

# Presbyterian News



EDITION

August 2020



## THANK YOU!!!!!!!

We appreciate your kind words. Two activities and successful ideas from our previous churches which FPC still enjoys are Quiet Bags for children during services and the Secret Room. One positive aspect about moving is broadening our idea pool. Thank you for being open to shared ideas and people who carry them forward, like Cathy and Amanda Opperman with Quiet Bag refilling. A last shared idea was the Journey to Bethlehem which I pray will continue and improve each year in leading our community to Christ's birth at Christmas.

God bless and peace,

Ginny and Chuck



During this time of Covid, have you felt the need to serve others? Have you felt that you would like to do more, serve your God more? The Nominating Committee is looking for a few volunteers what are ready to put their time, talents to use serving God in our church. Please call Pat Thorpe (315-363-8948) or John Merritt at the church office.



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315-363-7590

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Website:  
[oneidafirstpres.org](http://oneidafirstpres.org)

### CHURCH STAFF

Temporary Supply Pastor  
Kevin Smith

Choir Director  
Stephanie Gwilt

Organist  
Brian Snyder

Church Secretary  
John Merritt

Treasurer  
Frank Kordziel

Financial Secretary  
Pat Thorpe

Clerk of Session  
Pat Thorpe

Custodian  
Jennawade Skellham



In 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 Paul states a plea for purity and explains how to have an orderly life. He states in verses 1 & 2 “Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God; for you know what commandments we gave you through the Lord Jesus.” Many times in Scripture Paul shows he was a man with faults. He said I do the things I don’t want to do and so forth and he said that I am the chief sinner. Many other Apostles and other religious leaders did not show this humility and transparency. Because Paul showed who he was as a person and was transparent, I believe when he used his Apostolic authority it carried much weight. In other words, in verse 2 he is stating that he was speaking by the authority of Christ which means, we need to listen. Listen to what? First, what the will of God is and secondly, how to be in the will of God. Have you ever asked what the will of God is? I would like to use Scripture to direct us and see what Paul and King David have to say about it.

First of all, we have to ask, can we live in the will of God? The will of God is to live, sanctified. Sanctified means to be set apart or declare holy. This is what Jesus prayed for His disciples in John 17:6-19. In verse 17, Jesus said, “Sanctify them by Your truth. For Your Word is truth.” So interpreting Scripture with Scripture, we see that 1 Thessalonians 5:3 is saying the will of God is knowing and living in the Word which is the truth. In verses 3-8 it then gives how to live sanctified. Paul is saying the will of God is being separate of the world. In verse 7 he explains sanctification even more. We are called to live in holiness. How do we do that? He says we do this by knowing His truth. Verse 8, Paul again states this is not him saying it but it is God. We as the body of Christ must know His truth. As John 17:17 says, “His Word is truth”. We need to be in His Word and know His Word.

We have to know that wanting to know His will and wanting to know His word starts in the mind. In verses 9-12 of 1 Thessalonians, Paul is telling the church of Thessalonica that it is important to keep working for the Gospel. Many in the church were waiting for the last days and stopped doing what they were called to do. The will of God is to be in the world but not of the world. The will of God is living in the truth and sharing that truth. The will of God will always involve salvation and sanctification. Again this is not by Paul’s authority but Gods. If the church is not sharing the Word to lead people to salvation and teaching the Word through discipleship that the church is not being the Church.

So, how do we know the will of God. In Psalm 37:3-6 David said Trust in the LORD, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass. He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, And your justice as the noonday.” In this, David shares a truth that scares us. What is it? Many might say that if I trust in God He will give me whatever I want. That is only half the truth. Remember that the will of God is that we know the truth. When we know the truth we will trust in the Lord and do good (vs. 3). When we trust in the Lord and do good, God implants into us His desires. What does that mean? Our desires become His desires. Our will becomes His will. Then God brings that will to pass (vs. 5-6). In other words, it is not our evil or selfish desires that He will bring to pass. As we seek the truth he plants in us His Word. As we understand His Word we understand His desires. As we know more about Him we want to please Him. As we seek to please Him he plants in us desires to do His will. As he plants those desires in us we desire to see them come to pass. As we desire to see them come to pass He will bring them to pass.

