

September 2023

News From PPC

News from the Interim

Romans 8:28, "We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose."

Dear All:

All things DO work together for good for those who love God and are called for God's purpose.



I share with you a great joy! At the session meeting on Wednesday, August 23, 2023, the session voted to approve the Congregational Self-Study. This study is the culmination of lots of hard work. Yes, Steve Mitchell pieced it together and put it in coherent form, but it was YOU the congregation that gave up a lot of your time in order to be part of the congregational discussions, to reflect, and to give your input throughout the past year and half. Yes, it really HAS been that long.

Here's what is next. On Friday, September 1, 2023, the document entitled "Congregational Self-Study" will be sent out by email to all those now receiving electronic *Parkviews*. Hard copies will be available at the church. I will make an announcement on Sunday, September 3rd—for people to pick up copies. If anyone wishes to have a copy mailed to them, or emailed to them, they should contact the office at 315-331-2255 or at parkchurch110@gmail.com to either have it mailed or emailed—please specify. Copies may be picked up during the weeks of September 3rd and September 10th. On Sunday, September 17, 2023, we will have another Congregational Discussion after church at 11:15 AM; at this time, session will field any questions/comments/concerns that the congregation has concerning the self-study. I have already contacted the Committee on Ministry (COM) and have asked them to put this study's approval on their docket for their October 3, 2023, monthly meeting. Once approved by COM, Park Presbyterian Church begins the next step of a process of the formation of a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).

I share some more good news. All things ARE working together for good for those who love God and are called for God's purpose. At our last congregational discussion, session was asked to form a committee. Every-

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body at that meeting agreed that a committee should be formed. At the Session meeting on August 23, 2023, the session did three things:

The session voted their approval to create a committee to include THREE session members and THREE congregational members to be called the "BIG HOUSE" Committee.

The session voted their approval for the following statement concerning this committee:

"We have a house that is under-utilized and costing too much money (ie-too much church income)."

The session voted their approval for the following charge to this committee:

"To find options for this congregation (not necessarily the building) to make it to 2038 (15 yrs.)"

To this end, I will be following through as session made suggestions as to who might be on this committee. Stay tuned-in for updates!

Finally, I share some thoughts/quotes concerning the church—from the Bible Study by Linda Pevey called *We Are the Church...Let's Act Like It*, from Joan Gray's book *Spiritual Leadership for Church Officers* and from Henri Nouwen's book *In the Name of Jesus*.

Henri Nouwen says: *"The mystery of ministry is that we have been chosen to make our own limited and very conditional love the gateway for the unlimited and unconditional love of God."*

Joan Grey says: *"The challenge facing all Christians, and especially leaders, is to hold on to the truth of the church's divine nature while at the same time not becoming discouraged by its human weaknesses."*

Linda Pevey quotes Martin Luther King Jr. in a small excerpt from "Letter from Birmingham City Jail," April 1963. He wrote this letter to the white churches in the city expressing his disappointment that they did not support the nonviolent protests to end segregation that were taking place in their city.

"Wherever the early Christians entered a town the power structure got disturbed and immediately sought to convict them for being 'disturbers of the peace' and 'outside agitators.' But they went on with the conviction that they were a 'a colony of heaven,' and had to obey God rather than man. They were small in number but big in commitment. Things are different now. The contemporary church is so often a weak, ineffectual voice with an uncertain sound. It is so often the arch supporter of the status quo. If the church today does not recapture the sacrificial spirit of the early church, it will lose its authentic ring, forfeit the loyalty of millions, and be dismissed as an irrelevant social club with no meaning for the twentieth century."

(Martin Luther King Jr., "Letter from Birmingham City Jail," Martin Luther King Jr. Research and Education Institutes, http://okra.stanford.edu/transcription/document_images_undecided/630416-019.pdf.)

Two final thoughts from Joan Grey:

When God is involved, there are no hopeless situations.

When Jesus took the five loaves and two fish into his hands, he did not think about what a pittance it was to feed such a great crowd. Instead, he focused on the power of God, and look what happened...it was enough.

