

# JACOB'S WELL

September 2021



**Sept. 5 FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Celebration of the Lord's Supper**

**Lectionary Readings:** Proverbs 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23; Psalm 125;  
James 2: 1-10, (11-13), 14-17; Mark 7: 24-37

*Greeter: Bill Olmert*

*Liturgist: Carolyn Markwith*

*Usher: Pat Woomer*

*Counters: Mark Booth/ Cindy Brockman*

*Servers: Cindy Brockman/Amber Deyoe*

**Sept. 12 SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST**

**Lectionary Readings:** Proverbs 1: 20-33; Psalm 19; James 3: 1-12;  
Mark 8: 27-38

*Greeter: Duffy Whitehouse*

*Liturgist: Pat Woomer*

*Usher: Dick Behrens*

*Counters: Anne Mitchell/ Amber Deyoe*

**Sept. 19 SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST**

**Lectionary Readings:** Proverbs 31: 10-31; Psalm 1; James 3: 13-4: 3, 7-8a;  
Mark 9: 30-37

*Greeter: Kim Thayer*

*Liturgist: Victoria Starnella*

*Usher: Paula Sheely*

*Counters: Paula Sheely/Amber Deyoe*

**Sept. 26 EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST**

**Lectionary Readings:** Esther 7: 1-6; 9-10; 9: 20-22; Psalm 124; James 5: 13-20;  
Mark 9: 38-50

*Greeter: Pat Woomer*

*Liturgist: Chris Garney*

*Usher: Karl Thayer*

*Counters: Cindy Brockman/Anne Mitchell*

**Our church is open for worship at 10am each Sunday. The sanctuary is handicapped accessible.  
Holy Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of the month.**

# Musings In the Interim

## *The Big One & The Little One*

“So, what do we do?” is the question every interim ministry gets to at about this stage. Each congregation, those with easily identifiable problems like the one where money was stolen, and those with harder challenges like the one where the minister had committed suicide, all needed to have some positive action introduced to move forward. I have now been with you all at OSRC for a few months, made a good number of visits and had some more helpful conversations, and now it is time to do something.

OSRC is a congregation in transition, which is healthy, - not a congregation in crisis, which isn't. So OSRC does not need major transfusions nor huge re-building as many of my other assignments have. OSRC needs rather to spend some interim time focusing on how we are doing with “majoring in the majors” rather than majoring in the minors. So we are going to spend the Fall working on two topics, a big one and a little one.

The big topic is God & Worship. The decline of Christianity in the West has many causes and means many things, but it is rooted in a single reality - as individuals, we no longer talk with one another about our current, real-time, experience of God - and as a culture, we no longer have a common way of gathering to speak with God together, expecting and noticing God's presence and response. Individuals still have faith, but we lack common language for sharing it. Congregations still hold gatherings called Worship, but the gatherings are all different and the objective presence of God is not transparent to either those present or those outside.

The little topic is the coming minister. In the old days (whenever that was for you) we all knew what a minister was like and what a minister was intended to do. The *Letter of Call* for a Minister still has words in it. But ask yourself, “Do these words help me and the others in the congregation, all of us, understand what a minister should do each day after breakfast?”

to be our pastor and teacher; to preach the Word of God in truth and faithfulness; to administer the holy sacraments agreeably to the institution of Christ; to edify the congregation, and especially the youth by catechetical instruction and by explaining the essential truths of the Holy Scriptures; to maintain Christian discipline; and to fulfill as a faithful servant of Jesus Christ the whole work of the gospel ministry in conformity with the Word of God and the Constitution of the Reformed Church in America

On four Sundays during the Fall, we are going to have “Coffee Hour Conversations”. For an hour after worship, we will gather to talk about these two topics. The format will be a 10 minute presentation to focus the conversation followed by 30 minutes or so of guided conversation in which it will be important for as many as possible to speak what they feel and think. The goal is not to reach conclusions, as this is much too short a time frame. The goal is to begin a common conversation among OSRC folk that can continue with the new minister. Our four will be:

### **September 12**

*“Our Next Minister Will . . . “*

### **September 26**

*“Picturing Worship”*

### **October 10**

*“Planning Worship”*

### **October 24**

*“God's Economics”*

I do hope you will be able to be present. All who hope for a thriving future for OSRC, members and friends, are welcome to come and participate.

