

Jacob's Well

September 2019



The readings for the month of September are based on the lectionary for the Season of Creation, a season of the church year (like Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter or Pentecost) which celebrates God as Creator and invites every worshiper to consider his or her relationship to creation. The Season of Creation is considered "optional," but there is no other season which focuses in the same way on God as Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of the earth and universe.

- Sept. 1 JOINT WORSHIP OF TURNING POINT CHURCHES AT BACON HILL REFORMED**
TWELFTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Celebration of the Lord's Supper
Lectionary Readings: Jeremiah 2: 4-13; Psalm 81: 10-16; Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16; Luke 14: 7-14
Counters: Bridget Critelli/Amber Deyoe
- Sept. 8 THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Season of Creation Ocean Sunday**
Lectionary Readings: Job 38: 1-18; Psalm 104: 1-9, 24-26; Ephesians 1: 3-10; Luke 5: 1-11
Greeter: Bill Olmert
Liturgist: Pat Woormer
Ushers: Bridget Behrens/Matthew Waldinger
Counters: Anne Mitchell/Paula Sheely
- Sept. 15 FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Season of Creation Animal Sunday**
Lectionary Readings: Job 39: 1-8, 26-30; Psalm 147: 1-4; 1 Corinthians 1: 10-23; Luke 12: 22-31
Greeter: Amber Deyoe
Liturgist: Pam Seward
Ushers: Eddie Fish/Terri Richards
Counters: Amber Deyoe/Susanna Combs
- Sept. 22 FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Season of Creation Storm Sunday**
Lectionary Readings: Job 28: 20-27; Psalm 29; 1 Corinthians 1: 21-31; Luke 8: 22-25
Greeter: Bridget Critelli
Liturgist: Susanna Combs
Ushers: Karl Thayer/Hank Harrington
Counters: Anne Mitchell/Bridget Critelli
- Sept. 29 SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Season of Creation Universe Sunday**
Lectionary Readings: Proverbs 8: 22-31; Psalm 148; Colossians 1: 15-20; John 6: 41-51
Greeter: Joan Lapitsky
Liturgist: Chris Garney
Ushers: Katrina Harrington/Makenzie Harrington
Counters: Paula Sheely/Amber Deyoe

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



From the Pastor...

"Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the Earth!"

Psalm 100:1

Dear Members and Friends of Old Saratoga,

Greetings in the Grace of God and the Peace of Christ!

The summer's almost past and signs of fall are appearing—even though Autumn doesn't officially begin until Sept. 23. Our lives are ever-changing like the seasons; and often times of change bring "new" opportunities for growth, reflection, or renewal.

Many of you will be hearing this month in worship about the **Season of Creation**, a time in the church year (during the month of September) when we celebrate God the Creator and the wonders of creation—and what it means to love and care for creation!

The Season of Creation begins on Sunday, Sept. 1 which has been designated "**World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation**". We will be honoring this day during our joint communion service of the Turning Point Reformed Churches (Old Saratoga, Bacon Hill and Fort Miller) held on Sun. Sept. 1, 10 AM at Bacon Hill Ref. Church.

This year will be our fourth year at Old Saratoga to celebrate the Season of Creation and to join in praise and prayer for God's gift of the Earth—the home we share with all living beings.

Needless to say, we are in a time of ecological crisis—when the earth's climate is rapidly changing and affecting life on the planet. Raging fires in the Amazon rainforest, vicious storms, river and ocean pollution, and animal extinction are of deep concern to people and nations all across the world today.

We hope that these coming weeks may be a time to dig deeper into our spiritual tradition to renew our faith beliefs, our love for God and nature, and a time to recommit ourselves as followers of Jesus Christ to our spiritual vocation to protect and care for God's earth. Our health and well-being, and that of our children and the generations to follow, is intimately connected with the life and health of the earth.

Our starting point is not anger or fear over what's happening, but gratitude to God for the gift of creation and all its wonder and beauty. Grateful hearts inspire hope and action. The more awe and appreciation we have for creation, the more apt we are to work and pray for its healing and protection.

To live in praise of God our Creator is to love God, to marvel in the beauty and mysteries of creation, and to care for God's handiwork today--and in all the seasons of life!

Faithfully yours.

