### Jacob's Well December/January 2019/20



### Dec. 1 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Celebration of the Lord's Supper Advent Candle of Hope-Booths

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 2: 1-5; Psalm 22; Romans 13: 11-14; Matthew 34: 36-44 Greeter: Bridget Critelli Liturgist: Bruce Guerineau Ushers: Bill Olmert/Amber Deyoe Counters: Bridget Critelli/Anne Mitchell Communion Servers: Susanna Combs/Anne Mitchell/Bridget Critelli Communion Cleanup: Bill Olmert

#### Dec. 8 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Advent Candle of Joy - The Women's Guild

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 11: 1-10; Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19; Romans 15: 4-13; Matthew 3: 1-12 Greeter: Becca Sheely Liturgist: David deVelder Ushers: Eddie Fish/Terri Richards Counters: Susanna Combs/Paula Sheely

Dec. 15 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Advent Candle of Love – Cancer Survivors Susanna Combs, Anne Mitchell, Pam Seward

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 7: 10-16; Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19; Romans 1: 1-7; Matthew 1: 18-25 Greeter: Bridget Critelli Liturgist: Dick Behrens

Ushers: Karl Thayer/Hank Harrington Counters: Susanna Combs/Bridget Critelli

Dec. 22 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Advent Candle of Peace - Choir Members

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 63: 7-9; Psalm 148; Hebrews 2: 10-18; Matthew 2: 13-23 Greeter: Bridget Behrens Liturgist: Carolyn Markwith Ushers: Katrina Harington/Makenzie Harrington Counters: Anne Mitchell/Amber Deyoe

Dec. 24 CHRISTMAS EVE Advent Candle of Light - Bridget Critelli and Janice Cornell Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 9: 2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2: 11-14; Luke 2: 1-14 (15-20) Greeter: Patti Booth Ushers: Carol Burch/Cindy Brockman Counters: Paula Sheely/Bridget Critelli

Dec. 29 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS Joint Worship with Turning Point Reformed Churches Greeter: Pat Woomer Ushers: Holly Deyoe/Paula Sheely Counters: Bridget Critelli/Paula Sheely



(in Dutch!)

### Jan. 5 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS Celebration of the Lord's Supper and the Epiphany

Lectionary Readings: Jeremiah 31: 7-14; Psalm 147: 12-20; Ephesians 1: 3-14;

John 1: (1-9), 10-18

Greeter: Joan Lapitsky Liturgist: Mark Booth Ushers: Karl Thayer/Hank Harrington Counters: Bridget Critelli/Amber Deyoe Communion Servers: Susanna Combs, Amber Deyoe, Bridget Critelli Communion Cleanup: Carolyn Markwith

Jan. 12 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY: BAPTISM OF THE LORD Installation of Consistory Members

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 42: 1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3: 13-17 Greeter: Patti Booth Liturgist: Holly Deyoe Ushers: Katrina Harington/Makenzie Harrington Counters: SusannaCombs/Anne Mitchell

#### Jan. 19 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY Service of Word and Spirituals in Remembrance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 49: 1-4; Psalm 27: 1, 4-9; 1 Corinthians 1: 10-18; Matthew 4: 12-23

Greeter: Bridget Behrens Liturgist: Carolyn Markwith Ushers: Bill Olmert/Matthew Waldinger Counters: Susanna Combs/ TBA

#### Jan. 26 THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 9: 1-4; salm 27: 4-9; 1 Corinthians 1: 10-18; Matthew 4: 12-23 Greeter: Pat Woomer Liturgist: Paula Sheely Ushers: Eddie Fish/Terri Richards Counters: Paula Sheely/TBA

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



### From the Pastor...

It's only three days past Thanksgiving—and it's snowing. A week ago we were singing "Come, ye thankful people come, raise a song of harvest home; all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin!"

