

Jacob's Well

Dec. Jan. 2017/18



- Dec. 3 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT** *Lighting the Advent Candle of Hope* **Celebration of the Lord's Supper**
Lectionary Readings: Isaiah; Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9; Mark 13: 24-37
Greeter: Kim Thayer
Liturgist: Pat Woome
Ushers: Terri Richards/Ajay Deyoe
Counters: Paulette Foote/Amber Deyoe
Communion Servers: Amber/Anne/Bruce **Cleanup:** Kim and Karl Thayer
- Dec. 10 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT** *Lighting the Advent Candle of Peace*
Sunday School Christmas Program **Fellowship Hour**
Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 40: 1-11; Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3: 8-15; Mark 1: 1-8
Greeter: Anna Bierma
Liturgist: Pam Seward
Ushers: Bill Olmert/Eddie Fish
Counters: Cindy Brockman/Anne Mitchell
- Dec. 17 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT** *Lighting the Advent Candle of Love* **Reception of New Members**
Preacher: Rev. Jennifer Legg **Fellowship Hour**
Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126; 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24; John 1: 6-8, 19-28
Greeter: Helen Lofgren
Liturgist: Amber Deyoe
Ushers: Holly Deyoe/Dick Behrens
Counters: Amber Deyoe/Bruce Guerineau
- Dec. 24 CHRISTMAS EVE MORNING** *Lighting the Advent Candle of Joy*
Lectionary Readings: 2 Sam. 7: 1-11, 16; Psalm 89: 1-4, 19-26; Romans 16: 25-27; Luke 1: 26-38
Greeter: Bill Olmert
Liturgist: Dick Behrens,
Ushers: Kim Thayer/Karl Thayer
Counters: Anne Mitchell/Bruce Guerineau
- Dec. 24 CHRISTMAS EVE** **Candlelight Celebration of the Birth of Christ – Lighting the Christ Candle**
Assisting in Worship: Rev. Jennifer Legg
Greeter: Patti Booth
Ushers: Carol Burch/Cindy Brockman
Counters: Anne Mitchell/Cindy Brockman
- Dec. 31 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS** **Installation of Consistory Members**
Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 61: 10- 62: 3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4: 4-7; Luke 2: 22-40
Greeter: Amber Deyoe
Liturgist: Ajay Deyoe
Ushers: Paula Sheely/Bridgette Lewie
Counters: Paulette Foote/Cindy Brockman

Gelukkig Nieuwjaar!

(that's Happy New Year in Dutch)

January 2018

- Jan. 7 CELEBRATION OF EPIPHANY** **Celebration of the Lord's Supper**
Lectionary Readings: Genesis 1: 1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19: 1-7; Mark 1: 4-11
Greeter: Bill Olmert
Liturgist: Ajay Deyoe
Ushers: Bridget Behrens/Hank Harrington
Counters: Anne Mitchell/Bruce Guerineau
Communion Servers: Amber Deyoe, Anne Mitchell, Bruce Guerineau
Communion Cleanup: Anna Bierma
- Jan. 14 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY** **Remembrance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**
Lectionary Readings: 1 Samuel 3: 1-10, (11-20); Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18; 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20;
John 1: 43-51
Greeter: Anna Bierma
Liturgist: Holly Deyoe
Ushers: Katrina Harrington/Makenzie Harrington
Counters: Paula Sheely/Paulette Foote
- Jan. 21 THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**
Lectionary Readings: Jonah 3: 1-5, 10; Psalm 62: 5-12; 1 Corinthians 7: 29-31; Mark 1: 14-20
Greeter: Joan Lapitsky
Liturgist: Chris Garney
Ushers: Paula Sheely/Bill Olmert
Counters: Anne Mitchell/Cindy Brockman
- Jan. 28 FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY** **Fellowship Hour**
Lectionary Readings: Deuteronomy 18: 15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8: 1-13; Mark 1: 21-28
Greeter: Bridget Critelli
Liturgist: Susanna Combs
Ushers: Holly Deyoe/Dick Behrens
Counters: Paula Sheely/Amber Deyoe





From the Pastor.....

***“Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing.”***

Dear Members and Friends of Old Saratoga,

Greetings to you in the grace and peace of Christ!

