

Jacob's Well

February 2020



Feb. 2 FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Guest Worship Leader and Preacher: Dick Behrens

Lectionary Readings: Micah 6: 1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1: 18-31; Matthew 5: 1-12

Greeter: Becca Sheely

Liturgist: Anne Mitchell

Ushers: Dick Behrens/Bill Olmert

Counters: Paula Sheely/Susanna Combs

Communion Servers: Anne Mitchell, Paula Sheely, Bridget Critelli

Communion Cleanup: Kim and Karl Thayer

Feb. 9 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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

Greeter: Bill Olmert

Liturgist: David deVelder

Ushers: Eddie Fish/Terri Richards

Counters: Anne Mitchell/Amber Deyoe

Feb. 16 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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

Greeter: Cindy Brockman

Liturgist: Amber Deyoe

Ushers: Karl Thayer/Paula Sheely

Counters: Bruce Guerineau/Bridget Critelli

Feb. 23 TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

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

Greeter: Patti Booth

Liturgist: Paula Sheely

Ushers: Paula Sheely/Dick Behrens

Counters: Paula Sheely/Susanna Combs

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



From the Pastor...

***"Beloved, let us love one another
for love is from God."***

I John 4:7

Dear Members and Friends of Old Saratoga,

Greetings to you in the grace and peace of Christ!

Valentine's Day will soon be here on February 14! It's never long after Christmas, when the store-shelves are being re-stocked with red or pink heart-shaped boxes of candy; and Valentine's Day cards and lovely flowers will be sent and given to express love. It all began centuries ago with a kindly man who became known as **St. Valentine**, a priest who was imprisoned in Rome in the 3rd century for aiding persecuted Christians.

I am thinking of another saint, **Dorothy Day** (1897-1980) who's been called "a saint for our times". She was known for her love of Christ and humanity—especially those people who lived at the margins of society. Years ago, I read her autobiography entitled "The Long Loneliness." I also have a small, treasured book of her writings entitled The Reckless Way of Love: Notes on Following Jesus, published in 2017.

Though I never met her, Dorothy Day has been a spiritual mentor for me—as she has been for countless people. What I find so compelling about her, is her intense desire to know Jesus and to follow his teachings and example in her own life.

Her own journey of faith was fairly unorthodox, for in her early years she had left religion behind to engage in a life of activism. Later on, she fully embraced the Catholic faith and found a way to integrate it with social action. She and her friend, Peter Maurin, founded the Catholic Worker Movement which supported "houses of hospitality in New York City where everyone was welcome—especially those who were addicts, homeless, poor, or destitute.

With her life of service and her deep belief in the God-given dignity of all people, she gave new meaning to the word "love". In this world of "tension and strife", as she described it, she was often asked, "What good can one person do? She answered it this way: "***We can beg for an increase of love in our hearts that will vitalize and transform all our individual actions, and know that God will take them and multiply them, as Jesus multiplied the loaves and the fishes.***"

Through her remarkable legacy of love and service, Dorothy Day invites us to a deeper level of loving, centered in the inexhaustible love of God for all beings and creation. She believed with all her heart and soul that "**love is from God**", and that our highest purpose in life is to "**love one another.**" (I John 4:7)

My family and I want to thank you all for your faithful love and care for us, and to express our joy in loving you and sharing with you the ministry of Love for one another and for all God's children!

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, Arbrook Plaza, 401 Arbrook Blvd.
Arlington, TX 76014 Phone # 518-321-4498 (c)

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

John Bodnar: Home of the Good Shepherd,
Rm. 113, 198 Bluebird Road, South Glens Falls,
NY 12803- Phone # 518-338-3027

THANKS RECEIVED

*..from Schuyler Hose Company for a donation
of \$75*

*...from the Giving Circle for a donation of
\$87.34*

...from SAFER for a donation of \$75

*...from Shelters of Saratoga for a donation of
\$107*

**"Thank you all so much for the gift cards and
all the help."**

With heartfelt gratitude,

Toni Bentley

(Toni was badly burned and the congregation
donated gift cards and household items to
help her)

THANKS EXPRESSED

*..to Paula and Doug Sheely for the two cartons
of copy paper for the office*

BIRTHDAYS

3: Jean Wells

3: Mira Jolene McCarty

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

16: Ronald Hayes, Jr.

