

Good News

**The Monthly Newsletter of the People of
HAMILTON UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
GUILDERLAND, NEW YORK**

Volume 31 No. 10



October 2020

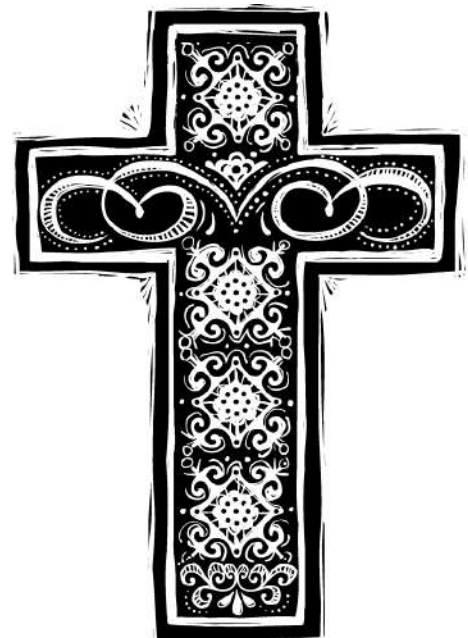
Sunday Worship Services are currently held online at 10:00 a.m.

The Latin phrase *Ecclesia semper reformanda est* means “The church is always reforming”; implied is “And that’s good!”

Ongoing change and growth are important for individuals, too, but for many of us, change is hard. Use this prayer poem to embrace positive change, safe in the arms of our unchanging God.

Cradle to grave —
How shall my life flow?
Always the same,
Never daring to grow? Since
GOD is the same, always faithful and near,
I’m free to move forward in spite of my fear. So ...
Naming the Lord as my Power through strife, I
Go forth braving newness — in faith and in life!

—Heidi Mann



LAY READERS

Oct. 4	Karen Unser
Oct. 11	Mark Hutchinson
Oct. 18	Darlene Bauer
Oct. 25	Bill Hasselbarth



Keni Banda (Oct. 24)

The Guilderland Food Pantry is currently in need of canned fruit, beef stew, and chili. Cash donations can be sent to the Guilderland Food Pantry, 4 Charles Park, Guilderland, NY 12084. Donations of food, household, and personal care products can be brought to the Pantry at the Charles Park location Monday through Saturday, 9:30 to 11:00 AM.



Non-perishable items can be placed in the bin next to the entrance when the Pantry is closed. For more information, contact Cindy Schultz, HUPC liaison to the Guilderland Food Pantry, at cschult3@nycap.rr.com, cell 518-253-1062.

Your generosity is deeply appreciated.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS FOR SEPTEMBER 1, 2020

- Pastor Janice will be on vacation from September 20 to October 3. Visiting Zoom preachers include staff from the Synod of Mid-America.
- The church has received \$22,460 from the estate of Norma Hardenburgh. To date, the church had an operating deficit of \$12,555, largely due to the revenue shortfall related to COVID.
- Motion: That the Session set aside 10% of the N.H. gift for the Mission and Social Witness team for allocation and interpretation to the congregation, the remainder to remain in the Memorial Fund pending further designation. Seconded and passed.
- Motion: That the Session approve the amended Ministry Information Form presented by the Pastor Nominating Committee. Seconded and PASSED.
- Motion: That the Session approve moving forward with the hybrid worship service (face-to-face/Zoom). Seconded and passed with 1 abstention.
- Motion: That the Session approve beginning face-to-face worship in the HUPC sanctuary on October 11, 2020 with social distancing, masks, and only instrumental music. Seconded and passed.

From the Communications Ministry Team: New Members Needed!



Hamilton Union now has a Ministry Team for communications, meaning both within our congregation and the broader community. We operate the church-wide email system, maintain the website, get out the monthly newsletter, work with

the Deacons to be sure everyone gets notices, support other Ministry Teams with publicity and messaging, and more. Right now we are doing this with three people, and we really could use help. Specifically, we need someone with web posting experience (experience with Wordpress would be nice) to back up our webmaster and perhaps someone to help with Facebook. We would like to communicate more with our community. New ideas are welcome! Please contact Karen Williamson, Session Communications liaison, at communications@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org if you are interested. Thank you!

BROOKS CHICKEN and RIB BARBECUE



WEDNESDAY, September 30, 2020

3:30 PM thru 6:30 PM (or when sold out)

Chicken Dinner: \$12.00

½ Chicken only: \$8.00

Rib Dinner: \$14.00

Ribs Only: \$10.00

Take-Out/Drive -Thru Only

It's fun! It's tasty! It's Mission! (Proceeds support local, national or international mission projects.) This could be a no-cook dinner night for you!

