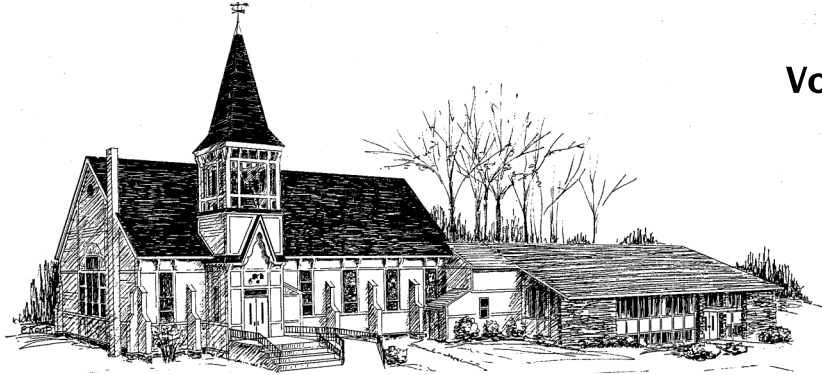


Good News

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



Volume 34 No 07

July 2024

Worship Services are held on Sunday at 9:00am

I URGE, THEN,
FIRST OF ALL,
THAT
petitions,
PRAYERS,
INTERCESSIONS

AND

thanksgiving

**BE MADE FOR
ALL PEOPLE**

FOR KINGS AND ALL
THOSE IN AUTHORITY;

that we may live

**PEACEFUL
& QUIET LIVES**
IN ALL GODLINESS
and holiness.

1 TIMOTHY 2:1-2, NIV



“I write this to you in the hope that I may be able to come to you soon; but in case I should be delayed, I want you to know... [that] Without any doubt, the mystery of our religion is very deep indeed: He was made visible in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed to the gentiles, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory.” ~1 Timothy 3:14-16

Beloved,

A few years ago, I was at a meeting where a candidate for ordination was being examined in theology. The student, a second-career pastor, was well-suited for the ministry to which he was being called. His answers were fine, technically refined and on point. But... he had an answer for *everything* (or at least struggled to *find* an answer for every question). He was able to *explain* things... but a small voice in the back of my head (which I did share with him later) kept yelling, *but what about the mystery!!!*

Even more years ago, during my CPE residency in Philadelphia, I had the opportunity to sit with a group of CPE supervisors for an evaluation, a process which helps students get a feel for what it was like to go through the certification process as a chaplain. I felt good, was giving good answers for *everything*, explaining *everything* well... until I got one question that sort of stumped me... I finally said, “Honestly, I don’t know.” One of the supervisors threw her hands in the air and exclaimed, “Thank God!”

Both of these experiences were processes that were not so much about having the right answers, but about having the courage and wherewithal to lean into the *not* knowing, the *mystery* spaces in our world (as I have come to call them).

As we enter the summer season, things in work and church tend to slow down a bit for some of us. We tend to try to fill those spaces up with activities and outings (which, don’t get me wrong, are enjoyable!). But I do wonder if we overschedule ourselves at the expense of leaving room for something else to happen, whether it be spontaneous dinners out with friends, spur-of-the-moment ice cream trips to Stewarts, or simply the chance to rock in a hammock with our child or grandchild at night to star gaze.

This summer, I want to encourage you to make time for mystery, for *unscheduled* things that bring delight. Allow yourself a chance to *not know the answers*. Be open to the Spirit's movement, and remember God's presence with you.

Together in this holy mystery,

~Pastor Kyle

Friends,

I would like to share about a transition that will be happening in our church. Kim Matthews, who has been our amazing and gifted Administrative Assistant for nearly three years, will be leaving at the end of the summer to take a position in the Guilderland school district. While we are incredibly sad to be losing her in this role, we are also very excited for this new chapter for Kim and her family. An educator by training, she has sorely missed working daily with kids, and we know that God is calling her to this new position.

