

Good News

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

Volume 33 No 02



February 2023

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

A Prayer for Ash Wednesday

Lord of the winds,
I cry to thee,
I that am dust,
and blown about
by every gust
I fly to thee.

Lord of the waters,
unto thee I call.
I that am weed
upon the waters borne,
and by the waters torn,
tossed by the waters,
at thy feet I fall.

—Mary Coleridge (1861-1907)



Lent

RETURN TO THE LORD
your God,
FOR HE IS
gracious and
MERCIFUL.
JOEL 2:13

“And, going into the town, they told the whole story about what had happened to the men possessed by demons.” ~Matthew 8:33b

Friends,

I am sure I have told you before, in sermon or newsletter, how one of my absolutely favorite night activities in my years at Camp Fowler was storytelling night. All the campers, volunteers, and staff would gather in the chapel or the beach, a fire would be built, blankets and sleeping bags thrown out on the floor, and one by one, people would rise and tell stories.

There would be stories that would make us roar with laughter; others would scare us and make our blood run cold (for a bit, before more laughter!); others would inspire and provoke our thinking. Stories from First Nations peoples; from modern writers; from Scripture.

But all would entertain us and light up our imaginations.

See, storytelling is our most ancient form of entertainment and sharing of culture. Our Bible - our sacred texts - were told as stories around the evening fire long before they were written down.

Over the past couple of weeks, I have begun to probe this theme in my sermons as it relates to our faith - and this is going to continue throughout much of the first half of the year.

What are the stories that are important to you? What are the stories that make you laugh? Cry? That move you so much you cannot help but be silent in the reflection of them?

What is *your* story of faith?

Look for opportunities coming down the road to consider your story and stories, and places to share them with others. After all, your story is worth sharing!

Grace & peace,

~Pastor *and* Storyteller, Kyle

A Sneak Peek at Sermons Coming in February

February 5 - Matthew 5:13-20; *A New Story, a New Flavor*

February 12 - Matthew 5:21-37; *The Story Between Us*

February 19 - Matthew 17:1-9; *The Face of a New Story*

February 26 - Matthew 4:1-11; *Temptations in the Story*



Lenten Signals

Why should we observe Lent? This 40-day season of repentance and reflection that begins on Ash Wednesday has three important purposes. Lent helps us STOP, LOOK and LISTEN.

We observe Lent because it tells us to STOP and rest awhile – and to stop sinning. Lent tells us to LOOK inward for an honest self-examination, to look upward to see the cross of Jesus with healing and love, and to look forward to the hope of the Resurrection.

And we observe Lent because it tells us to LISTEN – to the voice of God, the words of Christ and the movement of the Holy Spirit.

STOP, LOOK and LISTEN! These commands that are so crucial for travel safety are also important for our journey through Lent.



LITURGISTS

Feb. 5 **Bill Hasselbarth**

Feb. 12 **George Hannett**

Feb. 19 **Peter McKinney**

Feb. 26 **Elena Delhagen**

TECH TEAM

Feb. 5 **Kyle and Audrey Hall**

Feb. 12 **Meredith and Jack Eberz**

Feb. 19 **Liz and Declan Egan**

Feb. 26 **Diane Irwin and Hugh Stevens**

COUNTERS

Feb. 5 **Laura Smith and Carolyn Sarbello**

Feb. 12 **Bill Hasselbarth and Hannah Hunter Harris**

Feb. 19 **Peggy Gardam and Peter McKinney**

Feb. 26 **Liz Egan and Billy DeBarthe**





Happy Birthday to

Fern Weber – Feb 1

Steve Smith – Feb 25

Dorothy Favitta – Feb 27

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

Spiritual Gifts Discernment

Immediately after worship, Sunday February 5, 12, & 19

In grace, God has given each of us spiritual gifts. We tend to think we know what our gifts are - and in a general sense, we are usually right. However, the idea of spiritual gifts is much deeper than we really realize.

In this course, we will learn what spiritual gifts are, why God has given them, how they are to be used, and how they can be *misused*.

We will learn about the spiritual gifts we have each been given, including potential gifts God is working in us to develop.

This study is open to all ages, as each of us has been given gifts from the beginning of our lives!

If you are interested in attending, please sign up by calling the church office, or speaking to Pastor Kyle.

