

Presbyterian News



EDITION

June 2020



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

e-mail: oneidafirstpres@oneidafirstpres.org

Website:
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



Many blessings out of these Covid-19 difficulties. We have all been learning to a new way of doing everything in a different and safe way from standing 6 feet apart in grocery store, to having our temperature taken before we enter a doctor's office (and calling outside before we go in) to even picking up a library book via a drive thru window. One thing has not changed God's love for us. Prayer has kept us connected with others and God. Divine order is in place. Our church has been worshipping via Facebook on our computers, cell phones or lap tops since March 21st. Pastor Kevin Smith and Ian Falwell have been working hard to facilitate a new way of doing church using the new technology. For many weeks Pastor Smith worshipped at his home. If you go to our website www.oneidafirstpres@oneidafirstpres.org and click the Facebook worship live to view the service at 10AM or any time.

June 14 (phase 2) we were allowed back in the sanctuary worshipping in a new and different way with masks upon entering and exiting plus social distancing 6' apart and hand sanitizer. The session approved the purchase of a video camera (pan/tilt/zoom) to be placed in the balcony to continue broadcasting the services to those who can't attend in person or live far away. June 28th Sunday we will be allowed to sing using the projection system (no hymnals). We will do communion by using a small plastic throw away container with a wafer and juice in it. This will be taken as we sit in the pews. (no distribution by communion plates). This August the Broad Street doors will be replaced with metal doors that will match the color and design of the original doors. We have collected over \$1,000 toward this project. Thank you for your donations. It will be nice to have doors with crash bars to exit (per fire requirements) and withstand the weather.

Our church is thankful for all the ladies (and gentleman) that stepped up to help make masks for the hospitals and others during this Covid 19. We appreciate your God given talent being used during this time.

Charles & Ginny Pendleton moved from Oneida to Buffalo during the virus lockdown. Our church was not able to honor them for all the years of dedicated hard work they have given to our church and community. Ginny was the back bone of the Christian Education committee teaching Sunday School and Jesus Street/Connection. Chuck served on the Finance Committee and helped with the Festival taking over attic treasures. They and their family were always willing to volunteer. Ginny was the one that started the luminaries on Broad Street sidewalk on Christmas Eve. As Bill Fariel would say 'Kudos to the Pendleton family'.

Our church is blessed to have so many willing helpers. We appreciate all the financial support while we were not physically in the church building.

During the lockdown the session and deacons have been meeting via Zoom computer meetings. If you have any questions, please call an elder or deacon.

In all the changes we are dealing with God's love has been surrounding all of us. The sky is bluer, the clouds so beautiful, the birds singing so cheerfully and our connections with family and friends during this time so much richer.

CHALLENGE FOR 2020 - BY KEVIN SMITH



We are in an election year. I know many of us do not even want to think about it currently. However, we are in a critical point in our nation. So where do you stand? I don't know about you but I have heard that question hundreds of times during the past several months. I have to admit, at first I was giving a scripted answer but then I really found myself questioning what I was saying. Not because I did not believe in what I was saying but because I was not looking at the picture through the eyes of God. We find ourselves today here in the summer of 2020. Today the sun came up (and is actually shining in Upstate New York) and tonight the sun will go down. The NIV states in Hosea 6:3, "Let us acknowledge the LORD; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear..." One thing we can be sure of tomorrow and the next day and the next is that, as the sun rises, God will appear. So what does that mean? How does that change my view?

Unlike the majority of the world Americans have the right to vote. This vote that we cast does not just affect us today but it will affect our tomorrows and the generations that come after us, if the Lord tarries. When we vote, we are not just voting for one individual, however, we are also voting for the people that individual will place into a position of authority. The next president will likely be able to nominate the next four Supreme Court justices. Think about that, we only have six justices all together. The next president will not only be able to have influence is shaping our today but will have influence is shaping our tomorrows by nominating people who will change the laws of the land or keep them and protect them. So, when we vote, ask God who He wants to use to shape a better tomorrow. Ask Him what candidate He can use to help bring America back to His values. After you ask, listen and allow His Holy Spirit to direct you. Even though you might not like everything about the candidate, allow His Spirit to direct you and do what He leads.

Saying that... The most important thing is to not stop praying. God can change the heart of people. He can speak to the mind and heart of individuals to allow His will to be done. Your responsibility as a Christian does not end at the booth, but that is just part of the process. Psalm 20:7 tells us, "Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the name of the LORD our God." No matter what the outcome is tomorrow, remember the name of the Lord. He is the all-powerful Creator. He is the good Father. He is the Great I Am. He is the Prince of Peace. He wants to be your LORD and the LORD of the earth. As you pray and ask God who to vote for, also pray that God will start shaping both individuals to be sensitive to Him. We can look at that verse in the book of Psalm as saying, "Some may trust in Donkey's (Democrats) and some may trust in Elephant's (Republicans); But we will Remember the name of the Lord." It is not going to be the end of your commitment tomorrow when you vote but it will lead right into your new responsibility. That responsibility as a Christian is to pray for those in authority. Paul told Timothy in 1 Timothy 2:1-2, "Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence."

