

GraceNotes

OTISVILLE-MT. HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER
JUNE/JULY 2015 – VOLUME 5 | ISSUE 5

Lest We Forget

Did you know that our church's history goes back to 1791, when the Deerpark Four Corners Presbyterian Church was founded in the back right corner of what is now the Mount Hope Plains Cemetery on Mt. Hope Road? Did you know that when the turnpike came through Mount Hope and it became the second largest community in the county, some folks from the Deerpark Four Corners church started what became the First Presbyterian Church of Mount Hope in 1833?

Then when the railroad came through Otisville, some folks left the Methodist church in the village (where they had worshipped after the Deerpark Four Corners church had closed) to start the First Presbyterian Church of Otisville in 1855 on land donated by a local farmer, Silas Loomis. But during the Great Depression starting in 1929, lots of churches struggled, so the First Presbyterian Church of Mount Hope and the First Presbyterian Church of Otisville merged in 1933 forming the Otisville - Mt. Hope Presbyterian church, remaining in the Otisville building, while the Mount Hope building was sold to the Grange as its first Grange Hall, until it burned down in a fire (in the 1940's?) on a very cold winter's night.

The building we now use with delight is the heritage given to us by a long list of very faithful servants of Jesus Christ who worked very hard for lots of years to make our community of faith the center of community life. Thanks be to God for those wonderfully faithful men & women!

Church Events

- June 6—Women's Auxiliary Chicken BBQ and Choir's Bake Sale
- June 7—Communion
- June 7—Park Manor Service
- June 11—Board of Deacons Meeting
- June 14—Ice Cream Sundae Sunday, Mac & Cheese Cook Off
- June 16—Session Meeting
- June 20—Coffee House featuring Arlene Whiteman
- June 21—Father's day and Baccalaureate Sunday
- June 27—Dottie Constable Memorial Service

Annual Take-Out Chicken BBQ & Choir Bake Sale

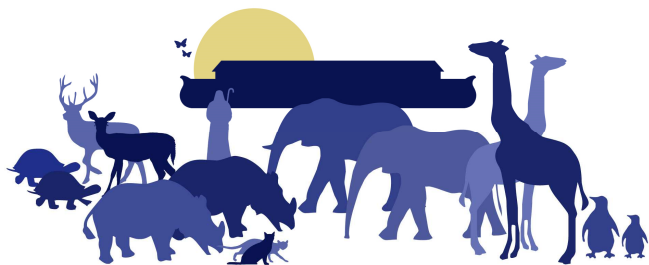
Always a big favorite of our church families, friends and the community, the Women's Auxiliary Take-out Chicken BBQ will be held on **June 6th**. All dinners are preordered with pickup from 2pm-4pm. The meal includes half chicken, baked potato, Cole slaw, roll, and new this year - an ice cream cup for dessert! Tickets are still only \$10.00! Tickets are limited and sell out quickly—so don't miss out. Enjoy it as a family meal or get together as a group – no cooking and no clean up. It's a win, win for all!

For tickets call Gerda (386-1866), Anita (386-2579), Candy (343-5675) or any auxiliary member (Karen K, Brenda Mc, Beth P, Joan A, and Deanna D).

Also, Choir members will be holding a **bake sale** that day for those who would like to purchase an extra dessert! Proceeds will go to help support the Operation Christmas Child that they will sponsor again in the fall.

Baccalaureate SUNDAY

...will be celebrated on **June 21**; it's the Sunday we honor all our graduating seniors at the 11:00 am service. Graduating seniors who are church members can apply for a church scholarship by getting a form from the church office.



"SUNDAE – SUNDAY"

HELP BUY AN ARK OF ANIMALS
SUNDAY, JUNE 14th IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
FEATURING

A MACARONI AND CHEESE BAKE-OFF, AN AUCTION OF PAIRS OF ANIMAL BEANIE BABIES, AND DELICIOUS ICECREAM SUNDAES

- Come enjoy and Judge Homemade Macaroni & Cheese. (All entries welcome, see Jane Green)
- Buy a Fantastic Sundae from our Special, Imaginative Menu and
- Join in the fun as we Auction off pairs of Beanie baby animals.
- Sponsored by the Youth Group and Senior High Class

All proceeds will go toward purchasing an "ARK" of animals to be sent to a needy area to help the people become more self-sufficient.

Two-by-two into the ARK

Our Youth Group is working with the 17 other Presbyterian Churches in Western Orange and Sullivan Counties to raise funds to purchase a **whole ark** through Heifer Project, to send to a community in need of resources to help make their lives sustainable. All together the churches hope to raise \$5,000 to send pairs of water buffalo, cows, sheep, goats, honey bees, chicks, rabbits, and much more that will provide communities with milk, eggs, honey and wool, as well as a source of income and livestock to work the land. So save your coins for the "Ark Bank" so we all can "make a difference" by giving "change for a change!" You are invited to bring that change and place it in the arks in the sanctuary or in the Sunday School classrooms so the youth can count, wrap, take to the bank and finally deliver it all to a final 'Ark Round-up' in the early fall.

