

GLAD TIDINGS

Monthly Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church Honeoye Falls

Sunday Worship At 10:30 AM



Our service will begin at 10:25AM for announcements, which will be followed by the worship service. You can join us in-person or stream the service on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FPCHF. All are welcome.

We ask that you please turn off your electronic devices like your smartphone or tablet during services in the sanctuary. Turning off these devices helps with our screencasting function - making it easier for those who worship via Facebook. Thank You!

On April 7th, we will be celebrating the Lord's Supper as a congregation. We will be serving the Communion elements and the prepackaged wafer and juice will be available for those who prefer. To those who will be joining us via livestream on Facebook, just a reminder to prepare your Communion elements prior to the service.

Inside this Issue:

- Our Faith in Action - 2
- From The Pastor's Desk - 3
- Church Leadership Team - 4-6
- Christian Education - 6
- Team Reports - 7
- Community News - 8
- April Calendar - 9
- April Worship Leaders - 10

Church Staff

- Rev. Kirk Baker, Pastor
- Cheryl Farnham, Office Manager
- Adam Lewis, Christian Education Director
- Michelle LaVarnway, Choir Director
- Amy Morrow, Bell Choir Director
- Nadie Miftari, Housekeeper



New Sabbath Hour Available for You

Do you ever feel worn out by the end of the day? Do you ever promise yourself you will spend more time with God, then find that time hard to set aside? While the global, Christian Church has always stressed the importance of time set apart for quiet solitude, our culture has become increasingly hostile to this practice. From workplaces with norms of three daily work cycles and 60-70 hour workweeks, to smart televisions, tablets, and cellphones that constantly demand our attention, Americans are more time-stressed than ever. As we grow older, our capacity for sustained focus tends to shorten in length. A time of quiet can be a precious gift.

Starting April 30, the Sanctuary will be open from 6:00 - 7:00 PM on the last Tuesday of every month. There will be no music, no conversation, no message - no talking. The Sanctuary will be a place of total quiet where you can come and be alone with your thoughts and our God. If you only need ten minutes or you would like most of the hour, just stop in any time between 6:00 and 7:00 PM.

APRIL 30TH 6PM-7PM

Sabbath Hour

The Sanctuary will be a place of **total quiet** where you can come and be alone with your thoughts and our God

NOW AVAILABLE THE LAST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

Please Check the Church Facebook Page for Updates

Please remember that crucial announcements and worship resources are all available via the church Facebook page. You don't need to have a Facebook account to access the church's page. Our Facebook page is www.facebook.com/FPCHF

Office Hours

Monday and Tuesday - 8AM - 1PM
Thursday - 11AM - 4PM

Written by Pastor Kirk

Do not keep seeking what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is worldly persons that seek all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

Luke 12:29-31

He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while"... Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he began to teach them many things.

Mark 6:31, 33-34

I recall an Advent sermon that encouraged us to slow down and reflect upon the meaning of the Season. It was a good reminder to be more intentional about honoring God around Christmas. However, once I entered ministry that message seemed hopelessly naive. In Advent church work speeds up to a feverish pace. Children have end-of-year assignments, concerts, and sports events. There are always more presents to buy and shopping has to fit between everything else. Cards, extended family, decorations, favorite foods - the reality of the situation collides rudely with the slow-down message of the season.

As we explored Christian sabbath throughout Lent, some lessons might make more sense of how Sabbath applies to busy times. The truth is that many of us face large demands on time, attention, and energy that we feel compelled to meet. How did people in the Bible practice Sabbath each week when they worked so hard for tomorrow's food and shelter? It turns out there are some clear answers, and they can help us today.

First, it's hard to overstate how much people in the First Century relied on *cycles* of time. Beyond the natural cycles of growing seasons, harvests, movement of fish and game, and the birth of animals, there was a forced cycle of night and day in the time before electricity. Lamps could only help so much, so darkness meant work had to cease. It seems that *cycles of work* and rest made much more sense to people who lived with those forced times of specific activities. Sabbath was seen by many as a

natural part of life's rhythms. It didn't mean people avoided hard work - rather, Sabbath made harder work possible. Stopping to rest and tend their hearts, minds, and spirits empowered them for times of strenuous work. People had more energy to accomplish the crucial work that fed their households. They also had the presence of mind and spirit that allowed greater productivity (this point can't be emphasized enough). While Sabbath was not practiced in order to support more work, its impact enabled the Israelites to bring greater attention to the work that they did.