So... Make a few commitments today. First, pray who to vote for. Second, vote for the candidate who God directs you to vote for. Third, pray for both candidates. Lastly, continue to pray for whoever is elected that God will plant His desires in their heart that they will submit to Him and lead this nation in His statutes. You might say, "That will never happen, neither candidate will follow God." I would then say, do you trust in chariots or horses or are you remembering the name of the Lord?



Birthdays

<i>July 2</i>	<i>Allan Little, Elli Pfluke</i>
<i>July 4</i>	<i>Don Dew, Myrtle Smith</i>
<i>July 6</i>	<i>Lou White</i>
<i>July 7</i>	<i>Dana Fariel, Jim Sweet, Dorothy Hornyak</i>
<i>July 10</i>	<i>Linda West, Eliana Mastriano</i>
<i>July 11</i>	<i>Sarah Dew, Gail Nicolaisen</i>
<i>July 12</i>	<i>Jan Whiting, George Hammerle</i>
<i>July 14</i>	<i>Nancy DeMassa</i>
<i>July 15</i>	<i>Beth Meyers</i>
<i>July 16</i>	<i>Judy Sweet</i>
<i>July 19</i>	<i>Jessica Coulter, Bob Williams, Mitch Dryer</i>
<i>July 21</i>	<i>Ernie Giraud</i>
<i>July 23</i>	<i>Stanley Bell</i>
<i>July 26</i>	<i>Alexander Tooker</i>
<i>July 27</i>	<i>Sierra Bloom</i>

Anniversaries

<i>July 12</i>	<i>Jim and Cathy Opperman</i>
<i>July 14</i>	<i>Ashley and Gary Reisman</i>
<i>July 17</i>	<i>Victor and Mildred Johnson</i>
<i>July 21</i>	<i>Amanda and Joe Burdick</i>



2020 Scholarship Award Winners!!!!!!

Jacob DeRuby - Univ of Buffalo

Rachel DeRuby - Liberty Univ.

Bryn Mancarella

Alex Tooker - SUNY Geneseo

Austin Williams - Le Moyne College



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.

2020 High School & College Graduates

Dr Peter Thompson - Tripler Medical Center Residency

Claire Mancarella - Summa Cum Laude SUNY Fredonia

Jordan Farwell - MVCC

Kelsey Milana - MVCC

Nathanael Smith

Zachary Thompson - MVCC

Clay West



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:

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:

The Learning Academy and Committee on Preparation for Ministry

The First Presbyterian Church Oneida

The General Assembly, PC(USA)

Waterbury Memorial Presbyterian Church, Oriskany

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. 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

Love So Amazing by Robin Smith

He was nailed to the cross for me
But first He left heaven; He left His Father
All for me and all for you
He lived a perfect life; never lived by any other
He was kind and loving to His brothers
He did not live alone and yet many a time He was all alone
'cept His Father and the Holy Spirit were with Him
Three in One
'cept His Father turned His face from Him in the most crucial hour
For though He sinned not, He carried all our sins upon Him
The Father could not look
I can almost feel the Father's pain, the anguish He must have felt
The heavy burden His Son bore all for us
Love So Amazing, so pure, so perfect

A day of worship for Teens

July 15th,

Three sessions, Breakouts for discussion,

Consecration

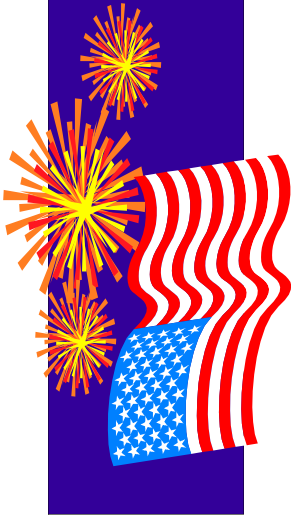
Passion

Intercession

Mission




More details will be posted on the First Presbyterian Church of Oneida Website in the upcoming weeks.



JULY

2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 
5 <i>10 a.m. Worship</i>	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 <i>10 a.m. Worship</i>	13	14	15 <i>A Day of Worship for Teens</i>	16	17	18
19 <i>Joint service with Cochran</i>	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 <i>10 a.m. Worship</i>	27	28	29	30	31	

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
304 Broad Street
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

