



Message from Rev. Hale

It's May, and beautiful here in Portville and around. The woods are just beginning to give the great hills a mottling of color; tell tale signs that buds have burst open and tiny leaves and blossoms have emerged. Easter morning was crisp as usual, but noticeably without any snow and the day itself warmed up nicely. But now we've moved well past the buds pushing through the dead, fall leaves and into lush green lawns and dandelions and mowers humming. This time always comes and even though anticipated, always comes as if for the first time. I was talking with a friend and we both remarked at the same time—*it just makes you feel good to be alive!*

May God bless our souls with a touch of spring! It's been a long winter! May God touch our hearts with a longing for life; move us through our grief; heal our pain; hold every frail hand; satisfy the longings—children scattered—grandchildren growing beyond our reach; steady our thoughts with uncertainty abounding. God bless our souls with a touch of spring that blooms all around us and makes us feel good to be alive. We'll start there—and then move on.

Marilyn

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Lectionary for May / June 2009

May 3

Acts 4:5-12
Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18

May 24

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
Psalm 1
1 John 5:9-13
John 17:6-10

June 14

1 Samuel 15:34-16::13
Psalm 20
2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17
Mark 4:26-34

May 10

Acts 8:26-40
Psalm 22:25-31
1 John 4:7-21
John 15:1-8

May 31 – Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 22-27
John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

June 21

1 Samuel 17:32-49
Psalm 9:9-20
2 Corinthians 6:1-13
Mark 4:35-41

May 17

Acts 10:44-48
Psalm 98
1 John 5:1-6
John 15:9-17

June 7 – Trinity Sunday

Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 29
Romans 8:12-17
John 3:1-7

June 28

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27
Psalm 130
2 Corinthians 8:7-15
Mark 5:21-43

Mission Committee News

Cso Woodworth/ Kathy Hendrix / Stephanie Hill

Mission Notes . . . On the evening of March 29, 2009, 19 members of the community gathered in our dining room to make fleece blankets for the Southern Tier Child Advocacy Center (STCAC) located in Olean, NY. This is the second year that an ecumenical group has gathered together to make fleece blankets for the Center. When all was said

and done 22 blankets were completed in the span of 1.5 hours. The blankets were delivered to STCAC. Karen Hill, director of the Center, said that when a child comes to the Center they are provided with items that may give them a small amount of comfort . . . a blanket and a book that the child can

keep and take with them. The number of cases that the Child Advocacy Center has handled since opening their doors in October 2007 is staggering . . . over 280 cases!

Thank you to all who gave of their time for this very worthy hands-on mission project. And a ginormous (yes . . . it is now a word in

the Merriam-Webster dictionary) thanks to Barb Fairbanks for coordinating the light supper which was enjoyed by those who attended this event. 22 children give you all their silent, heartfelt thanks as well.

Through your generosity we have once again surpassed our goal of \$1100 for the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. You donated a total of \$1233 to OGHS. Thank you for your continued faithful giving. Also a big thank you to Stephanie Hill for coordinating this special offering and to all the volunteers who step up

to provide a Minute for Mission and who led the Children's' Time during worship during the One Great Hour of Sharing campaign.

Kathy Hendrix, who has been coordinating the Baby Layette Project since its inception back in December of 2002, has reported that so far this year, 15 baby bags containing baby items donated by the congregation (such as diapers, sleepers, blankets and wipes) have been taken to the Olean General Hospital to be given to families that are struggling financially. Your generosity

continues to sustain this hands-on Mission Project and makes it possible for struggling new parents to take their new baby home in a clean, new baby outfit.

