

PRES 2019



Shamrock

St. Patrick used the shamrock to teach people about the Godhead. Holding up a shamrock, he challenged them, "Is this one leaf, or three?" Inevitably, people replied that it was both, prompting St. Patrick to draw the analogy that so, too, is God: one God in three Persons — the Holy Trinity.

March 2019

Ash Wednesday this year is on March 6, beginning the season of Lent.

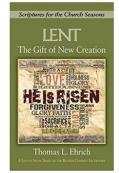
Lent is a period of preparation lasting for 40 days (excluding Sundays) leading up to Easter Sunday. The number 40 is significant in the Bible, particularly echoing for us the 40 years of wilderness wanderings following the Exodus and also the 40 days of temptation that Jesus faced in his own wilderness.

Lent invites us to focus our attention on the classic scriptural themes of penitence, preparation, and renewal and the scriptures we read support those themes. At the same time, the Lenten scriptures follow Jesus of Nazareth as he engages in ministry in and around Israel and Judea. Because we live on this side of Easter, we know that Jesus' journey is taking him to the cross – and beyond. Because we want to follow Jesus, we are called to walk that road with him.



Our Sunday Lenten sermon series this year follows Jesus "on the move" primarily through the lens of the gospel writer Luke. Since

part of the call of Lent is to deeper study and engagement, there will also be an opportunity for Bible study at **4pm on Wednesdays** in the parlor at the church. We'll be using a book to facilitate our conversation of the Lenten



lectionary passages: *Lent: The Gift of New Creation* by Thomas L. Ehrich. Copies will be available at church with a suggested donation of \$10.

Also during Lent at **5pm on Wednesdays** we will set out a simple soup and bread supper for anyone coming from work or attending the earlier Bible study or staying for the later Lenten prayer service. We are asking for reservations for this so that we have enough soup and bread on hand and look forward to sharing our favorite recipes with each other, whether store-bought or homemade! A sign up for this will be available at church beginning on Sunday, March 3.

At **6pm on Wednesdays** during Lent we will gather in the chapel for a brief mid-week prayer service. We are going to go back to our Star Words from Epiphany (remember? if not, ask for a Star Word! I have plenty more!) and we will use song and scripture and prayer stations to explore the implications of our Star Words for our lives during this Lenten season and beyond.

ALL OF THESE OPPORTUNITIES ARE DROP-IN AND COME AS YOU ARE.

COME TO ONE OR COME TO ALL; COME TO ONE THIS WEEK AND A DIFFERENT ONE NEXT.

DATES: WEDNESDAYS MARCH 6, 13, 20, 27, APRIL 3, 10, AND MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 18.

Is God calling you to deepen your Lenten discipline this year? Join us!

In Christ together,

Lynn Brown Lkbrown27@gmail.com



The February Session meeting was canceled because of the weather. Look for the Session Update next month.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

A special meeting of the congregation is called for Sunday, March 31, 2019 immediately following worship in the sanctuary. The purpose of this meeting is to approve the updated By-laws of the congregation.

Note: Our By-laws were most recently printed as a whole in 1990. This document needs to be updated to include changes that have been already approved by the congregation and to reflect present practices. Printed copies of the updated By-laws will be available on Sunday, March 24 so that members can read them before the meeting on March 31.

From Presbytery: New Bottled Water Policy

At the January 29 Presbytery meeting, the Presbytery of Hudson River passed a new bottled water policy. Presbytery will serve tap water, if safe, instead of bottled water at all locations and gatherings of the presbytery. Member congregations are asked to refrain from serving bottled water at meetings, meals, and other gatherings of the congregation. (Our church is in compliance with this policy when we serve water in pitchers or large jugs at coffee hours and dinners.)

Member churches are also asked to encourage their members stop using bottled water, and educate them on the environmental impact of doing so. Below are some of the facts that form the rationale for this policy:

- 1. More than 75% of plastic bottles end up in landfills or the ocean.
- 2. There are 5 massive patches of plastic in the oceans around the world. These concentrations of plastic debris cover large swaths of the ocean; the one between California and Hawaii is the size of the state of Texas.
- 3. Much of bottled water is tap water.
- 4. The U.S. EPA sets more stringent standards for tap water than the FDA does for bottled beverages.
- 5. Bottled water corporations have depleted aquifers in rural areas.
- 6. Millions of barrels of oil are used each year to produce and transport bottled water. It is imperative that we reduce non-essential uses of oil.



