



The First Presbyterian Church
 Dryden, New York
 NEWSLETTER
 March 2021



Greetings,

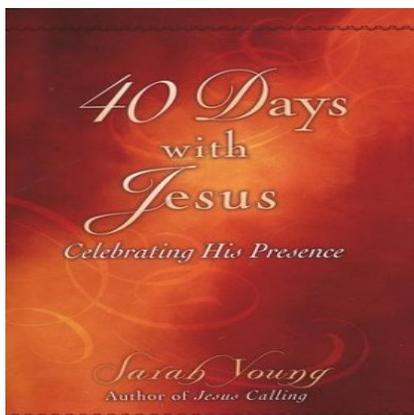
I hope and pray that you are able to find some joy as we journey through Lent. I realize that envisioning a journey from one side of the dining room to the other might not be the image we normally have in mind, but it is a journey. This year more a journey of the mind which can lead to new habits of expanded meditation and time with God. These can then be continued once we are back in whatever the new 'abnormal' will be.

Worship is continuing with a few in person and many on Zoom. Tim, Scott & Mike are doing a wonderful job of providing a meaningful worship environment for all of us. The Wednesday evening (7:00 pm) book study continues through the end of the month with many participating. The same sign in codes as for Sunday morning work to attend.

COVID is still with us. So while in person gatherings are suspended; the session, deacons and various committees are still functioning. The ministry work of the congregation continues both locally in the mission field. There are great needs around the world. Please continue to pray for those with needs and the folks ministering to those needs.

My wife Peg is doing well in her assisted-living facility near Philadelphia, PA. I am not allowed to visit (other than by phone or Zoom) as the facility had a number of infections about a month ago. She has gotten both vaccine shots. She still enjoys that others are now doing the cooking and cleaning but doesn't like the room quarantine. We appreciate all the prayers and gifts you have been offering for our family.

Shalom, Dale



We are having a Bible Study Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm., using the same Zoom link as we use on Sunday mornings.

The small booklet was mailed to you called, *40 Days with Jesus-Celebrating His Presence*, by Sarah Young.

All are welcome to join in the conversation .

If you did not receive a booklet there are extra copies on the table in the administrative office.

Church Contacts

The church office is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Dale Francis, Interim Pastor
814-739-9537 (farm) or dale@dppjic.com

Clerk of Session: John Scott (844-9206)

The Church Office Administrator is Arlene Krebs;
she can be reached at 844-8321
or email: drydenpresoffice@gmail.com

Chair of Deacons: Connie Walker



We proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, feed the hungry, welcome the stranger and love our neighbors as ourselves.



Information for the
April newsletter
should be in the church
office by 10:00 a.m.
Monday March 22nd.

- If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, please contact: drydenpresoffice@gmail.com.
- If you are receiving this newsletter by e-mail or mail and would like to be removed from the list, please call the church office.



Federal privacy regulations prevent hospitals from giving out the names of people who have been admitted. That means that the Pastor may not be aware that someone in our church family is in the hospital and would like a visit. Please call the church office (844-8321) and let us know if a church member or friend been hospitalized.



Sermons on the DPC web site: Thanks to Tim Parsons you can listen to sermons on our website. Go to <http://www.drydenpres.com>; click on "Listen to Worship."



MARCH

March 5 World Day of Prayer

March 7 Communion
Third Sunday in Lent

March 14 Fourth Sunday in Lent
Daylight Saving Time

March 17 St. Patrick's Day

March 20 First Day of Spring

March 21 Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 28 Palm Sunday
Holy Week begins



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The season of Lent is a time of prayer, fasting and self-examination in preparation for the celebration of the resurrection of the Lord at Easter. It is a period of 40 days — like the flood of Genesis, Moses' sojourn at Mount Sinai, Elijah's journey to Mount Horeb, Jonah's call to Ninevah to repent and Jesus' time of testing in the wilderness.

Just a Note

Well, here I am, back on hymns. Last time I wrote, I mentioned some ways of finding that old favorite hymn. You know the one(s), the hymns that were so irresponsibly left out of the current hymnal. How could anyone neglect to include my favorite! Well, once found finding out a bit more about the tune can be an interesting adventure.

Most hymns are written as poems separate from whatever tune they will be sung to. Some hymns, in fact, have multiple tunes that are considered to be traditional. Take, for example, *Away in a Manger*. The tune most of us are familiar with is *Mueller* (~50%) but the tune *Cradle Song* (~33%) is quite popular as well, especially in Britain. Yes, about 17% of the time there is a tune that is different still (these figures are estimations based on a pie chart on hymnary.org). There are lots of ways that lyric and tune can come together, the author may have had a particular tune in mind or people may hook a well-loved poem up with a tune they like.