Pastor Joyce deVelder

Church Family

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

Shirley Mabb, Saratoga Center A 110, 149
Ballston Ave., Ballston Spa NY 12020

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

Pat Burke, Wesley Community, Victoria,
133 Lawrence St. Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Anna Bierma, c/o Loughlin, 1305 Westridge
Drive, Mansfield, TX 76063

Florence Brown, The Sentinel, 10 Market
Street, Room 10, Amsterdam, NY 12010

Susie Murphy, Center for Nursing and
Rehabilitation, 21 Danforth Street, Hoosick
Falls, NY 12090

NEW ADDRESSES

The Mellen Family- 903 W. Calle Tipoy,
Sahuarita, AZ 85629

Tom Wilbur- 168 Bulson Rd, Building B, Apt.7,
Greenwich NY 12834

Pam Seward – Cynthia Meadows,
20 Woodlawn Ave.
Greenwich NY 12834

THANKS RECEIVED

..from Wycliffe Bible Translators for a donation
of **\$173**

..from Fowler Ministries for a donation of
\$208.05

..from Saratoga Bridges for a donation of **\$147**

**(All these funds come from the special
Deacons Mission of the Month offerings)**

BIRTHDAYS

2: Cindy Brockman

4: Patricia Hayes-Howd

4: Jim Brockman

4: Atticus McCarty

5: Karl Thayer

8: Jillian Dickinson

9: Bridgette Lewie

10: Emma Bartholomay

11: Barbara Elcox

14: Joan Lapitsky

14: Mike Hughes

16: Gene Usher

18: Jennifer (MacMillan) Squires

18: Brian Driscoll

20: Randy Kerr III

23: Gage Woomer

24: Chad Cummins

25: Adam Lockwood

29: Patti Booth

ANNIVERSARIES

11: Patrick and Robin Woomer

16: Sue and Mike Hughes

21: Paula (Hayes) and Doug Sheely, 1991

24: Karl and Kim Thayer

HOSPITALIZED IN JULY/AUGUST

Anna Bierma –Arlington Hospital, TX

John Bodnar – Saratoga Hospital

Barbara Vincent – Saratoga ER

Susie Murphy – Glens Fall Hospital

Pam Seward- Wilton Day surgery

ADDITIONAL GRADUATE

Congratulations to **Jillian Perkins**, daughter of **Vicki and Brian Perkins**, who graduated from Colgate University in May with a degree in Physics. She will be studying for her Master's Degree in Mechanical Engineering this year at Tufts University.

RETIREMENT CONGRATULATIONS!

Patrick Woomer retired as of 8/31/19 from SUNY Adirondack, after 15 years of teaching Engineering. When asked what he plans to do now, he replied, **"Whatever Robin says to do."** He and Robin will be taking a River Cruise on the Danube in the fall.



Bonnie Garrand recently retired from State Farm Insurance Company, as of July 1, where she had worked for 20 years. She said that she "has no immediate plans, but enjoys being able to do whatever she wants to do, and to be available to attend grandchildren's games." Her family had a surprise retirement party for her on August 24.

SYMPATHY

The church extends sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of **Stephen E. Bodnar**, (75) of Quaker Springs, who died at home on Aug. 21. Steve was a local farmer, active communicant of Notre Dame-Visitation Church, and a faithful supporter of the community ecumenical services. He and his wife, **Joann**, raised five children: (Karen, Diane, Stephen, Edward, and Jennifer) and have six grandchildren. Steve was a nephew of **John Bodnar**. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Aug. 26 to remember and give thanks to God for Steve's life and service.

IN OUR PRAYERS

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

Ruth Hayes
Dwight Colvin
Alyson Fitzgerald
Thomas Altrogge
Rod Borgman
Trevor Lewie
Pat Hayes-Howd
Evie Senecal
Gerry Barber
Susie Murphy
Sandy DeGregory
Mona Perkins
Suzanne Guerineau
Chris Garney
Jim Miers

Bette Tucker
Tom Wilbur
Anne Mitchell
Anna Bierma
John Bodnar
Naomi Thayer
Sandy Horsfield
Alicia Lewie
Janice Cornell
Pam Seward
Charles Thayer
Danny MacMillan
Clyde Wells
Peggy MacMillan

NEW JOB

Beginning on Oct. 7, **Bridget Critelli** will begin a new position with WWAARC, for whom she has worked for several years. Her new title will be QDIDP (Qualified Intellectual Disabilities Professional) She will be based out of the Quaker Road office in Queensbury, and will be working days from M-F, with weekends and holidays off. Bridget is very happy with her new position and says, "I will finally be able to use my degree!" Congratulations!!

OFFICE CLOSED



The church office will be closed on **Monday, Sept. 2** for the Labor Day Holiday. It will reopen on Tuesday morning, and the regular coffee hour will be held at 9:30am. All are welcome!

