the giver of  
all things. No one can out  
give you lord. Teach us to  
give like you give and take  
away the fear that we lose  
when we give. But rather  
show us in all ways that  
giving is gain. Open our  
eyes to see the need and  
have the compassion  
towards others. So that your  
name might be given glory  
in the generosity of your  
people. Amen.



### **Not Our Kind of Stewardship at First Presbyterian Church**

I bought gasoline for the car and went to the movies; I bought some new CD's for my stereo system; I bought candy and peanuts, popcorn and ice cream; While my salary lasted, life sure was a dream.

It takes careful spending to make money go round; One's methods of finance must always be sound; With habits quite costly, it's real hard to save; My wife spent thirty "bucks" on a permanent wave.

The church came round begging. It sure made me sore! If they'd let me alone, I'd give a lot more. They have plenty of nerve! They forgot all the past! I gave them twenty dollars the year before last.

*After the above sad story, a little Christian Humor is needed -*

### **Money In Your Pocket**

The Pastor stood before the congregation and said, "I have bad news, I have good news, and I have more bad news." The congregation got very quiet. "The bad news is: the church needs a new furnace!" the pastor said. The congregation let out a loud groan. "The good news is: we have enough money for the new furnace." A big sigh of relief was heard rippling through the congregation as members sat in the pews. "The real bad news is: it's still in your pockets."

Stewardship/Finance Committee

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### **MY ESTIMATE OF GIVING**



**Your response to the financial needs of the church enables the Finance/Stewardship Team to plan for, and meet the operating expenses and mission projects of the church.**

**Based on how God has blessed you and those you love, please consider your commitment to Christ and his Church.**

**MY COMMITMENT IS \$ \_\_\_\_\_ PER:**

☐ WEEK   ☐ MONTH   ☐ QUARTER   ☐ ANNUAL

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE (\_\_\_\_)** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**(This commitment may be revised or cancelled at any time at my request)**



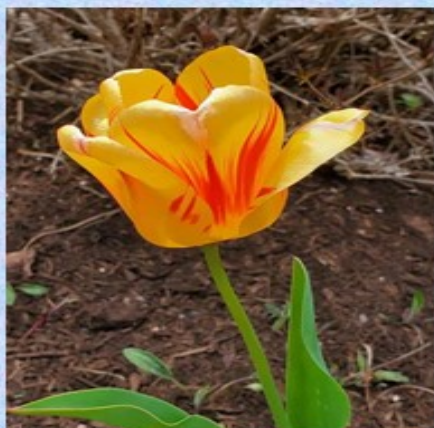


## WINFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL READING PROGRAM

**Kudos to All! We have received \$1,505 and gone over our goal of \$1,500. Let's keep going! Thank you to all who are supporting this local program and investing in the future of Winfield School kids!**

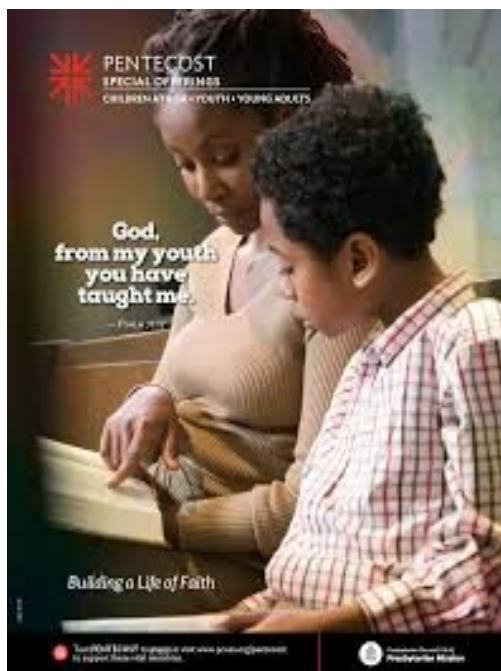
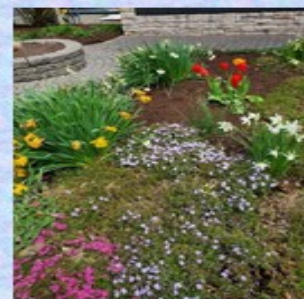


