

Jacob's Well

April 2017



April 2 FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Lectionary Readings: Ezekiel 37: 1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8: 6-11; John 11: 1-45

Greeter: Barbara Vincent

Liturgist: Pam Seward

Ushers: Terri Richards/Ajay Deyoe

Counters: Paulette Foote/Anne Mitchell

*Communion Servers: Cindy Brockman/Anne Mitchell/ Bruce Guerineau/
Paulette Foote*

Communion Cleanup: Anna Bierma

April 9 PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

Lectionary Readings: Psalm 118: 1-2, 9-29; Matthew 21: 1-11; Isaiah 50: 4-9; Psalm 31: 9-16;
Philippians 2: 5-11; Matthew 26: 14-27: 66; Matthew 21: 11-54

Greeter: Bill Olmert

Liturgist: Amber Deyoe

Ushers: Terri Richards/Eddie Fish

Counters: Bruce Guerineau/Cindy Brockman

April 16 EASTER SUNDAY

Celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Lectionary Readings: Acts 10: 34-43; Jeremiah 31: 1-6; Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3: 1-4;
Acts 10: 34-43; John 20: 1-18; Matthew 28: 1-10

Greeter: Amber Deyoe

Liturgist: Chris Garney

Ushers: Holly Deyoe/Dick Behrens

Counters: Paulette Foote/Anne Mitchell

April 23 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Earth Day Sunday

Lectionary Readings: Acts 2: 14, 22-32; Psalm 16: 1 Peter 1: 3-9; John 20: 19-31

Greeter: Kim and Karl Thayer

Liturgist: Ajay Deyoe

Ushers: Hank Harrington/Katrina Harrington

Counters: Cindy Brockman/Bruce Guerineau

April 30 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Guest Worship Leader: Chris Garney

Lectionary Readings: Acts 2: 14, 36-41; Psalm 116: 1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1: 17-23; Luke 24: 13-35

Greeter: Anna Bierma

Liturgist: Holly Deyoe

Ushers: Karl Thayer/Kim Thayer

Counters: Amber Deyoe/Anne Mitchell



From the Pastor....

Dear Members and Friends of Old Saratoga,

Greetings to you and your families in the grace and peace of Christ!

The season of Lent is more than halfway over. Soon Holy Week will be here (April 9-15) and then Easter (April 16)

Since the big winter storm we had on March 14-15, it has been cold and dreary. Spring is here, but we can hardly tell it. We're waiting for the snow to melt; for the warmth of the sun; for signs that *"...now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land."* (Song of Solomon 2:11-12)

In these weeks of Lent, as our bodies long for warmth and light, we may also find that our spirits do the same. Around us and within, there are cold powers of anger, death and despair that chill the hopes of many for an easier life and a better world. Spirits are dampened by fear and anxiety not only about today, but about what the future will hold.

In these unsettling times, we remember what Jesus said to his disciples just before his trial and execution in Jerusalem: ***"In the world you have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."*** (John 16:33) He testified that God was with him—and that in him, his followers would ***"have peace."*** (vs. 33)

They did eventually find peace, but not right away. The unfolding crisis of Jesus' suffering and death shook their faith. In confusion and fear, they betrayed, denied and abandoned Jesus in his darkest hours—which became their darkest hours too.

It wasn't until after the Resurrection of Jesus that they could be of "good cheer". The world had not changed, but something happened to their grieving spirits when Jesus came back to them and spoke his word of peace.

His words and risen presence were as new life to them. They knew then that their failures were forgiven; that he had never stopped loving them; that there was nothing in life or death that could ever separate them from the Love of God that overcomes death and all the sin of the world—including theirs.

From that time on, the disciples knew the Gift of Resurrection. They too had been raised up from "death" to life! They could now begin to see that there was nothing in creation stronger than God's everlasting Love!

So let us, like the disciples, take heart! Be of good cheer! Christ is Risen—and he is with us always in this world of tribulation. He gives us courage to love and forgive; he blesses our spirits with hope and peace; he calls us one and all to live in a way that gives new life to the world!

