



GraceNotes

April 2015—volume 5 | issue 3

Newsletter of the Otisville-Mt . Hope Presbyterian Church

Are you new to our newsletter? Visit our website to sign-up via email.
www.otisvillepres.org

SEASON OF EASTER

Easter isn't just a Sunday — it's a season. One day out of 365 is hardly sufficient to celebrate the great mystery of our faith — that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Accordingly, the season of Easter lasts seven weeks (a "week of weeks" - see below), spanning the 50 days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday and encompassing the festival of the Ascension of the Lord.

The season of Easter is intended to be a joyful time for celebrating the presence of the risen Christ in the church.

A WEEK OF SUNDAYS

An excerpt from the Companion to the Book of Common Worship (Geneva Press, 2003, 117)

For seven weeks, a week of Sundays, we acclaim the resurrection of Christ by the power of God. The period of seven weeks of jubilation can be traced back to its Jewish roots

of the fifty days celebrated from the day after Passover to Shavuot (Feast of Weeks, Exodus 23:16). For Jews, the Feast of Weeks closed the season of harvest, which had been initiated by the Feast of Unleavened Bread. In a similar manner, early Christians observed a fifty-day period of celebration from Easter to the Day of Pentecost. To underscore the uninterrupted rejoicing of these fifty days, fasting and kneeling in prayer were forbidden at least as early as the end of the second century. On the '*pentecoste*' ("fiftieth") day, not only was the fifty-day period concluded, but a festival with its own proper content was celebrated. The Jews observed a feast of covenant renewal and eventually commemorated the giving of the Law. Christians celebrated the gift of the Spirit as preparing the way for the day of the Lord. What Moses and the Law did for the Jewish community, the Holy Spirit now does for the community of Christ.

(this and other Easter resources, readings, etc., can be found by visiting www.pcusa.org)

Happening this month

4.2

Maundy Thursday Service, 6:30 PM

4.3

Good Friday Prayers, 12 PM

4.5

Easter Sunday & Communion

Sunrise Service, 6 AM

Easter Breakfast, 6:45 AM

Traditional Services @ 9:30 & 11 AM

Park Manor Easter Service, 2:30 PM

* * * * *

Tuesdays

Drama Rehearsals, 6:30 PM

Wednesdays

Morning Prayer, 9:30 AM

Morning Bible Study, 10:15 AM

Bible Study, 7 PM

Fridays

Zumba, Friday, 7:30 PM

Brass Choir

Our own brass choir including John Goldsmith, Hank de Jong, Dave Green and Jeff Farley, as well as several others will be playing on Easter Sunday as well as Palm Sunday!

Palm Sunday

Plans are for a grand processional with Jesus and the disciples waving palms and coming to worship will include our Sunday School children. Plan to be part of the fun!

Maundy Thursday

...is the Thursday of Holy week, when Jesus met with his disciples in the upper room, washed their feet, celebrated Passover with them in the Seder feast, saw Judas leave to begin the betrayal, and then went out to the Garden of Gethsemane.

On April 2, we will begin with a soup and bread dinner at 6:30 PM, followed by visits to places near the cross where we will have tasks to accomplish, and then gather again for Holy Communion before we all go home.

Good Friday

The sanctuary will be open for prayer between noon and 3 PM.

Easter Sunrise

This year's Easter Sunrise Service will be at 6 AM at 744 Guymard Turnpike up next to the cell towers. Call for specific directions.

Easter Sunrise Breakfast

Brenda McGregor is coordinating this year's breakfast. We are planning to be back at the church around 6:45 AM. Additions to the breakfast are always welcome, and donations towards food costs are gratefully accepted.

Easter Sunday Communion

Yes, it's true. Easter this year falls on a 1st Sunday of the month, so we will be celebrating communion along with the resurrection that Sunday! Be sure to call and invite folks you haven't seen out at communion and get them in the seats for that special event! And yes, communion will again be available at the sunrise service as well as at the 9:30 and 11:00 AM services.

Annual Ugly Sweater Contest

On Sunday, March 15, we held our 4th Annual Ugly Sweater Contest. We had a great showing and some really ugly sweaters. Our winners this year were: Tammy Bosco (1st), Tammy Porter (2nd) and Micah Rader-Hayes (3rd). Thanks to all who participated and to our judges (Chuck Krogslund, Mike Wilbur, Sue Farley, Candy Burnett). And a special thanks to Allison Wilbur for organizing the event and arranging for lunch. Fun was had by all.

If you'd like to compete next year, start searching the clearance racks now! You never know what treasure you might find!