On this first night of Advent, the landscape is white, and the snow is falling. In worship today (before the snow started) we sang "O Come, O Come Emmanuel". I especially took note of the words of the third verse:

> "O come thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; and drive away the shades of night, and pierce the clouds and bring us light! Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!"

The coming of a major winter storm (before winter's actually here!) is not exactly a cheery event—though school children and teachers—and others might welcome a Monday off! It seems a heavy start to Advent—despite the pristine beauty of the winter wonderland!

It reminds me that God comes to us at all times—even in the storms of life when we feel "snowed in" by unrest or anxious thoughts for ourselves, our nation, or the world.

Some two-thousand years ago, when God came to the world in Jesus, the Holy Child born in Bethlehem of Judea, it was in a time of unrest. The dark clouds of military occupation, injustice, and uncertainty were present—and it wasn't long before Jesus and his parents fled from their land as refugees to Egypt.

And so it is whenever God comes—for there's never a time when there are no gloomy clouds or "shades of night." But the coming of God brings the Light of Love into our darkness. And that is why we can "rejoice" even in the midst of sorrow, suffering, unrest or change.

As the world goes on, we hope with expectation for the time when all the earth will be filled with the Light of God. Until then we sing the Advent song for Emanuel to "bring us light"; and we pray, "Lord make us your children of the Light", that with love in our hearts, we may radiate God's Love for all creation!

My family and I wish you and your families a Blessed Advent, a Merry Christmas and a Joyous New Year!

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, Rm 184, 21 Danforth Street, Hoosick Falls, NY 12090 \*\*John Bodnar: Home of the Good Shepherd, Rm. 113, 198 Bluebird Road, South Glens Falls, NY 12803- Phone # 518-338-3027\*\*

### THANKS RECEIVED

..from Rebuilding Together for a donation of **\$125** 

..from Care Network (RCA) Disaster Relief for a donation of **\$140** 

### THANKS EXPRESSED

..to **Dave Garrand** who kept our lawns mowed and our leaves cleaned up

..to **Susanna Combs** who did the gardening ..to **Patti Booth** who made over one hundred fiftystars for our sanctuary Christmas tree

### HOSPITAL

Peggy MacMillan – Saratoga Hospital ER

### BIRTHDAYS

Dec. 4: Rixt (Bierma) Clifford 5: Bette Tucker 10: Eran Dickinson 15: Florence Brown 16: Danny MacMillan 17: Sue Usher 17: Doug Mitchell 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 11: Gary Cummins 13: Donna-Ella Marie Brooks 17: Chris Cox 21: Cindy Barber 22: Morgan Wilbur 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 ANNIVERSARIES

Dec. 17: Vicki and Brian Perkins, 1994

21: Wayne and Marion Barton

31: Sue (Fero) and Steve Kurowski

Jan. 21: John and Amberlyn Deyoe, Jr.,

### **IN OUR PRAYERS**

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

Ruth Hayes Dwight Colvin Anne Mitchell Thomas Altrogge Rod Borgman Trevor Lewie Pat Hayes-Howd Alicia Lewie Gerry Barber Sandy DeGregory Mona Perkins Suzanne Guerineau Jean Wells Bette Tucker Alyson Fitzgerald Jim Miers Anna Bierma John Bodnar Naomi Thayer Sandy Horsfield Peggy MacMillan Susie Murphy Charles Thayer Danny MacMillan Clyde Wells

### THANKS FROM ANNA BIERMA

"It is about time that I thank all of you for all of the cards and letters I have received- so much appreciated to hear from everybody. Jikke comes 3 times a week. When we go out, it feels so good to be in the fresh air. To all of you, a blessed Thanksgiving, and in the future a wonderful Christmas." **Love, Anna** 

### **PEOPLE YOU KNOW**

**Dick Behrens** will be starting the second 8 week on-line distance learning course of his study and training to become a preaching elder in the Classis of Schenectady. The course he will be starting on 1/13 is "Old Testament Introduction and History," taught by the **Rev. Johan Bosman**, through the Albany Synod School of Ministry.

