

JACOB'S WELL

May 2021



May 2 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Lectionary Readings: Acts 8: 26-40; Psalm 22: 25-31; 1 John 4: 7-21; John 15: 1-8

Greeter: Bridget Behrens

Liturgist: Anne Mitchell

Usher: Kim Thayer

Counters: Paula Sheely, Mark Booth

Servers: Paula Sheely, Mark Booth

May 9 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Lectionary Readings: Acts 10: 44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5: 1-6; John 15: 9-17

Greeter: Carolyn Markwith

Liturgist: Rob Hayner

Usher: Dick Behrens

Counters: Cindy Brockman, Anne Mitchell

May 16 SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Lectionary Readings: Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5: 9-13; John 17: 6-19

Greeter: Karl Thayer

Liturgist: Sandy Jones

Usher: Pat Woomer

Counters: Paula Sheely, Mark Booth

May 23 DAY OF PENTECOST

Lectionary Readings: Acts 2; 1-21; Psalm 104: 24-34, 35b; Romans 8: 22-27;
John 15: 26-27; 16:4b-15

Greeter: Bill Olmert

Liturgist: Paula Sheely

Usher: Karl Thayer

Counters: Cindy Brockman, Bruce Guerineau

May 30 TRINITY SUNDAY Joint Worship at/from Fort Miller @10:30am

Turning Point Fellowship Churches On line and in-person

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 6: 1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8: 12-17; John 3: 1-17

Counters: Amber Deyoe, Anne Mitchell

Our church is open for worship services which begin at 10:00am. The sanctuary is handicapped accessible. Holy Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of each month.

Musings in the Interim

Ouch! A common expression used by all of us. But why in a good Creation is it necessary? Such questions have been much on my mind as my baptismal certificate ages. Five years ago in February, I fell and severely sprained the wrist muscles in both hands. While my left hand recovered in fairly short order, my right hand continued to have some discomfort until Thanksgiving. The following May, I stopped using the brace on my hand and was duly rewarded by the immediate onset of a case of Shingles. This happened in Denmark so before going to the doctor I needed to look up what Shingles are in Danish. The name is singularly apropos - *Helvedsild* - Hell's Fire.

My afflictions provide for some reflection on pain for our life at OSRC, where while there has not been a big painful crisis, the normal hurts of life and death pervade. On the one hand, the purpose of pain is made clear. While my hands were healing, they felt pretty normal at rest, but any attempt to exceed their current capability was met with a sharp rebuff, resulting in left-handed tooth brushing and a number of other adjustments. The wrist pain protected my healing body from further injury by stupid choices. But what is the purpose of the pain that Shingles inflicts?

Answers rarely satisfy. The ancient religions of Asia, Hinduism and its Buddhistic derivatives, describe pain's purpose as the demonstration in this reincarnation of our bad behavior in the previous reincarnation. The ancient religions of the Middle East, the Abrahamic faiths, describe pain beyond the protective function as a consequence of sin, Original and otherwise. The less ancient but still old native religion of Europe - Philosophy - describes pain beyond the protective function as failure to be knowledgeable enough and as the natural consequence of an inferior material world to a superior spiritual one. Those are all answers, but none feel comprehensive or satisfactory when you hurt. I live out of a Christian worldview and so do see our world as sinful. And that faith does not make Shingles less debilitating of either physical body or spiritual attitude. I had no illusions that I was singled out for special pain - diseases happen. But I neither function well when I hurt nor do I understand the timing.

Perhaps this lack of understanding is as final and important a point as we can get to - as well as impetus for further serious reflection - on our current life at OSRC and our future as the Church. In our mostly comfortable Hudson Valley world, most human discomforts can be ameliorated with appropriate doses of knowledge and money. Such ability sets us in constant danger of thinking we actually have power and control. Pain does underscore and teach how very bounded we in fact are. It is only when we are aware of our own actuality that we have any ability to be aware of God. It is in awareness of God that we see our needs for both clarity on our own limits and reconciliation with those whom we have hurt or who have hurt us. The protective function of pain does keep us - much, but not all of the time - from deliberately yelling at others, just as pain in my hands kept me from overdoing. But the Shingles type inexplicable pain, which left unattended in an individual or a congregation can destroy life, needs to be seen like Shingles - as a consequence of sin. We only deal with sin by first being honest with God. Regular prayer and worship - not alone nursing our pains but in company with the Church - is essential. When we are living with God, our encounters with others will lead to reconciliation and healing. Both God and the others are present each Sunday at OSRC, anticipating you.

