

OLD SARATOGA REFORMED CHURCH Dec./Jan. 2015/16



Dec. 6 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Lighting the Advent Candle of Joy - Paulette Foote and Duffy Whitehouse Lectionary Readings: Malachi 3: 1-4; Luke 1: 68-79; Philippians 1: 3-11; Luke 3: 1-6

Greeter: Robin Woomer Liturgist: Ajay Deyoe

Ushers: Katrina Harrington/Paula Sheely Counters: Hank Harrington/Paula Sheely

Communion Servers: Paula Sheely, Hank Harrington, Pat Woomer, Paulette Foote

Communion Cleanup: Helen Lofgren

Dec. 13 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Lighting the Advent Candle of Love – the Harringtons Sunday School Christmas Program

Lectionary Readings: Zephaniah 3: 14-20; Isaiah 12: 2-6; Philippians 4: 4-7; Luke 3: 7-18

Greeter: Anna Bierma

Ushers: Makenzie Harrington/Bill Olmert Counters: Pat Woomer/Bruce Guerineau

Dec. 20 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Lighting the Advent Candle of Peace – the Sunday School

Lectionary Readings: Micah 5: 2-5a; Psalm 80: 1-7; Hebrews 10: 5-10

Greeter: Karl Thayer Liturgist: Hank Harrington

Ushers: Trevor Lewie/Cindy Brockman Counters: Hank Harrington/Cindy Brockman

Dec. 24 CHRISTMAS EVE Lighting the Advent Candle of Light -

Bonnie Garrand, Michelle Gordon and sons Christopher and Hunter Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 9: 2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2: 11-14; Luke 2: 1-14 (15-20)

Greeter: Patti Booth

Ushers: Cindy Brockman/Carol Burch Counters: Pat Woomer/Bruce Guerineau

Dec. 27 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS Installation of Consistory

Lectionary Readings: 1 Samuel 2: 18-20, 26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3: 12-17; Luke 2: 41-52

Greeter: Patti Booth Liturgist: Chris Garney

Ushers: Terri Richards/Paula Sheely Counters: Paula Sheely/Paulette Foote

Our worship services begin at 10:00am. The sanctuary is handicapped accessible. Holy Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of each month.



Jan. 3 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS Celebration of the Lord's Supper and the Epiphany of the Lord

Lectionary Readings: Jeremiah 31: 7-14; Psalm 147: 12-20; Ephesians 1: 3-14; John 1: (1-9), 10-18

Greeter: Terri Richards Liturgist: Paula Sheely

Ushers: Katrina Harrington/Paula Sheely Counters: Pat Woomer/Bruce Guerineau

Communion Servers: Paula Sheely, Amber Deyoe, Pat Woomer, Bruce Guerineau

Communion Cleanup: Carolyn Markwith

Jan. 10 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY Baptism of the Lord

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 43: 1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8: 14-17; Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

Greeter: Anna Bierma Liturgist: Anne Mitchell

Ushers: Makenzie Harrington/Bill Olmert Counters: Paula Sheely/Cindy Brockman

Jan. 17 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIHANY Remembrance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 62: 1-5; Psalm 36: 5-10; 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11; John 2: 1-11

Greeter: Helen Lofgren Liturgist: Hank Harrington

Ushers: Terri Richards/Ajay Deyoe

Counters: Cindy Brockman/Chris Garney

Jan. 24 THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Lectionary Readings: Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12: 12=31a; Luke 4: 14-21

Greeter: Amber Deyoe Lituraist: Bruce Guerineau

Ushers: Katrina Harrington/Dick Behrens Counters: Paula Sheely/Amber Deyoe

Jan. 31 FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Lectionary Readings: Jeremiah 1: 4-10; Psalm 71: 1-6; 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13; Luke 4: 4: 21-30

Greeter: Patti Booth

Liturgist: Carolyn Markwith

Ushers: Terri Richards/Paula Sheely Counters: Pat Woomer/Bruce Guerineau

When the weather is bad on a winter Sunday morning, there will still be a worship service. Please come, only if you feel safe doing so.

