

Ilion Presbyterian News

June 2019

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All appearances to the contrary summer is upon us, the time when many of us slow down and take a break from the work and worry we face throughout the year. A time to rest and enjoy and re-energize. Vacations are a good thing but let me remind you that our faith never takes a vacation. We are always walking with God, no matter where or when. We are always seeking to know God better, to serve God better, and to find the answers to the mystery that is life.

On her deathbed Gertrude Stein is said to have asked, "What is the answer?" Then, after a long silence she asked, "What is the question?" It is human nature to long for answers, and many of us look to the bible to find them, and while that isn't a bad thing it may not be the best place to start. I say, don't start looking in the Bible for the answers it gives. Start by listening for the questions it asks.

We are all of us so involved with questions about things that matter a good deal today but will be forgotten by this time tomorrow—the immediate wheres and whens and hows that face us daily at home and at work these are question about the needs of the moment. At the same time we tend to lose track of the questions about things that matter forever, life-and-death questions about meaning, purpose, and value. When we lose track of these deep questions we risk losing track of who we really are in the depths of our being, and where we are really going on this journey of life.

Perhaps there is no stronger reason for reading the Bible than that somewhere among all of those thin paper pages there awaits for each one of us, whoever we are, that one question that is the central question and illuminates the rest of our lives. Here are a few of them:

- For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? (Matthew 16:26)
- Am I my brother's keeper? (Genesis 4:9)
- If God is for us, who can be against us? (Romans 8:31)
- What is truth? (John 18:38)
- How can anyone be born after having grown old? (John 3:4)
- What do people gain from all the toil at which they toil under the sun? (Ecclesiastes 1:3)
- Whither shall I go from thy Spirit? (Psalm 139:7)
- Who is my neighbor? (Luke 10:29)
- What shall I do to inherit eternal life? (Luke 10:25)

When you hear the question that is your question, then you have already begun to hear in a way that changes everything. Now, whether you can accept the Bible's answer or not, you have reached the point where at least you can begin to hear it.

With love and grace,  
Pastor Rick

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Thank you for your generous support for this special offering! As of May 22, 2019 we have received \$2,020.38 surpassing our goal this year of \$2,000.

Your gifts enable the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world.

Grace and peace,  
The Mission Interpretation & Stewardship Committee



sharing resources. changing lives.

## THANK YOU

The Parkinson Fundraiser held at our church on May 3 was a huge success. Everyone in attendance enjoyed the performances and we were very appreciative of all the support from the community. Our church family was right there front and center in helping to organize the activities and we would like to think we're all PIPS in one way or another, People investing in Parkinsonian Services was certainly in evidence during the evening. A lot of fun was had by all and special thanks to our many participants. You did great! It was a treat as well to see the Side Street Sisters back in action. We relived many memories. We're encouraged by our friends and that means so much to us. Yes, we are "Parkinsonians on the move." Over \$1,300 was raised. Thank you again.

Marge & Pat



**Tuesday June 4th from 10am to 4pm**  
**Is "Senior Fun Day" at Vanderkamp!**

Treat yourself to a day at kamp.....relive those fond kamp memories.....smell the fresh air, the pines, the wood smoke.....enjoy a s'more, laugh and sing silly kamp songs....Come on....you know you want to!

No...it's not too far to drive...it takes less than an hour to get here from Syracuse or Utica...and the scenic drive along the North Shore of Oneida Lake is lovely this time of year.

You can't relax and "get away from it all" if you don't actually get away from mit all! You deserve this! Senior Fun Day was designed with your enjoyment in mind!

Presentations, workshops, campfire with s'mores, closing worship service and more. \$20 per person all inclusive (program, snacks and lunch)!

Visit [www.vk.org](http://www.vk.org) for more information or just skip to the chase and contact our enthusiastic and esteemed organizer, Rita Hooper, at (315)706-3564 or email her at [twohoops2@gmail.com](mailto:twohoops2@gmail.com).

The last time this event was held was in the 1980's...that's 40 years ago...like how long it took to reach the promised land...you don't want to miss this! Who knows when it'll happen again?!

## Prayer List:

- **Men and women who protect us and our freedoms.**



- Cody Adams, Joe Bailey, Rosamond Bennati, John Burdick, Linda Cate, Alice Eldredge Crosier, the Devereese Family, Clifford Dibble, Beverly Doolen, David Flanagan, Sarah Getman, Marilyn Hext, Julie Hulser, infant Grayson, Dave & Jane Jacquays, Areej Kahn Family, Bill Lennox, Barbara Maley, Marty March, Joan Matteson, Pat & Marge Moylan, Patrick O'Connor, Leah Passalacqua, Steve Price, Bea Raux, Millie Ritter, Dale Rohrer, Sue Thomas, Susan Thuener, Angela Traglia, Lillian Usborn, Darlene Whalen, Ricky Wilson & mom, Gretchen

### **CHANCEL FLOWERS**

In this column we will list those who have ordered chancel flowers for the month coming up. This way, you can know what Sunday is available in case you would like to place flowers on our chancel in memory or honor of a loved one.