And a final reminder that the Annual Rummage Sale will be on May 16 from 9 am to 3 pm. This is the same day that Olean is holding its community-wide garage sale. Great planning on the part of Barb Fairbanks. We should see a lot of foot traffic coming through. The proceeds from the rummage sale will go to Interfaith Caregivers. Please get your items to the church as soon

THE FOOD PANTRY . . .

from your grocery cart to our shelves!
by Stephanie Hill

Have you missed our "reminder" sign out by the road? It is still out there, just hanging from the tree by the church kiosk - thanks to Barb! This puts the sign out of harm's way - making it easier to mow in the summer - and keeping it out of the snow in the winter! Thank you for your help by bringing in the food items listed each week.

The following is the list of food items we

will be collecting in May and June:

The week of:

- 05/03
- 05/10
- 05/17
- 05/24
- 05/31

we will be collecting:

- canned tomatoes
- mac and cheese
- spaghetti
- egg noodles
- tuna
- soup
- mac and cheese
- spaghetti
- pork and beans

Christian Education Committee News Barb Fairbanks

The primary class learned about Jesus healing people and talked about how they can help people who are sick. Of course, they also learned about the crucifixion of Christ and His rising from the tomb. They took advantage of the beautiful weather on the 26th and walked around church to hear and see things / people that help around the church. They read outside on the front steps and enjoyed the new spring flowers blooming in the front of church.

The intermediate class learned about Christ's death and resurrection. They also have been discussing the gifts we have: to learn, to love, to adapt and to give. They created pictures from shapes to represent things they can do: like praising God, praying, confessing, breaking bread, etc. With only 3 weeks left of Sunday School, it looks like **Hannah Kloss** will have another year of perfect attendance.

Congratulations, Hannah!

The Jr/Sr high students have been discussing several books including The Shack and What in the World is Going On. They have great discussions about using their faith to guide them and the value of prayer.

As the adult class makes its way through Matthew discussions have focused on Jesus' ministry and preaching: how was Jesus the light of the world and the light in our lives? The last two weeks have focused on Matthew 6: a portion of the Sermon on the Mount, where Jesus taught about the proper relationship to God and its reward. Their study hopes to help them experience the reward of righteousness by *hearing* and *doing* the teaching of Jesus about giving alms, praying and fasting. (While typing this I decided to refresh my memory of this chapter and read the contemporary

English version. It stated things in a very straightforward manner – NO doubts at all about what we need to do.) It's not an easy "assignment"!

The Monday Bible Study group has been reading 1 Samuel and 2 Samuel. So many names and stories that we think we know have been given new life and meaning.

The last day of Sunday School will be May 17th. Our sincerest thanks to our teachers: Vicki Schmidt, Christine and West Long, Kari, Sharon, Norm and Marilyn for their dedication to our Christian Education program.

While I still have your attention (I hope), **we are in need of a teacher for the primary group next fall**, as well as substitutes.

The team teaching concept has been very successful this year. It allows teachers to work together in setting up a schedule to allow them to have several Sundays "off "

throughout the year.
Please consider making this commitment to our young

people. The more volunteers, the lighter the "load" and what a great opportunity

for our kids to get to know more adults in our church family!

Worship Committee News

Shirley Longbothum

Pentecost - What A Glorious Day in the Life of A Christian May 31, 2009

*Acts 2:17 [paraphrased]
...God said, I will pour out my Holy Spirit upon all flesh...*

I feel that Pentecost is one of the most exciting church celebrations we have because - of the gift we were given!-God dwelling within our very being as the Holy Spirit! And, what does that Holy Spirit do for us?

In Romans 8:5&6:

*...those who follow after the Holy Spirit find themselves doing those things that please God...*the Holy Spirit leads to life and peace.

In Romans 8:8-10:

...the Holy Spirit gives you a new nature
...Christ lives within you
...even though your body dies—your spirit lives

and in Romans 8:12-16:

...through the Power of the Holy Spirit—we are able to crush our sinful nature and evil desires

...the Holy Spirit speaks to our hearts and tells us we are God's children
...and we will share His treasures

WHAT EMPOWERMENT!

We celebrate this wonderful gift of God's Love—the Day of Pentecost, on Sunday, May 31st with a special Pentecost Offering. This year we are hoping to meet our goal of \$932.