It starts with wanting to know the truth. As we seek the truth we will find it and we will want to be set apart “sanctified”. When we are set apart we will have joy. This is what Jesus was saying in John 15. As we abide in Him which means live in His Word, we will be set apart for His purpose and our joy will be full.

So many times when we are not in His Word our desire becomes things of this world. In a sense we like to tell Jesus to take the wheel. Jesus does not want to take the wheel; he sent the Spirit to be our helper. Our Father wants us to listen to His still small voice and to seek His word to know His will. He wants us to hold on to the wheel and willingly go where He is directing us, say what He tells us to say and do what He tells us to do. When our will is His will we will go where He goes and our joy will be full. Make it a point today to get in His Word and seek His will.



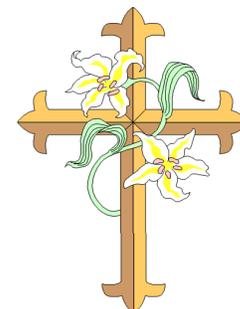
*From Pastor Kevin Smith*

A Musical memorial celebration of the life of Eloise Latino will be held on Saturday, August 22 at 11:00AM in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church. Eloise became a member of our church after moving here in 2000 to be near her daughter, Ginny Drake. She was a member of the church choir, the Fellowship committee and worked at Second Hand Rose. She passed away on October 10, 2019.

The Reverend Stuart Wattles will officiate the service; Melinda Phoenix-Heart will provide piano/organ accompaniment; Stephanie Gwilt will be a featured vocal soloist; Tim Crofton will be playing the bagpipes and there will be other music as well.

All COVID-19 safety guidelines for events in our church will be observed - Stone Street entrance only, mask-wearing until seated, hand sanitizer available, seating in alternate pews at 6 ft intervals. All are welcome to attend.

For additional information, please contact the church office (315-363-7590) or Ginny Drake(703-477-3209).



*From Pat*

**August is a time when we prepare for fall. Please pray for college students, professors, teachers and students that will start under uncertain times. Pray for then parents, grand parents and helpers as they adjust to changing times.**

**There is Christmas fabric in the board room for anyone to make face masks with. You can make them for the church, the festival for friends and family, or for whatever else you can come up with.**

**We have collected \$1,500 for the new front doors. The current timetable for installation is sometime in August.**

# First Presbyterian Church Oneida, NY

Main Entrance 1 thus 02-14-2020



Aluminum Doors in a Dark Acacia (DS733/1001) Woodtone Finish

*Carry On by Robin Smith*

*We have a work to do  
We must carry on  
As Part of God's Army  
We must carry on  
Get in rank, no excuse  
We must carry on  
Heart ache and pain  
No time to wallow  
We must carry on  
No fairness in sight and still  
We must carry on  
Carry on in the night  
Soon it will be light  
We must carry on  
We must carry on  
When the road is winding tight  
We must carry on  
Push on and press through  
Take delight in all we do  
We must carry on  
We must press through  
Do not grow weary  
You must take a stand for  
We must carry on  
Yes, we will carry on*



## LONG TERM PRAYER CONCERNS

*For the month of April 2020*

Alan Baur	Jean Kowalik
Bryce Bechtel (friend of Zach Thompson)	Sydney Lusher
Jeffrey Bortle (Sandy Glynn's son)	Maribeth Matthews
Eleanor Breckenridge (Sue Borchardt's mom)	Jason Maycock (Sandy Glynn's brother)
Bob Butler	Dave Meeker Sr.
Marty Canning	Marian Meyers
Richard and Pam Carrigan	Larry Moorehouse (Bill Butler)
Glade Cook Jr. (nephew of Warrens)	Tom Panasci
Thomas Crouch	Doug Rosekrans
Nancy DeMassa	Tammy Shephard
Mary Lou DeRuby	Rich Snyder (Jennifer Colvin's neighbor)
John Ferguson	Harold Thompson
Jillian Felt	Betty Thorpe (Jim's aunt)
Malisa Fuller	Grace Warren
Linda Gaut	Grant Whiting
TJ Gaut	Christopher Wuest
Becky Grasso	Bill and Dolores Young
Sherry Harrison	Jerry                      Karen
Jamie Hubbard	Michelle                Angelia
Wendy Holtz	Heather
Millie Johnson	Patrick                Vicky
Horace Keller	

