THE PARKVEW

The Park Presbyterian Church Newsletter

April 2024

News From PPC

News from the Interim

Proverbs 3:5-6 "**Trust in the** LORD **with all your heart, and do not rely** on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

I was reading an Upper Room devotion. In it, the woman mentioned a plaque inscribed with the quote: "The will of God will never lead you where the grace of God cannot keep you." This spoke to me. I decided to see where it came from. Apparently, there is more to the quote. The whole quote, by Neil T. Anderson is: "Being filled and led by the Spirit may take you places you never planned. But the will of God will never lead you where the grace of God cannot keep you."

I think of the Apostle Paul. Saul of Tarsus met Jesus Christ, the risen Lord, on the road to Damascus. Saul was headed there to persecute Christians. He never dreamed that he would meet the risen Lord that day; this experience "changed" Saul. In fact, we know him as Paul; his name was changed. Saul was "led" by the Spirit to places he never planned on going. Saul was a Pharisee who prided himself on his heritage and on following all the Jewish laws-both written and oral. He considered himself "righteous." His encounter with the risen Christ changed his thinking; Paul felt called to the Gentiles—to those non-Jews. His journeys took him all over the Roman Empire at the time. And through it all, Paul felt the presence of the risen Lord with him—the grace of God providing, guiding, and inspiring him.

Think back on your own life. Have there been times when you were "led" by the Spirit to places you never planned on going? This doesn't mean that these times or experiences were a piece of cake; it also doesn't mean that they weren't enjoyable. For myself, I never planned on being divorced and re-married. I never planned on being a single parent—even for a few years. I never planned on three sons. I was supposed to have one boy and one girl. God deemed I would have three sons and no daughters! I never actually planned on going back to my home church after I was married—but I went back and supported them for thirty-two plus years. I never planned on my home church closing. I never planned on moving back to Rochester. I never planned on getting a seminary degree. I never planned on becoming an interim pastor. Are you getting the



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idea???? Those of you who know me know that I often say—it is easier to look back and see how God was at work in journey than it is when you are seeking a way forward—and wondering what that next best step will be.

Park Presbyterian Church has experienced a lot of change in the past twenty years. Not all the last twenty years have been bad. There are a lot of good things that came out of this time. But there have been some struggles—some conflicts—some estranged relationships—etc. Park Church never planned on having five pastors in a twenty-year period. Park Church never planned on the loss of membership—of dis-illusioned and disgruntled congregants who left. Park Church never planned on losing some of its strongest leaders. Park Church never planned on growing older. As human beings, we tend to look on this as "negative" but is it possible that Park has been "led" by the Spirit to places it never wanted to go—to be more reliant on the grace of God?

Park Presbyterian Church has turned a corner. You are stepping forward in faith. Not leaning on your own insight, you are "trusting in the Lord." You are allowing God to lead you forward—AND, you are counting on the grace of God as you entrust your future to God. Already, the signs are evident. The mere fact that I have a new membership class is one sign of "life." You have people who WANT to join Park Presbyterian Church. Praise God! On April 21, 2024, you will welcome SIX members—two by letter of transfer, one by re-instatement, and three new members along with one baptism. The Pastor Nominating Committee has formally started its work in looking for your next "just right" pastor who will lead you on the next leg of your journey. I wasn't sure anyone would want to be on a PNC-but you have FOUR dedicated persons. Again, praise God! When other churches are asking for waivers of term limits for their ruling elders. Park Church has a good size session with NINE dedicated session members; we almost always have 100% attendance at session meetings. Again, praise God! Park Church has a strong music ministry; few churches have bell choirs these days. You have a strong leader in Natalie-and a wonderful bell choir. Organists/pianists are not easy to come by and you have a wonderful and dedicated organist/pianist in Kay Oosterling. You have a talented and dedicated choir director in Sarah Humphrey. Again, you have something to praise God about!

I bring you back to the quote: "Being filled and led by the Spirit may take you places you never planned. But the will of God will never lead you where the grace of God cannot keep you." God has not let Park Presbyterian Church down; God has never left. God may have led you to places you never planned—but by the Grace of God, you are STILL HERE! Praise God! You will be celebrating your 200th Anniversary in 2025. (Officially in April of 2025). I welcome anyone who has ideas, suggestions, or who would like to be on a team that will plan a celebration of Park's Ministry through two centuries—truly, God has never led you where the grace of God has not kept you—held you—loved you—grieved with you and for you—celebrated and laughed—cried with—smiled at—and enjoyed you for who you are—beloved children of God! Let me know if you are interested in planning for your 200th!

