



Pastor's Message for October 2020 *Messenger*

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Php. 4:4-7 NIV).

Together, as God's beloved community, we are living through very anxious times. I emphasize "together" because, even though we may feel very alone sometimes, no one is truly alone who is part of the body of Christ Jesus our Lord. The Holy Spirit, the person of God who dwells within us, not only accompanies and comforts us, but also joins us to Jesus and to one another even more intimately than the parts of our bodies are knit together. Even the Christian who finds themselves in solitary confinement in the most dismal prison cell below ground is not alone because Christ Jesus is with them and, because we too are in Christ, so in a very real sense are we.

And yet, because we are all still very human, we feel anxious. The Apostle Paul, having often been attacked by mobs, beaten severely, and imprisoned unjustly for doing no more than sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, knew quite a bit about confronting anxiety. Even so, in a letter written from imprisonment, as so many of his letters were, Paul tells us not once, but twice, in case we missed it the first time, to rejoice in the Lord always. To rejoice in such times as these seems like a hard thing to ask. But the best reason each of us has to rejoice is the same now as it was when we thought times were better. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Heb. 13:8). No matter what happens, be it a pandemic, economic recession, political turmoil, or all of the above, our eternal destiny remains assured.

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ...

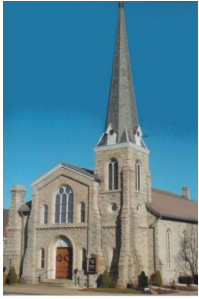
³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord (Rom. 8:35, 37-39).

Because this is true in all times and in all seasons of life, we may with absolute confidence cast our present cares upon God in prayer, knowing that no matter whether the answer to our requests is yes, no or wait, we will receive a peace that is truly beyond our understanding, because it is a peace that is grounded not in ourselves or our present circumstances, but in the eternal power, wisdom, and goodness of God. Having made our cares known to God and having received the peace that only our Heavenly Father can give, our hearts and minds will stand protected from reactions against the evils of this world that threaten to make us accomplices with them. We must constantly remind one another that, even as we seek to do good in this world and let our "gentleness be evident to all," we are not of this world, just as Jesus our Lord and Savior is not. "Jesus is Lord" is a statement of truth that liberates us not only from those powers that seek to oppress us in this life but frees us to live now in the kingdom of God that is already among us and also is to come.

Be brave, my brothers and sisters and be at peace. Be "confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus" (Php. 1:6). Until that great day comes, let us never forget that we belong to Him, and He belongs to us, and we belong to one another.

God bless and keep you all healthy and safe.

Your brother in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Jeff

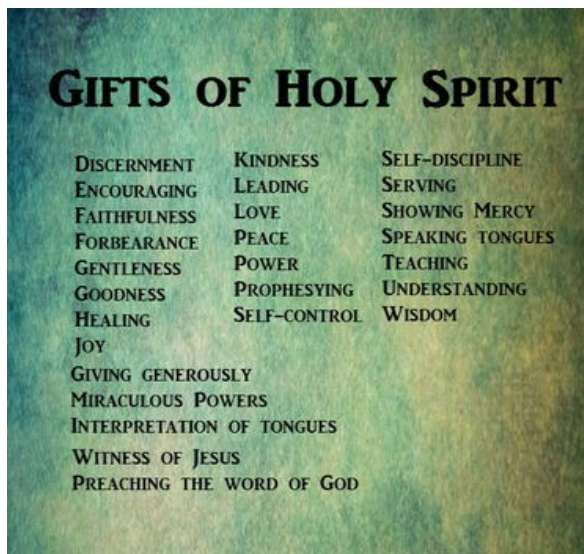


CORNERS AT FIRST PRESBYTER- IAN CHURCH

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Swenson Fund Applications Major Gifts and Endowments (MG&E)