To help defray the cost of supplies, there is a suggested donation of \$10 per person. As always, if cost is prohibitive, please speak to Pastor Kyle!



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 Passcode: 609425

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82952276592?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82952276592?pwd=U1hudkdXTGFRVm9QRHRQZ1JJeUZaQT09)
 pwd=U1hudkdXTGFRVm9QRHRQZ1JJeUZaQT09

One tap mobile

+16469313860,,82952276592#,,,,*609425# US

+19292056099,,82952276592#,,,,*609425# US (NY)

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, Feb 28 from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm. We will be discussing Lesson 5 *Ruth and Redemption* from the Bible Study *What My Grandmother's Taught Me, Learning From the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus*. Bring a bag lunch. Beverage and dessert will be provided. Extra Study books are available.



Volunteer Opportunities

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

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



**Regional
Food Bank**
OF NORTHEASTERN NEW YORK

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.

Cornerstone Campus Ministry - Food and Faith Program

Food & People Needed

Tuesday, February 28, 6 pm - 7:30 pm

Food and Faith is a program of the Cornerstone Campus Ministry at the Interfaith Center on the UAlbany Campus. Hamilton Union will be providing a meal on Tues, Feb. 28. Donations of main dish, side dish, and dessert for 15 are needed, plus people to visit with the students. If you would like to help, there will be a sign-up sheet in the back of the Sanctuary by Feb 12 or contact Charlotte Hasselbarth at 518-356-0637 or chasselbarth@hotmail.com. Food needs to be brought to the kitchenette in the Christian Education Building, in a disposable container, labeled "Campus Ministry," by 5 pm that night. If you would like to eat and visit with the students, a carpool will leave the church at 5:15 pm or come right to the Interfaith Center at 6 pm.

After the dinner, Rev. Kyle Delhagen will lead a casual worship program.

Ukrainian Easter Traditions



A Saturday in Early Spring - exact date and time is not set.

Everyone is Invited –
Men, Women and Children

Maryanne Masley-Hannett will give a presentation on Ukrainian Easter Traditions. Maryanne presented this program last year at a Presbyterian Women's Circle Meeting. It was so well received that we decided to repeat it at a time when more people would be free to come. Ukrainian refreshments will be provided.

Presbyterian Women is sponsoring this event. More information will be in the March Good News.

Thank You From Presbyterian Women

We appreciate the HUPC congregation, the "Twinkling Stars Place Preschool" and "Cece's Wool" for the overwhelmingly generous response to our "Mitten Tree Project." We collected many mittens, gloves, hats, scarves and even a pair of boy's sneakers. The donations were delivered to the *New Faith Program for Women at the Capital City Rescue Mission, The Family Life Center at the Schenectady City Mission, The Guilderland Food Pantry* and Brian Nitsky's *Living Resources Group Home*.



Easter Basket Project 2023
sponsored by HUPC Presbyterian Women

Our annual 2023 Easter Basket Project will be underway soon. We will take donations from mid February thru March 26, 2023. Easter baskets are donated to the New Faith Program for Women at the Capital Area Rescue Mission in Albany, the Family Life Center at Schenectady City Mission, and the Living Resources, Inc. Group Home where Brian Nitsky resides. We also make baskets for the Church Staff as a way of saying thank you!

Donations of cash/checks are welcome and appreciated. Betty Deitz will collect cash/checks (made out to HUPC Presbyterian Women with "Easter Basket Project" written in memo line of check). Baskets will be prepared and delivered the week before Easter.

THANK YOU for your continued generous support of our endeavor to spread Easter JOY!

Darlene Bauer

Project coordinator

(518) 669-2776



WE ARE LOOKING FOR INDIVIDUALS THAT ARE WILLING SERVE AS A GREETER

The greeter will be in the back of the church for the 20 minutes prior to service to welcome visitors and show them where bulletins are located. We will develop a two month schedule at a tune of those that volunteer and email it out. If you would be willing to volunteer to be a greeter please let Diane Irwin know at dmi7@msn.com.

**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

Mardi Gras Celebration and Pancake Supper
Tuesday, February 21, 4-6pm in Fellowship Hall

Whether you call it Fat Tuesday, Mardi Gras, or Shrove Tuesday, it is the day that marks the close of the pre-Lenten season. The French name "Mardi Gras" means "Fat Tuesday," from the custom of using all the fats in the home before Lent in preparation for fasting and abstinence.

