

FROM THE PASTOR

All Shall Be Well



One of my favorite folk songs is “Julian of Norwich” written by Sydney Carter. Julian lived through the Black Death. Half of the people in her community died. Her words brought comfort to those survivors who suffered incredible losses: “All shall be well, and all shall be well and all manner of thing shall be well.” Carter weaves Julian’s words together with the experience of daffodils poking up through the snow bringing hope for the spring.

“Love, like the yellow daffodil, is coming through the snow.
Love, like the yellow daffodil, is Lord of all I know.
Ring out, bells of Norwich, and let the winter come and go
All shall be well again, I know.

Ring for the yellow daffodil, the flower in the snow.
Ring for the yellow daffodil, and tell them what I know.
Ring out, bells of Norwich, and let the winter come and go
All shall be well again, I know.

All shall be well, I’m telling you, let the winter come and go
All shall be well again, I know.”

We need to hear and to believe that all shall be well again. It has been a traumatic year. As we approach spring, we begin to feel the first nudges of hope, like a yellow daffodil coming through the snow!

Moving through Holy Week toward Easter we leave behind death and sorrow as we approach joy and resurrection. If ever there was a year to find joy and resurrection it is this year!

COVID struck our world like a hammer shattering glass. There has been so much sickness and pain and death. We are all ready for a little bit of hope to bring the broken pieces of our world back together. It will never be the same, but God can make a profoundly beautiful mosaic from the pieces of our lives.

Easter comes bringing with it the promise of new life. Just like that yellow blossom poking up through the snow, our souls are longing for the chance to absorb the energy of the sun and to bloom with joy. We want more than anything to bring beauty and grace to this world with hopes that it will dispel the shadows and despair.

Much as we will miss gathering with our congregation in person to sing the Hallelujah Chorus and declare together that Christ the Lord is Risen today, we will remember that the first Easter was a small, private event. There were not huge crowds, there were no trumpets, no organ, no Easter Lilies, not egg hunts. There were just three women seeking to anoint the body of their friend who had been killed.

Easter comes to the few. It is only after they have experienced resurrection in the quietness of the empty tomb that they are directed to go out and tell others that Jesus is risen. This Easter, you are invited to live stream the worship service in the privacy of your own home, but after receiving the message that Jesus is alive, you are then invited to, even compelled to go and tell others. The Easter message comes not only from the angels who announce Jesus' resurrection, but from the disciples who went out into the world filled with faith and new life.

Choose a person, or a couple of people in your life who you will talk with about your Easter faith. Invite them to join you for worship. Tell them about why church is important to you. Introduce them to Jesus through your life and your sharing.

It is through the spirit at work in **you** that new life will spring forth, like a yellow daffodil coming through the snow. Alleluia! Happy Easter!

Blessings,

Dawn

Message From Our Moderator

Wonder and Gratitude

The way our life unfolds and the connections we've made in our lives is truly amazing, isn't it? Do you ever have moments when you think, "I can't believe this, how wonderful"? These are the moments/times I think we want to cherish or at least celebrate.

It is so easy to get caught up in all the horrible stuff: the economy, the politics, the injustice, the poverty, the pandemic...

But, if we look for the wonder, the joy, the good stuff in our lives and this world, it can be a much happier existence.

Just watch a toddler experience life for a day (or an hour). You'll see joy and wonder. While we can't go back in time, we can watch and learn something from the wide-eyed wonder of a toddler.

Let me provide some examples of the wide-eyed wonder moments that caught me by surprise to help show you what I mean:

- After a year of treatment for cancer, the loss of her job and health insurance benefits, my friend's sister-in-law is now cancer free!
- Every day before leaving for school my friend's daughter says "Have the best day ever"
- A past co-worker, now living in Atlanta, connected with me on Facebook and said his wife grew up in the house I now live in

What I discovered is that the more I start looking for the good in life, sometimes the bad things don't seem quite as bad.

Have there been moments in your week that were wide-eyed wonderful? Are there small miracles that shouldn't be dismissed or overlooked in your life?

