

Jacob's Well

June 2020



Our services will continue to be online until further notice

June 7 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Worship Leader: Chris Garney

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Please prepare your bread and juice ahead to participate in the Communion Liturgy

Lectionary Readings: *Genesis 1: 1-2: 4a; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13: 11-13;
Matthew 28: 16-20*

Greeter: Sheryl Norton

Liturgist: Sherrie Mickel

Ushers: Karl Thayer/Paula Sheely

Counters: TBD

June 14 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Worship Leader: Bruce Guerineau

Lectionary Readings: *Genesis 18: 1-15; Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19; Romans 5: 1-8;
Matthew 9: 35-10: 8*

Greeter: Amber Deyoe

Liturgist: Susanna Combs

Ushers: Eddie Fish/Terri Richards

Counters: TBD

June 21 THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Worship Leader: Patrick Woomer

Lectionary Readings: *Genesis 21: 8-21; Psalm 86: 1-10, 16-17; Romans 6: 1b-11;
Matthew 10: 24-39*

Greeter: Becca Sheely

Liturgist: Chris Garney

Ushers: Bill Olmert/Cindy Brockman

Counters: TBD

June 28 FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Worship Leader: Rev. Virginia Cornell

Lectionary Readings: *Genesis 22: 1-14; Psalm 13; Romans 6: 12-23; Matthew 10: 40-42*

Greeter: Bill Olmert

Liturgist: Pat Woomer

Ushers: Anne Mitchell/ Bridget Behrens

Counters: TBD

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

From the Pastor...

*"I thank my God every time I remember you,
constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you,
because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now..."*

- the Apostle Paul (Philippians 1:3)

Beloved Members and Friends of Old Saratoga,

Greetings in the grace and peace of Christ!

The time is drawing close to say "farewell". This will be my last Pastor's Page before I retire on May 31 (Pentecost Sunday).

My family and I lament that (due to the need for pandemic safety) we will be unable to be with you in person that Sunday; but there is nothing that can stop us from loving you as we have these past 38 years. We hope that in the coming months there may be a way for us to have a farewell gathering with hugs, smiles and tears!

In March, 1982, you welcomed us in and provided a home for us. You helped love and raise our sons, Nathaniel and Mikael, in the faith. Together we celebrated many joys and shared many sorrows. You supported us all these years with your prayers, gifts, and participation in Christ's ministry at Old Saratoga.

The countless memories we have of loving, learning and serving Christ with you will always remain in our hearts.

While the past 10 weeks of COVID-19 have necessitated the need for physical distancing, the spiritual ties of love that bind us to God and each other are strong and enduring. The church is and will always be, a community of people, bound together in their love for God, and called to follow the ways of Jesus, who promised that His Spirit would be with us forever. (John 14:16)

As my family and I enter a new season of our lives, and as Old Saratoga enters a new season of its 250-year life, we look together for help and direction from God, as we step forward into a time that's marked with emotional loss, adjustment, new challenges and uncertainty—not just for us but for the whole world.

But, there's also the hope that comes with being rooted (like trees!) in the Love of God. It is there we find faith to trust that the Spirit of God is always doing a new thing among us, bringing light out of darkness, blessing out of crisis, and gathering all God's children together to become a community of grace, healing and love.

David, Mikael and I will miss you all more than words can say—and will be forever grateful for your love and care—all the ways you have loved us, taught us and blessed our lives!

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

HOSPITALIZED

Peggy MacMillan – Saratoga Hospital

Forrest Norton – Glens Falls Hospital ER and
Day Surgery

THANKS RECEIVED

..from **Rebuilding Together in Saratoga County**
for our continued support of their mission (a
thank you phone call from a board member)

THANKS EXTENDED

On May 21 (Ascension Day) **David deVelder**,
Christopher Tucker and **Dick Behrens** took
down the cross in the sanctuary and stored it
in the shed beside the church until it will be put
up again, just before Ash Wednesday and
Lent of 2021. We thank them for this service –
and remember with thanks, **Ron Hayes, Sr.**
who made the cross several decades ago.