This year, we will be having our own mini-Mardi Gras celebration with a pancake supper.

Additionally, we will have time to share stories, poetry, and music, with an open mic. If you have a musical gift or a story to share, come ready to perform for our gathering as we prepare to enter the season of Lent.

If you have any questions about this event, please see Pastor Kyle.

***Additionally, if you have an electric pancake griddle to loan out for the evening, please let Pastor Kyle or Elder Diane Irwin know! Thank you!

KUDOS TECH TEAM!!

Your hard work, time and attention to detail do not go unnoticed. Please read the email we received:

"THANK YOU to the expert January 1st tech team who knew how folks in Zoomland wanted to see/hear/participate in morning worship! The camera angles quickly adapted, hymn words appeared and disappeared promptly, we could see your young guest pianist as he played, and we were treated to an extended time of happy greetings long after a voice announced "recording stopped"! You truly included us!"

-Irene Harbison



Presbyterian Women Sponsors a Visit to New Faith Program for Women at the Capital City Rescue Mission

All women are Invited

Tuesday, February 7, 10:30 am – Noon

All women are invited to visit the residents and staff of the New Faith Program for Women. We will be given a tour of their newly renovated facility at 154 Grand St., including apartments where mothers and their children live. This program offers services such as education/career development, employment readiness, spiritual support (Bible study, counseling), life skills/addiction recovery, parenting skills/anger management and health care for up to 12 women and their children.

The women love to have company and have invited us to visit from 10:30 – Noon on Tuesday, February 7. This “Meet and Greet” will give us the opportunity to begin to get to know each other. After the tour, we will chat and share refreshments. Some of the women from the program would like to give their testimonies. We will learn about these women and how they are accepted in the New Faith Program for Women.

Carpooling – We will meet in HUPC’s parking lot, promptly at 10:00 am on Feb 7th, so that we can arrive at the center by 10:30 AM. We will be able to park close to the building.

Presbyterian Women has a long-standing relationship with the New Faith Program for Women. Through the years, we have provided laundry detergent, pots and pans and other basic needs of the women. Each Easter, PW coordinates the making of an Easter basket for each child who lives there. These baskets are filled with age-appropriate toys, books, games, art supplies, and candy. Donations come from HUPC’s church family. As Christmas approaches, the “Mitten Tree” is set up in the sanctuary and our HUPC family decorates the Christmas tree with hand-made or purchased hats, scarfs and mittens. The New Faith Program For Women is one of the agencies that receive the winter accessories. Also, at Christmas, PW receives a wish list from one of the families that lives at New Faith. Program of Women. We shop and wrap gifts for this family.

RSVP by Mon. Feb. 5. New Faith program for Women and PW need to know who will be going to visit. If you would like to come on this trip, contact:

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

Ann McKinney at annandpetermckinney@gmail.com or (518) 488-7195

We hope that you can come to this exciting event!

FEBRUARY 2023- Hamilton Union Happenings



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			Room Rental (FH)-7:00PM	Choir Practice (FH)- 7:00PM		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Choir Practice-9:30AM Sunday Worship Service-10:00AM Spiritual Gifts Discernment-following service	Making Connections Bible Study (Z)-1:00PM	Pres. Women Trip to New Faith Prog. For Women-10:00AM Session Meeting (Z)-7:00P	Room Rental (FH)-7:00PM Worship & Congregational Life Meeting (Z)-7:00PM	Good News Deadline Room Use (L)-12:00PM-1:30PM Choir Practice (FH)- 7:00PM		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Choir Practice-9:30AM Sunday Worship Service-10:00AM Spiritual Gifts Discernment-following service	Making Connections Bible Study (Z)-1:00PM Communications Meeting (Z)- 7:00PM		Room Rental (FH)-7:00PM Mission Team Meeting (Z)-7:15PM	Deacons Meeting (Z)- 7:00PM Mission Team Food Bank-5:00PM Choir Practice (FH)- 7:00PM		
19	Presidents Day20	21	Ash Wedn.22	23	24	25
Choir Practice-9:30AM Sunday ARTS Worship Service-10:00AM Spiritual Gifts Discernment-following service	OFFICE CLOSED Making Connections Bible Study (Z)-1:00PM Finance Meeting (Z)- 7:00PM	Mardi Gras Celebration (FH)- 4:00PM	Pres.Women Retreat-10:00AM Soup & Sand. Fellowship (FH)-5:30PM Ash Wed. Service - 7:00P Room Rental (FH)-7:00PM	Choir Practice (FH)- 7:00PM		
1st Sun. of Lent 26	27	28				
Choir Practice-9:30AM Sunday Worship Service-10:00AM Dorothy Favitta B. Day Celebration-following service	Making Connections Bible Study (Z)-1:00PM	Pres. Women Circle Meeting (L)-10:30AM Cornerstone Food & Faith (UA) 6:00PM				
KEY-	(Z)- Zoom (FH)- Fellowship Hall	(L)- Lounge (C)- Conference Room (S)- Sanctuary	(QR)- Quiet Room (PL)- Parking Lot	(Z)- Zoom (FH)- Fellowship Hall	(UA) University of Albany Interfaith Center	