Rett Zabriskie

CHURCH FAMILY

BIRTHDAYS

1: Caitlin (Clary) Perkins
2: Meghan Coral Hayes
4: Charlotte Morrill Gorham
6: Ethan Clary
7: Desiree DiCiccio
8: Samantha Galagan
8: Jeffrey Booth
8: Paula Hayes Sheely
10: Bridget Critelli
11: Mark Booth
11: Paulette Foote
15: Myra Edgar
15: Cheryl Jones
17: Anne Mitchell
18: Nugent Edgar
25: Katrina Harrington
26: Maggie Correll
28: Rev. Joyce deVelder
28: James Thayer
28: Amanda (Fugle) Markwith
29: Pam Seward

Congratulations NICE GOING!
GREAT! Way to Go!
Yea! FELICITATIONS
CHEERS Take A BEST
BOW! WISHES!

ANNIVERSARIES

2: Bruce and Suzanne Guerineau
8: Roger M. and Yvonne Sherman, 1994
14: Joshua and Wendy (Russell) Fedderly,
1995
15: Richard and Pat Behrens, 1971
17: Kenneth and Jessica Mac Millan, 2003
26: Marion (Davies) and Franck Beaufreton

*(Please help keep our birthday, anniversary, and
hospital lists current by giving us dates and updates!
(518-695-3479 Thanks!)*

IN OUR PRAYERS

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

Ruth Hayes
Claire Houston
Alyson Fitzgerald
Rod Borgman
Naomi Thayer
Alicia Lewie
Jim Miers
Peggy MacMillan
Suzanne Guerineau
Florence Brown
Sherrie Mickel

Bette Tucker
Dwight Colvin
David Garrand
Trevor Lewie
Evie Senecal
Charlotte Morrill
Charles Thayer
Sheryl Norton
Florence Sherman
DanDan MacMillan
Family of Lindsay Irish



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
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
Florence Brown, The Sentinel, 10 Market
Street, Room 10, Amsterdam, NY 12010
Florence Sherman, Wesley Community,
Saratoga Springs 322, 133 Lawrence Street, Saratoga
Springs, NY 12866, Phone # 518- 415-3012

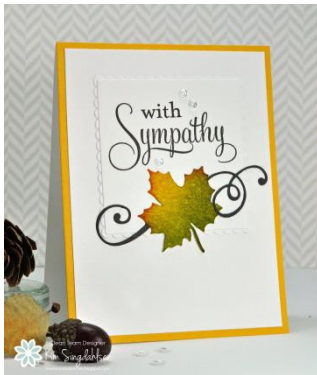
THANKS EXTENDED

..to **all** those who helped at the Lasagna Dinner held on April 10 and especially to **Bonnie Garrand**, who chaired the event

..to the following for helping to clean in the parsonage before **Pastor Rett** came: **Cindy Brockman, Patti Booth, Mark Booth, Jim Brockman, Paulette Foote, Dick Behrens**

SYMPATHY

..to the family and friends of **Venita Duffany**, aunt of **Paulette Foote**. OSRC had prayed for Venita many times over the years as she experienced health difficulties. Most recently she was a resident at the Fort Hudson Home in Fort Edward. Paulette had been one of her primary caregivers and was devoted to her aunt. Condolences may be sent to **Paulette Foote. 420 Rt. 32N, Schuylerville NY 12871**



..to the family of **Lindsay Irish**, who was recently killed in a car accident in Saratoga. Lindsay attended OSRC as a child, along with her mother, **Jodie Harrington**, and **Richard Irish**, brother of **Donna Mellen**. Lindsay's younger brother, **Hogan**, recently died from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident.

A Prayer for the World

Let the rains come and wash away the ancient grudges, the bitter hatreds held and nurtured over generations.

Let the rain wash away the memory of the hurt, the neglect.

Then let the sun come out and fill the sky with rainbows.

Let the warmth of the sun heal us wherever we are broken.

Let it burn away the fog so that we can see each other clearly.

So that we can see beyond labels, beyond accents, gender or skin color.