(Our Judges: Chuck, Mike, Sue & Candy)



1st & 2nd
Place Winners:

Tammy Bosco
Tammy Porter

(More pictures
on page 5)

Deacons Annual 5K Fun Run

The 3rd Annual 5K Fun Run is happening on Sunday, May 31, 2015! This year, the Deacons have chosen to raise funds for Habitat for Humanity, where the local chapter Presbybuild is helping build 50 houses in 5 years in and around Newburgh, NY.

The race start time will be 8 AM and the course will begin and end in the Church parking lot. The race will go through/around Otisville and the surrounding areas. There will be a \$30 registration fee (kids under 10 are free, donations welcome). T-shirts are also included for all registered participants (over 10 years old). Same day registration starts at 7 AM. A hot egg sandwich breakfast, fresh fruit, and bagels will be provided after the race, along with prizes for the top finishers!

Registration forms will be available soon, please feel free to get in touch with Briana Moore (brimoore06@gmail.com) or any of the Deacons with questions before then.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Walk for Housing

On Sunday, April 26, there will be a Habitat Walk for Housing! Join our team to raise money for Habitat for Humanity! Walk through Newburgh and see the new houses and neighborhoods created by Habitat. Any team member who raises \$30.00 will receive a 2015 Walk for Housing t-shirt!

We will wear our church tie dye shirts to represent our church! Groups will leave after church on that Sunday. The walk starts at 2 PM and we should return to church by 4:00-4:30 pm. If you are interested please see Allison Wilbur or call her at 386-4077.

Philippines Update

Last year money was raised to help with the hurricane damage that was suffered in the Philippines. Mark and Gemma Frank told us about Gemma's home church, Placer United Church of Christ in Gua-an, Placer, Masbate in the Philippines, which had storm damage that had halted repairs to the church.

Through Mark & Gemma, as well as Gemma's mother and sister, we were able to get funds to the church. When converted to Philippine funds, our \$2100 became Php93,240 (pesos) an amount that will make a huge difference to that congregation! We even have a picture of Gemma's mother passing the gift to the church leadership; it can be found downstairs on the bulletin board.

Again, thank you for your generosity and love shown not only to folks right in our community in need, but also to folks literally around the world!

Hospice

Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties is doing training for volunteers at the Community Church of Wurtsboro on Mondays on 4/13, 4/20, 4/27, 5/04, 5/11, 5/18, and 6/01 (not Memorial Day) from 10:00 AM - 5:30 PM. Part of the last class will take place at the Kaplan Family Hospice Residence. For more information contact Debra Epstein at 845-565-4849.

Coffee House

Save the date! The February Coffee House featuring Arlene Whiteman has been rescheduled for Saturday, June 20!

Church Kitchen Hoods

Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make the church kitchen stove hoods a reality. They have been installed, as has a new propane gas hook-up, a fire suppression system, all the electrical work for the fans, and lights, and soon the kitchen will get a new coat of paint, after a cleaning and repair of the walls. Wow! Your gifts to our building fund and to other fund-raisers made it all possible.

Annual Ham Dinner

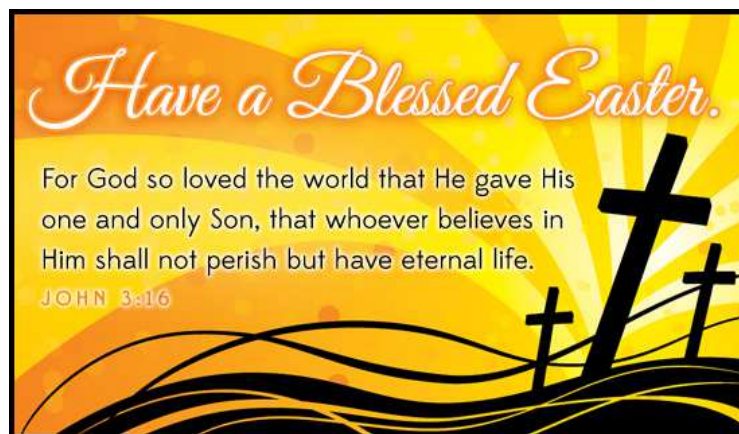
Spring is in the air and it is time for the Women's Auxiliary Annual Ham Dinner! The Ham Dinner will be held on Saturday, May 2, at 5:30 PM. The menu includes Pineapple Juice, Ham, Raisin Sauce, Scalloped Potatoes, Peas & Carrots, Homemade Applesauce, Cole Slaw, Rolls and for Dessert – Assorted Cakes. For tickets or to help at the dinner, please see auxiliary members or call Candy at 343-5675.

