

Dryden Presbyterian Church Newsletter

April 2024



Every Seed Has Its Own Story

"Then God said, 'Let the land produce... seed-bearing plants... according to their various kinds.' ...And God saw that it was good."

Genesis 1:11-12

I find native wildflowers intriguing. A wildflower grows naturally in its own environment. I can work and sweat and spend \$\$\$ in my garden to grow them, but these same flowers flourish in the untended wilderness through the grace of God's creation. For many, life begins as the flowering season ends. Every autumn, the flower withdraws into a seed pod and... falls... to the ground.

"Unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a

single seed." John 12:24b

Being a wildflower seed is not an easy thing. A time of dormancy, of death, is required. Winter freezes the ground with rain, snow, and ice. Squirrels dig seeds up and bury them again. Birds eat them, and the seeds are distributed through the bird's excretions. Some seeds are moved by the wind or by insects. The ages of wildflower growth seems so random in comparison to my carefully winterized garden.

"So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow."

1 Corinthians 3:7

And so we come through the lengthening days of March, and slowly the warmth of April pervades the ground. Spring... wait for it... Spring is not a rapid thing. She grows too gradually to see but so steadily that when we are not looking... One week... Two weeks... Three... Suddenly GREEN springs everywhere.

"See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin." Matthew 6:28b

Under the warmth of summer suns, the wildflowers rejoice! Some may say that they simply bloom, but I say they lead *The Hallelujah Chorus* with birds and insects and angels joining in. Color and life sway delicately, prone to disaster, but smiling in the sun. This is the time of WHY. This is *why* the seed falls. This is *why* the ground freezes. This is *why* we wait for spring. Life blossoms, and it is glorious!

"Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them; let all the trees of the forest sing for joy." Psalm 96:11

We too come to the WHY days of life—the days where we finally go, "That's why!" But life takes time, seasons, and faith. God has planted within each of us the seeds of life, seeds that require something of us. For God's life to grow in us, we must die to self and often undergo times of spiritual frost in the wastelands. And we have to wait patiently for God's timing, tilling and weeding our faith gardens while trusting God to bring life out of it all.

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Galatians 6:11

May your life in God flourish amidst the beauty of Spring!

- Pastor Nancy





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.**



American
Red Cross

Servant Opportunities

Servants are always needed in these areas:

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



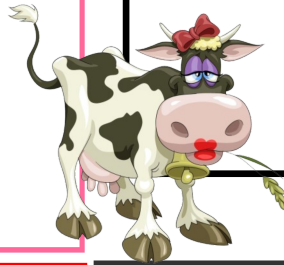
Please consider adding your name to the sign up sheets in the Fellowship Hall.

DAIRY DAY MAKEOVER

DPC is doing a makeover for Dairy Day! We need your input!
Join us as we come up with the best way to promote Heifer International Mission using our Dairy Day booth.

PLANNING MEETING - THURSDAY APRIL 11 AT 2:30

Questions? See Pastor Nancy, Gale Conway, Cheryl Nemecek, or Chuck Nydam.



WEB Items
for collection for April:
Canned chicken
(approx. 5 oz.)

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



**Kitchen Cupboard
and
Clothing Shed**

Mon, Fri. & last Sat. of each month: 11 a.m. to noon.
Wed: 5 to 6 p.m.



Dryden Community Dinners

Dryden Methodist Church—
Wednesdays at 5:30.

Weather related cancellations will be on TV and radio, or call the church at 607-844-9861.

*Can you help
with the Clothes
Shed?*

*There is an immediate
need for help*

*Please contact Pastor Nancy for
more information*

607-844-8321/607-351-6966



Bryon Newbury was recently recognized for 55 years of service to the Dryden Fire Department. Pictured with Bryon is his granddaughter Lauren Michalko, also a Dryden firefighter, and Chief Mark Bell. Thank you for your service to the Dryden Community, Bryon. (Picture provided by Dryden Fire Dept.)

Easter Sunrise Service

7 a.m., March 31 at the Uttechs' home.
Rain or shine.

There will be a brief outdoor service followed by a breakfast. We will move indoors if raining.

Directions: Drive south on Rt. 38 to Harford, turn left on Rt. 221 and go 6.3 miles. Long driveway on the right.

GPS 2290 State Rt. 221, Marathon, NY 13803.



Spring is springing! Check out the daffodils by the main entrance.



Hosanna in the highest!

Pictured left: Jesus rides in on a donkey. (Evelyn and Nathaniel Carpenter)

Ministry Committee News

Hospitality:

"The first day of spring in one thing, and the first spring day is another. The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month." -Henry Van Dyke

We had a St. Patrick's Day themed coffee hour on March 10. Thank you to all who helped with this and for those that stayed and enjoyed the fellowship.



"The day the Lord created hope was probably the same day he created Spring." Bernard Williams

Here's a recipe courtesy of Sue Bahny from the Ladies Tea in February.

Lemon Curd

- Zest of 4 lemons
- Juice of 4 lemons (1 cup)
- 4 eggs, beaten
- 1/2 cup butter, cut into small pieces
- 2 cups sugar



In the top of a double boiler, combine zest, juice, eggs, butter and sugar. Place over simmering water and stir until the sugar is dissolved. Continue to cook, stirring occasionally until thickened and smooth. Store in the refrigerator in a clean jar. Keeps only for a couple of weeks. Makes about 1 pint.

You can use it as dipping for scones, or pour it over fruit. The possibilities are endless, a taste of Spring!

Worship:

March 31, Easter: Chuck and MJ Uttech are hosting an Easter Sunrise Service at their home, 7:00 a.m. An outdoor service will be held with a light breakfast to follow. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall. Dress for the weather. If it rains, the service will move inside.