**Reff Zabriskie**

# CHURCH FAMILY

## OUR FRIENDS IN HEALTH CARE FACILITIES/HOMEBOUND

**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, **Hathorn 207**, 133 Lawrence Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866, Phone # 518- 415-3012  
(new room number)

## IN OUR PRAYERS

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

Ruth Hayes	Bette Tucker
Claire Houston	Dwight Colvin
Alyson Fitzgerald	David Garrand
Sheryl Norton	Trevor Lewie
Naomi Thayer	Alicia Lewie
Charlotte Morrill	Sherrie Mickel
AnnaBelle Gutasy	Charles Thayer
Peggy MacMillan	Sheryl Norton
Suzanne Guerineau	Florence Sherman
Florence Brown	DanDan MacMillan

## THANKS RECEIVED

..from Habitat for Humanity for donation of **\$92**

..from Drilling For Hope for donation of **\$200**

..from Wycliffe Bible Translators for **\$141**

**(these donations are made with the money from the Deacon's Fund and quarterly mission offerings each month)**

***"Thank you for all that you did to make mom's (Anna Bierma) memorial service so wonderful. It was beautiful and I know she loved it. The luncheon following was amazing and delicious. Again, much appreciation for all your hard work. I hope you all have a wonderful summer!"***  
**Love, Rixt (Clifford)**

## SYMPATHY

*to the following families who lost loved ones this summer:*

**Richard Signor**, husband of **Catherine Signor (Gerry Barber's sister)** died in July after a long illness. He and Catherine had been living in Myrtle Beach for many years. Gerry also mourns the loss of **Joe Petralia**, who was father to her granddaughter, **Joahna**.

**Priscilla Mellen** (92) died on July 11, 2021. She was the wife of **Rick Mellen**, and sister-in-law to **Patti Booth, Jim Mellen and Mike Mellen**. For many years Priscilla and Rick worked for the Wycliffe Bible Translators, helping to bring the Bible to those who did not have a translation in their language which they could read.

**Rod Borgman**, brother of **Pastor Joyce deVelder**, died unexpectedly on July 12. The deVelders were on a trip to Michigan when Rod died, so were able to be with their family. Pastor Joyce, David and Mikael extend their thanks to the church family for the cards, calls and expressions of sympathy they received.

## PEOPLE YOU KNOW

**Cindy and Jim Brockman** recently made a trip to Nova Scotia to take their daughter, **Emily**, to begin her studies at Dalhousie University's Graduate School of Dentistry.



We wish Emily well as she pursues her goal of becoming a dentist.

We recently learned that **Jenny Middlebrook** has joined the Christ Community Reformed Church in Clifton Park. While we will miss Jenny, who has been a part of OSRC for over 25 years, we wish her well in her new church, which is very near to her apartment.

## ANNIVERSARIES

11: Patrick and Robin Woomer  
16 Sue and Mike Hughes  
21: Paula (Hayes) and Douglas Sheely, 1991  
24: Karl and Kim Thayer

## BIRTHDAYS

2: Cindy Brockman  
4: Patricia Hayes-Howd  
4: Jim Brockman  
4: Atticus McCarty  
5: Karl Thayer  
9: Bridgette Lewie  
10: Emma Nazarenko  
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

# CHURCH LIFE

## CHICKEN BARBECUE UPDATE



After all the bills were paid, we were able to add **\$1095.55** to our General Fund from the Chicken Barbecue, held on July 25. Thank you to all those who helped, and especially to **Bonnie Garrand**, who chaired the event, and to the American Legion, whose members cooked the chickens and potatoes for us.

## OFFICE HOURS

Office hours for the Fall will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9-noon, until further notice.

## HYMN OF THE MONTH

***Sing to the Lord, you saints of his; praise his holy name.***

***Psalms 30: 4***

***"More about Jesus would I know,  
More of His grace to others show,  
More of His saving fullness see,  
More of his love who died for me."***

The author of this poem, Eliza Edmunds Hewitt, (1851-1920) was a Philadelphia schoolteacher. A spinal injury cut short her employment in the school system but did not stifle the desires of the teacher she aspired to be. During her convalescence, in a body cast, Eliza studied English literature and began writing poems for children's Sunday School classes. In time, Eliza Hewitt went on to teach Sunday School and became Superintendent of the primary department of Calvary Presbyterian Church.