BIRTHDAYS

2: Vicki Perkins
3: Dale Cox
3: Kylie Dyke
5: Chris Garney
5: Bonnie Garrand
5: Eric Richards
9: Rich Zotzmann
11: Donald MacMillan
11: Gerry Barber
12: Pam Driscoll
12: Sydney Alexanian
15: Mellenie Rose Booth
16: Zoe Bartholomay
16: Nicholas Casey
16: Barbara Vincent
17: Ajay Thomas Deyoe
20: John Bodnar **97!**
21: Adam Burch
21: Matthew Waldinger
23: Olivia Edgar
24: Jenny Middlebrook
25: Patti Zotzmann
27: Kenny MacMillan
28: Wally Kroner
29: Sue Hughes

Birthday missed: May 4 – Sheryl Norton



ANNIVERSARIES

1: Darryl and Cheryl (Sherman) Baust
2: Randy and Cindy Kerr
9: Jean Stark and Walter Kroner
24: Don and Jennifer (MacMillan) Squires
25: Cindy and Jim Brockman
27: Rixt (Bierma) and David Clifford

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 |
| Sandy Horsfield | Forrest Norton |
| Alicia Lewie | Peggy MacMillan |
| Gerry Barber | Toni Bentley |
| Sandy DeGregory | Charles Thayer |
| Mona Perkins | Danny MacMillan |
| Suzanne Guerineau | Clyde Wells |
| Dee Periard | Florence Brown |
| Carol Lehmann | Glenn Stamile |
| Roger and Joan Sheely | Susan Seward |
| Claire Houston | Lena Huahes |

DEVELDERS NEW ADDRESS

"The home we are moving into in June is in the Town of Wilton, northeast of Saratoga Springs, 12 ½ miles from Schuylerville. The house is still being worked on before we can move in, but we're getting closer to that time! We are grateful to **Doug Sheely** and **Eric Garney** for their skillful assistance in making the house ready. Here is our new address:

**12 Woodlake Drive
Gansevoort, NY 12831**

We hope to have a housewarming for friends and neighbors sometime after we're settled in and it's safer for people to gather!

We thank the congregation for the use of the parsonage (built in 1899!) for the 38 years we lived in Schuylerville. Despite its "quirks" it was a wonderful, comfortable home to our family. We are grateful to Old Saratoga for providing it to us – and for the upgrades made over the years.

(The consistory and Property Committee will be making arrangements, after we're gone, to go through the house and make improvements as needed.)"

RETIREES

Congratulations to the following who have retired this year:

Patti Booth has retired from the US Postal Service after 42 years. She has worked at the Schuylerville, Greenwich, Cambridge, Victory Mills and Gansevoort post offices, and looks forward to a month in the south this winter, and spending time with **Mark**, who is also retired.

Julia Falvo retired from the NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal after 26 years of working in various agencies for the state. She is looking forward to spending time with her two grandsons who live nearby, doing projects around the house, and going to Spain and France with her daughter, **Sarah**, a trip which had to be put off due to the pandemic. **John Falvo** also recently retired in Feb. from VMJR Co. John has worked for 39 years in the construction business as a general contractor. Julia and John hope to spend winters in the South.

Michael Shaver retired this June from Fort Edward Central School, where he taught Math for 32 years. In retirement he plans to sleep late, learn to play a couple more musical instruments, spend time volunteering at Scout Camp. He may move to Florida at some point to work in the theme park industry, after having spent 20 years working at the Great Escape. ***(Michael noted that Pastor Joyce gave the invocation and benediction at his Eagle Scout Ceremony in 1982, one of her first community events!)***

Pastor Joyce deVelder retired after 38 years of ministry at OSRC, and will be finding out about the "joys" of home ownership, and the ability to do whatever you want! We wish her well, and thank her for her guidance and love all these years!