Worship (continued):

(Uttechs address is 2290 State Route 221, Marathon, 13803; directions are also available in the Fellowship Hall). *Rain or shine.*

Youth will present a short skit during the 10:30 Easter worship service called "What's In Your Basket?"

April 7: Matthew Gibbons will be our guest preacher; let's welcome him with a full sanctuary, and enthusiasm.

April 14: Communion, servers needed.

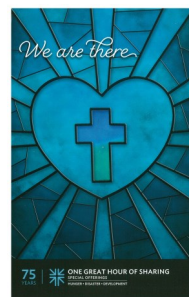
Please sign up to

- ❖ usher,
- ❖ serve as liturgist,
- ❖ or for Kids Club.



Missions:

As of this writing, Mission Committee is seeking your support of the PC(USA) OGHS, noting its 75th anniversary and the many years of support by this congregation. The donations collected by us are joined with other churches to support Christian witness in about a third each to hunger relief, disaster assistance, and overcoming oppression. By next newsletter, we should be able to report our response. Thanks to all who were able to respond to this appeal.



Continued support of Heifer International, another long-time mission project of this congregation, is currently in the works. Plans are being made to do this in late May and early June. This year, in addition to congregational support, we seek wider community involvement as we intend to bring the Heifer story to others as part of our presence at Dryden Dairy Day. Anticipate more information as the plans unfold to enlarge our outreach.

Finance Committee Report

<u>January through February Operating Results</u>	2023 Actual (2 months)	2024 Actual (2 months)	2024 Budget (2 months)
<u>Operating Income</u>			
Pledge Receipts	\$ 13,950	\$ 16,833	\$ 19,352
Non-Pledge	2,509	130	667
Plate	474	368	750
Interest, Dividends & Misc Income	1,346	3,318	3,017
Expenses	<u>(23,241)</u>	<u>(23,775)</u>	<u>(27,315)</u>
Net Cash Flow	(4,963)	(3,126)	(3,530)
<u>Transfer to/from Reserve Accounts</u>			
To Capital, Copier and Piano & Organ Reserve Accounts	(600)	(600)	(600)
From Memorials and Other Savings for Purchase of Equipment	<u>1,423</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Operating Income After Transfer to/from Reserves	<u><u>\$ (4,140)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (3,726)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (4,130)</u></u>
() Denotes reduction to Income.			

Operating Results

Contributions through February were 2.3% higher than last year. Pledge receipts were up. Non-pledge & plate receipts were down. Including Interest & Dividends, total Income was up by 13%. Operating expenses were about the same as last year and Net Cash Flow was negative by \$3,100 which was very close to the budget.

Driveway & Parking Lot

Thanks so much for all your generous support for this needed project. Since last month, \$950 has been contributed which brings the total of funds in-hand to \$7,765. Including the \$6,000 of promised pledges, we have a total of \$13,765 of funds available toward the \$20,960 cost of the project, which leaves \$7,165 to be raised. Time is getting short before construction season is upon us. So if you can help to narrow the gap, please think about a contribution and mark "**Parking Lot**" on the memo line on your check. **Thanks Again!**

Spring Clean-Up

Spring Clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, April 27th. Rain date is Sunday, April 28th. We can still use some help earlier to clear leaves off the yard between the link and the Methodist Church so Tanner can mow. **Thanks and see you on the 27th or sooner!**

Deacons' Prayer Ministry:

A part of each monthly Deacons' meeting will be devoted to prayer for concerns on our prayer list. Requests can be shared with Chuck and MJ Uttech or Dottie Slocum.



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

Surprise! It's Empty!

They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. Luke 24:2-3 (NIV)

Based on Luke 24:1-12



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

BOWED	FACES	GROUND	MORNING	RISEN
WOMEN	WEEK	FRIGHT	STONE	LIVING
ROLLED	FIRST	REMEMBER	DAY	DEAD
TOMB	AWAY	SPICES	ENTERED	BODY

April Birthdays

Jeanine Scott 8
 Heather Kotula 10
 Tyler Engels 11
 Dottie Slocum 11
 Mary Ann Pearce 17
 Karen Cotterill 23
 Mackayla Macomber 24
 Carol Engels 25
 Nancy Newberry 25

No April Anniversaries

(Please help us keep this list up to date by sending suggested additions or changes to Sue

at

Drydenpresoffice@gmail.com)



April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12	2	3 Blood Drive 10 – 2 Kitchen Cup-board 5-6 Bulletin Deadline	4 Prayer Shawls 1 pm	5 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12	6
Pastor's Vacation – April 1-7						
7 Choir 915/1130 Ministry Com. Mtg. 1130	8 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12	9 Quilters 10-2 Finance	10 Kitchen Cup-board 5-6 Bulletin Deadline	11 Session Reports Due	12 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12	13
Pastor's Vacation						
14 Choir 915/1130 Sun. Sch. 930 Communion Coffee Hour 1130	15 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12	16 Prayer Walk & Session 7 pm	17 Kitchen Cup-board 5-6 Bulletin Deadline	18 Newsletter Articles Due Prayer Shawls 1 pm	19 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12	20
21 Choir 915/1130 Sun. Sch. 930 Deacons 1130	22 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12	23 Quilters 10-2	24 Kitchen Cup-board 5-6 Bulletin Deadline	25	26 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12	27 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12 Spring Clean Up
28 Choir 915/1130 Sun. Sch. 930	29 Kitchen Cup-board 11-12	30				

Deadline for the May Newsletter is April 18.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DRYDEN
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)