

PRC CONNECTIONS



PULTNEYVILLE REFORMED CHURCH

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Rev. Eric Titus

Lent
fast · give · pray

March 2022

VOLUME XL

ISSUE 3

Pultneyville Reformed Church
P.O. Box 94
Pultneyville, NY 14538

Lenten House Blessings by Pastor Eric



LENT

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.

The visits will begin Saturdays, March 5th, and continue through April 2nd, and will be offered at 10:00, 12:00, and 2:00. If at all possible I would like the visitations to be filled in that order, so that I don't have a gap between the 10:00 and 2:00 visits.

Adult Education

The Spring Education Series will be six sessions beginning this Sunday, March 6th starting around 11:15 (following service). The topic is timely and it focuses in on the activity of the Protestant Church (Reformed and Lutheran) during the Weimar Republic of German (1919-1930), The period prior to the National Socialists seizure of power. I will focus especially on Karl Barth's (1886-1968) early theological responses to this alliance between the Church and a political party. I think you will find it as fascinating, illuminating, and disturbing as I do. So please plan on attending: We will meet in the Fellowship Hall, so we have some room to spread. Perhaps Covid will even give us a break by then. The name of the course will be: *An Unholy Alliance: Lessons the Church Should Learn*.

Lenten Bible Study

We will be having a 6 week Lenten study beginning this Thursday, March 3rd at 9:30, either in the Agape Room or Fellowship Hall, depending on class size. The book we will be using is entitled "Easter Earthquake" by James Harnish. He invites us to explore how Jesus' resurrection shifts our assumptions about ourselves and God. "The earth-shaking promise of Easter is that God has not forsaken any of us. The risen Christ will meet us along the confused, chaotic, fearful paths of our lives and speak the same words the women hear at the tomb, 'Do not be afraid.'" This will be a great time to be together, pray together, study together, share thoughts together and just BE, as we wait for Easter and the celebration of Jesus' resurrection. If you think you would like to be a part of this study, please pick up a book in the Agape Room.

Pray better together with *Seek God* guide

by Nancy Titus, Missions Chair

Years of Covid got you down? Winter snows and dirty cars and melting slush dragging on you?

Wouldn't you like to see new spiritual life spring from within and flow out toward all you encounter? Wouldn't it be great to see that happen across Pultneyville Reformed Church? How about in Williamson, Wayne County, beyond?

What exactly would it look like if we showed more evidence of the vibrancy of the Holy Spirit in all we do?

That's how we will begin this Lenten prayer session with the *Seek God for the City* guide. The theme for the first 11 days beginning with Ash Wednesday (March 2) is "Seeking Christ's Life to Revive His Church."

Think about that a minute.

Is Christ's life stale? tired? overwhelmed by the challenges of declining — anything?

Jesus promised us that He would build His church, and not even the gates of hell could stop it.

We are His church, so that means we have all the vibrancy and life that He has. Let's stop and drink that in for a hot second.

O Lord, revive me!

We know we have been forgiven. Lent is a 40-day period of time on the church calendar in which we contemplate — slowly — what we've been forgiven of and what it cost.

My progressive pictorial missions bulletin board has been an attempt to convey the heart of Lent and the heart of missions: a separation from God that we could not overcome no matter what and a God of love that breached that separation at great cost.

But how many of our neighbors — near and far — live still in the separation part of that story?

Oh, that they would know how close God wants to be to them! How He longs to bring them into the fold!

Week Two of the *Seek God* guide leads us into prayers for just that: "Seeking Christ's Light to Awaken the Lost."

Week Three brings us to "Seeking Christ's Glory in Evangelizing All Peoples."

Week Four: "Seeking Christ's Righteousness in Our Communities." We could certainly use some of that!

Week Five: "Seeking Christ's Peace Among All Peoples" Yes, Lord! Make it so!

Then all the prayers lead us to a wonderful, Palm Sunday of "Welcoming Christ our King!"

Even before we get to that day, though, the missions committee will roll out the 30 Days of Prayer for the Muslim World — another prayer project with a booklet of prayer prompts. This one coincides with the Muslim month of prayer and fasting known as Ramadan, which this year goes from April 2 to May 1. We'll learn more about that as we get closer. Vast numbers of Muslim-background peoples have come to Christ in the 30-plus years of this project. Many miracles have been recorded.

I don't know about you, but I am excited to see what God will do in me as I begin these two prayer seasons. I encourage you to participate — at whatever level you wish. I can say that both efforts have made a huge impact on my life.



