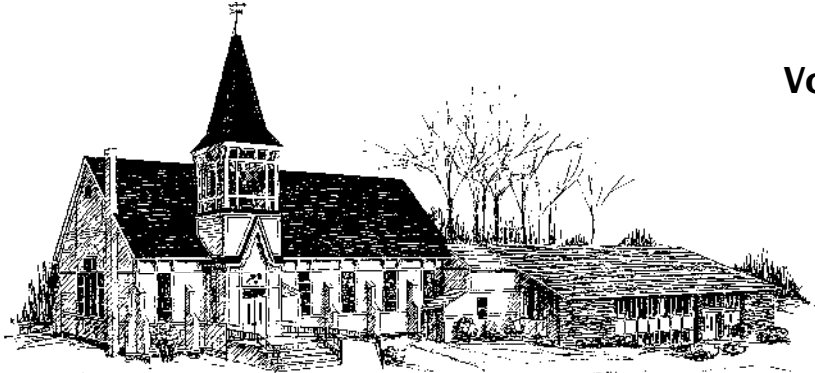


Good News

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

Volume 32 No 07



July 2022

Summer Worship Services are held on Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

Freedom

Each one of us is born most free
And we alone can choose
To do what God would have us do,
To use what God would use.

Or we are also free to seek
The proud and selfish way —
A life where other gods come first
To reign and hold full sway.

But when we follow where Christ leads,
We find that freedom's place
Is really in God's will for us,
And we have chosen GRACE!

—Peggy Ferrell, Prayers and Poems



“Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect.” ~Romans 12:2

Friends in faith,

“If you don’t like the weather, wait ten minutes.” We’ve probably all heard this saying, or a variation of it, at some point in our lives. The earliest record to it can be found in a magazine article in 1909 in Chicago, with an anonymous attribution. But it’s been adopted for a variety of locations, from New England to Texas, the Adirondacks to West Michigan, Nebraska to Seattle.

The past few weeks have found me thinking about this phrase more often, particularly as our own weather here in the Capital District has been changeable and changing. We’ve had some very nice days - gorgeous by all means of the word! But we’ve also had some wash outs. And of course there have been the forecasts that have predicted rain (or bright sunny days) only to find the truth of the day brings us the exact opposite.

Which has in turn made me think about flexibility. I like to think that I am an extremely flexible person, ready and willing to adapt to shifts and changes that come up in the unpredictability of life (some days I am more adept at this than others). In my Camp Counselor days, we had to be ready for the temperamental changes in weather in the Adirondacks. One year, we had so much rain, the meadows were essentially flooded, so we couldn’t do our regularly scheduled programs there... until we flexed, and had one of the most epic of mud soccer games! All of camp, together, splashing and soaking and filthy... and overjoyed! What a delight!

Our world provides plenty of opportunities to be flexible - more than any one person should *have* to deal with. At the same time, we have opportunities to dream and vision, to think wider and more creatively because things just aren’t the same as they used to be. We have to flex... to shift our perspectives and our thinking.

This isn’t to say that *everything* has changed. God, for instance, *never* changes. God is God is God... yesterday, today, and tomorrow, forever and ever and ever. God is the constant that grounds us and brings us through.

How are we being transformed - not by the world around us - but by our ever expanding experience of God and God’s dream for creation? How are we flexing to be the body of Christ in our community and the world in which we live? How are we letting the Holy Spirit move in and through us, that we might be drawn out to where we will be irrevocably changed forever?