The Personnel Team and I are putting together a job description and will be advertising very soon to replace Kim (as if that were possible!). We already have a couple of leads! But, if you know of anyone seeking this type of part-time employment, please reach out to myself or Diane Irwin.

We will be finding a time to say a proper goodbye and good luck to Kim, so watch your email this summer. Until then, please join me in wishing her well on this new adventure!

~Pastor Kyle

~~~~~  
To this wonderful church community,

As Pastor Kyle has said above, I have some news to share. It is with bitter-sweet feelings that I must say good bye. I have absolutely loved working, laughing, crying and sweating (thank June and July Brooks BBQs) with you all. This community welcomed me with open arms and continues to make me feel like I am one of your own. However the world of education is calling me back. Having the same schedule as my children will also be so helpful especially with my husband's travel schedule. I will miss our daily interactions greatly, but do plan to stay throughout the summer, so this isn't good bye just yet!

Thank you again for a wonderfully fulfilling 3 years,

Kim

## Evening Vespers

Wednesday evenings, July 17 & August 21, 7:00 pm  
"Seven times a day do I praise you." ~Psalm 119:164

Fixed-hour prayer is, along with the Eucharist, the oldest surviving form of Christian spirituality, but actually has its origins in the Judaism out of which Christianity came. Centuries before the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, the Hebrew psalmist wrote that "seven times a day do I praise you." Although scholars do not agree on the hours of early Judaism's set prayers (they were probably adjusted and readjusted many times), we do know that by the first century CE the ritual of daily prayer had assumed two characteristics that would travel down the millennia to us: the prayers had been set or fixed into something very close to their present day schedule, and they had begun to assume something very close to their present day intention.

On two occasions this summer, you are invited to step away from the sounds of the world into a space specifically set aside for quiet reflection and listening for the voice of God.

We will do this through the praying of the evening hours (or vespers), and through music provided by our own Nina Zanetti. This roughly half hour worship and meditation is for everyone: those who are looking to tap into a deeper spirituality and those who would like to try a new way of praying; those who have much experience, and those who have none; those who need a quiet space to remove themselves from the hectic nature of modern life, and those who are simply yearning for more connection.

All are indeed welcome. Come as you are. Let us praise the Lord together.

## LITURGISTS

|                |                       |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| <i>July 7</i>  | <b>Ann McKinney</b>   |
| <i>July 14</i> | <b>Darlene Bauer</b>  |
| <i>July 21</i> | <b>Debbi Waggener</b> |
| <i>July 28</i> | <b>George Hannett</b> |

## TECH TEAM

|                |                                           |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <i>July 7</i>  | <b>Liz and Declan Egan</b>                |
| <i>July 14</i> | <b>Kyle and Audrey Hall</b>               |
| <i>July 21</i> | <b>Mark Huchinson and<br/>Fred Sirois</b> |
| <i>July 28</i> | <b>Diane Irwin and<br/>Hugh Stevens</b>   |

## GREETERS

|                |                              |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| <i>July 7</i>  | <b>Charlotte Hasselbarth</b> |
| <i>July 14</i> | <b>Ann McKinney</b>          |
| <i>July 21</i> | <b>Cindy Schultz</b>         |
| <i>July 28</i> | <b>Betty Deitz</b>           |



