***September 2022***

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**Sept. 4 THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Celebration of the Lord’s Supper**

 **Worship Leader: Rev. Lindsey De Kruif**

 **Lectionary Readings:** *Jeremiah 18: 1-11; Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18;*

 *Deuteronomy 30: 15-20; Psalm 1; Philemon 1: 1-21; Luke 14: 25-33*

 *Greeter: Bill Olmert*

 *Liturgist: Mark Booth*

 *Usher: Duffy Whitehouse*

 *Count: Bridget Critelli/Rob Hayner*

 *Serve: Bridget Critelli/Rob Hayner*

**Sept 11 FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

 **Lectionary Readings:** *Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm 14; Exodus 32: 7-14;*

 *Psalm 51: 1-10; 1 Timothy 1: 12-17; Luke 15: 1-10*

 *Greeter: Duffy Whitehouse*

 *Liturgist: Carolyn Markwith*

 *Usher: Bill Olmert*

 *Count: Paula Sheely/Bridget Critelli*

**Sept. 18 FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

 **Lectionary Readings:** *Jeremiah 8: 18-9:1; Psalm 79: 1-9; Amos 8: 4-7; Psalm 113; 1 Timothy 2: 1-7; Luke 16: 1-13*

 *Greeter: Cindy Brockman*

 *Liturgist: Dick Behrens*

 *Usher: Anne Mitchell*

 *Count: Cindy Brockman/Mark Booth*

**Sept. 25 SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

 **Lectionary Readings:** *Jeremiah 32: 1-3a, 6-15; Psalm 91: 1-6; 14-16;*

 *Amos 6: 1a, 4-7; Psalm 146; 1 Timothy 6: 6-19; Luke 16: 19-31*

 *Greeter: Duffy Whitehouse*

 *Liturgist: Amber Deyoe*

 *Usher: Cindy Brockman*

 *Count: Mark Booth/Cindy Brockman*

***Our worship services begin at 10:00am. The sanctuary is handicapped accessible.***

***Holy Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of each month.***

***Pastor’s Ponder***

With just a few days left to go before my “official start date” at Old Saratoga, I thought things would be different. I thought I’d have the house all settled—but there are still stacks of full boxes in every room with contents looking for a home.

I thought I’d have curtains at every window—but it’s a bit more challenging than anticipated. I like to follow the light around the house and get a sense of the visual and spatial relationships to see what the house “wants” first (and so many windows!).

I thought, with school starts around the corner, the weather would be closer to fall-ish—well, that’s not the case, and the heat and humidity encourage a slow pace (Who else remembers hoping for cold weather for the first day of school so you could wear a new sweater, jacket, or cable knee socks?)

I thought a lot of things, but clearly, my thoughts are not God’s thoughts, and I am reminded that “to everything there is a season”.

I trust in God’s plans for my life, for the life of the congregation at OSRC, and for our life together—but I know very well that whatever God has in mind is something we will discover little by little despite our own preconceptions, and that however our shared ministry evolves—like opening a packed box together, seeking a new space for everything that emerges-- it will be as if someone else packed it for us: full of treasures, and with a bit of trash that will need to be rethought in new circumstances. As with anything in life, it’s a process that will evolve, with the potential to be as creative as Godself, as natural as catching a breath, and sometimes include a stitch in our side or a sad farewell as something emerges unexpectedly broken and will need a final goodbye and send-off to the trash bin.

For today, I look forward to finding out where the treasures lie: peeking into one box at a time to get an idea of what’s there (what God has in mind for us), and then figuring out (together) how to make it all fit together in its new home.

“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.”    Jeremiah 29:11

Faithfully,

Pastor Susan

 **BIRTHDAYS**

 2: Cindy Brockman

 4: Patricia Hayes-Howd

 4: Jim Brockman

 4: Atticus McCarty

 5: Karl Thayer

 9: Bridgette Lewie

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

25: Adam Lockwood

29: Patti Booth

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 **ANNIVERSARIES**

11: Patrick and Robin Woomer

16: Sue and Mike Hughes

21: Paula (Hayes) and Douglas Sheely, 1991

24: Karl and Kim Thayer

 **THANKS RECEIVED**

*..from Wycliffe Bible Translators for a donation of* ***$100***

*..from Saratoga Bridges for a donation of* ***$100***

*..from Fowler Ministries for a donation of* ***$387***

*..from Habitat for Humanity for a donation of* ***$90***

*..from Schuylerville Community Theater*

*(which used the building for rehearsals of Seussical) a donation to OSRC of* ***$100***

 **SYMPATHY**

Sympathy in Christ is extended to the family and friends of **Bette Jean Tucker**, who died on July 21, 2022. Until her illness, Bette was a devoted member of OSRC, spending many hours helping at fundraisers, teaching Sunday School, helping to assemble JW, and especially singing in the choir. Bette was also active in the Schuylerville Community Theater from its beginning. She was a devoted “cat mama” to Bonnie and Buttercup.