May you and your families be blessed with God's Love and Peace this Easter and always!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Joyce de Velder

Church Family

BIRTHDAYS

2: Harold Burch
2: Colleen Burch
4: Leah Demick
5: Gabriel Paul Alexanian
7: Jikke (Bierma) Loughlin
9: Sarah Zotzmann
10: Christopher Correll
13: Allene Cobart
15: Sarah Mathis
17: Kathryn (Sherman) Clark
17: Andrew Freebern
20: Carl Douglass
21: Maggie Cox
23: John Deyoe, Jr.
23: Bryn Radigan
24: Jillian Perkins
25: Devin Freebern
27: Edward Robert Richards Fish
30: Michael Shaver



ANNIVERSARIES

17: Donald and Kathleen Bartholomay, 1970

Please help us keep the lists current by giving us dates and updates. Thanks!

NEW ADDRESS

Bette Tucker: Wesley Health Care Center,
Victoria 212, 131 Lawrence Street, Saratoga
Springs, NY 12866

THANKS EXTENDED

... **Florence and Roger Sherman**, who
counted all the money from the coin boxes
that was donated to support *Drilling For
Hope*.

IN OUR PRAYERS

*"Pray at all times in the Spirit....making supplication
for all the saints." (Ephesians 6: 18)*

Ruth Hayes	Bette Tucker
Dwight Colvin	Sue and Tom Wilbur
Alyson Fitzgerald	Bill Cluff
Thomas Altrogge	Veneta Duffany
David Garrand	Ryan Markwith
Rod Borgman	Ashley Edgar
John Bodnar	Trevor Lewie
Richard Zelazny	Naomi Thayer
Sandy Jones	Cheryl Durkee
Evie Senecal	Alicia Lewie
Charlotte Gorham	Rosie Driscoll
Justin Flanders	Clyde Wells
Susie Murphy	Tom Barber
Pat Hayes-Howd	Michael Hughes III
Sandy DeGregory	Charles Thayer
Mona Perkins	Robin Hoffman
Suzanne Guerineau	Joan James
Connie Jacobson	Trisha Atkinson
Michael Gordon	Jodi Neckles
Nancy and Norman Howard	Peggy MacMillan
Donald Morrill	

HOSPITALIZED IN MARCH

Tom Wilbur- Ellis Hospital, Sunnyview Rehab

FAREWELL TO THE DICKINSON FAMILY

We bid farewell to **Sam and Eran Dickinson**
and their children, **Kura (11), Jillian (9) and
Caleb (7)**. During the week of March 13,
they moved from Saratoga to Gales Ferry, CT
(north of the Groton Naval Base where Sam
is stationed). Sam will soon be deployed to
submarine duty and will be gone from home
for at least six months. Please keep the
Dickinson's in your prayers during this time of
transition and family separation. If you'd like
to send them a note, their new address is:
1560 Route 12, Gales Ferry, CT 06335

THANKS RECEIVED



"Friends,

On behalf of the members of the End of the Rainbow Group , Alcoholics Anonymous (Sunday pm group) I want to express our sincere gratitude for your hospitality and support over the past 15 years. Wow! That's a long time.

We would like to present you with a small monetary token of our gratitude. Use it to help keep the doors open and the room warm for all people who seek refuge and peace."

Tom

Treasurer, AA- End of the Rainbow

(AA usually gives OSRC \$50 per quarter; this donation was \$75!)

From the Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region

"On behalf of the Board and Staff of The Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region, I wish to express our sincere thanks for your recent gift. Your gift was deposited into the **Drilling for Hope Fund**, which is one of over 400 funds at the Foundation that supports a variety of charitable causes and organizations. The Community Foundation is a critical community asset. Hundreds of local nonprofit organizations depend on us-not only for grants, but for behind-the-scenes training and advocacy as well. We are privileged to be in a position to help lead the Greater Capital Region into the future by supporting the organizations that strengthen our families and help our communities thrive."

With deepest appreciation,

John Eberle, President and CEO

BETTE TUCKER RECEIVES CAT

On March 9 several members of the Church visited **Bette Tucker** and delivered a robotic cat, which Bette enjoyed immensely. A basket has been placed on her walker, so that Bette is able to "travel" with her cat. A special thanks to Duffy Whitehouse for spearheading the cat project; and to the Women's Guild and all who donated!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Becca Sheely, daughter of **Paula and Doug Sheely**, will be receiving The Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence, which honors those who have received recognition for distinguished achievements, and is the highest honor bestowed on students by the State University. 248 students from 64 campuses will be honored.

Students are recognized for the integration of academic excellence with other aspects of their lives, including leadership, campus involvement, community service, arts, athletics or career achievement.

Becca will be honored at the Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, April 5th at the Empire Convention Center in Albany.

