

Jacob's Well

Feb. 2017



Feb. 5 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY **Celebration of the Lord's Supper**

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 58: 1-9; Psalm 112: 1-9; 1 Corinthians 2: 1-12;
Matthew 5: 13-20

Greeter: Helen Lofgren

Liturgist: Amber Deyoe

Ushers: Hank and Katrina Harrington

Counters: Amber Deyoe/Anne Mitchell

Communion Servers: Anne Mitchell/Amber Deyoe/ Bruce Guerineau/
Paulette Foote

Communion Cleanup: Kim and Karl Thayer

Feb. 12 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Lectionary Readings: Deuteronomy 30: 15-20; Psalm 119: 1-8;
1 Corinthians 3: 1-9; Matthew 5: 21-37

Greeter: Patti Booth

Liturgist: David deVelder

Ushers: Paula Sheely/Bridgette Lewie

Counters: Cindy Brockman/Bruce Guerineau

Feb. 19 SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Lectionary Readings: Leviticus 19: 1-2, 9-18; Psalm 119: 33-40;
1 Corinthians 3: 10-11, 16-23; Matthew 5: 38-48

Greeter: Bill Olmert

Liturgist: Dick Behrens

Ushers: Terri Richards/Ajay Deyoe

Counters: Cindy Brockman/Amber Deyoe

Feb. 26 TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

Lectionary Readings: Exodus 24: 12-18; Psalm 2; 2 Peter 1: 16-21;
Matthew 17: 1-9

Guest in Worship: Karen Flewelling (Drilling For Hope)

Greeter: Amber Deyoe

Liturgist: Carolyn Markwith

Ushers: Bill Olmert/Makenzie Harrington

Counters: Anne Mitchell/Paulette Foote

From the Pastor....



*“You are the light of the world.
Let your light shine before others
so that they may see your good works
and give glory to your Father in heaven.”
-Jesus*

Dear Members and Friends of Old Saratoga,

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

In this bewildering and chaotic time of anxiety, anger, and division over our nation's leadership and the controversial policies of the new administration, which challenge definitions of truth and what we value, it's essential for people of faith not to be overwhelmed by fear or the darkness of the times, but to be people of the Light!

In the quote above (Matthew 5:14-16) from his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus urges his followers, in their difficult time of anxiety and oppression under the Roman Empire, to let their light shine before others, so others would see their good works, and give glory to God.

Jesus is talking both to individuals and to a community of people. “You” (plural) he preaches, “are the light of the world!” How you live as people of the Light, can have an immense effect upon the world and helping others to see the glory of God. Don't think your light is too small or dim to matter. No matter how bright or dim, and despite the darkness in your souls, you all carry within the Light of God; and when you are shining, it's a light that can't be ignored!

“You are the light of the world.” What Jesus said reminds me of what a former world leader of peace, the Mahatma Ghandi of India, once said: *“You must be the change you wish to see in the world.”*

To be the light in the world saves us from succumbing to darkness; to be the change we want to see in the world, gives us courage to follow Christ in standing against racism and injustice, welcoming the stranger, loving our neighbors, praying for our enemies, hearing the cries of the poor, the refugees, and the groaning of creation.

One of my favorite Adirondack folk singers, Peggy Lynn, sings out these words from a Christmas song she wrote: *“Be the light you want to see at this darkest time of year; be the light of peace on earth, banishing hate and fear.”*

When Jesus says “YOU are the light of the world”, he means all of us together—and all who will commit to living by the Light of Love. Being the light isn't something we do for self- adulation and praise; it's so the world can see that God's ways are light in our darkness; for where there is LOVE, there is the Light of God.

In these troubling and uncertain times, may God give us grace to “be the light”, and to live in the faith and hope that darkness will never overcome the Light of God's Love.”

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Joyce de Velder

Church Life

BIRTHDAYS

- 3: Jean Wells
4: Robin Woomer
5: Kobie Dyke
6: Kevin Casey
8: Sherrie Mickel
9: Brenda Buchanan
10: Jim Mellen
11: Sam Dickinson
12: Brian Perkins
14: Margaret Jacobson
20: David deVelder (70!)
22: Randy Kerr
23: Joseph Barton
24: Maureen Kerr Roberts
28: Eshia Cummins



ANNIVERSARIES

- 10: Henrietta and Nugent Edgar
14: David and Bonnie Garrand
Please help us keep the lists current by giving us dates and updates. Thanks!

OUR FRIENDS IN HEALTH CARE FACILITIES/HOMEBOUND

(We've listed the names and addresses of our church members/friends for the purpose of remembering them in prayer or with a card.)

