

Good News

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



Volume 33 No 01

January 2023

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



New Beginnings

Stop saying "I can't" and start saying "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Stop saying "if" and start saying "I will by God's grace." Stop saying "if it's possible" and start saying "nothing is impossible to those who believe."

- John Hagee



PASTOR'S NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE

He sends out his word, and melts them; he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow." ~Psalm 147:18

Friends on the way,

I have been thinking a lot about traveling recently. We are concluding a season of travel - to home, to visit friends and family, perhaps on a Covid-postponed vacation. As I write this, in just a week, Elena will be journeying to Israel and Palestine for the opportunity of a lifetime through her seminary studies.

As I've been reflecting on traveling, I have recalled a book I read a few years ago: *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail*, by Cheryl Strayed. In this memoir, Strayed recounts her journey hiking a large portion of the Pacific Crest trail in California and Oregon. The trail itself extends from the California border with Mexico, winding its way through mountains and valleys, all the way to the Washington border with Canada. Strayed describes the low point her life had reached after the death of her mother and her attempts to numb the pain with drugs when she set out on this pilgrimage alone. Yet despite her beginning alone, and the importance of learning to live and hike alone on the trail, she develops some very interesting, and life-changing relationships on her journey.

The Gospel story is packed with stories about journeys. In fact, the entirety of Scripture could be seen as one long journey toward the fulfillment of God's kingdom.

But it is Jesus' life and ministry that I am thinking about today. Today, as I am writing this, I am thinking about the journey of Mary and Joseph; the shepherds; the angels... all to bring forth and celebrate the birth of the child.

In a couple of weeks, we will approach Epiphany, when we remember the Magi who traveled a great distance to honor the child Jesus... Jesus, whose own life and ministry is one long journey toward Jerusalem; a journey that finds Jesus never in one place for very long; it is most often that his teachings and miracles take place "on the way" to another destination.

What is your journey? What path are you walking today? This week? This year? Some of us have encountered great difficulties in the past year that seem to have halted our progress completely. Others of us feel, with the New Year, a sense of reinvigorating refreshment.

Wherever you are on the way, I encourage you to share your story with someone else (today even!). Listen to their story. And in the midst of this sharing, may we find that we are all walking toward the same God, whose Christ we follow.

Grace and peace in Christ, our constant traveling companion,
~Pastor Kyle



LITURGISTS

Jan. 1	Pastor Kyle
Jan. 8	Ann McKinney
Jan. 15	George Hannett
Jan. 22	Cindy Schultz
Jan. 29	Debbi Waggener

TECH TEAM

Jan. 1	Mark Hutchinson and Karen Williamson
Jan. 8	Meredith and Jack Eberz
Jan. 15	Kyle and Audrey Hall
Jan. 22	Liz and Declan Egan
Jan. 29	Diane Irwin and Hugh Stevens

COUNTERS

Jan. 1	Laura Smith and Carolyn Sarbello
Jan. 8	Bill Hasselbarth and Hannah Hunter-Harris
Jan. 15	Peggy Gardam and Peter McKinney
Jan. 22	Liz Egan and Billy DeBarthe
Jan. 29	Laura Smith and Carolyn Sarbello



January

Happy Birthday to

Michael Masley-Hannett (Jan. 1)

Doris Donley (Jan 2)- 99 YEARS OLD!

Mylo Edward Davis (Jan 11)

Chris Hannett (Jan 23)

Jumah Delhagen (Jan 31)

Happy Anniversary to

Laura & Steve Smith – Jan 30

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.

Cornerstone Campus Ministry -Winter Break Service-Learning Trip - January 8-14, 2023

On January 8, a group of 20-25 members of UAlbany Cornerstone students will be participating in the annual Service-Learning Trip. The cost per student is approximately \$800. Each student is asked to contribute \$150 toward the cost and the balance is covered by fund-raisers and donations from congregations and individual members. If you would like to "adopt a student" for the trip, use the form below. Suggested "adoption fee" is \$200 but any amount is welcome!



MAKING CONNECTIONS BIBLE STUDY

The Making Connections adult bible study group has resumed, and will meet on Monday afternoons at 1 P.M on Zoom. Come join the group for a lively and informative discussion.