In Christ, Susan



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Eclipse Information

https://nationaleclipse.com/states/2024-total-solar-eclipse-new-york.html

Newark, NY April 8—3:21:01PM

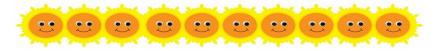
The centerline of the eclipse enters New York over Lake Erie at approximately 2:03pm EDT, with totality beginning in that location at about 3:16pm EDT.

- The path of totality traces a grand arc across western and northern New York, crossing both large cities and high peaks. Although New York shares the eclipse with Canada for the length of its journey across the state, most of the width of the path belongs to New York and the centerline travels through the Empire State exclusively.
- When it enters the state, the centerline is still over Lake Erie, but it soon touches land again when it crosses directly over Buffalo. So often the punchline of jokes, Buffalo gets the last laugh on April 8 with a very lengthy duration of totality lasting for about 3 minutes and 45 seconds downtown. Just north of Buffalo, you can be sure that scores of people will want to witness the show in the sky with one of Earth's great natural wonders as a backdrop. It will be a surreal experience in Niagara Falls USA where totality will last for about 3 minutes and 31 seconds in the downtown area. As it does in Pennsylvania and Ohio, Interstate 90 parallels the centerline along the shore of Lake Erie in western New York all the way to Buffalo.
- The centerline doesn't stay over dry land for long. It soon heads out into open water again, this time Lake Ontario. As is the case with Lake Erie to the west, weather experts think the cold lake waters could aid eclipse viewers by preventing clouds from forming above and around the lakes. On the southern shore of Lake Ontario, Rochester is very close to the centerline at this point and totality will last for about 3 minutes and 39 seconds in the downtown. After crossing through the Finger Lakes region of New York, the eclipse crosses over Syracuse. Situated near the eastern limit of the path, Syracuse will get about 1 minute and 24 seconds of totality downtown, but longer durations can be reached by driving north on Interstate 81, which meets up with the centerline.
- As it reaches the eastern shore of Lake Ontario, the centerline once again touches down on New York soil and the path of totality heads across northern New York to the Adirondack Mountains. The Adirondacks promise to be one of the most scenic places to view the 2024 eclipse, but high elevations can produce clouds and the weather in early April could be unpredictable in this part of the country. Many of the beautiful mountain lakes, which otherwise would be the perfect setting for an eclipse viewing, might still be frozen during this time of the year. Make sure to check short-term weather forecasts for the region in the days leading up to the eclipse.
- Lake Champlain stretches across the entire width of the eclipse path in New York and will offer plenty of scenic viewing opportunities. Interstate 87 bisects the eclipse path as it parallels Lake Champlain and the border with Vermont and will



make getting into totality easy for travelers coming up from downstate New York.

The centerline of the eclipse exits the state as it crosses Lake Champlain at approximately 4:37pm EDT, with totality coming to an end in that location at about 3:29pm EDT. From the Pennsylvania-New York border to the New York-Vermont border, the Moon's shadow travels approximately 359 miles along the centerline in 8 minutes and 57 seconds at an average speed of 2,405 miles per hour.



PENTECOST OFFERING: (collected on May 19, 2024)

Pentecost arrives 50 days after Easter and 10 days after the Ascension. Jesus and the Scripture are making an important theological point at Pentecost. Jesus ascends and the church is born. If his mission and ministry is to continue, it is upon us, his disciples, to keep it going, and we have the Holy Spirit to lead us, who blesses us all with different gifts to be used at different times and in different ways. Our gifts to the Pentecost Offering connect with God's hope and future, supporting ministries with children, youth, and young adults by building a life of faith.

Congregations keep 40% of raised funds to initiate or support programs for young people in their communities.

Facts:

The Day of Pentecost is referred to as the birthday of the Church.

Pentecost is usually represented by the color red, which symbolizes the fire of the Holy Spirit.