Hamilton Union Presbyterian Church

2291 Western Avenue

Guilderland, NY 12084

Phone: 518-456-5410

Presbyterian Women News – All Women are Welcome

All women are invited to participate in any *Presbyterian Women's* activity at any time. There is no need to make a commitment to join the organization. For questions about *Presbyterian Women*, contact Charlotte Hasselbarth at chasselbarth@hotmail.com or 518-356-0637.

Despite our inability to meet in person, we have several activities. We will begin meeting in person as soon as it is safe.

- * Men's flip flop Collection
- * On Sat, Sept 26 from 1-3 pm we're hosting a Fall Mission-Minded Meal (just dessert) on the church lawn.
- * On Tues, Oct 13 from 10 -11:30 am, the *Fall Gathering on Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Albany* will be on Zoom
- * On Thurs, Oct 15 we will host a Zoom program featuring the Director of the Guilderland Food Pantry, time TBA
- Tues, Oct 27 from 10:30 am -12:30 pm is our Circle Meeting. Lesson 2, *Words of Love: Don't Trivialize My Name* from the Bible Study, *Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandment* will be discussed. We will meet in person or on Zoom
- * From Fri. Oct. 30 – Sat, Oct 31, Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast will host its Fall/Triennial Gathering on Zoom



* More information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Hamilton Union Has a New Email System

Hamilton Union is now using a new email system that allows our staff and Session to access emails remotely, and will also allow Ministry Teams and other groups to set up their own email boxes and email groups. This means that people who chair a ministry team, for example, can be contacted through their church email box without having to publish their personal email.

For now -- and we expect this list to grow -- key email addresses are:

- Pastor Janice: pastorhupc@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org
- Church Office (Ann Duncan, Administrative Assistant):
hupc@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org
- Reservations for in-person services, which begin October 11:
rsvpworship@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org
- Communications Ministry Team, including Facebook and our website:
communications@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org




If you have questions, or wish to set up a church email address or group, please contact Ann Duncan in the church office.

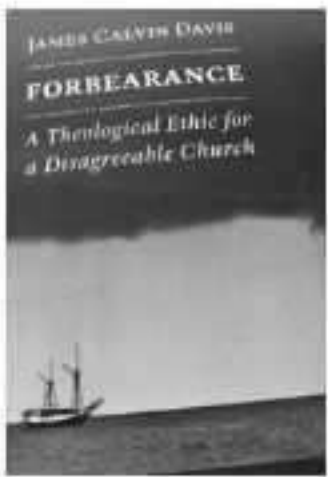
**JOIN US FOR A ZOOM WORKSHOP AND LEARN
FROM REV. DR. JAMES CALVIN DAVIS.**

FORBEARANCE
a Theological Ethic for a
Disagreeable Church

The Koinonia Team is sponsoring
a Zoom workshop with author
Rev. Dr. James Calvin Davis
October 3, 2020 from 9:30am-2:30pm



Albany
Presbytery



The practice of forbearance, Davis argues, offers Christians a dignified, graceful, and constructive way to deal with conflict. Forbearance can also strengthen the church's public witness, offering an antidote to the pervasive divisiveness present in contemporary culture.

For advance preparation and study, you may purchase your personal copy of FORBEARANCE at half price! Only \$12.50!

Order from Judy Hartley, or call 217-840-3316. Make your check payable to Albany Presbytery and send to:

Albany Presbytery, P.O. Box 83, Watervliet, NY 12189.



Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Albany Fall Gathering – Zoom Gathering

Tuesday, October 13 – 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Standing on the Gifts of Empowered Historic Women

Lisa Gray, immediate past Moderator of Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast and participant in the 2019 USA Mission Experience trip to the Finger Lakes Region, will share her experiences and what she learned about the origins of women's empowerment in that region of New York.

Freewill offering will be sent to the PWSNE *USA Mission Experience Fund*.

For further information contact:

Rosalie Hemingway at 518-758-7886 or silver3213@gmail.com

Charlotte Hasselbarth at 518-356-0637 or chasselbarth@hotmail.com

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN IN THE SYNOD OF THE NORTHEAST
2020 TRIENNIAL/FALL LEADERSHIP GATHERING**

EMPOWERED TO SERVE

JOURNEY WITH US!

