

Good News

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

Volume 31 No. 11



November 2020

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

“I Believe”

I believe in sunshine;
but I cannot clasp its ray.
I cannot capture ocean tides;
just watch them day by day.
I believe in thinking;
yet no brick can think a thought.
I believe in loving;
though love can't be boxed or bought.
I believe in gifts from God ...
diverse, yet clear ... and thus:
I believe God's Love enfolds,
sustains, and blesses us!



—Peggy Ferrell, Poems and Prayers

LAY READERS

- Nov. 1 Fred Sirois
- Nov. 8 Nancy Messersmith
- Nov. 15 Betty Deitz
- Nov. 22 Campus Ministry Students
- Nov. 29 Trudy Hutchinson



Happy Birthday to
Mickey Niemen (November 4)
Michael Hall (November 24)

Happy Anniversary to
Bill & Charlotte Hasselbarth
(November 11)

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.

**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



ANNUAL MITTEN TREE PROJECT

Presbyterian Women is again this year sponsoring its Mitten Tree Project. Both handmade or purchased mittens, gloves, hats and scarves for infants, children and adults are requested. Men's gloves and hats are especially needed. We will be collecting from Sun., Nov. 22 to Sun., Dec. 13.

Donations will go to the Family Life Center at the Schenectady City Mission and other agencies.

Information as to where to bring your donations will be available closer to the time.



UALBANY CAMPUS MINISTRY PEER MINISTER

The positions in the UAlbany Protestant Campus Ministry *Peer Minister Program* are similar to a college work- study job. They assist the chaplain, Rev. Sandy Damhof with specific aspects of the Campus Ministry Program. For many years, though the Mission and Social Witness Committee, Hamilton Union Presbyterian Church has supported one of these positions. This academic year we donated \$500 to help cover Chidiago Igboekwe's position as an Administration Assistant to Rev. Damhof. His duties include maintaining the database and correspondence.

Some of you may remember Chidiago. He was one of the students who participated in our worship service last winter and sold baked goods.

The Mission and Social Witness Committee had \$500 budgeted for the Jan. '21 Campus Ministry Mission/ Service trip. The trip has been cancelled and we donated that money to the Peer Minister program.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS FOR OCTOBER 6, 2020

- Pastor Janice began the meeting with a timely devotional inviting Session members to create their own version of the Serenity Prayer.
- Elder Hasselbarth reported the Church had a budget deficit year to date of \$9,458 largely due to COVID. It is possible the forgiveness of the COVID PPP could offset this. The 2021 budget is being prepared, with a status report due in November.
- Motion: That the Session approve moving the \$1000 non-operating funds to be allocated in memoriam to Norma Hardenburgh for Christian Education purposes, leaving the remainder undesignated and needing Session approval for use. Seconded and Passed.
- Motion: That the Session approve in-person worship services at HUPC to resume with COVID precautions in hybrid format on October 18, 2020. Seconded and Passed.
- Motion: That the Session move the COVID Task Force, having done the research and meticulously laid the foundation for In-person worship services at HUPC, be dismissed with gratitude and appreciation. Seconded and Passed unanimously.
- The PNC reported they had read 17 Pastor Information Forms and will be scheduling a practice interview in the near future.

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!

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.

- Tues, Oct 27 from 10:30 am -12:30 pm is our Circle Meeting. Lesson 2, *Words of Love: Don't Trivialize My Name* and Lesson 3, *Words of Love: Remember the Sabbath* from the Bible Study, *Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandment* will be discussed. Extra study books are available. 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

- Tues, Nov 17 from 10:30 am -12:30 pm is our Presbyterian Women's Circle Meeting. Lesson 4, *Words of Love: Honor the Life-giver* from the Bible Study, *Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandment* will be discussed. Extra Bible Study books are available. We will meet in person or on Zoom.

*- Sun, Nov 22 - Sun, Dec 13 is our Mitten Tree Collection

* we have a continuous collection for men's flip-flops, laundry detergent and athletic socks

* 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.

PNC Update:

Your Pastor Nominating Committee is making good progress in our search for a new pastor. As reported last month, we completed work on our Ministry Information Form (MIF) which was subsequently approved by Session and the Albany Presbytery Committee on Mission and Congregations (COMAC). Our MIF was then sent to the Presbyterian “Church Leadership Connection” computer dating system in Louisville, KY and we promptly received over a dozen “matches” plus some “self-referrals” from ministers who saw our MIF and sent us their Pastor Information Forms (PIFs).

The PNC has been reading all the PIFs and individually ranking them as “Definitely interested”, “Maybe” or “No Thanks”. We have reached out to several candidates to see if they are interested in talking with us and hope to interview some this month. In preparation for those interviews, the PNC has been developing and deciding on interview questions to ask each candidate. We have also tried to anticipate questions candidates may have for us about HUPC. Our Presbytery COMAC representative has scheduled a practice interview for us with a local pastor so we can test out and fine tune our questions and interviewing approach.