In flexibility, and in hope,

~Pastor Kyle

LITURGISTS

Jul 3 **Sue Ferris**

Jul 10 **Diane Irwin**

Jul 17 **Peter McKinney**

Jul 24 **Mark Hutchinson**

Jul 31 **Trudy Hutchinson**

TECH TEAM

Jul 3 **Diane Irwin**
Hugh Stevens

Jul 10 **Fred Sirois**
Mark Hutchinson

Jul 17 **Kyle and Audrey Hall**

Jul 24 **Liz and Declan Egan**

Jul 31 **Diane Irwin**
Hugh Stevens

COUNTERS

Jul 3 **Peggy Gardam**
Billy DeBarthe

Jul 10 **Laura Smith**
Hannah Hunter-Harris

Jul 17 **Bill Hasselbarth**
Peter McKinney

Jul 24 **Laura Smith**
Carolyn Sarbello

Jul 31 **Laura Smith**

**“What sunshine
is to flowers,
smiles are to
humanity.”**

—Joseph Addison

Thank you



T.L.C. at H.U.P.C.

T.L.C. from our Tender Loving Congregation, members and friends of H.U., we all have been on the giving and/or receiving end of this T.L.C. for the last 14 months I've been on the receiving end of this loving care, and I sincerely believe the prayers and care from my church family played a big part in my healing.

Thank you. Betty Deitz

PW's Church World Service Blanket Drive

PW just concluded its blanket drive for 2022, and we are very excited to report 114 lightweight blankets, 35 heavyweight blankets and blankets for 14 families were purchased, a total of \$2365. We once again thank the congregation for their support, and we know these blankets are going to help those caught in forces beyond their control. God bless you and God bless them!

Thank you, Mickey Nieman



A prayer for strength

God of inexhaustible strength and limitless energy, our refuge, strength and very present help in trouble: When even youth faint in weariness and the young fall exhausted, help us wait patiently for you to come to renew our strength, so that we will mount up with wings to soar like eagles, riding on the undercurrents of the wind of your Spirit.

You who need no slumber nor sleep, by your Holy Spirit's power keep us from all evil, safe in Jesus' nail-scarred hands. Help us never weary as we run after you and never faint as we walk in Christ's footsteps, now and forevermore. Amen.

Personal Care Items for Men and Women During Summer Months For the *Purple Pantry*

Personal items are being collected throughout the summer for *The Purple Pantry*, the food pantry on the UAlbany Campus. Needed items are feminine care products, toothpaste, facial tissues, deodorant, shampoo, soap, contact solution, cotton swabs, and razors.

Although the academic year will soon be over, personal care items are still needed, as there are many students still on campus. Some students from Ukraine and the surrounding areas can't go home. *The Purple Pantry* is also available to staff at the university who are there year around.

There are collection boxes at the top of the stairs in the Christian Education Building. Donations can also be left in the deck box in front of the Christian Education Building.

Thank You From Presbyterian Women





It is a tradition for visitors to dress in costume to visit a particular palace in South Korea. Maddie and friends followed tradition by frequenting a fabric shop where the proprietor dressed them.

Madeline (Maddie) Trombley is Joanne Wagner's granddaughter. Maddie is teaching English to young children in South Korea. She is of Korean ancestry and has always wanted to go to South Korea to teach. Being in South Korea is a dream come true for Maddie.

Pastor on the Lawn

Friends, as we have moved into the summer months, and the weather is just too beautiful most days to stay inside, I want to invite you to join me on the side lawn outside the sanctuary doors for an opportunity to chat, fellowship, pray, and just enjoy God's creation together!

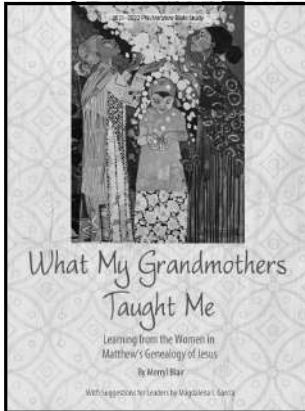
On Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:30 or so (weather permitting!) I will be set up on the lawn with a couple of comfortable chairs. Everyone and anyone is welcome to join me! Bring a cup of coffee or tea, or just a big thing of water. I look forward to it!



