

JACOB'S WELL

October 2023

October 1 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Greeter: Terri Richards

Liturgist: Carolyn Markwith

Usher: Richard Behrens

Counters: Bruce Guerineau and Paula Sheely

Communion Set-up: Paula Sheely

Servers: Bruce Guerineau, Bridget Critelli, and Paula Sheely

October 8 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Greeter: Chris Garney

Liturgist: Pam Seward

Usher: Bill Olmert

Counters: Paula Sheely and Bruce Guerineau

October 15 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Greeter: Karl Thayer

Liturgist: Chris Garney

Usher: Cindy Brockman

Counters: Cindy Brockman and Bridget Critelli

October 22 Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Greeter: Bill Olmert

Liturgist: Pat Woomer

Usher: Karl Thayer

Counters: Bridget Critelli and Cindy Brockman

October 29 Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Greeter: Cindy Brockman

Liturgist: Anne Mitchell

Usher: Paula Sheely

Counters: Cindy Brockman and Paula Sheely



PASTOR'S PONDER

Many people think the only time to call the Pastor is when there is an illness or a death in the family. These are important times to notify the Pastor, but not the **only** times. In an increasingly complex world -- when we are pressured from every side in daily living -- here are some suggested times when it would be appropriate to call upon your Pastor's services, and support, and prayers:

- When you are facing a serious family problem
- When someone is interested in the church
- When there is illness or hospitalization for more than a day
- When there is a death
- When you're thinking about getting married
- When there is a wedding planned
- If you're thinking about divorce
- When you must make an important life decision
- When you need someone to talk with in confidence
- When you celebrate the birth of a child
- When you are facing a spiritual struggle.
- When you would like to talk about your funeral wishes.
- When you would like a home visit.

This list is by no means comprehensive. There may be other reasons you may want to contact me—and it's very important to realize that I am not a mind-reader, and the **ONLY** sure way to let me know you'd like to hear from me, is to let me know directly! When that time comes, I encourage you to reach me at:

PASTOR SUSAN KERR (pronounced, "CARE"): 518-366-3648

revkerr@gmail.com

-- In faith, *Pastor Susan*

SUNDAY READINGS--

| | | | | |
|-------|---|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 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! | | | |

MISSION GIVING

Old Saratoga Reformed Church supports many mission projects each year. At their annual meeting in the fall, the Deacons establish a mission plan which includes the monthly Deacons' Fund charities and the Missions of the Quarter. These missions are funded by specific donations that people make and are supplemented by funds from recycling bottles and cans.

Bottle and can money also allows us to support needs that we do not receive specific donations toward. So far this year, we have made donations to the RCA Disaster Relief fund to help with the aftermath of the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, The Giving Circle to enhance the salary of a teacher at their school in Uganda, and Sleep in Heavenly Peace to help provide materials for building beds for local children who currently sleep on the floor.

Several years ago, the Deacons established the Deacons' Discretionary Fund which accepts donations and is also supplemented by bottle and can money. This fund is designed to help local community members who have an unexpected need. This year, we helped after a local fire and with travel expenses for medical treatment. If you know of someone who needs help, please let the Deacons or Pastor Susan know.

These donations are discreet and always very much appreciated. You can also contact a Deacon if you have an idea for an organization that we might want to support in the future.

Thank you to all of you who donate to our missions, give us your bottles and cans, and help to get the bottles and cans recycled. You are making a difference not just here at OSRC, but throughout our community and the world.



Old Saratoga Reformed Church Statement 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)

*"And Can it **Be** That I Should Gain?"*

*"And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood? Died he for me who caused his pain? For me who him to death pursued? Amazing love!
How can it **be**, that thou my God shouldst die for me?"*

This hymn is about God's grace extended to humankind. It tells the story of the conversion of Charles Wesley (1707-1788), a prolific hymn writer who wrote over 6,500 hymns. Charles has been called by some, "the greatest hymnwriter of all ages." He was the younger brother of Methodist founder John Wesley, an Anglican cleric. The brothers traveled throughout Britain preaching and hymn-singing.

"And Can it Be..." was perhaps influenced by two Bible verses; Romans 5:8, "While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.," and Galatians 2:20, "I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me." The hymn is rich with phrases from Holy Scripture and an allusion to the apostle Peter, where Wesley expresses his conversion story in terms of Peter's escape from prison "my chains fell off."

The story line of the hymn is summarized in the first line of each of the hymns five verses. Starting with a question as to the worthiness of the writer to be a recipient of God's favor. Verse two, proclaims the mystery of God's grace. Verse three, tells of Christ reaching out to us through his incarnation, Verse four, man's lowly condition, an "imprisoned spirit...fast bound in sin." Verse five, **no** fear of condemnation, we are alive in Christ.

*"Tis mercy all, immense and **free**"*

*"Amazing love! How **can** it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?"*

Thank You!

...To Doug Sheely for fixing the back door to the Church!

[Upcoming Events](#)

Consistory nomination forms will soon be distributed. Please consider, with prayer and faith, who you think(or possibly yourself) would be able to serve the church and its people.