Remember to dress warmly during winter worship services, as the temperature in the sanctuary may not be as warm as what you are used to at home.

From the Pastor...

Dear Members and Friends of Old Saratoga,

"While they (Joseph and Mary) were there (in Bethlehem), the time came for the baby to be born, and Mary gave birth to her first-born, a son. She wrapped him in strips of cloth and placed him in a manger,

because there was no room for them in the inn.

Luke 2:6-7 (NIV)

Greetings to you and your families in this season of Advent, the four weeks of preparation for the celebration of Christ's birth.

Christmas is a special time of the year to open our homes, our churches, our hearts to people, be they family, friend or stranger. Blessings abound where love and hospitality are shared. It's a time to be mindful of including others—making room for those especially who may be alone, or sad, or unable to be with family.

The story of Jesus' birth in what was perhaps a hillside cave where animals were kept, is a vivid reminder of a reality in our world today, where for many people there is **"no room for them in the inn."**

The small local inn at Bethlehem was no doubt crowded to overflowing with Roman dignitaries and others present for the census decreed by the Roman Emperor, Caesar Augustus.

A hymn dating back to 1864 expresses the irony of the situation: "Thou didst leave thy throne and thy kingly crown, when thou camest to earth for me; but in Bethlehem's home there was found **no room** for thy holy nativity..."

Yet, the humble birth of Jesus in a world where there was "no room" prepared the way for his message of Love and Mercy—to make room for the stranger, the homeless, the refugees, and all who are facing hardship or feeling excluded or estranged.

As we rejoice this Christmas season in God who makes room for all, let us open our hearts to the Love of Christ, that his kindness and mercy may be born anew in our lives!

A Blessed Christmas to all!

Pastor Joyce de Velder

Hurc BIRTHO

Dec. 2: Roll Massill

4: Rixi (Bierma) Clifford

5: Bette Tucker

10: Eran Dickinson

15: Florence Brown

16: Danny MacMillan

17: Sue Usher

25: Cheryl Sherman-Baust

28: Ava Rose Russell

29: Jennifer (Barton) Bruneau

31: Stephen Alexanian



Jan. 1: Patrick Woomer

1: Tyler Jon Squires

1: Donna Mellen

3: Schuyler Loughlin

3: Caleb Dickinson

4: Kara Woomer

8: Sean Flanders

11: Gary Cummins

13: Donna-Ella Marie Mellen

17: Chris Cox

21: Cindy Barber

22: Morgan Wilbur

22: Jim Gorham

23: Kaylin Erbe

25: Christopher Tucker

26: Lucian McCarty

27: Julia (Behrens) Pooler

27: Casey Perkins

29: Alicia Mellen Lewie

29: Logan Tomlinson

31: Elizabeth Fero

31: Brad Markwith

Dec. 17:

31: Sue (Fero and Steve Kurowski

Jan. 21: John and Amberlyn Deyoe, 1995

(Please help keep our birthday, anniversary, and hospital lists current by giving us dates and updates! (695-3479 Thanks!)

IN OUR PRAYERS



"But when you pray, you must believe and not doubt at all. Whoever doubts is like a wave in the sea that is driven and blown about by the wind." (James 1: 6)

Ruth Hayes Lucas Perkins Alyson Fitzaerald

Bill Cluff

Thomas Altrogge Rod Borgman John Bodnar Richard Zelazny Eloise Bosch Sylvia Thompson Evie Senecal Alicia Lewie Jim Miers

Susie Murphy Pat Hayes-Howd Audrey Booth Shirley Hoodack Mona Perkins

Suzanne Guerineau Rev. Dr. Charles Bailey

Bette Tucker **Dwight Colvin** Ashleigh Clute Sandy Jones David Garrand Ashley Edgar Trevor Lewie Naomi Thayer Sandy Horsfield Wayne Barton Kerst Brunner

Charlotte Gorham Clyde Wells

Edward Hougen

Sue Hughes

Sandy DeGregory Charles Thayer Peggy MacMillan

George Duval

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

NEW/CHANGES IN ADDRESSES

Patti Zotzmann – 140 DeGarmo Rd.

