

Early Fall Pres 2019



God's powerful Word

The Bible contains about 800,000 words, depending on the translation. This is about four times as many words as are found in a book of average length.

Although the Bible is so long and deals with the greatest themes that can engage the human mind, its vocabulary is singularly limited. It uses only 6,000 different words, a very small number compared to the 20,000 words that Shakespeare employed while writing his plays.

Not only is the Bible's vocabulary limited, but the average word in it contains only five letters. However, many of these short words are full of the deepest meanings and are worthy of earnest study. For example, consider these five-letter words: grace, peace, faith, saved, serve, glory and Jesus.



Dear Friends,

If you cast your mind back to June, all the way back to the beginning of the summer, you'll remember the CAT survey that we conducted in May and debriefed with Keli Rugenstein, a church



consultant from the Eastern Door Counseling Center in Rensselaer, NY, on June

9. Keli will be returning to continue the conversation with us about our CAT report and the implications of the results of the survey for our Mission Study Report and your eventual search for an installed pastor on **Saturday, September 7** from **9:00 am until 1:00 pm**. Please mark your calendars now and plan to join us in this important conversation that will have a deep impact on the future of the church. ALL voices are welcome: members, friends, mission partners, community members, visitors, so spread the word!

The Mission Study Team has taken some sabbath time this summer as we continue to unpack the CAT report. Members of the committee have been sharing some of their observations as they digest the report. Here's one comment that was shared:

The CAT survey shows that 61% of the congregation is not certain that we are taking steps to reach members of the community.

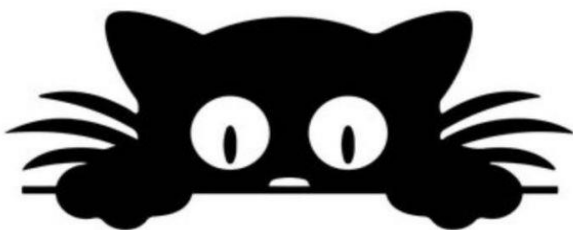
What does that mean? Are we taking steps to reach members of the community or not? If so, why do 6 out of 10 of us not know for sure? How do we connect those people with our local mission projects?

Here's another comment that was shared:

In looking at the differences in answers between people who have been part of the church for more than 20 years versus people who have been part of the church for less than 20 years, 94% of the people with the longer tenure think that our church welcomes and is enriched by persons from many different walks of life. On the other hand, 63% of the people with less than 20 years' tenure think this.

Again, what does this mean? The perception of "newcomers" is of a less welcoming congregation. However, once one has been here a while and is well-accepted, one perceives the warm, loving nature of this congregation and believes that others are welcomed as they were. This is a caution to us to be very, very attentive to our welcome to newcomers and to work hard together to integrate new friends into our community.

What did you see in the CAT report? Let's continue the conversation on **Saturday, September 7** at **9am** as we explore the **SO WHAT** of all of this information: what it means to our church community today and going on ahead into the future God has planned for this congregation.



In Christ together,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Lynn'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Lynn Brown



Pastor Lynn's August /September Office Hours

Wednesdays & Thursdays, 12pm-4pm by appointment

Text or call (518)755-4940 or by email at lkbrown27@gmail.com



1. Trustees Andy Albrecht, Caroline Dolfi, and Denny Smith were present for the first hour of the July 24 meeting to discuss the sale of the cottage. Comments were made on how to improve the process of informing the congregation. Suggestions were made for items to be included in the contract, some of which were made at the congregational meeting. The committee of Andy, Caroline, Denny, and Gary Murphy will continue to work with the Library Board until the contract is finalized.
2. Pastor Lynn's activities for June included Christian Education meeting, Mission Study Team meeting, and hospital visits. She asked for input on possible sermon series in late summer and fall.
3. In looking ahead to programming, there was discussion of worship experiments on fifth Sundays. There will be more focus on Christian Education and nurturing for all ages. It is hoped that there will be a monthly program, spiritual and/or educational in nature.
4. Hope Murphy reported for Christian Education Committee that Vacation Bible School was amazing. Expenses were low and donations from attending families were generous. 24 children attended.
5. Stewardship Chairperson, Edith Keck reported that a representative from Grace Smith House will speak during worship on September 29. Our donation will be presented to Grace Smith House at that time.

MISSION STUDY TEAM UPDATE

We would like to thank you all for participating in the CAT survey. This information will help us create our Vision and Mission for our church. We are continuing to work with Holy Cow Consulting to do this. This will help give us the requirements we will need for our next minister.

