



# The First Presbyterian Church of Washingtonville

## The *Good News*-Letter



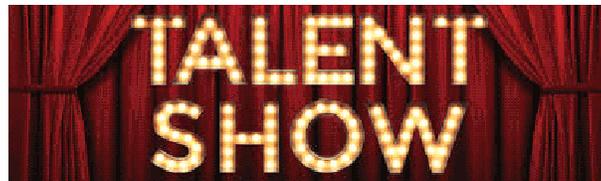
May 2018

## Pentecost Sunday, May 20



### What is the Christian Celebration of Pentecost All About?

Christians across the world will celebrate Pentecost. In fact, not all Christians recognize this holiday (holy day). But it is generally honored in liturgical churches (Roman Catholic, Anglican, Lutheran, Eastern Orthodox, etc.), in Pentecostal and Charismatic churches, and in many other Protestant churches as well. Pentecost is not as well-known or as popular as the Christmas and Easter, though it commemorates a watershed event in Christian history. In many ways, Pentecost is the birthday of the church.



Habitat for Humanity Talent Show  
First Presbyterian Church of Montgomery  
Saturday, May 19  
Refreshments at 2:00 PM  
Talent Show 3:00 - 4:30 PM



## *From The Pastor*

**First Presbyterian Church  
of Washingtonville**

**Session Moderator**  
Rev. Martha Carlson

**Clerk of Session**  
Deborah Chedister

**The Session**  
Nancy Bruscano 2018\*  
Nancy Popoloski 2019\*  
Bill Cooke 2019

**Board of Deacons**  
Mark Chedister 2018  
Debbie Woodmansee 2018\*  
Sue Roosje 2019  
Karen Lipton 2020\*  
Beth Cooke 2020

\*indicates second term

**Pastor**  
Rev. Martha Carlson

**Organist**  
Bill Hooper

**Office Manager**  
Cynthia Carey

**30 Goshen Avenue  
Washingtonville NY  
845-496-3814  
firstpres@frontiernet.net**

**Office Hours are:  
Tuesday - Thursday  
3:30 PM - 6:30 PM**

Rev. Martha Carlson  
[revmpc86@yahoo.com](mailto:revmpc86@yahoo.com)

**First Presbyterian Church**  
[www.fpcw.makeswebsites.com](http://www.fpcw.makeswebsites.com)

**Presbytery of Hudson River**  
[www.hudrivpres.org](http://www.hudrivpres.org)

Dear Friends,

This May seems like the end of a season that hasn't started yet. Crocuses and daffodils, so far from being finished, are still struggling to open, and yet Mother's Day and Memorial Day are speeding our way. People are planning their early summer gatherings and getaways. Weir's is open, with people waiting outside in the cold and taking their ice cream to eat in their warm cars. Somehow, we find the warmth and the time to do all of the fun things the season brings to us.

The church is planning some fun things too. The Murder Mystery luncheon is coming on May 6, and plans are being discussed for a Memorial Day Fun-Raiser food sale. We're also making advance plans for some summer fun at VBS.

Here's a question to consider as spring progresses, before our summer is completely booked. Where does worship fall in our planning? Is it the family picnic we look forward to all week even though we see the family all the time? Is it the party of a not-too-close family member we feel would be just as happy with a check as with our presence? Is it like school, very educational and good for us but fun to be away from for a while? Or is church like providing child care for the family's kids, and we hope someone will carry it for a while while we get a break? How we answer will determine how we plan.

Suppose, for example, you decide that worship is God's party, and what branch of the family you sit with isn't as important as that you go. What plans are you making to find out about worship opportunities near the places you go on vacation? Are you really going to your vacation destination and driving from one hotel to another a few minutes before you want to check in to see what looks like a compatible place? No? But was that your plan for finding a place to worship? If you really feel this way, it would be good to make some advance preparations about where you want to worship.

Suppose you decide there's no place like home and your plan is to stay closely connected with this congregation while you're away. Maybe you'll want to join the prayer chain, experiment with the website, or request email copies of the bulletin while you travel. The idea is to make a plan before you go for how to meet your goal of being effectively connected.

Please enjoy church with us when you're here, and whenever you make plans for being away, please add a plan for how you'll take part in the life of God's family. See you in church!  
In Christ's love,  
Martha

### **Prayer for May**

Creator God, thank You for spring flowers and rain. Thank You for the approach of summer, with its warmth and fun times. Thank You for making us part of Your family by sharing Your Son with us. Help us to live into being glad and grateful members of Your family in His name. Amen.



