



**The First Presbyterian Church
of Washingtonville**
The Good News-Letter



April 2015



Easter Sunday - April 5



First Presbyterian Church
of Washingtonville

Session Moderator
Anne Wood
Commissioned Ruling Elder

Clerk of Session
Deborah Chedister

The Session
Nancy Bruscano 2015
Lois Dunikowski 2015
Doris Dunn 2016
Nancy Popoloski 2016

Board of Deacons
Carrie Maurya 2015
Debbie Woodmansee 2015
Peggy Wright 2015*
Beth Cooke 2016
Beth Tyrrell 2017
Karen Lipton 2017

*indicates second term

Office Manager
Cynthia Carey

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Office Hours are:
Tuesday - Thursday
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church
www.fpcw.makeswebsites.com

Presbytery of Hudson River
www.hudrivpres.org

IN CASE OF PASTORAL EMERGENCY



Important News: Pastoral Emergency Care

We have pastoral emergency coverage for our congregation. If you know of a need for emergency care please call the church office (496-3814) and leave a message if Cynthia is not there. Pastors from area churches have volunteered to help us during our time of transition.

We have a church officer checking the answering machine daily when Cynthia is not working. Any questions, please contact Elder Lois Dunikowski.



- o all those who participated and enjoyed the evening of the Murder Mystery Pot Luck dinner on March 14th.

- to those who volunteered their time to be at the church for a family with Family Promise.

Four lessons of Good Friday

The Rev. James Martin, S.J., author of *Jesus: A Pilgrimage* (HarperOne), writes that Jesus' suffering and death almost 2,000 years ago are very relevant to our 21st-century lives. He says Good Friday teaches us that:

1. physical and emotional suffering are part of life;
2. suffering isn't always the result of sin;
3. Jesus was fully human – and thus understands our humanity; and
4. suffering isn't the last word.

“The message of Good Friday is incomplete without Easter,” Martin writes. “The story of the Passion is not simply of a man being brutally tortured, nailed to a cross and executed by the Romans. It’s the story of a man who turns himself fully over to the Father’s will, trusts that something new will come out of this offering and receives the astonishing gift of new life.”

Worship

The FPC Worship and Music Ministry joins you in welcoming spring 2015! This was a long, cold snowy winter but that didn't stop the faithful from worship! Our weekly attendance has been strong! Looking ahead, we welcome the following guest pastors this month:

April 2 - Maundy Thursday Worship Service - Rev. Glenn Henricksen

April 5 - Easter Sunday - Rev. Glenn Henricksen

April 12 - Dr. David Jacobsen

April 19 - Dr. David Jacobsen

April 26 - Dr. David Jacobsen

We will be combining the Upper Room with the Maundy Thursday service which will begin at 7:30 PM in the sanctuary. The congregation will move to the Upper Room in the center bay of Hazekamp Hall to share a symbolic seder meal and communion. A soup and bread supper will precede the service beginning at 6:15 PM. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.

There will be a Good Friday Prayer Vigil beginning with a worship service at noon on April 3. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board for 30 minute slots dedicated to prayer. The Sanctuary will be open, there will be a labyrinth set up for meditation and prayer in Hazekamp Hall, as well as praying in color with crayons and markers in the Denniston Room. The vigil will conclude at 7:00 pm. Read these words from 1Thessalonians 5:16-18. Rejoice always; Pray without ceasing; In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

We will celebrate the Lord's Supper on Easter Sunday. Please mark your calendar for the 10th annual Presbybuild Talent Show on Saturday, May 9 at the Cornwall Presbyterian Church. The FPC Choir has applied to be one of the acts! The talent show will be preceded by a food event featuring home-made desserts prepared by the Cornwall congregation and others and will run from 6:00 - 6:45. Details of ticket sales TBA.

Our pianos and organ all received some much needed TLC the past few months. Both pianos were tuned and the organ, which had several issues, was repaired. Many thanks to Bill Hooper and Bill Cooke who volunteered their time to assist Mr. McCormick who is our organ specialist. Thank you does not even begin to describe how grateful the Worship and Music Ministry is to Bobbie Trager for her many years of faithful leadership. Bobbie has led with energy, enthusiasm, creativity and most of all love! She continues to be an active and involved part of Worship and Music, arriving early to ready the Sanctuary on Sundays, singing in the choir, overseeing special flower offerings and seeing to many other important details too numerous to mention! We love you Bobbie!

