

The Good News

First Presbyterian Church of Hudson Falls



“We’re making friends of ALL people through Christ.”

March 2019

Elder Thoughts - Zac Perry-LaPoint

I frequently argue that faith should grow, be challenged, and challenge us, but growth is always accompanied by growing pains and is usually unpleasant. Most people grimace at it, and we tend to try to avoid it. I am no exception to that rule. So, I’ve been avoiding, for a long time, questions that have been swimming around in my head – to the point that I’ve now slammed into a wall of theological uncertainties. I recently expressed this concern to some friends in the congregation and they were abundantly understanding. The questions and doubts that had been plaguing me ended up being more understood than I thought they would have been. I was embraced with love and genuine appreciation for my openness. In *The Forgotten Creed*, Stephen Patterson says of the generation of students studying the Gospel of John after his writing and preaching, “... things had settled down. Now it is not mere blind faith that makes them children of God, but something more – love.” As I often do, I experienced that “children of God” love that morning as in hushed tones I expressed my concerns among friends. That love came with simple, yet mind-blowing, advice - I am in the safest place to explore my doubts. I am a part of a community that will not shut me out from that love because I have questions. I belong to a family in faith that will be there to tend to my growing pains when I call out. This is what I will remember as I explore the mystics, and Scripture, and Buddhism, and the way they are all interrelated and push me to open my mind to the unlimited love and power of God.

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Church Office:

9 River St.,
Hudson Falls, NY 12839
747-3013

Open Tues-Fri, 10-2

Church:

5 River St.
747-2203

Rev. Michael Plank, Pastor

Home Phone: 636-3200

Pat Barron, Clerk of Session

Home Phone: 747-4573

Sunday Worship 10am

Nursery Care Available!
Church School K-8 (Sept—May)

Elder of the Month:

Zac Perry-LaPoint

Trustee: Randy Clark

Care & Compassion:

Norma Shaffer, Jim Hirst,
Roberta Clute, Pat Barron

This newsletter is made possible through our giving to FPC Hudson Falls.

Pastor's Corner



A passion of mine is what is increasingly being called “Spiritual Formation.” Another way to talk about it is to talk about generally being better: a better person, a better Christian, someone who is kinder, more patient, more generous, more loving, more faithful. There are naturally a lot of ways to do this: prayer, fasting, scripture reading, meditation, journaling, worshiping, and on and on.

I think that I’m right in believing that Spiritual Formation is a passion for many of you too. In 2018, a group of us met monthly to read through the entire Bible from cover to cover. I was amazed that nearly 20 people came to that first session. I was even more amazed that 13 people finished that entire project (no small feat)! Among other things, that experience told me that there is a hunger in our congregation for education and formation.

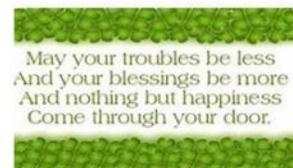
As we approach Lent – a season of discipline and penitence – I’d be very interested to hear what other areas of Spiritual Formation you might like to explore so that we can offer ways to do that together! Please let me know by calling me at the office (747-3013), e-mailing me (michael.s.plank@gmail.com), or letting me know in person so that we can grow together!

Peace,
Michael

St. Patrick's Day Dinner - March 17th



To all the days
here and after -
May they be filled
with fond memories,
happiness, and laughter.
-Irish toast



Lunch for congregation will be ready for purchase, following the church service

St Patrick's Day Lunch,
Sunday 17th March
12-3pm for the public at
First Presbyterian Church of
Hudson Falls
\$10.00 per plate
All Proceeds go to
Doreen's Soup Kitchen, HF NY



Lunch consists of:
Corned Beef, Cabbage,
Potatoes, Carrots, Soda Bread
Water, Ice Tea, Coffee.

There will be sweets provide to
choose from for a small
donation.



Special Thanks to this years supporters, Em Lewis (Lewis Super), The First Presbyterian Church, and to all who are donating the Desserts, Soda Bread and help in the Kitchen.
Thanks to returning helpers Martin, Meri and Debbie.