**Do you like playing in the dirt?**



## SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR CHURCH GARDEN MAINTENANCE

**Sign up on the main church bulletin board or call the office for information.**



**April 5 - May 23, 2021**

## PENTECOST

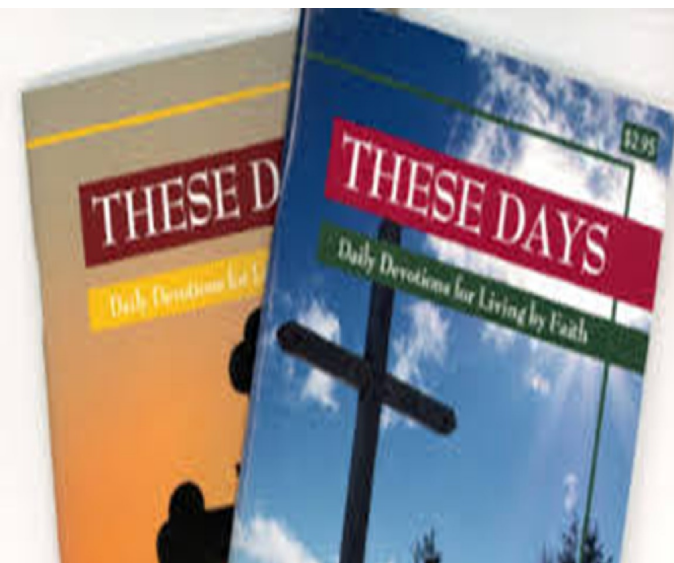
The Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world.





# THESE DAYS

*Daily Devotions for Living by Faith*



**THESE DAYS**  
Daily Devotions for  
Living by Faith For  
April/May/June  
2021

are now available in the back of the  
church or in the courtyard entryway



Dear Members and Friends,

Thank you everyone! Thus far we have received 34 Family Information Forms (FIF) in the office for the new church directory! Lynde Ugoretz has extended the deadline to May 30. Forms are in the Narthex. We need a new revised and informative directory and you are the key!





## WHEN WILL IT BE SAFE FOR ME TO WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY?

Our church staff, Pastor Jeff, Rosie, Curt Neuner, and David Smith, along with Judy Chase and her Weekday Preschool staff have worked diligently over the past year to keep the church building facilities as safe as possible. And the Sanctuary has had extra care and attention above and beyond the care given the building as a whole. The following practices ensure that our Sanctuary is a COVID-19 safe environment for worship.

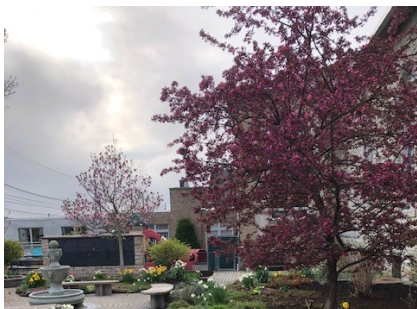


- ☑ Masks are required.
- ☑ Pastor and Liturgist socially distanced more than 16 feet from congregants.
- ☑ All seating socially distanced.
- ☑ Musicians and singers behind plexiglas shields and socially distanced.
- ☑ Worship Team (3 families) the same every week, Liturgist varies.
- ☑ Worship Team, Church Staff, Greeters/Ushers fully vaccinated.
- ☑ Tower door for entrance and exit. Only the Sanctuary is used.
- ☑ Hand sanitizers located in Narthex.
- ☑ Registry for contact tracing in Narthex.
- ☑ Individual disposable communion kits are used.
- ☑ Sanctuary traffic kept to near zero during the week.
- ☑ Sanctuary sanitized after every service by electrostatic sprayer owned by the church.

