

Presbyterian News



EDITION

October 2023



October

304 Broad Street
Oneida, NY 13421
315-363-7590

e-mail: oneidafirstpres@oneidafirstpres.org

Website:
oneidafirstpres.org

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor
Mike Yeoman

Choir Director
Stephanie Gwilt

Organist
Melinda Phoenix-Heart

Church Secretary
John Merritt

Treasurer
Frank Kordziel

Financial Secretary
Pat Thorpe

Clerk of Session
Pat Thorpe

Custodian
Jennawade Skellham

The Festival is in 8 weeks, many have already been busy harvesting, sewing, baking, preserving, decorating, and much more. But we still need you! Please call and Volunteer. We need to know you want to help—there are many ways you can do that. Any of the booth chairs, or Carol or Barb would be happy for your help.

Janet and Frank Sarensky-Luncheon

Rachel Mancarella-Quilt and Painting

Sarah and Deb Owens Christmas-cottage

Becky Ewan-Harriete's Boutique

Dan Gwilt-Woodshoppe

Kathy Nichols and Ginny Drake-Polly's Pantry

Chrissy Thompson-Candy Room

Cathy Opperman-Ginger Bread Bake Shop

Becky Williams-Cookie Shop

Laura Reckentine & Sue Kordziel-Needles and Pins

God Bless You all,

Barb Arnold 315-363-6875

Carol Miller 315-762-4224



Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the start of our third year together. Being a pastor today can be the most rewarding, yet often a most stressful calling. Every church has its challenges right now. How we make these challenges turn into opportunities is what our Session and Deacons will be meeting together to discuss this month. I look forward to those discussions.

Recently I visited with someone who has not made it back to church in several years. She discussed differences and revealed that she is perfectly content watching our live services each week through Facebook Live.

Maybe you find yourself in a similar response and comfort level. If so, may I offer an opportunity to pray about this. The greatest gift ever given to us, Jesus Christ, was given as a perpetual willingness of God to forgive us. With that in mind, can **you** forgive the person(s) who may have caused you to stay away, not attend so often, or refrain from fellowship opportunities.

Meditate on this Scripture verse “***Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord^h has forgiven you, so you also must forgive***”. (Corinthians 3:13).

No church is perfect, but we can make positive stives to redirect our judgment of others and our focus of what is *wrong by beautifying* what’s right. This must be done with a spirit of forbearance that seeks to build up, not tear down.

COVID did great damage to all churches. Many could not withstand the decline in attendance and support and have closed their doors. Those that have survived realize that it is serving two different segments of churchgoers – connected and virtual.

What would be better in your life and in the life of your family, friends and neighbors if you made a commitment to come back or attend more frequently? Could your time with God allow you to recenter yourself every week and enable you to give thanks while listening to what God wants you to know about what’s going on in your life?

Can we offer you and invitation to be part of a church family that lifts each other up, creates friendships and gives you access to the power of Jesus Christ found in the body of Christ at large?

Perhaps together we can grow in our understanding of God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit in our lives. And that is what it is all about – discovering God and meeting him in the person of Jesus Christ. Friends, sometimes that means rising above a few Pharisees you meet along the way.

I look forward to sharing worship with you.

Blessings,

Pastor Mike



This is an early reminder that you and your child can begin now to collect items that will fit in a shoebox. This month, as you're out shopping, pick up one or two items at a time and gradually fill up your shoebox. Gear gifts for each box to a boy or girl. Ages per shoebox are 2-4 years, 5-9 years or 10-14 years. This is the best time of year to pick up school supplies, as they are all on sale.

We will have OCC shoeboxes available in the board room, over by the coffee pot, and there will be new brochures on the Stone Street table very soon. If you use a regular shoebox, wrapping is not necessary; however, do put a label (found on the back of the OCC brochure) denoting boy or girl and age on the shoebox and put a strong rubber band around the box. If you wish to wrap the box in brightly colored paper, please wrap the top and bottom of the box separately and put the label on it denoting boy or girl and age with a rubber band around it. Don't include breakable items, liquid items, chocolate, perishable items or toy weapons, etc.