Hamilton Union Happenings- MARCH DRAFT

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Room Rental (FH)-7:00PM	2 Choir Practice (FH)- 7:00PM	3 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER	4
5 Choir Practice-9:30AM Sunday Worship Service-10:00AM	6 Making Connections Bible Study (Z)-1:00PM	7 Pres. Women Coordinating Team Meeting (L)- 10:00AM	8 Room Rental (FH)-7:00PM	9 Choir Practice (FH)- 7:00PM	10	11
12 Choir Practice-9:30AM Sunday Worship Service-10:00AM * DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME*	13 Making Connections Bible Study (Z)-1:00PM Communications Meeting (Z)-7:00PM	14	15 Room Rental (FH)-7:00PM Mission Team Meeting (Z)-7:15PM	16 Deacons Meeting (Z)-7:00PM Choir Practice (FH)-7:00PM Mission Team Food Bank-5:00PM	17	18
19 Choir Practice-9:30AM Sunday Worship Service-10:00AM	20 Making Connections Bible Study (Z)-1:00PM Finance Meeting (Z)- 7:00PM	21	22 Room Rental (FH)-7:00PM	23 Choir Practice (FH) - 7:00PM Worship & Congregational Life Meeting (Z)-7:00PM	24	25
26 Choir Practice-9:30AM Sunday Worship Service-10:00AM	27 Making Connections Bible Study (Z)-1:00PM	28 Pres. Women Circle Meeting (L)- 10:30AM	29 Room Rental (FH)-7:00PM	30 Choir Practice (FH)- 7:00PM	31	

KEY-	(Z)- Zoom (FH)- Fellowship Hall	(L)- Lounge (C)- Conference Room (S)- Sanctuary	(QR)- Quiet Room (PL)- Parking Lot	(Z)- Zoom (FH)- Fellowship Hall	
------	------------------------------------	---	---------------------------------------	------------------------------------	--

KIDS CORNER



A seasonal reminder

Signs of spring remind us of God's promises.

Directions: Use the picture code and clues to complete Isaiah 61:11, NIV.

plants grow here

to coil and jump
(also a season of the year)

to expand and get bigger

seeds are planted in this

when watered, these make plants

another word for seedling

For as the _____ makes the _____

_____ come up and a _____ causes

_____ to _____ , so the

Sovereign LORD will make righteousness

and praise _____ up before all nations.

ISAIAH 61:11, NIV

Answer: soil, sprout, garden, seeds, grow, spring

SPRINGTIME SNACKS



Whip up a plate of these cute, healthy treats!

What you need:

- Celery sticks
- Cherry tomatoes
- Cucumber circles
- Olives
- Cream cheese spread
- Fresh basil leaves (optional)
- Adult help

What you do:

1. Have an adult help you wash and cut the veggies.
2. Spread cream cheese inside the celery rods.
3. Place a cucumber circle upright in the cream cheese to make a bug body.
4. Add the tomato as a head.
5. Arrange basil leaves on a plate and place the veggie bugs on them.
6. Making different-shaped bugs with your favorite veggies. Enjoy!

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

Office:

hupc@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org

Pastor:

revkyle@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org

Website: HamiltonUnionPresbyterianChurch.org
hu-pc.org

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

Email Address:

hupc@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org

Newsletter deadline for the
March issue is
Thursday, February 9



Ash
WEDNESDAY