On any Sunday morning, our Sanctuary might just be the safest place you could be! If you have questions, concerns, or comments, contact the church office.







Have you checked out how beautiful the grounds look around the church? We once again are so grateful to you Margret Lapp for donating the cleanup costs by Evergreen Landscaping. Many thanks to all our garden volunteers that keep everything pristine throughout the year. One day soon, take a moment and bring your lunch or meditate in the Memorial Garden and see for yourselves!



### **April 2021 - Trivia ANSWER**

Last month's Trivia picture shows the electric water heater that supplies the Nathex bathroom. It is in the Storage Room (Crypt) directly below the bathroom.

### **First Presbyterian Church Building Trivia May, 2021**



Can you guess where in the church I can be found? What is it I do?  
Email Curt at [sexton@corningpresby.org](mailto:sexton@corningpresby.org) with your guess.  
Check out next month's Messenger for the answer and another bit of Church Building Trivia.

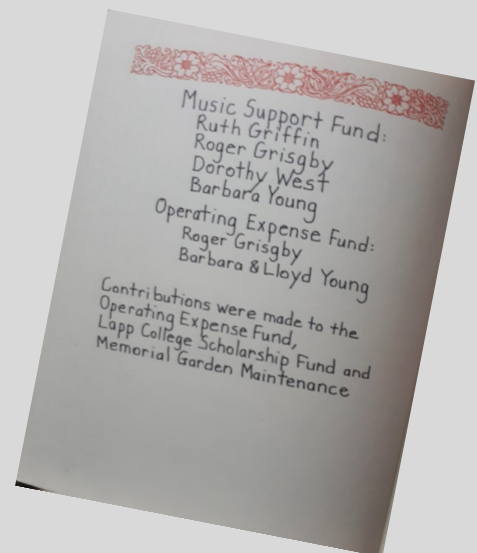
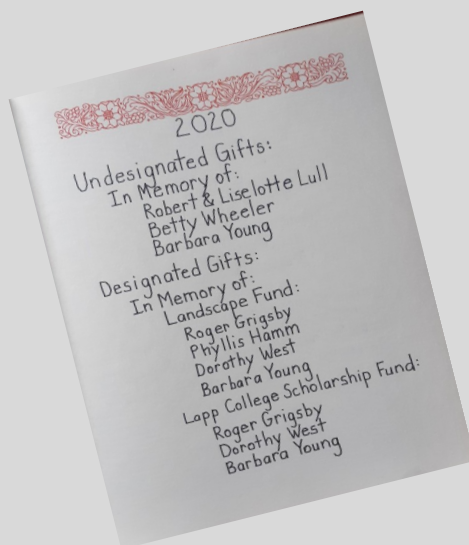


## **May 15th from 9:00A-12:00P**

Friends, there are lots of tasks outside the church that can be done on Spring Cleanup Day. We will have a list in Fellowship Hall if you wish to sign up in advance. Do you know someone from high school who needs to do community service for one of their requirements? This is a great opportunity to help them & help us! Call the church office for more details.

## **THE BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE**

At the rear of our Sanctuary in a display case is a book titled "The Book of Remembrance", given to our church in memory of Mrs. Elof Petterson in 1955 to record the memorial gifts received by our church each year. Last year Frank Hamm's daughter Linda Ashworth entered the memorial gifts received from 2000 to 2019. She has now completed the entries for 2020. Memorial gifts support our church. Stop by the church to see this display.

