



Message from Rev. Hale

*“The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
Day to day pours forth speech”*

These words from the 19th Psalm will gather us as we come together at 11:00 am on September 13 to celebrate and give thanks to God; for life given; for life kept; for (?). What stirs within when worship calls us each Sabbath day we keep?

Heavens *“telling”* and earth and seas and oceans and rivers, brooks, lakes and ponds *“proclaiming,”* and every single day *“pouring forth speech”* remind us of the constancy of God’s presence with us; a never-ending conversation there for all; a pervasive *nudge* in our lives that persistently says “I’M HERE!”

HERE, to be understood in any language; *HERE*, to communicate with us in every way; *HERE*, as an integral part of all the “conversation” we keep in a day—all that is a part of our work and routine; all that comes with pleasure, all that comes with pain; “I’M HERE” in every bit of our lives that for *us* is the “keeper” we experience!

Which carries us into the next “proclamation:” *“I’M HERE”* whether “heard” or not. God’s presence with us does not depend upon our “listening.” The sky floats above our heads and the earth lays beneath our feet as we go about our business barely giving all that a thought. The responsibilities and challenges in a day consume us just as completely as we consume all that claims our time and attention. How often do we hear that *“still, small voice?”* How often will we take the time to listen?

“Listen” ‘til those ears in our inmost being “hear” the “I’M HERE” that can bring us that *pure wash of gratitude* within; that *steadies our way*, that lets us know the *“peace that passes BEYOND our understanding?”*

God knows the “not enough” answer to that! And with that knowledge, reminds us all to keep a Sabbath; “stop” the Hebrew word says; take that time “apart” from all that we normally do.

Be welcome, to look at the heavens; consider the earth around us; *listen* with the understanding that God is always present. Be welcome to join in the fellowship of worship, where *listening* is a joy in the company of one another!

Remembering the Sabbath....as I’m loving life with you!

Marilyn

Inside this issue:

Rev. Hale's Message	Page 1	Stewardship News	Page 4	Congregational Care	Page 7	Sept. Volunteers	Page 9
Lectionary	Page 2	Worship News	Page 5	Dates to Remember	Page 8	Oct. Volunteers	Page 10
Mission News	Page 2	Food Pantry Items	Page 6	Birthdates	Page 9	Reminder	Page 10
Christian Ed News	Page 3	More Mission News	Page 6	Announcements	Page 9		

Lectionary for September/October 2015

September 6 - 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23
Psalm 125
James 2:1-10 (11-13) 14-17
Mark 7:24-37

September 13 - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Proverbs 1:20-33
Psalm 19
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38

September 20 - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Proverbs 31:10-31
Psalm 1
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-3

September 27 - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22
Psalm 124
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50

October 4 - 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Job 1:1; 2:1-10
Psalm 26
Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12
Mark 10:2-16

October 11 - 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Job 23:1-9; 16-17
Psalm 22:1-15
Hebrews 4:12-16
Mark 10:17-31

October 18 - 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Job 38:1-7 (34-41)
Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c
Hebrews 5:1-10
Mark 10:35-45

October 25 - 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Job 42:1-6, 10-17
Psalm 34:1-8 (19-22)
Hebrews 7:23-28
Mark 10:46-52

As of 7/31/2015

YTD Income: \$54,104.80

YTD Expenses: \$55,393.22

Mission Committee News Cso Woodworth

A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who supported the collection of school supplies for the first grade class at Portville Central School. Vicki Schmidt delivered 100 boxes of 24 count crayons, 200 individual large erasers, and 78 boxes of pencils to the 1st grade teachers at Portville

on August 12th. The extra boxes of crayons erasers were kept as a starting point for next year's school supply collection. Thanks to Vicki for coordinating this hands-on mission for our church.

At the August Mission Committee meeting it was

agreed that we would again be participating in the annual Peacemaking Offering through PCUSA. The mission committee has kept the goal for this collection at \$700. Shirley Scott has agreed to chair this special offering. Minutes for Mission on the theme of "Create A World Of Peace"

will be given on Sept 13th, 20th, 27th, and culminating on Oct 4th, World Communion Sunday, with the taking of the offering. Our church keeps 25% of the offering to support local ministries that support peace and conflict resolution.

On an annual basis the Mission Committee reviews the Mission Charter to review the goals and how the goals would be accomplished. "Present Minutes for Mission in worship" was added as another means through which the Mission goals are accomplished.

Please welcome and thank the newest members of the Mission Committee: Norm

King, Kari Kloss, Wanda Hollamby and Carly Painter.