MISSION TEAM NEWS:

The Presbyterian Church, as a denomination and within the context of a local congregation is at its best when it embraces and lives out a two-legged gospel of individual spirituality and community involvement. Its members are called to worship, learn, share fellowship, pray, share the Good News, and be involved in mission **locally and globally**, always embracing the love and justice of Jesus Christ, the Lord of the Church.

After discussion at their 3-12-24 team meeting, the Mission Team made several changes to their **Mission Calendar for 2024**. This is LOCAL mission:

- The Warming Tree will be up December/January (collection of hats/mittens/gloves for Lake Ontario Child Development)
- The Warming Tree will stay up through February and any extra taken to Lincoln Elementary School at the beginning of March.

February was changed back to the Souper Bowl of Caring (Soup Collection for Newark Food Closet) Sock-It-To-Me was changed to March (Socks for Common Threads)

April is the Rummage Sale

The Mission Team decided that instead of the Children's Book Garden, they will collect School Supplies throughout June and July; in August they will plan a day that families can come to PPC and collect school supplies, with maybe and activity like face painting and a cookie.

September will be Undees for Common Threads (Start of the school year)

October-will collect supplies for Survivor Advocacy (no totes wanted)

November-they are going to change up the Advent Bags and do something different—not sure what. December will still be Christmas Bags for Newark Food Closet (Probably in conjunction with Rotary)



CHURCH SEASONS: SEASON OF EASTER

From the Book of Common Worship (2018):

"Easter" comes from an old English word related to dawn and shining. At Easter we stand in the light of the resurrection to see a new creation, transformed by the grace and glory of God. We celebrate the presence and power of the risen Christ in his church, proclaiming his good news through Word and Sacrament. We rejoice in the gift of the Holy Spirit, who is the "Lord and giver of life." In the fullest sense, Easter is a new way of life, in which we are "dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 6:11); for this reason, it is an especially appropriate time to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Resurrection of the Lord is the center of the Christian year, and the good news we proclaim on this day is the very heart of the gospel. Easter Sunday is something like the keystone of an arch—the top and center stone upon which all the others lean and depend—in terms of both its theological significance and its relation to other festivals and season. Theologically, the faith we claim and the life we live depend on the affirmation, celebration, and proclamation of Christ's resurrection.

As with Christmas, Easter refers not only to a single day, but to a whole season of celebration in the Christian year. The season of Easter spans the fifty days between the Resurrection of the Lord and the Day of Pentecost, and encompasses the Ascension of the Lord. The seven weeks of the Easter season make up a "week of weeks": a symbol in time of the fullness and abundance of God's grace. In ancient practice, fasting and kneeling were forbidden during the weeks of Easter. In this most joyful season, we celebrate the great mystery of our faith—that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP TEAM NEWS:

2024 DISH TO PASS DATES:

Sunday, April 7, 2024 Sunday, May 19, 2024 (Pentecost-wear RED) Sunday, June 9, 2024 (Recognition Sunday) Sunday, September 8, 2024 (Rally Day) Sunday, October 20, 2024 (50+ Membership Recognition) Sunday, December 8, 2024

2024 ACTIVITIES: Save the date: Saturday, June 22, 2024-Strawberry Social at the Arcadia Historical Society.

New!!! Summer Picnics-stay tuned for more information!

MEMBERSHIP:

New Members welcomed on Sunday, April 21, 2024.

- Georgette Smith, Karen Vanderbrook, and Richard Watson are taking the New Membership Class. An "oldie" Marilyn Wilson has also been attending—to "brush up" on membership! The class met for the first time on Sunday, March 3, 2024. This class covered: What it Means to be a Presbyterian: Polity, Doctrine, and PCUSA History. The second class covered PPC History, PPC Information about congregation today, PPC Mission and Service, and what it means to be a Member of PPC. The third class concentrated on "gifts" and how those gifts might be used at PPC. They are presently writing their faith statements which will be presented to the session at their Weds. April 17, 2024, meeting. Pending approval by session, they will be accepted into membership at PPC on Sunday, April 21, 2024.
- At their meeting on March 20, 2024, the session re-instated Susie Chaffee to PPC membership. Welcome Back!
- At their meeting on February 21, 2024, the session accepted the transfer of Tom and Kay Oosterling's membership from the United Church of Phelps to Park Presbyterian Church. They will also be welcomed on Sunday, April 21, 2024, along with the New Members. (cont.)