PASTOR JOYCE AND FAMILY ON VACATION

The deVelder's will be away for 10 days travelling to Michigan and spending a week with their family in Fremont, MI. On the Sunday Pastor Joyce is away (**April 30**) worship service will be led by **Chris Garney**. Pastoral needs (hospital visits) etc. may be directed to Elder Vice President **Paulette Foote**, or the church office.

Church Life

ECUMENICAL BIBLE STUDY

The Ecumenical Bible Study group began reading the **Book of Isaiah**, one of the richest books of the Hebrew Scriptures, esteemed by Jews and Christians alike. The book is particularly relevant today as it addresses the longings and anxieties of people of faith trying to live in a strange land where they've been taken as exiles. The prophet Isaiah speaks words of faith and hope to us today—as well as to the people of his time.

(Bible Study meets every Wed. from 10-11am.)

LASAGNA DINNER

Sat. April 22



Our Annual Lasagna Dinner is scheduled for Sat. April 22. We are grateful to **Cindy Brockman** and **Paulette Foote** for offering to chair this event. Please note the date on your calendar so that you can come and enjoy a great meal!

GUILD MEETING

Mon. April 17 at noon

*The Women's Guild will hold their next meeting on **Mon. April 17 at noon**. Please bring a sandwich; dessert and beverage will be provided by hostess **Terri Richards**.*

GARDENER NEEDED

We are in need of someone who is willing to spend 2-3 hours per week tending the flower beds of the Church. Please contact the Church office, if you are willing to do so.

PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 9 8:45am

Everyone is invited to attend our Palm Sunday Breakfast on **April 9 at 8:45am**. Please sign up to bring a breakfast item to share. It can be an egg casserole, sweet bread/muffins, meat (bacon or sausage) fruit, bagels, coffee cake or juice. Table service will be provided. Our thanks to the Fellowship Committee for organizing this. The food will be abundant, so please come even if you aren't able bring something. Following the breakfast, all are welcome to join in the celebration of the Triumphal Entry of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem, and the commemoration of the Passion.

In order to be ready for worship, we ask that everyone have their dishes here so that we can begin to enjoy them at 9am. Thanks!

INSPIRING WORDS FROM ONE OF OUR YOUTH

Bridgette Lewie, daughter of **Alicia Lewie**, is a 6th grade student at Schuylerville Middle School. She ran for class president and had to give a speech to her peers regarding her goals and values. Bridgette talked about the importance of listening and how people behave in their community. Below is an excerpt of Bridgette's speech:

"We, you and I, have to stand up for people who are different. Whether it be their looks, their personality, what they believe in, or how they behave. If we see anybody who is hurting inside or out, we need to help them and make them happy, bring that smile to their face! That is what I want and I know that is what you would want...."

Thank you, Bridgette!

CAMP FOWLER REGISTRATION AND "CAMPERSHIPS"

Registration for the upcoming camping season at Fowler is available online, by accessing the Fowler website:

www.campfowler.org

We're happy to note that there are already four of our young people (**Makenzie Harrington, Bridget Behrens, Ajay Deyoe, Holly Deyoe**) planning to go to Fowler this summer.

The consistory has designated **\$300** for each camper to help cover the cost of a week at camp, which is **\$425**. OSRC will be accepting donations towards camperships. You may make your check out to OSRC, earmarked "**Campership**" and place it in the offering plate or send it to the church. Thanks!

EASTER SUNDAY

All are welcome to join the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ at the worship service at **10am on Sunday, April 16**. Following the service, refreshments will be served downstairs in Loomis Hall.



HYMNS OF OUR FAITH

"Sing to the Lord, you saints of God; praise his holy name." (Psalm 30:4)

"What Wondrous Love Is This"

***"What wondrous Love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!***

***What wondrous love is this, that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!"***

A look at this hymn continues the theme of the last article written for this newsletter. That theme is the very personal nature of God's love, and the reason why the divine was willing to give up heaven's glory to live among us, and ultimately give his life for our salvation. The key words of last month's hymn (O Love How Deep) were "for us." In "What wondrous Love is This" the continuing theme finds its expression in the words "for my soul."

The hymn is written in the first person and addresses the writer's past, present, and future relationship with God - at one time "sinking down," but rescued by a loving God - and, at some time in the future, being set free from death to forever sing God's praise. In every case the writer acknowledges that God's work was, is, and will be "for my soul."

