

Ilion Presbyterian News

June 2020

Pastor Rick Riggle

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A British film that came out shortly after World War II has a scene in it showing a couple of air-raid wardens sitting out on the roof of a building in London during the blitz. It is night and enemy planes are overhead. Bombs are falling and much of the city is in flames. There are the sounds of anti-aircraft guns and sirens. Then, during a lull, one of the men turns to the other and recites a speech of Caliban's out of *The Tempest*:

*Be not afeard: this isle is full of noises,  
Sounds and sweet airs, that give delight and hurt not:  
Sometimes a thousand twangling instruments  
Will hum about mine ears, and sometimes voices,  
That, if I then had wak'd after long sleep,  
Will make me sleep again: and then, in dreaming,  
The clouds methought would open and show riches  
Ready to drop upon me; that, when I wak'd,  
I cried to dream again.*  
[3.2.144-55]

At the close of his life, after he has written the great tragedies, Shakespeare turned to something much closer to true fairy tales. He wrote *Cymbeline*, where innocence is vindicated and old enemies reconciled, and *The Winter's Tale*, where the dead queen turns out not to be dead at all, the lost child, Perdita, is restored to those who love her. And he wrote *The Tempest* itself, where the same great storm of the world that drowned a group of Franciscan nuns aboard a ship called the *Deutschland*, and lashed King Lear to madness, and stung Job in his despair, is stilled by Prospero's magic; and justice is done, and lovers reunited, and the kingdom restored to its rightful king so that in a way it is the beautiful dream of Caliban that turns out to be real and the storm of the world with all its cloud-capped towers and gorgeous palaces and solemn temples that turns out to be the insubstantial pageant that fades into thin air and leaves nothing behind.

Doesn't that sound like the Kingdom of God, where all that is bad and destructive gets left behind in the glorious truth of God? We so often get caught up in the brokenness of the world we forget that in the end it will be hollow and empty and the Kingdom will be just what we dreamed life could be.

Peace,  
Pastor Rick

Dear friends,

I am sure that by now most of you have heard that the governor has issued an approval for churches to begin holding meetings again, There are a large amount of guidelines that must be followed such as masking and hand sanitizer and social distancing. Also he has limited these meetings to no more than 10 people, so there are some logistical problems with that as well.

We are glad that the people in power are beginning to see a way out of this and take hope that steps are moving forward. Let me assure you that your session and I have been talking about this for a while now, and it is our opinion that it is too soon for us to begin meeting for worship until we have made the building and all our procedures as safe as possible. As much as we all miss one another none of us wants to risk anyone's health by returning too soon.

With that in mind we are formulating procedures for using the building, cleaning before and after, wearing masks, etc. We will begin to discuss smaller groups returning on a case by case basis once those procedures are in place.

It is my hope, that we can begin to meet soon and I am sure most of you would say the same thing. I assure you that as soon as we are sure it is safe we will gather for worship. Until then we will continue to meet on the Facebook.

Missing each and every one of you.

Pastor Rick

We have received a shipment of daily devotional books for all who wishes to have one. If you'd like one, give Lesa a call & she will make arrangements to put one outside, meet you at your car or mail you one. We'll make it work somehow. 315-269-6295.

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HEY! HEY! HEY!

CURRENT EVENTS

Look for a new bulletin board on our lawn some time this summer. We are researching a multi color LED sign for messaging members and community. This sign will be programmable from computer, laptop and hand held devices. No more trudging through snow for Lesa and Rick to change messages! Any number of events can be displayed 24/7 if necessary.

Estimates and installation procedures are being put together at this time.

More info to follow as we progress.

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, Brianna Nicole, Travis Darling, the Devereese Family, Clifford Dibble, Allan Dickinson, Beverly Doolen, Shirley Dostal, (Rick's sister), Art DuBois, George Dunbar, Ralph Dupres, Lenore Ebersole, Jenn Eldredge, Phyllis Fasolo, David Flanagan, Sarah Getman, Fran Harrod, Marilyn Hext, Loren Hughes, Julie Hulser & Julie's granddaughter, Jocelyn, infant Grayson, Dave & Jane Jacquays, Dr. Aimee, Don Lamphear, Amanda Lawrence, Bill & Barb Lennox, Sharon Lennox, Barbara Maley, Marty March, Amanda Marro, Joan Matteson, Laureen Mitchell, Pat & Marge Moylan, Patrick O'Connor, 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

Special prayers of care go out to Bill & Barb Lennox who suffered a fire at their home. Everything inside is a total loss. They do have a place to stay & insurance is helping out.

Christian Sympathy is extended to Gwen Conroy on the passing of her long time fiancé', Bill Gahan on April 30, 2020.

Congratulations to Karen Sullivan Jones & Steve Yager who were married on Amelia Beach FL on May 22, 2020. Steve was a youth here in our church with Jeff & Matt Clive, then left to build his life. We are so happy for them to have connected! They will be living in Maine. Karen has 2 new addresses: 101 Forge Hill Estates, Ilion & 368A Main St., Gorham ME 04038-1314.



Congratulations to Kate & Richard Sterling, & big sister Abby on the birth of Jacob William Sterling on Thursday, May 28, 2020. He weighed 7 lbs 1.4 oz, was 19" long & was born at 8:13am at St Luke's Hospital. Kate & Richard live at 1430 Barringer Rd., Ilion

We have received a new address for Barbara Elmer: 69 Carl Rd. #Left, Grand Island NY 14072-2229



Laureen Mitchell is at Sitrin Health Care Center, Room #43, 2050 Tilden Ave., New Hartford, NY 13413 following a slight stroke. She sounds wonderful & says her room is beautiful & has a great view outside like she's in the country.

You may have noticed that this past Sunday was the 5th Sunday of May. The Board of Deacons respectfully requests that you save your usual "Noisy Sunday loose coin offering" for when we finally get back together.

The First Presbyterian Church
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Address Service Requested

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