When: Monday at 1 PM (October 31 through June 28)

Where: Zoom Meeting ID: 829 5227 6592

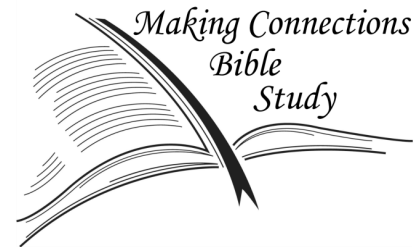
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Presbyterian Women's (PW) News – All Women are Welcome

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.

Our next Circle Meeting will be on Tues, Jan 24 from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm. We will be discussing Lesson 6, Bathsheba the Bible Study What My Grandmother's Taught Me, Learning From the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus. Bring a bag lunch.



Volunteer Opportunities

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

Thu Jan 19, 2023 5 to 6:30 PM
Thu Feb 16, 2023 5 to 6:30 PM
Thu Mar 16, 2023 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.

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New Campus Minister

Cornerstone Protestant Campus Ministry at the University at Albany is pleased to announce the decision to call a new Campus Minister after the retirement of our beloved Rev. Sandy Damhof, who has served faithfully and will be stepping down in May 2023 after 20 years.

Grounded in mission work, table ministry and connection, Cornerstone has called Rev. Dr. Rebecca “Becca” Ehrlich to the position of Campus Minister to help meet students where they are in their spiritual lives and walk with them on their journey. Rev. Dr. “Becca” Ehrlich will begin her work on Jan. 1, 2023. Sandy and Becca will be working together until Sandy’s retirement in May.

Rev. Dr. “Becca” Ehrlich serves as Adjunct Professor of Christian Spirituality at United Lutheran Seminary in Gettysburg and Philadelphia, PA. She has served as the Associate Dean for Community Life at the General Theological Seminary for The Episcopal Church in New York, and the Interim Director for Evangelical Mission and Assistant to the Bishop in Altoona, PA and in Upstate New York. She is also a gifted writer and author of *Christian Minimalism: Simple Steps for Abundant Living*.

Her breadth of experience in a variety of settings including her work with college students and people of all ages has prepared her well for this call. We look forward to her work with the wide variety of students that the University at Albany brings together.

From the Communications Ministry Team:

You may have noticed new and timely messages on our church sign of late. Pastor Kyle and Kim Matthews are now collaborating on messaging to keep our sign interesting and fresh, recognizing that our sign is one of the best ways of reaching our community (especially when they're stopped in rush-hour traffic on Western Avenue)!

As we mentioned in the December newsletter, the Communications Team has been working to increase our church's visibility in the community. An important way to do this is make sure our church events and worship services are listed in local newspapers and online community event listings. However, someone has to actually go online and do this for each event, on each news outlet's website. The days of writing one news release and sending it to all news outlets are gone...now you need to fill in the blanks, online of course! Our Administrative Assistant and digital media whiz Kim Matthews has agreed to post these notices — but she needs your help! Remember the Event Planning form that came out last January? Whenever your group or Ministry Team schedules an event, please let Kim know about it by using the form. That way, Kim has all the information she needs to fill out these online forms, and let the community know what's going on at Hamilton Union that might. Kim needs the form at least two weeks prior to your event in order to meet newspaper publication deadlines.

A copy of the Events Planning Form is in this newsletter. You can also get copies in the office, or <https://forms.gle/nY1uszgekdw54s5q9>.

THANK YOU! 

A big thank you to all those who participated in the Angel Gift Program this year. HUPC adopted 30 “angels”, providing gifts to 30 Guilderland Food Pantry clients for Christmas. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! *Cindy Schultz*

Event Planning Form-Hamilton Union Presbyterian Church

SCHEDULING:

Name of Event: _____

Name of Contact: _____

Email & Phone # of Contact: _____

Date(s) of Event: _____

Time of Event: _____

Deadline to Sign-Up (if applicable): _____

Purpose of Event (speaker/meal/collection, etc.): _____

LOCATION OF EVENT:

☐ Lounge

☐ Quiet Room

☐ Conference Room

☐ Sanctuary ☐ Other _____

☐ Fellowship Hall

☐ Church Parking Lot

WHO IS INVITED:

☐ All Church Members

☐ Open to the Community

☐ Session

☐ All Women

☐ _____ Ministry Team

☐ Deacons

☐ Bible Study Group

☐ Rev. Kyle

Men's Socks and Laundry Detergent Needed Continuous Collection

Men's white athletic socks (medium – extra-large) plus laundry detergent are being collected for *The Capital Area Council of Churches Emergency Overflow Shelter*.