There is not a lot to tell about the origin or composer, since the references to author and composer are noted as "Anonymous." Hymnologists regard the text as an "Appalachian Folk Hymn," and the music as an "Appalachian Folk Melody." So we are blessed with heavenly thoughts and music without the need to give praise to humankind!. Very refreshing!

"To God and to the Lamb I will sing....."

***To God and to the Lamb, who is the great "I Am,"
While millions join the theme, I will sing."***

Dick Behrens

SETTING THE DATE OF EASTER April 16

People are always asking: Why does the date of Easter vary from year to year? Last year it was March 27. This year it is three weeks later on April 16! Here is how Easter is set:

- 1) The date of the spring (vernal) equinox is March 20.
- 2) The first full moon after the equinox is on April 11.
- 3) Easter is always the first Sunday after the first full moon that follows the Spring Equinox! This year that Sunday is April 16.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Thurs. April 13 7pm MAUNDY THURSDAY
at Schuylerville UMC

Fri. April 14 12pm GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
(Reading of the Passion of Jesus Christ)

at St. Stephen's-

Preaching: Rev. Donna Arnold
(followed by light luncheon)

7pm GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
at Quaker Springs UMC

Sun. April 16 6 am EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE
Bacon Hill Reformed Outdoor Chapel

NEW AREA CODE

The new area code phase in period has begun throughout the 518 area code in New York.

Customers will be able to dial either seven or ten digits on calls within the 518 area code. **But on Aug. 19, those callers will be required to dial ten digits.**

New numbers with an 838 area code will be assigned beginning Sept. 19.

4 TUESDAYS IN LENT -2017

As we continue to learn about the life of **Cornelia (Corrie) ten Boom**, due to the cancellation of the March 14 meeting, the **4 Tuesdays in Lent will be meeting on March 28 and conclude on April 4 from 12-1.** Participants can bring a bag lunch. Coffee, tea, cookies and fruit will be provided.

SMALL CHURCH

Why do you like being a member of a small church? We would be interested in your thoughts on this topic. **Please respond to this email by hitting reply or call the church office at (518) 695-3479.**

MISSION OF THE QUARTER

The Mission for the second quarter (April-June) is **Hippies for Hope**. If you have not received a box, extras are on the back table in the Sanctuary or in the Church Office. **Hippies For Hope** is a grassroots, youth powered organization working to better the education of children in third world countries and spread smiles through local pediatric wards. For every tie-dyed shirt sold, we pledge to donate another to a child at a local hospital. Money is also raised to help improve secondary education abroad.

"We have no lofty goals or dreams, just grass-roots and small town support. As a team, we will work to spread this project as far as it may reach, always remembering the clothesline where it all began."

-Ashlie Busone

Creator and founder of Hippies for Hope

LASAGNA DINNER



Sat. April 22
4:30-6:30 pm

Old Saratoga Reformed Church
48 Pearl St., Schuylerville

*Lasagna (meat and vegetarian), Ziti, tossed salad,
Italian bread, assorted desserts and beverages*

\$10 for adults- \$5 for children 5-10- Under 5 free

Reservations for eat-ins and take outs preferred

695-6638 or 695-3479

Walk-ins welcome!

FIRST QUARTER FINANCIAL UPDATE



We are completing the first quarter of 2017 with all of our bills paid, due to the \$8083.92 in investment income which we carried forward from 2016. We have used all but \$1343.51 of that money. We had a smaller turnout than usual at our “Souper” Supper, but still made \$461. We are hoping that the upcoming Lasagna Dinner and the Stewardship Invitation will help to supplement the donations we receive. As always, we are grateful to all who support our ministry with gifts and prayers, and to God for His blessings.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Garney,
Treasurer

FREE GREETING CARDS



Check out the box of **free greeting cards** at church organizes by **Terri Richards**! You will find cards for all occasions – and then some! All the cards are donated – and additional card donations are always welcome. As greeting cards are getting more expensive to buy, it makes sense to use cards that cost nothing and would otherwise be wasted. Maybe you know someone who can't get to the store or can't afford to buy new cards, and would like to have some on hand! We further encourage all, in this digital age when sending card seems like a thing of the past, to keep the kindness of sending a card going! It's a great way to brighten someone's day. If you have any questions, see Terri!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School leaders **Chris Garney** and **Donna Mellen** announce that there will be no Sunday School on either Easter Sunday, **April 16**, or the following Sunday, **April 23**. Children are encouraged to come to church and sit with their families.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

The church recently received a letter from the village Code Enforcement Officer, Gil Albert, informing us of a mandatory inspection. Mr. Albert came to the church, inspected, and found the following violations:

1. Handrail to the basement needs replacement
2. Carbon monoxide detectors need to be installed
3. Emergency lighting needs to be installed
4. Remove door from back stairs to choir loft for better egress in an emergency
5. Commercial stove in kitchen needs a legal hood with fire suppression

Mr. Albert will return to see that these items are brought into compliance.