Hannah Morgan
Church Moderator

Prayer List

Ancy (Fred Henry's friend); **Steve Beck** (Heidi Schwarz's brother); **Brad Bliss**; **Marjorie Case**; **Cheryl** (Jennifer Maxfield's sister-in-law); **Judy Clark** (Jessica & Dan Casellas' and Elaine Hilton's friend); **Cathy Coots**; **Bob DeSantis** (Dorice & Don Raw, Sr.'s friend); **Julie English** (Janet & Kim Tenreiro's friend); **Brian Fuscaldo** (Mara Huberlie's nephew); **Jerry Gomez** (Kathi Nacca's friend); **Carin Herren**; **Peter Ingalls** (Jean Ingall's son); **Jim and Carolyn** (Amy Ogden's friends); **Jim & Melody** (Don & Marilyn DeSmith's friends); **The King Family** (Fred Henry's friends); **Jim Kolesar** (George & Carin Herren's friend); **Sue Kotalik**; **Jan Larsen** (Dawn's mother); **Michelle List** (JoAnn Reed's friend); **Loren** (Jack Radley's friend); **Lynn** (Joan Ryan's friend); **Eileen McCarthy** (Carla DeMeco & Betsy Dresser's friend); **Sally Mueller**; **Liz Nelson** (Kathy Ward's friend); **Norman** (Jennifer Maxfield's uncle); **Paris and Kira** (Friends of Fred Henry); **Pia** (Jim & Connie Malone's friend); **Chris Pritchard** (Rick, Cindy Mullen & George Herren's friend); **Jack Radley**; **Don Raw, Sr.**; **Sara** (Jack Radley's granddaughter); **Smith/Dworetsky Family** (Okke & Kathy Postma's friends); **Pat Smith**; **Dr. Steven Smith & Family** (Jessica & Dan Casellas' friends); **Sally Stowell** (Alice Berry's mother); **Walker** (Don & Dorice Raw's friend); **Tom Wallace** (Jackie Lowe's significant other); **Kathy Ward**; **Gordon Wenner** (George & Carin Herren's friend); **Robin Wisniewski** (Alicia's mom); **Josh Yeo** (Barb Stahl's friend); **Jason Zeller** (Kathy Ward's son); **Linda Zeller** (Kathy Ward's daughter in law)

Weathervane Deadline for May issue is April 15th.

Happy Birthday!



1st - Brooke Lupton
2nd - Hannah Blaker
3rd - Ron Krahl
4th - Jeanne Hollenbeck
8th - Albert Amouzou-Edah
8th - Edie Rice
9th - Roger Morse
11th - Amelia Berry
12th - Kitty Braddon

15th - Jeff Bowen
16th - Daisy Case
16th - Debbie Wilbur
17th - Jean Davis
17th - Don Payne
18th - Brian Case
18th - Jessica Casellas
20th - Samantha Eddinger
21st - Tom Herbek
22nd - Molly Dutcher

22nd - Sheila Reynolds
24th - Nathan Beiner
24th - Elijah Beiner
24th - Barb Davis
26th - Doug Brown
26th - Kathi Nacca
30th - Carol Emmis
30th - Bob Ward



Spotlight: Betsy Cox

It was a blustery, winter's day when a horrendous snowstorm descended on Canandaigua making all travel impossible. A young couple living in Cottage City on Canandaigua Lake were stranded and unable to get to the hospital for the birth of their baby, and so it was that Betsy Cox was born in her parent's home on Canandaigua Lake where she has been a resident of Canandaigua ever since.

Of course, she attended Canandaigua schools and our Congregational Church with her family. At one point she attended kindergarten at the church and found it to be a great place to play hide and seek with all of the wonderful hiding places the building provided. The children's choir was also a part of Betsy's childhood; she attended choir practice every Wednesday after school, practicing the music the children would sing on Sunday morning. However, one Wednesday Betsy decided to skip practice and go to the "Y" instead. When her mother delivered her to the children's choir director on Sunday morning, the director informed Betsy's mother that Betsy would be unable to participate since she had missed practice on Wednesday. Betsy is a very independent and self-assured person, and we can see that those qualities were becoming evident at an early age.

Growing up, Betsy became interested in horses and begged her father, who was a sheriff, to buy her one, but she didn't have any success. Fortunately, her grandfather, who could not resist his granddaughter's pleas, bought her her first horse. From then on, Betsy was involved with the equestrian world which was very active in the area. She was particularly interested in quarter horses and over the years she owned 9 or 10 different horses. She entered her horses in competitions held by The New York State Quarter Horse Association in New York State, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Canada and excelled at her

ability to win various prizes for her horsemanship.

Another interest of Betsy's was skiing. She skied at Bristol Mountain and all over the United States and Canada. Betsy was offered a job at Bristol Mountain in the Skier's Service office. This position allowed Betsy to take groups of people from our area to Vail, Colorado as a tour guide where she was able to enjoy skiing many times in such a prestigious area. Betsy was a competent skier excelling in a sport she loved. Unfortunately, due to health problems, Betsy had to give up both of these activities.

College for Betsy was at the University of Evansville in Indiana where the school had a strong art program which attracted Betsy to the campus. After graduation Betsy went on to teach art at Victor Central Schools for the next 33 years. She traveled to each of the school's divisions teaching at all grade levels. She especially loved working with Junior High School students. She found she was able to make a difference at this particular stage of their lives, helping them to develop an appreciation of art and to develop their creativity. As if her teaching job wasn't enough, Betsy and her husband owned a pizza shop in Victor, so every day after school, Betsy went to work at the pizza shop. Unfortunately, the marriage didn't work out, but years later Betsy again took on a second job in addition to her teaching job in Victor. Nazareth college hired Betsy on a part time basis to supervise student teachers after she earned her masters degree there.

