

Dryden Presbyterian Church Newsletter

March 2024

Journey to Jerusalem

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. Luke 9:51

Jerusalem, as you may be aware, is a city on a hill. People talked of “going up” to Jerusalem. It was a long road with a lot of traffic going both ways. But it was the road to the Temple, the road to worship God, and, for Jesus, the road of ultimate love.

If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. Mark 8:34

As we go through Lent, we too “Journey to Jerusalem,” following Christ on a difficult road. We carry our burdens of shame and bitterness as we seek repentance and forgiveness. We stumble and grow weary, calling out in prayer. We reach out to our fellow travelers through acts of service and comfort. We walk the road that leads to God, giving our all to the Ultimate Love.

Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing. Matthew 27:46

But do we fall short? Even though we entered Jerusalem singing “Hosanna!”, we return to shout, “Crucify!” Or perhaps, “I do not know the man!” Or just, “I am innocent of this man’s blood.”

The journey to Jerusalem includes facing the Ultimate Love. This isn’t always easy because that Love sees us clearly, knows us intimately, and ultimately died for us. And yet...

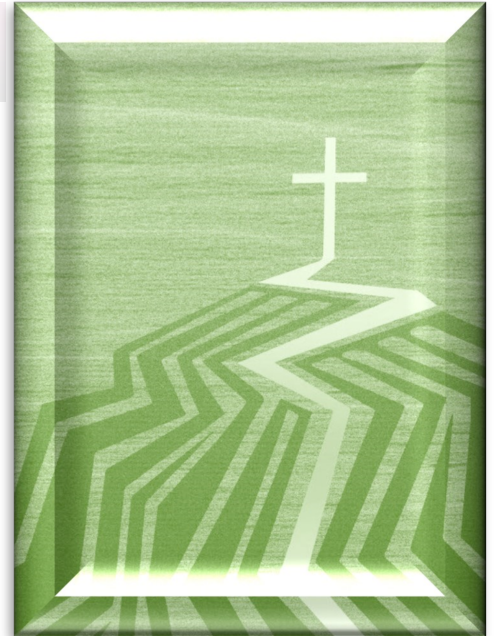
Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark... John 20:1

On Easter morning, we shout, “Christ is risen indeed!” But earlier, in the dark, there is still the moment when perhaps we run away in fear, or walk back confused, or sit in the garden weeping.

The journey to Jerusalem is a journey of stumbling, hurting, and even despair. Hear the good news: it is also the journey to the Ultimate Alleluia of Love and beyond.

May your Lent be filled with the wisdom of God, transforming and renewing you in the likeness of Christ, so that you may come to the Easter feast filled with the joy of the Holy Spirit.

- Pastor Nancy



Sunrise Easter Service

Sunday, March 31, 2024 at 7 AM

At Uttechs' - 2290 State Rte. 221, Marathon

Light breakfast to follow service.

Dress warm. Outdoor service, weather permitting.

Church and Community News

*Join us as we celebrate the life, death,
and resurrection of Jesus Christ*

Palm Sunday, March 24

at 10:30 am

Easter Sunday, March 31

at 10:30 am

Kids' Club programs during
second half of service.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE BRICK CHURCH AT 6 NORTH STREET IN DRYDEN



Maundy Thursday, March 28
at 7 pm Join us at United
Methodist Church
of Dryden

Dryden Community Dinners

The Dryden Community dinners, held Wednesdays
at the Methodist Church, will resume March 6 at
5:30.

RESUMING



*Kindness is
in your blood*

Dryden Community Blood Drive

**Proudly Hosted by
First Presbyterian
Church of Dryden**

In Fellowship Hall
6 North Street
Dryden, NY 13053

**Wednesday, April 3, 2024
9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**



Servant Opportunities

Servants are always needed in these areas:

- ❖ Usher
- ❖ Liturgist
- ❖ Greeter
- ❖ Kids' Club
- ❖ Providing flowers



Please check the boards regularly and consider
adding your name.