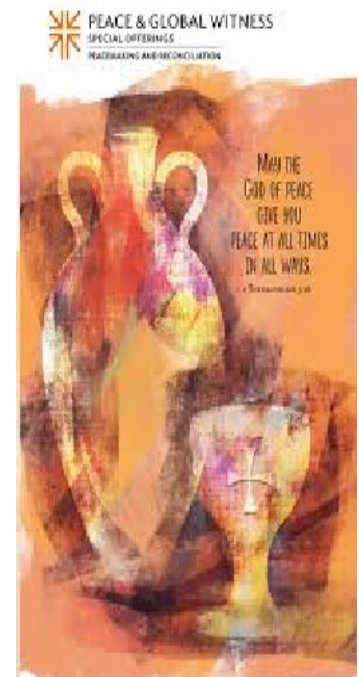
A bequest of Robert and Erma Swenson in 1993 created the Swenson Fund, one of the funds that make up our church's endowment program. Monies earned by the fund can be used to fund major church projects, and to provide seed money to start and support projects beyond our church in the Corning area. Applications for projects requesting support are evaluated by the Swenson Committee and then sent to Session for approval. The normal date for fund applications to be received by the church office is September 15. During this year of the pandemic, the deadline for applications is being extended until October 15. If you are aware of a project that you feel deserves financial support from our church, please notify the church office so the application process can be started. Thank you.



THE CHURCH MONTHLY INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT	
INCOME	
Income Jan 1-Sep 18 (pledges and special offerings)	\$ 67,282.27
EXPENSES	
Expenses Jan 1-Sep 18 (salaries for staff of 4, utilities, office and cleaning supplies, maintenance, insurance, Local and global mission)	\$159,021.68
DEFICIT TO DATE	\$ 91,739.41

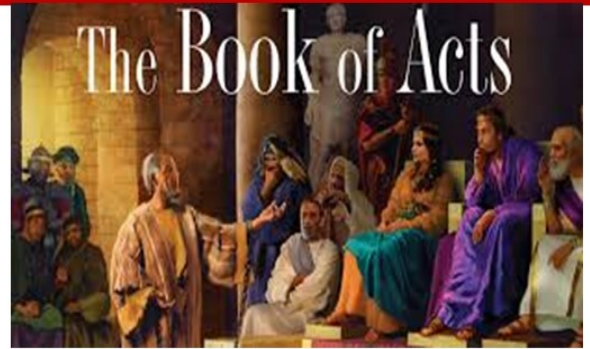
Peace & Global Witness September 25 - October 30

The Peace & Global Witness Offering encourages the church to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our God's mission of reconciliation to those around the corner and around the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to sustain their local peacemaking ministries.



Join Us For Our Weekly Zoom Meetups

BIBLE STUDY
with Pastor Jeff
Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m.



FELLOWSHIP TIME
Thursdays at 11:00 a.m.



Call the Church office for Zoom Link Information 937-5419



Serve God by serving others with a welcoming heart. Volunteer to be an Usher or Greeter today. Contact Skip Moore for more details.



Thank you Ken Baer for bringing your wood splitter to my mom's (Marcia Creelman) house in Jasper and for helping split wood for the family.

Sue Creelman



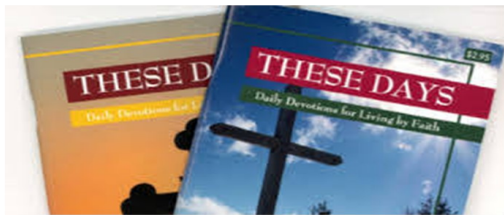
THESE DAYS

Daily Devotions for Living by Faith

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER



**Issues now available in
the back of the
sanctuary and in the
courtyard entryway**

JOIN US FOR



**JOIN US FOR WORSHIP
IN THE SANCTUARY
OR ONLINE
Sunday at 10:30 am**

**Online Worship
Service on
Facebook Live
and YouTube will
still be available**



CareNotes Available

The Deacons Committee ordered CareNotes to help assist you with the challenges of our time. They are available in the courtyard entryway for your convenience. Please stop by and pick one up or contact the church office if you would like one mailed to your home.



Fall Cleanup Day

**Please join us Saturday
October 17 from
9:00 AM-12:00 Noon**
(Bad Weather Backup Date Oct 24)



The Trustee Committee has scheduled a Fall Cleanup Day coming in October.

Here is Frank Hamm getting a head start on cleanup in the courtyard early in September in the pouring rain.

Thank you Frank!

