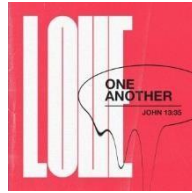


JACOB'S WELL

February 2022



Feb. 6 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY **Celebration of the Lord's Supper**
Lectionary Readings: *Isaiah 6: 1-8, (9-13); Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11;*
Luke 5: 1-11

Greeter: Cindy Brockman
Liturgist: Dick Behrens
Usher: Anne Mitchell
Count: Cindy Brockman/Mark Booth
Serve: Rob Hayner/Cindy Brockman

Feb. 13 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
Lectionary Readings: *Jeremiah 17: 5-10; Psalm 1; 1 Corinthians 15: 12-20;*
Luke 6: 17-26

Greeter: Karl and Kim Thayer
Liturgist: Amber Deyoe
Usher: Cindy Brockman
Count: Cindy Brockman/Rob Hayner

Feb. 20 SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
Lectionary Readings: *Genesis 45: 3-11, 15; Psalm 37: 1-11, 39-40;*
1 Corinthians 15: 35-38, 42-50; Luke 6: 27-38

Greeter: Bridget Critelli
Liturgist: Paula Sheely
Usher: Karl and Kim Thayer
Count: Paula Sheely/Bridget Critelli

Feb. 27 TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY
Cooperative Worship Service – What It Means to Be Part of a Congregation
Lectionary Readings: *Exodus 34: 29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3: 12-4: 2;*
Luke 9: 28-36 (37-43a)

Greeter: Anne Mitchell
Liturgist: Chris Garney
Usher: Terri Richards
Count: Bridget Critelli/Bruce Guerineau

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.

Guest Editorial



Greetings Friends!

This letter is a follow-up to my sermon on Sunday, January 16th and an opportunity for you to help. The Epistle text that Sunday was from Paul's letter to the Corinthians assuring them that every one of them had been given gifts by the Holy Spirit that would allow them to serve God and each other. The same is true for us today. The Holy Spirit continues to plant seeds that empower us to serve.

One big need at our church right now is help with worship services. We have been blessed with many members who have shared their beliefs as they led worship. I am hoping there are others who are open to the idea of taking small steps to join that group. If you are interested in preaching, I am happy to put you on the schedule, but I think for many people that may be an overwhelming thought. I do, however, believe that there are those of you out there who have this seed planted and are waiting for someone to help nurture it to bloom, so I have come up with the idea of doing cooperative worship on the last Sunday of the month.

For January, we had several people, both those who worship with us in person and those who join our services online, who shared one of their favorite hymns and told briefly why that hymn was meaningful to them. For February, we will be having a few people briefly share their thoughts on why it is important to them to be part of a congregation. We already have 2 volunteers but need at least 2 or 3 more. In March, I would like to ask people to share their favorite Bible passages and what those words mean to them. Later in the Spring, we can do another service of favorite hymns or look at other topics such as why worship is important to you, how prayer is important in your life, or how music enhances worship for you. I am open to other ideas for topics that you may think would be beneficial for us to delve into.

As I explained in my sermon, this isn't just about helping me to fill in the worship schedule. It is, even more importantly, an opportunity to help others nurture and develop the gifts we have been given. Dick Behrens and I are eager to help and support you as you try new things. If you can't be at church in person and are willing to share, someone will read your statements.

Please contact me if you are interested in taking a leap of faith and helping with worship in whatever way you are comfortable. You can reach me at cgarney1@nycap.rr.com or at 518695-6638.

May God bless each of us this year with the courage to serve in new and exciting ways.

Blessings!

Christine Garney

Pulpit Supply Coordinator

CHURCH FAMILY

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 14:
Margaret Jacobson
16: Ronald Hayes, Jr.
20: David deVelder
22: Randy Kerr
23: Joseph Barton
24: Maureen Kerr Roberts
28: Eshia Cummins



*(Please help keep our birthday, anniversary,
and hospital lists current by giving us dates and
updates!*

(518-695-3479 Thanks!)