Here are Park Presbyterian—there are NO hopeless situations. Like Jesus, if we focus on the power of God, whatever we have will be enough because ***all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.***

In Christ's Name-Susan



Season of Peace: September 3-October 1, 2023

Sponsored by the PCUSA, this month-long pilgrimage is designed to deepen the pursuit of peace for congregations, small groups, households, and individuals. This season is a time of growth, encouragement, challenge, inspiration, and education. Participants are invited to define and deepen their calling as peacemakers.

September 3, 2023: Called to Care

Park Presbyterian Church will begin its Season of Peace with representative and a family from Haiti who will speak after the service at 11:15 concerning Called to Care. In our commitment to peacemaking, we are addressing the issue of violence—due to war and internal government issues.

Quote by Baptiste and Miranda Paul:

“Peace can begin with a small step that you choose. A smile might spark a friendship. A friendship fosters empathy. Empathy leads to helpful actions. And helpful actions, over time, bring justice and peace.”

(Article from Finger Lakes Times-written by Mike Cutillo on May 9, 2023)

CANANDAIGUA — Called to Care, Canandaigua, celebrated its first year of welcoming and resettling refugee families in Canandaigua recently.

At its April 17 meeting, a board of directors was elected and newly interested individuals had an opportunity to hear about committee work and to become engaged in the work of welcome.

Currently, three families have been resettled under the Humanitarian Parole Program, which requires an American sponsor. The organization is planning to welcome another Haitian family through the same program and, later in the year, two families may be resettled in partnership with World Relief Western NY. Monthly informational meetings are held on the third Mondays of each month. On May 15 Eric Lintala, Community Engagement Manager at World Relief, will offer a Good Neighbor Team training session at St. Mary’s Church, 95 N. Main St., from 4-6 p.m. Interested individuals are invited to learn more about how these small groups of 6-10 volunteers from churches, organizations, or even community neighborhoods welcome and walk alongside newly arrived refugee families.

World Relief offers “assistance with practical resettlement tasks aimed at empowering the family to move towards self-sufficiency, while simultaneously building meaningful, long lasting relationships.” Called to Care, Canandaigua assists families financially in their first few months with rent, utility payments, and other fees as well as helping them find housing, employment, English classes and provide for food and clothing needs.

Called to Care, Canandaigua, with its mission to promote and facilitate resettlement of refugees in Canandaigua by providing a support network to help them start a new life, invites interested individuals to join in the rewarding work of welcoming and serving some of the world’s most vulnerable. For more information, contact Linda Werts at 315-447-0276.

On **Sunday, October 1, 2023**, we welcome Claire Green who will speak during the worship service. Claire is writing a book about her life experiences growing up as a black woman and will address firsthand the issue

of racism and how it has affected her family. Claire has been part of Narcotics Anonymous and was instrumental in helping to form a new group on Monday nights called Back to Basics. She has since left the group to focus on her personal growth and the writing of her book. In our commitment to peacemaking, we are addressing the issue of racism.

Quotes from Muhammed Ali:

"Hating people because of their color is wrong. And it doesn't matter which color does the hating. It's just plain wrong."

"Always confront the things you fear. We are only brave when we have something to lose and we still try. We can't be brave without fear."



Peace and Global Witness Offering: World-wide Communion on October 1, 2023

The Peace and Global Witness Offering draws us together by providing education and exposure to those who show us how to do peacemaking well. It allows us to create resources for dealing with conflict and provide nurturing reconciliation, and stand in support of our global siblings, because the peace of Christ belongs to people everywhere.

On World Communion Sunday, we celebrate that Christ's peace extends throughout all creation. Whenever the church gathers for worship, we are assured of Christ's peace. We celebrate that we are connected, we are loved and we are not alone. We worship together and are fed from Scripture and at Christ's table of peace. Extending the peace of Christ is part of an active, engaged faith—a witness to what it means for us to be the Church, together.

Through participation in the Peace and Global Witness Offering, our church is extending Christ's peace throughout our community and our world. We begin at the communion table, with our siblings in every time and place, and we celebrate the peace we find there and commit to building a more just and peaceful world. God is with us...and God in Christ is with us through the Sacrament of Communion, celebrated on World Communion Sunday. We are not alone. Peace begins with each of us.

