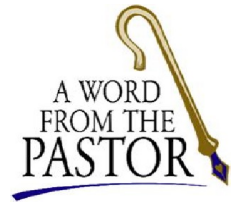


# THE MESSENGER

## SEPTEMBER 2020



### Pastor's Message for September 2020 *Messenger*

*How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" (Isaiah 52:7 NIV).*

I am happy to be the bearer of good news this month, although no one has ever accused my feet of being beautiful! Session has approved the reopening of our sanctuary for in-person worship on **September 13**, provided that everyone who comes for worship follows the guidelines it has approved to safeguard the health of our congregation. To answer Cain's question, we are indeed our brother's and sister's keeper and the health of everyone in our church community depends on each of us adhering to these guidelines. This is just another way we are being called to live as disciples of Jesus, following his command to "love your neighbor as yourself." A copy of these guidelines is in this month's *Messenger* and available from the church office.

We will also continue to offer worship online on Facebook [www.fb.me./CorningFirstPresby](http://www.fb.me./CorningFirstPresby) and YouTube ([www.bit.ly/CorningWorship](http://www.bit.ly/CorningWorship)) Our church has made a significant investment in new equipment so that those who wish to worship from home for health reasons or those who are separated from us geographically may continue to participate in our worshipping community. We are calling this effort "Worship Without Walls." Once we've gotten the kinks out, we expect to even be able to offer people the opportunity to participate in leading worship while online in such roles as liturgists, singers, musicians, and other ways. In this crisis we are finding new opportunities to be faithful to Jesus' Great Commission:

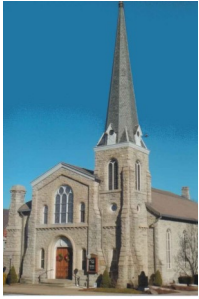
go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. (Mat. 28:19-20)

Jesus did not sit in his house in Nazareth or Capernaum and wait for people to show up at his door. Jesus went where the people were and shared with them the good news that the kingdom of God was near to them all. Today, 8 out of 10 people in the United States are active on Facebook, as are a whopping 2.7 billion people worldwide, more than a third of the earth's population. In faithfulness to our Lord and Savior, our church is going where the people are and inviting them to come and see the goodness of God. You can help in this effort by sharing our worship services on Facebook and other social media and inviting your friends to join us in worship. Last week, 143 people viewed our online worship service; we have had services where that number is as high as 307. Our next challenge in line with the Great Commission will be to develop a strategy to encourage people who are viewers of our worship services to become integrated into our church and develop a sense of belonging to our community wherever they may be. We are already facilitating this through our Wednesday Bible Study and Thursday Fellowship times on Zoom, both at 11 am. If you would like to be a part of these groups or would like some help in starting a new one, please let us know. We have only scratched the surface of the new opportunities the Lord is placing at our door and the only limits are our own creativity and willingness to be part of the new thing God is doing in our midst.

Who would have thought it possible only 20 years ago that we could go forth into the world and never leave the comfort of our own homes? But now we can. Let us go forth both in-person and online, welcoming everyone in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

God bless and keep you all healthy and safe.

Your brother in Christ Jesus,  
Pastor Jeff



## CORNERS AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

\* \* \* \* \*

### THE CHURCH NEEDS OUR HELP

We have all been working our way through the pandemic. So has our church. Since March our services have been online, and meetings mostly on Zoom. Until recently the church has been closed to the public, but the work of the church has continued with staff working in the building.

At present, planning is taking place to return to worship in the sanctuary, with the services continuing online as well, for the benefit of those who have health issues or live prohibitively far from Corning. Planning for these changes in worship have taken time, much effort, and additional expenses. The normal expenses of the church have continued as usual.

Our church needs our financial support now more than ever. Many continue to give and fulfill their pledges, and that is greatly appreciated, but overall, giving has dropped somewhat. Your tithes and offerings are essential to cover staff salaries, operating costs, and any new expenses resulting from the pandemic.