**Susanna Combs** spoke at a breast cancer symposium at Saratoga Hospital in November. She has also been training with the Live Strong program to be a support person for women with breast cancer.

Halie and Logan Tomlinson, along with their dad, Tod, completed climbing the Adirondack 46 High Peaks. They started on Halie's eighth birthday and completed the 46<sup>th</sup> on her 12<sup>th</sup> birthday, Oct. 4. Congrats!

### SYMPATHY

The congregation extends sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of **Thomas** Reed Wilbur (76) who died on Sunday, Nov. 10 at Albany Medical Center Hospital. Tom had been a member of Old Saratoga for the past 35 years, where he had served formerly as a liturgist and member of the Investment Committee, and helped with church fundraisers. He was an Earth Science teacher at Saratoga Springs High School. After retiring he enjoyed playing golf and collecting art, glass and dragons. His wife of 51 years, Sue (Kilpatrick) Wilbur, preceded him in death in March of this year. A memorial service was held at Old Saratoga on Wed. Nov. 13. A private burial took place at Woodlands Cemetery in Cambridge. We remember in our prayers Tom's children and their families- his daughter Amberlyn, her husband John and their children Ajay and Holly Deyoe; Tom's son Morgan Wilbur and his wife Patty (who live in Crawfordville, FL and all **Tom's** special careaivers and friends.

We extend sympathy also to the family, friends and parishoners of the **Rev. Father John Kettlewell**, (89) former rector of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Schuylerville, who died peacefully at home on Oct. 23, 2019. A memorial service was held at St. Stephen's on St, Nov. 2. Before his retirement, Fr. Kettlewell was an active member of the Schuylerville Clergy Association. He was a lifelong educator and loved the outdoors. We remember his wife, **Susie (Kane) Kettlewell**, their children, and his brother, **James Kettlewell** of Saratoga Springs.

# Church Life

### 4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER MISSION The Giving Circle

The Mission for the fourth quarter (October-December) is The Giving Circle, whose purpose is to shape better lives by building and teaching sustainable solutions in education, health, farming and economic self-empowerment, to end poverty and hopelessness. It is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, originally founded in response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. It has since expanded its efforts to work with underserved families in Saratoga County, helped to found and serve the Code Blue homeless shelter, and supports the Koi Koi House orphanage in Africa. For more info, go to www.thegivingcircle.org. Coin boxes will be available and will be due back Dec. 15.

### WORSHIP SERVERS/VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all who have offered to serve in worship services and to volunteer to help in many other ways in the church. The schedule for the year will be ready in mid- December. It is especially noteworthy that we have several new volunteers in some of the categories!

### CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The Holiday Appeal letter will be going out to our mailing list soon. All gifts, both great and small, are gratefully received. Thanks!

### "\$10 –ish"

If you'd like to give a physical gift to the church, we would welcome the gifts of a book of stamps, a ream of copy paper, a can of decaf coffee, or a bag of Ice Melt. You may bring it to the office anytime! Thanks!

### HYMNS OF OUR FAITH

"Sing to the Lord, ye saints of God." Psalm 30: 4
"I Cannot Tell"
I cannot tell why he whom angels worship should come down in flesh as prophets long foretold,
Or why the Shepherd longs to save the wanderers and bring them back rejoicing to his fold.

But this I know, that he was born of Mary when Bethlehem's manger was his only home. And that he lived at Nazareth and labored, and so the promised Savior of the world is come." "I Cannot Tell" has generally not been considered a hymn of Advent of the Christmas season. However, when one takes note of the words of the first verse it clearly qualifies for either season. Written by W.Y Fullerton, it is sung to the tune of "Danny Boy," which fits the construction of the poetry well. The first two lines find the author questioning, while the last two are a declaration of belief. The mood of the tune is at first soft and wondering, until a mood shift that is exultant and filled with resolve (referred to as "a confession of faith and a testimony to the basics of Christian faith." 1 Fullerton was born in Ireland in 1857, but lived in England where he became an evangelist, pastor, administrator and writer. Advent is a time to think about the promise of the expected Jesus,. The Nativity is the first step in our journey toward that hope. It is in knowing Jesus that we know who and what God is, and how we come to understand the grace, love and mercy of God.