20: David deVelder

22: Randy Kerr

23: Joseph Barton

24: Maureen Kerr Roberts

28: Eshia Cummins



ANNIVERSARIES

10: Henrietta and Nugent Edgar

14: David and Bonnie Garrand

HOSPITALIZED

Florence Brown- Saratoga Hospital

Gerry Barber – Glens Falls Hospital

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	Alyson Fitzgerald
Anne Mitchell	Jim Miers
Thomas Altrogge	Anna Bierma
Rod Borgman	John Bodnar
Trevor Lewie	Naomi Thayer
Pat Hayes-Howd	Sandy Horsfield
Alicia Lewie	Peggy MacMillan
Gerry Barber	Toni Bentley
Sandy DeGregory	Charles Thayer
Mona Perkins	Danny MacMillan
Suzanne Guerineau	Clyde Wells
Dee Periard	Cheryl Sherman-Baust

PEOPLE YOU KNOW

Congratulations to **Nick Thayer**, son of **Karl and Kim Thayer**, who began a new job on Jan.9 with the State Education Department in Albany. Nick is now employed as an Education Finance Specialist trainee and will be working on transactions for children. Nick was a 2019 graduate of UAlbany.

James Thayer, son of **Kim and Karl Thayer**, left for a semester in Spain, flying out of JFK on Jan. 24. He will be taking courses in Business Economics, and will be returning to the states on May 16. James was on the Dean's List for the fall semester at SUNY Cortland.

Congratulations to **Ajay Deyoe**, son of **Amberlyn and John Deyoe**, who made the Dean's List during his first semester at Clarkson University.

SYMPATHY

With deepest
sympathy

In hope of eternal life,
which God, that cannot lie,
promised before the
world began.

Titus 1:2



The congregation extends its sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of **Susanna ("Susie") Flanders Brownell Murphy** (97) who died on January 14, 2020 at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation in Hoosick Falls, NY. Susie had been a member of Old Saratoga for 87 years. She joined the church by Confession of Faith on Christmas Eve, 1933. Throughout that time (except for the years she lived in Vermont) she was actively involved in church fund-raisers and programs, and the Women's Guild. She served for many years as a volunteer at the Community Food Pantry (which eventually became SAFER) as the Manager, giving help and assistance to hundreds of families and individuals. She had to "retire" from this work at age 90 when she broke her hip. Susie came from a family of thirteen children- and she herself had eight children, three of whom preceded her in death. We remember in prayer her five living children: **Susan, Rose, Nelson, Robert and Scott** and their families, along with twenty-three grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren.

A Service of Christian Burial for Susie was held on January 18 at the church at her request, with a bereavement reception following for family and friends. Her committal will be this coming spring at Prospect Hill Cemetery.

Church Life

1st QUARTER MISSION

Drilling For Hope

The Mission for the first quarter (January-March) is **Drilling For Hope**, which was started in 2005 by **Karen Flewelling**. Since Karen pays for her own travel, lodging and food expenses, 100% of donations go to people and well drilling endeavors. Through the generosity of donors, Drilling For Hope provides water wells and farm animals to communities around the world that are in need of clean water. 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**. Coin boxes are available and will be due back at the end of March.

If you would like to support this mission, please make your check out to OSRC, earmarked Drilling For Hope. Thank you!

HOLIDAY SALE UPDATE

Our Holiday Sale was a great success! The weather cooperated, people were out and about, and we had a steady flow of customers looking for bargains and goodies to take home. The Guild made **\$280** on their bake sale, and the church General Fund was able to add **\$1366.23** to the balance. Thanks go to **Amber Deyoe** and **Terri Richards** for chairing this fundraiser!