Any support you can give toward the annual budget at this time will help with our current budget shortfall. Let us prayerfully give in response to how our lives have been blessed by God.



## THE CHURCH MONTHLY INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT

### INCOME

Jan 1 through Aug 14                      \$ 59,002.68  
(pledges and special offerings)

### EXPENSES

Jan 1 through Aug 14                      \$139,757.24  
(salaries for staff of 4, utilities, office  
and cleaning supplies, maintenance,  
insurance, Local and global mission)

DEFICIT TO DATE                      \$ 89,754.46



A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to sustain their local peacemaking ministries.

**September 25 - October 30**



JOIN US FOR

WORSHIP

**FACE-TO-FACE WORSHIP  
STARTS BACK UP ON  
SEPTEMBER 13  
10:30 AM**



More details  
on church  
opening on  
the next  
page.

**First Presbyterian Church of Corning**  
Reopening Plan for Sanctuary Worship  
Approved by Session – May, August 2020

**A. Pre-Worship**

1. Those who are particularly vulnerable to infection or are not feeling well are asked to stay home and worship with us online. For this reason as well as others, the availability and quality of the worship livestream will be maintained. Our Sunday worship service can be accessed on either Facebook ([www.fb.me./CorningFirstPresby](https://www.fb.me./CorningFirstPresby)) or YouTube ([www.bit.ly/CorningWorship](https://www.bit.ly/CorningWorship)).
2. Non-essential corridors will be roped off with appropriate signage asking people not to use them.
3. Tower door and exterior Pine Street doors will be kept open whenever weather permits to allow for greater exchange of air within the sanctuary.
4. Worshippers are requested to bring their own masks. Disposable masks will be available to give to those who do not for whatever reason.

**B. Entering**

1. Entry into the sanctuary is only permitted through the two smaller doors opening into the sanctuary from the Narthex. Entry through doors at the front of the sanctuary are only allowed by staff or when necessary for others leading the worship service.
2. Greeters (2), wearing facemasks and gloves, will welcome worshippers as they enter, directing them to use the two hand sanitizer stations, and hand them disposable masks and communion kits as needed.
3. Ushers (2, 1 at each entry door), wearing facemasks and gloves, will escort people to seats according to a seating chart, starting in the front and working toward the back of the sanctuary. Only those living in the same household may sit together in the same pew.
4. Offering plates will be on the table in the back of the sanctuary for worshippers to drop their offerings into while entering or exiting.
5. The Narthex bathroom will be available. We ask everyone's cooperation in wiping down touched surfaces with a disinfectant wipe after use.

**C. Worshipping**

1. Masks must be worn by all worshippers at all times and 6 feet of distance maintained between anyone who does not live in the same household.
2. There will be no congregational singing (studies show singing projects fine droplets potentially containing virus up to 12-16 feet away from the singer and

**First Presbyterian Church of Corning**  
Reopening Plan for Sanctuary Worship  
Approved by Session – May, August 2020  
(CON'T)

3. As much as we can, we need to do away with anything that is passed from one person to another or touched by multiple people or encourages physical touch between people. In practical terms, this means:
  - a. No passing of the peace in our usual way.
  - b. No passing of offering plates. Offering plates will be on the table as people enter the sanctuary.
  - c. No passing of communion plates. Individual self-contained disposable communion cups will be distributed on entrance.
  - d. No printed bulletin. All worship texts will be projected on the screen.

**D. Exiting**

1. The congregation should remain seated until instructed to leave by an usher. Ushers will instruct people to exit starting from the rear of the sanctuary and working toward the front.
2. The Congregation is asked to proceed directly from the sanctuary and immediately exit the building.

**E. Post-Worship**

1. We will not be able to have fellowship time or other post-worship events until underlying risks are significantly reduced or eliminated such as the development of a cure or an effective vaccine for the Coronavirus-19.
2. CDC and NYS guidelines for disinfection of the sanctuary, narthex, bathrooms, and open hallways will be followed sometime after worship.