We'll soon be singing the words of the carol above, **“Joy to the World!”** as Advent begins on Sunday, December 3 and prepares the way for the celebration of Christ's birth on December 25.

“Joy to the world” speaks a hopeful message not only for the Christmas season, but also for the troubling times in which we live, and the personal challenges we face. “Do not be afraid,” the angel said to the shepherds. “I bring you good news of **great joy** that will be for all people.” (Luke 2: 10)

I've just finished reading The Book of Joy, given to me by a friend last Christmas. The book is about a week- long dialogue between His Holiness, the Dalai Lama (exiled Buddhist leader of Tibet) and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, (Christian leader in South Africa during the long oppressive years of apartheid (racial segregation) Both men are highly regarded as great spiritual and moral leaders in the world who have lived through deep suffering and countless challenges to their beliefs and faith.

These two men are in their older years now. Both are known and admired for the joy they express in the way they think and live, despite their life circumstances. Archbishop Tutu said that *“Joy is much bigger than happiness. While happiness is often seen as being dependent on external circumstances, joy is not.”*

According to both men, joy is a state of heart and mind that transcends despair and cynicism, thus making it possible to be joyful in the midst of hardship, crisis, grief and suffering – both our own and the world's.

Jesus was born into a world where trouble and suffering are inevitable – and he endured both; but the wonder and Gift of his life continues to be “news of great JOY for all people.” Why? Jesus knew joy because he was filled with love for his God and others. Toward the end of his life he said to his disciples: *“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love....I have told you this so that MY JOY may be in you, and YOUR JOY may be complete.”* (John. 15: 9-11)

The more joyful people there are, the more joy there will be in the world! Joy is a gift of God's love; and no matter what happens, joy is indestructible; and as Jesus showed us in his life, when our hearts and minds are full of love for God and others, the joy spreads and brings life to us and all the world!

May Joy be God's gift to you this Christmas, and your gift to others!

Pastor Joyce de Velder

Church Family

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

17: Vicki and Brian Perkins, 1994
21: Wayne and Marion Barton
31: Sue (Fero) and Steve Kurowski 2012

BIRTHDAYS

2: Rosie Driscoll
4: Rixt (Bierma) Clifford
5: Bette Tucker
10: Eran Dickinson
15: Florence Brown
16: Dan MacMillan
17: Sue Usher
25: Cheryl Sherman-Baust
28: Ava Rose Russell
29: Jennifer (Barton) Bruneau
31: Stephen Alexanian

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

Bette Tucker, Wesley Community, Victoria 212, 131 Lawrence St. Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

THANKS EXTENDED

..to **Amberlyn Deyoe** and **Terri Richards** for planning and preparing the Holiday Sale on 12/2 and to all the groups and individuals who donated baskets for the raffle

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE



"Like" someone in person.
(from a Dove chocolate candy)

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

21: John and Amberlyn Deyoe, Jr. 1995

BIRTHDAYS

1: Patrick Woomer
1: Tyler Jon Squires
1: Donna Mellen
3: Schuyler Loughlin
3: Caleb Dickinson
4: Kara Woomer
11: Gary Cummins
13: Donna-Ella Marie Mellen
17: Chris Cox
17: Doug Mitchell
21: Cindy Barber
22: Morgan Wilbur
23: Kaylin Erbe
25: Christopher Tucker
26: Luke McCarty
27: Julia (Behrens) Pooler
27: Casey Perkins
29: Alicia Mellen Lewie
29: Logan Tomlinson
31: Elizabeth Fero
31: Brad Markwith

PEOPLE YOU KNOW

Henrietta and Nugent Edgar and daughters Olivia and Myra, will welcome a foreign exchange student in Dec., who will live with them for the coming 3 months. She is 16 years old and comes from Denmark, and is a student at Schuylerville Central School. She is sponsored by the local Rotary Club, which will be looking for another host family from March through May.

Dr. Patti Jolie-Zotzmann flew to China on 11/16, accompanied by her sister and great nephew, to pick up her newly adopted 13 year old son, **Xiao Wen Guo**, to bring him home to Schuylerville. The adoption took 2 years. They will be in China about 2 weeks, returning home on Dec. 2. We look forward to meeting Xiao, and pray that his transition to life in the US will be smooth, with the loving support of his new family.