This special offering will go directly to meet the needs of children at risk; youth and young adults. Children, youth and young adults are our hope for a better future for generations to come.

- 40% of the Pentecost Offering is kept by the congregation for use on

behalf of children at risk. Our portion will be donated to the Southern Tier Child Advocacy Center
- 10% supports the General Assembly Child Advocacy ministries.
- 25% supports General Assembly ministries with youth and young adults.
- 25% supports young Adult Volunteer opportunities.

For more information on how your contributions to Pentecost offerings have been used in the past, please watch for Sunday bulletin inserts and *Minutes for Pentecost* during the month of May and go to www.pcusa.org/pentecost/financials.



Thank you so much for all the support you can give to this worthy ministry.

Finance Committee News Kathy Hendrix

On behalf of the church finance committee I need to share a concern regarding tithes and offerings. We have noticed a decrease in the "trackable" income at the end of the first quarter of 2009. Trackable income

is the money that friends and members of the congregation pledged to give our church when completing a pledge card in November for the upcoming year. Although we are presently a financially stable

church, it is important to practice consistent giving. Please consider meeting your commitment even if you are unable to attend service on a particular Sunday.

Malachi 3:8-10

Property Committee News Judy McClain

As the "regular" church year is coming to an end, a very heartfelt **"THANK YOU"** to everyone who has helped with cleaning the church throughout the past year. Your time and effort to serve this congregation and building are very much appreciated, and a big savings to the budget too! Our church home always looks so beautiful for worship and fellowship. All the volunteers can be very proud of their commitment.

Also, **"THANK YOU"** to everyone, especially Barb Fairbanks, who shoveled

snow and shoveled snow and shoveled snow some more this winter. It sure was a long hard one. She always made sure it was clear and safe.

During the past several months, the property committee has been dealing with a few new projects to do. Estimates have been obtained and are being reviewed to make recommendations to session for refurbishing the organ and blacktopping the parking lot and driveway. Hopefully, all this work will be able to be accomplished this

summer.

The garden is being expanded by the north front corner (on the Manor side) of the church to the lift entrance. A hydrangea bush in honor of Mother's Day and an Alberta Spruce in honor of Father's Day will be planted in that area. Help will be needed to remove sod and prepare that area. Paving stones will be laid on either side of the cement entrance to the lift. Stayed tuned for more information.

Company is coming! Literacy Volunteers of Cattaraugus County will be sponsoring a Tour of

Interesting Homes in Portville on September 12. Session approved our church's participation in

this event. And of course, just as everyone does with their own home in anticipation of a special event, we

will be doing some “sprucing up” around the church and grounds to put on our “Sunday best.” This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase our church. The Property Committee is

sponsoring different opportunities to help with the work that needs to be completed (descriptions / invitations are below). We hope everyone will be to participate to help make

our church sparkle and enjoy some wonderful fellowship as well.

Thank you in advance for your support of these “sprucing up” events.

You are cordially invited to Pew Polishing Party



Monday May 18 1:00-5:00PM
And
Wednesday May 20 1:00-5:00PM



This is to polish all the pews in the sanctuary. Come polish the pew you sit in. RSVP to Stephanie Hill to let her know that you are willing to help. Stay as long as you wish.

Paint, Repair and More Festival



Saturday May 30 8:30 AM



There will be several projects-painting, repairs, yard work, etc.

There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex listing all the jobs.

Please be sure to sign up for your favorite(s) to do!

Yummy refreshments will be provided



REV. HALE will be on study leave
May 4-8, 2009.