*As a father has compassion on his children,
so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him*



Jeff's Notes

So what is your love language?

Dr. Gary Chapman talks about the idea that we have love languages in his book, *The Five Love Languages*. While his analysis may not be perfect, it does open a pathway to having a conversation about how we understand that we are loved and appreciated, and how the others around us understand they are loved.

He posits five love languages: words of affirmation, gifts, acts of service, physical touch, and quality time, and that most of us understand we are loved by another, primarily in one of these particular ways. He goes on to explain that giving a gift to a person may seem a generous way to express your love or admiration for another person, but means much less to them than we hope, especially when their primary way of understanding that they are appreciated and loved is quality time.

Think Mother's Day, drop off a gift of something she seems to have wanted for a long time and she politely says, "Thank you". Stick around, eat lunch with her and cut the lawn for her, and she is in tears of gratitude and love. The gift was nice, but was it the quality time or the act of service that really said, "I love you" in her mind?

Knowing the difference can make a world of difference! And that knowing can affect your relationship with not only mom, but dad, spouse, child, coworker, coach,

coachee, almost anyone with whom you have a relationship! And knowing your own love language is essential for two reasons.

First and most obvious, if you know your love language you can tell others about it and let them know that if they want you to be delighted at your expressions of admiration and love, an "atta boy" won't mean much if your primary love language is "gifts", but a new laptop to replace that old slow one a "thank you" might send you over the moon and back to the work grind.

Second, since most of us try to love and admire others through our primary love language, it might keep those of us who love gifts from shopping all the time at the jewelry, chocolate and flower shops for a spouse who needs and wants quality time! Dinner out, dodo. Physical touch for the kid who loves hugs no matter what happens. Words of affirmation for the youth who always wants to hear, "you did a great job on the lawn" even when the dandelion's live!

Think about it, and if you'd like to get some friends together to talk, let me know and we can have a rousing conversation. Dr. Chapman's book is on our book table for \$10 and a DVD of his Public TV presentation is available as well for \$10.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Need someone to talk to? Ever felt this way? Caring communication with others is a basic human need. Stephen Ministers can help meet that need. Our congregation has trained Stephen Ministers available who offer a ministry of Christian caring here at the church. To find out more, speak to Jeff. All conversations are confidential.



WHAT SHOULD I GIVE?

It's a question occasionally asked when people are really unsure what is normal for an active OMHPC church member or friend. This is especially important considering that as of the end of May, the church income was about \$4,000 behind where it was last year at this time!

Though I can't give you a number that just clears it all up, I can make a suggestion. The total session budget this year is \$180,000, not including all the mission giving or the budgets of a whole bunch of other small groups. Since the church has around 100 giving families, the average family gift must be around \$1,400 a year, or about \$30 a week. For a family that has a combined income of \$50,000, that comes out to annual giving of about 2.8%. For a family with an income of \$100,000 that comes out to only 1.4% per year.

I'm guessing that next year's budget will have to be higher because of fuel costs and the like. And if we ever want to get to the point where we add part-time ministry help for family and young adult ministry, we will have to have a session budget closer to \$225,000.

Of course, at the same time the budget is going up, so is the number of members! At least we want to make that true, inviting others to join us and creating a church others would want to be a part of because it is so exciting and meaningful that being a part of it is like going on an adventure of a lifetime!

2 CORINTHIANS 9:7

Each of you must make up your own mind about how much to give.
But don't feel sorry that you must give and don't feel that you are forced to give.
God loves people who love to give.

So we have to reach out and include others, and we have to make the call to stewardship clear; it all depends on what we choose to give! Stewardship is never a tax. Stewardship is our heart's response to a loving God.

We all know that household budgets are tight. They always have been. The invitation is not to give until it hurts, but rather to be bold and brave, and

even more so, creative in the way you respond to God's call to be a good steward!

Where our hearts are, our time, talents and resources, including money, follows. So, is your heart invested in the kingdom of God? Is that investment made real in the way you give? What you do reveals your heart! So consider your heart and give what it tells you is the best way to honor your Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

The Challenge of debt

Why is it important to pay off car debt as soon as you can? According to Howard Dayton of Crown Financial Ministries, most people have car debt all of their lives with monthly payments averaging about \$375. If instead you invested that amount from age 21 until you are 65 that monthly deposit could grow to close to \$4,000,000! If that were true, you'd be able to retire on only \$160,000 a year. Make interest work for you instead of against you! Making living the gospel your priority - not shopping!