Blessings, The FPC Worship Ministry

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1 9:30 AM Bible Study 8:00 PM A.A.	2 6:15 PM Soup & Bread Supper 7:30 PM Maundy Thursday Worship Service 7:00 PM N.A.	3 12:00 PM Prayer Vigil Service 12:30-7:00 PM Prayer Vigil	4
5 8:45 AM Choir 10:00 AM Worship 8:00 PM A.A.	6 7:00 PM Troop 416 Leader&Adven Team 7:30 - Discernment Team with Deacons and Elders Meeting	7 7:00 PM Troop #416	8 9:30 AM Bible Study 6:30 Girl Scouts#405 7:00 Girl Scouts#493 8:00 PM A.A.	9 7:00 Venture Crew 7:00 Troop 416 Adv Team Parent Mtg. 7:00 PM N.A.	10	11
12 8:45 AM Choir 10:00 AM Worship 12:30-5:00 PM Girl/Cub Scouts #600/4 8:00 PM A.A.	13 7:00 PM Bible Study	14 7:00 PM Troop #416	15 9:30 AM Bible Study 8:00 PM A.A.	16 4:00 Girl Scouts#503 7:00 Venture Crew 7:00 PM N.A.	17 3:30 Girl Scouts#493	18
19 8:45 AM Choir 10:00 AM Worship 8:00 PM A.A.	20 7:00 PM Bible Study	21 7:00 PM Troop #416	22 9:30 AM Bible Study 8:00 PM A.A.	23 7:00 Venture Crew 7:00 PM N.A.	24	25 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Presbytery Stewardship Team at Union PC
26 8:45 AM Choir 10:00 AM Worship 12:30-5:00 PM Girl/Cub Scouts #600/4 8:00 PM A.A.	27 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Troop 416 Board of Review	28 7:00 PM Troop #416	29 9:30 AM Bible Study 8:00 PM A.A.	30 7:00 Venture Crew 7:00 PM N.A.		
	A	P	R	I	L	

Sundays - 10:00 am Worship Service
11:00 am Coffee Hour

Church Office Hours are:
Tuesday - Thursday, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

- 6 Susan Hegmann
- 12 Laura Fuentes
- 12 Aiden Smith
- 14 Lori Paulus
- 19 Nancy Bruscano
- 25 Flo Radcliffe

Getting Beyond Ourselves

We all, . . . beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord,
are being transformed.
2 Corinthians 3:18

I have one of those friends who seems to be better than I am at just about everything. He is smarter; he thinks more deeply; and he knows where to find better books to read. He is even a better golfer. Spending time with him challenges me to become a better, more thoughtful person. His standard of excellence spurs me on to greater things.

That highlights a spiritual principle: It's crucial for us to spend time in God's Word so we can connect with the person of Christ. Reading about the impact of Jesus' unconditional love for us compels me to love without demand. His mercy and His free distribution of grace to the most undeserving make me ashamed of my tendency to withhold forgiveness and seek revenge.

I find myself becoming a more thankful person when I realize that, despite my shameful fallenness, the Lord has clothed me in the beauty of His perfect righteousness. His amazing ways and unsurpassed wisdom motivate and transform me. It's hard to be content with my life as it is when in His presence I am drawn to become more like Him.

The apostle Paul calls us to the joy of beholding Christ. As we do so, we are "being transformed into the same image from glory to glory" (2 Cor. 3:18).

Lord, help us to come into Your presence with eyes
and hearts wide open to all that You are and want us
to become. Thank You for revealing Yourself to us
and for the joy of basking in the greatness of Your glory.

--Our Daily Bread, April 2015
With blessings of love from the Nurture Ministry

Trip to India



Nearly 200 books were collected during last year's VBS. This February Tanya Bray brought them with her to India and donated them to the Amudham Christian School where several Compassion International children attend including in the past Kubendran, who is currently living in Utah with Bob and Colleen Glendening. Hundreds of children were waiting when they arrived and the administrators were so grateful for the donation. English language books are a priceless gift for them. Thank you so much for everyone's generosity. It was truly a blessing.

Cemetery Committee

The cemetery committee continues to work toward a solution to the issue of maintaining the Washingtonville Cemetery. The committee has met with the mayor and deputy mayor of the Village of Washingtonville, Blooming Grove Town Board member Ron Jurain and attended February and March work sessions of the Blooming Grove Town Board. The members of the cemetery committee are Tim Erchick, chair person, Nancy Popoloski, Bill Standish and Bobbie Trager of FPCW, Chris Pasquarelli, friend of FPCW, Linda Standish, former cemetery director and Everett Smith of the Post/Sentinel, consultant.

The Lethal Luau: Murder Mystery Dinner Theater

On Saturday, March 14, FPCW's Congregational Life committee hosted the "Lethal Luau Murder Mystery" potluck dinner. Many thanks to Sue Hegmann and Hanora Sullivan for organizing this event. The decorations by Sue created a wonderful Hawaiian luau atmosphere. The script was fun and engaging. The actors played their parts well. The food was themed and delicious. A good time was had by all!