On Sunday the 17th of March, a St. Patrick's Day Lunch will be available for purchase. All proceeds will go to Doreen's Soup Kitchen here in Hudson Falls. The congregation will be able to purchase meals to enjoy here or take home, following church service on the 17th.

This is the third year that my wife and I, as well as some very close friends and family have cooked St Patrick's Day meals. This will be the first year we do it for lunch!

For \$10.00 per plate, the meal consists of Corned Beef, Cabbage, Potatoes, Carrots. choice of Ice tea, Coffee or Water. Soda Bread will be available with

meal if you desire. Desserts are available for a small donation as well.

This is the second year that we have given to Doreen's Soup Kitchen and look forward to handing them a large donation again this year.

Special thanks to our supporters, Em Lewis, Lewis Super, the Congregation of the First Presbyterian Church and to our friends and kitchen help, Marty, Meri and Debbie, as well as all who have offered to donate desserts and soda bread this year.

-Tom Ruffing

Session Notes

The regular meeting of the Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Hudson Falls, NY was held on February 14, 2019 at 7:03 PM beginning with **worship and Communion**. The reading was **Isaiah 60: 1-22**

Pastor's Report: Rev. Plank reported the following in written form during the Session meeting:

- Worked with Concerned Clergy for Choices to express gratitude to representatives who supported the Reproductive Health Act
- Presented at an Open Space at Presbytery about New Worshipping Communities
- Met virtually with my peer group from Continuing Education

Accepted three new members into the congregation

Clerk's report: Removed Lois Kirk from rolls - Date of death January 13, 2019

Attendance 1/6 66; 1/13 61; 1/20 closed 15" snow; 1/27 (Annual meeting) 70 Av for 3 weeks 66 Communion Feb. 3 served to 50

Correspondence: Thank you letters from Borderlinks (dated 1/31), Washington County DSS (dated 1/8 and 1/30), and from More Light Presbyterians (dated 1/23) for the donations issued through our church.

Committee reports:

The **Borderlinks Committee** met to prepare for organizing an informational session to get people interested in the upcoming trip.

The trip dates are set for October 8-13, 2019 and confirmed by Borderlinks.

Our committee discussed various items to be brought up and Zac is working on a promotional item to share on social media and to forward onto St. Joseph's Church in Fort Edward, Terry Diggory's group in Saratoga, and Lisa Catalfamo who has shared an interest in attending and photographing the event.

Worship: Rev. Michael asked for the committee to decide which bulletin to start using. This is being done to lower printing costs while giving a more modern look during our services. Additionally, Jen will be working on a pew insert

that will have the welcome statement and visitor's directions.

Presbytery Report: Zac and Mike attended the Presbytery meeting on January 26 in Ballston Spa. Rev. Michael was also present and a part of the open session prior to the start of the meeting to discuss his New Worshipping Community.

One item that was brought up was a request for congregations to find a way to use other means instead of plastic water bottles. This came as a request from the Mission Committee at Albany presbytery. More information was gathered and will be discussed at session.

Outreach & Mission Special Report Advocate Marketing Workshop Series

During the months November 2018 – January 2019, Zac attended monthly workshops led by Kate Austin-Avon, owner of Advocate Web Designs, a Glens Falls based marketing and branding firm. The workshops focused on various aspects of digital branding and marketing, something that O&M agrees with Rev. Plank is something we need to invest our energies in so that we may continue to grow into our visioning.

New business: -Tom Ruffing would like to host the Corned Beef Dinner again this year at the church. St. Patrick's Day falls on Sunday the 17th. He'd like to know whether the church prefers the dinner on Saturday 4-7pm, or right after church on Sunday. Set up would happen beginning 10am Saturday or much earlier if on Sunday.

This year there will be a charge, and 100% of the proceeds will benefit Doreen's Soup Kitchen. Last year they made \$300 for Doreen's, and this year they are aiming to surpass that.