Let the warmth and brightness of the sun melt our selfishness.

So that we can share the joys and feel the sorrows of our neighbors.

And let the light of the sun be so strong that we will see all people as our neighbors.

Let the earth, nourished by rain, bring forth flowers to surround us with beauty.

And let the mountains teach our hearts to reach upward to heaven.

Amen.

Rabbi Harold S. Kushner

CHURCH LIFE

OSRC MISSION STATEMENT

*In answer to God's call
to share Christ's love,
we welcome people
of all abilities and life situations,
and encourage everyone
to fully participate in worship and service.*

COFFEE HOUR Tuesdays at 9:30am



Our weekly coffee hour has resumed, and is now meeting on **Tuesday mornings** at 9:30am. All are welcome to have a cup of coffee, some delicious baked treats, and enjoy conversation with church friends. It's a great way to get to know the people whom you see at worship each Sunday in an informal setting!

LIFE INVENTORY

Our dear friend, **Anna Bierma**, many years before she died, filled out a Life Inventory, which told what her funeral and burial wishes were. This makes it much easier for the family, the funeral director, and the minister to know how a person wishes his/her final arrangements to be done. There are biographical questions, as well as an opportunity to list what music and scripture readings are of significance to the person who has died. If you would like a copy of the Life Inventory to fill out for your family, please get one (or more) from the church office.

LITURGICAL COLORS



You may have noticed that the colors of the cloths on the pulpit and the communion table change, often from week to week, or with the season.

From now until May 23 (Pentecost) the cloths will be white, signifying celebration, joy, purity and victory. It is also seen during the Season of Epiphany, when the wise men visited Jesus. White is also used when we have communion, and is there now for the Season of Eastertide.

This year on Pentecost (Sunday, May 23) we will use the red cloths. Red signifies the Passion of Christ, and also the fire of the Holy Spirit. We quite often ask people to wear red, orange or yellow on Pentecost Sunday.

The color purple is used during Advent and Lent and signifies Preparation and Penitence. Advent is the time we wait for the birth of Christ, and Lent is the time we reflect on our Christian lives. Some people fast, and we are penitent.

Green is the color that we see most often. It signifies Growth and Mission. It will begin this year on Sunday, June 6 and go right through until Advent begins at the end of November. Green is also used right after Epiphany until Lent begins.

CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC



**Sunday, June 6 following worship
at the home of
Duffy and Bill Whitehouse**

(Directions available)

**Please bring a dish to share,
your own meat if you want to grill,
your own beverage,
a lawn chair if you have one**

Under cover and outdoor seating

(signup sheet in the foyer)

DEACONS' FUND FOR MAY

Saratoga Bridges

Since 1953 Saratoga Bridges has been providing the highest quality services to people with disabilities and to their families. Their dedicated staff is committed to the mission of advocacy for the individuals they serve by providing resources to enable them to lead enriching lives in the community where they are valued for their abilities, contributions and achievements. Saratoga Bridges focuses on the person, helping them live full, active lives and allowing them to achieve their personal goals through supportive employment, assisted living apartments, day programs, creative arts, and transportation. **Jenny Middlebrook, David Woomer** and **Mikael deVelder** are three OSRC members who have participated in Saratoga Bridges programs.

SECOND QUARTER MISSION

Fowler Ministries

The mission for the second quarter (April – June) 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, 1000 feet of lakefront, over 30 buildings, all the children who visit, and all the creatures that make their homes there."

(Rev. Kent Busman)



CAMP FOWLER CAMPERSHIPS

Bridget Behrens will be attending Camp Fowler this summer, as she has for several years prior, (except for last summer!) It has been the custom of the church to give a campership of **\$300** to help cover the cost of the week in the Adirondacks. If you would like to help with this, please make your check out to OSRC, earmarked "Campership."

LASAGNA DINNER UPDATE

Our Lasagna Dinner, held on April 10, was a wonderful time to see our neighbors and friends, as they drove in to pick up a delicious lasagna dinner, prepared by **Bonnie Garrand** and **Cindy Brockman**. Many others helped with the boxing and bagging of the sides, and delivering them to the waiting vehicles in our driveway. We were able to add **\$832.10** to our fund.

WOMEN'S GUILD

Women's Guild met for the first time in recent months, due to winter break and pandemic concerns. They will plan to meet again on **Monday, May 17 at noon**. All women of the church are invited to come. Please bring a sandwich; dessert and beverage will be provided.