Schuylerville NY 12871

Shirley Mabb - c/o Saratoga Center

149 Ballston Ave.

Ballston Spa NY 12020

Pam Seward- 2 Morgan's Run Apt. 16

Schuylerville NY 12871

PEOPLE YOU KNOW

We are pleased to recognize **James (Jim) Gorham** for ten years of public service as the Town of Saratoga Tax Collector. Jim will complete his present term on Dec. 31. Prior to serving the Town of Saratoga, Jim served for many years as tax collector for the Town of Waterford where he lived before moving to Victory Mills.

We also extend congratulations to Jim's son, **LeRoy Gorham**, who will receive his Ph. D in Electrical Engineering on Dec. 19 from Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio.

THANK YOU

..to the **Sunday School** and to **Mikael deVelder** who raised a total of **\$83.23** for **UNICEF.** The Sunday School collected **\$28.23** and Mikael collected **\$55.**

SYMPATHY

The church family offers sympathy in Christ to the following families who recently lost loved ones:

..the Fugle family or Darien Center, NY.

Denise Fugle (66) mother of Amanda

Markwith and mother-in-law of her
husband Ryan Markwith, died on Nov. 14
at her home following several years of
living with cancer. Her memorial service
was held on Nov. 20. Denise is survived
by her husband Larry and their seven
children and families.

..the Horsfield and Sifert families of Schuylerville. Jean Sifert died on Nov. 13 at her home following a long illness. Jean was the wife of Roy Sifert and mother of four children. She was also the sister and sister-in-law Roy and Sandy Horsfield.

..the family and friends of **Dorothy** (Quatrocchi) Hayden (100). Dorothy died on Nov. 1 at her home in Saratoaa Springs. She was an RN and was married to Dr. Robert S. Hayden, who preceded her in death in 1992. Following her husband's death, Dorothy made a visit to Old Saratoga Reformed Church and donated a collection of coins to the church, which her husband had collected. The coins were worth more than \$30,000. The church remains grateful to this day for the Hayden donation. Her funeral service was held on Sat. Nov. 7 with burial following at Prospect Hill Cemetery.

HOSPITALIZED IN NOVEMBER

Sandy Jones – Saratoga Hospital Bette Tucker – Saratoga Hospital ER Allene Cobart – Saratoga Urgent Care

CHURCH LIFE

OSRC MISSION STATEMENT

In answer to God's call
to share Christ's love,
we welcome people
of all abilities and life situations,
and encourage everyone
to fully participate in worship and service.

Wednesdays at 10:00 am

The Ecumenical Bible Study is currently reading the Book of Genesis. The group meets on Wed. mornings from 10-11am. All are welcome to come. Here is the Dec./Jan. schedule:

Dec. 2 Church Dec. 9 Church

Dec. 16 Christmas Brunch at the home of Jean Myers

Dec. 23 No Bible Study
Dec. 30 No Bible Study

Jan. 6 Bible Study resumes at the church

The Bible Study group currently has eight active participants. We were happy to welcome **Bruce Guerineau** and **Helen Lofgren** as participants!

WOMEN'S GUILD

The guild will meet on **Monday**, **Dec. 14 at noon** to enjoy their Christmas Party, with members providing a delicious meal for friends and guests of OSRC. All women of the church are welcome to attend.

Note: There will be no Guild meetings during the months of January and February.

