

# Dryden Presbyterian Church Newsletter

## May 2023

### Celebration of Membership Month

What an exciting time of the year! Gardens are growing as fast as the thermometer. Missions are reaching out while ministry digs down deep. And finally, Hurrah! Hurrah! It is Celebration of Membership Month!

Three special Membership Sundays are coming up: praising God for membership anniversaries (May 7), thanking hardworking servants of the church (May 21), and welcoming new members (June 4).

On top of these celebrations, we have a couple mission projects. On May 7, we will hear from the Second Wind folks regarding the woman's shelter that is being built on Main Street. May 14 & 21 are Blanket Sundays in honor of all the women who have nurtured our faith.

Plus we have a Bible Study for the 5 Tuesdays in May on the Book of Revelation. You won't want to miss it.

The cherry on top of it all is Pentecost Sunday, the day we celebrate the Spirit coming down to ordinary folks like you and me and inspiring us to walk with God and one another. Technically, this Sunday falls on the holiday weekend, but **we will be observing Pentecost with communion and wearing red on Sunday, June 4.**

God has many plans for us this month. Please plan join us in person or on Zoom as we seek God's good will this month.

It wouldn't be the same without you!

Blessings!

- Pastor Nancy



### Point to Ponder

*"How many loaves do you have?"*

- Jesus



**Love. Grow. Serve.**

### What is a Member?

A member in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is "a person of faith, called by God, to a particular family of the Church."

### Joys and Commitments of Membership

- \* Sharing the good news in word and deed
- \* Taking part in the common life and worship of congregation
- \* Lifting one another up in prayer, mutual concern, and active service
- \* Studying Scripture and the issues of Christian faith and life
- \* Supporting the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time, and talents
- \* Participating in the ministry and responsibilities of the church

**New Member Meeting**  
**Wednesday, May 10 @ 7 pm**  
See Pastor Nancy for details.

## HONORING OUR SERVANT SUPER STARS

### **Dottie Slocum, Treasurer, 30 Years**

Assistant Treasurer 1993-1994; Treasurer 1994-present



*What does the Treasurer do?*

The system of checks and balances states that the Treasurer does not handle money. Her duties are to pay all the bills, maintain checking and saving accounts, assign the deposit

information and invoices to correct categories, distribute them to appropriate accounts (i.e. Christmas Joy, One Great Hour, and Heifer International). Each month after bank statements are reconciled, information is sent to the Finance Committee which she attends. The Treasurer is tasked with paying all employees except for the Pastor, using a Payroll Processing Company. She cuts the Pastor's payroll checks and issues the W-2s and 1099s for all church employees. She keeps the backup paperwork for checks issued and deposits made, presenting this information annually to the Audit Committee for review. All information is stored at the church upon completion.

Other annual tasks include the insurance audit for our Worker's Compensation Insurance, figuring the amounts for Disability and Family and Medical Leave Act Insurance. Balances are also provided to Committee Chairpersons for their annual reports.

*Pastor's Comment:*

Church Treasurer is a job full of deadlines, endless paperwork, and computer glitches. Such tasks can be highly stressful and frustrating as well as holding the joy of a job lined up in neat columns that balance at the bottom. It is also a job that is never done. Our church is extremely blessed with Dottie's over three decades of service that started out as a part-time helping hand.

### **Jack Scott, Clerk of Session, 26 Years**

1996-present



*What does the Clerk of Session do?*

The Clerk of Session is a person familiar with Robert's Rules of Order and who takes minutes of Session and Congregation meeting, plus a myriad of other responsibilities. These ongoing tasks include communications with Susquehanna Valley Presbytery, Synod of the Northeast, and PCUSA on a corporate level. In-house activities include documentation and history of membership, births, baptisms, marriages, deaths, and transfers. A record is maintained by the Clerk of Elders, Deacons, and Pastors with each of their terms of offices documented with dates of service. All these are recorded on acid-free paper and stored in a fireproof safe. At stated intervals, records are transferred to the Presbyterian Archives in Philadelphia along with official records of most Presbyterian churches. In our case, records stretch back 215 years to 1808, the founding year of our church. Jack is the longest seated clerk in our history.