Church Life

IT'S DOUGHNUT TIME!!!



All through the month of September, we'll be taking orders for the famous **Krispy Kreme original glazed doughnuts!** They can be ordered for **\$10/dozen**. They freeze well – so plan ahead! The church earns **\$6** on every dozen sold. The goal is to sell **100 dozen!** The donuts will be available for pickup during the week that begins with **Sunday, Oct. 13**.

Krispy Kreme has been around for at least 70 years! Their mission (as stated on their website) is "to make the most awesome doughnuts on the planet every day!"

If you would like more info, or want to order by phone, please call our fundraising chairperson, **Amber Deyoe**, at **518-409-1004**

Thank you for your support!

START UPS FOR FALL

Chancel Choir **Thurs. Sept 5 7pm**
New singers always welcome!

Ecumenical Bible Study
Wed. Sept. 11 10am All are welcome!
Continuing the Gospel of Luke

Women's Guild **Mon. Sept. 16 Noon**
Bring a sandwich and a friend!

TURNING POINT PICNIC COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO A FREE PICNIC LUNCH!

Sunday Sept. 8 1-4pm
Hudson Crossing Park



(Food at 2pm, Games at 3pm)

Rain or shine! Bring a chair or blanket

For info call 518-747-8011

Sponsored by the
Turning Point Reformed Churches
(Old Saratoga, Bacon Hill, Fort Miller)

(Members and friends of the three churches are asked to bring a dish to share)

PROPERTY NEWS

Over the summer the Property Committee did not meet, but several matters had to be addressed. The parsonage refrigerator stopped working and had to be replaced. In keeping with our policy to "buy local," a new one was purchased from Parisi Appliances, and installed on 8/20.

Doug Sheely painted the bases of the four pillars, and also cut up the large limb which came down during one of the heavy August storms. **Dave Garrand** kept our lawn mowed. Our thanks to both of these friends of the church

A meeting will be scheduled in the fall at which the committee will discuss a new lock on the back door, the chimney repointing, the possibility of ceiling fans in the sanctuary and the scheduling of the church roof replacement.

NEW INTERIM PRIEST AT NOTRE DAME-VISITATION

We welcome **Father Ed Kacerguis** to the greater Schuylerville Community. Fr. Ed is serving as Interim Sacramental Minister at three local Roman Catholic churches: Notre Dame-Visitation in Schuylerville, St. Joseph's in Greenwich, and Holy Cross in Salem. He has most recently served at Christ Sun of Justice (Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany) which is part of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in Troy, NY. Fr. Ed will soon be residing at the rectory of St. Joseph's in Greenwich. We wish him God's blessings of grace and peace in his new ministry.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN BALLSTON SPA, NY

On Aug. 1, the **Rev. Jennifer Legg** began her ministry as the full time pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Ballston Spa. The church is located on Route 67, not far from the intersection of Rts. 50 and 67. Sunday worship time is 10am.

Pastor Jenn will continue to reside at her apartment in Saratoga Springs, and her office will be located at the church. Our love and prayers are with Pastor Jenn and the congregation as they enter a new relationship of mutual love and service to Christ, their community and to one another.

Contact information:

First Presbyterian Church of Ballston Spa
22 West High Street
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Office phone: 518-885-5583
Cell: 1-919-600-9240
Church website: www.ballstonpresby.com
Pastor Jenn's email at the church:
pastorballstonpres@gmail.com

HYMNS OF OUR FAITH

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

"Make Me a Blessing"

*"Make me a blessing, make me a blessing,
Out of my life may Jesus shine;
Make me a blessing O Savior I pray,
Make me a blessing to someone today."*

These are the words to the chorus of this wonderful, prayerful hymn.

In the early days of the last century, George Shuler and Ira Wilson were roommates at the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago. They combined their efforts in giving the world this wonderful Christian song, "Make Me a Blessing." Wilson wrote the lyrics and Shuler the musical setting.

At first, the song was rejected by musical publishers. Not to be deterred, Shuler had 1,000 copies printed to distribute on his own. One copy fell into the hands of George Dibble, an outstanding singer who was the music director for the International Sunday School Convention in Cleveland, Ohio. Dibble asked for permission to use the song, and it was granted. Soon people everywhere were singing it and publishers were wanting to distribute copies.