# YOUR WORSHIP TEAM

**Rev. Jeff Ugoretz, Pastor**  
**Ernie Danforth, Chair of Worship Committee/ Vocalist/ Liturgist**  
**Dave Smith, Music Director/ Worship Committee/ Musician/ Vocalist**  
**Curt Neuner, Sexton/ Sound Tech/ Liturgist**  
**Ariel Ugoretz, Video Stream Tech**  
**Kaitlyn Ugoretz, Video Stream Tech/ Musician**  
**ALSO**  
**Ann Smith, Vocalist/ Musician**  
**Jackson Smith, Sub. Video Stream Tech/ Musician/ Vocalist**  
**Garrett Smith, Sub. Video Stream Tech/ Musician/ Vocalist**

We are a small (for social distancing), group of First Presbyterian Church staff, Worship Committee members and their family members dedicated to providing the best possible online worship service in the name of Jesus Christ. We are committed to continuing and expanding this program as we transition to in-person worship in the Sanctuary. Our goal is to have all worshippers, in-person and online, truly feel they are part of the congregation. Together, with God's help, we will make First Presbyterian Church of Corning better than ever.



CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



## YOUR WORSHIP TEAM IN ACTION



**Rev. Jeff Ugoretz**  
Pastor



**Ariel Ugoretz**  
Video Stream Technician



**Curt Neuner**  
Sexton/ Sound Tech/ Liturgist



**Dave Smith**  
Music Director/ Worship Committee/ Musician/ Vocalist



**Ernie Danforth**  
Chair of Worship Committee/ Vocalist/ Liturgist





# Immunization Clinics

**Wednesday, August 12**

**Wednesday, September 9**

**Tuesday, August 25**

**Tuesday, September 22**

**All clinics from 1:00 - 4:00 PM**

Civil Defense Building - 7220 State Route 54, Bath

Keep your family healthy and up-to-date on their immunizations.

*Public Health immunization clinics are open to those who are uninsured or whose insurance does not cover needed vaccines.*

Schedule your appointment by calling  
**607-664-2438**

Patients will wait in their vehicle in the parking lot until told to enter the building.

*All must wear masks during the entirety of their appointment.*

*Each child must come with 1 adult only.*

*Additional children must stay in the vehicle with another adult.*

## Emergency Contact Information in the Church Office

Please be sure your emergency contact information is up to date in the church office. Recently we have had situations where we have been unable to contact a church member's family because there was no information in the church office. Please let the church office know the name, address, and phone number of a relative to contact if a concern about your health, safety, or whereabouts arises. The Deacons wish to be helpful, but need accurate contact information to do so. Please call Rosie in the church office to update your contact information. Thank you.