***What My Grandmothers Taught Me,
Learning From the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus.***

Bible Study Books to be Ordered

Appropriate for Both Men and Women Plus Good for Personal or Group Study



Presbyterian Women will be starting a new Bible study, this September, *What My Grandmothers Taught Me, Learning From the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus*. This study discusses the various women in the book of Matthew who might have influenced Jesus' life and what we can learn from them. Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, Mary, and others are included. The study explores their stories. The reader is led to a richer idea of what the good news is.

If you would like to purchase this study for Presbyterian Women's Circle Meetings, your own private use or use in another group, contact Joanne Wagner at 355-1408 or jnnwgnr@yahoo.com by Thurs, Sept. 1. The study books are \$10 and \$15 for large print. Payment is due when they arrive, which will be in mid Sept.

Help Us Plan HUPC's 200th Birthday Party!

In March of 2023, HUPC will be 200 years old. That's quite a milestone, and the Session is looking for folks to help plan the party. We already have three people who have offered to help, but we need more. There are no pre-conceived ideas about what we should do, so this is an opportunity for you to take your ideas and run with them.

We also need someone to lead the group, scheduling meetings, serving as a liaison to Session, etc. It's important to note that the leader is NOT responsible for doing all the work; we see the group as primarily self-directed. It's also important to note that other Ministry Teams will have important roles to play in any celebration planned, so this Bicentennial group will have support from the start.

If you are interested in helping plan this important celebration, please call Kim in the church office at 518-456-5410, or email her at hupc@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org. If you have questions, contact Karen Williamson at 518-669-4450 or kawillia302@gmail.com.



Thank you, and we hope you will seriously consider helping!

SAVE the DATE
Campus Ministry Fall Fundraiser - Honoring the Rev. Sandy Damhof
Wednesday, September 21, 2022

The Rev Sandy Damhof will be retiring during the '22-23 academic year. She has been the Director of the Protestant Campus Ministry on the UAlbany Campus for 19 years. Many of the alumni and current students will share their powerful stories about Sandy's impact them personally and the program she led. The Protestant Campus Ministry has been a mission of Hamilton Union for most of the time Sandy has been there.



The event will be in person and on Zoom.

The Protestant Campus Ministry will continue under new and very carefully chosen leadership.

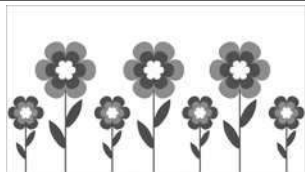
Sunday Morning Live!

You've seen us on Zoom, now you can watch us on Facebook and YouTube. Sunday services are now being streamed live on our Facebook page (Hamilton Union Presbyterian Church - HUPC) and YouTube channel, (GoodNewsHUPC).

We would love to see your smiling face in the sanctuary. But if you are away from home, or feeling a bit shy, or just having one of those days when you "just can't", you can still join us in worship.



Watch us on Facebook at <https://bit.ly/HUPC-Facebook>
 or on YouTube at <https://bit.ly/HUPC-YouTube>



FLOWER SIGN-UPS

There is still PLENTY of room on the flower sign-up sheet to add your name! Help make Sunday Worship even more joyous with the addition of some fresh flowers. What a divine way to celebrate the anticipated arrival of Spring and Easter with the donation of flowers from God's garden. Sign-up sheets are in the back of the Sanctuary and in the church office. You can also email Kim at hupc@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org or Hiram Eberlein at mehe1964@verizon.net and they can add your name as well.



Update to Ukraine – Presbyterian Disaster Assistance June 2022

In April, the Mission and Social Witness Committee issued an appeal for contributions to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) effort in Ukraine.

The MSW committee made a donation of \$500 on behalf of HUPC to the PDA Ukraine relief, and proposed a challenge where every dollar contributed by members of the congregation will be matched by the MSW committee up to \$500, potentially leading to a \$1500 total donation from Hamilton Union members.

PDA is supporting sibling churches and ecumenical partners who are already providing assistance with basic items for survival. PDA is responding with both financial and technical assistance as the network of faith communities providing humanitarian assistance grows in the months ahead. Funds are being used for emergency humanitarian aid such as food, shelter, medicines, diapers, etc.