## Worship Ministry

What a blessing to journey through Lent, Holy Week and Easter with Pastor Martha! Thirteen attended the Maundy Thursday service which included a symbolic Seder meal and communion around the table in the Upper Room. Special thanks to Peggy Wright for leading the Seder meal, Lois Dunikowski for roasting the lamb and Lois and LouAnne Blanchard for serving. Thank you to Bobbie Trager for supplying the palms and delivering the Easter lilies. It takes many hands to prepare for Holy Week and Easter. Sincere gratitude to all!

The FPC Chancel choir with special guest singers will perform in the Habitat Talent Show on Saturday May 19, 3:00 PM at the First Presbyterian Church in Montgomery. Desserts will be served prior to the show at 2:00 PM. Please come out to support your choir and raise funds for affordable housing!

Come celebrate the birthday of the church on May 20 - Pentecost Sunday! Be sure to wear red on this festive day!

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated on May 6 and May 20 (Pentecost). As you observe the new life bursting forth this spring, reflect on these words...Nature is the living visible garment of God!

Blessings and Peace, The Worship Ministry

**What is Pentecost?** For Christians, Pentecost is a holiday on which we commemorate the coming of the Holy Spirit on the early followers of Jesus. Before the events of the first Pentecost, which came a few weeks after Jesus' death and resurrection, there were followers of Jesus, but no movement that could be meaningfully called "the church." Thus, from an historical point of view, Pentecost is the day on which the church was started. This is also true from a spiritual perspective, since the Spirit brings the church into existence and enlivens it. Thus Pentecost is the church's birthday.

### Where's the Pastor?

Martha ordinarily has office hours at Bethlehem 9-12:30 Monday and Tuesday, and at First Washingtonville Tuesday and Thursday 1:30-5. Anyone is welcome to call or stop in at office hours of either church. Calls made on those phones during office hours will reach Martha; messages left on those answering machines will reach Eileen at Bethlehem or Cynthia at First. Her home phone number is 845-614-0048; her cell number (which might be changed within a few weeks because its reception is poor in the manse) is currently 717-953-2257. Messages left on either of these numbers will reach Martha. You can also speak to her before worship at First, after worship at Bethlehem, before or after choir practice or scheduled board meetings at either church (check the church bulletin for dates), before or after Bible study on Wednesday mornings at First, arrange to have dinner with her on a Thursday in Washingtonville, or make an appointment. Other things to know about Martha's regular weekly schedule is that her Sabbath is ordinarily on Friday, unless there is a scheduled church event on Friday and then her Sabbath will be announced in church publications, and that she spends as much time as possible on Saturdays somewhere out of the way preparing for worship.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		<b>1</b> 7:00 PM Troop 416	<b>2</b> 9:30 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM A.A.	<b>3</b> 7:00 PM N.A.	<b>4</b> 6:30 - 9:00 PM Girl Scout Troop #493	<b>5</b> 10:00 AM Girl Scout Troop #592
<b>6</b> 9:30 AM Worship The Lord's Supper 10:30 AM Murder-Mystery Luncheon 4:00 Piano Recital 8:00 PM A.A.	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 7:00 PM Troop 416	<b>9</b> 9:30 AM Bible Study 6:30 Joint Session at FPCW 7:00 PM A.A.	<b>10</b> 7:00 PM N.A.	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Happy Mother's Day! 9:30 AM Worship 8:00 PM A.A.	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 7:00 PM Troop 416	<b>16</b> 9:30 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM A.A.	<b>17</b> 4:00 PM Girl Scout Troop #503 7:00 PM N.A.	<b>18</b> 6:30 - 9:00 PM Girl Scout Troop #493	<b>19</b> 10:00 AM Girl Scout Troop #592 3:00-4:30 PM Talent Show-Montgomery PC (2:00 PM refreshments)
<b>20</b> 9:30 AM Worship, The Lord's Supper <b>Pentecost</b> 8:00 PM A.A.	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 7:00 PM Troop 416	<b>23</b> 9:30 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM A.A.	<b>24</b> 7:00 PM N.A.	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 9:30 AM Worship 8:00 PM A.A.	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 7:00 PM Troop 416	<b>30</b> 9:30 AM Bible Study 7:00 PM A.A.	<b>31</b> 7:00 PM N.A.		
		<b>M</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Y</b>		

