



Message from Rev. Hale

*“How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord...
even the sparrow finds a home...” [Psalm 84:1,3a]*

Often in these cooling, summertime evenings I find myself outside sweeping; sweeping the deck, sweeping the driveway, sweeping the rough stone walkway; the sun carried far away, nearing the horizon; birds still at the feeder, talking; lately as August took ‘hold, with crickets and other invisible chirping critters singing away—carrying on louder and louder as daylight fades.

Summer passes beneath my broom. Fallen leaves come more frequently and tinged with more and more color. The tiny pin cherries once green are now a deep, dry-red bringing their long slender stems along with them as they let go and fall from the limbs. Tree branches are sloughing off twig “ends” that failed to grow. It seems the spiders are more intent with their web-building.

“I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God”.... these words resonate with my *lofty ambitions* for life! But at the same time they bring me home, that place in our lives where ideally, love and gratitude replenish us— keep us growing.

Where is your home? Where is that place you find secure and welcoming, refreshing; where do you find peace and a satisfying inner joy?

At our Worship Meeting last week, Diana got us on our feet and led us around the narthex and sanctuary, stopping us at the front door and at the baptismal font and at the pulpit with the open Bible atop; stopped us as the organ and communion table, and led us in a prayer each time; a prayer of thanksgiving for God’s faithfulness in our lives—each one of our lives and especially in the Life we share, drawn by the Spirit to be in fellowship together as we worship the Lord of our hearts!

With broom in hand, I welcome us all to our “together-home,” gathered in grace and gratitude as we worship and find joy in the life we share in this place.

Thanks be to God as all we “sparrows” come home here to “nest!”

Marilyn

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Lectionary for September / October

September 2 – 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Song of Solomon 2:8-13
Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8,14-15, 21-23

September 9 – 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23
Psalm 125
James 2:1-10; 14-17
Mark 7:24-37

September 16 – 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 1:20-33
Psalm 19
James 3:1-12
Mark 8: 27-38

September 23 – 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 31:10-31
Psalm 1
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

September 30 – 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22
Psalm 124
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50

October 7 – 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Job 1:1-1, 2:1-10
Psalm 26
Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12
Mark 10:2-16

October 14 – 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Job 23:1-9, 16-17
Psalm 22:1-15
Hebrews 4:12-16
Mark 10:17-31

October 21– 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Job 38:1-7
Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c
Hebrews 5:1-10
Mark 10:35-45

October 28 – 23 Sunday after Pentecost

Job 42:1-6, 10-17
Psalm 34:1-8
Hebrews 7:23-28
Mark 10:46-52

Mission Committee News Julie McLarney Pagett

PEACE AT ALL TIMES, IN ALL WAYS Sometimes it feels the world is coming at us so quickly that we don't know which way to turn, where to look, what to do next. In a chaotic world, we find strength in knowing that God is always near. We join in Paul's prayer that God grant us "peace at all times, in all ways." The Peace and Global Witness Offering draws Presbyterians together and provides education and exposure to those who show us how to do this work well. It allows us to create resources for dealing with conflict and nurturing reconciliation, and stand in support of our global sisters and brothers, because the peace of Christ belongs to people **everywhere**.

A **Minute for Mission** will be presented on September 23rd and 30th and the offering will be received on **October 7th, World Communion Sunday**. Information regarding our goal for this offering and where our 25% portion will be allocated will be presented during worship. Come to worship... you don't want to miss it! As we work to share Christ's peace with one another, let's share that peace with those beyond our doors. As Presbyterians, we claim Jesus Christ as Prince of Peace and pattern our lives in the compassion, kindness and grace he shows us. Please give generously!

Introducing... CRAYOLA COLORCYCLE! Crayola and schools across North America are banding together to help kids understand the importance of their role in protecting the environment. That's why they have now launched an initiative to collect and repurpose used Crayola markers. We, as a congregation, can help too! I mean, who doesn't have loads of old, dried-up markers lying around their house?? Pending Session approval, there will be a **Crayola Colorcycle** container in the Narthex in the coming weeks. Please bring in **any brand** of your old markers and drop them off and do your part to help preserve the earth for our children and grandchildren. Thank you!

MISSIONARY NEWS We have received updated newsletters from Steve and Margie Doty, as well as Martha Sommers. Steve and Margie are in Thailand where Margie is teaching Phonetics and Steve is doing administrative work and helping evaluate translation aids. They continue to be thankful for our partnership in their Bible translation ministry. Martha underwent surgery near Chicago in July for breast cancer. She is grateful for the support of family and friends and asks for your continued prayers and support. She hopes to return to her ministry in Malawi in the future. Both newsletters can be found downstairs on the Mission bulletin board.

Christian Ed News Stephanie Hill



Where did Summer go? It is that time of year when we turn to school, sports — and Sunday School! We have the potential for 22 students, pre-school through high school. Our opening day will be **Sunday, October 14, at 9 a.m.** and the Fall Session will run six weeks through November 18. We will be offering classes for nursery, elementary, high school and adult. Please join us!

UNAFRAID - Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times

For anyone struggling with fear, worry, or anxiety, or who wonders how families and communities can live as peacemakers in troubled times, *Unafraid* offers an informed and inspiring message full of practical solutions.