Church Life

1^{2nd} QUARTER MISSION

Fowler Ministries

The Mission for the second quarter (January-March) is **Fowler Ministries**, which helps support and sustain not only the camp itself, but its programs and ministries. "The camp has been set aside for over 65 years to allow congregations to experience a holy world, loved-redeemed-sustained by a Holy God. We are, all together, stewards of 245 acres, 100 feet of lakefront, over 30 buildings, all the children who visit, and all the creatures that make their homes there." **Rev. Kent Busman** *(Coin boxes are available on the back table, and are due back Sunday, June 28. If you would like to support this mission, please make your check out to OSRC, earmarked Fowler Ministries. Thank you!)*

250th ANNIVERSARY-9/20/20 2pm

The date set for the celebration of OSRC's 250th Anniversary is Sept. 20, 2020. Plans were underway, but came to an abrupt halt with the pandemic crisis. We are pleased to announce that **Rev. Jonathan Vanderbeck** will be our guest preacher at the 2pm service. He is associated with Trinity Reformed Church in Schenectady, and is currently Schenectady Classis President. He was the preacher for **Pastor Jenn Legg's** farewell service, held at Bacon Hill in July 2019, and was very well received.

Please keep this date in mind and mark your calendars to help us celebrate! (provided that we are able to be open and worshipping at this time!)

HYMNS OF OUR FAITH

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

"Wind Who Makes All Winds That Blow"

"Wind who makes all winds that blow, gusts that bend the saplings low, Gales that heave the sea in waves, stirrings in the minds deep caves. Aim your breath with steady power on your church, this day, this hour, Raise, renew the life we've lost, Spirit God of Pentecost."

This highly descriptive hymn was written by a native New Yorker, Thomas Troeger, born in Suffern, NY. Troeger has been described as one of today's most poetic hymn-writers. In addition to his gift for writing poetry, Troeger is also a pastor, having been ordained in both the Presbyterian and Episcopal churches. He is professor emeritus of homiletics, hymnody and liturgics at Yale University.

Wind and flame are metaphors for the work of the Holy Spirit. The hymn describes the awesome power of the Spirit and the potential of the Spirit to activate the believer, heart, mind and soul. Wind and fire are two images the disciples experience on Pentecost, the birth of the church (Acts 2: 1-4) The New Testament details a close relationship between the Holy Spirit and Jesus during his earthly life and ministry. It descended on Jesus like a dove during baptism. Throughout Jesus' days of teaching the disciples he often told them he would soon be leaving them but would not leave them "orphaned" but the Father would send them an "advocate." This promise was fulfilled on the "Day of Pentecost"-fifty days after Jesus' resurrection.

"Holy Spirit, wind and flame, move within our mortal frame. Make our hearts an altar pyre. Kindle them with your own fire. Breathe and blow upon that blaze till our lives, our deeds, our ways, Speak that tongue which every land by your grace shall understand."

Dick Behrens

BOTTLE AND CAN PROJECT

Can you help?



Old Saratoga has been collecting deposit bottles and cans to benefit church missions since 1995, when we began our annual mission trips to the Pringle Home Orphanage in Jamaica. For the past 25 years, **David and Mikael deVelder** have been collecting, sorting and depositing the bottles and cans on a weekly basis. Thousands of dollars have been raised to help support our mission projects over the years!

With Pastor Joyce's retirement and family relocation, David and Mikael will no longer be doing this project. The consistory would like to see the project continue as it helps benefit the church and community! We are looking for a volunteer (one or more) to oversee this project and make sure the bottles and cans are taken weekly to a deposit center. Please call the church office if you can help. **(518-695-3479)**

GRADUATES



It's that time of year again when we like to honor those who are graduating who have ties to the church family. If you have a child or grandchild who will be a graduate this May/June, please call the church office (518-695-3479) -hours are sporadic at the moment) and leave a message with

1. Name of person and relationship to you
2. Where they have gone to school
3. Plans for the future

WOMEN'S GUILD (tentative)

The Women's Guild has tentatively decided to hold their June meeting at the regular time on **Monday, June 15 at noon.**

ECUMENICAL BIBLE STUDY (tentative)

The Ecumenical Bible Study is tentatively planning to hold their close of the season picnic at the home of **Jean Myers** on **Wednesday, June 10 at noon.**

GARDENER NEEDED

If you have an hour or two to spare each week and like to be in the outdoors, please consider volunteering to be the church gardener. We have three flower beds (one around the spotlight, one at the sign on the corner and one at the back entryway.) The two front beds need a few flowers for color, (you will be reimbursed for plants) and the back one just needs to be weeded occasionally. Call the office (518-695-3479) to offer your help! Thanks!