A prolific writer, Hewitt wrote thousands of poems, many of which became hymns when put to music. "More About Jesus", "When We All Get to Heaven" and "Sunshine in My Soul" are among the more notable. Many of the prominent hymn composers of her day adapted Eliza's poems to music. During her adult years, Hewitt became friends with Fanny Crosby. The two spent many days together talking about hymns and encouraging each other.

The desire to know more about Jesus reflects any number of Biblical texts. The Apostle Paul speaks of his desire "to know Christ and the power of his resurrection" (Phil.3:10) He commends to us "the word of God's grace which is able to build us up." (Acts 20: 32) and speaks of the "immeasurable riches of God's grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus." (Eph. 2:7)

We come to know more about Jesus in a variety of ways: through the reading of God's Word, Bible study, the preaching of the Word and celebration of the sacraments, the hymns that we sing, and even through the lives of others as we witness the Savior's love reflected in their work for God's kingdom.

***"More about Jesus in His Word,  
Holding communion with my Lord:  
Hearing His voice in every line,  
Making each faithful saying mine."***

Dick Behrens

## PROPERTY

The Property Committee has not met much of late, as the demolition process has been taking place in the parsonage. The kitchen and bathroom are being rewired and prepared for the sheetrock. The new cabinets were delivered and will be installed soon. Then the counters can be measured for the new stone top. The bathroom will have radiant heat in the floor and a walk-in shower. Bathroom fixtures were delivered on 8/27, and the "push" will be on to get them installed for Pastor Rett when he returns.

Chris Garney has been keeping careful records of the expenses for the renovation/repair. She reports that to date we have spent **\$32,200.62**. This money has come from the 2012 bequest of Richard Bauer, who designated his gift to be used for Capital Improvements. We also were able to sell the old bricks from the "chimney to nowhere" which was torn out to improve access to the kitchen and upstairs bathroom. Additionally, the Memorial Money, which was donated in memory of **Anna Bierma**, was designated by her family to help with the parsonage renovation.

## HAITI



The church office received an email from the RCA asking congregations to consider supporting the country of Haiti with donations, after it suffered the effects of an earthquake and a hurricane. The Deacons decided to give the congregation the opportunity to help by asking people to either send a check to be made out to the church and earmarked for Haiti, or to ask worshipers to add their donations to their regular check, earmarked with the amount for "Haiti" clearly designated.

All contributions should be in by Sept. 5. At that time, Chris Garney will send a check for the total donations to the RCA Finance Dept. where they will send it to be used by a legitimate relief group.

## SUMMER APPEAL UPDATE



The Summer Appeal has brought in a total of \$2,215 for our General Fund. This fund is what is used to pay the regular expenses of the church: salaries, electric bills, insurance payments, heating expenses, etc. and is dependent on the consistent giving of the members of the church, even when they are not able to attend. Twice a year the congregation is asked to give an extra donation to help with these expenses. We are grateful for the gifts received in this latest Summer Appeal!

## ECUMENICAL BIBLE STUDY *Wednesday Sept 8 at 10am*



The Ecumenical Bible Study will resume its meetings on Wednesday, Sept. 8 at 10am in Loomis Hall. The group will continue its study of the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, picking up where they left off in the Spring, and again led by Dick Behrens. All those, of any denomination, who are interested in learning more about the Bible, are welcome to join.

## WOMEN'S GUILD *Monday Sept 20 at noon*

The Women's Guild is planning to resume holding meetings on Monday, Sept. 20 at noon. All women of the church are welcome to attend. Just bring a sandwich; dessert and beverage will be provided by the Hostess of the Month. Bring a friend!



## 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.*

## DEACONS FUND AND MISSION OF THE QUARTER

The Deacon's Fund for September is Rebuilding Together in Saratoga County, which is a non-profit organization that offers free home repairs for low income homeowners, particularly those who are disabled or elderly. Each dollar given would not work so well if so many community members did not get involved by donating time, lunches for work crews, as well as the money. Rebuilding wants the homeowners to know that their community cares about them, and that we all need a helping hand at one time or another.