If a pastoral concern should arise during this time, please contact Stephanie Hill at 933-6150 or 933-6426 or Barb Fairbanks at 933-7540

Interfaith Caregivers 6th Annual Bike Ride in Memory of Dr. Jeff Miller

by Barb Fairbanks

As many of you know, **Interfaith Caregivers** is comprised of volunteers who help serve the frail elderly, health-impaired and sight-impaired in our area.. Last year volunteers provided over 100,000 miles of transportation for rides to doctors and similar appointments. In addition to telephone

reassurance, friendly visitations, vision loss services, advocacy referral and other support services, **Interfaith Caregivers** oversees and implements the annual Gift Tree in partnership with the Times Herald.

I am a member of the board of directors of **Interfaith Caregivers** and plan to participate in their annual fundraiser: the Dr. Jeff Miller **Bike Ride**. On Saturday, June 6th I will be riding in the 10K ride

which starts at the Allegany River Park in Allegany and am soliciting sponsors. If you are able, please help support the mission of **Interfaith Caregivers**. A sponsorship form is in the narthex at church or you can send a donation to my home address (PO Box 53) before the event. Checks should be made out to **Interfaith Caregivers**.

Your support is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Open House: Joyce and Ray Roulo are celebrating 60 years of marriage and invite you to an Open House on **Saturday, May 9**, noon to 5 pm at the Hampton Inn, Olean. Please stop in and say hello! This event is hosted by their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Congratulations to:

- *Annette (King) and Jason Payne on the birth of their daughter Lauren Annette Payne born on January 3, 2009. Proud grandparents are Norm and Connie King.*
- *Esther and Scott O'Brien, married on April 4, 2009*
- *Our high school graduates: Kathlyn Gardner, Lucas Hellwig and Courtney Schmidt*



Our heartfelt sympathies and prayers for God's comfort to the Boyer family on the death of Jim's father George, on April 12, 2009.

By Order of Session:

A congregational meeting will be held following worship on Sunday, May 31, for the purpose of electing three elders to the Class of 2012, and electing three members of the congregation to the 2009-10 Nomination Committee.

Don't Forget!

RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday, May 16th
9 a.m. - 3 pm.

Drop off items in good, clean condition by Wednesday, May 14th.
NO CLOTHING, please.

Workers are needed to help set up the tables, put items out and price during the week of the May 11th. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex or call Barb Fairbanks if you can help.
Thank you.

Proceeds from the sale to benefit Interfaith Caregivers.



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2nd Annual

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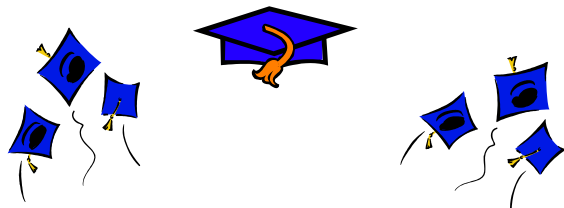


May 2009 Dates to Remember

- | | | |
|-------|---|--|
| 05/02 | Presbytery "Love Your Church" Day, Franklinville PC, 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. | Worship Service, 11 a.m.
Teacher Recognition |
| 05/03 | Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Worship Service and Communion, 11 a.m.
May/June newsletter distributed | 05/18 Bible Study, 10 a.m.
Pew Polishing Party, 1-5 p.m. |
| 05/04 | Rev. Hale will be out of the office through 05/08 for continuing ed study leave | 05/19 PWNYPersonnel Committee, noon (MKH) |
| 05/04 | Bible Study, canceled | 05/20 USDA foods delivered (Jacquie Hellwig)
Pew Polishing Party, 1-5 p.m. |
| 05/07 | Mission Committee, 7 p.m. | 05/24 Worship Service, 11 a.m. |
| 05/10 | Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Worship Service, 11 a.m.
Mother's Day | 05/25 Memorial Day observed
Bible Study, canceled |
| 05/11 | Bible Study, 10 a.m. (Note time change!) | 05/27 Food Pantry open 10-noon and 6-8 p.m. |
| 05/12 | Worship Committee, 6 p.m. | 05/31 Worship Service, 11 a.m.
Day of Pentecost
"Faith on the Fifth"
Pentecost Special Offering |
| 05/13 | Session, 7 p.m. | Congregational Meeting following worship |
| 05/16 | Annual Rummage Sale, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. | |
| 05/17 | Sunday School, 10 a.m. (last day!) | |