Second, when Sabbath is truly practiced its effects can be carried with you. In the passage from Mark found above, Jesus encouraged the Apostles to spend quiet time away from the demands of ministry. Yet people wanted to learn from Jesus so much that they followed His group and He ended up teaching them all day. As we've noted before, Jesus spent regular time alone in prayer and reflection upon God. His stored-up Sabbath energy allowed Him to change plans and serve others all day when the need arose. That didn't mean Jesus quit spending quiet time by Himself. Rather, it was *because of* those quiet times alone that Jesus could suddenly spend a day preaching and helping others.

One trap I easily fall into is thinking that every situation requires my involvement; yet the reality is described by Jesus in Luke 12 - few things require *me*, and my impact upon things is usually limited. Instead of misidentifying every circumstance as crucial, I can take advantage of

the time God gives me to pray, think upon God, and converse with Jesus. Then when truly busy times do come along I will have the wherewithal to not only handle those demands, but to handle them with greater awareness and skill because I've spent calmer times observing the natural cycles of Sabbath.

Because we know busy times will come, we can plan ahead for regular periods of quiet and stillness, when we put all other things aside and consider our relationship with the Christ. Then we might be adequately prepared for busy seasons (like Holy Week and Christmas). They won't seem as overwhelming and will not fully drain us when we regularly practice healthy cycles of work and rest.

To that end, I'd like to offer you an invitation. Starting April 30 from 6:00 - 7:00 PM, I'll open the Sanctuary for a "Sabbath Hour," a time of silence, prayer, and contemplation. Every last Tuesday of the month, the Sanctuary doors will be open for the hour - though you can come for the 30 minutes or 10 minutes that might help you. This isn't a time of fellowship, just a time to rest. There will be no music, no message, and no activity. But if - like me - you sometimes find yourself feeling overdrawn, then I pray you'll find this is a time that fills you with what you need. After all, God covers us with endless grace at all times. All we need to live in balance and wholeness is to recognize that fact.

Pastor Kirk

Please Clean Up After Using Worship Space

We've been blessed with a number of special activities in the Sanctuary that have used the dais, which is the focus area of our worship space. As Peter Berger wrote, worship is the central act of each faith community, and how we worship reflects the values, hopes, and goals of the assembled people of God. So opening our worship space to various speakers and activities shows we are a creative and inquisitive congregation! It's considered a sign of health and strength.

Our outstanding Housekeeper, Nadie, is accustomed to my occasional setups during the week that must remain in place for Sunday morning. This means she won't clear the central worship space during the week. Please, everyone remember - if you place papers, visual aids, tables, or chairs in the worship space for one Sunday, you also need to remove them after the service. At one church we had a saying that we felt reflected a Christian attitude: "Leave the space better than you found it." I personally appreciate this consideration.

Pastor Kirk

Worship In April

This time after Resurrection Sunday allows us to move back into our walk through the Bible, which we've taken together for nearly six years. As we move to the last Epistles we come to the later writings of John, some of which were probably written by later generations of members of the community he founded. John's distinctive style and focus on Christians living together as the "beloved community" remain primary. These last three letters - 1st John, 2nd John, and 3rd John - lead up to the strange symbolism that Church leaders chose to put at the close of the Christian Bible, John's Revelation. We will approach that capstone writing with care and humility, acknowledging there are always limits to what we can understand.



4/7/24	God Is Truth	WCC	1 John 1:1-10
4/14/24	Godly Nature	WCC	1 John 3:7-23
4/21/24	Being Christian	WCC	1 John 4:7-21
4/28/24	Final Preparations	WCC	Mark 13:3-5, 14-23

Fellowship & Learning Opportunities

Coffee Convo

Join Pastor Kirk and members of the congregation for coffee and conversation at the Manse every Tuesday from 1PM until 2PM this fall and winter. This is a great way to get to know one another outside of the actual church building in a relaxing environment.