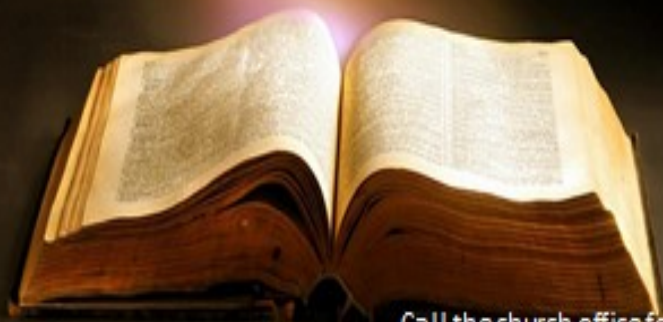




# Join Us For Our Weekly Zoom Meetups

**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



**Do you love to share the Word  
of God?**

**We are seeking Liturgists for  
our upcoming Sunday  
morning services!**

Call or  
email Rosie  
in the  
church  
office to  
volunteer  
today



# BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

## MONTH OF MAY

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

- 3 Bethany Rudolph
- 7 \* Jackson Smith
- 10 Martha Saunders
- 14 Bob Behrens  
Laura Palmesano
- 18 Rose Houser  
Susan McLaren
- 19 Ernie Danforth  
Diane Rudy
- 23 Carol Lapham
- 24 \* Matthew MacDougall
- 31 Denise Allen

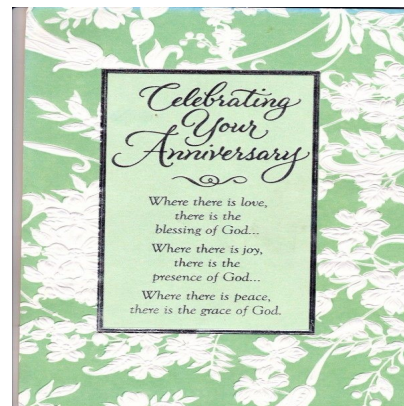
Members, \*children under 18, and non-member participants for whom we have birthday and anniversary information.

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO

- 2 Al & Michele Johnson
- 8 Curt & Diana Neuner
- 17 Rick & Susan Vermillion
- 22 Kirk & Denise Allen



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





# MAY 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
<b>2</b> 10:30a <b>Communion Worship Service</b> FACEBOOK YOUTUBE	3	<b>4</b> 6:30p <b>Mission &amp; Outreach</b>	<b>5</b> 11:00a ZOOM Bible Study "The Gospel of John"	<b>6</b> 11:00a ZOOM Fellowship Time 5:30p <b>Worship Committee</b>	<b>7</b> Church Office Closed	8
<b>9</b>  10:30a <b>Worship Service</b> FACEBOOK YOUTUBE "Women of the Church" Sunday	<b>10</b> 6:30p <b>Major Gifts &amp; Endowments</b>	<b>11</b> 6:30p <b>Deacons</b>	<b>12</b> 11:00a ZOOM Bible Study "The Gospel of John"	<b>13</b> 11:00a ZOOM Fellowship Time 5:30p <b>Trustees</b>	<b>14</b> Church Office Closed	15
<b>16</b> 10:30a <b>Worship Service</b> FACEBOOK YOUTUBE	17	18	<b>19</b> 11:00a ZOOM Bible Study "The Gospel of John" 6:30p <b>Faith Formation</b>	<b>20</b> 11:00a ZOOM Fellowship Time 6:30p <b>Session</b>	<b>21</b> Church Office Closed	22
<b>23</b> 10:30a <b>Worship Service</b> FACEBOOK YOUTUBE	24	25	<b>26</b> 11:00a ZOOM Bible Study "The Gospel of John"	<b>27</b> 11:00a ZOOM Fellowship Time	<b>28</b> Church Office Closed	29
<b>30</b> 10:30a <b>Worship Service</b> FACEBOOK YOUTUBE	<b>31</b> Church Of- fice Closed  <b>Memorial Day</b> REMEMBER AND HONOR					

# 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](http://www.fb.me/CorningFirstPresby)

The YouTube Channel:

[www.bit.ly/CorningWorship](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:office@corningpresby.org)

Web Page: [www.corningpresby.org](http://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.