Left to cherish her memory is her son, **Christopher Tucker**, of whom she was extremely (and rightfully!) proud.

Bette was laid to rest on July 29 at a graveside service, led by **Pastor Joyce** **deVelder,** at Prospect Hill Cemetery in Schuylerville.



 **IN OUR PRAYERS**

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

*Claire Houston Alyson Fitzgerald*

 *David Garrand Gerry Barber*

 *Trevor Mellen Charles Thayer*

 *Naomi Thayer Alicia Lewie*

 *Charlotte Morrill Suzanne Guerineau*

 *Florence Sherman Florence Brown*

 *Annabelle Gutasy Karl Thayer*

*Walter Grom**Ruth Hayes*

**OUR FRIENDS IN HEALTH CARE**

 **FACILITIES/HOMEBOUND**

**Chauncey Mabb:** Crescent Manor, 312 Crescent Blvd. Bennington, VT 05201

**Florence Brown**, River Ridge Living Center, 100 Sandy Drive, Amsterdam, NY 12010

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

 **HOSPITALIZED THIS SUMMER**



***Gene Usher –*** Saratoga Hospital

***Ruth Hayes –*** Saratoga Hospital

***Wayne Barton –*** Saratoga Hospital

 **PASSING THOUGHTS**

**Serve locally. Pray globally.**

**God gave us music so we can pray without words.**

**Change your perception of what a miracle is, and you’ll see them all around you.**

**Let all that you do be done in love.**

***From a Desk Calendar***

**TO THE CONSISTORY,**

**SEARCH COMMITTEE AND CONGREGATION**

 Aug. 9, 2022

Dear Church Sisters and Brothers,

As I finish the tasks associated (here in Dumont at Old North) with leaving a dear congregation and ministry after nearly seven years, I wanted to pause and offer you my thanks for listening with me to God’s nudge, and contracting together to pursue a new season of ministry together! Excited to be back in Upstate New York – excited to move into another historic, beautiful, gracious parsonage, excited to get acquainted with a new congregation…excited to discern together what God has in store for us at Old Saratoga!

I am grateful for this new opportunity to learn and grow together, to worship and explore God’s Word in our context

(“post Covid” and in our lives NOW) and…I pray that we are faithful in building a new ministry on all that has been good and fruitful in the past…and is pleasing to God!

Faithfully,

Pastor Susan

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## Yard Sale

## “Treasures, Treats and Tunes”

## Sat. Sept. 17 8am-3pm

### at Old Saratoga Reformed Church

Corner of Burgoyne and Pearl Streets

**Items for Sale**

**Books, CDs, Videos, DVDs, Jewelry, Toys, Adult and children's clothes, Sports clothing and gear,**

**Kitchen items, Linens, Knick-knacks, home decor**

**Food**

**hot dogs, chips, soda, water**

**Live Music!!!**

 **Rain or shine!!!**

 ***\*\* Donations will be accepted from 9/1-9/14\*\****

 ***(Please no electronics (TVs VCRs, etc.) and no sets of dishes or MUGS)***

**PROPERTY COMMITTEE NEWS**

The parsonage is nearing completion with some electrical and sheet rocking left to do. Before **Pastor Susan** moved in on Aug. 19, the house was professionally cleaned of construction dust by a team from North Country Janitorial. The carpet in the upper hall and down the stairs to the foyer will be completed this week. It was purchased from Glenn’s Carpet in Stillwater, and will be installed by **Eric Garney**, who also installed the kitchen floor, and sanded and poly-ed all the hardwood floors. The committee is now working on getting the garage ordered and placed so that it is ready for the winter season.

 **CONSISTORY CONNECTION**

The consistory did not meet in August, taking a well-deserved month off from holding an official meeting. Their next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 13 at 6:30pm at the parsonage. It will be Pastor Susan’s first OSRC consistory meeting.