Hanora as MC



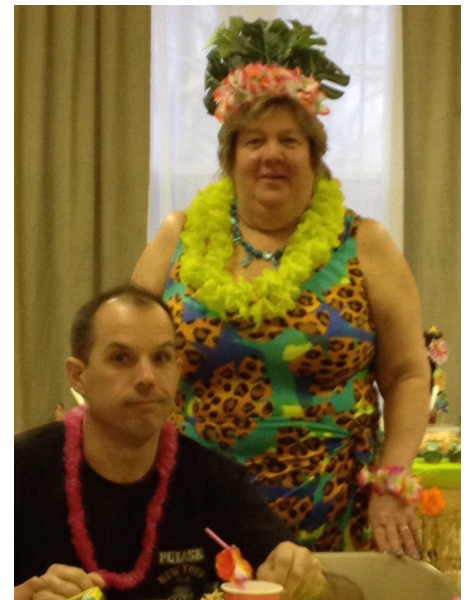
Note - the roasting pig in the center



Nadia (Lois) & Rip Tide (Peggy)



Rip Tide (Peggy) goes after the revealed murderer Joey Breakers (Ernie)



Chief Wiki Wiki (Sue)
a murder suspect

Peggy Wright offers free scuba lessons every Friday afternoon. Please contact her for more information. (ha ha)

The Lethal Luau: Murder Mystery Dinner Theater



Cast of characters



Council's Meeting with Discernment Team

On March 9, the Council had its first meeting with the discernment team which is made up of Greg Ransom, Rev. Dave Mason, Rev. Ruth Wainwright, John Hunter and Jay Bishop. Our recently appointed moderator, Anne Woods, was also present.

The general purpose of the team is to discern together with church members, the path that the church is going to take.

Everyone introduced him or herself and shared thoughts about what is previously happening in the church and some past history.

Some of the concerns expressed by the Elders were that there are only 1 or 2 children in Sunday School each week, and we have no pastor, which makes some people feel as if there is no continuity. Finances, of course, are a huge issue as is the ongoing problem of relinquishing the cemetery.

Thinking about the future involves figuring out what the church mission is, if we can work with other churches, and what are the skills that we have?

The Discernment Team asked for further information about the church including financial records, the statistical report and previous meeting minutes. The Deacons will be invited to the next meeting, which will be held Monday, April 6 @7:30.

Everyone is invited to ask any Elder any question about our meetings or any other concern.

Deborah Chedister
Clerk of Council

Bible Quiz

When the Pharisees complained about the noisy crowd praising God as Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, what did he say would shout out if the people were silent?

- A. The stones
- B. The trees
- C. The palm branches
- D. The donkey



Answers: (See Luke 19:40.)

Board of Deacons

Deacon Ministry

Food Pantry - The food pantry welcomes all donations. Needed for March will be: canned tuna, canned chicken, jelly and peanut butter. Please add at least one of these items to your shopping list. Donations can be placed in the wicker basket outside Hazekamp Hall.

Coffee Hour Needs - Needs for the coffee hour are as follows: 7 oz. plastic cups, small paper plates, juice, coffee and tea. Thank you all for helping the Deacons keep the kitchen stocked!

Prayer Shawl - The Deacons are so happy to have this special ministry to help with their shepherding.

E Prayer Circle - Please contact Lois Dunikowski at lbd9999@hrc.rr.com if you have any prayer requests.

Emergency Use of the Church Building - If any person in our church family is without power, water, or heat, and needs to use the church as a safe haven, please contact your deacon shepherd so he or she can direct your need to the appropriate ministry elder(s).

The Deacons are very happy to serve the members of this congregation. Please let your deacon shepherd know if he or she can help you in any way. (There is a list posted on the bulletin board in the Denniston Room if you are not sure who your deacon shepherd is.)



M. Dale Olcott passed away March 5, 2015.

We are forever grateful for Dale's many years of dedicated service to FPCW. Our sympathy, prayers and love to Judy and your family.





Calendar of Prayer for our Congregations and Leadership

The endorsed calendar of prayer is a way for us to be united. It's an awesome responsibility and gift to pray for one another. To make our offering on behalf of one another. Each member congregation, staff member, elected servant leader, ministry team, and mission commitment of our Presbytery is represented:

Mt Kisco PC, Commissioned Ruling Elder Dr. Hans Hallundbaek-Prison Partnership Coordinator, Hitchcock PC-Scarsdale, First Church-Pleasant Valley, Rural & Migrant Ministry, New Hempstead PC-New city, Good Shepherd PC-Yonkers, Youth of our Churches, First Church Monticello, Staatsburg PC-Pleasant Plains, and Commissioned Ruling Elders.



VISION STATEMENT

*Together, we worship God through our
Study, Stewardship, Service, and Song.*

Call Cynthia at **496-3814** or send an e-mail to firstpres@frontiernet.net
to share your news with our church family!



***First Presbyterian Church
30 Goshen Avenue
Washingtonville NY 10992***

Address Correction Requested