### A Sneak Peek at Sermons to Come in July

- July 7** – Joshua 15:15-19, *Achsah*
- July 14** – Judges 13-14, *Manoah's Wife, Samson's Mother*
- July 21** – 1 Samuel 28, *The Medium at Endor*
- July 28** – 2 Samuel 14:4-14, *Power from Without & Within (Tekoa & Abel)*, Lawrence Stewart Preaching



***Happy Birthday to:***

**Carolyn Sarbello-** *July 2*

**Karen Williamson-** *July 7*

**Shelby Deere-** *July 7*

**Bruce Williamson-** *July 9*

**Tom Gade-** *July 14*

**Katie Williamson Davis-** *July 15*

**Mark Hutchinson-** *July 20*

**Atticus Delhagen-** *July 27*

If you would like your birthday, anniversary, or some other special occasion printed (or not printed) in the "Good News", please notify Kim at [hupc@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org](mailto:hupc@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org).

If you see that an incorrect date is in the "Good News", please let me





### CHURCH HUMOR

Every Church usually has a sign in front of their parish with a psalm or saying. Some have humor in them. These remarks come from all over the U.S.A. ENJOY!!

1. Be the kind of person your pet thinks you are.
2. Whoever stole our AC units. Keep one. It is hot where you'll be going.
3. God didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come pretty close.
4. God's last name is not "damn."
5. There are some questions that cannot be answered by Google.
6. We are not Dairy Queen, but we have great Sundays.
7. Adam and Eve were the first people to not read the apple terms and conditions.
8. Food for thought.....Love is a two-way street....constantly under construction.

**Presbyterian Women's (PW) News – All Women are Welcome  
Circle Meetings to Resume on Tues, Sept 24 - New Bible Study**

***Sacred Encounters, The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts***

We don't have Circle meetings in the summer. We will begin our new Bible study at our next Circle Meeting on Tues, Sept 24. Our meetings are from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm. Elena Delhagen will introduce the new study, *Sacred Encounters, The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts* & lead a discussion on Lesson 1, *Elizabeth's Sacred Encounter*. Bring a bag lunch. Beverage and dessert will be provided. The Bible Study is discussed during the first hour of our meeting, should you be interested in the Bible Study only. We meet in the Lounge and offer a Zoom option. Extra Study books will be available.

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](mailto:chasselbarth@hotmail.com).

**Presbyterian Women's New Bible Study Books to be Ordered**

***Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke -Acts***

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

This study invites you to consider Jesus and his disciples when they shared the Good News through sacred encounters with everyday people during their time on Earth. Each lesson discusses an encounter with specific people such as Elizabeth, the person with Leprosy, and the bleeding woman. These encounters demonstrate the unfolding of God's redemptive purposes in human history and present a distinctive perspective on the person and work of Jesus Christ.

If you would like to purchase the new study book for the Presbyterian Women's Circle Meetings, your own private use or use in another group, contact Joanne Wagner at 518-355-1408 or [jnnwgnr@yahoo.com](mailto:jnnwgnr@yahoo.com) by Sun, Sept.1. The study books are \$10 and \$15 for large print. Payment is due when they arrive, in mid Sept. There will be an option to get a used book at no charge.



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN





### **SAVE THE DATES!!**

Wednesdays: July 31 and September 25  
2:30pm to 6:00 pm (or sell out)

