

# PRC CONNECTIONS

## PULTNEYVILLE REFORMED CHURCH

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**Rev. Dr. Eric Titus**



**March 2023  
VOLUME XLI  
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Pultneyville Reformed Church  
P.O. Box 94  
Pultneyville, NY 14538

## ***Tea At Two***

Beginning Sunday, February 26th and continuing through March 19th, Nancy and I will again be hosting *Tea at Two* in the parsonage parlor. This gives us time to have some personal time together to share, laugh, cry, pray and simply have fellowship. Even though the name has tea, which was chosen for alliteration, doesn't mean you can't have coffee, soda, or even a glass of wine if you wish. We can also offer either caffeinated or decaffeinated drinks. Couples, families (yes, bring your children we'd love to see them!), or come with a friend or two. Sign up in Trinity Hall, call the church office, or drop an email and we'll get you on the list. If you missed your slot in the Fall, well, try, try again.



## ***Lenten House Blessings***

This practice may be unfamiliar to many of you. It is a practice in many churches (especially Catholic, Orthodox, and Anglican) for the minister to go around to houses during the Lenten season to bless houses and/or businesses of parishioners. We do this in recognition that God came to dwell with us and to be a blessing in our lives. The places where we dwell are a big part of our lives.

My visit to your house can be as brief as you would like, and I'm not there to take a tour of your home to discover your secrets. I'm simply there to pray for you, your family, and your place of dwelling (or if you prefer business). I usually will anoint the entryway of your home, and you as well. I do this using an anointing brush that I made (a practice among the Orthodox), along with anointing oil which has been deeply prayed over and had the four Gospels read during the three day preparation cycle. The anointing oil comes from the most ancient formula's I could find, again from Orthodox tradition, and did my best to reconstruct. I will be testing for Covid prior to the visits and will also wear a mask at your request. Who knows what this virus will bring?!

The visits will begin Saturdays, February 25<sup>th</sup>, and continue through March 11<sup>th</sup>, and will be offered at 9am and 10:00, 12:00. Sign up in Trinity Hall, email or call the church office.

## ***Burning of the Palms***

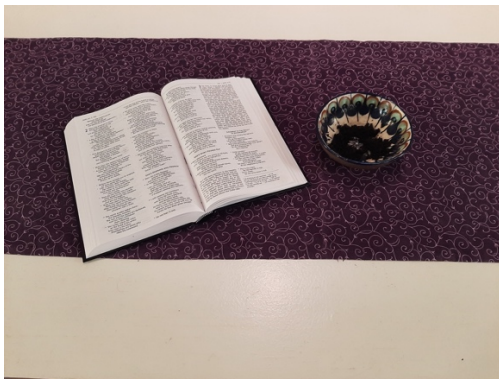
### **Prayer of Consecration**

Merciful God, you called us from the dust of the earth, and claimed us for Christ in the waters of Baptism. Look upon us as we prepare for the 40 days of Lent by burning these palms to create the ashes that will mark us as penitents. Bless our journey through the desert of Lent to the waters of new birth at Easter. May our fasting be a hunger for justice; our alms, a way of making peace; our prayer, the song of humble and thankful hearts. All that we do and pray is in the name of Jesus, for in his cross you proclaim your love for ever and ever. Amen.



## ***Imposition of Ashes***

**Prayer:** I ask that you bless the ashes I use today. As the palms heard the hosannas on Palm Sunday and then heard the silence on Good Friday, I hear the echoes of those events today. As I mark myself with the ashes of hopes and dreams, may I also be marked with the ashes of your love. Remind me that though I return to the dust, you are never far from me. Let me release what needs releasing and truly offer it to you as my fast of repentance. Amen.





## Caring Hands

### March Meeting Dates

|                                  |            |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Saturday, March 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 9:00 a.m.  |
| Thursday, March 9 <sup>th</sup>  | 12:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, March 18 <sup>th</sup> | 9:00 a.m.  |
| Thursday, March 23 <sup>rd</sup> | 12:00 p.m. |



### *Chili Cook-Off and Game Playing*

***Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>***

Do you think your chili is good? Well prove it!! Join us on Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> for a cook-off. Following worship join Pastor Eric for adult education and then gather downstairs for tasting and voting. If you do not attend adult education then gather downstairs after worship for games while we wait for the class to join us. Following tastings and voting we will continue with games and fellowship. Sign up on the sheet in Trinity Hall if you plan on bringing your award winning chili.