Sundays - 9:30 AM Worship Service  
10:30 AM Coffee Hour

Church Office Hours are:  
Tuesday - Thursday, 3:30 - 6:30 PM



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

- 1 Dolores Taylor
- 5 Lou Anne Blanchard
- 15 Maureen Moss

**First Presbyterian Church (bold)**

*Bethlehem Presbyterian Church*

**May 2018**

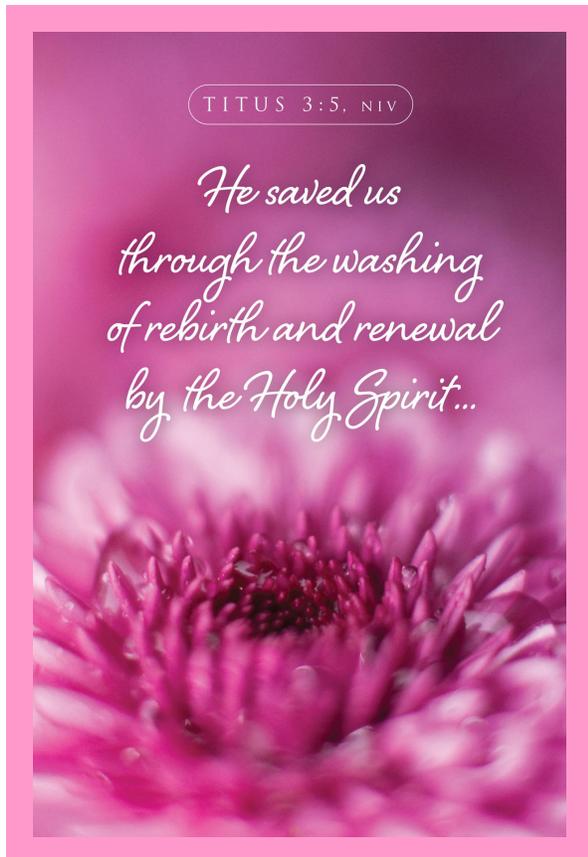
Calendar of Events

- 6 Lord's Supper  
Murder-Mystery Luncheon
- 9 Joint Council/Session (6:30 PM)
- 19 Habitat Talent Show at First Church Montgomery  
Clothing Sale (tentative)
- 20 Pentecost, Lord's Supper

TBA Memorial Day Parade Fundraiser in the Village

**Looking Ahead to June:**

- TBA Children's Sunday
- TBA Honoring FPC Graduates
- TBA Church Picnic
- TBA Eagle Scout Court of Honor



**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

The deadline for the monthly newsletter is the **20th** of each month. Please submit the news you want to share, to Cynthia on or before the **20th** of each month at [firstpres@frontiernet.net](mailto:firstpres@frontiernet.net).

## Murder Mystery Luncheon

Come see who murdered Guiseppe Pepi Roni. It will be one of the guest at the pasta Passion and Pistols Luncheon on Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> after church in the renowned restaurant LaSperenza better known as the Hazekamp Hall. We need four (4) male actors and four (4) women. See Sue Hegmann for details regarding the parts. There are also descriptions of the characters by the sign up sheet. Sue can be reached at 283-0072 or [suehegmann@gmail.com](mailto:suehegmann@gmail.com)



- Sprague Paving for filling in the potholes in the church parking lot.
- to those who contributed to One Great Hour of Sharing.

## The Savvy Soul Sisters of Syntax

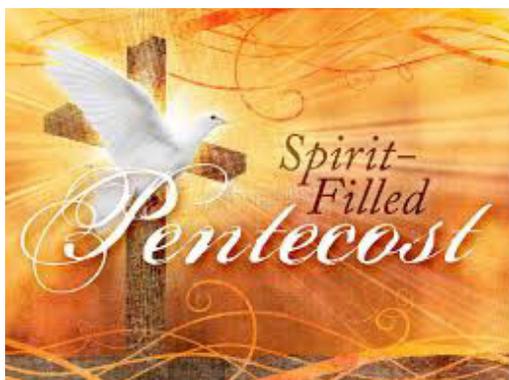


The Savvy Soul Sisters of Syntax met at the home of Mary Thomas on April 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss the book “The Art of Racing In the Rain” by Garth Stein. They shared fun, food and fellowship. A good time was had by all!

## Habitat Walk for Housing



The FPCW team does Habitat’s Walk for Housing on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Thanks to the generosity of the many caring people who sponsored our walkers we donated \$800.00 to help build affordable housing for low-income families in the city of Newburgh. Thank you to all who contributed to this worthy cause!



