



Message from Rev. Hale

*“even the sparrow finds a home,”
....even a Portville robin or starling....*

You’ve heard me *crow* about this verse before, even listened as I have interrupted the “flow” of a worship service to note the bird song drifting down from the outside eaves and into the sanctuary on a Sunday morning!

The verse is found in Psalm 84, at least the first line is found there, and the rest just comes rolling off my tongue as the noise of hungry baby birds, desperate for the breakfast tidbit in their parent’s beak, catches my ear *and* my attention! It’s a distraction that I’m ready to share with any who are nearby!

If you look up this Psalm in our pew Bibles, you’ll find it is graced with the title: *“The Joy of Worship in the Temple.”* That’s what this Psalm is about, the written-down-song that lay in the heart of someone who would worship at Solomon’s beautiful Temple in ancient Jerusalem; someone who felt close to God in that sacred “space.”

*“How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!
My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.”*

..... and then he spotted a bird, secure and at peace, nested in the stone carvings on the Temple building, high above the massive doors. At home, with a reed and ink and papyrus at hand, and the Spirit alive in his heart and mind, he wrote down not only what he had seen, but what he *felt*.

“Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest....”

Many find their “home” in the sacred space we share together. Our beautiful church and sanctuary is the *place* that allows us to physically come together. But I believe we find the “home” the writer of this Psalm describes, in the *worship* we share together each week. Worship is our “home” where we feel secure and at peace, when we are able to be together on a Sunday morning, or when we tune in to the service on our laptops from far away.

God has nested that desire for worship deep within our hearts, a place where we
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find our Maker to be close, present with us; a place that is with us wherever we may be, hearing the birds, watching them peck about and soar high, letting ourselves be caught up with them and all the wonders of God's amazing creation. *"See the birds of the air,"* Jesus said, and let the Spirit touch your soul!

Just another tree-hugger in your midst thanking God for our life together,

Marilyn

Lectionary for July / August**July 3**

4th Sunday after Pentecost
2 Kings 5:1-14
Psalm 30
Galatians 6:7-16
Luke 10:1-11,16-20

July 10

5th Sunday after Pentecost
Amos 7:7-17
Psalm 82
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

July 17

6th Sunday after Pentecost
Amos 8:1-12
Psalm 52
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42

July 24

Hosea 1:2-10
Psalm 85
Colossians 2:6-15
Luke 11:1-13

July 31

Hosea 11:1-11
Psalm 107:1-9,43
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21

August 7

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20
Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
Luke 12:32-40

August 14

Isaiah 5:1-7
Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19
Hebrews 11:29-12:2
Luke 12:49-56

August 21

Jeremiah 1: 4-10
Psalm 71:1-6
Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

August 28

Jeremiah 2:4-13
Psalm 81:1, 10-16
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Luke 14: 1, 7-14

Mission News - Cso

Thanks to your generous hearts, your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing totaled \$1035. This exceeded our goal of \$900. Your gifts to OGHS were sent to PCUSA and allocated to the following relief agencies: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) – Rebuilding Hope received 32% of you gifts; Presbyterian Hunger Program—Growing Food Security received 36% of your gifts; and Self-Development of People – Partnering in Progress received 32% of your gifts. Our thanks goes out to Kari Kloss for coordinating this special offering.

And another huge Thank You to all of your for your gifts to our Pentecost Offering. Your gifts to this special offering came to \$1060. Our church will keep 40% of this offering, with the Mission Committee determining a local organization that supports children

Mission News - cont.

at risk. If you have one in mind please contact me with the information. Our thanks goes out to Stephanie Hill for volunteering to coordinate The Pentecost Special Offering.

Donations made from Hunger Fund: Genesis House—\$700

Please keep the following “hands-on” Mission Projects in mind over the summer as you are out shopping. . . **Gift a Book** -children’ books are donated to Southern Tier Child Advocacy Center to provide abused children coming to the Child Advocacy Center a sense of control over some portion of their lives; **Baby Layette Project**—provides new baby clothes for newborns at Olean General Hospital for identified families; and **Personal Care Items for PCS Students:** the need for these items continues throughout the year; students know that they can approach the school resource officer or school nurses for shampoos, deodorants, oral care items, feminine products, soaps, etc. Dollar Tree by Tops Supermarket carries all of these items for the amazing price of \$1.25 per item. . . An unheard of bargain!

Thank you for all you do/give to help meet the needs of those who are struggling, both locally and globally. Your kindness does change lives, even if we cannot personally see it.



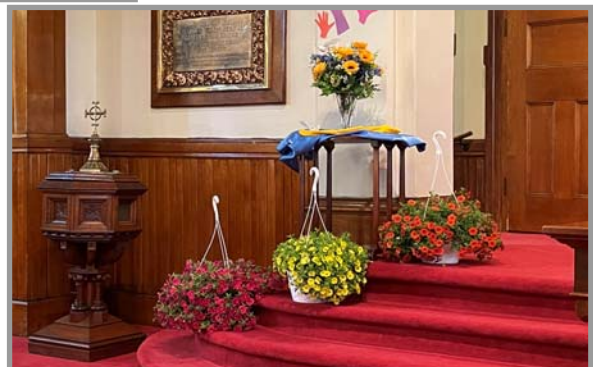
ASSOCIATION

Christian Ed News - Stephanie

The 2021–22 Sunday School year ended with an Open House and ice cream social on May 22. Our students each received a Certificate of Participation and a coupon for an ice cream treat at The Scoop. Hanging flower baskets were given to our teachers in appreciation for their dedication to our Christian education program – Bizzy, Amy, Diana, Stephanie and Rev. Hale.