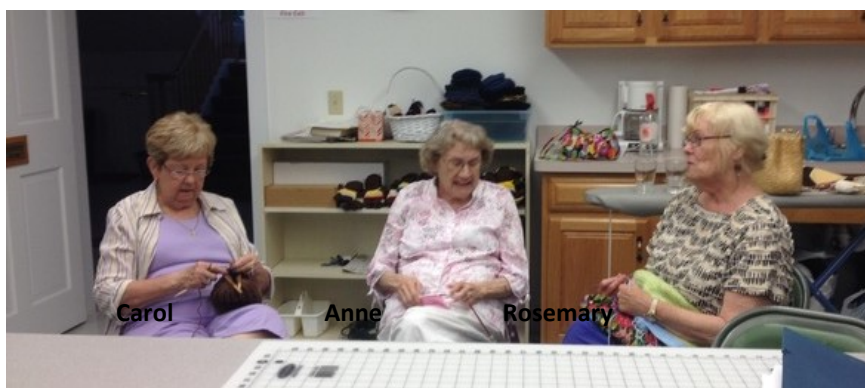
Caring Hands

March Meeting Dates

Thursday, March 3rd 12:00 p.m. Saturday, March 12th 9:00 a.m.
 Thursday, March 17th 12:00 p.m. Saturday, March 26th 9:00 a.m.
 Thursday, March 31st 12:00 p.m.

One of my favorite aspects of Caring Hands is that everyone is welcome. Gathering and sharing and “just” being together is part of what holds the group together. Covid restrictions have made us value that togetherness more than ever. So it’s time to share some pictures and stories. In no particular order. Some here now. More in the next Connections.

Though we take it for granted, the knitters and crocheters and the other crafters meet with the sewers and quilters and others. They have not branched off on their own as has happened in a couple of churches I’m told.



I will start with our oldest member, Anne Hotchkiss. She had been making little dolls to go in the pockets of dresses for Africa. On the bulletin board downstairs there are two little dolls. Anne brought her skills and enthusiasm and joined us and taught us. All sorts of dolls have been made and blessed and sent out. Anne also has made other knitted and crocheted items for CH.

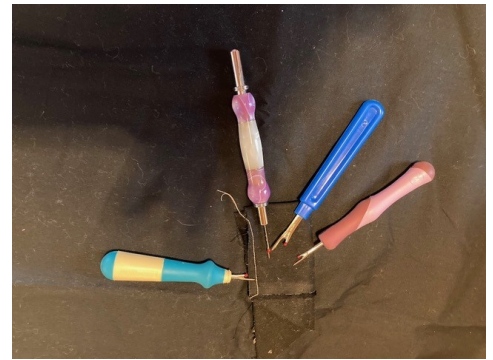
Whatever is given from CH is blessed first. Some of these blessings are quite serious but occasionally, as in this picture, we are grateful and happy as we all join together.



Another knitter/crocheter is Carol Mosely. Carol was once a quilter and did make the first scrappy string quilt at the beginning of CH. She has made numerous blankets and caps for babies. These are always pretty and soft and cuddly. Carol figured out the pattern for a small handheld size comfort item from a sample. Though these have not become a regular part of what CH does she has made some upon request and those were gratefully received and used. Carol is known for her love of purple. We sure have been missing her during this pandemic!



Rosemary Heilman knits and crochets as well as whatever she is asked to help with. She doesn't use a sewing machine to sew her projects but she is very patient with a ripper in hand to unsew for others what their machine did not do right! Every once in awhile someone moans in need of "Rosemary the Ripper". Rosemary has a love of beautiful fabric and has been very generous to share them for use by CH.



About once a year CH sends a box of handmade items for Hopes and Dreams Quilt Challenge for ALS in honor and memory of Larry Luke. We have sent items to be sold at their fund raising bazaars as well as quilts of various sizes for individuals with ALS. The first year we won a prize box full of interesting craft and sewing things. The fabrics on our flannel board in the background were a collection from that prize. When the quilt was finished we sent it back to Hopes and Dreams. These lap size quilts pictured are among things ready for blessing and sending soon.



We are currently housing four families totaling five adults and thirteen children.

One family graduated in January and a new guest family has begun the program.

There are now twelve families on our Waiting List.



Our Missionaries

Nathan & Nozomi Brownell

Kenneth, Raymond, Luke

Japan

www.rca.org/brownell

Felipe & Janell de Waard-Silva

Luca, Sofia, Mila

Romania

www.rca.org/silva

Communion on Sunday, March 6th

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 6th

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.