This hymn would be a great prayer for us to begin every day. "Make me a blessing to someone today." In Genesis 12:2 we read of God saying to Abram, "I will bless you...and you will be a blessing." We are called as believers to be a blessing to others. As those who have been redeemed by a loving and benevolent God, we are called to serve – called to do simple tasks of blessing such as "giving a cup of water in Jesus' name" because we belong to Christ. We are called to "look after orphans and widows in their distress." (James 1:27) We are even commanded to "bless them that curse you" and to "do good to them that hate you." (Matthew 5:44) In our blessings to others we reflect the love of the one who "first loved us" and provided us with blessings beyond our ability to measure.

Dick Behrens

HARVEST HAM SUPPER

Sat. Nov. 2



Please save the date of **Saturday, Nov. 2** when our Annual Harvest Supper will be held. The good news is that we already have a chairperson!! Our friend, **Bonnie Garrand**, who has chaired it several times in the past, has again agreed to coordinate the dinner. Before we know it, signup sheets will be posted and we will be looking for help before, during and after the dinner. It's not too early to start thinking of what you can do!

BACON HILL WOMEN'S RETREAT

When: Fri.-Sun. Oct. 25-27

Where: Camp Fowler

Cost: \$160 for the weekend due
by Sept. 25 to Nancy Purinton
Contact Nancy at

purinton73@gmail.com to register

What: Fellowship, friendship, Bible lessons,
discussions, music, arts and crafts,
walks to the lake, local mission
project, breast cancer pillows for
Saratoga Hospital



OUTDOOR HYMN SING

Thurs. Sept. 26 @ 6pm

1st Reformed Church of Scotia

In conjunction with the Season of Creation

Bring a chair!

(songbooks and seasonal goodies
will be provided)

OLD SARATOGA DEACON ATTENDS DISABILITY MINISTRY CONFERENCE

From Aug. 1-3, Deacon **Bridget Critelli**, our church Disability Advocate, attended the **"INSPIRE 2019"** disability conference at St. Claire College Center for the Arts in Windsor, Canada.

Here's what Bridget had to report:

"The Inspire conference was really a conference within a conference, mainly geared to the Christian Reformed Church. But they were excited to include the RCA. The disability Advocacy conference piggybacked the Inspire Conference. The first day was Disabilities Leadership Training, including devotions and singing, practicing our ministry as advocates by wearing pins that had a word on it like; removing barriers, belonging, person-first language, etc. in hopes of sparking conversation about the word we chose. We also did some long and short term goal setting for what we want to accomplish."

The rest of the three days was the joint conference with disabilities workshops. I took Creating an Atmosphere of Belonging, Top Ideas for Community Building, Better Together, and Universal Design for Ministry. There were 98 workshops to chose from.

There were 750 people that attended the conference. Every night we had a gathering where we would sing, listen to speakers and worship together. We even had a theme song, which said, "Inspire to Belong, Be Changed, Be a Servant, Be a Bridge, Be His." This conference was very inspiring, uplifting and positive."

Bridget Critelli

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(7TH in a series of articles)

"And lead us not into temptation"

Theologian William Barclay asked, "Can we ever believe that God would lead us into temptation? How could God be responsible for the attempt to seduce man into sin?" These questions are pertinent as we look at the sixth petition found in the Lord's Prayer. It has been said that this is the most natural and instinctive of the petitions, yet it is the one that has spawned the most argumentation and attempts to explain its meaning. Barclay argues that temptation is an integral part of human existence from which no one is immune, Modern expressions for this petition are along the lines of "saving us from the time of trial." It is interesting to note that the Greek language uses the same word for trial and for temptation. The word "test" is also commonly employed in explaining this petition, and we can find scriptural bases for understanding temptation in the way of trial or testing...Job said, "But he knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold." (23:10) The apostle James wrote, "Consider it pure joy...whenever you face trials of any kind, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance." (1: 28)

Eighteenth century Methodist biblical scholar Adam Clarke said, "A man may be tempted without entering into the temptation; entering implies giving way or embracing the temptation." King David petitioned God concerning temptation and said, "Do not let my heart be drawn to what is evil so that I take part in wicked deeds along with those who are evildoers; do not let me eat their delicacies." (Psalm 141:4)

To help us understand the practicality of this petition Barclay offers this amplified expression: "I know that temptation must come to me, for there can be no life without temptation. But when it does come...stand by me in my hour of need."

Understanding that by nature we are frail, it is clear that we cannot deal with temptation by ourselves, but that we need the power that is not our own in order to emerge triumphant from the test. In 1 Corinthians 10:13 we read "No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear."