There is a collection box 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. If you put detergent in the deck box, please label it for "the Interfaith Shelter".

Thank You from Presbyterian Women



Personal Care Items Needed by UAlbany's *Purple Pantry* Continuous Collection

We're collecting personal care items for both men and women for *The Purple Pantry*, the food pantry on the UAlbany Campus. Personal care items are seldom donated and/or are available from the *Food Bank*. Items needed are toothpaste, facial tissues, deodorant, shampoo, soap, contact solution, cotton swabs, & razors. Feminine care products are also needed.



Please place your donations in the basket at the top of the stairs in the Christian Education Building or in the collection box in front of the Christian Education Building, with a note saying they are for *The Purple Pantry*.

Thank You from Presbyterian Women

Who's Turning 99?

This month we are pleased to honor a very special lady, the oldest member of our church. Born on January 2, 1924, she was raised on a farm, just outside of Cooperstown, NY. She worked her way through Albany State Teachers College, now SUNY Albany, by waitressing and doing housekeeping at resort hotels, during the summer. During the school year, she worked for her room and board for a woman, whose home was within walking distance of the college. This was both convenient and economical.

After graduation, she taught American History at Athens High School, now Coxsackie-Athens. Luckily, another teacher, Virginia Donley, invited her to share an apartment. Soon after that, World War II came to a close and soldiers began returning home. The new roommate wanted to see her beau, Stanley, who had just returned from the service, but had no car. The roommate called her brother, George, to see if he would mind giving Stanley a ride down to Athens. Being a good brother, who had also recently returned from the service and had not seen his sister in several years, George agreed. He not only reunited Virginia and Stanley but also met our "mystery woman".....the future Doris Donley. The rest is history. It was a blessing that George had stored his '37 Ford convertible in his aunt's garage. Without that car, Doris Burton may never have met George Donley. George and Doris married in 1947 and subsequently moved to Guilderland, where Doris "subbed" in the Guilderland schools, before going back to her full-time career. When the Rev. Al Dockter was Pastor at HUPC, they joined our church, which became their church home.

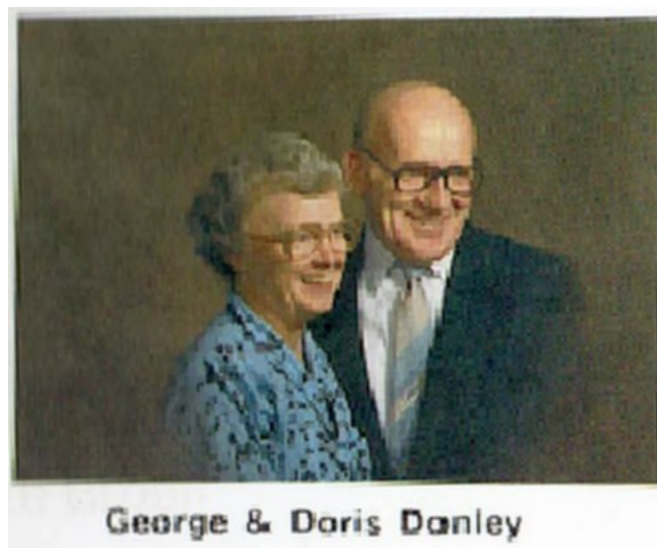
With a real "can do" attitude, the young couple soon decided to build their own house. After purchasing their lot in the Pine Bush, a dowser located the site for a well and they ordered an Aladdin Kit House for \$5,000. This complete kit contained all of the precut pieces of lumber. When it arrived by boxcar, George rented a truck and brought the pieces to the site of their eventual home. With the help of Doris's Dad, Bliss, they completed their first home! Why not check out the building, now an office at 16 Karner Rd?