*Pastor's Comment:*

The Clerk of Session is vital to the continuing function of a Presbyterian church. Minute-Taker, Recordkeeper, Historian, Herder-of-Elders, Pastor's-Brain-Tracker, and Communications Hub with the Regional and National Church. The Clerk keeps an eye on what is coming up, takes note of what is happening, and tracks everything that everyone has done since the founding of the church. Most individuals last no more than 3 years in such a position. Jack's long service continues to be a tremendous blessing to our church!

## CELEBRATING YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP

It is exciting to report that the focus of May will be MEMBERSHIP month. As we grow from the joy of the Easter celebration, we will focus on different qualities that have made our church the active and vibrant group that has served God and this community since 1808 when the first 13 men and women gathered to lay the foundation for the future. They met at each other's houses for the first decade and, as the group grew, at a Carpenter family farm barn on Route 13, which has since been torn down.

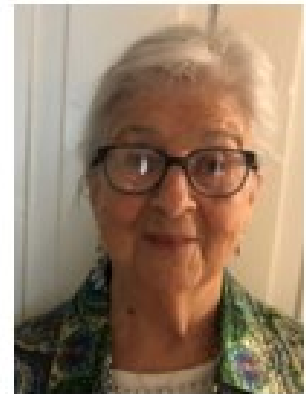
Please check the Social Room for flyers explaining the different ways you can be included in membership. The process is as easy as planting the daffodils that brighten your garden this time of year. The rewards of membership last longer than a few seasons of color.

On the first Sunday, May 7, we will celebrate the friends pictured as part of our family congregation with membership in five-year increments. We invite them to bring along any members of their families who would like to share this important date. A few are blessed to have their own children as current members.

*Pastor's Comment:* Church membership is a sign that a person wants to walk their Christian journey alongside a particular group of Christians as well as a public profession of faith in and reliance on Jesus Christ. Whether the number of years are long or few, members are cherished as part of the family. We celebrate these years of membership as families would celebrate birthdays and anniversaries. We celebrate members by thanking God for bringing us together as we follow Jesus.



Bryon & Nancy Newbury  
55 years



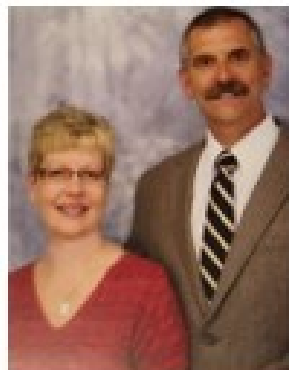
Gretchen Young  
50 years



David & Kathleen Gross  
40 years



Fran Sincerbeaux  
(Pictured with Robert)  
35 years



Heather Kotula  
(Pictured with Steve)  
25 Years



Marvin McHerron  
(Pictured with Tena)  
25 Years

# Millie's Musings—Mother's Day Celebration – May 14

Let's celebrate this year by having gals create their own special hat (or bring one out of storage).

At the Coffee Hour we will chat about the reason for your choice. Does it represent a favorite experience shared with your Mom or children, a hobby, favorite sports team, vacation event, church activity, (watch for a VBS memory). Be creative.



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## Mission Committee Notes

Our congregation participated in One Great Hour of Sharing special offering of Presbyterian Church again with the gifts received on Palm Sunday. By joining with other congregations we are able to witness our faith by assisting needs of those in hunger and poverty or affected by disasters, addressing both immediate needs and long-term issues. See Matthew 25 for Biblical support of our efforts. A final tally of donations is yet to come. Thanks to all who were able to contribute.



Moment for Mission during worship on Sunday, May 7, we will welcome a few words from Nicholas Brenner about the Second Wind Dryden Women's House on West Main Street. Nic helps

to coordinate the volunteer effort which is making notable progress.