Email's Are Bouncing!!!

If you use Optimum Online there is a good chance your emails from the church are not getting through.

Remember to add Otisvillepres@hvc.rr.com to your address book to be sure that church email doesn't end up in your junk or spam files, or rejected entirely! We have heard that people are not getting email updates. This is the most likely reason. We have not changed our email lists or deleted anyone. But our outgoing mail must be in your address books: otisvillepres@hvc.rr.com. And be sure to check your junk and spam files to see if our emails are going there and change them to acceptable emails! Thanks! 😊



A DRAMA-tic Thank You!

A *Big Thank You* to everyone that helped make our Mystery Dinner Theater a success.

Thanks to a great audience, fantastic kitchen workers, everyone that brought delicious desserts, our lighting crew and Derrick Cash for faithfully filming our rehearsals and shows to create some great DVD's.

Most of all, thank you to our crazy cast of characters that spent so many hours rehearsing and learning their lines to provide us with a fun, entertaining evening.

Golf Tournament

Anyone interested in a church golf tournament? We have had some in the past, is it time to gather at the closest greens? Or is miniature golf now more our speed, with categories for you and children too? ;-)

Volleyball

A few folks play volleyball, and the church actually has a volleyball set. Anyone interested in organizing a one evening volleyball tournament?

5 Myths of Ministry Teams

For a church to thrive, it needs to expand the number of people doing ministry exponentially. But five myths of ministry sometimes hold back leaders from growing a team, still doing all the work themselves. They are:

1. I can do it faster myself
2. I can do it better myself
3. I can't trust other people to do it right
4. I can't find the right people
5. Building teams takes too much time

ONE BODY MANY PARTS

The body of Christ has many different parts, just as any other body does.
(1 Corinthians 12:12)

June Anniversaries

Donald & Louann Lewis
Jim & Rita O'Loughlin
John & Nancy Vandemark
Duane & Kelly Dolson
Jason & Regina Butts
Jeff & Katey Jackson
Michael & Emily Rufino
Jason & Carol Mae Klussman
Jessica Vance
John D. & Lauren Terwilliger
Janette & Bill Purdy
Danielle Giordano
Neil & Lauri Lisberg
Carolyn & David Smith

July Anniversaries

Dave & Laura Bendlin
Paul & Erin Krogslund
Gary & Tammy Porter
Chris & Alison Vreeland
Josh & Andrea Decker
Arlene Wessels
Robert & Kristy Ketcham

June Birthdays!

Stuart Archibald IV
Wendy Fisher
Calvin Michael Giordano
Brendan Smith
John Crandall
Zachary Perry
John Vandemark
Josh Decker
Kathleen Robinholt
Emily Ketcham
Jacob Thibodeau
Linda Salvati
Gloria Smith
James Komoncz
Kyle Derkacz
Louann Lewis
Dale McGregor
David Smith
Lucas Byrne
Jim O'Loughlin
Madelyn Rufino
Patricia LaBagh
Maggie Mansfield
Rachel Colburn
Nancy Vandemark

July Birthdays!

Maureen Dineen
Dave Bendlin
Martha Sumner
Katie Farley
Andrew Martin
Keira Martin
Robert Ketcham
Danny Moore
Joan Addy
Tom Duffy
Danielle Farrell
Charlotte Rufino
Rita O'Loughlin
Josiah Hayes
Bill Purdy
Brenda McGregor
Juliet Lynch
Jen Michelitch
Maria Carroll
Joy Christensen
Luke Christensen
Thomas Christensen
Ruth Crandall
Nick Kalantgis
Jordan Porter
Lorna Pierson
Rogan Lynch
Sheryl Reynolds
Jennifer Lynch
Stetson Terpak
Jordan Wicke-Coamey
Frances Dullaghan
MaKayley Hughes

Otisville-Mt. Hope Presbyterian Church

25 Main Street
PO Box 628
Otisville, NY 10963
www.otisvillepres.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit #631
Monsey, NY 10952



REMINDER:

Information & news for the
August/September newsletter
is due into the office by
JULY 1st! Please send your info
by email to —
newsletter@otisvillepres.org

Coffee House Schedule

Our **June Coffeehouse** will be on Saturday, **June 20** (rescheduled from February!) with Arlene Whiteman. A great evening of song and some wonderful desserts. Join us at 7:30 pm as we experience a "Chocolate Extravaganza!"

To learn more about Arlene's music, visit her Facebook page at:
<https://www.facebook.com/arlene.whiteman>



Then on July 18 we will have an "open Mic" night, where folks can come and share their diverse talents with the church and community. It will be an ice cream social, and performers will need to sign-up in advance by calling Sue and Mike Conklin at 386-8114. (Their computer doesn't work, so please call!)