### *30 Days Prayer for the Muslim World*

## Prayer to open eyes, hearts to the needs of Muslims

By Nancy Titus, Missions Chair

A prayer project that has undergirded a massive movement to Christ over the last 30 years is again being offered to our congregation in the *30 Days Prayer for the Muslim World*.

The project coincides intentionally but respectfully with Ramadan, the important month of fasting when Muslims themselves seek God. It began in 1993 in the Middle East when some Christians got together and decided to actually *pray* for their Muslim neighbors. Since then, millions of Christians have joined in the prayer effort, learning more about followers of Islam and opening their heart to see them as God sees them.

Since the project began, more Muslims have come to Christ than in the 14 centuries before. And breakthroughs are happening all over, in closed countries and open ones as the message of the gospel is penetrating darkness.

In addition to booklets with daily information to help us learn about the many different peoples who call themselves Muslim — they are not all Arabs! — we will be prompted to pray for specific areas and needs.

The month culminates in the Night of Power, to be observed generally on April 17. This is a time when many followers of Islam are particularly focused on asking God to speak to them.

To prepare our hearts for that important night, the Missions Committee is planning a special event set for **Sunday, April 16**. Watch for details on the Missions bulletin board, in the weekly bulletin, and here.

While you are at the Missions bulletin board, check out the article on **Danijel and Marijana Vuga**. Danijel is a former student of Pastor Eric and mine at the seminary where we served for six years. His wife, Marijana, was a special guest of ours at the Oasis women's retreat. Diana Lagoner, who got to know Marijana as her small group leader, spoke at our Harvest Dinner of how Marijana was blessed by the retreat.

The couple was included in a *Balkan Insight* article entitled "Heroes of 2022: People Who Made a Difference." *Balkan Insight* is flagship English-language website with daily news, analysis, and investigative reporting on key issues in a 10-country region of the Balkans.

The article cites data from the Croatian Network for the Homeless that there are 2,000 people in Zagreb that sleep on the streets with nothing and 10,000 more who have some kind of shelter or shanty but no real income.

The Vugas were cited for providing services to the homeless that until recently was not available elsewhere, such as a place to get a shower or wash clothes in addition to help getting health insurance or a job.

PRC sent \$2,600 to help in their work: \$1500 from funds left over from the Croatia Mission trip and year-end giving and another \$1,100 raised by the congregation in the January communion offering.

The church also sent \$1,500 to Marijana Čizmanski, another former student who was our guest at the Oasis conference. She runs a Community Health Evangelism ministry to Roma called Zdrava Zajednica or ZZ Serbia. The funds came from left over Croatia trip funds and year end giving. Marijana's ministry is set to be our communion offering in July.

## ***Communion***

### **Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>**

The Communion Offering is designated to the Williamson Come-Unity Center. The Williamson Come-Unity Center has been serving Wayne County, NY residents since 1949. They are a food pantry, lunch kitchen, and a thrift shop.

### **Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>**

The Missions Committee will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Come-Unity Center. Baskets are available in Trinity Hall and Shalom Lounge for your donations.

## ***Our Missionaries***

|                                     |                        |                |  |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|--|
| <b>Nathan &amp; Nozomi Brownell</b> | Kenneth, Raymond, Luke | <b>Japan</b>   | <a href="http://www.rca.org/brownell">www.rca.org/brownell</a> |
| <b>Felipe &amp; Janelle Silva</b>   | Luca, Sofia, Mila      | <b>Romania</b> | <a href="http://www.rca.org/silva">www.rca.org/silva</a>       |

### ***March Greeters***

March 5 Karen Manahan  
March 12 Bill Wayman  
March 19 Lorie Abbott  
March 26 Karen Fox

### ***March Ushers***

Tim and Cyndi Cappon  
Tom and Alison DeMarree  
Gary and Linda Dubois  
Mark and Lois Fiegl