- Chauncey Mabb**, Crescent Manor, 312 Crescent Blvd., Bennington, VT 05201, 1-802-379-3148
Shirley Mabb, Saratoga Center A 110, 149 Ballston Ave., Ballston Spa NY 12020

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 | Joan Lapitsky |
| Bill Cluff | Thomas Altrogge |
| 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 |
| Darlene Olmert | Clyde Wells |
| Susie Murphy | Tom Barber |
| Pat Hayes-Howd | Katrina Harrington |
| Sandy DeGregory | Charles Thayer |
| Mona Perkins | Robin Hoffman |
| Suzanne Guerineau | Joan James |
| Connie Jacobson | Trisha Atkinson |
| Michael Gordon | Jodi Neckles |
| Amberlyn Deyoe | Grant Whitehouse |

THANKS EXTENDED

- ..to **Cindy Brockman** and **Helen Lofgren** who arranged the poinsettias in the sanctuary for the Christmas season
..to **Cindy, Helen, Pam Seward and David and Mikael deVelder** for taking down the decorations and putting them away on January 6 (Epiphany)
..to **Carolyn Markwith** and **Deacon Bruce Guerineau** who accompanied **Pastor Joyce** on a visit to Guardian House on January 11, to deliver three boxes of household items and a check for **\$191**, donated by the congregation. The house director and two of the residents were happy to receive these gifts from Old Saratoga. The Guardian House, located on Route 50 south of Ballston Spa, serves as a temporary residence for homeless female veterans.

THANKS RECEIVED

"You make a difference through your generosity – thank you!" (\$30 Mission of the Month)

Tom deVries, General Secretary
Reformed Church in America

"Because of you, Church World Service is able to respond when disasters occur and support is needed." (\$220 Blanket Program)

Rev. John McCullough
President and CEO, CWS

"Thank you for remembering us and being our partner in ministry!" (\$100)

Abby Norton-Levering
Albany Synod Ministries Coordinator

"Your gift of \$328 is an investment in the mission that enables us to plan our spending and respond with innovative solutions that go beyond emergency shelter and help break the cycle of homelessness."

Cheryl Ann Murphy-Parent
Program director, Code Blue, Saratoga

"Your donation (\$75) will be used to support the rehabilitation projects we participate in, keeping homeowners warm, safe And dry."

Michelle Larkin, Executive Director
Rebuilding Together, Saratoga County

"We often rely on the good neighbors of our community to support our efforts. (\$87) Thank you very much."

Frank Merrill
Secretary, Schuyler Hose Company

ENGAGEMENT!



Congratulations to **Stephen Bodnar** and **Shelly Dwyer**, who were engaged to be married over the Christmas holiday. (Plans are still in the making for their future wedding.)

THANKS EXTENDED

David and Pastor Joyce received the following note on Jan. 16 from David's sister, **Margaret deVelder Hougen**, who lives in Northampton, MA. (Margaret's husband, **Edward Hougen**, died in August, 2016, of pancreatic cancer:

"I will never forget how you and your church held Edward and me in your prayers. Edward was grateful – and so was I, for your sustaining love."

PEOPLE YOU KNOW

Congratulations to **Paula Sheely** on her recent promotion at the Hudson River Community Credit Union, a financial institution serving communities of upstate New York. Paula was promoted to the job of Chief Retail Officer, with additional responsibilities for oversight of 60 employees.

SYMPATHY

The church extends sympathy in Christ to the following families who lost loved ones over the holiday season:

...to the family of **James (Jim) Gorham** (84) who had been a resident at the Saratoga Center for the past year, died unexpectedly on Dec. 10 on his way to Ellis Hospital. Originally from Waterford, NY, Jim had lived in Victory Mills since his marriage to **Charlotte Morrill** in May of 2005. Jim was employed as a chemist and an accountant for General Electric until he retired in 1997. He also worked for the Saratoga Harness Track, the National City Bank of Troy and the State Bank of Albany. In retirement he served the Village of Waterford as Treasurer, and later as Tax Collector for the Town of Saratoga. Jim was always active in community rescue and fire squads, the church and local politics- and was an avid fan of the NY Mets. He is survived by his wife, Charlotte Gorham and her family, and by his four sons (**Daniel, David, Douglas and LeRoy A. and their families,**) and by his daughter, **Amy Gorham** and her friend **Rich**. A memorial service was led by Pastor Joyce on Dec. 20 at the Brendese Funeral Home in Waterford with burial following at the Waterford Rural Cemetery.

