

# **JACOB'S WELL**

**September 2023**

## **September 3 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Greeter: Kim Thayer**

**Liturgist: Mark Booth**

**Usher: Cindy Brockman**

**Counters: Mark Booth and Paula Sheely**

**Communion Set-up: Mark Booth**

**Servers: Mark Booth, Bridget Critelli, and Cindy Brockman**

## **September 10 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Greeter: Richard Behrens**

**Liturgist: Paula Sheely**

**Usher: Bill Olmert**

**Counters: Mark Booth and Paula Sheely**

## **September 17 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Greeter: Jean Wells**

**Liturgist: Amber Deyoe**

**Usher: Karl Thayer**

**Counters: Mark Booth and Paula Sheely**

## **September 24 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Greeter: Amber Deyoe**

**Liturgist: Richard Behrens**

**Usher: Paula Sheely**

**Counters: Mark Booth and Paula Sheely**



## PASTOR'S PONDER

From now until December 3, when Advent begins in preparation for Christmas, the readings are encouraging, convicting, and pointed! The Old Testament gets nitty-gritty, and Matthew becomes downright serious. How do we transfer these ancient lessons into meaningful messages that have bearing on our lives today? Well—that is my job, in part—and the rest is on you: I

encourage you to read ahead and feel free to discuss or disagree with my “take-aways”, and also to share with me how your understandings may have changed over the years (as mine have).

On another, exciting, note, there are plans afoot approved by the Consistory, to update the church Lobby and Loomis Hall. You may have already noticed that the glass display case has been moved out of the entryway into the Hall, where there will be an entire area dedicated to displaying church history, including memorial plaques, mementoes, photos and other memorabilia that help tell where we have come from as a congregation, to honor the past, and serve as an inspiration for the future of Old Saratoga. The church Lobby will sport a pair of arm chairs so that folks waiting for rides or someone to join them at church have a resting spot, with a table for information about church events. The wall facing the front door will also have a new look, with useful signage to welcome and direct newcomers and guests once they have come inside. There and upstairs, the Properties Committee is experimenting with new LED lighting possibilities to give substance to our Stewardship of Creation goals that will require less energy and hopefully be kinder to the planet God has entrusted to our care. Welcome to Autumn! Come lend a hand when and where you are able!

-- In faith, *Pastor Susan*

## SUNDAY READINGS--

9/3      COMMUNION SUNDAY    Exodus 3:1-15      Romans 12:9-21      Matthew 16:21-28

9/10      Ezekiel 33:7-9      Romans 13:1-10      Matthew 18:1-20

9/17      Genesis 50:15-21      Romans 14:1-12      Matthew 18:21-35

9/24      Isaiah 55:6-9      Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30      Matthew 20:1-16

10/1      COMMUNION    Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32    Phil 2:1-4 (5-13) 14-18    Matt 21:23-27 (28-32)

10/8      Isaiah 5:1-7      Philippians 3:4b-14      Matthew 21:33-46

10/15      Isaiah 25:6-9      Philippians 4:4-13      Matthew 22:1-14

10/22      Exodus 33:12-23      Psalm 99      1 Thess. 1:1-10      Matthew 22:15-22

10/29      REFORMATION DAY (observed)  
Deuteronomy 34:1-12    Psalm 90:1-6,13-17    1 Thess. 2:1-8    Matt. 22:34-46

11/5 COMMUNION SUNDAY Joshua 3:7-17; Ps. 107:1-7, 33-37; Matt. 23:1-12

11/12 Joshua 24:1-3, 14-25; Ps. 78:1-7; Matt. 25:1-13

11/19 Judges 4:1-7; Ps. 123; Matt. 25:14-30

11/26 Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Ps. 100; Matt. 25:31-46

REIGN OF CHRIST OR CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY. ADVENT BEGINS NEXT WEEK!



### **STILL SEEKING A NEW SECRETARY**

The Consistory is seeking to hire a new church secretary. While it is an essentially clerical position, other considerations are important as well: a kindly phone and in-person manner, patience, efficient organizational habits, ability to prioritize, working knowledge of

Microsoft Word and gmail, strong written and verbal communication skills and reasonable typing skill, as well as some proficiency with social media helpful (Facebook, website updates). Familiarity with the workings of a church and the Christian year is a plus, but being a “quick study” is fine as well. *Ability to handle confidential information with discretion is a must.* Scheduling at present is three mornings a week, 9 – noon, with some flexibility. Please send resume and enquiries to the church email at: [oldsaratogareformed@gmail.com](mailto:oldsaratogareformed@gmail.com)

### **GRATITUDE CORNER**

Sharing time, talents, and expertise are the backbone of maintaining church properties! Working together also grows a community closer to one another in love because of Christ’s love for us. We are mindful of the past, with trust in God’s plans for a fruitful future!