As we explore 1 Peter 4:10

Each one should use whatever gift you have
received to serve others, faithfully administering
God's grace in its various forms.

JOIN US!

Friday, Oct. 30 - Saturday, Oct. 31, 2020
For a Virtual Gathering

WE INVITE YOU!

For a weekend of connecting with awesome
sisters in Christ, amazing worship services
and informative workshops.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

The Reverend Dr. Diane Moffett
President/Executive Director
Presbyterian Church USA Mission Agency

For more information, contact: 585 526 5841
Lorraine Cuffie, Chair (lcuffie@verizon.net)
Virginia Champlin, Registrar (danvirginiac@aol.com)
Adebisi A. Shofu, Moderator (bisi.shofu@gmail.com)



MORE TO COME



PNC Update:

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) is pleased to report that our Ministry Information Form (MIF) was reviewed and approved by the Session at its September meeting. Following procedure, our MIF was then sent to the Albany Presbytery Committee on Mission and Churches (COMAC), which also approved it. By the time you read this Update, the PNC will have submitted the MIF to the Presbyterian Church (USA) “Church Leadership Connection” (CLC...yes, they’re big on acronyms!) for computer matching, and may have started receiving Pastor Information Forms to review.

The Committee will be reading and discussing these Pastor Information Forms, discussing the candidates and identifying those we may want to interview (first by phone or Zoom). Pastors are apparently not notified by the CLC when their Information has been matched with churches seeking pastors, so we first need to reach out to them, invite them to check out our MIF and ask if they are interested in talking with us. Pastors can also look at church MIF’s on the CLC system, or may hear of our search “through the grapevine,” and self-refer to the PNC for our consideration.

Our current work is deciding on questions to ask potential candidates, and also preparing answers to likely questions candidates may have for us. With Zoom now common, first interviews will be very different since we can have face-to-face conversations instead of faceless conference calls. We ask for your continuing prayers for discernment and openness to hearing God’s call, for both the PNC and pastor candidates.



Scholar-Activist Encounters

The Center and Library for the Bible and Social Justice invites you to join us online **each third Thursday at 4:30pm Pacific Time / 7:30pm Eastern Time** for an interactive dialogue exploring the interfaces between scholarship and activism.

How do these ways of being contribute to our understanding of Scripture in the world today? Let's come together to learn from each other.

Calendar:

- July 16: Amy Dalton and Charo Ureña
- August 20: Ched Myers and Mauricio Salgado
- September 17: Norman Gottwald and Sphynx Eben
- October 15: Traci West and Nicholas Johnson

Online via Zoom

Advance registration required.

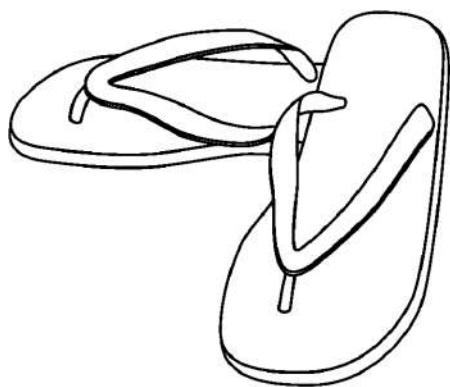
For more details and to register, visit

bit.ly/clbsj-encounters

Co-sponsored by the Community of Living Traditions.



Men's Flip-Flop Collection



Men's flip-flops are needed for the *Capital Area Council of Churches Emergency Overflow Shelter*. They should be on sale at this point. There is collection box is in the Multi-Purpose Room at the church. If you do come into the church building, there is a box of gloves on the stairs. This is one of our continuous collections. The flip-flops will be delivered to the shelter in late October

Thank You in Advance - Presbyterian Women

From the Session: Two Mission Study Zoom Meetings Scheduled in October

By the time you read this, we will have had our first congregation-wide “Mission Study Conversations” meeting via Zoom, focusing on Mission and Community. We hope you were able to attend, and found the discussion useful.

As background, Hamilton Union was required to do a Mission Study as part of the process to call a Pastor. Our Mission Study identified a set of priority goals, which we are following up on in these Mission Study Conversation meetings. The Mission Study itself can be found on our website at <https://hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org/mission-study/>.

Two more meetings are scheduled for October:

- Thursday, October 8, focusing on Membership/Evangelism, Christian Ed and Leadership; and
- Tuesday, October 20, focusing on Stewardship/Fundraisers and Communications.

Pastor Janice will “open the door” to each meeting at 7 pm, and the meeting will actually begin at 7:15 pm. We are aiming to conclude by 8:15 pm.