Clergy, have been known to use folk tunes picked up at the local pub in order to get the congregation singing. Tunes from the local pub have always been popular but work songs and love songs have all been “borrowed.” There were some advantages to the pre-copyright world of music. Sometimes the secular words have been lost in favor of the sacred words.

I did some looking into one of my favorites, *Slane*. This is one of those tunes where the original lyrics appear to be lost, my search of about 30 minutes brought me no closer to the original words I than the original title. I did find some lovely YouTube entries, though. I learned it as the tune to *Lord of All Hopefulness* but some know it better as *Be Thou My Vision*. Here’s what I found, the following is quoted from Hymnary.org: SLANE is an old Irish folk tune associated with the ballad “With My Love on the Road” in Patrick W. Joyce’s *Old Irish Folk Music and Songs* (1909). It became a hymn tune when it was arranged by David Evans and set to the Irish hymn “Be Thou My Vision” published in the *Church Hymnary* (1927). SLANE is named for a hill in County Meath, Ireland, where St. Patrick’s lighting of an Easter fire – an act of defiance against the pagan king Loegaire (fifth century) – led to his unlimited freedom to preach the gospel in Ireland.

Happy Hunting! - - - Scott Miller



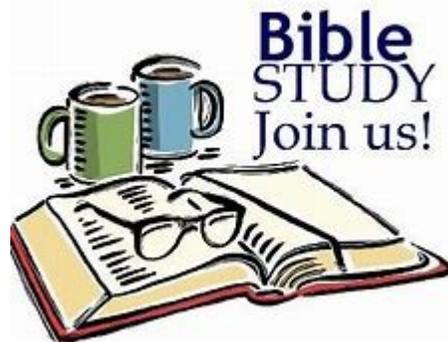
Prayer Shawl
Ministry



Sponsor a Prayer Shawl

Our Prayer Shawls have become a ministry of love and comfort to many people who are experiencing surgery, illness or the loss of a loved one.

Yarn for a prayer shawl costs from \$16 to \$25. If you do not knit or crochet but would like to support this wonderful ministry, please make out a check to Dryden Presbyterian Church, marked “Prayer Shawls.”



Christian Education

“40 Days with Jesus: Celebrating His Presence”

If you haven't joined the Lent Devotional, please join us Wed. evenings, 7:00 p.m. You can use the same zoom link as we use for the Sunday Service. There will be plenty of good conversation and you'll grow closer to your Christian brothers and sisters. There will even be some chuckles and laughter! All are welcome.

“Escape the Tomb” is the title of the skit the youth and special guests will present via zoom on Palm Sunday, March 28th. The skit is centered around a tourist trap escape room with an Egyptian theme called The Tomb of the Pharaoh. In each humorous scene the characters learn lessons that connect back to the two escapes we celebrate at Easter: Jesus' “escape” from His tomb, and our “escape” from sin. You won't want to miss the fun!

Members of the Christian Education Committee will be presenting special Children Messages during the service, related to Easter. Be sure to tune in!

The Kitchen Cupboard is open!

Please direct anyone who needs food to feel free to come to the pantry.

The Kitchen Cupboard will receive donations of canned goods, fresh vegetables and dry foods.

Financial donations enable the purchase of other necessities: bread, milk, etc.

The hours that the kitchen cupboard are open are Monday and Friday 11 a.m. to noon.

Food Policy Council of Tompkins County

Changes to our food system change our relationships to one another and to the planet. To ensure a secure food future, we are seeking ideas from you, our community, about changes for the better.

Take the Survey **SHAPE OUR FOOD SYSTEM**
Visit: www.tompkinsfoodfuture.org/participate



Name: Fun and Games

ON THE ROAD TO EASTER WORD SEARCH



- | | | |
|------------|---------------|--------------|
| Ash | Holy Week | Palm Branch |
| Wednesday | Holy Thursday | Forty Days |
| Sacrifice | Good Friday | Jesus |
| Almsgiving | Holy Saturday | Passover |
| Prayer | Easter | Foot Washing |
| Fasting | Palm Sunday | Resurrection |
| Lent | Purple | Love |



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Mrs. Jones got a little too used to watching online worship from home.