To all who share of yourself in whatever way you are able—we extend our heartfelt thanks, and offer grateful prayers to God this month, as we host the Annual Yard Sale and renovate inside !



KITCHEN ENTRY BEFORE...

AND AFTER.

### **WHAT’S GOING ON AT THE PARSONAGE?**



FRONT STEPS BEFORE...

AND AFTER. “Your house,

our home”: Pastor’s son Andrew Perti donated time for historic preservation: the front and back porch steps are tended to and painted.

## ECUMENICAL BIBLE STUDY RESUMES

SEPTEMBER 6

WEDNESDAYS 9:45-11

Led by Preaching Elder Richard Behrens

Looking at John ch. 18 to start; moving on to a Prophetic book.

**YOU are welcomed!**

### RENOVATION SCHEDULE and SIGN UP IN LOOMIS HALL

9 a.m.-Noon; 1-4 p.m. \* With lunch break, 12-1

Monday 9/18 Tasks: Clean, spackle, prep walls and baseboards, remove grates, switches

Tuesday 9/19 Tasks: Sand, Cut in, spray paint grates and screw heads with white enamel

Wed'day 9/20 Tasks: Paint first coat, prep Lobby wall

Thursday 9/21 Tasks: Paint second coat (Hall), paint 1<sup>st</sup> coat Lobby

Friday 9/22 Tasks: Paint third coat (Hall), 2<sup>nd</sup> coat Lobby, resettle the rooms

\*Times and tasks are adjustable and negotiable. Lunch is not!

### ANY DAY SPECIAL PROJECTS:

Set up display case (polish silver ewer, arrange items with attendant descriptions visible)

General Clean-up – as-we-go, Encourager

Clean Wooden Storage cupboards out, organize supplies

Clean and polish exterior of wooden storage cupboards (Murphy's Oil Soap)



**HELP FINISH THE JOB!**

## Thank You!

A BIG shout out of Thanks to Andrew Perti for all of his help in painting the porches of the parsonage. Andrew also helped with repairs and painting of the shed in back of the parsonage.

## Old Saratoga Reformed Church Sentence of Inclusion

Led by the love of Jesus Christ, we the people of OSRC in Schuylerville, faithfully declare that we are a Welcoming and Affirming congregation. We welcome into the full life of our congregation all persons whom God calls to us, and affirm their gifts to the glory of God.



### ***Hymns of Our Faith***

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

#### ***“Grace Alone”***

***“Every promise we can make, every prayer and step of faith; Every  
difference we will make is only by his grace,  
Every mountain we will climb, every ray of hope we shine Every  
blessing left behind is only by his grace.  
Grace alone which God supplies, strength unknown he will provide,  
Christ in us, our cornerstone, we will go forth in grace alone.”***

The hymn “Grace Alone” is the work American Christian Country Music songwriter Scott Wesley Brown. Based in Nashville, Brown is also a singer and producer. He has been active in performing and teaching worship and mission seminars for over five decades, and has toured in over 50 countries.

Grace is a central tenet of Christianity. Grace is the gift of God. It is a generous gift, free and totally unexpected and undeserved. This is the point of “Grace Alone”, God’s favor toward us is the impetus for our witness to the world. All that we do for others is God-given and by God’s grace alone.

The hymn draws upon a number of biblical passages. “Every mountain we will climb”, and every sorrow turned to praise”, reflect Old Testament scriptures from the Psalms, and the prophet Jeremiah – texts which address God’s help in overcoming hardships, in “turning mourning into joy”. “Every loving word we say, every tear we wipe away” reminds us of Isaiah being sent by God “to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted”.

New Testament scriptures from Paul’s letter to the Romans explain the nature of God’s grace as God’s gift by which we are justified, and which frees us from obedience to the Law for our salvation. The Apostle Peter introduces us to Jesus as our “cornerstone”.

“Grace Alone” is a hymn which we should sing prayerfully as we re-dedicate our lives to serving others through the grace which God supplies.