Unfortunately, although not unexpectedly, we don’t have a timeline for finding and hiring our next pastor. However, we continue to seek God’s wisdom, guidance and mercy as we work through this important process. We appreciate the congregation’s continued patience and prayers and we assure you all that we are all working diligently and faithfully on our task.

Your Pastor Nominating Committee

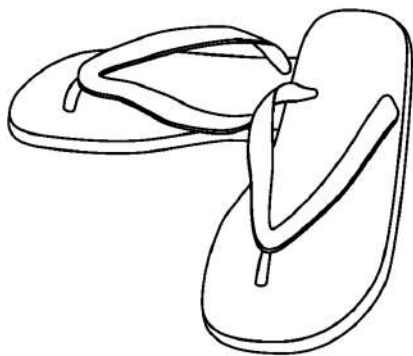


Well, the summer got away from us, but we were able to squeeze a Brooks BBQ in before winter, not that Mother Nature didn't try to give us some agita before handing us a beautiful sunny afternoon at HUPC. Kudos to the developer of the Weather App. Thanks for ALL the energetic volunteers who helped to make this a non-stop stream of satisfied Brooks/HUPC patrons until we sold out around 5:20pm., providing \$3800 for the missions of HUPC. This has been a good way to serve God and our community for over twenty years. Ten percent of the proceeds will be designated to the Mission and Social Witness budget.

The HUPC BBQ team



Men's Flip-Flop Collection



Men's flip-flops, laundry detergent and white athletic socks are needed for the *Capital Area Council of Churches Emergency Overflow Shelter*. 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.

Thank You in Advance - Presbyterian Women



**Daylight Saving Time will end
on November 1st.
Don't forget to set your clocks
back one hour.**



**"I know to whom I owe. First to
God & then to those who fight
for liberty."**

From the poem "I Applaud for Liberty" by Roger W Hancock

Editor's Note

How time flies. As I was putting this issue of the Good News together I realized that I have been at this for 10 years. When I published my first issue in November 2010 I wasn't sure what I was getting into. I'm still not sure, but with time I have grown to be more comfortable with my uncertainty.

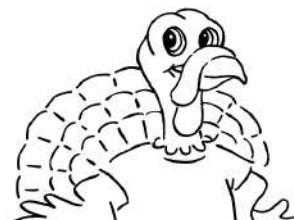
Remember, as it has been for at least the last 10 years, the submission deadline is the second Thursday of the month. And, as always, any articles, submissions, jokes, comments and complaints can be submitted to goodnewshupc@gmail.com.

.Mark Hutchinson

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

"I have never understood why anyone would roast the turkey and shuck the clams and crisp the croutons and shell the peas and candy the sweet potatoes and compote the cranberries and bake the pies and clear the table and wash the dishes and fall into bed exhausted when they could just as easily sit back and enjoy a hamburger or a pork sandwich."

—The Turkey



A taste of history

Add a yummy, authentic touch to your Thanksgiving meal with this recipe.



What you need:

- 2/3 cup heavy cream
- pint jar with lid
- strainer
- bowl
- container
- salt



What you do:

1. Pour cream into the jar and close the lid tightly.
2. Shake vigorously about 8 minutes, until a solid lump of butter forms. (Take turns with a friend!)
3. Strain the contents, catching the buttermilk in a bowl to save for another recipe.
4. Put the butter in a container. Add salt to taste.
5. After chilling the butter, enjoy on fresh bread.

PUZZLE

Glad gatherings

The first Christians met together over a meal. Today church families still gather to break bread and thank God.

Follow the instructions below. Then write the remaining words in order from left to right and top to bottom to complete the verses.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	They	found	broke	bread	acts	in
2	houses	their	homes	beautiful	and	round
3	ate	world	beginning	together	follow	thought
4	with	numbers	glad	happiness	lesson	and
5	thanks	sincere	disciples	gathering	hearts	tradition
6	celebrate	good	praising	Christian	God	river

Cross out all words in column E with double letters.

Cross out all words that are books of the Bible.

Cross out all words in column B that end in d.

Cross out all words in column A that have more than 4 letters.

Cross out all words in row 5 with 3 syllables.

Cross out all words in the table with 9 letters.

Cross out all words in column F with 2 or more vowels.

ACTS 2:46-47, NIV

Answer: They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God. Acts 2:46-47, NIV

HAMILTON UNION HAPPENINGS



NOVEMBER 2020

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

Z = Zoom F=Facebook

HAMILTON UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Change Service Requested

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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

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

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Thursday, November 12