Motion passed with word going to Tom of our suggestion to hold on Sunday after church.

-A motion was made and carried to have Minute for Missions on February 24 and March 24 for One Great Hour of Sharing.

(The following items were approved via email with no objections: -Peggy Jones requested use of Fellowship Hall on February 23 at 2 PM for a

Session Notes - from page 4

baby shower. Calendar is clear. Approved with no objections via e-mail

-The following were approved without objection via email to become members on January 27, 2019: Julia Lee and Matthew Miller by Reaffirmation of Faith and Kim Nichols by Letter of Transfer.

-Special mission report from Zac)

-Statistical report for Office of General Assembly was presented to Session. Approved with no objections

Michael Barron, Clerk pro-tem

Join Us! Fellowship Dinner at Sweet Basil

Saturday, April 27th at 5:30pm
Sweet Basil Restaurant, 1012 Rt 9,
Queensbury

Order off Early Bird Menu
\$16.95 + beverage, tax, and gratuity

Choices: *Baked Boston Scrod, Broiled Salmon, Stuffed Shrimp, Sweet Basil Stuffed Chicken, Chicken Parmigiana, Chicken Francese, Schnitzel Cordon Bleu, Stuffed Pork Chops. All include salad bar & choice of potato.*

Please sign up by April 21st.
Separate checks will be issued.

Any questions, see Sue or Roger Gilbert
518-792-0158.



Trustee Notes

TRUSTEE MINUTES, February 5, 2019

The Board of Trustees held their regularly scheduled meeting in the church house conference room.

Present were Dale Dickinson, Dave Trevett, Ron Shaffer Tremayne Morse, Randy Clark and Bill Scheidegger

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The treasurer's report was also read and approved.

The following items were discussed and /or actions were taken:

1. Joe Enright, the painter that did prior jobs for us, inspected the fellowship room and gave a quote for \$2,600 to painting the area.
2. A new larger sink was installed in the communion clean up area.
3. We discussed items that need to be accomplished when good weather comes. We will be concentrating on the manse and the church house.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45.

The next meeting will be March 5th, 2019

Dale Dickinson, President

Dave Trevett, Secretary

From the Office



This year, the congregation responded to Souper Bowl of Caring (Feb. 3rd) by donating \$43.00 and over 70 food items. It was decided that they be directed to the church's own emergency food shelf, which is maintained in the church office. The shelves have been abundantly full this month. Recent donations have not only come from the congregation, but also from thoughtful neighbors. Everyone who came to the office in need has come away with plenty.

Thanks as always from the Office for helping to make food more easily accessible in the immediate neighborhood, especially during the winter.

Monthly Scripture Readings

March 2019 Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals

[Year C]

MARCH

Transfiguration of the Lord—March 3

Exodus 34:29–35

Psalm 99

2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2

Luke 9:28–36 [37–43]

Ash Wednesday—March 6

Joel 2:1–2, 12–17 or Isaiah 58:1–12

Psalm 51:1–17

2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

First Sunday in Lent—March 10

Deuteronomy 26:1–11

Psalm 91:1–2, 9–16

Romans 10:8b–13

Luke 4:1–13

Second Sunday in Lent—March 17

Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18

Psalm 27

Philippians 3:17—4:1

Luke 13:31–35 or Luke 9:28–36

Third Sunday in Lent—March 24

Isaiah 55:1–9

Psalm 63:1–8

1 Corinthians 10:1–13

Luke 13:1–9

Fourth Sunday in Lent—March 31

Joshua 5:9–12

Psalm 32

2 Corinthians 5:16–21

Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32

Office of Theology and Worship, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) 1

Sermons are posted on our website! Read or hear the weekly sermon and read our monthly newsletter. fpchudsonfalls.org

Prayer Chain

For prayer requests, please call one of the people on the following list. That person will call the next person, and the last will call the first, so all members of the chain receive the request:

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Pat Barron | 747-4573 |
| Windy Clark | 926-0523 |
| Mary Dickinson | 792-0654 |
| Daryl Fowler | 747-5876 |
| Connie Fuller | 747-5259 |
| Carol Moyer | 793-1960 |
| Bonnie Trevett | 747-4530 |

Care & Compassion

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Feb. 17 - Mar. 2 | Norma Shaffer |
| Mar. 3 - Mar. 16 | Jim Hirst |
| Mar. 17 - Mar. 30 | Roberta |
| Mar. 31 - April 13 | Pat Barron |
| April 14 - April 27 | Heather Fowler |
| April 28 - May 11 | Daryl Fowler |
| May 12 - May 25 | Carol LaPoint |
| May 26 - June 8 | Bonnie Trevett |
| June 9 - June 22 | Norma Shaffer |

Coffee Hour



| | |
|---------|--------------------------------|
| Mar. 3 | Norma Shaffer & Bonnie Trevett |
| Mar. 10 | Volunteers Needed |
| Mar. 17 | The Millers |
| Mar. 24 | Volunteers Needed |
| Mar. 31 | Fifth Sunday |

Adult Fellowship

Upcoming Dates 2019 - Mark Your Calendars!

(January - February - March ~ No activities planned)

Saturday, April 27 - **Dinner at Sweet Basil's**

May - TBA - **"Old Friends at Saratoga"** Greenfield Center & Lunch - Families Invited

June - TBA - **Roger's Island Museum**, Ft. Edward & Lunch at Anvil Inn

Saturday, July 20th at 1:30 pm, **Lake Party at the Gilberts'**

Saturday, August 17th at 1:30 pm, **Pool Party at the Otopuals'**

September -TBA- **SUNY ACC Culinary Institute Dinner**

October 19th at 5:00 pm, **Progressive Dinner** - Hosts TBA



We Remember:

William Dixon

Gary Northrup

Lois Kirk



Women's Association

The **Spring 2019 Rummage Sale** will be held **May 16th - 18th**. Donations for spring are now being accepted!

Prayer Shawl Ministry & Craft Night

Do you like to knit or crochet? Would you like to learn? How about joining the Prayer Shawl Ministry Group? We meet on the first Thursday of each month. Yarn, hooks, needles and instruction are all available.

If you like doing crafts but aren't into knitting or crocheting come to "Any Craft Night" on the third Thursday of each month. Bring a craft to work on while enjoying wonderful fellowship.

Prayer shawls and lap blankets are available. If you know of someone who would benefit from the love, warmth and prayers that are worked into each one, please contact the Church Office or complete a request card (located in the narthexes).

Worship Committee

Sanctuary Flowers

Many members have special anniversaries coming up that they enjoy remembering with flowers. If you wish to provide flowers for a particular Sunday please call the church office (747-3013) to complete the following:

- Notify the church office of the date you wish to provide flowers.
- Let the church office know if the flowers are in honor of someone, in memory of someone or to celebrate a special date. This information will be shared in the Sunday bulletin.
- Please take your flowers after the service. If you wish your flowers to go to a shut-in, please notify the Care and Compassion person for that week.



Questions?

See Diane Lapan, Diane Macintosh, Mary Dickinson or Sue Gilbert.

Newcomers are always welcome!

- **Prayer Shawl**
Mar. 7 @ 7pm
- **Any Craft**
Mar. 21 @ 7pm



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy March Birthday to:



| | | | |
|----|---------------------|----|-----------------|
| 4 | Susan Gilbert | 20 | Sue Whittington |
| 4 | Kisung Davis | 21 | Joyce Irwin |
| 5 | Roger Gilbert | 23 | Matthew Gilbert |
| 6 | Madelyn Gilbert | 24 | Elizabeth Davis |
| 8 | Robin Boisvert | 28 | Michael McNeely |
| 11 | Brian Blackmar | | |
| 12 | Rebecca Whittington | | |
| 12 | Benjamin Bancroft | | |
| 15 | Heather Mabb Craner | | |
| 20 | Kaitlin Valla | | |

Amazon Smile

Thank you for Christmas shopping with us! We have received **\$25.11** this quarter and over **\$140.04** to date!