St. Nicolaas Holiday Sale

at Old Saratoga Reformed Church
(corner of Pearl and Burgoyne Streets)

Saturday, Dec. 2

8 am-2 pm

(to help celebrate Schuylerville's Celebration of St. Nicolaas)



**Gently used Christmas decorations,
collectibles, baked goods,
fudge, basket raffles, refreshments**

(All proceeds will benefit the General Fund)

OTHER LOCAL ST. NICOLAAS EVENTS Dec. 1-3

Memory Tree Lighting at the Saratoga Town Hall Fri. 6pm

Entertainment Events and Vendors all day

in the Town Hall on Saturday 10 am-4pm, Sunday 10 am-2pm

Community Christmas Concert Sun. 3pm at

Old Saratoga Reformed Church

Church Life

ECUMENICAL BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study Meets on **Wednesdays at 10am**, when they study of the Book of Daniel, followed by Isaiah. Interested people of all denominations are always welcome! The December schedule will be:

Dec. 6 –continue Book of Isaiah

Dec.13 – Christmas brunch at home of Jean Myers

Dec. 20, 27 – No Bible Study

Jan. 3 –continue the Book of Isaiah

During the winter months, if Schuylerville Central is closed due to weather conditions, Bible Study will not meet.

LOOKING AHEAD



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

Sun. Dec. 3 3pm Community Christmas Concert

Sun. Dec. 24 8pm Christmas Eve Service

Sat. Feb. 10 8am-12pm Blood Drive at OSRC

Sat. Feb. 17 4:30-6pm "Souper" Supper

ADVENT WREATH



This year we will be using a new format for the Advent Wreath, which will involve the congregation more.

Pastor Jenn, Christopher Tucker and Bruce Guerineau, at the request of the Worship Committee, looked over some materials, consulted together and have selected a new way of observing the lighting each Advent Sunday. We look forward to trying something different in observing the Advent Season.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed from Dec. 23 through Jan. 1, reopening on Tuesday, Jan. 2.

HARVEST SUPPER REPORT

We had another very successful Harvest Supper, thanks to our co-chairs **Bonnie Garrand and Michelle Gordon**, and **all** the kitchen help, dining room workers, bakers, servers, setup people, ticket sellers and to those who attended. A big thank you goes to **Eric Garney**, who once again ably filled his dad's shoes and cooked the delicious meal! We were able to raise **\$935.42** for our General Fund.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS

If you would like to honor or memorialize a loved one at Christmas, instead of purchasing a poinsettia plant, memorial envelopes are available in the foyer. Your gift will be noted on the Christmas flower list. If you wish to purchase a poinsettia elsewhere, you may bring it to the church by **Dec. 14** to be placed with the rest of the memorial flowers.

WOMEN'S GUILD CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Women's Guild will hold their annual Christmas Party on **Mon. Dec. 18 at noon**. It will be hosted by the Executive Committee and will feature a delicious pork luncheon. The guild will then take a two month winter break, resuming meetings on **Monday, March 19 at noon**.

Community Christmas Music Concert

(In conjunction with Schuylerville's St.Nicolaas Festival Dec. 1-3)



**Sunday, December 3
3 pm**

Old Saratoga Reformed Church

Burgoyne and Pearl Streets, Schuylerville

Featuring local choirs and "Rose N' Thorns"

Refreshments following

All are welcome!

(Handicapped Accessible)

(Free will offering to benefit The Danny MacMillan Fund)

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Sun. 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!

CHRISTMAS APPEAL LETTER

The Annual Christmas Letter of Appeal 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.

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

Members and friends of OSRC met on Nov. 19 to hear reports, to vote on the budget and offer affirmations to those who serve the church in both seen and unseen ways.

Elected to the office of Elder was **Amber Deyoe** and **Paula Sheely**. Elected as Deacon was Anne Mitchell. **Paula Sheely** presented the Plan for Ministry (budget) which was passed by consensus. Extra copies of the annual report are on the back table of the sanctuary if you were unable to be present for the meeting.



HYMNS OF OUR FAITH

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

*"While by the sheep we watched at night,
Glad tidings brought an angel bright:
How great our joy! Great our joy! Joy! Joy! Joy!
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!"*

This traditional German carol retells one of the glorious events surrounding the birth of Jesus as recorded by St. Luke Ch. 2. On the night of Christ's birth, shepherds in the Holy Land were doing what they did every night – watching their sheep lest a predator should attack, or a hireling attempt to enter the fold and steal.