Dick Behrens

DICK BEHRENS TO BEGIN PREACHING ELDER TRAINING

The consistory is pleased to announce that Dick Behrens, an ordained elder at Old Saratoga and classis-appointed supervisor at Fort Miller, was approved by the Classis of Schenectady to begin preaching elder training in the RCA.

Dick has expressed his sense of call by God to follow this path and will be starting training on 9/12. It will be mostly on-line courses through Albany Synod School of Ministry. His first course will be on the "Reformed Church in America Doctrinal Standards" taught by the Rev. Allan Janssen, former professor at New Brunswick Theological Seminary. (Other required courses are Old and New Testament introduction and history, biblical exegesis and interpretation, sermon composition and delivery, and systematic theology.)

At the conclusion of his training, Dick and other participating elders will be examined by the classis and subsequently commissioned as preaching elders.

For many years, Dick has been sharing his love of the scriptures and preaching at Old Saratoga, Fort Miller and Bacon Hill Reformed Churches, as well as at a local Methodist church when there is need. He has been asked to preach two Sundays (9/22 and 29) at Bacon Hill while Pastor Jan Vincent is on vacation.

Please uphold Dick with your prayers as he soon begins his training and continues to use his gifts in service to Christ and the church

Community Life

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 518-695-4640

Next Board meeting Sept. 6 at 9:30 at OSRC

SAFER

Schuylerville Area Food Relief

Open 9-12 noon M, F & 3rd Saturday

(Mobile Food Pantry at Schuylerville
United Methodist Church 4th Tues.

1:30-3pm)

518-507-6043

TUESDAY NIGHT PRAYER

Faith Chapel opens its doors every Tuesday evening from 5-8pm to anyone who wants to come in and pray or meditate. Hot chocolate and tea are available.

OPEN HOUSE

Bottskill Baptist Church in Greenwich invites our congregation to attend an open house on **Saturday, Sept. 4 at 3pm**. They will be celebrating the completion of reconstruction of their sanctuary following the discovery of unsafe conditions. OSRC was able to donate \$1000 (taken from an undesignated bequest to the church) to help our family in Christ, remembering all the support we received from churches when our roof trusses were deemed unsafe and had to be repaired. (1988-89)

BACON HILL CHICKEN BBQ

What: Chicken BBQ

When: Sat, Sept. 14

Sittings: 4:15 and 5:30pm -- T.O. 4-6pm

Where: Bacon Hill Reformed Church

Cost: \$12 adults \$6 Children 5-12
1/2 chicken \$6

Call: 518-695-6116 for reservations

QUAKER SPRINGS METHODIST CHURCH TO CELEBRATE 175TH ANNIVERSARY

What: QSUMC Celebration of 175 years of Faith
and Community Service

Date/Time: Sunday, Sept. 29 1pm

Where: Quaker Springs UMC, 466 Rt. 32 South,
Schuylerville, NY

Who: Open to all

FREE COMMUNITY DINNER

Where: St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
1 Grove Street, Schuylerville

When: Wed. Sept. 25 5:30-6:30pm

Who: All are welcome!

Cost: FREE!!!

COMMUNITY HOSPICE

Hospice needs volunteers and will be offering a training class at two different times and locations.

**Tues. Sept. 24 at 1pm -Hospice of Saratoga, 179
Lawrence St., Saratoga Springs**

Thurs, Sept. 26 at 2pm

Greenwich Library. 148 Main St. Greenwich
Call the volunteer office to register
518-581-0800

COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE WEEKEND

Sept.14,15

Check out the sales at Schuylerville Methodist
and Faith Chapel on 9/14

"Jacob's Well"

Old Saratoga Reformed Church

48 Pearl Street, Schuylerville NY 12871

PASTOR: Rev. Joyce deVelder

OFFICE MANAGER: Duffy Whitehouse

Consistory Members: Amber Deyoe, Paula Sheely,
Anne Mitchell, Bridget Critelli, Susanna Combs

Published ten times yearly in Schuylerville, NY 12871

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

E-Mail: oldsaratogareformed@gmail.com

www.oldsaratoga.rcachurches.org

www.facebook.com/oldsaratogareformedchurch

Phone and Fax: 518-695-3479

Joint Worship Service Sunday

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Sunday Sept. 1 10am at

Bacon Hill Reformed Church

Community Picnic at Hudson Crossing Park

(sponsored by the Turning Point Reformed Churches)

Sunday, Sept. 8 1-4pm

Food, games, fun, fellowship!!

All are welcome!