WEB Items for collection for March :

Beef Jerky Snack Sticks

(Please keep sizes small
enough for children to fit into
their backpack.)



Kitchen Cupboard and Clothing Shed

Mon, Fri. and last Sat. of
month: 11 a.m. to noon

Wed: 5 to 6 p.m.



Recent Events and News



The Ladies' Tea was a huge success.

Special thanks to our fabulous organizers: Joyce Day, Gale Conway, Sue Bahny, Peggy Parsons; and the best waiters ever: Dan and Nathaniel Carpenter, Chuck Nydam, Chuck Uttech, Dave Parsons and Ernie Walker (all pictured Left to right in the first two pictures.) The food, company and conversation were delightful.

The kids bring their joy and energy with them

Whether it's in the Children's Message during the service or at Kids' Club directly following, there is no shortage of energy and enthusiasm from this great group of young people.

Another good year for the Angel Tree.

Pictured right are a letter of thanks from the Salvation Army and cards from some of the recipient families.



Ministry Committee News

Hospitality:

"Then I commended mirth, because a man hath no better thing under the sun, than to eat, and to drink, and to be merry: for that shall abide with him of his labour the days of his life, which God giveth him under the un." (KJV)

And were we merry! We started with a wonderful Coffee Hour after service on Sunday February 11. For our "Breakfast Bowl," non-perishable breakfast items were placed in boxes labeled with the Superbowl team of their choice. All was donated to the Kitchen Cupboard. Thank you to Fran Sincerbeaux for organizing this.

On February 17 we had a delightful Ladies Tea and were joined by some of our neighbors from the Dryden Methodist Church. Thank you to Joyce Day, Gale Conway, Connie Walker and many others who envisioned and arranged this wonderful event!

We began the start of Lent on February 18 with a Soup & Salad Lunch. It was a delightful time with delicious soups, breads and scones. Thank you to MJ and Chuck Uttech, Brenda Carpenter, McKayla Macomber, Peggy and Dave Parsons for all your work on this.

And to those I forgot: THANK YOU! Cheryl

"Thank you for being a generous soul and a beautiful spirit in a world that could use a million more people like you. Thanks so much for everything you've done and for all you continue to do. You're the best, more appreciated than words can say". Author unknown.

Education:

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study, is held at 9:30 in the library. We are focusing on the Sermon on the Mount. Hope to see you there.

Join us on Palm Sunday for another entertaining skit from the youth as they find out "What's In Your Basket" and learn about the real meaning of Easter through some traditional Easter treats.

Worship:

Chuck and MJ Uttech are hosting an Easter Sunrise Service at their home, 7:00 a.m., Easter morning (March 31). An outdoor service will be held with a light breakfast to follow. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall. Dress for the weather. (Uttechs address is 2290 State Route 221, Marathon, 13803).

Matthew Gibbons will be filling the pulpit on April 7th. Let's welcome him with a full sanctuary, and enthusiasm.

Five Things Jesus Did NOT Say:

Follow your heart.

Jesus said, "Follow Me."

Be true to yourself.

Jesus said "Whoever wants to be my disciple, must deny himself."

Believe in yourself.

Jesus said "Believe in ME."

Live your truth.

Jesus said "I am the truth."

As long as you are happy.

Jesus said "What will it profit a man if he gains the world and loses his soul?"

Missions:

Contributions to recent endeavors have been acknowledged with gratitude by recipients. Please take note of the bulletin board in the hall to the breezeway where is posted a letter of thanks from the Salvation Army for our support of the Angel Tree as well as cards from some of the families receiving toys and clothing. There is also a card of thanks for contributions from Christmas Eve service to the HANDS project at Dryden School. Presbyterian Church USA has thanked us for \$590 sent to them for the Christmas Joy Special Offering.