Our Session has voted to provide silk flowers for any Sunday that we don't have someone providing memorial flowers, rather than continue to buy them like we have been doing.

Two arrangements are \$30 & one is \$15. It is possible to just buy one & some folks share a Sunday so we'll be sure to have balance. :)

**June 2**—none for 2019

**June 9**—none for 2019

**June 16**—Father's Day

In loving memory of George B. Getman and Richard C. Eldredge by their families

**June 23** -In loving memory of Gloria and Deborah Long by the Richard Long Family

**June 30** - none for 2019

## Liturgical Ministers for May

### June 2 – Holy Communion

Reader: Jean Smith  
Greeter: Warren Lennox  
Ushers: Christine Lawrence  
Coffee Hour: Class Act  
Communion Set-up Betty  
Comm. Servers – Warren & Jean

### June 9

Reader: George Gullis  
Greeter: Julie Hulser  
Ushers: Jan & Lynne Orendorf  
Coffee Hour: Jan & Lynne

### June 16 – Father's Day

Reader: Joan Matteson  
Greeter: George Gullis  
Usher: Christine Lawrence/Denise Goodale  
Coffee Hour: The Choir

### June 23 – Children's Day

Reader:  
Greeter: Michael Orendorf  
Usher: Jan Orendorf/Betty Helmer  
Coffee Hour: Betty Helmer/Sandy Eldredge

### June 30 – Noisy Sunday

Reader: Steve Getman  
Greeter: Jean Smith  
Usher: Sandy Eldredge/Betty Helmer  
Coffee Hour: Sandy & Betty

### **Looking for work**

Dan Paddock our Sexton, is looking to do work this summer. He can mow and trim yards as well as other small jobs around the house. If you can use his services please call him at 315-360-7821. Pay is negotiable.

## HEAR YE ! HEAR YE !

Come all to lunch in our new dining room.

TUESDAY, JUNE ELEVENTH (6/11) AT NOON

The reason to celebrate is the tenth anniversary of the free lunch program offered by and at our church. The first lunch was served on Tuesday, April 21st, 2009. We've been going strong ever since.

The B B Q style lunch will consist of HOT DOGS, HAMBURGERS, ROLLS, SALADS, DRINKS AND ASSOCIATED CONDIMENTS AND VEGAN STYLE FOODS.

Please bring your appetite and enjoy the company of friends. For those who are on a limited time schedule, we will start at noon so you will be able to adjust your time accordingly.

Everybody is welcome! People with walkers, canes and wheel chairs please come see our new facility and celebrate with us. Our new platform lift will take you from the first floor to the dining room in the basement AND return you safely to the first floor. We also have a co-ed handicapped accessible bathroom at the dining area.

THE LUNCH BUNCH



## MEMORIAL SERVICE

On June 15, at 11 am, we will hold a Memorial Service for Melvin Darling who passed away on March 28, 2019.

There will be a reception in our newly restored dining room to celebrate Mel's life, immediately following the service. Please feel free to bring a dessert to share with everyone. Thank you for all your prayers and love for Mel, Janet and the family, for your support and for all you will continue to do as we move forward in love. How good it is to bear one another's burdens and so make them just a bit lighter.

## **ACE OF DIAMONDS MINE**

A visit to the Ace of Diamonds Mine in Middleville, which is owned & operated by Anita and Ted Smith and Anna Jane Smith, is being planned for June 19 at 1:00 pm. A special rate of \$5.00 per person will be charged and tools can be signed out and used free of charge. Ted will be there to talk to the group about the Diamond Mines.

Please sign up with Diane Lamphear if you are interested in a visit to the Ace of Diamonds. We can set up a carpool as the day gets closer.

The First Presbyterian Church  
90 Morgan Street  
Ilion, New York 13357-2260  
Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization  
Permit #80-US Postage Paid  
Ilion, NY 13357

## **CANCER RELAY FOR LIFE**

Cancer Relay for Life honoring Survivors and Caregivers will be on Saturday, June 15th 11 am to 11 pm in Little Falls Eastern Park. Opening Ceremony at 11 am, Survivor/Caregiver Lap at 3 pm and Luminary Ceremony at 9 pm.

A poster will be up at the church about all the activities for all ages for your information.

There will be tents and booths with raffles and information about cancer and the help the organization provides.

I will have forms after church on Sundays before June 15th for anyone who would like to purchase a luminary In Honor or In Memory of someone. Anyone who would like to make a donation to this cause would be GRATEFULLY appreciated.

Thank you.

Jean Sullivan  
Team Adirondack Bank