Contributions will be gladly accepted until August 28. Checks can be mailed to the church office at 2291 Western Ave., Guilderland NY 12084. Note on your check that you are contributing to PDA Ukrainian Relief. Or you can donate online at the church's website, just click on the "Give Now" tab and note what your donation is for.

And why are we giving?

- Around 10.5 million people – more than a quarter of the Ukrainian population – have been forcibly displaced by the ongoing military offensive, including nearly 6.5 million internally displaced and more than 4 million displaced across international borders
- Over 2.3 million people are seeking refuge in Poland alone.
- And the effects of this war aren't just felt in Ukraine - millions of tons of grain are sitting in warehouses and Ukrainian ports unable to be exported due to the war. Ukraine is a major global exporter of wheat, contributing to 9% of the global market. It also accounts for a massive 42% chunk of the global sunflower oil market.
- Because of gridlock due to a Russian blockade of Black Sea ports, and Russian and Ukrainian mines along the coast, 25 million tons of wheat are stuck in Ukraine while global grain prices spiral upwards - wheat prices are up a third by since Russia invaded. Countries in the Middle East and Africa especially feel the shortages. Libya and Eritrea get more than 40% of their wheat from Ukraine, and Lebanon more than 60%.



Happy Birthday to

Happy Anniversary to

Carolyn Sarbello – July 2
Karen Williamson – July 7
Shelby Deere – July 7
Bruce Williamson – July 9
Thomas “Tom” Gade – July 14
Katie Williamson Davis – July 15
Mark Hutchinson – July 20
Shirley Dudzic – July 26, 1924
Atticus Delhagen – July 27

Dan and Hope Messersmith – July 11

If you would like your birthday, anniversary, or some other special occasion printed in the "Good News", please notify Ann McKinney at (518) 488-7195 or email me at: ANNANDPETERMCKINNEY@GMAIL.COM

If you see that an incorrect date is in the "Good News", please let me know.
 Thanks! *Ann McKinney*

Event Planning

The Communications Team has developed an “Event Planning Form” to help organize, publicize and prepare for church events. We ask that anyone who is planning an event use this form and submit it at least **72 hours** before the event. If you are unable to do so, please call the church office to make us aware of your event. An electronic form is available at

<https://forms.gle/hv8W7sSDYsy3hFXk7>

or

<https://bit.ly/HUPCEventForm>



There are hard copies in the office (under the bulletin board) and in the back of the church. Please place completed forms in Kim’s mailbox.

Volunteer Opportunity

The Mission Team announces the next volunteer opportunities at the Regional Food Bank to sort donated food:

Thu June 23, 2022 5 to 6:30 PM
Thu July 21, 2022 5 to 6:30 PM



We will have up to 9 slots available, first come, first served. NO sandals or open toe shoes!
We are working in a warehouse.

A good opportunity to serve the community, and the work is not difficult. If you are interested, please contact Wayne Gannett to sign up at jgannett@nycap.rr.com.

Food News – more on the effects of the war in Ukraine on global food supply, from the AP. Whether locally or around the world, every little bit is needed for a complex problem.

MOGADISHU, Somalia -- It now costs Ayan Hassan Abdirahman twice as much as it did just a few months ago to buy the wheat flour she uses to make breakfast each day for her 11 children in Somalia's capital.

Nearly all the wheat sold in Somalia comes from Ukraine and Russia, which have halted exports through the Black Sea since Moscow waged war on its neighbor on Feb. 24. The timing could not be worse: The U.N. has warned that an estimated 13 million people were facing severe hunger in the Horn of Africa region as a result of a persistent drought.

Abdirahman has been trying to make do by substituting sorghum, another more readily available grain, in her flatbread. Inflation, though, means the price of the cooking oil she still needs to prepare it has skyrocketed too — a jar that once cost \$16 is now selling for \$45 in the markets of Mogadishu.