*“Every soul we long to reach, every heart we hope to teach, Every-where  
we share his peace is only by his grace,  
Every loving word we say, every tear we wipe away,  
Every sorrow turned to praise is only by his grace  
Grace alone which God supplies, strength unknown he will provide,  
Christ in us, our cornerstone, we will go forth in grace alone.”*

To listen to “Grace Alone”, copy and paste into your browser—

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mBaBacWu\\_bl](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mBaBacWu_bl)



## Church Family

# happy birthday

**2:** Cindy Brockman; **4:** Patricia Hayes-Howd, Jim Brockman, Atticus McCarthy  
**5:** Karl Thayer; **9:** Bridgette Lewie; **11:** Barbara Elcox; **14:** Mike Hughes;  
**16:** Gene Usher; **18:** Jennifer (MacMillan) Squires, Brian Driscoll; **20:** Randy Kerr III; **23:**  
Gage Woomer; **29:** Patti Booth



**11:** Patrick and Robin Woomer; **16:** Sue and Mike Hughes;  
**21:** Paula and Doug Sheely; **24:** Kim and Karl Thayer

**Bon Voyage to** Robin and Patrick Woomer who will be traveling to Ireland for 9 days.

### In Our Prayers

Florence Sherma	Alicia Lewie	Naomi Thayer
Trevor Mellen	Gerry Barber	Charles Thayer
Claire Houston	Mazie Zelazney	Florence Brown
Nancy and Norman Howard		



### Choir

The OSRC choir will begin singing each Sunday beginning September 3. Choir rehearsals are on Thursday evenings 7-8 pm. New members are welcome! We are thankful for our Minister of Music Christopher Tucker!

## Yard Sale

**Bakers are needed** for the Yard Sale, which will include a bake sale.

September 9 8 am-3 pm.

Thanks to everyone who helped!

***OLD SARATOGA REFORMED CHURCH!!!!***



**SATURDAY** Sept. 9<sup>TH</sup> 8am -3pm

*Corner of Burgoyne St. and Pearl St. Schuylerville*

**Come enjoy music and tons of bargains!**

**A great lunch will be available to purchase.**

**Come and haggle with us!**

*All proceeds will go to the church and its local and global missions.*

## Upcoming Events



### **Oktoberfest-Beer and Brats**

A German themed get together will be held at Duffy Whitehouse's haus on

Saturday, Oktober 14 at 5 pm. German food is encouraged! There will also be regular potato salad and hot dogs available. See the signup sheet in Loomis Hall.

**Alle sind willkommen!** (All are welcome)

## Community Events

### **Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Building**

Sleep in Heavenly Peace, a group which builds beds for children 3-17 years old, will be holding a "Bed Building" event in Mowry Park, Greenwich on Saturday, September 16 at 9 am. Anyone interested in helping to build beds can call 844-432-2337 ext. 5913. In addition to building beds, **New** twin size comforters, sheets or pillows will be accepted and can be dropped off at Mowry Park during the build. Mowry Park is located on Main Street in Greenwich.

### **Bacon Hill Reformed Church**

On September 9 the Bacon Hill Reformed Church will be having a chicken BBQ. More details to follow.

### **Victory Mills Fire Department Chicken BBQ**

On September 16, 3-5 pm the Victory Mills Fire Department will be having their Chicken BBQ. Cost is \$15. In addition there will be a raffle for a YETI cooler-cost of tickets is \$5.



**Old Saratoga Reformed Church**

48 Pearl Street, Schuylerville NY 12871

PASTOR; Rev. Susan Kerr

518-366-3648

Consistory Members: Paula Sheely, Mark Booth

Bridget Critelli, Cindy Brockman, Rob Hayner, Bruce Guerineau

Published ten times yearly in Schuylerville, NY 12871

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

E-Mail: [oldsaratogareformed@gmail.com](mailto:oldsaratogareformed@gmail.com) [www.oldsratoga.rcachurches.org](http://www.oldsratoga.rcachurches.org)

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

Phone: 518-695-3479

**Sacrament of Holy Communion Sunday, September 3**  
**Coffee Hour every Sunday following worship!**

**Yard Sale at Old Saratoga September 9 8 am-3 pm**

**Bacon Hill Reformed Church Chicken BBQ September 9**

**Victory Mills Fire Department Chicken BBQ September 16**