25% of the Offering stays with local congregations, and 25% with mid councils to unite congregations to support peacemaking in their regions. 50% of this Offering supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

Task Forces:

Mission Task Force:

September and October are “Hope in a Tote” months. The church congregation is being asked to supply personal Hygiene Items as well as some fun items—like lipstick—that will be put in handmade “totes.” If you are interested in making a “tote” please contact the church office at 315-331-2255. Stay tuned for more information—but items like shampoo, toothpaste/brushes, soaps, sanitary pads/tampons, shower gels, deodorant, razors, individually wrapped snacks, lipstick or lip gloss, etc. would be great adds to the totes.



Christian Fellowship:

Rally/Church Picnic on Sunday, September 10th (Dish to Pass); hotdogs will be supplied.
50+ Member recognition service and reception is planned in conjunction with our morning worship and Dish to Pass after church on October 22, 2023.



Christian Education: (Isn't just for children—its for EVERYONE!)

There are MANY ways to pray. I will be offering some prayer workshops this fall. Which prayer workshops will be determined by who/how many sign-up or let the office know at 315-331-2255. Days and times will then be determined by interest. Please let me know of any interest ASAP. Possible workshops might include:

Praying in Color: Praying in Color uses doodling and coloring to get still and listen to God.

Centered Prayer: *A method of Contemplative prayer in which we rest silently in the presence of God.*

Lectio Divina: Is a traditional monastic practice of scriptural reading, meditation and prayer intended to promote communion with God and to increase the knowledge of God's word.

Visio Divina: an ancient form of Christian prayer in which we allow our hearts and imaginations to enter into a sacred image, in silence, to see what God might have to say to us.

Prayer Journaling: a place to record your conversations with God. You can write down the things that are on your heart and mind, and keep track of God's answers and blessings. It's something that you can look back on when times get hard and you need a reminder of God's faithfulness.

Praying in Psalms: Learn to simply, *honestly express faith, questions, praise & fears* in a personal psalm.

Praying with Protestant Beads: Praying with beads adds a tactile component to your prayers. The act of holding the beads and moving from one bead to the next brings focus to your prayers.

5 Finger Prayer/ACTS/PRAY:

A format that allows *children and adults to recall and pray in their own words for five different groups of people.*

ACTS is an acronym that stands for adoration, confession, thanksgiving, and supplication (or supply needs).

Four aspects of prayer based on the *Lord's Prayer* can provide a structure and flow for your prayer life.

Park Church Connections:

Little Red Wagon:

Collections are every **FIRST** Sunday of each month. Henry and Christine Stephens take the collected items to the Newark Food Pantry on the second Tuesday of each month. Our next two collections are September 3rd and October 1st. Stu says "THANK YOU!"

Survivor Advocacy Center of the Finger Lakes:

There is a bin in the lounge at Park Presbyterian Church.

The Survivor Advocacy Center of the Finger Lakes' programs for survivors of domestic violence provides shelter and appropriate services for all victims. Their safe dwelling program provides housing for a maximum of 14 residents. Their programs provide appropriate service for survivors of domestic violence, sexual abuse, stalking, dating violence, bullying, and child abuse regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, secular orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, gender, marital status, or disability.

The SACFL accepts donations of...

- **Household items** such as new bath towels, new standard pillows, pots and pans, twin size sheets or complete bedding sets, shower mats and shower curtains, floor and table lamps, new or gently used luggage, alarm clocks, nightstands and other small furniture items.
- **Staples** such as paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, kitchen trash bags, light bulbs, batteries, cleaning and laundry supplies, diapers, and baby wipes, feminine hygiene products.

Gift cards for groceries or household supplies provide additional flexibility for meeting on-demand needs.

Family Promise:

In the United States, one child out of five lives in poverty. Families with children make up 35% of the people in this country who experience homelessness. Poverty in Wayne County is a persistent and continuing foundation of homelessness. From data provided by school districts in Wayne County, there has been a consistent number of over 600 homeless children, both pre-school and school-age each year since the 2014-2015 school year. Contact Anne Rogers at 315-879-5478 for more information or of your interest in helping with either the September 11 or the October 16 dinner.