Prior to each meeting, we will send out via church-wide email, the blog on the website, and Facebook a set of questions to get the conversation started. It’s important to note that there are no right or wrong answers to these questions; they are intended to stimulate thought and discussion. Session is really looking for a sense of what people are thinking and feeling, as well as concrete ideas and suggestions.

We hope you will attend as many of these meetings as you can. We really want to hear from as many people as possible. However, if you cannot attend, please phone, email or write any Session member with your thoughts and ideas. We do ask that all written or emailed comments be signed and limited to one page or less.

Thank you for your thoughts, and we look forward to our continued discussions!

Connecting With Our Young Adults Away From Home

College – Military - Career

We want to maintain a connection between our Hamilton Union faith community and our young people who are in college (locally or away), in the military or away from home for a job. We want to remember them with cards and notes, plus send them our newsletter, the *Good News*. Please give your son or daughter's postal and email addresses to Charlotte Hasselbarth at chasselbarth@hotmail.com or 518-356-0637.



Thank you.

Presbyterian Women, the Deacons and the Communications Team

Volunteer Opportunity at the Regional Food Bank

The Mission Team announces the next volunteer opportunity at the Regional Food Bank. Currently the Food Bank needs help at the Latham warehouse, sorting and packing food and other donated items for distribution in the community:

The next scheduled volunteer opportunity is Thursday, September 24 from 5 to 6:30 PM. Volunteers can be age 6-69. We will have up to 10 slots available, first come, first served.



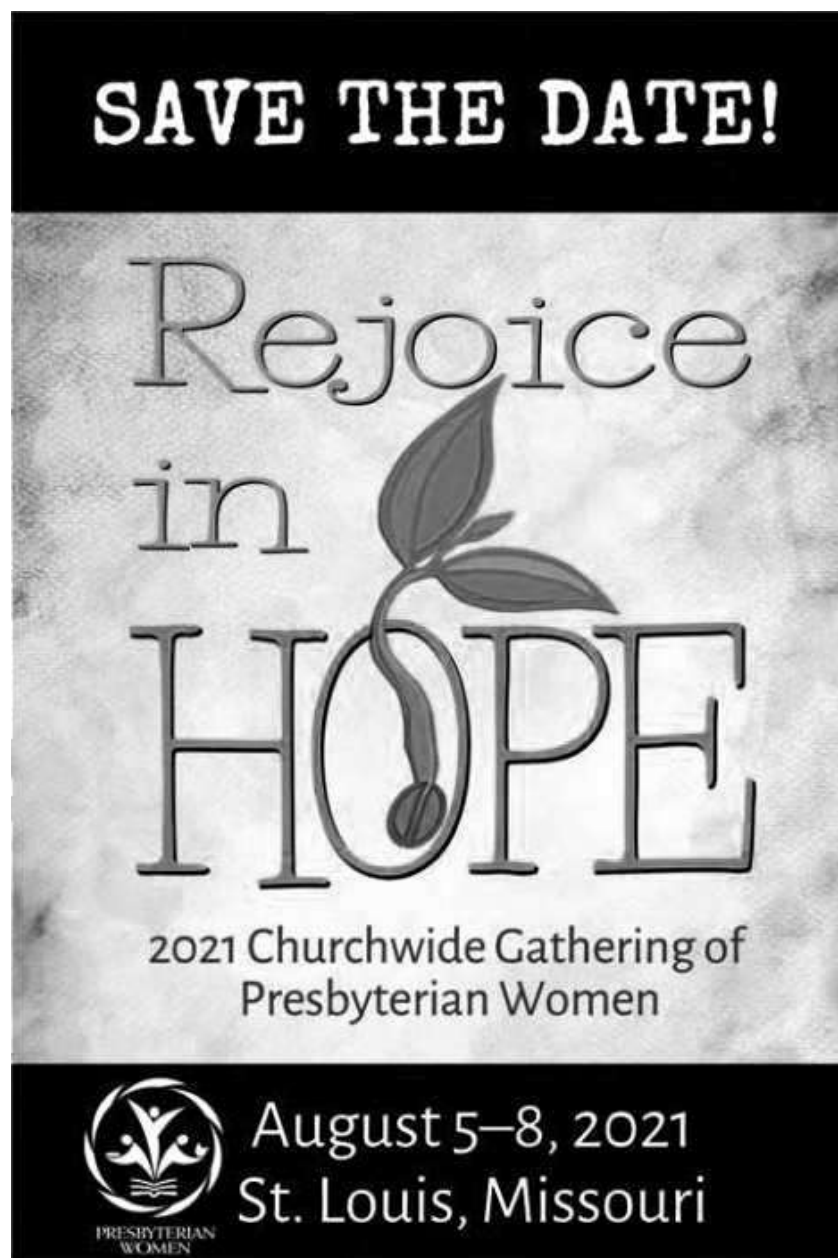
**Regional
Food Bank**
OF NORTHEASTERN NEW YORK