..to the family of **Joelle Shaver**, who died from cancer on Dec. 16 in Massachusetts where she lived with her husband, **Tim Shaver** and their three children. Joelle's funeral was held in Milford, MA. Joelle leaves her husband, three children and families (and first grandchild **Randy**, born two weeks before her death) and her parents **Neil and Brenda Del Sarro**, her mother-in-law, **Joyce Shaver**, brother-in-law **Michael Shaver** and sister-in-law, **Karen (Shaver) Galcik**.

..to the family of **William (Bill) Clement** of Hessian Drive, Schuylerville, died at St. Peter's Hospital on Dec. 17 following a few months of illness. Bill was a 1948 graduate of Schuylerville High School and was employed by the Grand Union Company for 37 years. He was an outdoorsman who loved horses, trail riding, hunting and fishing. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, **Evelyn (Evie)**, by their two daughters, **Karen Clement O'Brien and Melanie Clement**, their son, **William N. Clement**, and four grandchildren. Bill was also a first cousin of **Gerry Barber** and **Roger Sherman**. A Memorial Service was led by Pastor Joyce at Flynn's on Dec. 22. (Bill was affiliated with OSRC in the past, along with his relatives in the Cromie and Clement families.

..to the family of **Rev. Norman Hamm** (64) who died unexpectedly at his home on Sunday, Dec. 18. Norm grew up on Burgoyne Road in Schuylerville and attended OSRC with his parents, **John and Naomi** and brother, **Ronald**. Norm graduated from Schuylerville High School, Hope College and Western Theological Seminary. He was ordained in the Reformed Church in America (RCA) as a Minister of Word and Sacrament and served as installed pastor and pulpit supply for a number of RCA churches in NY and NJ. Norm is survived by his wife, **Gracia**, their sons **William, Andrew, David and Peter, nine grandchildren**, and his brother **Ron** of North Carolina. A Memorial Service was held on Dec. 22 at Woestina Reformed Church in Rotterdam Junction. The family suggests that gifts in Norman's name be sent to Camp Fowler, where Norm loved to spend time, and worked on the camp vegetable gardens. (**Donations may be sent to Camp Fowler, C/O Regional Synod of Albany, 1790 Grand Blvd, Schenectady, NY 12309**)

Church Life

ECUMENICAL BIBLE STUDY

In February, the Ecumenical Bible Study group will begin 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, weather permitting.*)

2016 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Thank you to each person who supported the ministry of Old Saratoga during 2016. We are truly blessed by every gift we receive. Our income came very close to our budget predictions for undesignated income, and more than doubles our expectations for missions! We were also blessed to receive a memorial donation of **\$100,000** which was added to our investment portfolio. Our operating expenses were also close to our budget projections. We used **\$10, 658.29** our capital improvement funds to remodel one of our bathrooms and make it more accessible. Because of our deficit budget, we cashed in **\$13, 341.51** from our investment income, but ended the year with **\$8083.92** after receiving an outstanding response to our Christmas appeal letter (**\$6975.**) This money will continue to help as we begin a new year. We look forward to another year of serving God both locally and through outreach programs, and ask God to bless our work and those who make it possible with prayers and gifts.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Garney, Treasurer

PROPERTY REPORT

The Property Committee met on Jan. 16 to discuss the projects which they wish to accomplish over the next several years. A list was developed for the coming year, which includes some repairs to the parsonage, the kitchen bathroom renovation (scheduled to begin at the end of January and taking about two weeks) and an upgrade to the sound system in the sanctuary. Projects for 2018/19 were also listed. Some of the goals may be changed a bit, depending on the availability of contractors.

A Spring Cleanup Day will be scheduled at the next meeting, with a range of jobs which will need to be done. Be sure to check to see how you can help to keep the building and grounds at its best!

NEW OFFICE COMPUTER

We have a new computer in the church office. **Patrick Woomer** and **Mark Booth** were asked by the consistory to consult together and purchase one that would fit the needs of OSRC. We now have a Lenovo hard drive and new keyboard. With the new computer and the new leased Xerox copier, we are able to produce flyers and posters in color! Special thanks to **Pat**, who spent many hours of his own time transferring and copying files from the old one. Thanks to **Cindy Brockman** also for spending time transferring the JW email list to our new email program.



HYMNS OF OUR FAITH

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

“O God Who Gives to Humankind”

“O God who gives to humankind a searching heart and questing mind; Grant us to find your truth and laws, and wisdom to perceive their cause.”

In the Book of Deuteronomy, we read the “great commandment” “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and all your strength.” The Gospel writer Mark tells the story of Jesus explaining the “greatest commandment,” but to the notions of heart, soul, and strength, Jesus adds “and with all your mind.”