G-1.0303 Entry into Membership:

Persons may enter into active church membership in the following ways:

Public profession of faith, made after **careful examination by the session** in the meaning and responsibilities of membership; **if not already baptized**, the person making profession of faith shall be baptized.

Richard Watson will both make a public profession of faith on April 21, 2024, and be baptized. Both Georgette Smith and Karen Vanderbook, having come from other than PCUSA backgrounds, will make a public profession of faith on April 21, 2024.

- Certificate of transfer, when a person is a member of another Christian church at the time of transfer.
- **Reaffirmation of faith**, for person previously baptized in the name of the triune God and having publicly professed their faith. Tom and Kay Oosterling, having transferred their membership, will be received with questions re-affirming their faith.



March 2024 Park Church Women

Park Church women continue to be quite busy with several new initiatives. We recently held a bake sale which garnered almost \$160 in one day! Thanks to all who contributed baked goods and those who helped make the sale a success.

Our next activity is the annual rummage, and we will begin to collect donated items on Monday, April1st. The actual sale will be Thursday, April 18th through Saturday, April 20th. If you are interested in helping with the set-up and sale, please contact Natalie Lemmon or the church office.

We continue in our search for a new moderator. If you are interested, please join us at our next monthly meeting on Monday, May 13^{th.} The meeting begins at 11:30 with a devotion by Karen Doebler and a dish to pass.

FAMILY PROMISE: Newark Support Group

The following dates are scheduled for the Newark Support Group to provide the fellowship dinner for Family Promise as well as groceries if needed by the families for that week. Preparations start at 4:30pm for the dinner with the hope of serving at 5:30pm.

April 15, 2024 September 9, 2024 October 21, 2024

Please contact Anne Rogers at 315-879-5478 or anne.j.rogers @gmail.com or Linda Masciolia at masciolilinda@yahoo.com. for dates and times.

LITTLE RED WAGON:

Food collection for the Newark Food Closet will be on April 7, 2024.

MOTHER'S DAY:

Special Collection for Church World Service (CWS) to be taken on Mother's Day (May 12, 2024). All monies will go to support the Church World Service Blanket Program—spreading God's love through the distribution of warm blankets to those in need. Every \$10 is one blanket given away to someone in need.



Newark Community Connections:

<u>Newark Food Pantry:</u> 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 by volunteers. If interested, please contact Lisa Barrett at (315) 332-8582 or (315) 351-6474.

<u>Common Threads</u>: 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 <u>shumphrey8008@gmail.com</u> or call 585-409-4667 for more information.

Called to Care:

Park Presbyterian Women are supporting Called to Care; when needed they are supplying new and used bedding and household cleaning supplies. Contact Sue Rowe at <u>srowe918@gmail.com</u> or 845-791-0389 if you are interested in being on a list to help supply items when the need arises. Called to Care, Canandaigua, assists refugee 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; it also works in partnership with World Relief Western NY. 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.

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.

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 carefree of charge, it costs over \$200,000 to operate the home. Donations are greatly appreciated! To contact them call 315-573-7028.

Survivor Advocacy Center of the Finger Lakes:

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. To contact them, call the office at 315-331-1171.





PPC's Yearly Rummage Sale will be Thursday, April 18, 2024, through Saturday, April 20, 2024. Hours for the Rummage Sale are 9:00 AM through 4:00 PM on Thursday and Friday. Saturday's hours are 8AM-NOON. We'll be collecting items for the rummage sale from now through April 17th. Please call the office ahead of time; we'll either plan to help carry items, or we can open the church street door to allow for easier access. Office phone is 315-331-2255. Please note: the office is closed on Thursdays.



April Lectionary: April 7, 2024: Psalm 148; I John 1:1 through 2:2 April 14, 2024: Acts 3: 12-19; I John 3: 1-7 April 21, 2024: Acts 4: 5-12, I John 3: 16-24 April 28, 2024: Acts 8: 26-40; I John 4: 7-21

Stu's Corner: April 7, 2024: Total Solar Eclipse by Jayme Sandberg April 14, 2024: The God Seed by Esther Elizabeth April 21, 2024: God Gave Us Love by Lisa T. Bergren April 28, 2024: God's Love is a Warm Cookie by Susan Jones

Liturgists: April 7, 2024: Anne Rogers April 14, 2024: Pat Hart April 21, 2024: April 28, 2024:

<u>Greeters:</u> April 7, 2024: April 14, 2024: we need volunteers April 21, 2024: April 28, 2024:





Deacon's Coffee Hour Schedule: March Host: Natalie Lemmon April Host: Ginny Bodine May Host: Sue Rowe June Host: Joan Boerman

<u>Mission for Minute</u>: A "Special Thank You" to Sue Rowe, Deb Compher, Sarah Humphrey, Natalie Lemmon, and ET Trunick for reading Mission for Minutes throughout Lent.