June 2009 Dates to Remember

- | | | | |
|-------|---|-------|--|
| 06/01 | Bible Study, 10 a.m. | 06/21 | Worship Service, 11 a.m.
Father's Day
Info to Cso for July/August newsletter |
| 06/02 | American Red Cross blood drive, 2-7 p.m. | 06/22 | Bible Study, 10 a.m. |
| 06/04 | Mission Committee, 7 p.m. | 06/24 | Food Pantry open 10-noon and 6-8 p.m. |
| 06/07 | Worship Service and Communion, 11 a.m. | 06/28 | Worship Service, 9:30 a.m.
July/August newsletter distributed |
| 06/08 | Bible Study, 10 a.m. | 06/29 | Bible Study, 10 a.m. |
| 06/09 | Annual Meeting of Presbytery, Gowanda PC, 10 a.m. | | |
| 06/10 | Session, 7 p.m. | | |
| 06/14 | Worship Service, 11 a.m.
Graduate Recognition | | |
| 06/15 | Bible Study, 10 a.m. | | |
| 06/16 | PWNYPersonnel Committee, noon (MKH) | | |
| 06/17 | USDA foods delivered (Jacquie Hellwig) | | |



Birthdates to Remember

May 2009

4 Lerin Hill
 7 Erica Schmidt
 16 Heidi Hellwig
 23 Carmen Booth
 23 Bizzy Woodhead
 29 Ike Harrison
 31 Coni Coletti



June 2009

1 Bob Pollock
 1 Vickie Shields
 4 Wilda Hill
 9 Walt Atkinson
 10 R.J. Pollock
 13 Landon C. Hellwig
 13 Joan Vaine
 14 Christine Long
 27 Kevin Dunbar
 29 Zackary Kloss



Volunteers for May 2009



Date	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31
Greeters and Ushers	Norm & Connie King	Stephanie & Joe Hill	The Kloss Family	Erie & Sara Talbot	Jim & Rachel Boyer
Liturgist	Stephanie Hill	Mark Hendrix	Joe Hill	Sharon Hill McLarney	Eric Talbot
Acolyte	Communion Sunday		Hannah Kloss		
Children's Time	Judy McClain	Shirley Longbothum	Cso Woodworth	Barb Fairbanks	Shirley Longbothum
Nursery	Julie Shields / Emily Long	Vickie Shields / Kelsea Gardner	Cindy Keeley / Sophia Hendrix	Marsha Wyant Kristen Woodhead	Christine & Emily Long
Prayer Family	Esther & Scott O'Brien	Sandy O'Brien	The Pagett Family	Lila & Bob Pollock	Ronda & Tom Pollock

Elder for the month: Shirley Longbothum



Volunteers for June 2009



Date	June 7	June 14	June 21	June 28
Greeters and Ushers	Sharon Hill McLarney	Cso Woodworth / Joan Vaine	The Kloss Family	Jim & Rachel Boyer
Liturgist	Ray Roulo	Norm King	Barb Fairbanks	Barb Fairbanks
Acolyte	Communion Sunday		Hannah Kloss	
Nursery	Diana Dunbar / Kristin Woodhead	Cindy Keeley / Clara Hendrix	Kari Kloss / Hannah Kloss	Sharon McLarney / Christine Pagett
Prayer Family	The Ron Pollock Family	Ray & Joyce Roulo	The Schmidt Family	Julie & Garrett Shields
Elder for the month: Cso Woodworth				

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - PORTVILLE, NY

19 North Main Street
Portville, NY 14770

Voicemail: 933-6426
Email: portville.presbyterian2gmail.com

Sunday School: 10:00 am
ages 3 to adult
Worship Service: 11:00 am

Website:

www.portville-presbyterian.org