The act of "watching" was a perennial task for God's chosen people, whether it be in protecting their possessions, such as their sheep, watching and waiting for deliverance from an oppressive foe, or watching and waiting for the coming of God's promised one, the Messiah.



But on this night the shepherds were to be witnesses to an announcement, long anticipated, that would change the course of history-news that on that night a child would be born "who shall redeem us all."

This carol, so easy to sing, is truly one of the most joyful carols in hymnody. It is to be sung robustly as we join with countless others, over many ages, who have thrilled to the news and the great importance of the birth of Emmanuel, God with us.

*"This gift of God we'll cherish well,
That every joy our hearts shall fill.
How great our joy! Great our joy! Joy! Joy! Joy!
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!"*

Dick Behrens

ASFP MINISTRY "FELLOW"

Blessings and congratulations to the **Rev. Jennifer Legg**, who was ordained on Sunday, Nov. 12, to be a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Reformed Church. Jenn was ordained by the Classis of Mid-Hudson in her home church, First Reformed Church of Cary, North Carolina. Pastor Jenn began her ministry here on Nov. 1, and will continue to serve for the coming two years.

We're happy to announce that Pastor Jenn will be commissioned to her special ministry by the Classis of Schenectady on **Sunday, Feb. 11, 2018**. The service will take place at 3pm at Old Saratoga. All three churches, Bacon Hill, Fort Miller and Old Saratoga will host the reception following. Please **save the date** for this special occasion!

Pastor Jenn will be dividing her time among the three churches and will preach at OSRC worship on Dec. 17, and assist with Christmas Eve worship. She will also be available on Tuesdays from 10:30-12:30pm at the church. Stop in for a visit!!

IN OUR PRAYERS

Ruth Hayes	Bette Tucker
Dwight Colvin	Sue and Tom Wilbur
Alyson Fitzgerald	Bill Cluff
Thomas Altrogge	Venita Duffany
David Garrand	Ryan Markwith
Rod Borgman	Margaret Hougen
John Bodnar	Trevor Lewie
Richard Zelazny	Naomi Thayer
Cheryl Jones	Cheryl Durkee
Evie Senecal	Alicia Lewie
Charlotte Gorham	Rosie Driscoll
Justin Flanders	Clyde Wells
Susie Murphy	Tom Barber
Jim Miers	Michael Hughes III
Sandy DeGregory	Charles Thayer
Mona Perkins	Barbara Vincent
Suzanne Guerineau	Joan James
Trisha Atkinson	Danny MacMillan
Michael Gordon	Jodi Neckles
Peggy MacMillan	Ken Howe
Donald Morrill	Florence Sherman
Terri Richards	Joy Yahwak
Susanna Combs	Robin Woomer

SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Sunday School is busily preparing their Christmas Program, which will be presented on **Sunday, Dec. 10**, with refreshments following the worship service. Please come to support the children as they tell their Christmas story.

WEATHER AND HEAT IN WINTER



Please remember that the temperature in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings may not be what you are used to at home. It is a good idea to wear an extra layer and boots when you come to worship. It is warmer in the front, too, as the opening and closing of the doors does not affect the temperature as much as in the back. On stormy Sundays, there will still be a worship service. Please come, only if you feel safe doing so.

WORSHIP SERVERS

The schedule for those who volunteered to serve in worship is in preparation and will be available soon. Until then, please check the January worship page to find out if you are scheduled. Thanks!

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

The Board of Elders is pleased to announce that the following people have been received into the membership of the church: **Oscar Everts, Janice Cornell and Bridget Critelli**. They will be welcomed through Profession of Faith as members on **Sunday, Dec. 17**.