The church has set up an account with Amazon Smile where Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase to our church at no cost to you or the church. In order for us to receive a donation when you shop at Amazon login into smile.amazon.com and you will see a spot when you can donate to a charitable organization. Just type in “**First Presbyterian Church of Hudson Falls**” and our church name will pop up with our address of 9 River St., Hudson Falls, NY 12839. Shop as normal and our church will receive a donation from your purchase.



Prayers & Concerns

If you'd like to add someone to the list, please place their names in the offering plate during Sunday Worship, or call the church office at 747-3013. Please notify when name is to be removed.

Hospital Admittance Update

Due to HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) the First Presbyterian Church will not be notified if you, or a loved one, are hospitalized. **Please call the Church Office (747-3013) to let us know that you, or a loved one, have been hospitalized.**

When admitted, be sure to list Hudson Falls First Presbyterian Church as your affiliate and **give permission to release the information so that Rev. Plank or a member of the Care and Compassion Committee can visit. Otherwise, your admittance and room number will not be available.**

Those in Our Prayers

Maximus Bancroft

Emily Hilder
 Timothy Oathout
 Cindy French
 Paula Coon
 Hayes Doster
 Adam Omiecinski
 Alisha Ingram
 Alonzo Clark
 Andrew Blalock
 Bentley Smith
 Breanna Ruffing
 Brian Peceu
 Bruce Barron
 Carolyn Spangler
 Chuck Bailey
 Clute Family
 Dottie DeMell
 Florence Phillips
 Gary & Dolores Dingmon
 Helen Rauch
 S. Jane Story
 Steve Rice

Angelica Nichols

Pat and Don Hassett
 Jim Hirst
 John Coon
 James Harney
 Janet Monroe

 Jim and Becky Smith
 Kathy Harrison
 Kathy Nolte
 Kathy Rezendes
 Keri Rooks
 Lacy O'Quinn
 Linda Honaker
 Margot Vankempen
 Marian Lemery
 Mary Carpor
 Pam Corenetto
 Rebecca Rozell
 Rene Peceu
 Rita French
 Rob Mackle
 Robert Smith
 Tanya VanVranken

For Longterm Consideration

Edward Thompson
 Kathleen McKernon
 Jean Wood
 Nancy Ellis
 Elaine Fitzgerald
 Lukas Lemery
 Dawn Bishop
 Virginia Fitch
 Deborah Scarpetti
 Those In The Armed Services
 Hunter Chase
 Volunteer Firefighters
 Carol LaPoint
 Government Leaders
 Emergency Medical Technicians

 Jane Stuebing (Martin)
 Edna Sheldon
 Kendall & Cindy McKernon

(Bold = New this Month)

2/28/2019

In Nursing Homes:

Jane Stuebing (Martin)
 Judy Bronk
 Cindy McKernon

First Presbyterian Church of Hudson Falls

March 2019



Sundays

10 am, Worship

March 17, St. Patty's Lunch to Benefit Doreen's Soup Kitchen, Noon* - 3pm

** Lunch is open to the congregation following the service*

March 31, Fifth Sunday Worship -- Fellowship Hall

Mondays

8 pm, AA - Fellowship Hall



Tuesdays

6 pm, TOPS



7 pm, AA - Fellowship Hall

March 5, Trustees, 7 pm

Wednesdays

7 am, AA Meditation -- Classroom

10 am, Exercise Group -- Fellowship Hall

March 6, Ash Wednesday Service, 7pm

Thursdays

March 21, 7 pm, Woodmen, Fellowship Hall

8 pm, Al Anon -- Classroom

March 7, Prayer Shawl, 7 pm

March 14, Session, 7 pm

March 21, Craft Night, 7 pm

Saturdays

10 am, AA -- Lounge