This data will help our next pastor work with us to create the plan to move our church forward.



Saturday, September 7th 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

CAT Survey - "What's Next" meeting





SAVE THE DATE - Sunday, September 8th



The restored Bell Tower will be dedicated during the worship service on this date.



CHURCH OFFICERS 2019

SESSION ELDERS (Ruling Body of the Church) Rev. Lynn Brown - Moderator		
CLASS OF 2019	CLASS OF 2020	CLASS OF 2021
Judy Brandow	Chesney Baker	Bill Miller
Edith Keck	Myung Sung	James Sawner
Gary Murphy	Karen Sheer	Helen Traver
		Hope Murphy (Youth)
Clerk – Marilyn Brands		
TRUSTEES (Take Care of the Physical Plant)		
Andy Albrecht	Debbie Traver	Caroline Dolfi
Tracy Keck	Karen Haight	Donna Sheak
Philip Keck	Linda Halliday	Denny Smith
DEACONS (The Service Body of the Church)		
Barbara Huneke	Amanda Smith	Steve Albrecht Sr
Richard Moysey	Tom Smith	Dawne Fay
Jack Smith	Pat Zerbe	Faith Reynolds

Church Treasurer: Wayne Sauer
Mission Treasurers: David Brands and Wayne Sauer
Bargain Basement: Jean Albrecht, Director 845-635-3563
Friendship Callers: Joan Smith, Chairperson 845-635-3687

For numbers of Chairpersons not listed, please refer to the church directory or call the church office at 845-635-3289.



Please keep these people in your daily prayers.

Prayers of the People

To add a name to the Prayer List, please call the Pastor or the Church Office.

Prayers of sympathy for Roxanne Wolf and family on the passing of her mother, Anita.
Prayers for Deb Murray's aunt who has a lung infection.
Prayers of sympathy for Mary Jane (friend of Karen Sheer) on the loss of her husband.
Prayers for Steve Morey who is dealing with health issues.
Prayers for Janet Lashway who was hospitalized briefly and is now in rehab.
Prayers for Joan Storm (friend of Debi Tyger) whose cancer has returned.
Prayers for Ally (Barbara Huneke's niece) whose thyroid surgery went well.

Living with cancer: Ginny Hankamp (friend of Donna Sheak's), Penny Sawner (James's mother), Chris Woodward (Harriet Mark's brother)

Ongoing health issues: Donna Mears, Bill Owen (Alta & Jerry's son-in-law), Jesse Zerbe, Henry Zerbe, James Killmer, Carol Belton, Rick Fay, Richard Joseph (Mary Jane Gardner's brother), Edith & Dave (Donna Sheak's parents)

Currently deployed: Justin Newman (grandson of Carol Belton). Lindsey Siller (friend of Deb Traver)

Long Term Residence Lutheran Care

Prayers for Dort Traver (member) who is in the Lutheran Care Center, Rm 111a South.

Joys

For Elizabeth (Ben & Myung Sung's daughter) in California, who is starting a new job.
For Sean (Dawne & Rick Fay's son) who is starting a new job.



Congratulations to Kalie and Ryan Hawley on the birth of their son Ryker Andrew on July 27th. He arrived at 7:13 a.m., 7 lbs 2 oz and 20" long.
Congrats also to Andy and Renee Albrecht (grandparents) and Steve and Jean Albrecht (great grandparents).

Friendship Callers



Friendship Callers will resume visiting our shut-ins On Tuesday, September 17th. Visitation is on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. If you are interested in joining this group or have any questions, please see Joan Smith or call her at 635-3687.

ANNUAL CHICKEN BBQ - Thank you and update

The Chicken BBQ started in 2002, and continues to be a delicious success. However it would not be possible without the help, and support from our wonderful Church family. We truly appreciate all of those who came to help, bake, eat and purchase left overs!

The BBQ has raised \$1115.00 for our Church's general fund/operating expenses. The remaining BBQ'd chicken and corn bread was donated to the homeless shelter. The remaining salad greens and veggies were enjoyed at the CAT survey interpretation meeting that was held on Sunday, June 9th.

With sincere thanks, Tracy & Peter Keck, Lisa Wendell, Edith & Paul Keck



Adam's Gift Cards
Thank you for your support of the Adam's gift card program. Many of you are faithful participants and that is greatly appreciated. I hope you all consider buying a gift card which will help our church. See Helen Traver anytime or stop in the church office during office hours to purchase an Adam's gift card.
THANK YOU!!