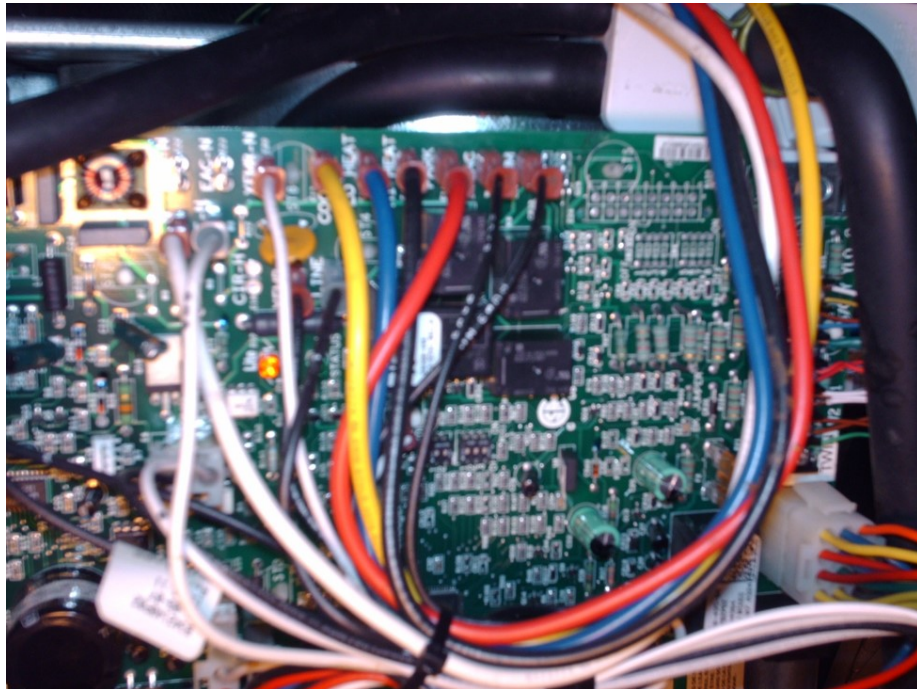


**On Fall
Cleanup Day
you can be
the First
Presbyterian
Church Pho-
to Bomber!**

First Presbyterian Church Building

Trivia #5 ANSWER

Last month's Trivia picture is of the vent van located in the attic above the piano in the Sanctuary. This picture was taken in the crate before it was installed.



First Presbyterian Church Building Trivia #6

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



**VIRTUAL
WELCOME BACK BREAKFAST
September 10**

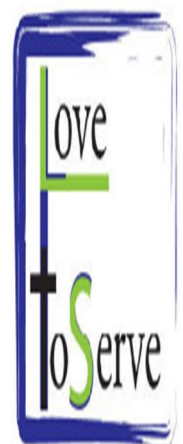
The Parish Life & Fellowship Committee usually hosts a Welcome Back Breakfast in Fellowship Hall the Sunday after Labor Day. Unfortunately, as we are still unable to have such gatherings, here are some Sunday morning "selfies" that were shared.



**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 OCTOBER

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

- 1 Leah Palmesano
- 6 Lisa Morrissey
- 8 Scott Conklin
- 17 Teresa Danforth
- 20 Don Creath
Kimberly Holmes
- 21 Mark Landin
*Owen Fisher
- 22 Scott Sheldon

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO

- 2 Phil & Laura Palmesano
- 4 George & Susan McLaren
- 9 Gary & Anna Jean Yoggy
- 17 John & Andrea Fisher

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



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



OCTOBER 2020

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 5:30p Worship Committee	2 Church Office Closed	3
4 10:30a Communion Worship Service FACEBOOK YOUTUBE	5	6 6:30p M&O Committee	7 11:00a ZOOM Bible Study	8 11:00a ZOOM Fellowship 5:30p Trustees	9 Church Office Closed	10
11 10:30a Worship Service FACEBOOK YOUTUBE	12 Church Office Closed for Columbus Day 	13	14 11:00a ZOOM Bible Study	15 11:00a ZOOM Fellowship	16 Church Office Closed	17  9:00a--12:00 noon
18 10:30a Worship Service FACEBOOK YOUTUBE	19	20	21 11:00a ZOOM Bible Study	22 11:00a ZOOM Fellowship 6:30p Session	23 Church Office Closed	24
25 10:30a Worship Service FACEBOOK YOUTUBE	26	27	28 11:00a ZOOM Bible Study	29 11:00a ZOOM Fellowship	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

“He is the one you praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes.”

Deuteronomy 10:21 (NIV)

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



2020

The Messenger is published monthly.

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