ANNIVERSARIES

10: Henrietta and Nugent Edgar
14: David and Bonnie Garrand

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
Trevor Mellen	Charles Thayer
Naomi Thayer	Alicia Lewie
Charlotte Morrill	Suzanne Guerineau
Florence Sherman	Florence Brown
Barbara Vincent	Tom Esposito
Annabelle Gutasy	Paul Hisert

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

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

Florence Sherman, Wesley Community,
Springs 204, 133 Lawrence Street, Saratoga
Springs, NY 12866, Phone # 518- 415-3012

NEW ADDRESS

Ryan and Amanda Markwith have moved into a
new home in the Bronx, a co-op with beautiful
views of New Jersey and Manhattan. Their new
address is:

**555 Kappock Street Apt. 24L
Bronx NY 10463**

SYMPATHY

Sympathy in Christ is extended to the following families:

Geneva (Pat) Burke (96) passed away on January 12, 2022, surrounded by her family, at Wesley Health Care Center. Pat was married to **Colon Burke** and they lived on Burgoyne Street. Pat was interested in antiques, particularly refinishing and refurbishing furniture. She was an expert in cane, rush and splint replacement, which she taught at Adult Ed classes. Pat is survived by her daughter, **Jo Ann Clute**, her son-in-law **Charles**, and granddaughters **Ashleigh and Taylor**. There were no calling hours. Burial will take place in the spring in Schuylerville.



Daniel R. MacMillan (17) lost his long battle with cancer on Sunday, Jan. 2, at home with loved ones at his side. Dan attended Schuylerville Central School, and enjoyed fishing, hunting, golfing and gaming in his free time, and just being around family and friends. He is survived by his parents **Daniel and Jamie MacMillan**, his wife **Chastity**, and sister **Gabrielle**, as well as his grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. A celebration of life was held on January 9.

FAREWELL TO PASTOR RETT

Pastor Rett Zabriskie was with the congregation of OSRC for the last time on Sunday, Dec. 26. At that service he ordained and installed the two new members of the consistory – **Rob Hayner**, who was ordained and installed as an elder, and **Bridget Critelli**, who was installed as a deacon, having been ordained in a former term. Pastor Rett spent the month of January visiting with family and friends in Denmark. He was expecting to begin a new Transitional Pastor assignment, which will be his 29th time to do that, upon his return. He mentioned that he thought that he would stop at 30, as that was a nice, round number. We thank him for his time here at OSRC and for his role in the defining of what we want in a pastor.

GOOD NEWS!!

Sheryl Norton has a new job, after being on hiatus recovering from an injury at her previous job. She is now working at the Highland Meadows in Queensbury, which is a retirement community. She does indoor and outdoor maintenance work, including snow removal. She says, "It's been cold!!"

The deVelder family shared the good news that there will be another grandchild coming at the end of April, joining their almost two year old grandson, **Elliott**, and parents **Nathaniel and Emily**.

CHURCH LIFE

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Pastoral Search Committee has reviewed the results of the surveys which were returned and used that information to help us fill out the Church Profile and write a cover letter to potential candidates. We recently met with our Classis Supervisor, Rev. Matthew Van Mastricht, who gave us feedback that we used to improve and clarify what we wrote.

We are grateful to Dick Behrens who has agreed to help our committee by searching out places to send the completed profile as the RCA no longer provides that service to congregations looking for a minister. We encourage everyone to spread the news that we are actively looking for a new pastor to anyone who may know someone who might be able to help us connect with a candidate.

We are hoping to begin hearing from ministers considering our position soon and Pastor Matthew has offered to help us look through resumes to determine who we want to begin interviewing.

Please remember to pray for our committee and our church as we continue to seek God's help and guidance to find the right person to lead our congregation.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Garney, Chair

OUR MISSIONS –February



Feb. Deacons' Fund- Caring and Sharing

The Caring and Sharing Fund of Schuylerville Central School helps district children and families throughout the year when needs arise. The fund is especially active at Christmas time, when it gives gifts to children who otherwise might not receive any. Old Saratoga's **Pam Driscoll** is one of the co-directors of this mission. Your check, made out to OSRC and earmarked Caring and Sharing, will help to support this program.

1st Quarter Mission – Drilling For Hope

Drilling For Hope 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 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.

HYMNS OF OUR FAITH

**"Sing to the Lord, you saints of his; praise his
holy name." (Psalm 30:4)**

"Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim"

***"Ye servants of God, your master proclaim,
And publish abroad his wonderful name.
The name all-victorious of Jesus extol,
his kingdom is glorious, he rules over all."***

"Ye Servants of God" is among the nearly 10,000 hymns written by the great poet and preacher Charles Wesley. It was composed around the year 1744, a time of political and religious turmoil in Britain. The newly formed Methodist societies held revival meetings outside of church buildings, particularly in open fields, attracting and welcoming thousands of listeners. Members of the Methodist society were at time arrested for "disturbing the peace."