Our high school graduates are Zac and Megan, who we recognized in worship. Plus they both were awarded a \$1,000 Louella Marsh Scholarship! Congrats to both!

Enjoy your summer, be safe, and we will see you for Sunday School in September!



Food Pantry News—Stephanie

From month to month, there is a rhythm to how we operate the food pantry. It can be fun and satisfying but it can also be overwhelming and time consuming. We are trying a “new thing” and the response has been wonderful! From set-up to deliveries, and the phone orders and shopping in-between, many of you have stepped up to take on one of the many tasks that make up our food pantry operation. This is on-going, 12 months a year – but many hands do help lighten the load.

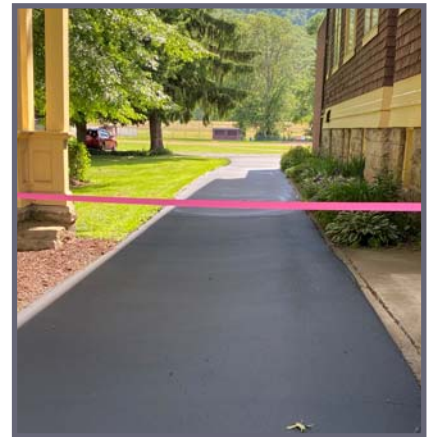
The food pantry is open the fourth Wednesday each month, 9 a.m. to noon. Set-up is Monday morning and takes about an hour. Phone orders can be done from your own home or at the church and also takes about an hour. Shoppers are given one or two specific items to purchase at Aldi’s, money is provided, and you have flexibility over a two week period to make the purchase and return to food pantry. Deliveries are made during food pantry hours on the fourth Wednesday. We are currently “training” volunteers so if you are interested, please contact Stephanie Hill (716-933-6150 or gmamahill@gmail.com).

Property News - Norm

The driveway and parking area was sealed and stripes were painted for parking.

In general, the church property is in good shape. There are plans for the upgrade of the heating system for the fall and improvement with the carpeting in various areas of the church.

Thank you to all who help with the upkeep of the church property.



Coming Soon to the Portville Presbyterian Church

What: Donated Jewelry Sale

Part of Portville’s Heritage Days Activities

When: Saturday, July 16

Time: 9 am. - 2 p.m.



Congregational Care News

Our Congregational Care Committee threw a farewell celebration in honor of Ray on Sunday, May 29. Our hearts and prayers go with Ray as he begins yet another chapter in his life. Ray made the decision to go live with his son, Scott and his family, in VA. Please keep Ray in your prayers and drop him a card or note. I'm certain that he would love to hear from you. He may even surprise you with a phone call if he has a church directory. You can even include your phone number on your note. Ray's new address is on the lectern in the Narthex.



**Keeping
you in our
hearts,
Ray.**



Birthdates to Remember

JULY

- Jul 1 Troy
- Jul 2 Evelyn
- Jul 2 Sue
- Jul 5 Julie
- Jul 5 Anita
- Jul 7 Ainslie
- Jul 7 Cyndy
- Jul 11 Kathleen
- July 12 Mia
- Jul 14 Vicki
- Jul 14 Saylor
- Jul 16 Eva
- Jul 19 Isabelle
- Jul 23 Karl
- Jul 28 Ronda
- Jul 30 Sandy



AUGUST

- Aug 2 Sharon
- Aug 5 Hannah
- Aug 17 Ed
- Aug 18 Addison
- Aug 24 Joe
- Aug 25 Mallorie



Coming Soon to the Portville Presbyterian Church

What: Annual Church Rummage Sale **When:** Saturday, July 30

Time: 9 am. - 2 p.m. **Donations** are still being accepted.

Please leave all donations in the **Nursery Room**. This will be part of the Portville Community Yard Sales event!



Save the dates . . .September 24 and September 25 . . . Remote Area Medical will be returning to Belmont, NY @ Genesee Valley Central School for their free medical, dental and optical services. More information coming soon!



Dates to Remember

Elder of the Month: Cso

- 07/03 Worship Service/Communion,
10:00 a.m.
July/August newsletter distributed
- 07/04 Church Office Closed
- 07/05 COM (MKH), 9:30 a.m.
- 07/10 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m. with
Baptism (Charlie Spehar)
- 07/14 Lectionary Group (MKH), 10:00 a.m.
- 07/18 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
- 07/16 Heritage Day Sidewalk Sale (Jewelry)
- 07/17 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
- 07/20 Session, 4:00 p.m.
- 07/24 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
- 07/25 Food Pantry Prep Day
- 07/26 Food Pantry Prep Day
- 07/27 Food Pantry open 9:00 a.m. – noon
- 07/30 Rummage Sale,
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Independence Day



Dates to Remember

Elder of the Month: TBD

- 08/07 Worship Service/Communion,
10:00 a.m.
- 08/10 Mission Committee, 4:00 p.m.
- 08/14 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
- 08/17 Session, 4:00 p.m.
- 08/21 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
- 08/22 Food Pantry Prep Day
- 08/23 Food Pantry Prep Day
- 08/24 Food Pantry open 9:00 a.m. – noon
- 08/28 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
September/October newsletter
info due

* Rev. Hale will be on vacation from August 17 through August 31.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - PORTVILLE, NY

19 North Main Street
PO Box 765
Portville, NY 14770

Voicemail: 716-933-6426
Email: portville.presbyterian followed by @gmail.com

Sunday School: 9:00 am
ages 3 to adult
Worship Service: 10:00 am

Website:
www.portville-presbyterian.org