Our church received **Thank You** notes from Point Pleasant Presbyterian Church for sending our volunteers to assist in the rebuilding efforts the NJ shore, Pfeiffer Nature Center for to continued support of their Adopt-A-Tree program, and from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for a \$500 donation to PDA to support their response to the earthquake that hit Nepal in April 2015.

Through the Jack Shepard Memorial Mission Fund you have supported Royal Family Kids Camp for many years. Royal Family Kids Camp is a camp that pro-

vides a week of fun and special activities for abused and neglected children. This past year was the 21st year of this special camp for children. The camp was able to host 51 children - 31 girls and 20 boys. Nancy Murphy said, *"RFKC has been building positive memories for campers in Allegany County for the past 21 years. Thank you for the important role you play in helping us continue making camp a reality in the lives of these wonderful Children."*

Quotes from some of the campers that graduated from camp appear throughout this newsletter.

Christian Education News **Connie King**

Seasons change as there is a difference in the air. We flow with the seasons and try to adapt. There is a change in our Sunday School as it becomes "SUNDAY EVENING SCHOOL". The change will be in the time. Sunday Evening School will begin with snacks/munchies/drinks and fellowship from 5-5:30

p.m. and lesson 5:30-6:30 p.m. for the youth and the adults in separate classes. Perhaps you would like to just come for the lesson time? Sometimes they will be together as necessary for study and fellowship. Opening evening will be Sunday, September 20, 2015. Class will be canceled October 11 due to

Columbus Day weekend. Updates will be in the weekly bulletin and the newsletter. We welcome everyone to this new time and venture. Julie Pagett will be teaching the youth class. The teacher (facilitator) for the adult class will be Kari Kloss for about six weeks and do-

ing the booklet "Faith & Science." There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex so the adult books can be ordered. Hopefully, another facilitator will volunteer for a few classes after Christmas doing another booklet. Rev. Hale is continuing to teach the Confirmation Class on Sunday 5-6:30 p.m. using her same curriculum. She is also teaching the Bible Study on Wednesdays at 10 a.m., using Kerygma's study of the

Book of Job. Diana Dunbar is doing the Advent Study before Christmas as usual. There will be more about that in the next newsletter.

The children will present Children's Time on the third Sunday of the month. They will focus on "Historical Notes" and give us some interesting facts about various aspects of our church. This will be a learning experience and a review for everyone. In addition, they will read

letters from Pamela who we still sponsor through Child Fund International. That will keep us informed on her life.

Thank you to Rev. Hale, members of the Christian Education Committee, and those helping in any way. Seasons change, and we hope you are willing to give your support. See you at SUNDAY EVENING SCHOOL on September 20, and welcome to the new time!

Shiloh (age 12 RFK Camp graduate) – *" I 'll never miss something like I will miss camp. I love this place. "*

Stewardship and Finance Committee Judy McClain

Four Principles of Biblical Stewardship

By Hugh Whelchel

"Every faculty you have, your power of thinking or of moving your limbs from moment to moment, is given you by God. If you devoted every moment of your whole life exclusively to His service, you could not give Him anything that was not in a sense His own already."

C. S. Lewis,
Mere Christianity

"What does stewardship look like in our lives today?" Unfortunately many Christians today only associate the idea of stewardship with sermons they have heard about church budgets and building programs.

At the Institute for Faith, Work & Economics, the idea of biblical stewardship is about something much more expansive. It is where the concepts of faith, work and economics inter-

sect.

[Bill Peel](#) at The High Calling recently wrote an excellent essay entitled Leadership Is Stewardship. His essay can help build a framework to begin unpacking this biblical idea of stewardship.

Peel suggests that there are four important principles about biblical stewardship we must understand:

1. The principle of owner-

ship.

The psalmist begins the [24th Psalm](#) with, “*The earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.*” In the beginning of Genesis, God creates everything and puts Adam in the Garden to work it and to take care of it. It is clear that man was created to work and that work is the stewardship of all of the creation that God has given him. This is the fundamental principle of biblical

stewardship. God owns everything; we are simply managers or administrators acting on God’s behalf.

Therefore, stewardship expresses our obedience regarding the administration of everything God has placed under our control, which is all encompassing. Stewardship is the commitment of one’s self and possessions to God’s service, recognizing that we do not have the right of control over our property or

ourselves.

Echoing [Deuteronomy 8:17](#), we might say: “*My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.*” But [Deuteronomy 8:18](#) counsels us to think otherwise: “*Remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.*”

Principals 2, 3 and 4 will be in future newsletters.

Worship News Anita Shuey

Sunday, September 6th, is no ordinary day! It’s the first day of a new week and a new month. It’s the day when we all can have a new beginning as people of our community in Christ at 1st Presbyterian Church of Portville! Now that’s good news! We will feast on the Bread of Heaven and receive the Lord’s Supper. This service will be at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome.