ECUMENICAL BIBLE STUDY

The Ecumenical Bible Study continues its Study of the Book of Acts, and is enjoying having **Pastor Reft** as one of the participants. **Dick Behrens** has been leading the group since **Pastor Joyce** retired. All those of any denomination, who would like to learn more about the Bible, are welcome to join.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Property Committee has been meeting about every two weeks, as there are so many decisions to be made about the renovation/repair to the parsonage. A revision to the original kitchen design had to be made, after the chimney was removed. The bricks from that chimney were purchased from the church, as there were 508 bricks which were still in good condition. They will be used right here in town as part of the Bullard Building Restoration, being done by **Oscar Everts** and his nephew. **Jay Ellis** will complete the electrical upgrade, and **Mike Hayes** will do the kitchen remodel.

The hot water heater in the church sprung a leak and it was decided to replace it, as it was over 15 years old. We thank **Doug Sheely** for getting a new one and installing it for us.

“CONSISTORY CONNECTION”

The consistory, at the request of the Property Committee, approved waiving the “three bids if the project is over \$3000” policy temporarily, as it is very difficult to get contractors to come and give an estimate.

The Classis has not decided when and if they are going to meet at OSRC at either the end of June or early July.

Approval was given to **Chris Garney** to finalize five Sundays during the summer with Rev. James Swanson to lead worship at Old Saratoga. The other Sundays will be covered by members of the congregation.

BOTTLE AND CAN SIGNUP



A BIG THANK YOU TO Cindy Brockman, who has volunteered to take our bottles and cans to CLYNK for refund. A **signup sheet** has been posted in the foyer for others to take a turn for a month. The money which is generated from the returns is one of the ways that our Mission Projects are funded. Please think about taking a turn!

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

At the request of **Pastor Rett**, the Worship Committee met after service on April 25. Concern was expressed that people don't seem to want to come to worship these days.

Worship should be an encounter with the Divine, and we can shape our lives around it. During the week, we can talk about our experiences with God, though not everyone can articulate them. We have to be clear about our own faith before we can talk about it with others. Worship reminds us of who God is, and helps us be aware of God during the week.

Discussion of the Order of Worship followed, and several small changes were made to the bulletin.

After consulting with our Minister of Music, **Christopher Tucker**, it was decided to try to have the choir be back in the chancel in September, dependent on Synod guidelines and COVID percentages at the time.

COMMUNITY LIFE

JOINT WORSHIP OF TURNING POINT REFORMED CHURCHES

**Sunday, May 30 at Fort Miller Reformed at 10:30am
In person and online**



SAFER – Schuylerville Area Food Emergency Relief
12 Spring Street, Schuylerville 518-507-6043 M,F 9-12

SECOND HAND ROSE THRIFT SHOP
116 Broad Street, Schuylerville 518-695-4624 Tue.-Sat. 11am-4pm

Junk Week 2021

Junk Week for the Village of Schuylerville will be June 7 -June 11

There is a \$10 charge to participate. You can register by e-mail, regular mail or in person when the village office reopens. Upon registration you will be given a sticker which you will then place on one of the items that you are disposing of and your trash will be removed. Only one sticker per household is required.

Items not taken:
Tires, Electronics (tvs, computers) Construction debris

Items must be at the curb by Sunday, June 6

“JACOB’S WELL”

Old Saratoga Reformed Church

48 Pearl Street, Schuylerville, NY 12871

Church Office: 518-695-3479

E-Mail: oldsaratogareformed@gmail.com

www.oldsaratoga.rcachurches.org

TRANSITIONAL MINISTER: Rev. Rett Zabriskie

201-819-7629

OFFICE MANAGER: Duffy Whitehouse

Consistory Members: Amber Deyoe, Paula Sheely,

Mark Booth, Cindy Brockman, Bruce Guerineau,

Anne Mitchell

Published ten times yearly in Schuylerville, NY 12871

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am OR our Facebook page

Facebook: www.facebook.com/oldsaratogareformedchurch

***Sunday May 2 10 am
Celebration of the Lord’s Supper***

***Sunday May 30 10:30am
Joint Worship of the Turning Point Churches
at Fort Miller Reformed
In person or online***