Pleasant Valley Weekend Parade

Thanks to all who helped with our float! Steve Albrecht loaned us a hay wagon and Don Traver was our driver. The float was created by Don Traver, Phyllis Menzenski, Beth Murphy, Helen Traver and Marilyn Brands.

Riders were:

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| <i>Tom and Carol Smith</i> | <i>Karen Sheer</i> |
| <i>Keith, Becky, Robert and Grayson Harrison</i> | <i>Richard Moysey</i> |
| <i>Patrick, Olivia and Jonah Martin</i> | <i>Mary Jane Gardner</i> |
| <i>Helen Traver</i> | <i>Beth and Hope Murphy</i> |
| <i>Marilyn Brands</i> | <i>Paige Daley</i> |
| <i>Karen Albrecht</i> | <i>Pastor Lynn and Steve Brown</i> |
| <i>Karen Haight</i> | |

The weather cooperated and it was a lot of fun!

Bible Study will resume on September 15th. This class will meet on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. in the Parlor.





Beth Murphy, CE Coordinator murphygba@aol.com 845-868-7298(h) 845-242-0325 (C)

The next meeting of the Christian Education Committee will be held on Wednesday, September 4th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor.

HUGE SUCCESS!!!
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JULY 15-19, 2019



THANKS To OUR Volunteers

Jean Albrecht
Dara Brands
Ken Brands
Marilyn Brands
Aimee Brower
Joyce Brower
Rev. Lynn Brown
Alta Conklin
Paige Daley
Keith Daley
Mary Jane Gardner
Karen Haight
Ashley Keck
Phyllis Menzenski

Linda Morey
Beth Murphy
Gary Murphy
Hope Murphy
Deb Murray
Rich Murray
Missy Sauer
Donna Sheak
Barb Smith
Denny Smith
Ben Sung
Charlie Traver
Helen Traver
Debi Tyger

And to all those who contributed supplies and money in support of VBS.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS WERE COLLECTED DURING THE WEEK OF VBS AND ARE BEING GIVEN TO THE PLEASANT VALLEY FOOD PANTRY FOR DISTRIBUTION



Church Barbecue/Picnic

on Sunday, September 8th

Location/Time: Cady Field, from 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Sponsored by the CE Committee, everyone is welcome to join us for food, games, fun and fellowship.

Hamburgers/Hot dogs will be provided. There will be a signup sheet available later this month for other food, beverages and supplies for this event.

Tickets for Sharon Playhouse performance of



Audiences around the world adore this first musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice (Evita, Jesus Christ Superstar). And 2019 celebrates its 50th Anniversary!

With dazzling sets and costumes and rock concert lighting, this high energy sung through tour of the famous bible story is full of catchy songs, from a parody of French ballads “Those Canaan Days”, to country-western (“One More Angel in Heaven” and even calypso “Benjamin Calypso”, along with the unforgettable classics “Any Dream Will Do” and “Close Every Door” and wildly entertaining dance numbers “Go, Go, Go, Joseph.”

Bring the entire family...you’ll want to tap your feet and want to sing along to this stunning musical feast.

Tickets are available for the 2:00 p.m. and the 8:00 p.m. shows on Thursday, August 22, 2019. Please call the church office by Tuesday, August 20th to make a reservation. Cost per person will be determined by the size of our group, but approximately \$20.00 - \$25.00 per ticket.

MANY THANKS!!



To all of the volunteers who helped to make the lobster evenings a success. We thank all of the bakers, whether you brought cookies once, twice or three times. We thank our cashiers and hostess/wait staff persons. Our sincere gratitude to the kitchen staff, most of whom gave up six summer evenings, but also those who pitched in just once or twice. Due to your willing hearts and hands we were able to turn in \$1345.00 to the church General Fund. And last but not least a thank you to all who came and enjoyed lobster.

Paul & Edith Keck

Promises for the Abundant Life

- My children, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. ²¹ Let them not escape from your sight; keep them within your heart. ²² For they are life to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh. (Prov. 4:20-22)
- With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation." (Ps. 91:16)
- And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible for one who believes." (Mk. 9:23)
- So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. (Rom. 10:17)
- for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. (Phil. 2:13)
- Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. (Isa. 53:4-5)
- Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. (Heb. 11:1)
- He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. (1 Pet. 2:24)
- for we walk by faith, not by sight. (2 Cor. 5:7)
- Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever! (Ps. 107:1)
- Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." (Matt. 9:29)
- Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. (Jas. 1:17)

Contributed by Ben Sung

Bargain Basement - Help Needed

We need as many hands as possible to help set up the Bargain Basement on
Tuesday, September 3rd starting at 9:00 a.m.