## ***PRC Financial Report***

**1/1/23 – 1/31/23**

|                     | Starting Balance | Income    | Expenses  | Balance   |
|---------------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Operating Fund      | 0                | 13,565.62 | 16,867.88 | -3,302.26 |
| Benevolent Fund     | 0                | 2,636.50  | 1,195.00  | 1,441.50  |
| Capital Improvement | 7,862.65         | 1,475.04  | 0         | 9,337.69  |

# Our Homebound Church Family

Don DeMarree  
900 Cherry Ridge Blvd.  
The Glen – Apt. 118  
Webster, NY 14580  
**Birthday: April 17<sup>th</sup>**

Louise Hermet  
Victor Views  
1440 Rt. 444  
Victor, NY 14564  
**Birthday: September 25<sup>th</sup>**

Bob & Carol Hopkins  
4172 Washington Street  
P.O. Box 192  
Pultneyville, NY 14538  
**Birthday: Bob – January 2**  
**Birthday: Carol – September 5**

Jennie Hubright  
The Episcopal Home  
505 Mt. Hope Ave  
Room 232  
Rochester, Ny. 14620  
**Birthday: October 19<sup>th</sup>**

Anne Hotchkiss  
1340 Parkwood Drive  
Apt. 240  
Macedon, NY 14502  
**Birthday: September 21<sup>st</sup>**

Alice Morgan  
2301 Lake Road  
Ontario, NY 14519  
**Birthday: March 27<sup>th</sup>**

Ruth Naylor  
Maplewood Nursing Home  
100 Daniel Drive  
#120  
Webster, NY 14580  
**Birthday: September 29<sup>th</sup>**

Dave Scheffinger  
1016 Railway Crossing  
Webster, NY 14580  
**Birthday: June 30<sup>th</sup>**

Jo SomDeCerff  
4233 Scarlet Sage Court  
Ellicott City, MD 21042  
**Birthday: October 25<sup>th</sup>**

Lorrayne Walvoord  
4281 Congdon Road  
Williamson, NY 14589  
**Birthday: October 21<sup>st</sup>**



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

|    |                    |
|----|--------------------|
| 2  | Mike Gowan         |
| 5  | Gavin Buehler      |
| 8  | Erika Stanton      |
| 9  | Jim Fox, Jr.,      |
| 11 | Andrew Brandt      |
| 11 | Linda Dubois       |
| 13 | Victoria Vos       |
| 14 | Robert Fox         |
| 15 | Jackie Fox         |
| 16 | Mike Bixby         |
| 16 | Jeremiah Brandt    |
| 16 | Bryan Fitzgerald   |
| 16 | Amanda Vander Byl  |
| 18 | EmmaGrace Scileppi |
| 20 | Brian Storrs       |
| 23 | Keri DeNagel       |
| 26 | Amy Vos            |
| 27 | Clara Webeck       |
| 28 | Karen Fox          |
| 29 | Eliza Yost         |
| 30 | Andrew Fitzgerald  |
| 31 | Nancy Titus        |

## MARCH LITURGISTS

March 5 Mary Bryan

March 12 Paula Shultes

March 19 Donna Reuter

March 26 Nancy Titus

## MARCH ELDER

Amy Burdett



# Consistory Directory

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## Pastor

**Rev. Eric Titus**

**585-405-3379—Cell      or      315-589-0033—Home**  
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## Elders

**Amy Burdett**  
585-730-2563  
[acburdett2006@icloud.com](mailto:acburdett2006@icloud.com)

**Alison DeMarree**  
315-576-6339  
[demarreeff@aol.com](mailto:demarreeff@aol.com)

**Mark Lagoner**  
585-764-1833  
[mlagoner@rochester.rr.com](mailto:mlagoner@rochester.rr.com)

**Carolyn Youngs**  
315-879-7260  
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## Deacons

**Chip Bailey**  
315-587-5030  
[kcbnyusa@rochester.rr.com](mailto:kcbnyusa@rochester.rr.com)

**Craig DeNagel**  
585-520-2787  
[craigcdenagel@gmail.com](mailto:craigcdenagel@gmail.com)

**Chelsea Manahan**  
315-576-6303  
[chelsea.manahan@gmail.com](mailto:chelsea.manahan@gmail.com)

**Donna Reuter**  
315-576-0237  
[dreuter8766@yahoo.com](mailto:dreuter8766@yahoo.com)

## *STAFF*

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***Penelope Titus***  
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***Morgan Nikolov***  
***Organist/Choir Dir***  
***413-485-8093***  
***[mmarkel@u.rochester.edu](mailto:mmarkel@u.rochester.edu)***