Liturgists in March

- 6th Amy Burdett
13th Alison DeMarree
20th Donna Reuter
27th John Manahan



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----|---|
| 2 | Mike Gowan |
| 5 | Gavin Buehler |
| 7 | Marilyn Bixby |
| 8 | Erika Stanton |
| 9 | Jim Fox, Jr., |
| 11 | Andrew Brandt,
Linda Dubois |
| 13 | Victoria Vos |
| 14 | Robert Fox |
| 15 | Jackie Fox |
| 16 | Mike Bixby,
Jeremiah Brandt,
Bryan Fitzgerald,
Amanda Bianco |
| 18 | EmmaGrace Scileppi |
| 20 | Brian Storrs |
| 23 | Keri DeNagel |
| 26 | Amy Vos |
| 27 | Clara Webeck |
| 28 | Karen Fox |
| 29 | Eliza Yost |
| 30 | Andrew Fitzgerald |

Our Homebound Church Family



Marilyn Bixby
Wayne County Nursing Home
1529 Nye Road
Lyons, NY 14489
Birthday: March 7th

Jennie Hubright
Solstice Senior Living
55 Ayrault Road Room 113
Fairport, NY 14450
Birthday: October 19th

Dave Scheffinger
1016 Railway Crossing
Webster, NY 14580
Birthday: June 30th

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

NEW ADDRESS!!!

Anne Hotchkiss
1340 Parkwood Drive
Apt. 240
Macedon, NY 14502
Birthday: September 21st

Jo SomDeCerff
4233 Scarlet Sage Court
Ellicott City, MD 21042
Birthday: October 25th

Louise Hermetet
Victor Views
1440 Rt. 444
Victor, NY 14564
Birthday: September 25th

Alice Morgan
2301 Lake Road
Ontario, NY 14519
Birthday: March 27th

Ray and Lorraine Walvoord
4281 Congdon Road
Williamson, NY 14589
Birthday – Ray: June 2nd
Birthday – Lorraine: October 21st

Ruth Naylor
St. John's Home
150 Highland Avenue
South 481A
Rochester, NY 14620
Birthday: September 29th

Financial Report

1/1/22 – 1/31/22

	Starting Balance	Income	Expenses	Balance
Operating Fund	0	10,212.36	14,553.83	-4,341.47
Benevolent Fund	0	1,323.50	48.73	1,274.77
Capital Improvement	19,798.81	975.88	.00	20,774.69

Daily Scripture Readings

Tuesday, March 1

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-13

Wednesday, March 2

Ash Wednesday; Psalm 51:1-17

Thursday, March 3

Psalm 91:14-16

Friday, March 4

Romans 10:8b-13

Saturday, March 5

Luke 4:1-13

Sunday, March 6

First Sunday in Lent

Monday, March 7

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Tuesday, March 8

Psalm 27:1-6

Wednesday, March 9

Psalm 27:7-14

Thursday, March 10

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Friday, March 11

Luke 13:31-35

Saturday, March 12

Luke 9:28-43

Sunday, March 13

Second Sunday in Lent

Monday, March 14

Isaiah 55:1-5

Tuesday, March 15

Isaiah 55:6-9

Wednesday, March 16

Psalm 63:1-8

Thursday, March 17

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Friday, March 18

Luke 13:1-5

Saturday, March 19

Luke 13:6-9

Sunday, March 20

Third Sunday in Lent

Monday, March 21

Joshua 5:9-12

Tuesday, March 22

Psalm 32:1-5

Wednesday, March 23

Psalm 32:6-11

Thursday, March 24

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Friday, March 25

Luke 15:1-3, 11-24

Saturday, March 26

Luke 15:25-32

Sunday, March 27

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Monday, March 28

Isaiah 43:16-21

Tuesday, March 29

Psalm 126:1-3

Wednesday, March 30

Psalm 126:4-6

Thursday, March 31

Philippians 3:4-11

Consistory Directory

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Pastor

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Elders

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Amy Burdett

585-730-2563

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Mark Lagoner

585-764-1833

mlagoner@rochester.rr.com

John Setchell

585-967-3771

john.setchell@eznet.net

Deacons

Chip Bailey

315-587-5030

kcbnyusa@rochester.rr.com

Craig DeNagel

585-520-2787

craigcdenagel@gmail.com

Paul Heilman

315-589-2276

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Gary Orbaker

315-945-6311

gary.orbaker@gmail.com

March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 9:30 Bible Study 12:00 Caring Hands	4	5 House Blessings
6 COMMUNION 8:40 Choir 10:00 Worship 11:15 Adult Ed.	7	8	9 7:00 Elders	10 9:30 Bible Study	11	12 9:00 Caring Hands House Blessings
13 8:40 Choir 10:00 Worship 11:15 Adult Ed.	14	15	16 7:00 Consistory	17 9:30 Bible Study 12:00 Caring Hands	18	19 House Blessings
20 8:40 Choir 10:00 Worship 11:15 Adult Ed.	21	22	23	24 9:30 Bible Study	25	26 9:00 Caring Hands House Blessings
27 8:40 Choir 10:00 Worship 11:15 Adult Ed.	28	29	30	31 9:30 Bible Study 12:00 Caring Hands		