The intellect is one of God's gifts. Curiosity and reason are part of our endowment from God. Contemporary Anglican clergymen and hymn writer, Edward J. Burns, echoes the Savior's directive when he refers to our having received a “questing mind.”

Our adoration and devotion to God are necessary, but may, to a large extent, be passive in nature. Loving God with all our mind is work. Finding God's” truth and laws, and to perceive their cause” involves work ; it involves active searching, to help us grow to fuller spiritual maturity; it involves effort beyond our Sunday acts of worship in actively searching God's Word, and seeking divine guidance.

Effectiveness in our service as believers in Christ requires us to seek spiritual maturity. May our prayers be the same as offered by the hymn writer in the last verse of his song.

“Teach us to joy in things revealed, to search with care all yet concealed, as through Christ's light your truth we find and worship you with heart and mind.”

Dick Behrens

DRILLING FOR HOPE LEADER TO VISIT OLD SARATOGA ON 2/26!

We're happy to announce that **Karen Flewelling**, founder of **Drilling For Hope**, will be our guest at Old Saratoga on Sunday, Feb. 26! Karen will tell us about her inspiring work and the hope it brings to people in developing countries such as Tanzania and Kenya.

Following worship, the Fellowship Committee is planning a **covered dish luncheon**. (See sign- up sheet in church entryway.) Everyone's invited to stay for lunch! It will be a great opportunity to meet and talk with Karen.



If you would like to learn more about Karen and her work, we have her book, **Drilling For Hope**, in our church library. You can also visit her website **Drillingforhope.org**.

During the first quarter of 2017 (Jan.- Mar.) the Sunday School and congregation are collecting money for Drilling For Hope. Don't forget to fill the small white offering boxes marked “Drilling For Hope.”

Save the date, Sunday, Feb. 26, and invite your family, neighbors and friends!

“Souper” Supper

Sat. Feb. 18, 2016

4-6 pm

old Saratoga Reformed Church
Corner of Pearl and Burgoyne Sts. Schuylerville



Cost: \$7.00 – adults \$3.00 – Children 5-10

Under 5 free

Menu:

Homemade Soups, Breads, Crackers, Salad, Dessert, Beverages

Reservations recommended Walk-Ins Welcome

Call 695-6638 or 695-3479

4 TUESDAYS IN LENT- 2017

This will be our fourth year to offer the "4 Tuesdays in Lent" program to the greater community. Each year we focus on a person of faith whose witness has inspired and influenced others. In the past three years, we've gotten to know Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Thomas Merton, and Dorothy Day. This year we're looking forward to learning about the life of a woman of faith named **Cornelia (Corrie) ten Boom**, from the Netherlands, and how she and her family risked their lives to help save the lives of others during World War II. One of her well known books, entitled *The Hiding Place*, was the basis for a powerful movie by the same name. Please mark your calendars and invite your family and friends. Everyone's welcome!

4 Tuesdays in Lent will meet March 7, 14, 21, and 28 from 12-1pm. Participants can bring a bag lunch. Coffee, tea, cookies and fruit will be provided. A more complete schedule will be in the March Jacob's Well.

CHURCH OFFICERS

At the consistory meeting held on Jan. 31, the following members were elected to office:

Vice President: **Paulette Foote**
Clerk: **Bruce Guerineau**
Financial Secretary: **Cindy Brockman**
Classis Delegate: **Amberlyn Deyoe**
(Alternate: **Paulette Foote**)

The consistory continues to hope and pray that someone will answer the call to serve a two year term as an elder. (Elders must be 18 years of age and a member of the congregation.) Please see Pastor Joyce or one of the consistory members for more information

LOCAL AREA HANDBELL CHOIR FORMING

Debi Craig, a former music teacher, church choir director, hand bell director and harpist, was recently made aware of a 3 octave handbell set in storage at Christ the King Spiritual Life Center in Greenwich. She has been given permission to start a local handbell choir and to hold rehearsals at the CTK. The purpose of the group is to be a local area ministry to nearby nursing homes and community organizations.

Anyone is welcome to join, but it's recommended that you have a basic knowledge of reading music. Interested individuals may call Debi at 854-3102 or email her at dcraig1@hughes.net. Rehearsal days and times have not yet been determined. **(The office has applications to fill out.)**

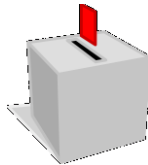
SAY "AMEN" TO GOOD HEALTH

A new reason to feel blessed: Women who attend weekly religious services have a 26% lower mortality risk. Researchers say that participating in a communal experience provides social support, encourages healthier habits, lowers depressive symptoms and promotes a positive outlook. Social groups (i.e. yoga class, moms group) "that have a shared sense of meaning" have a large effect on mortality.