This is a good opportunity to do something worthwhile with family involvement. If you are interested, please contact Wayne Gannett to sign up at jgannett@nycap.rr.com or call 518-878-5536 cell.

Mickey Nieman, Haiku author

Mickey Nieman, a member of Hamilton Union's Presbyterian Women group wrote a Haiku for "The Gathering Quest", a regular publication to promote the 2021 Presbyterian Women's Churchwide Gathering.

**At the Gathering,
We'll meet with great rejoicing
To do the Lord's work.**





A PLANTING PARABLE

Jesus had to explain his Parable of the Sower to the confused disciples.

Directions: Use the word bank to answer the clues. Then fill in the correct words below to complete Matthew 13:23, NIV.

WORD BANK: sow, soil, wither, root, thorn, crop, seed, farmer

1. Plant part that absorbs water
2. Contains what's needed to grow a plant
3. To plant
4. Sharp part of a plant
5. What is harvested.
6. To dry up and shrivel
7. Person who plants
8. The earth a plant grows in.

"But the 2 falling on good 8 refers to someone who hears the word and understands it.

This is the one who produces a 5, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was 3 n."

MATTHEW 13:23, NIV

Answer: root, seed, sow, thorn, crop, wither, farmer, soil, seed, soil, crop, sow

SEED impressions

Create autumn-themed artwork using items from plants.



What you need:

- Seed pods, nuts, pine cones
- Mixing bowl
- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup warm water
- Adult help

What you do:

1. Go on a nature walk and collect seeds with interesting textures.
2. In the bowl, mix flour and salt. Gradually add water. On a table, knead the dough. (If too dry, add more water; if too sticky, add more flour.)
3. Flatten a ball of dough and stamp impressions in it with the seeds.
4. If desired, bake for several hours at 150 degrees until dry and hard. Or, to reuse dough, store in an airtight container up to 6 months.

HAMILTON UNION HAPPENINGS



OCTOBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 12noon Midday Prayers (F) 7:30pn In His Presence (Z)	2	3
4 <i>Communion</i> 10am Worship Service (Z)	5	6 12noon Midday Prayers (F)	7 12noon Midday Prayers (F) 7pm Evening Prayers (Z)	8 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 12noon Midday Prayers (F) 7:30pn In His Presence (Z)	9	10
11 10am Worship Service (Z)	12	13 12noon Midday Prayers (F)	14 12noon Midday Prayers (F) 7pm Evening Prayers (Z)	15 12noon Midday Prayers (F) 7:30pn In His Presence (Z)	16	17
18 10am Worship Service (Z)	19	20 12noon Midday Prayers (F)	21 12noon Midday Prayers (F) 7pm Evening Prayers (Z)	22 12noon Midday Prayers (F) 7:30pn In His Presence (Z)	23	24
25 10am Worship Service (Z)	26	27 12noon Midday Prayers (F)	28 12noon Midday Prayers (F) 7pm Evening Prayers (Z)	29 12noon Midday Prayers (F) 7:30pn In His Presence (Z)	30	31

Z = Zoom F=Facebook

HAMILTON UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2291 Western Avenue

Guilderland, New York 12084-9747

Change Service Requested

Dated Material – Please Deliver Promptly.

Church: **518-456-5410**

Fax: **518-456-0002**

E-mail:

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hupc@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org

Pastor:

pastorhu@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org

revjcw@gmail.com

Website: **HamiltonUnionPresbyterianChurch.org**
hu-pc.org

Ministers: The People of Hamilton Union

Our Staff:

Rev. Janice West, Interim Pastor

Ann Duncan, Administrative Assistant

Charlotte Palmeri, Director of Music

Rae Rau, Director of Handbell Choir

Newsletter deadline for the
November issue is
Thursday, October 8

GOOD NEWS



Published monthly by the Session, and is available electronically on our website. Copies are also mailed to select church family households, students away from home, and others.

Mark Hutchinson, Editor

Email Address: **goodnewshupc@gmail.com**