PROPERTY NEWS

The Property Committee has not met recently, due to pandemic restrictions, but has made several decisions about the upkeep of the buildings and grounds by phone and text. Originally we had planned to hold a Spring cleanup, but have now rescheduled it for early fall, to get ready to celebrate the 250th anniversary.



Additionally, we have hired Greenz and Kleenz (with consistory approval) to care for the lawns at the church and parsonage.

CAMP FOWLER 2020

At its recent board meeting, the sad decision to not have Camp Fowler open for camp sessions and retreats this summer was made. Since campers/counselors and other attendees come from many areas in the state, the decision was made to keep everyone safe and healthy by not having camp this summer.

THANKS FOR OFFERINGS

Our church treasurer, **Chris Garney**, continues to be grateful to all of the members and friends of the congregation who have been regularly sending in their offerings, using the mail-in envelopes, and to those who have made arrangements with Tithely.com (**Check the church's website if you are interested in the online opportunity to give**)

FREE PIANO



There is a good used Wurlitzer piano in the church parsonage that was given to **Pastor Joyce** and family by one of our departed church members, **Midge Drew** (and her family.) It stands 37 ½ " high, 55" in width, and 25" deep. It just needs a little tuning up. Please give us a call if you'd like more information or would like to see it!

JW WRITER

If you like to write and are looking for an outlet for your skills, we are seeking someone to help with the writing of articles for JW. Please contact the office (518-695-3479) to offer your help. Thanks!

WORSHIP CHANGES AT OSRC DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

On Sunday, June 7, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper on line, with **Chris Garney** leading worship and serving the elements. While this is not the traditional way to have "communion" we believe that Christ is present in the blessing over bread and juice and the communal act of receiving these elements as signs of his love and grace. For those of you who would like to participate, we ask that you have your bread and juice ready so that you may participate in the Communion Liturgy.

"CONSISTORY CONNECTION"

With **Pastor Joyce's** retirement, it becomes increasingly important to keep the congregation informed of the news and decisions that affect the running of the church, and update the members. At its last meeting, held on May 18, the consistory decided to, at the end of each meeting, review the decisions made, select the most important ones, and have them presented to the congregation in an article in JW which will be called "Consistory Connection." Please be sure to look for it in the next JW.

FAREWELL TO PASTOR JOYCE

We all wanted **Pastor Joyce's** last Sunday with us to be special, and plans were underway to make it so. But COVID intervened and changed the plans temporarily! Please check your newsletter next month for an update, as churches begin to open and people can spend time together once again, and we can give our love and best wishes to Pastor Joyce, David and Mikael!

PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM

Our church was granted a loan through the federal government's Paycheck Protection Program. This loan has allowed us to pay our employees during the pandemic without having to cash in any investments. We received \$10,400 for 8 weeks of payroll and utilities' expenses, which we are hoping will be forgiven at the end of the program. Even if we don't qualify for full forgiveness, the interest is only 1% which consistory felt was a better option than cashing in investments. We are very grateful to those members and friends of the congregation who have been able to send in donations as we still have a lot of other expenses.

REOPENING THE CHURCH

When the church is finally able to reopen, there will be some changes in place to keep us all safe.

1. Offering plates will be stationary at the back of the church for you to place your offering, if you have not made arrangements for on-line giving
2. Masks will be needed, with extra masks and hand sanitizer available
3. All items which people touch will have been wiped down with sanitizing solution
4. Social distance will be observed, with seating in every other pew
5. Greet with a wave or elbow bump

Please come to church, only if you feel confident about doing so. The services will continue to be live streamed for the time being, even after reopening.

We will be aiming for reopening for the first Sunday in July, but it will depend on whether the COVID virus has declined enough to make people comfortable about returning. Please check the next JW to find out.