CHURCH OFFICERS ELECTED

At the January 20 consistory meeting, the following were elected:

Vice President: **Paula Sheely**

Clerk of Consistory: **Amber Deyoe**

Financial Secretary: **Bridget Critelli**

Classis Delegate: **Susanna Combs**

HYMNS OF OUR FAITH

"Sing to the Lord, ye saints of God." Psalm 30: 4

Jesus, Come! For We Invite You

"Jesus, come! For we invite you, guest and master, friend and Lord;

Now as once at Cana's wedding, speak and let us hear your word:

Lead us through our need or doubting, hope be born and joy restored."

This hymn, written in 1979, was composed for the season of Epiphany by Christopher Idle, a clergyman in the Church of England. Epiphany, as a liturgical season, celebrates the manifestation of the divine nature of Jesus and includes events such as the Visit of the Magi and the Wedding in Cana. "Jesus, Come! For We invite You" draws upon the miracle at Cana where Jesus turned water into wine; wine that was declared to be the best wine served that day. The wine at a Jewish festival was a symbol of joy.

In this hymn, Christopher Idle prays that this same Jesus will intervene in our lives to restore our joy. In the second and third verses the writer asks Jesus to "transform our pleasures," "guide us into paths unknown," "come in new creation," and "rouse the faith of your disciples."

A writer of over two hundred hymns, Christopher Idle served on many hymnal projects, and was well-known for his articles on a Christian's public responsibilities.

"Jesus, come! Surprise our dullness, make us willing to receive more than we can yet imagine, all the best you have to give; Let us find your hidden riches, taste your love, believe and live!"

Dick Behrens

ECUMENICAL BIBLE STUDY

The Ecumenical Bible Study resumed meeting on January 8, continuing their study of the Gospel of Luke. New members of any denomination are always welcome to join the group, which meets at **10am on Wednesday mornings** at OSRC. **(There will be no Bible Study on Wed. Feb. 26 -Ash Wednesday.)**

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 in doing so.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT UPDATE

The annual Community Christmas Concert was held on Sunday, Dec. 8. Several local church choirs sang anthems, musical groups entertained, and the audience sang Christmas carols together. A free will offering to support Caring and Sharing, which helps children and families in the Schuylerville School District at Christmas and during the year, amounted to **\$968.50!** Thanks!

2019 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who supported the ministry of Old Saratoga during 2019. God blesses our church with each gift. Our donations were down significantly, which meant we had to cash in more investment income than anticipated. Fortunately, our investments did well and we were able to meet all of our financial obligations by the end of the year.

Our operating expenses also exceeded our budget, particularly for fund raising expenses, as we tried new fund raisers that had initial costs but were profitable, and for the maintenance of our church and parsonage. We are dedicated to taking care of our buildings in order to prevent more expensive repairs in the future.

We continue to support both local and global missions with the money that is given specifically for that purpose. We do not use general donations or fund raisers for mission work. We gave **\$5047.05** to the groups we support and ended the year with over **\$9000** of mission funds which could be put to good use to help others.

We pray that God will continue to bless our ministry both locally and through our mission donations. Thank you for the support you offer through your prayers, gifts, time, and talents.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Garney, Treasurer



COMING UP- Save the Date!

Sat. 2/8 8am-noon Blood Drive at OSRC
Sat. 2/15 11am-1pm Nickel Social
Sat. 3/7 4:30-6pm Soup Supper
Sun. 4/5 9am Palm Sunday Brunch
Sat. 4/25 4:30-6pm Lasagna Dinner

CAMP FOWLER 2020

Registration opened 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

HOLIDAY APPEAL UPDATE

Due to the generosity of OSRC members and friends, both near and far, our Holiday Appeal has added **\$5180** to our General Fund. This enabled Treasurer **Chris Garney** to pay all of the large year-end bills we had. Thank you!

NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION COMING SOON!

The Board of Elders (**Paula Sheely, Amberlyn Deyoe and Susanna Combs**) and **Pastor Joyce** are pleased to announce plans for a New Members Orientation to take place on **Sunday, March 8 following worship**. If you are interested in learning more about Old Saratoga and/or becoming a member, let us know as soon as possible. (You can call or email the church office.) A hot lunch will be provided at the church. The receiving of new members is tentatively set for **Sunday, March 29**. If you have any questions, please contact one of the elders or Pastor Joyce.