<u>Pastor Lynn's</u> <u>March Office Hours</u> Wednesdays & Thursdays 12pm-4pm by appointment. Text or call (518)755-4940







Journeying Together

Sundays March 17th and 24th 11am in the Parlor

A two-week exploration of faith for those interested in becoming a member of First Presbyterian Church of Pleasant Valley

What does church membership mean in the 21st century? Join us for coffee and conversation about faith and fellowship in community. We will share some of our own faith stories and discern together how God is leading us in our journeys, both individually and together.

New members will be received into membership during worship on Palm Sunday, April 14.

Please speak with Pastor Lynn if you are interested or have any questions!



CHURCH OFFICERS 2019

	CECCION							
SESSION ELDERS (Ruling Body of the Church)								
	Rev. Lynn Brown - Moderator	ich)						
CLASS OF 2019	CLASS OF 2020							
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						
		Denny Smith						
		Denny Smith						
		Denny Smith						
	DEACONS							
	(The Service Body of the Churc	h)						
Barbara Huneke								
Barbara Huneke Richard Moysey	(The Service Body of the Churc	h)						

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.

For Peter (Frank & Donna Mear's son) who is recovering after an auto accident. For Mark Merritt (friend of the Murphy's) who is undergoing surgery. For Henry (Pat Zerbe's brother) who is dealing with medical issues. For Ginger (friend of Marilyn Brands) who is having a difficult time. For Meredith (Phyllis Menzenski's daughter) who is going through a very difficult time. For Bill Plass who is now home recovering from medical issues.

Looking toward or recuperating from surgery: Fran Patterson (Laurie Fouts mother), Don Cookingham (friend of Phyllis Menzenski), Nancy Murphy as she recovers from a fall.

Living with cancer: Tom Simonton (Traci Haight's father), Penny Sawner (James's mother), Chris Woodward (Harriet Mark's brother), Karen Livingston Bernardo (friend of Phyllis Menzenski), Muriel (friend of Barbara Huneke), Mike Mikula (Joyce's brother-in law).

Ongoing health issues: Carol Belton, Rick Fay, Richard Joseph (Mary Jane Gardner's brother), Jim Killmer (Beth Murphy's father,) Donna Mears, Edith & Dave (Donna Sheak's parents) and Betty Wigsten

Currently deployed: Steven Albrecht (grandson of Steve & Jean); Justin Newman (grandson of Carol Belton).

Long Term Residence Lutheran Care





Friendship Callers will meet on <u>Tuesday, March 19</u> at 9:30 a.m. to visit our shuts-in. We meet in the yellow room. Any questions, please call Joan Smith at 635-3687.

MISSION STUDY TEAM

The Mission Study Team is creating a document to describe where are church has been, where it is now, and where it is going. The team is currently working on the part of the document that will describe our church's context, congregation, and resources. We have also recently invited the congregation to provide their input into our history by adding personal memories or important moments in our congregation's history to a timeline of our church's ministers during Coffee Hour on February 24th. If you missed church that week, papers will be available again next week, or you can e-mail kenbrands@gmail.com



There are a few tickets still available for the matinee performance of "Newsies" at the Westchester Broadway Theatre on Wednesday, April 24, 2019. Tickets are \$55.00 per person. A sign-up sheet will be available on the table in the Fellowship Hall. Please see Jean Albrecht for more information and to make payment.



The next meeting of the Christian Education Committee will be on

Wednesday, March 6th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor.

Anyone that is looking for something new and interesting to do, please feel free to join us! The Christian Education Committee is focused on sharing the good news with all the followers of Jesus Christ. Our meeting date has changed to the first Wednesday of each month and we meet for 1 hour.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JULY 15-19, 2019





Bible Study meets on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. in the classroom on the 3rd floor.



TODDLER CLASS

The CE Committee provides a Sunday School class on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. It meets in the Nursery Room (last door on left of 2nd floor hallway)



Presbyterian Women and the Christian Education Committee are combining efforts once again to share our skills and laughter making an Easter Decoration on Friday evening, March 22. Please call the church office to register (845-635-3289) Seating will be limited to 20 people. The cost will be offset by both the PW and CE committee. The cost per participant will be \$20. All supplies will be included. Please see Beth Murphy or Linda Morey if you have questions.



Free Spaghetti Dinner scheduled for Saturday, March 30th from 4:30 p.m. -7:00 p.m.