The Board of Deacons

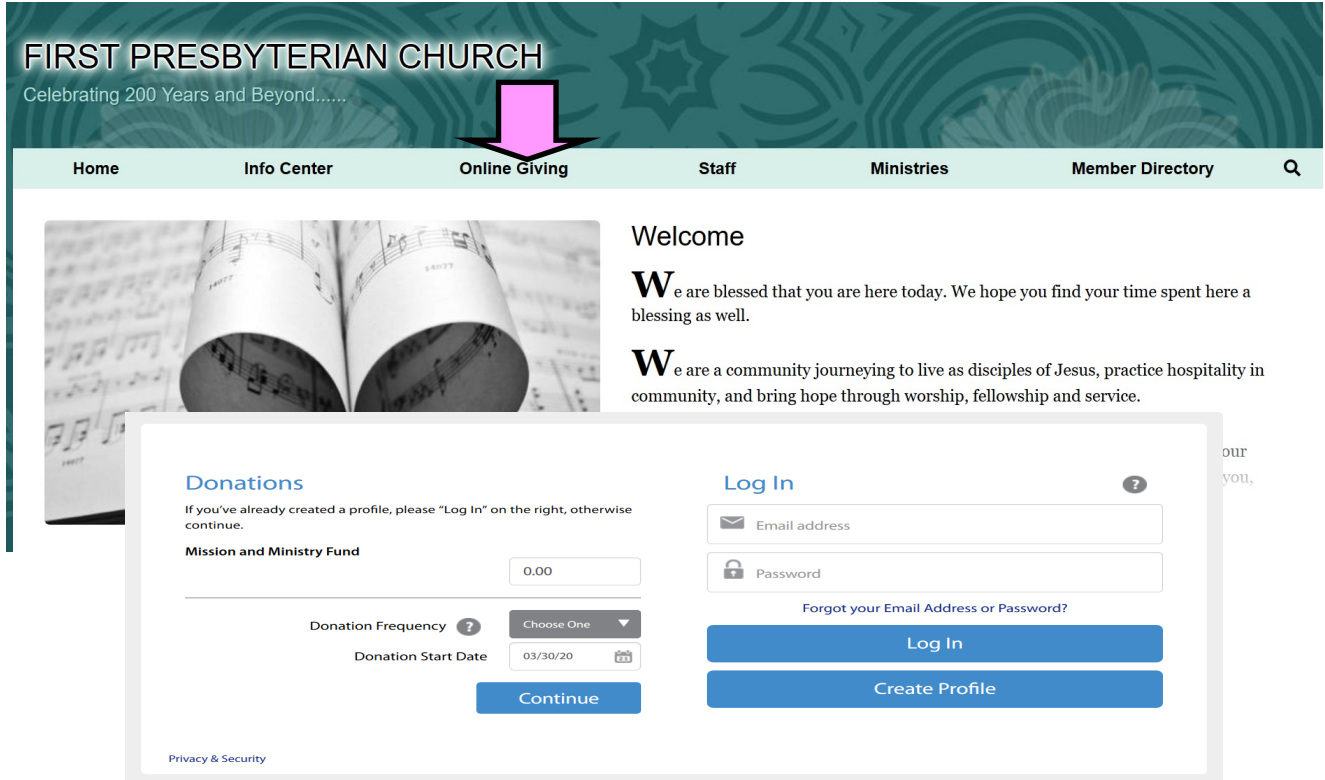




## HAVE YOU TRIED ONLINE GIVING YET?

The basic sequence of tasks to make an online donation to the Church are as follows –

► Go to the Church's website ([www.comingpresby.org](http://www.comingpresby.org)) and click the button that says “Online Giving” (see the screen shot that follows). This will direct you to a new page with a box that has two (2) options – “Donations” or “Log In” (see the second screenshot)



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Celebrating 200 Years and Beyond.....

Home Info Center **Online Giving** Staff Ministries Member Directory

**Welcome**

We are blessed that you are here today. We hope you find your time spent here a blessing as well.

We are a community journeying to live as disciples of Jesus, practice hospitality in community, and bring hope through worship, fellowship and service.

**Donations**

If you've already created a profile, please "Log In" on the right, otherwise continue.

Mission and Ministry Fund

Donation Frequency ? Choose One

Donation Start Date 03/30/20

[Continue](#)

[Privacy & Security](#)

**Log In**

Email address

Password

[Forgot your Email Address or Password?](#)

[Log In](#)

[Create Profile](#)

► To make an immediate donation, enter a dollar amount, payment frequency (one time, weekly, etc.), start date (current date or another) and then click on “Continue”.

► To set up an account (for future log-in, donation tracking, address, etc.), click on “Create Profile” (Note: By creating your profile, you will be able to “Log In” in the future with a password you select). If you do not set up an account, you will have to enter name, address, email address, etc. each time you log in to make a donation. Once you “Continue” (either by doing the direct donation or by setting up an account now), you will be forwarded to a page to “Create Account Payment”.

► Payment can be done by entering checking or savings account information, or by registering a current credit card (if you set up an account, this information will be saved for future use). Once done, you will be directed to “Process” the payment amount.