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Senior Adult Bible Study

**NEW CLASSES START
OCTOBER 4th 1:00 PM**

Respond with awe at the wonder of the Word of God and with hearts and lives transformed by Jesus' life and ministry!

We go at a leisurely pace with old and new friends who are eager to learn more about the Word of God and find our identity and purpose in Jesus Christ while sharing fellowship with one another.

**Janeth P. Whiting Community Center
at the
First Presbyterian Church of Oneida**

PURSE BINGO TO BENEFIT ONEIDA MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

Saturday, November 11th



VERONA FIRE DEPARTMENT
5555 Volunteer Ave.
Verona, NY 13478



SEE PASTOR MIKE FOR TICKETS
They will sell out fast

DOORS OPEN at 4:30pm
FIRST CALL at 6:00pm

TICKET INFO
\$25.00 PRE SALE ONLY

Ticket pack includes: 1 set of 10 bingo games, PLUS 1 set of special bonus games!



LONG TERM PRAYER CONCERNS

For the month of October 2023

Jude Alexander (Mancarella's great nephew)	Pete Johnson
Abby Bartell	Victor Johnson
Brody	Victor Johnson III
Richard Brown	Jean Kowalik
Pam Carrigan	Doug Lippert
Timothy Carver (Jen Bailey's Father)	Jason Maycock (Sandy Glynn's brother)
Meg Congden (Friend of Rachel Mancarella)	Michelle Newman
Elizabeth Coulby	Karen Nichols (Friend of Donna Ausman)
Fran Dowd (Jim Sweet's sister)	Michael O'Bryan (Mike's Brother in law)
Peggy Eastman	Mike Oot
John Ferguson	Tom Panasci
Robert Feldman (Melinda's Father)	Dan & Claudia Rayome
Jillian Felt	Megan Roberts (Young mother with cancer)
Andy Froass	Doug Rosekrans
Don Fuller (Stephanie Gwilt's Father)	Judy Sweet
Pat Grabow (Chrissy Thompson's Mom)	Jan Whiting
Becky Grasso	Milicent Vidal
Alison Hilgenberg (Phyllis Little's Daughter)	Nancy (Friend of Chrissy Thompson)
Wendy Holtz	Brittany (Friend of Chrissy Thompson)
Joyce Helms	
Millie Johnson	

Thank you for your prayers. If you know of anyone who is sick, in the hospital, or in need of our prayers, PLEASE call the Church Office, 363-7590.

SHORT TERM PRAYER CONCERN

Donna Ausman

Becky Nichols

If you have a prayer need, there are cards in the pews. Fill it out and hand it to an usher. If you know of anyone who is sick, in the hospital, or in need of our prayers, PLEASE call the Church Office, 363-7590. Please let us know also when they are healed and can be taken off the prayer list.

FOOD PANTRY

Our food pantry is always in need of several items. Most of these are usually a dollar or under. Please take into thought helping those that come to our emergency pantry stop. These items that always go quick are canned corn, canned beefaroni, tomato soup, chicken noodle soup, rice sides, pasta sides, most dried pastas, and canned fruit. You are by no means limited to these items. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Especially by those in need.



ELDERS

CLASS OF 2023

Paul Mancarella
Jan Whiting
Cathy Opperman
Sharon Warren
Becky Williams

CLASS OF 2024

Randy Bonville
Frank Kordziel
Lucille Merriman
Michael Merriman
Pat Thorpe

CLASS OF 2025

Kim DeRuby
Doug Lippert

FAMILY AND FRIENDS WHO ARE GRIEVING FOR:

SPECIAL CONCERNS:

The citizens of Ukraine

Pray for those who are serving overseas and our Police/Fire Safety personnel.

All victims and survivors of gun violence.

Victims of the Maui wildfires.