TWO SPECIAL GROUPS HOLD MEETINGS IN FEBRUARY!

The newly formed Disability Concerns group will meet on Sun. 2/2 at 1pm at the church.

Deacon Bridget Critelli, our Disability Concerns advocate of the RCA will convene and lead the meeting. The group will begin with a needs assessment inventory.

On Wed. 2/12 ,7pm at the church, the Room For All committee will meet with **Elder Paula Sheely** leading the group. They will be exploring the possibility of OSRC becoming a Room for All congregation that openly welcomes/includes the LGBTQ community.

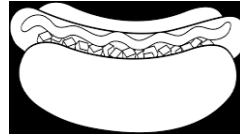
JOINT WORSHIP OF TURNING POINT REFORMED CHURCHES



On Sunday, Dec. 29, the three Turning Point Churches (Old Saratoga, Fort Miller and Bacon Hill) met together (at Old Saratoga) for a wonderful service of worship. Almost 90 people were present. Individuals from the three churches shared a Christmas story, others helped lead the prayers, and many voices together made singing the carols of Christmas a special joy!

The next joint service will be Sunday, April 19, the first Sunday after Easter, at Fort Miller Reformed Church.

Many thanks to the Turning Point Fellowship Team (which was formed when Pastor Jenn Legg came to minister with us) for planning these joint services. Members of the team from Old Saratoga include Anne Mitchell, Susanna Combs and Pastor Joyce. We welcome your feedback and ideas!



Cabin Fever Nickel Social

Step out of the cold for a fun filled afternoon

(socializing, food

and take home a treasure!)

Saturday, February 15th - 11AM to 1PM

Old Saratoga Reformed Church

48 Pearl Street – Schuylerville

Merchandise, Assorted Raffles, 50/50, Lunch food, Bake Sale!

Drawings will be begin at 1PM sharp!!!

(What is a nickel social you say...Do you like raffles? Do you like auctions? If you said yes to the last 2 questions, then come and enjoy our Nickel Social.

Place your raffle tickets into the bag-

if you have the lucky number you will win an item!!)

Community Life

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 Feb. 21 at 9:30 at OSRC

SAFER

Schuylerville Area Food Relief

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

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.

LOCAL CHURCH EVENTS

Free Community Dinner

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

(Grove St. Schuylerville)

Wed. Feb. 26 (Ash Wednesday) 5:30-6:30pm

Pancake Dinner

at Schuylerville United Methodist Church

Tuesday 2/25 4-7pm

Bacon Hill Bonanza Road Race

at Bacon Hill Reformed Church

Saturday 4/25

Please check website for details or to register

BLOOD DRIVE AT OSRC



When: Sat. Feb. 8 8am-noon

Where: Old Saratoga Reformed Church

48 Pearl Street, Schuylerville

Appointments: 1-800-RED CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org

to register to donate

Walk-ins welcome too!

MAKE A DIFFERENCE – BECOME A HOSPICE VOLUNTEER

Community Hospice has openings in the next volunteer training class which begins in early March. Introductory information sessions are scheduled for:

Tues. Feb. 18 at 1pm

Community Hospice, 179 Lawrence St.,
Saratoga Springs or

Thursday, Feb. 20 at 2pm

Greenwich Library, 148 Main Street
Greenwich

Learn more about the gratifying, meaningful work the volunteers do

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, Bruce Guerineau

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Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

E-Mail: oldsaratogareformed@gmail.com

www.oldsaratoga.rcachurches.org

www.facebook.com/oldsaratogareformedchurch

Phone and Fax: 518-695-3479

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Guest Worship Leader: Dick Behrens

Sunday, Feb. 2 10am

Red Cross Blood Drive at OSRC

Sat. Feb. 8 8am-noon

Call 1-800 REDCROSS to register

Cabin Fever Nickel Social

Sat. Feb. 15 (see inside for details)

Ash Wednesday

Wed. Feb. 26 7pm at Old Saratoga Reformed Church

Ecumenical Service with Communion and Ashes

Coming Up...

Soup Supper Sat. March 7 4:30-6pm