Church Family



1: Nicholas Booth; **2:** Eric Garney; **4:** Bill Olmert; **6:** Wayne Barton; **7:** Kim Thayer; **9:** Mikael de Velder; **10:** Justin Burch; **12:** Dawn Alexanian, Barrett Tueller Fedderly; **14:** Jennifer Legg; **16:** Bridget Behrens; **21:** Oscar Everts, Nathaniel de Velder; **25:** Holly Deyoe, Alma Westcott; **27:** Bruce Guerineau, John Hayes; **29:** Rev. Susan Kerr, Jean Stark



6: Pat and Harvey Howd; **16:** James and Donna Mellen, Julia(Behrens) and Thomas Pooler; **22:** Florence and Roger Sherman; **25:** Dawn and Stephen Alexanian; **27:** Ryan and Amanda Markwith

Bon Voyage to Paula and Doug Sheely, who will be cruising to Ireland, England and Scotland.

Safe Travels to Cindy and Jim Brockman as they travel to Nova Scotia.

Welcome Home Travelers: to Robin and Patrick Woomer, Carolyn Markwith (who spent much of the summer in Oregon), and Bridget Critelli.

In Our Prayers

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Florence Sherman | Alicia Lewie | Naomi Thayer |
| Trevor Mellen | Gerry Barber | Charles Thayer |
| Claire Houston | Florence Brown | Cheryl Coffin (Jones) |
| Nancy and Norman Howard | | Chris Garney |



Our heartfelt condolences to Gerry Barber on the passing of her sister, Mazie Zelazney. Cards can be sent to Gerry Barber 34 Church Street Schuylerville NY 12871

Yard Sale

The total from the Yard Sale was **\$1,366.56!** A BIG shout out to Amber Deyoe, Terri Richards, Jean Wells and Bridget Critelli for all of their hard work in organizing the sale! Thank you to everyone who helped and shopped!

UPCOMING EVENTS



HARVEST HARMONY
"An Autumn Worship Music Experience"
NORTHBOUND WORSHIP
Local Artists
Risen Hope Worship Team / This Time Around
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2023 1PM - 5PM
Old Saratoga Reformed Church

Blessing of the Animals at OSRC



SUNDAY OCTOBER 8

3-4 P.M.



Oktoberfest-Beer and Brats

A German themed get-together at Duffy Whitehouse's haus Saturday, Oktober 14 at 5 pm. German food is encouraged! (Regular potato salad and hot dogs available.) Sign-up sheet in Loomis Hall.

Alle sind willkommen! (All are welcome!)



Harvest Supper

Plans are in the works for our Annual Harvest Supper on Saturday, November 4. See the sign-up sheets to see how you can help! **Many hands make light work!**



Holiday Sale

Just a reminder –it will be here before you know it! Our Holiday Sale will be held on Saturday, December 2, 8 am-2 pm. How can you help? Look for items to donate or consider making a basket for the raffle!

HAM HARVEST SUPPER

SAT. NOVEMBER 4

4:00 - 6pm

Drive Thru with Limited Indoor Seating



OLD SARATOGA REFORMED CHURCH

48 Pearl Street, Schuylerville, NY

**Menu: Baked Ham, scalloped potatoes, squash,
green beans, Dutch Kraut, roll, homemade Apple Crisp**

**Tickets: \$15 for Adults
\$9 for Children**

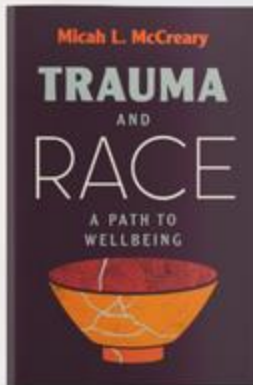
Reservations Required by Nov. 2! Call (518-695-6638)

**Enter from alley end of driveway, drive up to front
door and a server will bring your dinners. Exit onto Pearl Street.**

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



PRESIDENT MCCREARY'S BOOK RELEASE CELEBRATION



Book Reading and Discussion

featuring
Rev. Micah L. McCreary, PhD
and
Anna Branch, PhD
Senior Vice President for Equity
Rutgers University
Mast Chapel

**Book Signing and
Reception**
Hageman Hall



Wednesday · October 4, 2023 · 12 noon ET
NBTS · 35 Seminary Place · New Brunswick, NJ

STILL SEEKING A NEW SECRETARY

Resume and enquiries may be sent to: oldsaratogareformed@gmail.com

In the meantime, we are SO grateful to Cindy Brockman, who is filling in to produce our Sunday bulletins and Jacob's Well editions, as well as pulling together necessary and timely office tasks!



ECUMENICAL BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES

WEDNESDAYS 9:45-11

Led by Preaching Elder Richard Behrens

On 10/4 we will begin looking at the book of Hosea.

YOU are welcomed!

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

www.oldsaratoga.rcachurches.org

www.facebook.com/oldsaratogareformedchurch

Phone: 518-695-3479



SUNDAY OCTOBER 1

Coffee Hour every Sunday following worship!

Ecumenical Harvest Harmony Concert October 7 Noon-3 pm

Annual Meeting on November 19