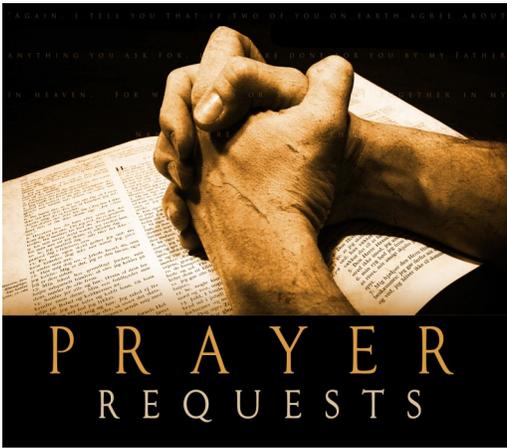
**Thank you for your prayers. If you know of anyone who is sick, in the hospital, or in need of our prayers, PLEASE call the Church Office, 363-7590 or Jan Whiting, Prayer Chain, 363-4392.**

## SHORT TERM PRAYER CONCERNS

Russ Eastman

Paul Mancarella

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 or Jan Whiting, Prayer Chain, 363-4392. Please let us



ELDERS

CLASS OF 2020

Frank Kordziel  
 Doug Lippert  
 Carol Miller  
 Dave Schellhase  
 Becky Williams  
 Randy Bonville  
 Carol Wells

CLASS OF 2021

Bill Butler  
 Lucille Merriman  
 Pat Thorpe

CLASS OF 2022

Blakelynn Fox

**SHORT TERM PRAYER CONCERNS:**

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS WHO ARE GRIEVING FOR:**

Carl Littebrant                      Artis DeVaul  
 Nancy J. Fuller

**SPECIAL CONCERNS:**

All first responders and health care providers who are on the front line during this global pandemic.

All non essential small business owners who have been bearing the brunt of the shut down.

The Pastor Nominating Committee: Bill Butler, Jenn Colvin, Kim DeRuby, Paul Mancarella, Lucille Merriman, Jan Whiting and Andy Williams

**MISSION EMPHASIS:**

College Chaplain Ministry: Hamilton College  
 Rev. Jeffery McArn  
 Westminster-Moriah-Olivet Presbyterian Church, Utica  
 Church of Christ Uniting, Richfield Springs  
 Personnel Workgroup of the Presbytery of Utica  
 The Synod of the Northeast

DEACONS

CLASS OF 2020

John Merritt  
 Deborah Owens  
 Jan Whiting

CLASS OF 2021

Jennawade Skellham

CLASS OF 2022

Mike Bartell  
 Rose Lockwood  
 Doug Lockwood  
 Elli Pfluke  
 Kathy Nichols

**PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS:** Pray for those who are stationed in non-combat zones: Mark Sia, Zane Mechalke, Peter Thompson, Howard Bantle, Nicholas Young, Philip Messina, Ryan Geer, John Goodwill, Jeff Carpenter, Errol Crossman, Corey Reed, Michael McMahon, Andrew Fargo, Jim Jennings, Nate Borchardt, Michelle Ludwig, Colin Whitcombe

Those currently serving in a combat zone: John Petzinger



I hope you are all safe from the Covid-19. Please stay home and if you need to go out wear your masks. There is concern about holding our annual festival this year. We have no idea if or when the quarantine will be lifted, we cannot shop for supplies for homemade items, will items sell, will people attend, since there is a problem with meat can we even purchase chicken for the luncheon, and will it be safe? The suggestion is to postpone the Festival until November 2021. If you have any objections to this course of action please contact me. Nancy Rinehard 315-368-7939 or [nrinehard@gmail.com](mailto:nrinehard@gmail.com). We hope to contribute whatever is needed to insure our community stays safe and has food and personal items available. More on that in the hopefully near future. Stay safe and may God bless you.

Nancy Rinehard

PW moderator





# 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10 a.m. Worship Communion	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 10 a.m. Worship	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 10 a.m. Worship	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30 10 a.m. Worship	24/31 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	25	26	27	28	29

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
304 Broad Street  
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER  
NEWSLETTER IS AUGUST 24TH**