MISSIONS AT OSRC

The Deacons at OSRC have decided to change from collecting for 12 monthly missions to four quarterly missions. The Deacons felt that it would be more beneficial for each of the missions. Every three months families will be given an offering box in which to put their spare change and/or donations. These boxes will be decorated to signify the current mission. These are missions that OSRC has been supporting for some time, some of which have local ties. The four missions include: **Drilling for Hope** (our current mission), **Hippies for Hope**, **Caring & Sharing** and **The Heifer Project**.



Drilling for Hope was started in 2005 by **Karen Flewelling**. Since Karen pays her own travel, lodging and food expenses, 100% of donations go to the people and well drilling endeavors. Through the generosity of donors, Drilling for Hope provides water wells to those places in third world countries in need of clean water, as well as farm animals. Food, medicine and school supplies are also donated, along with the sponsoring of children who would otherwise not receive an education. For those interested, more information can be found at drillingforhope.org.

Hippies for Hope was started in 2007 by **Ashlie Busone**. Ashlie started making tie-dyed shirts for some young friends who were hospitalized, and saw how happy the children were. *Hippies for Hope* continues to carry on the mission of making tie-dyed shirts. For each tie-dyed shirt sold, *Hippies for Hope* pledges to donate another to a child at a local hospital, and also helps to improve secondary education abroad through monetary donations. Visit HippiesforHope.com for more information, to make a donation or purchase a shirt. ***Wear a Shirt, Give a Smile, Spread Hope***

Caring & Sharing is a program that benefits the Schuylerville community. *Caring & Sharing* is based at the Schuylerville Central School and is funded by donations. *Caring & Sharing* provides school supplies, sneakers and provides a Christmas to those in need in the Schuylerville Schools, as well as the greater Schuylerville community.

The Heifer Project works to help lift families out of poverty through the donation of farm animals and training. The aim of the training is to achieve sustainability. The donation of farm animals also focuses on food security and nutrition. *The Heifer Project* can be found in the U.S. and internationally. For more information visit www.heifer.org.

The deacons are open to suggestions of other missions to support next year. Please let us know by email at oldsaratogareformed@verizon.net, by calling the church office at (518) 695-3479, or let Pastor Joyce or a consistory member know.

Community News

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: Feb. 17 at 9:30at OSRC

SAFER

Schuylerville Area Food Relief

Open 9-12 noon M,F 260-4779

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPERS

2/28 5-7pm Easton Methodist (Rt. 40)
6pm St. Stephen's (donation to SAFER)

ASH WEDNESDAY

March 1

The Greater Schuylerville Clergy Association will again be holding Lenten services at 7pm on Wednesday evenings, beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 1. The first service will be held at Old Saratoga Reformed Church, with the **Rev. Ben Lalka** bringing the message. A full schedule will be published in next month's issue of Jacob's Well.



BOY SCOUT CRAFT FAIR

When: Sat. Feb. 4 10am-4pm

Where: Schuylerville American Legion

**What: 30 local crafters, food, baked goods,
silent auction**

Benefit: Local scouting

Info: Emily Jennings 926-0831

BLOOD DRIVE AT OSRC



When: Sat. Feb. 11 8am-12 noon

Where: Loomis Hall, OSRC

**Appointments: Call 1-800 RED-CROSS or
Sue Hughes at 695-3165**

The need is **critical!**

LENTEN FISH FRY

When: Fridays in Lent, beginning March 3

**Place: Christ the King Spiritual Life Center,
Burton Road, Greenwich**

Time: 5-7 pm

Cost: Adults \$16.95; Seniors \$13.95;

Child \$10.95; Take out \$12.95; Under 5 free

Call: Reservations recommended! 692-9550



OLD SARATOGA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



When: Feb. 23 Thurs. 7:30pm

Where: Saratoga Town Hall, Spring St.

**Program: Local Suffragettes and the
Struggle for Women's Right to Vote
(including Susan B. Anthony)**

Admission is free!

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

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Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

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

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Sunday, Feb. 5 10 am

Blood Drive at OSRC

Sat. Feb. 11 8am-12 noon Call 1-800 REDCROSS

"Souper" Supper

Sat. Feb. 18 4-6 pm

(see details inside)

Visit from Karen Flewelling from

Drilling For Hope

Sun. Feb. 26 10 am

(covered dish luncheon after worship)