► Note that the online payment service does charge 2% for any online payments. You will be asked if you want to add the 2% to your total (this would allow the Church to get the entire amount of your desired donation), which you can either agree to do or not,

► Then you will be asked to confirm your final amount (including the 2% if you agree to add that amount to your donation) and payment method, and the transaction will be completed.

► You can print out a receipt if desired, but you will receive confirmation by email immediately after the donation to your email address (which you are asked to enter earlier in the process whether you set up an account or not). Note: By setting up an account, you will be able to track your donations online, and print out a full record at any time.



The new high tunnel community garden built by volunteers located now at the Corning Food Pantry



**Our Community GARDENS**  
 Plant a seed.... Change a life

- Grow fresh produce
- Connect with nature
- Reduce personal stress
- Meet the neighbors
- Exchange gardening knowledge
- Encourage outdoor physical activity




Interested? Contact us today!  
 E-mail - [ourcommunitygardens@gmail.com](mailto:ourcommunitygardens@gmail.com)  
 Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/Our-Community-Gardens-698421793672878/>





# **First Presbyterian Church Building**

## **Trivia #4 ANSWER**

Last month's Trivia picture is a view looking down on a fraction of the 1802 organ pipes. These are some of the smallest, high frequency pipes.



## **First Presbyterian Church Building Trivia #5**

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.





# BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

## MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

- 5 Margret Lapp
- 8 Derwin Nelson
- 12 Jean Boell
- 14 Bill Uncapher, Jr.
- 16 Jamie Smith
- 21 Barbara Worthey
- 22 Rick Vermillion  
Glenn Morrissey  
Trevor Worthey
- 25 Curt Neuner
- 28 Jackie Curry  
Lynde Ugoretz
- 30 Walter Jones

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



### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO

- 1 Ken & Cheri Crozier  
Mark & Beth Landin
- 17 Glenn & Lisa Morrissey

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

# September 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
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 11:00a ZOOM Bible Study	<b>3</b> 11:00a ZOOM Fellowship 5:30p Worship Committee	<b>4</b> Church Office Closed	<b>5</b> 
<b>6</b> 10:30a FACEBOOK YOUTUBE Communion Worship Service	<b>7</b> Church Office Closed for Labor Day 	<b>8</b> 6:30p M&O Committee	<b>9</b> 11:00a ZOOM Bible Study	<b>10</b> 8:00a WPS Mtg 11:00a ZOOM Fellowship 5:30p Trustees 6:15p WPS Open House 3 Year Olds	<b>11</b> Church Office Closed  6:15p WPS Open House 4 Year Olds	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 10:30a Church Opens for Face-To- Face Worship FACEBOOK YOUTUBE Worship Service 	<b>14</b> WPS First Day of School  6:30p Deacons	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 11:00a ZOOM Bible Study	<b>17</b> 11:00a ZOOM Fellowship	<b>18</b> Church Office Closed	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 10:30a Church is now Open for Worship FACEBOOK YOUTUBE Worship Service 	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 11:00a ZOOM Bible Study	<b>24</b> 11:00a ZOOM Fellowship 6:30p Session	<b>25</b> Church Office Closed	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 10:30a Church is now Open for Worship FACEBOOK YOUTUBE Worship Service 	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 11:00a ZOOM Bible Study			

The Church Office is open Monday--Thursday 9:00 AM-3:00 PM (closed for lunch 12:00-1:00PM) closed on Fridays.

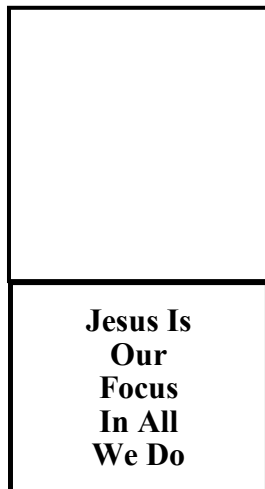
# THE MESSENGER

*First Presbyterian Church*

*1 East First Street*

*Corning, New York 14830*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## 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)

**I, the Lord your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, 'Do not fear, I will help you.'**

Isaiah 41:13

**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



## 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.