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is another church-wide Presbyterian Special Offering that we participate in together with our observation of the Lenten Season.

A Minute for Mission and bulletin inserts are planned for the Sundays of March 17 and 24, Palm Sunday, when the Special Offering is to be formally received. Envelopes will be available and checks may be made to this church with a notation of use for One Great Hour of Sharing. This year is the 75th anniversary of OGHS. In combining our contributions with other Presbyterian churches, we are able to amplify our assistance to help repair peoples' lives and in tangible ways that reflect our gratitude of God's love for all of us. Funds collected are again divided in approximate thirds to combat hunger, provide disaster assistance, and to work with communities in sustainable ways to overcome poverty and oppression. Information of the effects of our gifts may be found on the OGHS website, pcusa.org/oghs.

Jesus says in Matthew 25:35-40, "*I was hungry and you gave me food, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing. ...As you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me*".

Let us join as we are able in OGHS to witness our faith.

Finance Committee Report

January Operating Results	2023 Actual (1 month)	2024 Actual (1 month)	2024 Budget (1 month)
Operating Income			
Pledge Receipts	\$ 6,799	\$ 7,631	\$ 9,676
Non-Pledge	649	90	333
Plate	204	189	375
Interest, Dividends & Misc Income	283	1,313	1,508
Expenses	(13,928)	(15,040)	(14,384)
Net Cash Flow	(5,994)	(5,817)	(2,491)
Transfer to/from Reserve Accounts			
To Capital, Copier and Piano & Organ Reserve Accounts	(300)	(300)	(300)
From Memorials and Other Savings for Purchase of Equipment	1,423	-	-
Net Operating Income After Transfer to/from Reserves	\$ (4,870)	\$ (6,117)	\$ (2,791)
() Denotes reduction to Income.			

Net Income

January Contributions were 3.4% higher than last year. Interest & Dividends were up by \$1,000 due to the investment in CDs. Expenses were \$1,100 higher, primarily due to the timing of the first quarterly payment of the Per-Capita Assessment. Net Cash Flow was negative \$5,800 which is almost identical to last January.

Stewardship Campaign

The stewardship campaign is finally completed. 39 pledges totaling \$116,114 have been received for 2024. This matches the estimate in the Annual Report. 37 are repeat pledgers and 2 are new. Of the 37 who also pledged last year, 15 increased their pledge (+13% on average), 2 decreased (-21% on average) and 20 remained the same. **Thank you all for helping our church continue its operations and missions.**

Driveway & Parking Lot

It may be hard to believe but spring is right around the corner and, with that, comes Repair and Re-paving of the Driveway & Parking Lot at a cost of \$20,960. To date our congregation has contributed \$6,815 and pledged another \$6,000 which leaves \$8,145 yet to be raised. More pledges and actual contributions are needed so cash is available when the job is done. If you can help, please mark **"Parking Lot"** on the memo line of your check. **Thanks so much for all of your generosity supporting this needed project.**

Spring Clean-Up

Next month we will announce the date for "Spring Clean-Up" but a little help is needed in advance. So many limbs, pinecones and Oak leaves fell earlier this winter on the lawn between the link and the Methodist Church that it will be impossible to mow the lawn until they are cleared. Most of the branches have already been removed and piled near the shed at the back side of the parking lot. If anyone has a little spare time & energy, helping out with some of the rest would be greatly appreciated. **Thanks!**

First Presbyterian Church of Dryden

6 North Street / PO Box 42

Dryden, NY 13053

607-844-8321

drydenpresoffice@gmail.com

Church Office Hours Tues. – Thurs.

9:00 a.m. - noon

Nancy Didway, Pastor

607-351-6966 text/call*

Pastor.nancy@drydenpres.com

Pastor’s office hours are

Monday through Thursday 10 a.m.—2 p.m.

*The best way to contact her is by her cell phone.

(Please note this is a new number. Please update your contact information.)