News from Common Threads:

Common Threads is located at 5694 Wood Lane, Newark, NY 14513. It is open 9AM-12:PM every First and Third Saturday of the month. Drop off for clothing is in Park Presbyterian lounge M-W, F from 9AM-4PM. Contact Sarah at shumphrey8008@gmail.com or call 585-409-4667 for more information.

Newark Food Pantry:

The Newark Food Pantry is located at 301 East Miller Street, Newark, NY 14513.

There are many ways to volunteer your time at the Newark Food Closet. All Donations go to support the Newark Food Closet. We do not have paid staff; we are run solely on volunteers.

Registration: The registration volunteer takes in all required information to enter clients into the database. Information must be correct so as not to cause confusion or interfere with tax and grants.

Shopper: This person walks around our store helping clients choose the assigned amount and categories of food according to their submitted information

If interested, please contact Lisa Barrett at (315) 332-8582 or (315) 351-6474.

Laurel House:

Laurel House is a not-for-profit volunteer community organization in Newark, NY, formed with its first meeting on November 7, 2014, and incorporated in May 2015. The idea of Laurel House, a volunteer-driven home providing free end-of-life care for Wayne County residents and their families, originated decades ago with Jean Cass, a nurse who watched one of her dear friends succumb to a difficult death from breast cancer. Jean's passion for a better way to care for the dying brought about the comfort care home, the House of John in Clifton Springs and was the impetus for doing the same in Newark. While Laurel House Comfort Care provides end-of-life care free of charge, it costs over \$200,000 to operate the home. Donations are greatly appreciated!



Please let the office know if your birthday is not on our list. We want to make sure we are honoring everyone's birthday.

3rd	Alexandra Briggs
5th	Karen Doeblen
5th	Rick Ross
12th	July Wishchoff
13th	Joan Boerman
15th	Claire Coleman
15th	Sue Faro
16th	Eleanor Wolfe
16th	Nancy Ross
18th	Steve Mitchell
19th	Jillian Blodgett
21st	Marilyn Wilson
24th	Callan Burgess
24th	Dale Groover
24th	Stephanie Lang
27th	Sue Tiersen
30th	Jim Kline

Membership

This fall, a letter will go out to ALL Park Presbyterian Membership. Steve Mitchell has been instrumental in the formation of this letter. PPC is updating its records—addresses, telephone numbers, and emails. It is time to put out another address book. It will also give you a chance to verify your membership preference; there is even a place to check whether you would like to become a member or, if you have been attending another church, to request a transfer of your membership to that church.

50+ Member recognition service and reception is planned in conjunction with our morning worship and Dish to Pass after church on October 22, 2023.

If you are not a member and are interested in joining PPC—either by a letter of transfer or through a membership class—I'll be contacting all who are interested, and we will make it happen.

Lectionary Readings for September

Get a head start on contemplating God's Word.

September Lectionary:

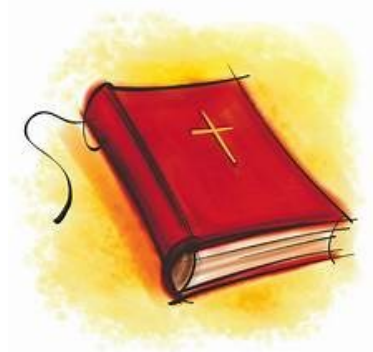
September 3, 2023: Isaiah 11: 1-9; Romans 12: 9-18

September 10, 2023: Genesis 1: 1-2:4a; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

September 17, 2023: Psalm 15: James 1: 17-27

September 24, 2023: Deuteronomy 10: 12-19; Matthew 25: 31-46

October 1, 2023: Isaiah 56: 1-8; James 2: 1-10



Flowers:

September 3, 2023: In Memory of Rita Bender by Christine and Henry Stephens

Stu's Corner:

September 3, 2023: *Peace* by Miranda and Baptiste Paul

September 10, 2023: *A Very Big Problem* by Amy-Jill Levine and Sandy Sasso

September 17, 2023: *Martin's BIG Words* by Doreen Rappaport

September 24, 2023: *Crocodile Crossing* by Yoeri Slegers

October 1, 2023: *For Beautiful Black Boys Who Believe in a Better World* by Michael Waters



Liturgists:

September 3, 2023: Steve Frost

September 10, 2023: Dale Groover

September 17, 2023: Anne Rogers

September 24, 2023: *Liturgists Needed*

October 1, 2023:



Remembering those who entered the Church Triumphant

Caroline R. Patchett

November 27, 1923 ~ August 15, 2023 (age 99)

Caroline R Patchett passed away on August 15, 2023, at the age of 99. She will be remembered as a devoted homemaker and detailed bookkeeper. Born in 1923, Caroline attended Newark High School and is among the last survivors of her class of 41. In 1947 she married Robert M Patchett, and they shared nearly sixty-five years together until Robert's passing in 2012. Caroline's bookkeeping career included Bloomer Brothers, Jackson & Perkins, Lilac Time, and Ruspak. Caroline was a lifelong Wayne County resident and an active Presbyterian Church member. She was also known for her interest in flowers, jigsaw puzzles, baking, and birds. Caroline is survived by her three children, Richard (Maryke) Patchett, Martin (Elaine) Patchett, and Christine Bailey. Caroline is also survived by her six grandchildren, Susanna, Elizabeth, Katharine, Joanna, Michael, and Brittany, and seven great-grandchildren, Thomas, Erica, Benjamin, Susanna, Henry, Charlotte, and Atticus. Caroline was laid to rest at the East Palmyra Cemetery.



Dates to Remember

OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY SEPTEMBER 4, 2023: LABOR DAY

Friday, Sept. 1-Electronic Copies of Congregational Self-Study sent out

Sun. Sept. 3-Worship/Communion

Sun. Sept. 3-Called to Care (11:15 AM)

Sun. Sept. 3-Hard copies of Congregational Self-Study

Weds. Sept. 6-Christian Fellowship Team-3:00 PM

Sun. Sept. 10-Worship/Rally Day/Church Picnic

Mon. Sept. 11-Deacons @10:00 AM

Mon. Sept. 11-PW @12:00 PM

Mon. Sept. 11-Finance @3:00 PM

Tues. Sept. 12-Mission Task Force-4:00 PM

Fri. Sept. 15-PW QUICHE Fundraiser

Sun. Sept. 17-Worship

Tues. Sept. 19-Together in Christ (TIC) at 4:30 PM

Weds. Sept. 20-Session at 6:00 PM

Sun. Sept. 24-Worship

Tues. Sept. 26-Presbytery Meeting 1:00 PM in Elmira



September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 6PM AA Meeting
3 Communion Sunday 10AM Worship 5PM Finger Lakes Bells	4 4:30PM Chancel Bells 6PM Back 2 Basics	5 6PM Pack 138 Webelos	6 10:30AM Quilters 3PM Christian Fellowship 6PM Pack 138 Meeting	7 9:30AM Babies, Etc.	8 6PM Wayne Gem	9 6PM AA Meeting
10 9AM Choir Rehearsal 10AM Worship 11:15AM Rally Day 5PM Finger Lakes Bells	11 10AM Deacons 12PM PW Meeting 3PM Finance 4:30PM Chancel Bells 6PM Back 2 Basics	12 6PM Pack 138 Webelos 4PM Mission Task Force	13 10:30AM Quilters 6PM Pack 138 Meeting	14 9:30AM Babies, Etc.	15 4:30PM Quiche Dinner	16 6PM AA Meeting
17 9AM Choir Rehearsal 10AM Worship 11:15AM Cong. Discussion 5PM Finger Lakes Bells	18 4:30PM Chancel Bells 6PM Back 2 Basics	19 4:30PM TIC Meeting 6PM Pack 138 Webelos	20 10AM DAR Meeting 10:30AM Quilters 6PM Pack 138 Meeting 7PM Session Meeting	21 9:30AM Babies, Etc.	22	23 10AM NA Planning 6PM AA Meeting
24 9AM Choir Rehearsal 10AM Worship 5PM Finger Lakes Bells	25 4:30PM Chancel Bells 6PM Back 2 Basics	26 Presbytery in Elmira 6PM Pack 138 Webelos	27 10:30AM Quilters 6PM Pack 138 Meeting	28 9:30AM Babies, Etc.	29	30 6PM AA Meeting