Finance and Facilities

January Operating Results				
	2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2021 Budget	2022 Budget
Income	\$ 6,943	\$ 5,109	\$ 9,658	\$ 115,900
(Deduct): Operating Expenses	(10,071)	(10,354)	(9,695)	(106,770)
(To) / From Reserve Accounts	(283)	(300)	(300)	(3,600)
Net Income	<u>\$ (3,411)</u>	<u>\$ (5,545)</u>	<u>\$ (337)</u>	<u>\$ 5,530</u>

Operating Results...

January receipts were \$1,800 behind last year and \$4,500 (about half) behind the amount in the budget. Hopefully February will be better. Expenses were about the same as last year and about \$650 above the budget because two payments to NYSEG were made in the month. Net Income was \$2,100 behind 2020 and \$5,200 lower than the budget.

Emergency Contact List...

Our church maintains a list of members of the congregation who can be contacted in case of an emergency that requires access to the building or other action on short notice. This list is provided to Tompkins County EMS and Pleasant Valley Electric. Current members on the list include: Piers Bramham, Evan Carpenter, Joyce Day, Pastor Dale Francis, Chuck Nydam, Dave Parsons, Jack Scott and Ernie Walker.

Plaster Repairs...

Jim Pastorello has started the repairs to the plaster walls in the Bell Tower entrance and the back entrance to the Administrative Building. He was planning to address the north wall in the Library however discovered that water from ice dams in the eaves above the ramp along the north side of the Library was causing water to leak in a window sill below the dam. We will have to address that problem before repairing the wall.

Video Equipment...

Session approved the purchase of a video camera and tripod to enhance the live streaming of church services and to free Tim up from having to bring his equipment each week. We currently have \$500 from the "Staying Connected Grant" from Presbytery that can be used toward this \$1,500 investment and some congregation members have also contributed. If you would like to help, please mark "Video Equipment" on your check... And thank you very much! (F.Y.I... We are looking forward to other video upgrades to enhance in-church services when we all can rejoin services in the sanctuary.)



Administrative Door

Please turn around and check that the administrative door is latched when you leave.



Need Help?

Get Help!

Do you have questions ?

Simply Dial 2-1-1

Or Text your zip code to TXT211 or 898211
To be connected with a live call specialist, who can answer questions on transportation, employment, food, recreation, healthcare, etc.



First Presbyterian Church of Dryden
Procedure for Church Services and Use during COVID-19 Pandemic

1. The service will not exceed 40 minutes as a safety precaution. The pastor will perform the service from the pulpit. Praise & Worship leaders and the pastor will be seated before the congregation arrives. Praise & Worship leaders will be seated at the front of the church and will speak from the podium. The pastor will be seated in the choir loft.
2. Windows and doors will be open as much as possible to increase ventilation. Ceiling fans will not be used.
3. Only the main entrance from the driveway to the fellowship hall will be used so that everyone passes through the screening process. Everyone gets screened.
4. There will be no more than 50 people in the sanctuary at one time. Every “household” group must maintain at least a 6 foot distance from other households.
5. Everyone must wear a mask that covers both the nose and mouth at all times while they are in the church building. Masks should also be worn outside when people are within 6 feet of each other. Only the pastor may remove his/her mask when they are at the pulpit. Masks must be either 2 layers of fabric or disposable. Masks will be available for anyone who does not have one. A sign will be posted at the main entrance stating that people must wear a mask at all times.
6. Every person must use hand sanitizer upon entering the building. Hand sanitizing stations will be maintained at the main door entrance and in the fellowship hall. It is recommended that individuals use hand sanitizer when they leave the church.
7. Hymnals and Bibles will be removed for any service held at a time other than Sunday morning.
8. An usher (Usher #1) will:
 - a. meet attendees at the entrance to the church;
 - b. immediately give them a mask if they are not wearing one;
 - c. check off the name of each member/friend on a list provided by the Church Administrative Assistant. If a visitor is present, their name and contact information will be recorded, but no one is required to give their contact information;
 - d. inform people that, if they need to use a bathroom, they are to use the one located in the link;
 - e. take each person’s temperature with a touchless thermometer;
 - f. ask each person if:
 - 1) they feel ill or have had any symptoms of COVID in the past 14 days including cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, fatigue, headache, sore throat, nausea, or diarrhea;
 - 2) have tested positive for COVID within the last 14 days,
 - 3) have been in contact with someone who was diagnosed with COVID or was suspected of having COVID within the last 14 days,
 - 4) have traveled from one of the states that New York considers high risk (the up-to-date list is at <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>). The Church Administrative Assistant will generate an up-to-date list at the end of each week of the high risk states.