Session

Doug Barton, Worship
 Brenda Carpenter, Worship
 Dan Carpenter, Education
 Gale Conway, Hospitality
 Cheryl Nemecek, Hospitality
 Chuck Nydam, Missions
 Dave Parsons, Technology
 Peggy Parsons, Assistant Clerk
 Brad Perkins, Facilities
 Jack Scott, Clerk of Session
 Ernie Walker, Finance

Deacons

Susan Barry
 Evan Carpenter
 Christi LaPlant
 Fran Sincerbeaux
 Dottie Slocum
 Chuck Uttech
 MJ Uttech

Staff

Clerk of Session..... John Scott
 Office Admin..... Susan Barry
 Treasurer Dottie Slocum
 Financial Secy. Jay Engels
 Organist Michael Singbusch
 Music Director Scott Miller
 Custodian..... Rob White
 Librarian..... Gretchen Young

BIBLE WORDSEARCH

H M V K V O X L W Z N E D E Z
 B X G H Q V Z F T C L P U J Z
 I T E H P O R P L K E J E A S
 P L N R L Y R M A I G Y L O H
 I O E Y F L J L S O N L S S A
 H R V I H C F E L C A R I M R
 S D A A A Z A I A T K R A Q V
 R S E H O C I T Q E W D M M M
 O M H S N J T X Z J X F A G E
 W R L U N S H H E U K E D G V
 T U O Z Z G A B H D D C A W E
 M O S E S A B P R E Y A R P J
 X E V L G K S U S E J R X O O
 N K I C Q E Y K M O D G N I K
 M S I T P A B L M F I D O G A

WORD LIST

ADAM	EVE	HOLY	MOSES
ANGEL	FAITH	JESUS	NOAH
ARK	GOD	KINGDOM	PRAYER
BAPTISM	GRACE	LORD	PROPHET
EDEN	HEAVEN	MIRACLE	WORSHIP

Homemade
GIFTS MADE EASY

Birthdays

Mark Dodds—1
 Phyllis Byrn—5
 Evan Carpenter—8
 Brad Perkins—11
 Marsha Smith—11
 Pastor Nancy Didway—15
 Mahlon Perkins—29
 Michelle Brackin—30

Anniversaries

Dave & Kathleen Gross—29



March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12	2
3 Choir 915/1130 Sun. Sch. 930 Ministry Com. Mtg. 1130	4 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12	5	6 Kitchen Cup-board 5-6 Bulletin Dead-line	7 Knitters 1-3	8 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12	9
10 Daylight Savings Starts Choir 915/1130 Sun. Sch. 930 Coffee Hour 1130	11 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12	12 Quilters 10-2 Finance COM (Pastor) 5-8 pm	13 Kitchen Cup-board 5-6 Bulletin Dead-line	14 Session Reports Due	15 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12	16
17 St. Pat's Choir 915/1130 Sun. Sch. 930 Deacons 1130 Worship at Longview 2:30pm	18 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12	19 Needlepoint Club 1 pm Session 7 pm	20 Kitchen Cup-board 5-6 Bulletin Dead-line	21 Newsletter Articles Due Knitters 1-3	22 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12	23
24 Choir 915/1130 Sun. Sch. 930 One Great Hour of Sharing Palm & Passion Sun.	25 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12	26 Quilters 10-2	27 Kitchen Cup-board 5-6 Bulletin Dead-line	28	29 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12	30 Kitchen Cupboard 11-12
31 Sunrise 7 am One Great Hour of Sharing Easter Sunday Lilies						

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6 North Street, PO Box 42
Dryden, NY 13053 USA



The First Presbyterian Church
of Dryden

6 North Street, PO Box 42
Dryden, NY 13053 USA
Phone: 607-844-8321
E-mail: drydenpresoffice@gmail.com
Pastor Nancy Didway

Join us as we worship
the Lord

Worship — Sunday, 10:30 a.m.
(Fall/Winter Hours)