On Sunday, September 13th, our worship time will be at 11:00 a.m. This day will celebrate another first day of the week and a new season! Watch for news of a possible fall activity after worship on this day. It will be a time to enjoy and praise God as Creator of the beauty of autumn.

World Communion Sunday will be October 4th. This is the day when the worldwide

church observes the Lord’s Supper. It is a day to remind ourselves that there is plenty of room at the Table for all as we pray for peace in this world and discern our role as agents of reconciliation.

Come and worship...
Consider yourself one of
the family...
You are...
the God of Love has
invited you!

Addy (age 12 RFK Camp graduate) – “*As I look back on all the years (6) of camp, I can truly say they were amazing. I am happy to leave only because I know that, with me graduating, other children can come in my place in the future.*”

Mission Committee News cont. Stephanie Hill / Vicki Schmidt

THE FOOD PANTRY . . . *from your grocery cart to our shelves!*

“I was hungry and you gave me food.”

Matthew 25:35

The Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays will be here before you know it – and we are already making plans for the holiday food package we will distribute to 50–60 families in November and December. Our

food list on the right has several items that will help us do that!



Thank you for bringing in food

items each week. Your support really does make a difference in keeping our food pantry shelves stocked! Please clip the list below and keep with you as a reminder of items being collected each week.

FOR THE WEEK OF:	WE WILL BE COLLECTING:
Sept. 9	Cream Corn
Sept. 13	Canned Pumpkin
Sept. 20	Stuffing Mix
Sept. 27	Rice 1# bags
Oct. 5	Canned Tomatoes
Oct. 11	Stuffing Mix
Oct. 18	Canned Pumpkin
Oct. 25	Cream Corn

Note from Leah Doty, who we support with Jack Shepard Memorial Mission Funds. She is in Thailand:

Dear prayer friends,

Since I last wrote, my nine classmates and I have dived headlong into linguistic coursework at Payap University. Here are some ways you can be praying as the semester hurtles forward:

- I am seeking to use my time wisely as I focus on studies while establishing community with those around me. Already these two priorities have begun to compete, and your prayers for balance are appreciated.
- Earlier this week, two explosions were set off in public places in Bangkok, the first of which killed twenty people. Thankfully, Chiang Mai remains quiet as ever. Please pray for peace to reign in this country, for the ongoing investigation, and for those who are piecing their lives back together after this traumatic event.

As always, there is abundant cause for gratitude:

- I have the opportunity to conduct firsthand research on two Southeast Asian minority languages this semester. This is very exciting and I am thankful for gracious, enthusiastic language helpers.

- My training is taking place in a culturally rich environment. Within our class of ten students, we hail from five countries. It is a joy for us to learn from each other. Safety has been my rule of life so far, even amidst the challenging traffic rules of this city. I have yet to crash a truck, fall off the back of a motorbike, or walk into a moving vehicle.

These are the basics of my life right now. Thank you for being part of it all.

May we, who are God's people, clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

In Christ's peace, Leah

An update on Erica Schmidt:

Erica is settled in to life in Burkina Faso, Africa and her volunteer time with the Peace Corps which will last 2 years. She has had all kinds of training and has traveled around quite a lot of the country which is about the size of Colorado. Right now it is rainy season and temperatures are not much different than they are here in WNY, but everyday thunderstorms are common. The section of the Peace Corps she is with is called Community Economic Development. She has been working on establishing several projects in her area and will be able to share more about those when they get underway. The main idea of these is sustainability: basically creating items or raising animals that then can be sold to earn a living. She loves hearing from her church family. Her address is Erica Schmidt

54 BP

Gaoua, Burkina Faso, Africa

Another way to keep in touch with her is to access her blog located at:

<https://edstakesontheworld.wordpress.com/>. You can leave her comments after any of her entries!

Congregational Care News Barb Fairbanks



The Congregational Care Committee has been busy with plans for fellowship and what else but food. Please mark your calendars for the following events on these dates:



Sunday, September 13: Fellowship luncheon following our 11:00 am service; food and beverage will be provided by the committee

Sunday, October 4 (Communion Sunday): sweet treats and fellowship after worship

Sunday, November 1 (Communion Sunday): turkey sandwiches and fellowship after worship

September 2015 Dates to Remember

09/06 Worship Service and Communion,
9:30 a.m.

09/07 Labor Day – church office closed

09/09 Mission Committee, 6 p.m.

09/12 Property Committee, 8:30 a.m.

09/13 Worship Service, 11 a.m.

09/14 Worship Committee, 6 p.m.

09/16 Bible Study, 10 a.m.