All teachers and students returning to school

DEACONS

CLASS OF 2025

Sue Kordziel
Rose Lockwood
Doug Lockwood
Kathy Nichols
Chrissy Thompson

CLASS OF 2024

John Merritt
Jennawade Skellham

MISSION EMPHASIS:

South Trenton Presbyterian Church, South Trenton

First Presbyterian Church, Springfield

Presbyterian Peace Fellowship of the PC(USA)

First Presbyterian Church, Utica

Three Voices: Cochran Memorial, Oneida Castle; Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church, Vernon; and First Presbyterian Church, Verona

CLASS OF 2025

PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS: Pray for those who are

stationed in non-combat zones: Stephen Cafalone, Jack Sharkey, Mark Sia, Nicholas Young, Philip Messina, Ryan Geer, John Goodwill, Errol Crossman, Corey Reed, Michael McMahon, Andrew Fargo, Jim Jennings, Michelle Ludwig, Peter Thompson, Dylan McClelland

Those currently serving in a combat zone:



THIS MONTH AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

1st-Communion

Team meetings

9 & 23rd-Women's Bible study @ the
Whiting Community Center

9-Office closed for Columbus Day

10th-Presbyterian Women

12th-Joint Session and Deacons
Meeting

4, 11, 18, 25th -Living Waters Youth
Group, Seniors Bible Study

15th Deacons Meeting

22nd-Harvest Brunch

24th Newsletter Deadline

31st Session Meeting



Birthdays

Oct. 9	Doug Lippert
Oct. 11	Traci Todd
Oct. 12	Mike Oot
Oct. 15	Bob Heller
Oct. 16	Jim Hotaling
Oct. 17	Don Kingsley
Oct. 21	Sarina Archer
Oct. 23	Amanda Burdick
Oct. 29	Skylar Archer
Oct. 30	Matthew Bonville
Oct. 31	Carmen Joslyn, Sara Vrooman

Anniversaries

Oct. 5	Kim and Jerry DeRuby
Oct. 12	Frank and Janet Sarensky

**If anyone is need of a pastoral visit or knows of a
congregation member who would like a visit, please let
Pastor Mike know. (315) 761-2721**

Scripture Readers for October

October 1st-Perry Tooker IV

October 8th-Pat Thorpe

October 15th-Ian Farwell

October 22nd-Frank Kordziel

October 29th-Barb Schwartz

Coffee Servers for October

October 1st-Andy Froass and Trish Vrooman

October 8th-Gail Nicolaisen & Fellowship

October 15th-Dave Schellhase & Sherry Russell

October 22nd-Sharon Warren & Nancy Rinehard

October 29th-Art & Sharon Pierce

HARVEST BRUNCH

Fellowship will be hosting a Harvest Brunch on Sunday October 22nd following service.

Menu:

French toast with bacon and sausage

Hot Turkey Sandwiches with Mashed potatoes and gravy

Assorted muffins

Applesauce

Gluten free options will be available.

We will need volunteers for serving, clean-up and set up.

If you would like to volunteer to help out in cleaning up or serving on the 22nd, please call the church office 315-363-7590



The Deacons will be sending care packages to college students from the congregation this year. They are asking for donations to add to these packages. If you would like to help the Deacons are looking for; Shoe boxes or shoe box size containers, trinkets, non

perishable snacks, cards, notepads, pencils, stuffed animals, pens, socks, gift cards, wall chargers, and whatever else you might think a college student of 2023 might need. Please put the items in the boardroom with a note marked "college care package". You can bring them in during office hours or before and after service on Sunday. We will be sending out the care packages the week of October 16th. The Deacons thank you in advance.



The Deacons have organized another volunteer event to help out our local military veterans. Clear Path for Veterans has given us the ok to come down and help out on Wednesday October 18th. You will need to block out 4 hours for this event (10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.). As this is a food service event all volunteers are required to wear closed toed shoes and a hat or hairnet. We can have up to 20 volunteers, so if you know of some teens that need some community service time for school this will be a good opportunity for them. If you would like to join our group please call the church office (315-363-7590) so we can have an accurate head count. You will also need to fill out a volunteer application that is on their website. Navigation is easy so don't worry about it if you are not tech savvy.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
304 Broad Street
Oneida, NY 13421

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER
NEWSLETTER IS OCTOBER 24TH**

