



THE MESSENGER

JULY 2016



Theodore Roosevelt, the 26th president of the United States, believed in attending and participating in church. In 1917, in an interview with *The Ladies Home Journal*, President Roosevelt offered 10 good reasons for going to church. ¹ His language is not inclusive by today's standards, in that he only speaks of men, but I think his words can still speak to us all.

In the actual world a churchless community, a community where men have abandoned and scoffed at or ignored their religious needs, is a community on the rapid downgrade.

Church work and church attendance mean the cultivation of the habit of feeling some responsibility for others and the sense of braced moral strength, which prevents a relaxation of one's own moral fiber.

There are enough holidays for most of us that can quite properly be devoted to pure holiday making. Sundays differ from other holidays, among other ways, in the fact that there are 52 of them every year. On Sunday, go to church.

Yes, I know all the excuses. I know that one can worship the Creator and dedicate oneself to good living in a grove of trees, or by a running brook, or in one's own house, just as well as in church. But I also know as a matter of cold fact the average man does not thus worship or thus dedicate himself. If he strays away from church, he does not spend his time in good works or lofty meditation. He looks over the colored supplement of the newspaper.

He may not hear a good sermon at church. But unless he is very unfortunate, he will hear a sermon by a good man who, with his good wife, is engaged all the week long in a series of wearing, humdrum, and important tasks for making hard lives a little easier.

He will listen to and take part in reading some beautiful passages from the Bible. And if he is not familiar with the Bible, he has suffered a loss.

He will probably take part in singing some good hymns.

He will meet and nod to, or speak to, good quiet neighbors. He will come away feeling a little more charitably toward all the world, even toward those excessively foolish young men who regard churchgoing as rather a soft performance.

I advocate a man's joining in church works for the sake of showing his faith by his works.

The man who does not in some way, active or not, connect himself with some active, working church misses many opportunities for helping his neighbors, and therefore, incidentally, for helping himself.

¹ Reprinted in *The Book of Virtues*, ed. by William J. Bennett (Simon & Schuster, 1996).



CORNERS AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAJOR GIFTS & ENDOWMENTS

Jenness Library Fund

First Presbyterian Corning is blessed to have a church library with a rich history dating back to 1929 when money was given to the church endowment in memory of Frank W. Jenness for the purchase of good library books. That restriction was later broadened to include additional equipment and materials commonly found in libraries.

Our library currently houses more than 800 books that have been digitally catalogued using the online service LibraryThing and can be accessed at <https://librarything.com/catalog/FPCCorning>. Funds are available for the purchase of additional materials as needed to reinforce the church's message and help our congregation grow deeper in its faith. As the Church Library Association states, "the library is not just a place – it's also a ministry."

SUMMER PLEDGE REMINDER

Summer and vacation time are here! Even though the activities at the church slow down during the summer, we still have bills that need to be paid.

You can mail your check to the church office if you are unable to attend Sunday services. Have a great summer!

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Church's Personnel Committee continues to seek a nursery supervisor as well as two volunteers to assist with child care during Sunday Worship. The supervisor role will be a paid position for hours worked during Sunday. The supervisor will provide care to young children as well as supervise and schedule volunteers to help with child care. Anyone interested may contact Ken Baer, Chair of Personnel, through the church office at 937-5419.

WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL

The Weekday Preschool is now accepting applications for the 2016-2017 school year. Please call the church office at 937-5419 for more information or for a brochure and application.



NEW CHURCH HOURS



The new Church hours are now 9:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.



MUSIC RECOGNITION

Although we did not have an official music recognition this year, I want to be sure that the Choir and Handbell members and their years of service do not go unrecognized. Look at the years of service they have provided! Years and years of participating in worship and extra services!

As I prepare to leave the position of Music Director and Organist after twenty-four years (!!), I take with me many fond and precious memories. Bats during rehearsals, heatless sanctuaries, sharing in celebrations of life, celebrations of marriage, and of friendships made. The music program at the First Presbyterian Church is amazing thanks to the many people who participate in it. **THANK YOU** to all who have made this program so meaningful to so many.

Blessings to all.

Jamie Smith

Senior Choir:

Mary Baer	26
Kathryn Baker	15
Katie Brucie	3
Ernie Danforth	35
Barbara Fawcett	65
Janice Haynes	31
Janet Jones	22
Walter Jones	24
John Keech	3
Kathy Keech	3
Ryan MacDougall	2
Shari Koval	13
Diana Neuner	9
Barb Worthly	1
Alyson Sharman	5
Anna Jean Smith	14
Susan Vermillion	3
Dorothy West	49
Evelyn Wood	69
Gary Yoggy	15
Lloyd Young	32

Handbells:

Denise Allen	10
Kirk Allen	10
Gail Bardhan	23
Mary Beth Costantino	15
Kate Danforth	28
Kathy Keech	3
Shari Koval	12
Jimma Powers	14
Peggy Schuckers	16
Alyson Sharman	4
Susan Vermillion	3
Dorothy West	28

Special thanks to Amy Smaldone for her willingness to be a substitute within the handbell choir.

MISSION & OUTREACH

Corning Community Food Pantry

There is an old Chinese proverb that reads, "The miracle is not to fly in the air, or to walk on the water, but to walk on the earth." Six days a week the dedicated volunteers of Corning Community Food Pantry walk on the earth by serving those who suffer from food insecurity. I would like to report that hunger is decreasing but it continues to remain strong in our community and surrounding area.

Our monthly stats reflect a slight increase in the number of households served compared to 2015. The stats for May 2016, are: 572 households served; 634 children served; 1190 adults served; 156 elderly served for a total of 1980 individuals.

This month we could use baby cereal, baby food and canned pork and beans for our daily operation. Please continue to donate your gently used clean plastic bags for packing. We would appreciate it if you would plant an extra row in your garden to increase our fresh produce distribution and "add an item" to your routine grocery shopping to donate to a local food pantry. We are so grateful for your dedication and support and your commitment to making a difference in the lives of so many.



We continue to search for volunteers willing to be trained to operate the sound/video systems in the sanctuary and to serve as technicians during Sunday worship. No prior experience is necessary. If this is an opportunity you are willing to explore, please contact Pastor Jeff, Curt Neuner, or Sue Conklin in the church office for more information.

The church is also seeking a part-time music director to lead the senior choir, bell choir and youth choir as well as serve as church organist. Please contact Ken Baer or Sue Conklin in the church office for more information.

If you are interested in providing flowers for the Sunday morning Worship Services, there are still some slots available in July. You may sign up on the chart outside the church office.



The Salvation Army has indicated a need for gently used summer clothing in all sizes for those in need. There will be a collection box in the hallway next to the kitchenette until Sunday, July 31 so now would be a great time to clean out your closets of those seldom or never worn items.

MONTH OF JULY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

- 1 * Jacob DeRosa
- 2 Dorothy Cawley
Cheri Crozier
- 5 Deborah Marino
- 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 Pastor Jeff
- 17 Ray Hampson
- 20 Sally McLean
- 25 Matthew Smith
- 27 Albert Johnson, III
- 29 Chet Chang
- 30 Becky Speciale
* Anya Beres

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO

- 15 Jim & Carolyn Woughter
- 19 David & Jimma Powers
- 23 John & Kathy Keech
- 31 Robert & Liselotte Lull
Brendan & Kimberly Holmes



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

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

Rev. Jeffrey Ugoretz, Pastor
Cell Phone: 607-742-8715

Email: pastorjeff@corningpresby.org
Pastor's Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday - 10:00am - 12:00pm

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

Church Hours: Monday - Friday
9:00am - noon & 1:00pm - 3:00pm

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.



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.