CAMP FOWLER

The schedule of weeks at Camp Fowler for 2016 has been firmed up and is on display in Loomis Hall. Registration on line can be done beginning on **Dec. 15.**

FREE WINTER COATS

There are free winter coats available in Loomis Hall for anyone to take. We thank those of you who donate extra coats you have that are in good condition! Coats can be dropped off at the church M-F, 9-noon, or on Sunday. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX GIFTS

Thank you to everyone who filled one or more shoe boxes with gifts for children through Operation Christmas Child (Samaritan's Purse)

Thanks also to our chairperson this year, **Deacon Bruce Guerineau**, who delivered **25 boxes** from OSRC to the collection site in Saratoga Springs.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS

If you would like to memorialize members of your family or friends at the Christmas season, you may use one of the memorial envelopes to make your contribution. It will be noted on the flower list, which will be included in the bulletins on Dec. 20 and Christmas Eve.

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting was held on Nov. 15. The 2016 Plan for Ministry (budget) was approved with a total figure of \$98,689. Elected to the consistory were Elder Amber Deyoe, who will be installed, and Deacon Anne Mitchell, who will be ordained and installed during the worship service on Dec. 27. Affirmations were offered to those who serve the church in many ways.

HYMNS OF OUR FAITH

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

"Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born."

In the Gospel of Luke, Chapter 2, verse 17, we read, "When they had seen him (the infant Jesus) they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child." This hymn tells the story of the shepherds to whom the angels appeared announcing the birth of the Christ child. It tells of the shepherds tending to the humble occupation, of their trembling at the sight of the angels, and of the wonder that their eyes would behold in a lowly manger in Bethlehem.

This much-loved Afro-American spiritual, accompanied by words written by John W. Work, Jr., over 100 years ago, was made popular by the Fisk University Jubilee singers during their annual campus caroling on Christmas Day. The refrain, written above, is presumably what the shepherds said to each other after seeing the baby Jesus. But it also mimics the theme of singing praise to the Lord found in Isaiah 42:11, "Let the people of Sela sing for joy; let them shout from the mountaintops." It also is consistent with Jesus' directive to his disciples found in Matthew 28:19: "Go and make disciples of all the nations."

This carol could easily be sung throughout the year, for it reminds us not only of our need to remember Christ's birth, but also to proclaim the reason for Christ's coming, and to call others to follow him.

"Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn." (vs. 3)"

Dick Behrens

NEW MEMBER

The congregation is happy to welcome **Sara Linehan Radigan** by Profession of Faith; and to celebrate the baptism of Sara and her husband **Jeremy Radigan's** daughter, **Bryn Violet**, who was born on April 23, 2014.

Sara was born in Palo Alto, CA on Aug. 12, 1980. She was baptized in infancy at the Community Church of High Falls, Reformed in High Falls, NY. She moved with family at age three to Stone Bridge, NY, where she grew up.

Sara was graduated from Bates College in Maine, and went on to earn her doctoral degree in Veterinary Medicine at the University of Glasgow in Scotland. She currently works at Mandak Veterinary Services in Ballston Spa, treating all kinds of animals. She and her husband were married in 2012 and live on Luther Road in Saratoga Springs.

NEW CHOIR MEMBER

The choir was happy to welcome new soprano **Pam Seward**, who has had lots of experience singing in church choirs. Pam has recently moved to the Schuylerville area and lives at Morgan's Run, having moved here from Tupper Lake, NY.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED



The church office will be closed from Dec. 24- Jan. 1, reopening on Mon. Jan 4 at 9am.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School children will be presenting their Christmas Program on Dec. 13 during the worship service. Please join the children as they celebrate the Christmas season. There will be a Fellowship Hour following the worship service.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE Thurs. Dec. 24 8pm



You are invited to come to the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service to join in the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. The Christmas Story will be read, anthems and carols sung, and a Christmas Message will be given by **Pastor Joyce deVelder**. The highlight of the service will be the candle lighting during the singing of *Silent Night*. All are welcome.