USDA food pick-up at Olean FP

(J. Hellwig)

Session, 6 p.m.

09/20 Worship Service, 11 a.m.

Fellowship, 5 p.m. and

Sunday School, 5:30 p.m.

09/21 Produce pick-up at Olean FP, 11 a.m.

09/22 Presbytery Meeting, North PC, 4 p.m.

09/23 Food Pantry open 10-12 and

5-6:30 p.m.

09/24 PNC use kitchen in a.m.

09/27 Worship Service, 11 a.m.

Fellowship, 5 p.m. and

Sunday School, 5:30 p.m.

October 2015 Dates to Remember

10/04 Worship Service and Communion,
11 a.m.

World Communion Sunday

Peacemaking Offering

Fellowship, 5 p.m. and

Sunday School, 5:30 p.m.

10/05 PWN Y OMT, noon (S. Hill)

10/07 Bible Study, 10 a.m.

10/08 Portville Community Food Pantry

Committee, 6 p.m.

10/10 Property Committee, 8:30 p.m.

10/11 Worship Service, 11 a.m.

Fellowship, 5 p.m. and

Sunday School, 5:30 p.m.

10/12 Columbus Day – church office closed

10/14 Bible Study, 10 a.m.

Mission Committee, 6 p.m.

10/18 Worship Service, 11 a.m.

Worship service @ The Pines,
2:30 p.m.

Fellowship, 5 p.m. and

Sunday School, 5:30 p.m.

10/21 Bible Study canceled

USDA food pick-up at Olean FP (

J. Hellwig)

Session, 6 p.m.

10/25 Worship Service, 11 a.m.

Reformation Sunday

Deadline for Nov/Dec newsletter

Fellowship, 5 p.m. and

Sunday School, 5:30 p.m.

10/26 Produce pick-up at Olean FP, 11 a.m.

10/28 Bible Study canceled

Food Pantry open 10-12 and

5-6:30 p.m.

September and October Birthdates to Remember

September Birthdays

9/4 Eliana Spehar
 9/7 Sara Talbot
 9/11 Bob Fairbanks
 9/11 Chris Hellwig
 9/12 Jesse Spehar
 9/27 Eric Talbot
 9/27 Carly Painter
 9/28 Jacquie Hellwig
 9/30 Gloria Faulkner



October Birthdays

10/2 Kristin Woodhead
 10/5 Mike Fletcher
 10/6 Cindy Keeley
 10/7 Kelsea Gardner
 10/12 Carol Miller
 10/24 Dave Dunbar
 10/30 Shirley Longbothum

Congratulations to Sara and Eric Talbot on the birth of their daughter, Mallorie Roberta Talbot. Mallorie was born on August 25th at 1:09 pm. She weighed 7 lbs 14.4 oz.



Charlie (age 12 RFK Camp graduate) after seeing the camp video at the end of the week: *"I almost cried. It takes a lot for me to cry. I've seen a lot of stuff in my life."*



Volunteers for the month of September 2015



Date	Sept. 6	Sept. 13	Sept 20	Sept. 27
Greeters and	Karl Shuey	Russ Burton	Arlo Wuster / Joan Vaine	Coni Coletti
Liturgist	Sharon Hill-	Buffy Pratt	Stephanie Hill	Bob Fairbanks
Acolyte	Communion Sunday	Christine Pagett	Jack Pagett	Hannah Kloss
Prayer Family	Carey/Vickie Shields	Karl/Anita Shuey	Emily/Adam Sullivan	The Tablot Family
Elder for the month:				



Volunteers for the month of October 2015

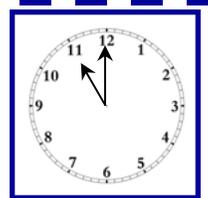


Date	October 4	October 11	October 18	October 25
Greeters and Ushers	Ronda Pollock	Mark & Kathy Hendrix	Sunday School Class	Joe & Stephanie Hill
Liturgist	Kathy Hendrix	Anita Shuey	Julie Pagett	Hannah Kloss
Acolyte	Communion Sunday	Megan Pagett	Zack Kloss	Christine Pagett
Prayer Family	Val Tigh	Dean/Eva Travis	Joan Vaine	Hazel Whitney

Elder for the month :



**PLEASE NOTE
 THAT OUR WORSHIP SERVICE
 returns to 11 a.m.
 on Sunday, September 13.**



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH -
 PORTVILLE, NY**

19 North Main Street
 Portville, NY 14770

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

Sunday School: 10:00 am
 ages 3 to adult
 (Last Day of Sunday School-May 17)

Worship Service: 11:00 am
 Summer Worship Hours: 9:30 begin May 31

Website:

portvillepresbyterian.weebly.com/