The committee met and began addressing the concerns. **Doug Sheely** was hired to replace the handrail into the basement, and in doing so, found that the stairs were not well attached to the plate. He repaired that for us as well. Members of the committee are now investigating replacing the old gas stove with a commercial electric stove, and placing four emergency lights at or near the exits, which will come on in the event of a power outage at a time when the church is being used. The door in question will be removed.

If you have any questions about this, please see one of the members of the committee: **Paulette Foote, Karl Thayer, David deVelder or Duffy Whitehouse.**

DEACON'S DISCRETIONARY FUND



The Board of Deacons received two requests for emergency help from the Discretionary Fund over the past two months. This fund is in place to help members of the church and community when an emergency arises. Requests may be given to pastor Joyce or any one of the Board of Deacons (**Cindy Brockman, Bruce Guerineau, Anne Mitchell**) and will be considered with anonymity is possible, and as long as there is funding available.

If anyone would like to help by making a donation to this fund, please make your check payable to OSRC, earmarked "Deacons Discretionary Fund." Thank you!

In Our Community

SECOND HAND ROSE THRIFT SHOP

116 Broadway, Schuylerville NY



Tues. – Sat. 11am-4pm

Donations gladly accepted
during store hours

Volunteers are always needed!

Call Charlotte at 695-4640

Next Board meeting: 3/17 at 9:30at OSRC

SAFER

Schuylerville Area Food Relief
Open 9-12 noon M,F 260-4779

ROAST BEEF DINNER AT FORT MILLER REFORMED

When: Sat. April 1 4:30-6pm

Cost: \$10 for adults; \$5 for under 12

Menu: Roast Beef, Herbed Potatoes,
Corn Casserole, Carrots, Cole Slaw,
Rolls, Hawaiian Cake

LENTEN FELLOWSHIP CAFE



When: Fridays during Lent, starting 3/10

Time: 10:30am

What: Coffee (regular, decaf) donuts and
bananas

Where: St. Stephen's Fellowship Hall

Focus: Prayer for our country and
fellowship together

April 22 EARTH DAY

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it....

Psalm 24: 1

Do a good deed for the earth on Earth Day!



April 28 Fri. ARBOR DAY

*A great day to plant a tree...and give
thanks to God for the gift of trees!*

www.arborday.org

BACON HILL BONANZA 5K



Bacon Hill Bonanza 5K and 10K Running Race

April 8, Sat. at 10am Kids Fun Run is at 9:30

To register, go to baconhillbonanza.com
(a fundraiser to help the church purchase a new organ)

THE PEOPLE'S CLIMATE MARCH

Saturday, April 29 Washington D.C.

Thousands of people of faith and others will be heading to our nation's capital to speak out for the protection of God's creation. For more information: See

www.creationjustice.org/climate march

6th ANNUAL AUTISM EXPO AND ART EXPO

Sat. April 23 12-3pm Saratoga City Center

Presented by Saratoga Bridges



Church Office: 695-3479

E-Mail:oldsaratogareformed@verizon.net

Fax: 1-518-695-3479

www.old-saratoga.rcachurches.org

www.facebook.com/oldsaratogareformedchurch

PASTOR: Rev. Joyce deVelder

OFFICE MANAGER: Duffy Whitehouse

Consistory Members: Amber Deyoe, Paulette Foote,

Cindy Brockman, Bruce Guerineau, Anne Mitchell

Published ten times yearly in Schuylerville, NY 12871

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

Sunday School: (Sept.-June) 10:00am–11:00am

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Sunday April 2 10am

Palm Sunday Breakfast

Sunday April 9 9am

Easter Sunday Celebration of the Resurrection

Sunday April 16 10am

Annual Lasagna Dinner

Sat. April 22 4:30-6:30pm

Earth Day and Arbor Day

April 22 and April 28