### **GOT CHIKN?**

Don't miss out! The best way to ensure you get your Brooks chicken dinners on July 31 is to sign up NOW to help out at this important HUPC fundraiser.

As always, we need help that Wednesday morning to set up the tents and chairs and lay out the lane flagging. Starting at 2:30pm, we need order takers, assembly line workers, cashiers, food runners and greeters.

If you can help, please let Bruce Williamson know at 518-357-0746  
or [bewillia302@gmail.com](mailto:bewillia302@gmail.com).

Thank you!

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Mitten Tree Project - Late Fall 2024

Presbyterian Women will once again be collecting new (handmade or purchased) gloves, mittens, scarves, and hats to be donated to local agencies. We want to make the HUPC congregation aware of our plans to give people the opportunity to take advantage of winter clothing sales and time to start homemade items. Free yarn is available on the Fellowship Room table.



Volunteer Opportunities

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

**Thurs., July 18
From 5:00-6:30pm**



**Regional
Food Bank**
OF NORTHEASTERN NEW YORK

All are welcome, 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, Plenty of spots available. Please contact Wayne Gannett to sign up at jgannett@nycap.rr.com. See you there.

So what about this big warehouse where we volunteer?

The Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York owns and operates a 70,000 square-foot distribution center and office facility. The facility includes dry storage space, 17 loading/distribution docks, a 4,000 square-foot cooler and an 11,000 square-foot freezer. There are approximately 35 Food Bank employees operating the distribution center and driving the Food Bank vehicles.

- The distribution center receives 211,500 pounds of food a day
- The freezer is 321,000 cubic feet, which is equivalent to 53,000 household freezers
- The cooler is 120,000 cubic feet, which is equivalent to 10,000 household refrigerators
- Food Bank drivers travel approximately 421,000 miles a year (1,619 miles a day)
- The facility can store 3,086 dry pallets, 1,601 freezer pallets and 375 cooler pallets
- The Food Bank utilizes eight tractors, 14 trailers, 15 straight trucks, and five vans and serves 23 counties in Eastern New York.



Our Backpack to School Event will be held on August 24, 2024 from 11:30am- 1:30pm!

We know some members are bargain shoppers, and like to know in advanced what to look for during sales! If you are an early bird shopper, please feel free to bring your donations to the office at any time.

The following items will be on our list again this year.

- ~ Big backpacks (larger than 17 inches)
- ~ Character backpacks
- ~ Pens
- ~ Pencils
- ~ Glue Sticks
- ~ Colored folders
- ~ Character folders
- ~ Binder dividers
- ~ Scissors
- ~ Crayola markers
- ~ Crayola crayons
- ~ Reams of lined 3 hole punched paper (packs of 100)
- ~ Money to be used to purchase any of the above donations (please indicate “backpack” on your envelope or check.)



We were fortunate to have received so many beautiful donations for our anniversary! One of those donations was the gift of small circular mirrors. Ginny Jones had generously bought and arranged our centerpieces for our luncheon. Part of the centerpieces were 10 small mirrors that she has given to the church to keep. If anyone is need of the mirrors, please feel free to use them. For now, they are being kept in the bottom far right cabinet in the lounge. They are securely wrapped in a white and blue Amazon padded envelope.



July 2024– Hamilton Union Happenings



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 KIM AWAY- OFFICE CLOSED	2 KIM AWAY- OFFICE CLOSED	3 KIM AWAY- OFFICE CLOSED	4 4th of July! Office Closed	5	6 Room Rental (FH) -7:15am– 11:45am
7 Sunday Worship Service-9:00AM	8	9	10	11 Good News Deadline	12 Room Rental (FH)-7:15am– 11:45am	13 Room Rental (FH) -7:15am– 11:45am