HARVEST SUPPER UPDATE

We are pleased to let you know that the Harvest Supper profited the General Fund \$1559.53. Thanks goes to Bonnie Garrand and Michelle Gordon who chaired the dinner for the first time, and to all those who helped in any way. Special thanks goes to Eric Garney, who cooked the dinner, and to Kayleigh Goosens, who did a lot of the early cleaning up as pots were emptied.

CHRISTMAS APPEAL LETTER

The annual Christmas letter of appeal has been prepared and will soon be mailed. Please consider giving a Christmas gift to the church in the envelope provided for your convenience. Thanks for your ongoing support!

COMING UP

Covered Dish Supper and a Movie Sat. Jan 23 5pm

Mark your calendar for an evening of food and fellowship as the church family gathers for a pot luck dinner and a movie. Bring a dish to share (casserole, veggie, salad or dessert) and your own table service. Following the meal, we will enjoy the movie "Where Hope Grows," which is the story of a baseball player, whose career in interrupted, and who is awakened and invigorated by a young man with Down Syndrome who works at a local grocery store.

Annual "Souper" Supper Fundraiser Sat. Feb. 6 4-6pm

We all look forward to endless bowls of hot, homemade soups on a cold winter's evening! Save the date!!!

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE BLANKET PROJECT

Though our goal was to raise \$200 for 20 blankets, the members and friends of OSRC were their usual generous selves and donated **\$300**, enabling the purchase of 30 blankets to help warm those who have been affected by floods, tornadoes, etc. or are homeless. Thank you all!

HOLIDAY SALE Sat. Dec. 5 8am-2pm

Don't forget to start your Christmas shopping at our Holiday Sale! In addition to ornaments and decorations of the season, there will be baked goods and fudge, which will surely please someone's palate! Also featured will be several donated raffle baskets, with the winners being drawn on Sunday morning following worship. See you there!

WORSHIP SERVERS AND VOLUNTEERS



Volunteer slips for serving in worship (greeter, liturgist, usher) were available for filling out recently. On the reverse side was an opportunity to serve in other ways: fundraising, phone calling, gardening, maintenance, washing communion cups, etc. The schedule will be ready in mid-December to enable people to mark their calendars for the year, on the dates to which they have been assigned. All the many ways in which members and friends offer their help are deeply appreciated!

Note: We are still in need of several more people to volunteer to usher on Sunday mornings!

EPIPHANY Wed. Jan 6



OSRC will celebrate the Epiphany (the coming of the Magi to visit the Christ Child) on **Sunday**, **Jan. 3**. The choir will sing an anthem entitled "What Did the Star See?"

HOW YOU CAN HELP OTHERS THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS

The following suggestions are offered for those who want to celebrate the birth of Christ by helping others locally:

1. Give a gift of money or food to SAFER, our community food pantry. Gifts may be made payable to SAFER and sent to SAFER, 12 Spring Street, Schuylerville, NY 12871 Food may be brought to the church box marked SAFER or dropped off at the pantry MWF, 9-noon.

Note: \$40 given to SAFER will purchase a complete Christmas dinner through Byron's Market for a family in need.

- 2. Gifts may be sent to the Northeast Regional Food Bank in Albany, which helps provide low-cost food to our local pantry and hundreds of others. Every dollar contributed purchases \$10 worth of food.

 Check www.regionalfoodbank.net to see how to make a donation.
- 3. Come to the Community Christmas Festival on Dec. 6 at Schuylerville United Methodist Church and give a gift to benefit the Caring and Sharing Fund which helps students in need through the holidays and throughout the year. Can't make the concert?? Your gift may be mailed to Caring and Sharing, c/o Pam Driscoll, Schuylerville Central School, Spring Street, Schuylerville, NY 12871
- 4. OSRC will also be collecting gifts for Caring and Sharing. There is a box in the entryway in which you may place your gift, made out to Caring and Sharing. Or you may mail it directly, using the information above. (#3) You may also donate personal care items to them (shampoo, toothpaste, etc.) in the box for then in the entryway.