As Doris and George both flourished in their careers, they also became the proud parents of three loving children - Bryan, Gayle and Sue. When George's job required him to transfer to Newburgh, the family of five packed up and moved. After almost nine years in Newburgh, they returned to Guilderland. Soon after their return, their "can do" attitude led Doris and George to accept the challenge of becoming the "clam-chowder makers" of HUPC's well-loved, annual, Lord's Acre Auction. For over twenty years, they were in charge of this important part of HUPC's successful mission fundraiser. Using a recipe passed on to them from the late Anna Snyder, they ordered fresh clams from a local fish market, then prepared and cooked the chowder in huge copper tubs right here in what was then our downstairs kitchen.

One year, as Christmas was approaching, George and longtime member, the late Jack House put their woodworking skills together and crafted a poinsettia tree. This was the fore-runner of the Christmas tree that we decorate each year, in the sanctuary, during Advent. As they worked on this very large structure in the Donley's backyard, Doris (from her kitchen window) delighted in watching the squirrels poke their heads through the holes where the potted poinsettias would eventually be placed.

Once retired, the Donleys spent many winters in sunny Florida, with weekly potluck suppers, followed by square dancing. Summer found their family at their cottage on Ballston Lake. As the years passed, Doris and George chose to live at Kingsway Village where she has lived since his death. Doris is a delightful lady, with a ready chuckle. She enjoys activities with her neighbors and visits from her family and friends. Doris's "immediate family," is scattered throughout the eastern U.S. and are only a phone call away. Since COVID, Doris has greatly enjoyed the recent Zoom family meetings! Her family now includes eight grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. They bring her special joy and Great-Grandma brings her family special joy! It is easy to understand why so many of our longtime Guilderland families have fond memories of their children deciding that Mrs. Donley was their favorite teacher!!

We thank both Doris and George for sharing their time, talents and "can do" attitude with us at HUPC over the years!



****Original article published in June 2020 Good News. Thank you to Ann & Peter McKinney for editing and condensing to present state.**

“December Session Meeting Highlights”

- Session set the Communion schedule for 2023: the first Sunday of each month, except January 8 instead of January 1; Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday.
- The HUPC 200th Anniversary Team held its initial meeting to begin planning for the May 19, 2024 event. The group will be offering opportunities for members of the congregation to engage on various anniversary active ties that interest them.
- Session approved a proposal from White Wolf Consulting for a new office computer to replace our aging machine.
- Session reviewed the current membership roster to update the roll, remove deceased members and identify inactive members (with intent to reach out, as appropriate, to invite them to re-engage with us.). This action better aligns our Presbytery Apportionment payment with our Active Members.
- Session approved resumption of “Fellowship Coffee Hour” after Sunday services. Volunteers are sought to host a streamlined coffee hour (i.e.: cookies and coffee)
- Session offered their great thanks and appreciation to Mark Hutchinson for his years of service as our monthly newsletter editor, sharing information in a clear, enjoyable and timely manner. (Session also welcomes - and thanks - our new newsletter editor, Kim Matthews)

Hamilton Union Happenings



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day Worship Service- 10:00AM	2 OFFICE CLOSED- New Years Day Observance	3 Session Meeting (Z)- 7:00PM	4 Room Rental (FH)- 7:00PM	5 Session Reports due to Kim	6	7
8 Epiphany Worship Service- 10:00AM	9 Communica- tions Meeting (Z)- 7:00PM	10 PW Coordinating Team Planning Meeting (L)- 9:30AM Mission Meeting (Z)- 7:00PM	11 Room Rental (FH)- 7:00PM Worship & Cong. Life Meeting(Z) - 7:00pm Mission Team Meeting (Z) 7:15p	12 Good News Deadline	13	14
15 Choir Practice- 9:30AM Sunday Worship Service- 10:00AM Annual Reports Available	16 OFFICE CLOSED- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day	17	18 Room Rental (FH)- 7:00PM	19 Deacons Meeting (Z)- 3:00PM Choir Practice (FH)- 7:00PM	20	21
22 Choir Practice- 9:30AM Sunday Worship Service- 10:00AM	23 Finance Meet- ing (Z)- 7:00PM	24 PW Circle Meeting (L)- 9:30AM	25 Room Rental (FH)- 7:00PM	26 Choir Practice (FH)- 7:00PM	27	28
30 Choir Practice- 9:30AM Sunday Worship Service- 10:00AM Annual Meeting (S)- 11:00AM	31					
	Key- (Z)- Zoom (FH)- Fellow- ship Hall	(L)- Lounge (C)- Conference Room (S)- Sanctuary	(QR)- Quiet Room (PL)- Parking Lot	(Z)- Zoom (FH)- Fellow- ship Hall		