# FPCW's Faith Family Memories



**Katharine Martinson  
at Chicken BBQ**



**Ruth Nelson at  
Chicken BBQ**



**Women's Retreat at  
Camp Holmes**



**Peggy Wright at VBS**



**Nancy Popoloski at VBS**



**Mission Trip 2007**

## What does the word “Pentecost” mean?

The English word “Pentecost” is a transliteration of the Greek word *pentekostos*, which means “fifty.” It comes from the ancient Christian expression *pentekoste hemera*, which means “fiftieth day.” But Christians did not invent the phrase “fiftieth day.” Rather, they borrowed it from Greek-speaking Jews who used the phrase to refer to a Jewish holiday. This holiday was known as the Festival of Weeks, or, more simply, *Weeks* (*Shavuot* in Hebrew). This name comes from an expression in Leviticus 23:16, which instructs people to count seven weeks or “fifty days” from the end of Passover to the beginning of the next holiday (*pentekonta hemeras* in the ancient Greek translation of the Hebrew Scripture).

*Shavuot* was the second great feast in Israel’s yearly cycle of holy days. It was originally a harvest festival (Exod 23:16), but, in time, turned into a day to commemorate the giving of the law on Mt. Sinai. This day became especially significant for Christians because, seven weeks after the resurrection of Jesus, during the Jewish celebration of *Shavuot*/Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was poured out upon his first followers, thus empowering them for their mission and gathering them together as a church.

## Board of Deacons

**Food Pantry** The food pantry welcomes all donations. Needed for May is: pancake mix, syrup, canned juice, salt and sugar. Please add at least one of these items to your shopping list. Donations can be placed in the wicker basket outside Hazekamp Hall.

**Angels on Call** - We are creating a new list of volunteers who would like to do God’s work by bringing meals to members that are in need (post surgery, trauma, emergency, etc). or drive a member who need a ride to the doctor. You can contact any of the deacons and/or sign up on the volunteer list which is posted.

**Coffee Hour Needs:** Currently coffee hour needs are styrofoam cups along with cookies - baked or store bought. 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@hvc.rr.com](mailto:lbd9999@hvc.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.)

## Faith, Love, and Hope

Read: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-3

“We always thank God for all of you.”

- 1 Thessalonians 1:2

“For ten years, my Aunt Kathy cared for her father (my grandfather) in her home. She cooked and cleaned for him when he was independent, and then took on the role of nurse when his health declined.

Her service is one modern example of the words of Paul who wrote to the Thessalonians that he thanked God for “your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ”.

My aunt served in faith and love. Her daily, consistent care was the result of her belief that God called her to this important work. Her labor was borne out of love for God and her father. She also endured in hope. My grandfather was a very kind man, but it was difficult to watch him decline. She gave up time with family and friends, and limited travel to care for him. She was able to endure because of the hope that God would strength her each day, along with the hope of heaven that awaited my grandfather.

Whether it is caring for a relative, helping a neighbor, or volunteering your time, be encouraged as you do the work God has called you to do. Your labor can be a powerful testimony of faith, hope, and love.

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Lord, may I this day have eyes to see others' need, direction from You on any ways  
I might help, and the Spirit's power to obey. May I live out the faith, love, and hope  
You've given to me.

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The glory of life is to love, not to be loved; to give, not to get; to serve, not to be served.

*INSIGHT:* The Thessalonian church was a “model” church known for her “faith in God”. The church was commended for her “faithful work, (her) loving deeds, and...enduring hope”. This trilogy of faith, love, and hope is a mark of spiritual growth and maturity. The work God has called us to do is characterized by our love for God and our neighbor. To love is hard work, for it is something we have to learn to do. And we “have been taught by God to love each other”. Paul aptly calls it a “labor of love”. Highlighting Christ’s second coming at the end of each chapter, Paul speaks of our “endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ”. Speaking of this trilogy of “faith, love, and hope” elsewhere, Paul says, “Three things will last forever - faith, hope, and love - and the greatest of these is love”.

Is your life characterized by faithful work, loving deeds, and enduring hope?

--Our Daily Bread

With blessings of love from the Nurture Ministry



**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:

Croton Falls PC, United PC Middletown, First Church Katonah, Projects funded by Grants Committee, Hopewell PC Thompson Ridge, Bryn Park PC Yonkers, First Church Monroe, and The Synod of the Northeast.



Newsletter articles for the  
June 2018  
issue are due before  
**May 20!**

**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](mailto:firstpres@frontiernet.net)  
to share your news with our church family!



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

**Address Correction Requested**