African countries imported 44% of their wheat from Russia and Ukraine between 2018 and 2020, according to U.N. figures. The African Development Bank is already reporting a 45% increase in wheat prices on the continent, making everything from couscous in Mauritania to the fried donuts sold in Congo more expensive for customers.

Presbyterian Women's (PW) News – All Women are Welcome

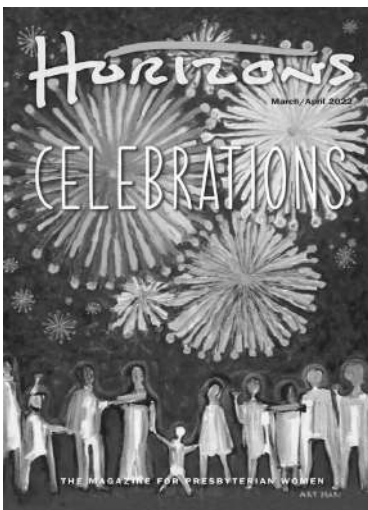
All women are invited to participate in any *Presbyterian Women's* activity at any time. There is no need to make a commitment to join the organization. For questions about *Presbyterian Women*, contact Charlotte Hasselbarth at 518-356-0637 or chasselbarth@hotmail.com. We meet in the lounge, with a zoom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

We don't have any planned events for the summer. We will begin our new Bible study at our next Circle Meeting on Tues, Sept 27. We will meet from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm. Rev. Kyle Delhagan will introduce the new study, *What My Grandmother's Taught Me, Learning From the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus* & lead a discussion on Lesson 1, *Family Ties*. Bring a bag lunch. Beverage and dessert will be provided.



Dear Jesus, sometimes I'm like Mary and sometimes Martha. Whether I'm quietly listening or busily serving, remind me that you are the "one thing" I need (Luke 10:42). Amen.

. Mission Activities of Presbyterian Women (PW) in Hamilton Union Published in Churchwide PW's Journal, *Horizons* Magazine.



Several months ago, *Horizons* magazine contacted Mickey Nieman to write an article for the *Supporting Mission* section of the magazine. Mickey did a beautiful job of describing some of our mission projects and highlighted the close relationship Presbyterian Women has with the Mission and Social Witness Committee

There is a copy of the article on the Presbyterian Women's bulletin board and on the bulletin board at the top of the Stairs in the Christian Education Building.

Hamilton Union Happenings



July 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	Happy Fourth of July! 4	5	6	7	8	9
Sunday Worship Service- 9:00AM	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE CLOSED	
20	11	12	13	14	15	16
Sunday Worship Service- 9:00AM	Communications Team Meeting- 7:00PM			Good News deadline		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Sunday Worship Service- 9:00AM		Mission Team Meeting- 7:30-8:30PM		Deacons Meeting- 3:00PM Mission Food Bank- 5:00PM		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Sunday Worship Service- 9:00AM						
31						
Sunday Worship Service- 9:00AM 2¢-a-Meal						

Hamilton Union Happenings



DRAFT: August 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Session Meeting- 7:00PM	Brooks BBQ 3:00PM		OFFICE CLOSED	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Sunday Worship- 9:00AM	Communications Meeting- 7:00PM				OFFICE CLOSED Good News Dead- line	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Sunday Worship- 9:00AM	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE CLOSED Mission Team Meeting- 7:30- 8:30PM	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE CLOSED	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Sunday Worship- 9:00AM					OFFICE CLOSED	
28	29	30	31			
Sunday Worship- 9:00AM 2¢-a-Meal				Mission Team Meeting- ZOOM		

HAMILTON UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Change Service Requested

Dated Material – Please Deliver Promptly.

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Ministers: The People of Hamilton Union

Our Staff:

Rev. Kyle Delhagen, Pastor

Kim Matthews, Administrative Assistant

Carol Scott, Organist & Choir Director

Rae Rau, Director of Handbell Choir

Newsletter deadline for the
August issue is
Thursday, July 14

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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