#### Dick Behrens

1. The Worshipping Church: A Hymnal, Worship Leader's Edition, Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream IL, 1991. P.109

# St. Nicolaas Holiday Sale

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

# Saturday, Dec. 7

# 8 am-2 pm

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



### Gently used Christmas decorations, baked goods, fudge, basket raffles, refreshments

(All proceeds will benefit the General Fund)

### Donations will be accepted through Friday, Dec. 6 Thanks!

### **ECUMENICAL BIBLE STUDY**

Wednesday Bible Study schedule for the next few weeks is as follows:

Dec. 4 10am Meet at church to continue reading The Gospel of Luke

Dec. 11 10am Annual Christmas Brunch at the home of Jean Myers (26 Church St.) Dec. 18, 25, Jan.1 No Bible Study During the winter months, Bible Study will not meet if the Schuylerville School is closed for inclement weather.

### WINTER WEATHER "ADVISORY"

Please be sure to dress warmly when attending church this winter. The sanctuary may not be as warm as your home. Sitting further to the front can be a help, as you won't feel the drafts from the door opening. When the weather is bad, there will always be a church service. Come, only if you feel safe doing so.

### HARVEST SUPPER REPORT

A successful Harvest Supper was held on Nov. 2. Grateful thanks go to **Bonnie Garrand**, who chaired the dinner, and to **Eric Garney**, who cooked it, and to all those who donated food or money, or helped with serving and cleanup. We were able to add **\$1415.11** to our General Fund.

### WOMEN'S GUILD

The Women's Guild will be celebrating the Christmas Season together with a luncheon on their regular meeting date of Monday, **Dec. 16 at noon.** Details to be announced.

### ANNUAL MEETING REPORT Sunday, Nov. 17

OSRC held its Annual Congregational Meeting with about 25 members and friends in attendance. Reports were read and discussed, and concerns and affirmations were raised. The following people were elected to office on the consistory: Elders -**Paula Sheely and Amberlyn Deyoe**; Deacons-**Anne Mitchell, and Bruce Guerineau** (who agreed to fill a three year term which includes one year of an unexpired term.) The Faith Budget of **\$129,046** was passed.

### **PASTOR JOYCE RETIRING IN 2020**

At the Annual Congregational Meeting, held on Sun. Nov. 17, **Pastor Joyce**, who's been serving Old Saratoga since 1982, announced her retirement, effective at the end of May, 2020. She and the consistory will be communicating more information early on in the New Year. Thanks you for keeping her and her family and the church in your prayers!

### **NEWS ABOUT PASTOR JENN**

Blessings and congratulations to **Pastor Jenn Legg**, who was officially installed on Sun. Nov. 10, as the Minister of Word and Sacrament at the First Presbyterian Church in Ballston Spa. Many from the Turning Point Churches were present and happy to see Jenn again, and her parents **Kevin and Marion Legg** from NC.

Thank you for your continuing prayers for Pastor Jenn and 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian congregation as they minister the love and grace of God together.

# Community Christmas Music Concert

(In conjunction with Schuylerville's St.Nicolaas Festival Dec. 6-8)



# Sunday, December 8 3 pm

### Old Saratoga Reformed Church

Burgoyne and Pearl Streets, Schuylerville

Featuring five local choirs, the Battenkill Bells Handbells and musical groups Faith Chapel Worship Band and The Rose 'n Thorns Refreshments following

# All are welcome!

(Handicapped Accessible) (Free will offering to benefit Caring and Sharing)

### COMING UP- Save the Date!

Sat. 2/8 8am-noonBlood Drive at OSRCSat. 3/7 4:30-6pmSoup SupperSat. 4/25 40-6pmLasagna Dinner

### CAMP FOWLER 2020

Registration opens Dec. 1 for Summer Camp

(The first 150 campers and 30 cabin counselors to register get a free T-shirt) Visit CampFowler.org for more information

### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Tues. 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!