Trusted pastor and bestselling author Adam Hamilton draws on the latest research, therapeutic insights, biblical principles, and personal experience to untangle the knots of fear and truly embrace Jesus's recurring counsel to his followers: "Do not be afraid." As a leading voice in the progressive tradition, Hamilton communicates with grace and understanding to a wide and inclusive audience in accessible language that will ring true regardless of one's religious conviction.

The Adult Class will use this book and DVD for a six-week study, **October 13-November 18, at 9 a.m.** Books will be provided for each participant. Hope you can join us!



Dates to Remember September 2018

09/02	Worship Service/Communion, 10:00 a.m. September/October newsletter distributed	09/13	Christian Education Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
09/03	Labor Day, Church Office Closed	09/16	Worship Service, 10:00 a.m. So. Tier Symphony String Trio Session, 6:00 p.m.
09/04	PWNY COM, 9:30 a.m. (M. Hale)	09/19	Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
09/08	Property Committee Meeting, 8:30 a.m.	09/23	Clergy Gathering, 9:30–3:30
09/09	Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.	09/25	Food Pantry open 10–noon and 5–6:30 p.m.
09/12	Mission Committee Meeting, 6:00 p.m.	09/26	Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.

Dates to Remember October 2018

10/02	PWNY COM, 9:30 a.m. (M. Hale)	10/17	Worship Service, 10:00 a.m. Pines Worship, 2:30 p.m.
10/03	Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.	10/17	Bible Study, 10:00 a.m. Session, 6:00 p.m. Bent Brass, 7:00 p.m.
10/07	Worship Service/Communion, 10:00 a.m. Peace and Global Witness Offering Wilda Hill Memorial Service, 1:00 p.m.	10/21	Sunday School, 9:00 a.m. Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
10/10	Bible Study, 10:00 a.m. Mission Committee Meeting, 6:00 p.m.	10/23	Presbytery in East Aurora, 4:00 p.m.
10/11	Worship Committee Meeting, 5:00 p.m. PCFPC Meeting, 6:00 p.m.	10/24	Food Pantry open 10–noon and 5–6:30 p.m.
10/13	Property Committee Meeting, 8:30 a.m.	10/28	Sunday School, 9:00 a.m. Worship Service, 10:00 a.m. September/October newsletter info due
10/14	Sunday School Opening Day for Children and Adults, 9:00 a.m.	10/31	Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.



Our heartfelt sympathy and prayers for
God's comfort and peace to the family of Wilda Hill.

June 4 , 1916— July 16, 2018

A Memorial Service will be held at the church on October 7th at 1 p.m.



Birthdates to Remember

September Birthdays

9/4 Eliana Spehar
 9/5 Hannah Kloss
 9/7 Sara Talbot
 9/11 Bob Fairbanks
 9/11 Chris Hellwig
 9/12 Jesse Spehar
 9/17 Elaine Fletcher
 9/23 Sean Gardner
 9/24 Lindsay Gardner
 9/26 Randy McClain
 9/27 Carly Painter
 9/27 Eric Talbot
 9/27 Drake Wiedemann
 9/28 Jacquie Hellwig
 9/30 Gloria Faulkner



October Birthdays

10/2 Kristin Woodhead
 10/3 Charles Hildebrand
 10/5 Mike Fletcher
 10/6 Cindy Keeley
 10/7 Kelsea Gardner
 10/10 Ron Pollock
 10/10 Avery Woodhead
 10/12 Carol Miller
 10/22 Val Tigh
 10/24 Dave Dunbar
 10/30 Shirley Longbothum



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



In the last newsletter, we decided to try a “new thing” and collect only one item – spaghetti – for the months of July and August. Spaghetti is a staple in the food we distribute and we need 50+ pounds each month. And together we collected 315 pounds! We really do make a difference when we work together!

Since this worked so well, we have decided to collect just one item for an entire month. In September we will be collecting tuna. You can buy a can of tuna at Aldi’s for 66 cents. A case of 48 costs \$31.68 and we generally buy two cases each month. That is a lot of tuna to collect in one month!

In October we will be collecting egg noodles. We include egg noodles in our food package about every other month along with other food items to make a casserole. And again, we need 50+ bags of egg noodles.

Thank you for your generous contributions to the Portville Community Food Pantry!

Volunteers for September / October 2018

	September 2	September 9	September 16	September 23	September 30
Greeters and Ushers	Mary Ann Clark	The Pagett Family	Buffy Pratt	Troy/Amy Spehar	Cso Woodworth
Liturgist	Julie Pagett	Jess Wyant	Stephanie Hill	Buffy Pratt	Jack Pagett
Music Tech	Vicki Schmidt	Kari Kloss	Joe Hill	Judy McClain	

Elder of the Month: Barb Fairbanks

	October 7	October 14	October 21	October 28
Greeters and Ushers	Coni Coletti	Buffy Pratt	Cso Woodworth	Norm /Connie King
Liturgist	Megan Pagett	Kathy Hendrix	Ronda Pollock	
Music Tech	Vicki Schmidt	Joe Hill	Kari/Hannah Kloss	

Elder of the Month: Diana Dunbar

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH -
PORTVILLE, NY**

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

Website:
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