Confirmation Classes

Beginning this month, confirmation classes for youth in sixth grade and above will be held on Sundays, April 12, 19, & 26, and continue on May 3 & 10, with Confirmation on Sunday, May 17! See Jeff for my details or to RSVP.

New Members Classes

Are you interested in becoming a member of our congregation? The Next New Member's class will be on Tuesday, April 14. To RSVP or if you have questions, contact Jeff at Jeff@otisvillepres.org.



Planned Giving

If you have a will, have you considered leaving a gift to the church? It's easy, painless, and can make sure a program you love is funded for a good long time! The Greenleaf Family left a gift in their will that will help us do church maintenance for years to come. Your gift can be added to that endowment, or your gift can be designated to be used in a different way. Talk to your attorney. Set aside a percentage of your will to be given to the church. Your gift will enable the church to be the church and do what the church needs to do for years to come!

Wednesday Morning Prayer & Bible Study

Will be beginning again soon. The weather has really stalled out our Wednesday morning gathers, but as the warmer temperatures return so will we. Check with Jeff and the church bulletin to see when the gatherings will begin.

Drama News

Our Drama team leaders and their cast of characters are busy preparing for their next production. Stay tuned for more details about "Murder Most Fowl" in our issue next month!

May Newsletter

Information needs to be into the office by April 1st! Please send your info by email! All groups and organizations are welcome to send in the information. Please send it to newsletter@otisvillepres.org.

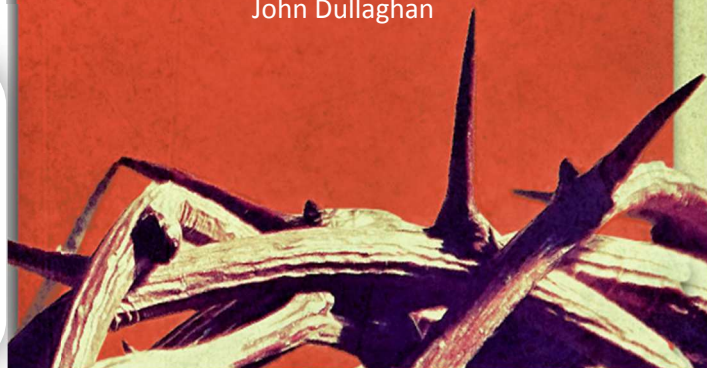
April Celebrations

Anniversaries

Christopher & Amy Parliman
Frank & Karen Ketcham
Mike & Tootie Canonico
John & Renee Thibodeau
Stephen & Wendy Michalek
Wesley & Bettsye Hunter
Jennifer & William Lynch

Birthdays

Thomas Dolson
Kathleen Card
Morgan Weissinger
Emiley Hughes
Neil Lisberg
Kyle Smith
Scott Card
Mitchell Saler
Cooper Michelitch
Madison Jennings
Rachel Pierson
David Thousand
Jordan Metellus
Molly Yourman
Jacob Eisentraut
Juliana Goldsmith
Kenneth Halstead
Jan Hums
Jennifer Robinholt
Carol Mae Klussman
Caylee Cardone
Lyla Ten Eyck
Jahsair McCline
Arianna Pagan
Hayden Shay
Skyler Gove
Jennifer Weekley
Jeffrey Dolson
Derrick Cash
John Dullaghan



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

Email: Are you on the list?

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! We have heard that people are not getting email updates and this is the most likely reason. We have not changed out email lists or deleted anyone, but our outgoing email address must be in your personal address books: otisvillepres@hvc.rr.com.

Easter Time ABC's

A Atonement Romans 3:25	B Betrayal Matthew 26:20-25	C Cross of Calvary Luke 23:33	D Death Isaiah 43:12	E Everlasting Life John 3:16-17
F Forgiveness Luke 23:34	G Gethsemane Matthew 26:36-45	H Hosanna! Matthew 21:6-9	I Impossible Luke 18:27	J Jesus Philippians 2:5-11
K King of the Jews Mark 15:16-20	L Last Supper Luke 22:14-20	M Mount of Olives Luke 19:28-38	N Nail Prints John 20:26-28	O Ointment John 12:3-6
P Passover Luke 22:7-13	Q Quickly John 13:27	R Resurrection John 11:25, 20:11-18	S Silver Coins Matthew 27:3-10	T Thieves Luke 23:39-43
U Understand Psalm 107:43	V Veil of the Temple Matthew 27:50-54	W Washing Feet John 13:4-17	X eXalt Acts 5:31	Yield Matthew 27:50 Y Z Zion John 12:14-16