- g. Anyone who answers any of the screening questions with a positive answer or has a temperature of 100.4 or above will be asked gently to go home and view our worship service on-line.
9. A second usher (Usher #2) will stand at the entry of the sanctuary and instruct people that:
 1. they must wear a mask while in the building that covers both the mouth and nose,
 2. they should fill the sanctuary from the front to the back and go to the pews that are not blocked,
 3. only one family unit should sit in a pew and should sit where the bulletins are placed so as to maximize distance between seats,
 10. If someone uses the bathroom, Usher #2 will do the disinfecting and Usher #1 will cover the responsibilities of Usher #2. All touched and flat services in the bathroom will be disinfected after each use. Supplies for disinfection will be stored in the maintenance closet.
 11. At the end of the service, the pastor will announce that people in the back of the church should file out first and that they should notify him if they develop any symptoms of COVID within three days after the service or if they test positive for COVID.
 12. On communion Sundays, packets with pre-filled communion cups will be placed on a table for people to pick up on their way into the sanctuary.
 13. There will be no singing. The organist can play the music and people may hum the tune.
 14. People should refrain from personal contact---hand-shaking, hugging, or touching.
 15. A collection plate will be on a table by the entrance to the sanctuary for people to use as they enter or leave.
 16. Until further notice, the following activities are suspended:
 - a. Sunday School and nursery
 - b. Coffee hours and other food events
 - c. Outside groups using the church
 17. People will be asked to exit the building directly after the service. People may socialize outside of the building, away from the entrance and maintaining the social distance of at least 6 feet.
 18. If the sanctuary or fellowship hall is going to be used at some time other than for Sunday services, it will be thoroughly cleaned using a recommended disinfectant on all surfaces before and after use.
 19. A reminder regarding COVID safety will be in each week's bulletin.
 20. Services will still be offered through the internet for those people who do not wish to attend in person.
 21. A copy of this plan and a list of attendees for each service will be filed in the church office. Attendee lists can be destroyed after one month. As part of their responsibility to do contact tracing, the local Health Department will notify the church if someone who attended a service tested positive and the church would have to follow the Department's guidance as to what follow up was necessary.
 22. If there is a significant increase in the numbers of COVID cases in the community, services in the sanctuary may need to be suspended again.



Happy Anniversary

*Kathlene and Dave
Gross March 29th*

Mark Dodds	1
Betsey Van Sickle	2
Ashley Engels	4
Dave Robinson	4
Phyllis Byrn	5
Evan Carpenter	8
Dawson Greene	8
Doug Cotterill	11
Brad Perkins	11
Marsha Smith	11
Phyllis Smith	12
Dawn Horner	19
Mahlon Perkins	29
Quinn Dodds	31

Thank you to all who sent the lovely birthday cards. They were a fun and welcome surprise.
-- Emma Park-Miller



Daylight saving time, or daylight time and summer time, is the practice of advancing clocks during warmer months so that darkness falls later each day according to the clock.

Remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour on March 14th!



Awakening

When I arise each morning, Lord,
I cannot help but see
The great and wondrous blessings, Lord,
That You've prepared for me.



I open wide my window, Lord,
And feel soft breezes blow,
Look up into the clear blue sky,
And that is when I know.

Your love is reaching down to me.
The clouds of gray are gone;
Upon my windowsill there sits
A robin filled with song.

I see the sun rise in the east;
It speaks of hope and light.
Inside my weary heart it shines
And bids adieu tonight.

Ruth Gillis

Administrative Door

There is a new push button lock on the administrative door.

Each person (family) has their own code.

Please call **Arlene or Dave Parsons** to get your personal code.

Hold your palm over the lock and the device will come on, then punch in your number and hit the * key.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 KC 5-6	4	5  World Day of Prayer Church office closed KC 11-12	6 KC 11-12
7 Worship 10:30 In-person church service. or join us on Zoom 3rd Sunday in Lent Communion	8 KC 11-12	9 Finance 7:00 Zoom	10 KC 5-6	11	12 Church office closed KC 11-12	13 KC 11-12
14 Worship 10:30 In-person church service. or join us on Zoom 4th Sunday in Lent 	15 KC 11-12	16 Session Deacons Zoom	17  KC 5-6	18	19 Church office closed KC 11-12	20  KC 11-12
21 Worship 10:30 In-person church service. or join us on Zoom 5th Sunday in Lent	22 KC 11-12 April newsletter information due	23	24 KC 5-6	25	26 Church office closed KC 11-12	27 KC 11-12
28 Palm Sunday Worship 10:30 In-person church service. or join us on Zoom 	29 KC 11-12	30	31 KC 5-6			

KC= Kitchen Cupboard