Blanket Sunday for several years was a mission project of the now in our church defunct Presbyterian Women's group, but the session has deemed it worthy of continued support. Blanket Sunday is a service of Church World Services, founded in 1946 as an ecumenical association which now has 37 member communions including PCUSA via its disaster relief arm. In 2022, CWS distributed over 228,000 kits (for schools, baby welcome, hygiene, and cleanup) and blankets. Specifically, 59,910 blankets of appropriate heavy or light weight were given to provide warmth and comfort to those in need of them. Our church will have a Moment for Mission about Blanket Sunday on May 14 and 21, with a special offering to be received on the 21<sup>st</sup> (which is also not inappropriately Mother's Day this year). Your support as you are able to this means of witness

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## Child Safety Education Program

The Tompkins County Sheriff's Office in cooperation with Tompkins County Schools will be providing child safety education materials for children. The Sheriff's Office is confident that we all can help families understand how to remain safer through education. They are asking us to help provide materials for child safety as well as violence prevention and drug awareness. Materials can be provided at \$3.50 per child. Let's set a goal of 50 children - a \$175 donation.



Make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church of Dryden, noting National Child Safety Council.



# Worship/Praise Team News

Pentecost is a significant Christian holiday that is celebrated on the seventh Sunday, or 50 days, after Easter. This day marks the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ, as described in the New Testament. Pentecost is a time of renewal and reflection on the power of the Holy Spirit and its role in the Christian faith.

In the Acts of Apostles, St Luke tells us about how the disciples experienced the Holy Spirit like fire and strong wind.



They then started telling others about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. The festival, therefore, commemorates the beginning of the

Christian Church. It reminds us how Jesus' promise that God would send the Holy Spirit was fulfilled.

## Kitchen Cupboard and Clothing Shed:

Mon. & Fri. 11 a.m. to noon; Wed. 5 to 6 p.m.  
Last Sat. of each month 11a.m.—noon.

### WEB Items for collection in May:

Beef jerky snack sticks

We will celebrate Pentecost on May 28<sup>th</sup> this year. It's tradition (at least in our church) to **wear red**.

### Special Services:

May 7 – Celebration of Membership Years

May 21 – Celebration of Service for Jack Scott, Clerk of Session for 26 years and Dottie Slocum, Treasurer for 30+ years; meal to follow

June 4 – Pentecost Sunday; wear red Communion

June 10 – Dryden Dairy Day Cookie Booth

June 11 – Christian Education Sunday

June 18 – Return to summer hours with 10:00 am service

If you're unable to attend our service in person, please join in via zoom.

## Flowers

Providing flowers for the sanctuary during the worship service is another way to celebrate happy times or to honor/ remember a loved one. If your flowers mark a special occasion that you wish to share with your church family, be sure to note that down on the flower calendar. Artificial flowers are a nice choice that can be used for more than one Sunday.



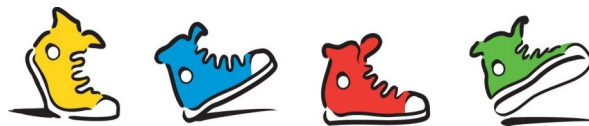
## May is Membership Month

Interested in becoming a church member?

New Members Meeting is

**Wed, May 10 at 7 pm**

Zoom & In Person  
See our Membership Display in the Fellowship Hall



**Walking with God**

**Vacation Bible School**

July 12, 13, 14 at 5:30-7:30 pm  
Bible School for ALL AGES!