Tuesdays at 1PM in the Manse

Easter Egg Hunt Coffee Hour



All Are Invited To...

Thursday Evening BIBLE STUDY

6:30PM - 8:00PM
Room #1

Come and dig deeper into the Sunday worship Scripture Readings.

HOLY BIBLE



Director's Dish

Written by Adam Lewis
Christian Education Director

For the Christian Ed Team, this spring has been quite eventful thus far! In March, not only did we focus on the Lenten Season and Easter, but on March 10th, the Middle and High School Youth planned and led the worship service. They had the chance to share their experiences and take-aways from the Mission Trip back in February. The youth have received very positive feedback and I consider myself lucky to be able to work with such a talented group of young adults!

Many of our youth also participated in the Palm Sunday Procession as well as the older youth helping to hide the Easter Eggs for the hunt on the 24th. And as we have done for the last several years, we had youth participation in the Easter service as well. It's wonderful that they are willing to step up and take on these leadership roles!

Our team has also been busy planning and prepping for the 2nd Annual Pickleball Tournament that will take place on May 11th! This year, we have partnered with the Friends of Borgne Organization, who help fight and advocate for the education of families and children in Haiti. All the proceeds will be donated to them and their mission. It's wonderful to be able to help raise money for such a cause and it's yet another way we can illustrate to the youth of the church, various ways they can work to help others and change the world! Sign-up is underway and we are very much looking forward to the event! There's still time to volunteer to help with the tournament and or put together a donation basket for the silent auction. If you are interested in helping or would simply like more information, please feel free to contact me at adamlewisced@yahoo.com. Volunteers from FOB will be present the day of the tournament to provide additional details about their cause and answer questions. I encourage everyone to either consider signing up to play, just come and watch others or make bids on the silent auction. Either way, it will be a fun event and full of fellowship! Blessings to you all!

Blessings to you all!



PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

HOSTED BY FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
TO SUPPORT FRIENDS OF BORGNE

FREE

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO FRIENDS OF BORGNE - WHO HELP EDUCATE CHILDREN & ADULTS IN HAITI

MAY 11TH
START AT 12PM

MORE INFORMATION
WWW.FIRSTPRESBYTERIANHONOYEYFALLS.ORG/PICKLEBALL-TOURNAMENT

SILENT AUCTION & PRIZES

DOUBLES ONLY
SINGLE ELIMINATION/CONSOLATION BRACKET
HF-L TENNIS COURTS
83 EAST STREET, HONEOYE FALLS

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

MARK'S LEISURE TIME MARINE **YOUTH Group** **REV**

TAMBE ELECTRIC INCORPORATED **LE FROIS BROTHERS AUTOMOTIVE** **Rotary Honeoye Falls - Mendon District 7120** **BEARS Playgrounds**

**Sign Up for the Pickleball Tournament Soon!
Space is Limited!**

Session Report

Written by Chris Hinds, Clerk of Session

Session is the ruling body of our church, we are settling in with new members and some changed team liaison assignments. Should anyone have any issues or questions you are welcome to speak to any of us, but if you want it presented to Session we will need your permission to use your name to present it. Session will be meeting the first Monday of the month this year. Please keep in mind that all church activities and building use must be approved by Session in advance to insure there are no scheduling conflicts. We are an active congregation, open to new ideas!!

Our thanks to Cheryl for compiling a list, complete with contact information, for church teams. She has also posted a building use calendar on Breeze that is available to all and very helpful, is updating the bulletin boards and is seeking new pictures. Please keep in mind that you can use Breeze as a church address book. If you haven't updated your information and added a picture, please do so. If you run into problems Cheryl can send you to the right person for assistance.

So my thought for the month: This is a caring, loving church with many active teams that provide both the creativity and hard work required to do God's work. Please consider joining one of our teams and share your God given gifts. The Generosity Team is updating the list of teams and what they do - we have a place reserved for YOU.