 **TUESDAY COFFEE HOUR**

Our Tuesday morning coffee hour met through the summer and had many happy times together. It runs from 9:30-1030am and is purely a social hour. Someone signs up to bring a goodie, either homemade or store bought, the coffee is poured, and the good times begin. The conversation is free-flowing and is generally light hearted, with much laughter. Oftentimes “conversation starters” are used to stimulate the talk, and we get to know each other better than just a “hi” on Sunday morning. All are welcome to attend. Bring a friend!!

 **HYMNS OF OUR FAITH**

**“Sing to the Lord, ye saints of his; praise his holy name.”** Psalm 30:4

**“Channels Only”**

***“How I praise thee, precious Savior, that thy love laid hold of me;***

***Thou hast saved and cleansed and filled me that I might thy channel be.***

***Channels only, blessed Master, but with all thy wondrous power flowing through us, Thou canst use us every day and every hour.”***

Little is known about English poet Mary Maxwell who lived in the 19th century. The words of her hymn suggest that she was a devoted servant of God without intention of personal notoriety, desiring to be a “channel” for the Master’s use. “Channels” can be conduits, canals, wires, vessels or even an empty house, having no power of their own, but have great power when filled. They become means of transmitting knowledge (truth) or a means of moving power or information which results in action. The apostle Paul, writing to Timothy, encouraged believers to be an “instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master.”

Hymnologist Robert Cotrill explained that “in social interaction an individual can become a channel of information from one person to another, or one group to another.” He believes that this explanation is closer to the use Mary Maxwell made of the word. Our spiritual calling may not be preaching, teaching or making melody, but we can all be “channels”, ready for the master’s use when called.

***“Jesus fill now with thy Spirit hearts that full surrender know;***

***That the streams of living water from our inner selves may flow..”***

**Dick Behrens**

**ECUMENICAL BIBLE STUDY**

**Wednesday September 7 9:45-1045 am**

The Ecumenical Bible Study will begin its 2022-23 season on Wednesday, Sept. 7. Each session goes from 9:45-10:45am. This year the group has decided to begin a study of the Book of Joshua. If you have ever thought that you would like to know more about the Bible, joining the group now at the beginning of a new study would be the perfect time, though all are welcome at any time. Because it is an ecumenical group, members of any denomination are welcome.

 **OUR MISSIONS**

**Quarterly – The Giving Circle**

Giving Circle is an all-volunteer organization based in Saratoga. It was founded in 2005 with a mission to seek out communities and individuals in need and connect them with the resources to help. It was initially started in response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, where work was done rebuilding homes in southern Mississippi. It has since expanded efforts both locally and internationally, working with underserved families in the Capital District, Uganda and Ukraine.

**Monthly- Rebuilding Together**

The focus of Rebuilding Together is always to bring volunteers and communities together to improve the lives of low-income homeowners and to help preserve affordable housing in Saratoga County. Donations are used to purchase material to make repairs on the homes of folks who are low income, elderly or disabled, during Rebuilding’s Spring Workdays. Your contribution is nearly tripled because so many materials, supplies and professional labors are donated.

 **Ukraine-**

Donations still being accepted for Ukraine. Please make your check to OSRC, earmarked “Ukraine.”

 **APPEAL UPDATE**

To date, our Summer Appeal has added **$1415** to the General Fund. We are grateful for these contributions and the generous response from those who received the request.

 **CHICKEN BBQ UPDATE**

Our Chicken BBQ, held on July 29 at the Schuylerville American Legion, bought in a total of **$709.50**  after expenses. We thank all those who purchased dinners, made cakes, and helped at the dinner. A big thank you to **Bonnie Garrand**, who chaired the event!

 **BOTTLES AND CANS**

Once again we need your help to take the bottles and cans, which are so generously donated by members and friends of OSRC, to be recycled. We are enrolled in the CLYNK program at Hannaford, so they can be taken there and dropped off. Please consider taking a turn !! This program helps to fund our missions.

“Jacob’s Well”

Old Saratoga Reformed Church

48 Pearl Street, Schuylervile NY 12871

Church office: 518-695-3479

Email: oldsaratogareformed@gmail.com

[http://old-saratoga.rcachurches.org](http://old-saratoga.rcachurches.orgPastor)

[Pastor](http://old-saratoga.rcachurches.orgPastor): Rev. Susan Kerr

Office Manager: Duffy Whitehouse

Consistory Members: 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 Sept. 4 10am Rev. Lindsey De Kruif**

 **Worship with Rev. Susan Kerr**

 **Sunday Sept. 11 10am**

 **Fellowship Hour following**

 **Yard Sale Saturday Sept. 17**

 **8am-3pm**

 **(See inside for details)**