ITEMS NEEDED: Donations of angel hair pasta, spaghetti sauce, cash donations for meat, and homemade brownies (brownies & ice cream for dessert).

<u>HELP NEEDED</u>: We also need workers to serve in the dining room, set up and clean up and of course LOTS of people to come and eat. Signup sheets are available in the Fellowship Hall.

Please call the church office at 635-3289 to make a reservation.

TAI CHI CLASSES

Tai Chi is now being offered every Saturday at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel for \$10 per session.



SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2019

HUDSON RIVER UNIVERSITY

"I came looking for insights in how to improve my work...and I certainly got it. I hope the word gets out that these things are really valuable." Jack Krause, Ruling Elder, Germonds Presbyterian

On Saturday, March 16, from 9:30am-2:30pm at **Stony Point Center**, join leaders from across the presbytery for HRU! **This university is open to al**... old and young...any church members, officers or friends from any of our HRP congregations!

The best part is that **tuition is FREE**!!! There will be a cost for lunch (\$15) but any and all instruction and materials will be at no charge.

Opening Worship and Keynote Speaker

Rev. Aquellah Ligonde Pastor at Far Rockaway Presbyterian Church Consultant with Youth Ministry Architects.

Two Workshop Sessions 11:00am and 1:00pm.

View full workshop descriptions and leader bios

REGISTER NOW!

HudsonRiverPresbytery <u>hudrivpres.org</u>



MARCH 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSD AY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 8-1:00 PVN	2 10-1 Barg Bsmt 10am Tai Chi - Chapel 12:00 -2:00pm Cherilyn Dance
3	4 8-1:00 PVN	5 PVN 8-1:00	6 8-1:00 PVN	7 8-1:00 PVN	8 Closed PVN	9
9:30 am HOLY COMMUNION 11am Bible Study 12-2pm Cherilyn Dance	6pm Pound Exr (FH) 7 PM Bell Choir	7:30 pm N.A.	ASH WEDNESDAY 10-1 Bargain Bsmt 4 pm Bible Study 5 pm Soup/Bread 6pm Lenten Svc. 7 pm CE Mtg	6pm Pound Exr (FH) 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7 pm Senior Choir		10-1 Bargain Basement 10am Tai Chi - Chapel 9-5 Lisa (FH)
10	11 8-1:00PVN	12 8-1:00PVN	13 8-1:00 PVN	14 8-1:00 PVN	15 8-1:00 PVN	16
9:30 am WORSHIP 11 am Bible Study 2-4pm CMVCA(YR)	6pm Pound Exr (FH) 7 PM Bell Choir	7 PM Trustees 7:30 pm N.A.	10-1 Bargain Bsmt 4 pm Bible Study 5 pm Soup/Bread 6pm Lenten Svc. 6:15-7:45 Girl S (BR) 7 PM Mission Stdy 7:30 pm Lyme	6pm Pound Exer (FH) 7 pm Senior Choir	6:30 Lisa Stamping	10-1 Bargain Basement 10am Tai Chi - Chapel
17	18 Closed PVN	19 8-1:00 PVN	20 8-1:00 PVN	21 8-1:00 PVN	22 8-1:00 PVN	23
9:30 am WORSHIP /Visit by General Presbyter 11 am Bible Study	6pm Pound Exr (FH) 7 PM Bell Choir	9:30 am Friendship Callers 7:30 pm NA	10-1 Bargain Bsmt 4 pm Bible Study 5 pm Soup/Bread 6pm Lenten Svc. 6:30pm Session	6pm Pound Exer (FH) 7 pm Senior Choir	6:30pm -PW/CE Easter Craft (FH)	10-1 Bargain Basement 10am Tai Chi - Chapel
24	25 8-1:00 PVN	26 8-1:00 PVN	27 8-1:00 PVN	28 8-1:00 PVN	29 8-1:00 PVN	30
9:30 am WORSHIP/Bells Play 11:00 am Bible Study	6pm Pound Exr (FH) 7 PM Bell Choir	7:30 pm N.A.	10-1 Barg Bsmt 4 pm Bible Study 5 pm Soup/Bread 6pm Lenten Svc. 6:15-7:45 Girl S (BR) 7 PM Mission Stdy	6pm Pound Exer (FH) 7 pm Senior Choir		10-1 Bargain Basement 10am Tai Chi - Chapel 4:30 pm Spaghetti Dinner
31						
9:30 am WORSHIP 10:30 am Special Cong. Meeting						
11 am Bible Study						