Hamilton Union Happenings

FEBRUARY 2023 (DRAFT)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Room Rental (FH) - 7:00PM	2 Choir Practice (FH)- 7:00PM	3	4
5 Choir Practice- 9:30AM Worship Service- 10:00AM	6 Making Connec- tions Bible Study- 1:00PM	7	8 Room Rental (FH) - 7:00PM Worship & Con- gregational Life Meeting- 7:00PM Mission Team Meeting-7:00PM	9 Good News Deadline Choir Practice (FH)- 7:00PM	10	11
12 Choir Practice- 9:30AM Worship Service- 10:00AM	13 Making Connec- tions Bible Study- 1:00PM Communica- tions Meeting (Z)-7:00PM	14	15 Room Rental (FH)- 7:00PM	16 Deacons Meet- ing (Z)- 3:00PM Choir Practice (FH)- 7:00PM	17	18
19 Choir Practice- 9:30AM Worship Service- 10:00AM	20 OFFICE CLOSED -President's Day Making Connec- tions Bible Study 1:00PM Finance Meeting (Z)7:00PM	21	22 Room Rental (FH)- 7:00PM Ash Wednesday	23 Choir Practice (FH)- 7:00PM	24	25
26 Choir Practice- 9:30AM Worship Service- 10:00AM	27 Making Con- nections Bible Study- 1:00PM	28 Presbyterian Wom- en Circle Meeting- 10:30AM (L)				
	Key- (Z)- Zoom (FH)- Fellow- ship Hall	(L)- Lounge (C)- Conference Room (S)- Sanctuary	(QR)- Quiet Room (PL)- Parking Lot	(Z)- Zoom (FH)- Fellow- ship Hall		



KIDS CORNER



Ordering the days

God spoke and created all that exists. He separated and ordered his creation. What did God say about all he made?

Directions: Write the correct day of creation next to each clue. Then fill in the circled letters in order below to complete Genesis 1:31, NIV.

FIRST SECOND THIRD FOURTH FIFTH SIXTH

God made wild animals and livestock.

God said, "Let there be light."

God gathered the waters under the sky into one place.

God made a vault to separate the waters and called it "sky."

God created plants and trees.

God separated the light from the darkness.

God made the water teem with living creatures.

God made the sun and moon.

God made birds fly above the earth.

God made stars.

God created mankind in his own image.

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—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—

God _aw all tha_ he _ad ma_e, an_ _t was ve_y g_od.

GENESIS 1:31, NIV

TASTY CREATIONS

Make this yummy treat to remember what happened on each day of Creation.

What you need:

- 6 large pretzel rods
- Candy melts (white, chocolate and blue)
- Green sprinkles
- White or star-shaped sprinkles
- Fish crackers
- Animal crackers
- Adult help



What you do:

1. With help, melt the three colors of candy melts in separate dishes. Microwave for 30 seconds at a time, stirring until soft.
2. Decorate one pretzel for each day of Creation:
 - Dip half in white and half in chocolate to show light and darkness.
 - Dip half in white and half in blue to show separation of the atmosphere.
 - Dip half in chocolate, add green sprinkles and dip half in blue to show land, plants and water.
 - Dip in chocolate and add white or star sprinkles to show the stars.
 - Dip in blue and add fish crackers to show sea life.
 - Dip in chocolate and add animal crackers to show land animals.
3. Share the Creation story — and the snack — with a friend!

Answer: sixth, first, third, second, third, first, fifth, fourth, fifth, fourth, sixth;
God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

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Change Service Requested

Dated Material – Please Deliver Promptly.

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Ministers: The People of Hamilton Union

Our Staff:

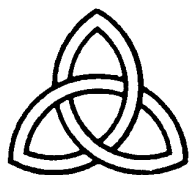
Rev. Kyle Delhagen, Pastor

Kim Matthews, Administrative Assistant

Carol Scott, Organist & Choir Director

Rae Rau, Director of Handbell Choir

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.

Kim Matthews, Editor

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