The Quarterly Mission is the Mariposa DR Foundation, which was founded in 2009 with the goal of helping women and girls find their way out of poverty. Girls come from the DR and Haiti to receive education and learn work skills, such as sewing.

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Bacon Hill is looking for someone to be the Administrative Assistant, responsible for running their church office for 2-4 hours per week. For more info, please call our church office (518-695-3479) for the details, responsibilities, and salary.

## God Reigns O'er All the Earth



God reigns o'er all the earth! Green hills and valleys  
low,

The farms and towns in golds and browns God's  
grace and beauty show.

God reigns o'er all the earth! Stone banks and  
spreading plains,

In rainbow hues – reds, yellows, blues-  
of streams and country lanes.

God reigns o'er human life! Through youth  
and aging years,

In death, in birth, in grief, in mirth,  
in all our hopes and fears.

God reigns o'er human life! Our inspiration still.  
Through all our schemes, in all our dreams,  
we see God's reigning will.

God reigns o'er time and space! In history's bygone  
days,

Christ's faithful folk in reverence spoke to bring  
God earnest praise.

God reigns o'er time and space! O'er galaxy and sun  
through timeless years the cosmos hears the  
heavenly music run.

God reigns! Emmanuel! God with us every day,  
In all our past and to the last, our comfort and our  
stay.

God reigns! Emmanuel! Let praise to Christ be sung!  
God's presence here makes all things dear.  
Let joyful bells be rung!

Unknown

# COMMUNITY LIFE

## TURNING POINT BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

The vision of the group is to be there during what is a turning point in a life – when a diagnosis of breast cancer is given. The group wants to welcome breast cancer survivors, the newly diagnosed, and family and friend support persons. They hope to uplift each other, share in struggles and joys, and educate each other through volunteer speakers, community sponsored seminars, and what each may have learned on their journeys. Meetings are the second Monday of the month.

For more info, or to be put on a mailing list for a Zoom link, or a phone number to participate in the monthly meetings, please email [turningpointbcvs@gmail.com](mailto:turningpointbcvs@gmail.com) or call 518-316-1987

## TOWN WIDE GARAGE SALE **Sept 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>**



There will be a village and town wide garage sale this year!! While OSRC will not be participating, several area churches are having fundraisers. Please help to support our friends and neighbors!

Bacon Hill Reformed Church will be having a chicken BBQ on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Schuylerville United Methodist will be renting tables, and will also be serving food.

We do not have details yet, so please check it out on each church's FB page.

## SAFER

*Schuylerville Area Food Emergency Relief  
for residents of the Schuylerville Central  
School District*



12 Spring Street  
M,F 9-12 noon  
Please call before coming  
518-507-6043

## SECOND HAND ROSE THRIFT SHOP

116 Broad Street  
518-695-4640



Tues. – Sat. 11am-4pm

## THE WAY

17 Ferry Street  
Open Fridays 1-5pm  
Saturdays 9am-1pm

Gently used clothing  
\$1 for children's clothing  
\$2 for adult clothing

"Jacob's Well"

Old Saratoga Reformed Church

48 Pearl Street, Schuylerville NY 12871

Church office: 518-695-3479

Email: [oldsaratogareformed@gmail.com](mailto:oldsaratogareformed@gmail.com)

[www.oldsaratoga.rcachurches.org](http://www.oldsaratoga.rcachurches.org)

TRANSITIONAL MINISTER: Rev. Rett Zabriskie

201-819-7629

Office Manager: Duffy Whitehouse

Consistory Members: AmberDeyoe, Paula Sheely,

Mark Booth, Cindy Brockman, Anne Mitchell, Bruce Guerineau

Published 10 times a year in Schuylerville, NY

Sunday Worship: 10:00am OR Facebook page

[facebook.com/oldsaratogareformedchurch](https://facebook.com/oldsaratogareformedchurch)

**Sunday Sept. 5 10am**  
***Celebration of the Lord's Supper***

**Sunday Sept. 12 and Sept. 26**  
***Immediately following worship for one hour***

**Coffee Hour Conversations**

***(with Pastor Rett, to begin the Search for a New Pastor)***  
***Please come to add your input!***