Capital Campaign Team

Written by Anne Gravenstede
Capital Campaign Team

"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."
—Matthew 5:14-16



Writing the
Next Chapter Together

"Sharing our stories, investing in the story, continuing the story."

This past month, the Capital Campaign Committee has begun to build a High Level Strategy for the campaign and timeline, which will be presented to Session soon for its approval and adoption. We have added Linda Goodrum and Susan Richardson to our Committee, both of whom have already begun to share their areas of expertise with us. The Committee has also been in contact with the Presbytery Board of Trustees to keep them informed.

The Committee is excited to share the logo for the Capital Campaign - you will be seeing this logo in all communications going forward. The logo symbolizes our goal of "To be a connection point to the community, to serve and love our neighbors and to be a force of good and strength.", as well as the campaign objective recognizing that our church is a "light on the hill", with the hands of our people and our facilities supporting neighbors, the community and beyond TOGETHER through outreach, mission and ministry.

We will be sharing more information on the Strategy and timeline once they are finalized - in the meantime, feel free to reach out to any member of the Committee if you have any questions or ideas to share.

Capital Campaign Committee - Margaret Bailey, Kirk Baker, Phyllis Fritz, Linda Goodrum, Anne Gravenstede, Dick Mueller, Susan Richardson, Mark Rowe

Mission Team

Written by Erin Ludwig, Co-Chair Mission Team

CWS → **Eradicate hunger and poverty and promote peace and justice.**



**2 kits needed:
Hygiene kits
Clean up bucket kits**

**All donations
welcome by
4/14**

***If donating via check, please place
CWS on the memo line.***

Church World Service (CWS) is a cooperative ministry of 37 Christian denominations and communions. Their mission is to eradicate hunger and poverty and to promote peace and justice. This year, the Missions Team has a goal of supporting CWS with ten complete kits for two of their worthwhile causes:

- Hygiene Kits
- Clean Up Bucket Kits

We hope you will join our efforts to achieve our goal by giving via check and including CWS in the memo line.

If you prefer to donate specific items for the kits, there will be slips of paper with kit items available to pick up during service this Sunday, 3/24. If you miss picking up a slip, please touch base with a mission team member to see how you can help. Your support, in any form, is greatly appreciated.

All monetary and item donations need to be made by April 14th. The kit packing will occur directly after worship on April 21st during the fellowship coffee hour. Please join us if you want to help the mission team with packing kits!

April Community Meal

The April Community Meal is being hosted by the Clar, Bianchi, and Richardson families. All are encouraged to invite a neighbor or a friend to come and enjoy this time of food and fellowship!



First Presbyterian Church
**SATURDAY
 LINEN CLOSET
 DROP-OFF**
 At the Manse
**APRIL 6TH
 10AM - 11AM**

All types of linens collected.
 Do not need to be matching sets. We also need new or slightly used pillows (not king size).

All linens to go towards Afghani refugees as part of our commitment to Keeping Our Promise

Please contact Jane Jezsu at jane.jezsue@gmail.com or Barb Mueller at barbmuller23@gmail.com with any questions.

Change In Office Hours

Cheryl will be out of the office on Tuesday, April 9th and needs to change the office hours on Thursday, April 10th to 8:30AM - 1:30PM. The rest of the month will be regular hours.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 2nd: Lucy Neff
- 3rd: Patti Moehlmann
- 5th: Sharon Major
- 6th: Garrit Coddington
Evan Nestruck
- 8th: Beverly Luger
Barbara Webster
- 11th: Bruce Erway
- 15th: Martha Kumler
- 18th: Rick Milne
- 19th: Killian Coddington
Jacob Converse
Dick Mueller
- 21st: Joshua Converse
- 23rd: Barb Mueller
Adam Santucci
- 26th: Red Bayer
Bonnie Coddington
Tom Schiedel
- 28th: Nancy Merritt
- 30th: Lynne Menz



