Ilion Presbyterian News

June 2022

Pastor Rick Riggle

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Summer in central New York is a time when we are inclined to change our pace. We cherish the break from the cold and snow, knowing that it will be back before we know it. If you are like me you take advantage of the summer to grow a garden, and spend time outdoors. Some churches even suspend Sunday School or cut back to just one service. I am not judging any of this I am just saying that is how it is in this area and has been for a long time.

I was reading an article the other day about taking advantage of the summer to try something different and new. As I thought about this I wondered if there might be new ways for us to think about connecting with God, and our neighbors. The two things Jesus said we ought to be thinking about all the time. Of course connecting with God is always a good idea, and the more we do this the more we grow, and I am convinced connecting with our neighbors is a pretty good idea as well.

You might be thinking of ways to make this happen already, but here are a couple of ideas to think about. Use the early morning sunrise as a chance to pray and study the bible. If you do it all summer it may become a habit you don't want to give up. Another possibility is to move your grill out to the front of the house and invite people in the neighborhood to join you, (like the old block parties)

That is just two ideas and the possibilities go on and on. The point is to open up our hearts to God and those around us, which in turn changes us in ways we can't predict. Summer is a time for growing. Gardens, faith, spirits, and friendships. Go out and be the people of God.

Pastor Rick

CHANCEL FLOWERS

We are getting our flowers from Designs by Shelly in Little Falls, as her price was the best at \$15 per vase.

We have the 1st Sunday of June available at this printing. I will let you know each month at a time what we have scheduled, but you may schedule ahead! Just call the church during my afternoons so I have the schedule in front of me,



Our 150 Anniversary Celebration



How can I ever thank you ALL for the emotional, marvelous, wonderful, stupendous weekend we just experienced?

I'm not going to try to name everyone who pitched in to help, because I didn't even see you all. You worked quietly & right under our noses to get the dining room & kitchen all cleaned up (more than once!) but must thank the individual chair people, as they did the organizing & coordinating work.

- To Sue Thomas, my co-chair who kept me in line, got our photographer & found the napkins & tablecloths
- To Susan Backus for finding us the delicious meal & its caterer & coordinating the food
- To Janet Darling for creating all the silk centerpieces & ordering/picking up the head table pieces as well as donating the Chancel flowers for Sunday
- To Don & Diane Lamphear who created & coordinated the history room (in absentia) - oh, how we missed them!!
- To Susan Bartholomew who agreed with some of my choices for music & for bringing a few of her Remsen chorus members to supplement our little choir – what a nice addition they were!
- To Joan Matteson who coordinated the brunch offerings & got all the greeters for the two days of open house
- To George Gullis without whom we would not have had places to sit & eat, hauling tables & chairs all over the place & who coordinated the church cleanup on the 21st
- To Judy Nudo who kept us spic & span the whole time
- To Lynn Backus who is our all time greeter & who helped haul tables & chairs
- To Steve Getman & Sandy Eldredge for greeting folks at the sanctuary doors & made sure all the 60! people who came to worship had a bulletin (until we ran out);

To Bob Reals for being our dishwasher extraordinaire. There is no possible way for me to remember or even know all of you who helped move things, helped serve the food, cleaned up the kitchen, tore down the dining room & all the little things to go with the food.

To Larry Beasley for being our Master of Ceremonies & for sharing his musical talents who, along with Rick provided our Saturday night entertainment.

And last but not least, Pastor Rick who gave us pretty much cart blanche to do what we pleased. He indulged me many choices I know he wasn't happy about. I am so proud of him & the way he studied our history & researched for his history lesson. Also for his designing our new banner! Its picture is on the outside page of this newsletter.

Another kind of thank you goes to Carol Okusko who donated the quilt hanger & to Linda Thomas Crossman who ordered & donated the green & yellow napkins that we couldn't find in our local stores. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU ALL!!

June Worship Responsibilities

June 5	Reader— Joan Matteson	June 19	Reader— Susan Backus
Pentecost	Greeter— Lynn Backus	Father's Day	Greeter— Lynn Backus
	Ushers—		Ushers—
	Fellowship— Class Act		Fellowship Hour—Choir
	Communion Setup—		
	Communion servers— Susan Backus		
June 12	Reader— Steve Getman	June 26	Reader—
Trinity Sunday	v Greeter – Lynn Backus		Greeter— Lynn Backus
	Ushers—		Ushers—

Fellowship- Deacons

Fellowship-

Prayer List:

Men and women who protect us and our freedoms

Tom Backus (Lynn's son) Brianna Nicole (Christine's daughter) Allan Dickinson Barry Doolen Linda Emrich Flandera (Don Unsinn's sister-in-law) Betty Foor Mike Galvin (Janet's cousin) Loren Hughes Bill & Julie Hulser & granddaughters, Josline & Paislee Bob & Jeanne Jones Dr. Aimee (Lesa's friend) Anna LaBella Linda Laurin Barbara Maley Joe Maneen John & Linda Manser (Denise G) Christine Lawrence Joan Matteson Rebecca Mento Laureen Mitchell Marty March Mike Marro Arthur & Judith Pearson (Kim Bigelow's Folks) Cathy Price Patricia Ruller Mia Sherman (Judy Nudo) Marian Skinner (Donna Pritchard's mother) Jane Smithson (Lynne O's mother) Jean Sullivan Sue Thomas Laurie Voultsios



FREE DINNERS

- Hamburgers, hot dogs & fixings, June 9 macaroni salad, dessert & drinks
- June 23 Outside, weather permitting



The Blessing of the Bikers & their Bikes is always a fun time. Rev. Victor McKusick joined us this year as part of our celebration. He gave a scripture reading & reminisced about the beginning of the Blessing during his time as our pastor. Everyone was glad to see him.

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-<u>OGHS</u>

A hearty thank you to all who gave toward this worthwhile initiative; we collected \$1,308.02 from our loyal members and congregation. I am sure this money will be put to good use helping those who desperately need it.

Red Cross Blood Drive

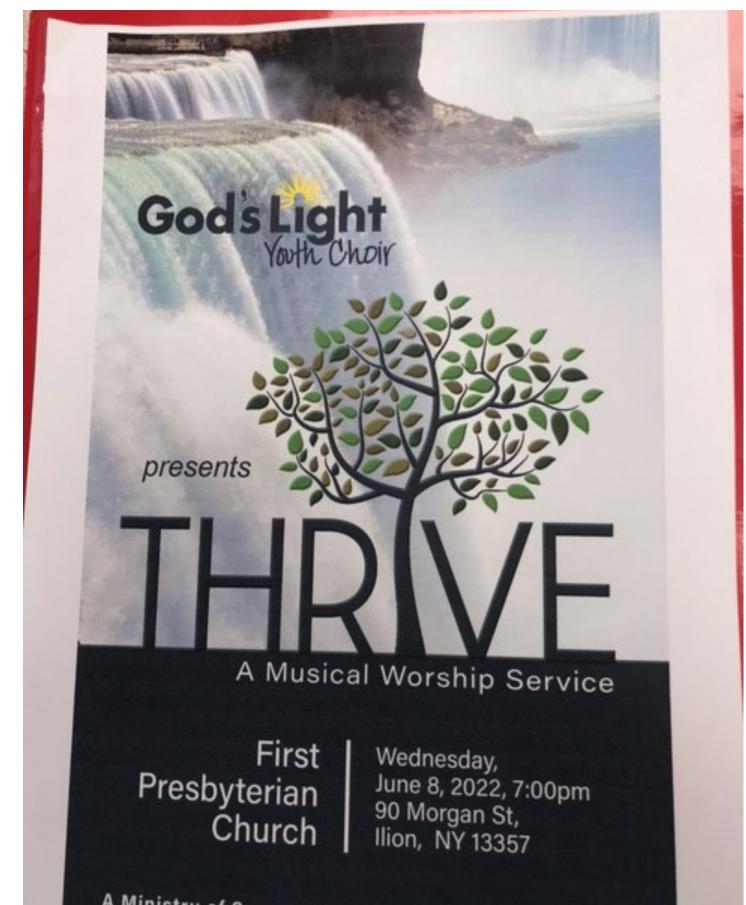
Our next blood drive here at 1st Presbyterian will be held Wednesday, July 20th from 1:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The need for donated blood never goes away; it is now a fact of life. Please be sure to mark your calendars and sign up online at their website <u>www.redcrossblood.org</u>.

Pizza Party at Fischer Elementary

June 8th is the date for the 2nd of 3 pizza parties to be held at Fischer Elementary in Mohawk. MIS and the church will be supplying 26 cheese pizzas to the kindergarten classes. (I believe there are 8 of them!!) It's a fun day and I know the teachers and children enjoy it as much as we do.

Brooks for Books

Once again I want you to mark your calendars for Saturday, August 20th. This year we will be raising money for books in the classrooms as well as the school library. One idea is to have books in the classrooms the children can take home. Hopefully this will encourage the parents to read to the children. We will be having a "monster" of a bake sale and some home made things to be raffled off. Unfortunately there will be no ribs for sale this year; just the yummy chickens.



A Ministry of Smynra First United Methodist Church

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