We will reopen on Wednesday, September 4th.



Choir rehearsals resume in September according to the schedule listed below.

Senior Vocal Choir: Thursday, September 5th at 7:00 p.m.

Senior Bell Choir: Monday, September 9th at 7:00 p.m. (Please bring your calendars!)



NEW YORK STATE | Corrections and
Community Supervision

ADOPT A PRISON SAVE THE DATE

Chris Burdick, Supervisor of the Town of Bedford, invites you to learn more about our neighbors in our local prisons, and the "Adopt-A-Prison" program being started by The Town of Bedford, Bedford Hills and Taconic Correctional Facilities, and Interfaith Prison Partnership.

Date: Sunday, September 22, 2019

Place: Bedford Hills Train Station House at Depot Plaza

Time: 4:00 - 6:00 PM

This is a free event open to the public

Speakers:

George Latimer, County Executive of Westchester County
Shelley Mayer, New York State Senator
David Buchwald, New York State Assemblyman, 93rd Assembly District
Chris Burdick, Supervisor of the Town of Bedford
Hans Hallundbaek, Director, Interfaith Prison Partnership
Amy LaManna, Superintendent of Bedford Hills Correctional Facility
Tanya Mitchell-Voyd, Superintendent of Taconic Correctional Facility
Returned Citizens/Former Inmates

Organizations represented:

Alternative to Violence Project	Puppies Behind Bars
Hour Children	Rehabilitation Through the Arts (RTA)
Northern Westchester Interfaith Council	Coming Home Program

Refreshments provided

RSVP to sharon@hudrivpres.org



MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

On average, there are

123

SUICIDES A DAY.

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

From 1999 to 2016,

630,000

people died from
DRUG OVERDOSE.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Nearly **1** in **5** U.S.
adults lives with a
MENTAL ILLNESS.

*National Institute of Mental Health via the
National Survey on Drug Use and Health
and the Substance Abuse and Mental
Health Services Administration*

Why Mental Health First Aid?

Mental Health First Aid teaches you **how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders**. This 8-hour training gives you the skills you need to reach out and provide initial support to someone who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem and help connect them to appropriate care.

WHAT IT COVERS

- Common signs and symptoms of mental illness.
- Common signs and symptoms of substance use.
- How to interact with a person in crisis.
- How to connect the person with help.
- **NEW:** How to administer naloxone in the event of an opioid overdose.

WHO SHOULD TAKE IT

- Employers
- Police officers
- Hospital staff
- First responders
- Faith leaders
- Community members
- Caring individuals

The course will teach you how to apply the ALGEE action plan:

- **Assess** for risk of suicide or harm
- **Listen** nonjudgmentally
- **Give** reassurance and information
- **Encourage** appropriate professional help
- **Encourage** self-help and other support strategies

More than 1 million trained!

Interested in taking the Course?

Where: First Presbyterian Church, 1576 Main Street (Route 44)
Pleasant Valley, NY (845) 635-3289

When: Saturday November 16, 2019 9:00-5:00

Registration: Limited to **35** Attendees, by **advanced registration ONLY** (Breakfast & Lunch Provided)



MENTAL
HEALTH
FIRST AID®

About the Instructor: Jean-Marie Niehbur, LSCWR, Coordinator of Prevention Services with Dutchess County Behavioral and Community Health is committed to preventing suicide, drug abuse and overdose, promoting wellness and engaging with our communities. If you are interested in taking this certification course, or would like more information, please contact, Tracy Keck: tracymkeck@gmail.com/845-594-2276.

