

Ilion Presbyterian News

March 2020

Pastor Rick Riggle

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“What’s in a name, a rose by any other name would smell as sweet.” That is what Shakespeare says, and though it doesn’t happen often I have to say I think he is wrong. Names are powerful and self-defining. My first name is Richard, it means brave and strong of heart. I hope I am those things. When we look at the names of scripture we begin to see that names are more than just something to call one another. Abraham means father of many, Isaac means, he will laugh, and who wouldn’t laugh at a 92 year old sara having a baby. Jacob means supplanter and Esau means hairy. Even God seems to play this name game. Adam and Eve literally translate to man and woman.

So names are a part of who we are, our parents dreams for us and an identity to strive for. Names mean everything. My name, your name, they are all important. There is power in our names. Consider this.

My last name is Riggle. It is pronounced Ri-gull. If somebody mispronounces it in some foolish way, I have the feeling that what's foolish is me. If somebody forgets it, I feel that it's I who am forgotten. There's something about it that embarrasses me in just the same way that there's something about me that embarrasses me. I can't imagine myself with any other name—Held, say, or Merrill, or Armstrong. If my name were different, I would be different. When I tell you my name, I have given you a hold over me that you didn't have before. If you call it out, I stop, look, and listen whether I want to or not.

In the book of Exodus, God tells Moses that his name is Yahweh, and God hasn't had a peaceful moment since.

In service to that same God,  
Pastor Rick

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It has been my practice over the last couple of years to send thank you notes to those who have pledged for the coming year. For a number of reasons that didn’t happen, and I apologize for my oversight. Please rest assured that your gifts of time, talent and treasure are appreciated beyond my ability to express. As you give to God you also entrust the session and myself to use your gifts wisely and faithfully as we seek to serve God in this community. You are such a generous people and that generosity both inspires me and empowers me to keep the faith and to move forward trusting in God and in you to always be there as we go.

Thank you all so much,

Pastor Rick

Nancy Green has left us & moved South to be near her son, Griff, and his family.

Here is her new address!

2222 Colts Neck Rd. Apt. 2340, Reston VA 20191
Nancy, we wish you well! Enjoy those grandchildren!

150th Anniversary Celebration of our Church

Next year, in May, we'll have another big party!!

Turns out it's Memorial Day weekend: May 28, 29 & 30, 2021

We are soliciting HELP!!!!

We will be starting to plan it soon, so be thinking how you can be a part of it!

Who to invite.....what to eat....color scheme....entertainment?...

As you are "purging" for rummage sales, keep a lookout for pictures...any left after we gave David his send-off in 1998, or even earlier. Memorabilia too!

All that good stuff. Either speak to Lesa or to Rick to get on the list. Thank you!

WORKSHOP ON IMPLICIT BIAS

Presented by Office of the General Assembly Colleagues Jihyun Oh, Director of Mid-Council Ministries and Molly Casteel, Manager of Equity and Representation

Friday, March 13, 2020 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at First Presbyterian Church of Oneida.

This is a workshop intended for committee chairs, session nominating committees, pastor nominating committees and all who are interested in understanding how cultural bias affects our work as the Church.

F-1.0403 states our commitment as a denomination to "guarantee full participation and representation in its worship, governance, and emerging life to all persons or groups within its membership" at all levels of our life together. This sort of kin-dom where all can fully participate and be represented is foundational to the way we witness to God's sovereign activity in the world and become communities of faith, hope, love, and witness in order to be and become who God continues to call us to be as church, especially as it increases in diversity, examining our biases, growing in cultural proficiency, and enacting equity practices are crucial.

In this 1-day training, we will first learn and discuss concepts to help build frameworks and mental maps that enable us to engage in equity and cultural proficiency work, then we will apply key learnings to our own contexts. Finally, we will reflect on how both the concepts and the application might help to build Christ's kin-dom in our communities.

Registration deadline is Wednesday, March 11. Please email info@presbyteryofutica.org or call 315-735-6311 to register.

Men & Boys of the church are invited to an Ecumenical Worship with Communion

followed by Breakfast at the

Mohawk Reformed Church

Saturday, March 14, 2020

Guest Speaker – Mark Bolos

Reservations at 315-866-4292 or mroffice@verizon.net

Prayer List:



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

- Cody Adams, Joy Bagwell, Marty Bigelow, Kiersten Barnes/Richard Davis, Linda Cate, Alice Eldredge Crosier, Travis Darling, the Devereese Family, Clifford Dibble, Allan Dickinson, Beverly Doolen, Art DuBois, George Dunbar, Ralph Dupres, Lenore Ebersole, Jenn Eldredge, Phyllis Fasolo, David Flanagan, Sarah Getman, Fran Harrod, Marilyn Hext, Loren Hughes, Julie Hulsler, infant Grayson, Dave & Jane Jacquays, Dr. Aimee, Don Lamphear, Amanda Lawrence, Sharon Lennox, Barbara Maley, Marty March, Joan Matteson, Pat & Marge Moylan, Patrick O'Connor, Leah Passalacqua, Steve Price, Rebecca, Millie Ritter, Henry Rocker, Dale Rohrer, Barb Ropeter, Lorie Schrader, Jane & Bob Smithson, Angela Traglia, Kirsi Viskari, 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 or one is \$15. It is possible to just buy one & some folks share a Sunday so we'll be sure to have balance. :)

The first Sunday in March is open

Second Sunday is open

Third Sunday is by Sue Thomas & Sandy Eldredge

Fourth Sunday is open

Fifth Sunday is open

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Christian Sympathy is extended to Dick Long and his family. Dick's Son, Richard, passed away on Wed., Feb. 12, 2020. Services will be held at a later date.

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Liturgical Ministers for March

March 1

- Reader: Joan Matteson
- Greeter: Don Lamphear
- Ushers: Jennifer Eldredge & Denise Goodale
- Coffee Hour: Class Act

March 8

- Reader: George Gullis
- Greeter :Lynn Backus
- Ushers: Jenn & Sandy Eldredge
- Coffee Hour: Jenn Eldredge

March 15

- Reader:
- Greeter: Warren Lennox
- Usher: Jean Smith & Jenn Eldredge
- Coffee Hour: The Choir

March 22

- Reader: Lesa Decker
- Greeter: Lynn Backus
- Usher: Kim Bigelow & Denise Goodale
- Coffee Hour: Sandy Eldredge

March 29

- Reader: Steve Getman
- Greeter: George Gullis
- Usher: Kim Bigelow & Sandy Eldredge
- Coffee Hour: Kim Bigelow

Chris, Kaycie & Camryn Maley have moved back to the East Coast! Here is their new address:

1808 Light St., Baltimore MD 21230

Elders & Deacons installed on Feb. 16, 2020

Elders

- Donald Lamphear 3 yrs
- Warren Lennox 3 yrs
- George Gullis 1 yr.

Deacons

- Jennifer Eldredge 3 yrs.
- L. Jean Smith 3 yrs

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

Easter Flowers



We are looking for a supplier for our altar flowers this year. If you know a place we can get them, please let us know. We will be talking about this in church on Sunday.

Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner



**Saturday, March 14, 2020
3 pm 'til sold out**

**Take-outs available
\$12.**

Ilion Masonic Temple
118 Morgan St., Ilion NY



**Ham will be available for those not liking
corned beef.**

Public Welcome

Sponsored by Evening Star Valley Chapter, OES