### OFFICE CLOSED

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

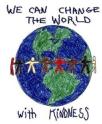
### CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS

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.

### 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 monetary gift 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 <u>www.regionalfoodbank.net</u> to see how to make a donation.
- 2. Give a gift to benefit the Caring and Sharing Fund of Schuylerville Central School, which helps students in need during the holidays and throughout the year. Your gift can be mailed to Caring and Sharing, c/o Pam Driscoll, Schuylervile Central School, Spring Street, Schuylerville, NY 12871
- 3. Gifts are being received for OSRC's Deacons Discretionary Fund to help church and community members with emergency needs. Your donation may be sent to the church, 48 Pearl Street, Schuylerville 12871, and earmarked "Deacon's Discretionary Fund."
- 4. Do a Reverse Advent Calendar- Each day add a food item to a box (Dec. 1-Dec. 24), then donate the box to your local food pantry.
- 5. Make this an Advent of Kindness: Each day do an act of kindness. A few examples are: buy a friend, co-worker or stranger a cup of coffee, offer to help someone, write a thank you note, donate unwanted books to charity, or do something unexpected for someone.





### SECOND HAND ROSE THRIFT SHOP

116 Broad Street, 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 Jan. 17 at 9:30 at OSRC

SAFER Schuylerville Area Food Relief Open 9-12 noon M, F & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday

(Mobile Food Pantry at Schuylerville United Methodist Church 4<sup>th</sup> Tues. 1:30-3pm)

518-507-6043

### THURSDAY NIGHT PRAYER

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

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND HOPE Mon. Dec. 9 at 7pm Greenwich Elks Club, 130 Bulson Road

Grief, whether from this year or years past, doesn't stop during the holidays. The hope is that this special night will help with the healing process. Please RSVP to Jamie 518-695-3138) or Jason (518-692-2680) with the number of family members attending, and the names of your loved ones you wish to remember by lighting a candle.

Sponsored by Flynn Bros. Funeral Homes

KIDS MAKING CRAFTS Sat. Dec. 7 10am-1pm at Faith Chapel

Bring your child to make Christmas cards and crafts to give to people they love, as well as to charities (St.Jude's, troops overseas, patients at Albany Med) Cost: FREE, but donations are appreciated!

### INTERFAITH GATHERING IN REMEMBRANCE OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

When: Sun. Jan. 19 1pm Where: Town of Saratoga Town Hall All are welcome!



### KIDS DAY OUT!

Sat. Dec. 14 9am-12noon Schuylerville United Methodist Church If you have holiday shopping to do, your children will be entertained with Christmas stories, games and crafts, and a movie. At 11:30 parents enjoy pizza lunch with the children! RSVP with name and age of child to 518-

683-1402 or to loutenal1986@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS AT PARKS-BENTLEY 55 Ferry Blvd. SGF "Nativities of the Americas" 11/30, 12/1,6,7,8,13,14,15,21,28 1-4pm 12/20, 27 1-7pm \$ 5 adults, \$3 ages 12 & under 518-636-3856 for info 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

> First Sunday in Advent Celebration of the Lord's Supper Sunday, Dec. 1 10am

Holiday Sale Saturday, Dec. 7 8am-2pm

Community Christmas Concert Sunday, Dec. 8 3pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service Tuesday, Dec. 24 8pm

Joint Worship Service of Turning Point Reformed Churches Sunday, Dec. 29 10am at OSRC

Epiphany – Celebration of the Lord's Supper Sunday Jan. 5 10am

Installation of Consistory Members Sunday Jan 12 10am