OFFERING ENVELOPES 2016



The 2016 offering envelopes will be available soon. Following is an explanation of the categories in our packets:

Initial Envelope – (suggested contribution of \$5) to cover the cost of the offering packet

Deacon's Fund Envelope- (second Sunday of each month) supports the monthly Deacon's missions

Classis Assessment – (voluntary) the per active member annual assessment is \$93.91, and may be paid one time in total, or in 4 installments of \$23.48 each

General – funds used to meet our expenses such as utilities, salaries, supplies

Missions – supports any other missions which are not either monthly Deacon missions or RCA "Mission of the Month"

Special Seasonal –Lent, Palm Sunday, Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas

Our envelopes are mailable, for the Sundays you cannot be here. If you do not find a packet with your name, or would like to have one, please see Cindy Brockman, Financial Secretary.

SCHOOL WINTER CONCERTS

Mon. Dec. 7 at 7 pm-

Grades 7,8 Band and Chorus HS auditorium – snow date – 12/21

Thurs. Dec. 10 at 7 pm-

Grades 9-12 Band and Chorus HS auditorium – snow date 12/21

Thurs. Dec. 17 at 7pm-

Grades 5,6 Band and Chorus HS auditorium – snow date 12/21



GREETINGS IN DUTCH

Vrolijk Kerstfeest (Mevry Christmas)



Gelukkig Nieuwjaar (Happy New Year)

SECOND HAND RESOMMUNITY THRIFT SHOP 116 BROADWAY

Sat. Dec. 19 at 7pm (inside)



Tues.- Sat. 11 am-4 pm
Donations gladly accepted during
store hours

Volunteers are always neededCall Charlotte at 695-4640

Next board meeting: Fri. Jan. 8 at 9:30am

S.A.F.E.R

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

> GIVE BLOOD Sat. Feb. 13

Where: Old Saratoga Reformed Church When: Sat. Feb. 13 8 am-12 noon Appt: Call 1-800-RED-CROSS to schedule Walk-ins Welcome!

Sponsored by: The American Red Cross



RACING CITY CHORUS

Thurs. Dec. 10 7pm at Greenwich Elks

Admission \$10
Snacks and beverages available for
Purchase
Door Prizes

Sponsored by local Methodist churches



Quaker Springs United Methodist Church
Hymn Sing and Refreshments following

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Sun. Dec. 6 3pm



Schuylerville United Methodist Church
Area choirs, carol singing, and a
combined choir anthem
Refreshments to follow
Free will offering to benefit
"Caring and Sharing"

CHRISTMAS THROUGH THEIR EYES

Dec. 3,4,5,6,10,11,12,13,27 Noon -4pm

Nativities on Display from Around the World

Parks-Bentley Place
53 Ferry Blvd. South Glens Falls
\$5 Admission

"JACOB'S WELL"

Old Saratoga Reformed Church

48 Pearl Street, Schuylerville, NY 12871

Church Office: 695-3479

E-Mail:oldsaratogareformed@verizon.net

Fax: 1-518-695-3479

www.oldsaratoga.rcachurches.org PASTOR: Rev. Joyce deVelder

OFFICE MANAGER: Duffy Whitehouse Consistory Members: Paulette Foote, Paula

Sheely,

Patrick Woomer, Cindy Brockman, Bruce

Guerineau.

Henry Harrington

Published ten times yearly in Schuylerville, NY 12871

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

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

Holiday Sale Sat. Dec. 5 8am-2pm

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper Sunday, Dec. 6 10 am

Community Christmas Concert Sun. Dec. 6 3pm Schuylerville United Methodist Church

Sunday School Christmas Program
Sunday, Dec. 13 10am Refreshments following

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Thurs. Dec. 24 8pm

Ordination and Installation of Consistory
Sun. Dec. 27 10am

Covered Dish Supper and a Movie Sat. Jan 23 5pm