CHURCH SUPERVISION NEWS FROM THE CONSISTORY

At its May 18 virtual meeting, the consistory learned from **Rev. Jonathan Vanderbeck**, President of Schenectady Classis, that following **Pastor Joyce's** retirement on May 31, the classis would begin supervisory assistance to Old Saratoga in its time without an installed minister.

Rev. Jennifer Legg, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Ballston Spa and member of Classis of Schenectady, has agreed to serve as temporary supervisor until a longer-term supervisor can be found and appointed. She will "attend" the virtual consistory meeting held in June. The classis will make every effort to assist and walk with the congregation through what could be a 12-18 month process of finding a new pastor.

Please support your consistory and classis leaders with your encouragement and prayers in these coming months. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact a member of the consistory:

Elder Paula Sheely, Vice President
Elder Amberlyn Deyoe, Clerk
Elder Susanna Combs, Classis Rep.
Deacon Bruce Guerineau
Deacon Anne Mitchell
Deacon Bridget Critelli

PRAYER CHAIN

All prayer chain requests (or if you'd like to be a member) should be directed to Chris Garney or the church office.

Chris: cgarney1@nycap.rr.com or
518-695-6638

Office: oldsaratogareformed@gmail.com
518-695-3479

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 TBD at 9:30 at OSRC

SAFER

Schuylerville Area Food Relief

Open 9-12 noon M, F

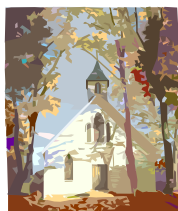
518-507-6043

TUESDAY NIGHT PRAYER

Faith Chapel opens its doors every Tuesday from 6-8pm to anyone who wants to come in and pray or meditate. Hot chocolate and tea are available.

JOINT WORSHIP OF TURNING POINT REFORMED CHURCHES RESCHEDULED

The next joint worship service of the Turning Point Reformed Churches (originally scheduled for Sept. 6) has been rescheduled for **Sunday, August 30 at 10am** in the Bacon Hill Outdoor Chapel (weather and COVID permitting.) If the weather is bad, the service will be in the sanctuary. Please check for updates.



RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP DURING COVID-19

The church has a Deacon's Discretionary Fund set up to help people with emergency needs- such as medications, new glasses, etc. and other needs. Please contact **one of the deacons (Bruce Guerineau, Anne Mitchell, Bridget Critelli)** if you could use some assistance. We are gladly accepting donations to the fund to keep it going in times like these!

Thanks to the generosity of The Way (clothing store mission of the Schuylerville Methodist Church) we were given six \$20 coupons to purchase food at Byron's Market in Schuylerville. If you or someone you know who live in the Schuylerville School District could use one of these, please contact Pastor Joyce (518-695-3260) There are currently four coupons left.

The Regional Food Bank of Northeastern NY is seeking donations to help keep up with current needs. A spokesperson wrote: "We are responding in many new and different ways than we ever have before and at a level unprecedented in our 38 year history." If you would like to send a donation, please make your check payable to Regional Food Bank of NENY, and mail to: **Regional Food Bank of Northeastern NY, 965 Albany-Shaker Road, Latham NY 12110**

Appreciation goes to Pam Driscoll, member of the SAFER board, who organized a drive-by Food Box pickup in the Schuylerville School parking lot on May 14. The Regional Food Bank donated 12,000 lbs of food, and approximately 245 families benefitted from the event!

“Jacob’s Well”

Old Saratoga Reformed Church

48 Pearl St. Schuylerville, NY 12871

Office Manager: Duffy Whitehouse

Consistory Members: Amberlyn Deyoe, Paula Sheely

Anne Mitchell, Bridget Critelli, Susanna Combs, Bruce Guerineau

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: 518-695-3479

On-Line Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

(Please prepare your bread and juice ahead of time to partake in the Communion Liturgy)

Worship Leader: Chris Garney

Sunday June 7 10am

Guest Worship Leaders in June

June 14 - Bruce Guerineau

June 21 – Patrick Woomer

June 28- Rev. Virginia Cornell