PRAYER REQUEST

Gracious God, we pray for all those who are dealing with illness or medical issues, sickness-emotional, physical, mental, or otherwise, or who are in need of your strength and courage to get them through a challenging time. We lift up: Bethany Comella, Mark Booth, Deb Compher, Shannon (Steve' daughter), Joe, Lori Hatendorf, Kay Grey, Donna Merrill and Scott Blondell, Kay Oosterling, Aaron, Dom, James, Glen, Todd, Richard, William, Douglas, Christine, Wanda Gallagher, Lisa Tremiti, Sandy Rude, Becky Derr, David, Steve, Linda Lorree, Barb, Alice Crespo, Deanna Side, Jeanine Dutcher, Kaitlin Tracy, Cathy Brennessel, Lisa Barrett's son and family, David Wilck, Bev Owen, Nancy Tarrentelli, Jan Smith, Alyson, John (Friend of Emily Lang), Doug McCrossen, and Tom Brady, Nancy Thayer, Shirley Kem, Kristen Muncy, Kelli Kelley, Cara and Freddie, Jeannine King, Deanna Side, Sheldon Hayes (cousin of Steve Frost), Ellen and Mike Hopkins (cousin of Marilyn Wilson), Barb Miller (daughter of Suzanne Bouwen), Daniel Allerton, Carol Hurbright (sister to Thelma Vermeulen), Suzanne Spanadoukas, and Family Promise Families.

We pray for those who are ill and for their caregivers. We lift up: Jeanne and Paul Salisbury, Kay and Dale Groover, Thelma Vermeulen, Barb Chappell, Bonnie and Thurlow Hammond, Ed and Cheryl Lotz, Barbara Burnner, Eileen Burm, Marian Maxwell, Jim and Anne Peck, and Lynn Blodgett.

We pray for those who grieve. We lift up the friends and family of Jerry Sielawa, Barbara Deisering and for Mark Simmon and YaoOue on the death of his brother due to unrest in Haiti and on the death of their unborn twins, and for Marilyn Wilson on the loss of her friend Ann Hooper, Suzanne Bouwens on the loss of Hazel Washburn, and the friends and family of Shirley May, and friends and family of David Porter and of Caroline (Jean) Patchett.

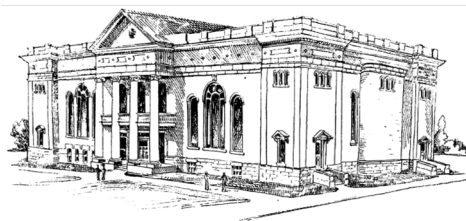
In your mercy, Beloved God, hear the prayers of your people. Amen.

Please note: If a person needs to be added to the prayer list—please let Pastor Susan or our Office Administrator Samantha know; if a person needs to be removed—please advise. It is hard to know when someone should be added or taken off the list. This is where you, the congregation, can get involved. If I have removed someone you would like to keep on the list, please let us know.



May God bless you with discomfort. At easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart. May God bless you with anger. At injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom, peace. May God bless you with tears. To shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, hunger and war. So that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain into joy. And may God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in the world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done. To bring justice and kindness to all our children and the poor. Amen. ~St. Francis ~

Park Presbyterian Church
110 Maple Court
Newark, NY 14513



***“Our mission is to make
Christ visible
by believing, living and
sharing the word of God.”***

***“Our vision is to be God’s
light – a beacon of love, in-
teraction, and guidance in
Faith and comfort. “***



Be sure to check out our Facebook page for a way to see the Sunday Services.

Facebook is at: www.facebook.com/parkchurch110

NEW * <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1955568954824836>

(Be sure to like and follow to get notifications when we go live.)

Find us on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-PmjX998CQTaJ3EEkSpl6w>

Be sure to subscribe and click the notification bell to be told when we upload videos.