**Save the dates!**

## RESOURCE COMMITTEE REPORT

January through March Operating Results	2022 Actual (3 months)	2023 Actual (3 months)	2023 Budget (3 months)	2023 Budget (12 months)
<b><u>Operating Income</u></b>				
Pledge Receipts	\$ 31,244	\$ 28,028	\$ 26,850	\$ 107,400
Non-Pledge & Plate Contributions	2,266	3,292	2,500	10,000
Interest, Dividends & Misc Income	1,573	2,214	3,375	13,500
Expenses	(27,771)	(44,145)	(42,426)	(167,422)
To Capital, Copier and Piano & Organ Reserve Accounts	(900)	(900)	(900)	(3,600)
From Designated for Purchase of Stoves	-	1,423	-	-
From Insurance for Preliminary Repairs of Water Damage	-	920	-	-
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b><u>\$ 6,412</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (9,168)</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (10,601)</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (40,122)</u></b>

( ) Denotes reduction to Income.  
Negative Net Income will be covered by the Session Discretionary Reserve.

The expenses continue to be in line with last year's. The new telephone system will be paid for from memorial funds.

### First Presbyterian Church of Dryden

6 North Street / PO Box 42

Dryden, NY 13053

607-844-8321

[drydenpresoffice@gmail.com](mailto:drydenpresoffice@gmail.com)

Church Office Hours Tues. – Thurs.

9:00 a.m. - noon

### Nancy Didway, Pastor

304.941.9659 text/call\*

[Pastor.nancy@drydenpres.com](mailto: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.

#### Session

Discipleship ..... Dan Carpenter  
 Fellowship ..... Cheryl Nemecek  
 Harmony ..... Jeanine Scott  
 Missions ..... Chuck Nydam  
 Property ..... Dave Parsons  
 Resources ..... Joyce Day  
 ..... Brad Perkins  
 Worship ..... Doug Barton  
 ..... Brenda Carpenter

#### Deacons

Phyllis Byrn  
 Evan Carpenter  
 Christi LaPlant  
 Fran Sincerbeaux  
 Dottie Slocum  
 MJ Uttech  
 Connie Walker

#### 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



# 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesd	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
	KitCupb 11-12	Bible Study 11am	Bulletin Deadline	PrayerShawl 1pm	KitCupb 11-12	BlueJeans Sat
			KitCupb 5-6			
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
930 Sun School	KitCupb 11-12	Quilters 10 am	Bulletin Deadline		KitCupb 11-12	
Choir 915/1130		Bible Study 11am	KitCupb 5-6			
Guest: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wind			New Members Class 7pm			
Celebrate Years of Membership	Nancy Out of Office				Presby Leader Retreat	
<b>Mother's Day 14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
930 Sun School	KitCupb 11-12	Motions Due	Bulletin Deadline	PrayerShawl 1pm	KitCupb 11-12	
Choir 915/1130		Finance Team 930	KitCupb 5-6			
		Bible Study 11am		Reports Due		
Blanket Sunday		Deacons 615pm				
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
930 Sun School	KitCupb 11-12	Quilters 10 am	Bulletin Deadline		KitCupb 11-12	KitCupb 11-12
Choir 915		Bible Study 11am	KitCupb 5-6	Newsletter Deadline		
Dish-to-Pass						
Celebrate Years of Service		Session 7 pm				
<b>Pentecost 28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
Communion	KitCupb Closed	Bible Study 11am	Bulletin Deadline			
Choir 915/1130	<b>Memorial Day</b>		KitCupb 5-6			
	Office Closed					

**MAY birthdays:**

Bruce Wright	7-9?	Tyler Engels	11	McKayla Macomber	24
Jeanine Scott	8	Dottie Slocum	11	Carol Engels	25
Heather Kotula	10	Mary Ann Pearce	17	Nancy Newberry	25
		Karen Cotterill	23	Corey Cooper	29

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DRYDEN  
6 North Street, PO Box 42  
Dryden, NY 13053 USA

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of Dryden

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Dryden, NY 13053 USA  
Phone: 607-844-8321  
E-mail: [drydenpresoffice@gmail.com](mailto:drydenpresoffice@gmail.com)  
Pastor Nancy Didway

Join us as we worship  
the Lord

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