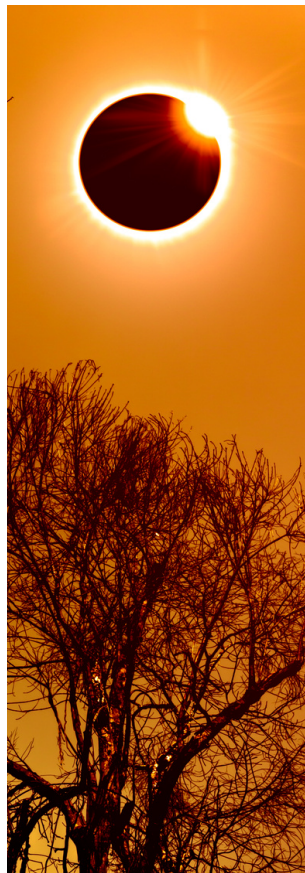
If you don't see your birthday on this list - please let the church office know so we can update our records

Deacon's
**APRIL BIRTHDAY
 CELEBRATION**
 Coffee Hour
APRIL 7TH

**FELLOWSHIP
 COFFEE
 HOUR**

*April
 21st*

PLEASE JOIN
 US AFTER
 WORSHIP IN
 GUILD HALL



APRIL CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1</p> <p>Room #9 Remodel 10AM</p> <p>Session Meeting 6:30PM Room #1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Generosity Team 11AM Library</p> <p>Coffee Convo 1PM Manse</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Mission Team 4PM Double Room</p> <p>No Bible Study</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Linen Closet Drop-Off 10AM - 11AM Manse</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Choirs Bell 8:30AM Vocal 9:15AM Worship 10:30AM Deacons Coffee Hour</p> <p>Wedding Rehearsal 5PM</p> 	<p>8</p> <p>B&G Team 9AM Room #1</p> <p>Jennifer Wojslaw/ Kevin Bartusek Wedding 11AM Sanctuary</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Coffee Convo 1PM Manse</p> <p>No Office Hours Cheryl Out of Office</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Fellowship Team 5PM Library</p> <p>Pickleball Planning 6PM - Zoom</p> <p>Bible Study 6:30PM Room #1</p> <p>Office Hours 8:30AM - 1:30PM</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p> <p>Choirs Bell 8:30AM Vocal 9:15AM Worship 10:30AM</p> <p>Membership Team 11:45AM Room #1</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Capital Campaign Team 1PM Room #1</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Coffee Convo 1PM Manse</p> <p>Worship Team 4:30PM Double Room</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Deacons 5PM Guild Hall</p> <p>Bible Study 6:30PM Room #1</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Presbytery Meeting 9AM Trinity Emmanuel</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Choirs Bell 8:30AM Vocal 9:15AM Worship 10:30AM</p> <p>Fellowship Coffee Hour</p> <p>Special Session Meeting 11:30AM Room #1</p>	<p>22</p> 	<p>23</p> <p>Coffee Convo 1PM Manse</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>CE Team 6:30PM Zoom</p> <p>Bible Study 6:30PM Room #1</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Choirs Bell 8:30AM Vocal 9:15AM Family Worship 10:30AM</p> <p>Community Meal 4PM Guild Hall</p> 	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Coffee Convo 1PM Manse</p> <p>Sabbath Hour 6PM - 7PM Sanctuary</p>				

First Presbyterian Church
27 North Main Street
PO Box 568
Honeoye Falls, NY 14472

GLAD TIDINGS

Worship April 2024

Assisting Elder:
Stan McCormack

Liturgists

7th - Phyllis Fritz

14th - Amy Morrow

21st - Pat Smith

28th - Rachael Garvey

Accompanists

7th- Laura Mueller

14th - Michelle LaMachia

21st - Laura Mueller

28th - Michelle LaMachia

Communion Servers

Phyllis Fritz, Linda Goodrum, Martha Kumler, Janis McCormack, Jean Reinhardt, and Gail Richeson

Technology Team

Patti Moehlmann, Brian Webster, Ginny Floss, Amy Morrow, Eric Ludwig, Adam Bianchi, Ethan Ludwig, and Nolan Clar