14 Sunday Worship Service-9:00AM	15 Property Team Meet- ing– 7:30 (Z)	16	17 Evening Ves- pers– 7:00PM (S)	18	19 Room Rental (FH)-7:15am– 9:00am Blood Drive 11a-5p (PL)	20 Room Rental (FH) -7:15am– 11:45am
21 Sunday Worship Service– 9:00AM	22 KIM AWAY – OFFICE CLOSED	23 KIM AWAY- OFFICE CLOSED	24 KIM AWAY- OFFICE CLOSED	25 KIM AWAY- OFFICE CLOSED	26 Room Rental (FH)-7:15am– 11:45am	27 Room Rental (FH) -7:15am– 11:45am
28 Sunday Worship Service-9:00AM	29	30	31 Brooks BBQ– 3:00PM (PL)			
KEY-	(Z)- Zoom (FH)- Fellow- ship Hall	(L)- Lounge (C)- Confer- ence Room (S)- Sanctu- ary	(QR)- Quiet Room (PL)- Park- ing Lot	(Z)- Zoom (FH)- Fellow- ship Hall	(UA) Uni- versity of Albany In- terfaith Cen- ter	(O)- Office (CCD)- Capital City Diner

DRAFT-August 2024- Hamilton Union Happenings



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Room Rental (FH) 7:15am- 11:45am
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Sunday Worship Service- 9:00AM					Room Rental (FH)-7:15am-11:45am	Room Rental (FH) -7:15am- 11:45am
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Sunday Worship Service- 9:00AM				Good News Deadline	Room Rental (FH)-7:15am-9:00am	Room Rental (FH) -7:15am- 11:45am
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Sunday Worship Service- 9:00AM	Property Team Meeting- (Z)-7PM	Session Meeting- (Z)-7:00PM	Evening Vespers- (S)-7:00PM	Mission Team Food Bank- 5:00PM	Room Rental (FH) 7:15am-11:45am	Room Rental (FH) 7:15am- 11:45am Backpack to School 11:30am-1:30pm
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Sunday Worship Service-9:00AM						
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	(O)- Office (CCD)- Capital City Diner



Why do stars appear to twinkle? Try this experiment to find out!

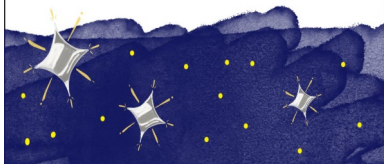
What you need:

- Aluminum foil
- Large glass bowl
- Water
- Flashlight



What you do:

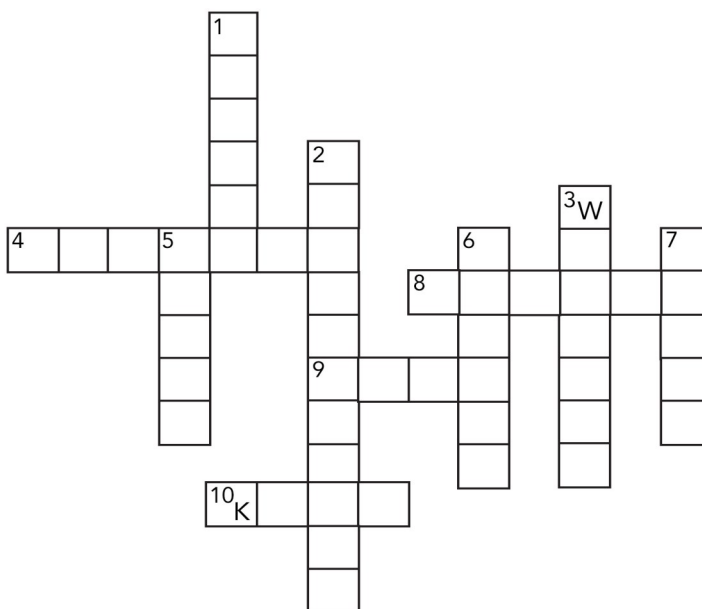
1. Crumple the foil into a ball. Carefully unfold it and lay it flat on the ground.
2. Fill the bowl with water and place it on the foil.
3. Turn off the lights and make the room as dark as possible. Shine the flashlight about 1 foot from the water's undisturbed surface. Light will reflect onto the foil.
4. Then tap your finger on the water's surface. As the water moves, what happens to the light on the foil?
5. This flickering simulates scintillation, which happens when starlight enters Earth's atmosphere. As light passes through layers of gas and water, it refracts and appears to twinkle.



THE WONDER OF STARS

The heavens display evidence of God's great power.
What else does the Bible say about the sky?

Directions: Use the clues and Bible references (all NIV) to complete the crossword.



DOWN

1. The sun, moon and stars do this to God. (Psalm 148:3)
2. God made these as numerous as the stars. (Genesis 26:4)
3. Don't do this to the stars and sky. (Deuteronomy 4:19)
5. What do the heavens declare? (Psalm 19:1)
6. The moon and the stars do this at night. (Psalm 136:9)
7. When we're pure, we do this like the stars. (Philippians 2:15)

ACROSS

4. The heavens are the work of these. (Psalm 8:3)
8. On what day did God create the stars? (Genesis 1:14-19)
9. God calls each star by this. (Isaiah 40:26)
10. A star announced the arrival of him. (Matthew 2:2)

Answers: DOWN: 1. praise, 2. descendants, 3. worship, 5. glory, 6. govern, 7. shine, 8. fourth, 9. name, 10. king

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Change Service Requested

Dated Material – Please Deliver Promptly.

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Rae Rau, Director of Handbell Choir

Newsletter deadline for the
August issue is
Thursday, July 11

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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