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:

- 1. Give a monetary gift to the NORTHEAST REGIONAL FOOD BANK** 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.
- 2. Come to the COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL** on Dec. 3 at 3pm at Old Saratoga and give a gift to the Team DanDan Fund, which will benefit the family of Danny MacMillan, a local 13 year old boy who is being treated for Ewing's Sarcoma cancer.
- 3. Gifts are being received for OSRC's DEACON'S DISCRETIONARY FUND** to help church members with emergency needs. Your donation may be sent to the church, 48 Pearl Street, Schuylerville 12871, and earmarked "Deacon's Discretionary Fund."
- 4. HELP FOR PUERTO RICO:** We are trying to help a small congregation in Puerto Rico as they help their neighborhood recover from Hurricane Maria. We have sent an initial gift of \$200 to the PALMAS COMMUNITY CHURCH, and continue to receive donations. If you would like to help, please send a check to OSRC, earmarked "Palmas Church PR" Pastor Joe Ramos has e-mailed us several times to give us updates on the still difficult conditions with which they are living, and how they are going door to door to visit their "tired and exhausted" neighbors and help with their needs for food, water, electricity and other provisions. Pastor Joe asked us to keep the church and the people of PR in our prayers- and added: "As a congregation we are trusting fully in God who has not failed us in the past and is currently with us in the midst of it all. On behalf of our congregation and all those in our country and Puerto Rico, thank you!"



Community Life

SECOND HAND ROSE THRIFT SHOP

116 Broadway, Schuylerville Tues-Sat 11am-4pm

Donations gladly accepted during store hours

Volunteers always needed!

Call Charlotte-518-695-4640

Next board meeting: Dec. 8 at 9:30am at OSRC

SAFER (Schuylerville Area Food Relief)

12 Spring Street, Schuylerville

Open M,F, 9-12 noon 518-507-6043

CHRISTMAS AT PARKS-BENTLEY

53 Ferry Blvd. South Glens Falls



The Annual Nativity Exhibit will be open on Nov. 25, 26, Dec. 1,2,3,8,9,10,15,16,17, and 29,30 from 1-4pm.

Special evening hours on Dec. 8, 15 only from 6-8pm.

There will be many new sets on display, and a special holiday nutcracker exhibit from many countries. Adults: \$5; children \$3.

For more info: purinton73@gmail.com

INTERFAITH GATHERING

TO REMEMBER THE FAITH AND LEGACY OF

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.



Where: Town of Saratoga Hall- Schuyler Room

When: Sunday, Jan 14, 1:30pm

What: People of all faiths (and faith seekers) gather to share remembrances, readings and prayers

Refreshments and fellowship to follow! All welcome!

(This will be the second annual event in Schuylerville. Last year's gathering drew over 40 people from the local faith communities including Ba'hai, Jewish, Christian, and others committed to the common purpose of bringing more love and peace to the world!)

BENEFIT SPAGHETTI DINNER FOR DANNY MACMILLAN AND FAMILY

Friday, Jan. 19 5-8pm

Schuylerville School Cafeteria

Take outs available!

NATIVITY AND A FESTIVAL OF CAROLS

Sat. Dec. 16 at 5pm

at Fort Miller Reformed Church

Refreshments

Benefit for Puerto Rico Hurricane Aid

BACON HILL REFORMED CHURCH

Pot Luck and Carol Sing

Sunday, Dec. 3 at 5:30 pm

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

Monday, Dec. 11 at 7pm

Greenwich Elks Club

Members of the clergy will lead a service to help grieving families find comfort and healing. Please contact Flynnbrosinc@gmail.com with the names of those who have passed, and with the names of family members who will be attending.

"BLUE" CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Thurs. Dec. 21 at 7pm

At Easton Methodist Church (Rt. 40 S)

For those who find the holidays to be a difficult time after losing a loved one

BENEFIT PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, Dec. 10 9am – Noon

at St. Joseph's Hall

Sponsored by the Greenwich Knights of Columbus to support the renovations for the Bottskill Baptist Church

Old Saratoga Reformed Church

48 Pearl Street, Schuylerville, NY 12871

E-Mail:oldsaratogareformed@verizon.net

Fax: 1-518-695-3479

www.oldsaratoga.rcachurches.org

PASTOR: Rev. Joyce deVelder

OFFICE MANAGER: Duffy Whitehouse

Consistory Members: Amber Deyoe, Paula Sheely,
Patrick Woomeer, 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

Holiday Sale

Sat. Dec. 2 8am-2pm

Community Christmas Concert

Sun. Dec. 3 3pm at OSRC

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Sun. Dec. 24 8pm

Mon. Dec. 25 Merry Christmas!