## *PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEMBERS*

Worship  
Lois Fiegl  
Jim Fox  
Karen Fox  
Jane Morgan  
John Setchell  
Paula Shultes  
Matthew Yost  
Tonja Yost

Building & Property  
Tom DeMarree  
Craig DeNagel  
Mark Fiegl  
Fred Walvoord

Christian Education  
Amy Burdett  
Alison DeMarree  
Linda Dubois  
John Manahan  
Kate Orbaker  
Paula Shultes

Missions  
Amy Burdett  
Julie Fuller  
Paul Heilman  
Rosemary Heilman  
Tom Moenter  
Nancy Titus

Parish Life  
Kathy Baxter  
Diana Lagoner  
Chelsea Manahan  
Karen Manahan  
Donna Reuter  
Jim Williams  
Karen Williams  
Carolyn Youngs

## Daily Scripture Readings

Wednesday, March 1

Romans 4:1-5

Thursday, March 2

Romans 4:13-27

Friday, March 3

John 3:1-17

Saturday, March 4

Matthew 17:1-9

### **Sunday, March 5**

### **Second Sunday in Lent**

Monday, March 6

Exodus 17:1-7

Tuesday, March 7

Psalms 95

Wednesday, March 8

Romans 5:1-5

Thursday, March 9

Romans 5:6-11

Friday, March 10

John 4:5-26

Saturday, March 11

John 4:27-42

### **Sunday, March 12**

### **Third Sunday in Lent**

Monday, March 13

I Samuel 16:1-13

Tuesday, March 14

Psalms 23

Wednesday, March 15

Ephesians 5:8-14

Thursday, March 16

John 9:1-12

Friday, March 17

John 9:13-34

Saturday, March 18

John 9:35-41

### **Sunday, March 19**

### **Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Monday, March 20

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Tuesday, March 21

Psalms 130

Wednesday, March 22

Romans 8:6-11

Thursday, March 23

John 11:1-16

Friday, March 24

John 11:17-37

Saturday, March 25

John 11:38-45

### **Sunday, March 26**

### **Fifth Sunday in Lent**

Monday, March 27

Psalms 118:1-2

Tuesday, March 28

Psalms 118:19-29

Wednesday, March 29

Matthew 21:1-11

Thursday, March 30

Isaiah 50:4-9

Friday, March 31

Psalms 31:9-16



# MARCH

# 2023

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY                            | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY | SATURDAY  |
|--|--------|---------|--------------------------------------|---|--------|---|
|  |        |         | 1                                    | 2<br>9:30 Bible Study                           | 3      | 4<br>9:00 Caring Hands<br>9:00 & 10:00<br>House Blessings |
| 5<br>8:40 Choir Rehearsal<br>10:00 Worship<br>11:15 Retirement Luncheon<br>2:00 Tea at Two                           | 6      | 7       | 8                                    | 9<br>9:30 Bible Study<br>12:00 Caring<br>Hands  | 10     | 11<br>9:00 & 10:00<br>House Blessings                     |
| 12<br>8:40 Choir Rehearsal<br>10:00 Worship<br>11:15 Adult Education<br>12:00 Chili Cook-Off<br>And Games            | 13     | 14      | 15<br>6:30 Elders<br>7:00 Consistory | 16<br>9:30 Bible Study                          | 17     | 18<br>9:00 Caring Hands                                   |
| 19<br>8:40 Choir Rehearsal<br>10:00 Worship<br>11:15 Adult Education<br>2:00 Tea at Two<br>5:00 Connections Deadline | 20     | 21      | 22                                   | 23<br>9:30 Bible Study<br>12:00 Caring<br>Hands | 24     | 25  |
| 26<br>8:40 Choir Rehearsal<br>10:00 Worship<br>11:15 Adult Education   | 27     | 28      | 29                                   | 30<br>9:30 Bible Study                          |        |   |