While in many churches only the Psalms were sung, the Methodists were known, and at times mocked, for their exuberant singing of Charles' hymns. His hymns contained doctrinal statements about God's love, personal accountability to God, and the way that God works in our lives through the Holy Spirit. "Ye Servants of God" is a hymn of praise and a call to service. It sings of the majesty of God, the need to honor the Son, and the presence of the Holy Spirit. It reveals the cosmic scope of Christ's kingdom. The "servants of God" mentioned in the first verse consists not only of those who are ordained, but all believers in Christ.

***"Then let us adore and give him his right,
All glory and power, all wisdom and might.
All honor and blessing, with angels above,
And thanks never ceasing, and infinite love."***

Dick Behrens

2021 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who supported the ministry of Old Saratoga during 2021. Our budget predictions were very close to what we actually received and spent. We ended the year with all our bills and mission fund donations paid, and got through the year without having to cash in any investment funds to cover our bills.

Mission donations were down in some categories but up in others, and our Deacons continue to make thoughtful, prayerful decisions about which organizations we support. These donations are fully funded by specially marked gifts (not general donations or fundraisers) and our bottle and can recycling program. We could use more volunteers to help with recycling. Our PPP loan was forgiven by the Federal Government and we found creative ways to hold fundraisers during the pandemic that brought in more income than anticipated. Even without an official Stewardship Program we received a donation to cover the cost of the fire alarm system monitoring. While our total expenses were very close to what we had predicted, there were some areas with higher expenses, due to expensive maintenance repairs to the furnace and lift. We also had increased costs for dues and fees and worship materials, as we invested in the technology to provide worship services online. We cashed in an additional **\$45,600** to begin renovating the parsonage, which we expect to complete this year, and remain grateful for the endowment which provides the funding for capital improvement projects.

We pray that God will continue to bless our ministry as we search for a new pastor. We remain grateful for your support through your prayers, gifts, time and talents.

Chris Garney

COMMUNITY LIFE

SAFER

(Schuylerville Area Food Emergency Relief)

12 Spring St. 518-507-6043

M,F 9-noon

If you would like to donate, SAFER has a need for paper supplies. They cannot use what money they receive for anything but food items, so donations of bathroom tissue, paper towels etc. would be greatly appreciated.



SECOND HAND ROSE GIFT SHOP

116 Broadway 518 695-4640

Tues.-Sat. 11am-pm

Not for profit, low cost

“previously owned” clothing

Proceeds benefit Community service organizations

PANCAKE BREAKFAST AT THE AMERICAN LEGION

When: Sunday Feb. 6 9-11am

Menu: Pancakes, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, milk, juice, coffee, tea

Cost: Adults \$9

Children 6 and under - \$4

First Sunday of each month

PROPERTY UPDATE

The Property Committee is pleased to announce that the parsonage bathroom has been completed, except for the finishing touches, such as cabinet handles, towel racks, etc.

Doug Sheely and **Jay Ellis** will be starting on the kitchen wiring and sheet rocking very soon, so that Mike Hayes and a crew from his contracting company can come in and hang the cabinetry.

The renovations have uncovered a lot of “behind the walls and ceilings” repairs which included shoring up joists which had been cut, and a fixing a huge hole in the floor of the bathroom. So lots has been done that no one will ever see, but which were needed to meet the first goal of the Property Committee, which was to make the parsonage safe for whomever will be living there

SYMPATHY

Sympathy is extended to the family of **Dwight Colvin**, (95) who died on January 27.

He was predeceased by his wife **Dora**, in 2011, and was the father of 8 children, all of whom (**Carol Ann, Roxanne, Roseanne, JoAnne, Sidney, Rodney, Whitney, and Courtney**) grew up attending Sunday School at OSRC.

A military burial service will be held on Thursday, Feb. 10 at 2:30pm at the Saratoga National Cemetery.

"Jacob's Well"

Old Saratoga Reformed Church

48 Pearl Street, Schuylerville NY 12871

Church office: 518-695-3479

Email: oldsaratogareformed@gmail.com

www.oldsaratoga.rcachurches.org

Office Manager: Duffy Whitehouse

Consistory Members: Amber Deyoe, Paula Sheely, Mark Booth,

Rob Hayner, Cindy Brockman, Bridget Critelli, Bruce Guerineau

Published 10 times a year in Schuylerville, NY

Sunday Worship: 10:00am OR Facebook page

facebook.com/oldsaratogareformedchurch

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Sunday, Feb. 6 10am

OSRC Red Cross Blood Drive

Sat. Feb. 19 8am-noon (see inside for details)

Guest Preachers for February

2/6 Dick Behrens

2/13 Amber Deyoe/Sheryl Norton

2/20 Nancy Purinton

2/27 Cooperative Service

"What It Means to Be Part of a Congregation"

Wednesday, March 2

Ash Wednesday – more information coming