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Office Closed 430PM Chancel Bells 6PM Back 2 Basics	2 6PM Webelos Meeting	3 1030AM Quilters 6PM 138 Pack Meeting	4	5 IPM Garden Club	6 6PM AA Meeting
7 Communion 9AM Choir Rehearsal 10 Worship Service 5PM Finger Lakes Bells	8 12PM Park PW 430PM Chancel Bells 6PM Back 2 Basics	9 6PM Webelos Meeting	10 1030AM Quilters 6PM 138 Pack Meeting	11	12 6PM Wayne Gem	13 6PM AA Meeting
14 9AM Choir Rehearsal 10 Worship Service 1115AM Worship & Music 5PM Finger Lakes Bells	15 430PM Chancel Bells 6PM Back 2 Basics	16 430PM TIC Meeting 6PM Webelos Meeting 7PM Trailworks	17 10AM DAR Meeting 1030AM Quilters 6PM 138 Pack Meeting 6PM Session 7PM Venturing Crew	18	19 IPM Big House Commit- tee	20 6PM AA Meeting
21 9AM Choir Rehearsal 10 Worship Service 5PM Finger Lakes Bells	22 430PM Chancel Bells 6PM Back 2 Basics Parkview Submissions	23 6PM Webelos Meeting	24 1030AM Quilters 6PM 138 Pack Meeting	25	26	27 10AM NA Planning 6PM AA Meeting
28 9AM Choir Rehearsal 10 Worship Service 2PM Girl Scouts 5PM Finger Lakes Bells	29 11AM Deacons 430PM Chancel Bells 6PM Back 2 Basics	30 6PM Webelos Meeting				
			2	0	2	4

We pray for ongoing healing, wholeness, and God's shalom for: Mark Booth Deb Compher Roxanna Rowe Sue Rowe Lila Serapilio (sister of Natalie Lemmon) Sheldon Hayes (cousin of Steve Frost) John Hooper and Mike Hopkins (relations of Marilyn Wilson) James (friend of Scott B) Chris Agletti and Rachel Ide (daughter and son-in-law of Sue Rowe) Deborah Monahan Burleson Jay Brooks (friend of Scott Blondell) Dale Groover Rev. Debbie Grohman Krystel Harling (former student of Marilyn Wilson) Charlie Matias **Eleanor and Roger Brennessel** Deanna Side Jack Palma (Grandson to Amy) Artemis (7-year-old with cancer) Rowan McCrossen (4-month-old grandson of Debbie and Josh McCrossen) **Aalivah** Matias David Wilck Kert Werts Catherine (daughter of Deanna Side) Cara (daughter of Christine and Henry Stephens) James Cavallero Bob Lootens (Hospice) Braydon Sherman Karen (Scott Blondell's sister)



We continue our prayers for caregivers and to those needing care: Jeanne and Paul Salisbury, Kay and Dale Groover, Thelma Vermeulen, Bonnie and Thurlow Hammond, Ed and Cheryl Lotz, Barbara Brunner, Eileen Burm, Marian Maxwell, Jim and Anne Peck, Lynn Blodgett, and Susan Chaffee.

We continue our prayers for all those who grieve, including the friends and family of Bethany Comella, Kay Groover, John Hooper, and Shirley Withey (Bodine Family), and the Friends and Family of Barb Chappell.

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

PRAYER

Draw Us Forth

Draw us forth, God of all creation. Draw us forward and away from limited certainty into the immense world of your love. Give us the capacity to even for a moment taste the richness of the feast you give us. Give us the peace to live with uncertainty, with questions, with doubts. Help us to experience the resurrection anew with open wonder and an increasing ability to see you in the people of Easter. - Author Unknown 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, interaction, 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 (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.