AUGUST 2019



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
				5:30 - 8:30 pm Lobster Roll Prep 6pm Pound Exer (FH) 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (BR)	4pm - 6pm - Lobster Rolls 5:30-8 Tien Tao (FH)	8:30-9:30am Tien Tao(FH) 10am Tai Chi - Chapel
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:30 am HOLY COMMUNION Sawner Baptism 10:30 am Coffee Hour	6pm Pound Exr (FH)	5:30-8 pm Tien Tao(FH) 7:30 pm N.A.(YR)	7:00pm CE Mtg. 5:30-8 Tien Tao (FH)	6pm Pound Exr (FH)	5:30-8pm Tien Tao(FH)	8:30-9:30am Tien Tao(FH) 10am Tai Chi - Chapel
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:30 am WORSHIP 10:30 am Coffee Hour	6pm Pound Exr (FH)	4pm Homeless Meal Prep 5:30-8pm Tien Tao 7 PM Trustees 7:30 pm N.A.(YR)	5:30-8 Tien Tao (FH) 7:30 pm Lyme Disease (YR)	6pm Pound Exer (FH)	5:30-8 Tien Tao (FH) 6:30pm Stamping/Lisa (BR)	8:30-9:30am Tien Tao(FH) 10am Tai Chi - Chapel 10:00am-6:30pm Stamping/Lisa (BR)
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:30 am WORSHIP 10:30 am Coffee Hour	6pm Pound Exr (FH)	5:30-8pm Tien Tao (FH) 7:30 pm NA(YR)	5:30-8 Tien Tao 7:00pm Session	6pm Pound Exer (FH) 2pm & 8 pm Sharon Playhouse	5:30-8 Tien Tao	8:30-9:30am Tien Tao(FH) 10am Tai Chi - Chapel
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:30 am WORSHIP 10:30 am Coffee Hour	6pm Pound Exr (FH)	5:30-8pm Tien Tao (FH) 7:30 pm N.A.(YR)	5:30-8pm Tien Tao (FH)	6pm Pound Exer (FH)	5:30-8 Tien Tao	8:30-9:30am Tien Tao(FH) 10am Tai Chi - Chapel



2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9:30 am HOLY COMMUNION	2 LABOR DAY Church Office Closed	3 9am - Barg Bsmt Setup 5:30-8 Tien Tao 7:30 pm NA	4 10-1 Bargain Bsmt 5:30-8 Tien Tao 7 pm CE Meeting	5 6pm Pound Exr (FH) 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7 pm Senior Choir	6 5:30-8 Tien Tao	7 8:30-9:30 Tien Tao 10-1 Barg Bsmt 10am Tai Chi - Chapel 9am-1pm CAT Mtg - 'What Now'
8 9:30 am WORSHIP/Bell Tower Dedication 11am-3pm Church Picnic/Cady Field	9 8-1:00 PVN 6:30 Stamping/Jean 6pm Pound Ex(FH) 7 PM Bell Choir	10 PVN 8-1:00 5:30-8 Tien Tao 7:30 pm NA 7 PM Trustees	11 8-1:00 PVN 10-1 Bargain Bsmt 5:30-8 Tien Tao 7:30 Lyme Disease	12 8-1:00 PVN 6pm Pound Exr (Chapel) 7 pm Senior Choir	13 8-1:00 PVN 5:30-8 Tien Tao	14 8:30-9:30 Tien Tao 10am Tai Chi - Chapel 10-1 Barg Bsmt
15 9:30 am WORSHIP / Edgar Hayes 11am Bible Study - Parlor	16 8-1:00 PVN 6pm Pound Ex(FH) 7 PM Bell Choir	17 8-1:00 9:30 am Friendship Callers 5:30-8 Tien Tao 7:30 pm N.A.	18 PVN 8-1:00 10-1 Bargain Bsmt 5:30-8 Tien Tao 6:30- Session	19 PVN 8-1:00 6pm Pound Exer (FH) 7 pm Senior Choir	20 PVN 8-1:00 5:30-8 Tien Tao	21 8:30-9:30 Tien Tao 10-1 Bargain Bsmt 10am Tai Chi - Chapel 10am-6pm Family Party - (FH)
22 9:30 am WORSHIP/ Rev Laurie Spencer 11am Bible Study - Parlor	23 8-1:00 PVN 6pm Pound Ex(FH) 7 PM Bell Choir	24 8-1:00 PVN 5:30-8 Tien Tao 7:30 pm NA	25 8-1:00 PVN 10-1 Bargain Bsmt 5:30-8 Tien Tao	26 8-1:00 PVN 6pm Pound Exer (FH) 7 pm Senior Choir	27 8-1:00 PVN 5:30-8 Tien Tao	28 8:30-9:30 Tien Tao 10-1 Bargain Basement 10am Tai Chi - Chapel
29 9:30 am WORSHIP 11am Bible Study - Parlor	30 8-1:00 PVN 6pm Pound Ex(FH) 7 PM Bell Choir			SAVE THE DATE OCT 5TH HARVEST BUFFET		