Over the years, Betsy has been very involved with our church in many ways. For nine years she was the chairman of the Congregational Life Committee and, as a member, wrote several "Spotlight Articles." She arranges the altar flowers for our Sunday services which she does beautifully, selecting the appropriate flowers and colors for each season.

It was Betsy's mother, Nathalie Acheson Cox, who founded the children's bell choir, acquiring bells from Holland for the children. Betsy was, of course, part of that group. She fondly remembers the teacher, Elvira Johnson, patiently pointing to the notes which were on a poster for the children to see in order for them to ring the bells at the appropriate time. Many years later Betsy asked Tom Herbek if he knew what happened to the bells. Tom knew right where they were; however, the bells at that point were unusable. New bells were purchased with a donation Betsy made to the church in honor of her mother, bringing back an interest in a bell choir. Additional money was found by Tom and Tarry to support the bell choir. Pam McGuire was asked to be the director of the bell choir, which is now mostly made up of adults from the congregation. Whenever the bells are played, they bring back fond memories for Betsy of Elvira Johnson and Betsy's mother. Music has continued to be an important part of Betsy's life as she joyfully participates in our choir every Sunday morning although she has missed not being able to

sing these past months.

Now retired, Betsy still loves doing artwork in the form of painting and is very talented. In addition to her painting, Betsy took on a very difficult position as Head of the Advisory Council for the builder of the Villas at Canandaigua from 2010-2013. Then she became President of the HOA (Homeowners Association Board) from its inception in 2014 - 2020. She just resigned from that position but continues as the secretary to the Board. Betsy showed the patience of Job, was totally knowledgeable of everything involving her duties, and provided strong capable leadership of the Board. The organization has thrived as a result of her caring and many, many hours of hard work.

Betsy is proud of all she has accomplished over the years and we are fortunate to have this soft spoken, creative, competent person as a member of our congregation. Thank you Betsy, for your continued support of our church.

Submitted by Barbara Kutner



Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday Live Stream Service, April 1 at 7 pm

We will hold a traditional Tenebrae Service of Candlelight and Shadows on Maundy Thursday. This service commemorates Jesus' final meal with his disciples. Tenebrae is the Latin term for Shadows. This is an ancient service of lessons recounting Jesus' Last Supper, betrayal, arrest, trials and death. The Scripture readings are accompanied by the gradual extinguishing of lights. We will be live streaming this service. As was the case for the Christmas service, we will have only participants, string quartet members and live stream camera operators in the sanctuary. We hope you will join us for this deeply moving service.

Easter Sunday Live Stream Service, April 4th at 10:30 am

Remember last Easter? We posted video tapes of the Easter service. We've come a long way since then! This year we will be live streaming our Easter service at 10:30 on Easter morning. We'll have the hand bell choir here to play the prelude and to offer special music. And of course we'll end with the Hallelujah Chorus! Since we can't gather a large group together to sing, we will be using the video from the 2019 Messiah Sing which took place right in our sanctuary. You'll see many from our choir and from the community who sang this beautiful piece with gusto! Whether we are worshipping in-person in the sanctuary or not, ***Easter will still arrive*** bringing us the good news of resurrection! We will all miss being together on Easter morning, but we know that the joy of Easter is just as real in our own homes as it is when we are able to gather for worship! Thank you for your support and understanding as we rejoice in the Good News that Christ is risen! Alleluia!

To Our Church Family:

We'd like to send a big Thank You to everyone for your thoughts, cards, phone calls and prayers during my stay at the hospital. I also want to thank the church for the beautiful plant that all the nurses also enjoyed! Again, Thank you for your love and prayers.

God Bless everyone.

Bill and Sue Blaker

In-Person Worship Resumes on April 18th!

The reopening team has determined that we will welcome people back into the sanctuary for worship on Sunday April 18th. We will continue to live stream. Those who attend in person will follow the same COVID protocol as we used in the late summer and fall. We will add masked congregational singing to our worship service as we reopen! Please spread the word and invite your friends to join us as we gather for worship in person on Sunday April 18th at 10:30.

Christian Education

Calendar:

April 4: **Easter!** Hybrid Sunday School/Zoom Youth

April 11: Hybrid Sunday School/Zoom Youth

April 18: Church opens for in-person service
Hybrid Sunday School/Zoom Youth

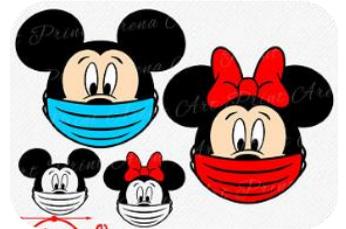
April 25: Hybrid Sunday School/Zoom Youth

Mask Sale



The youth will be selling masks to raise money for the Child Advocacy Center. This is planned to take the place of the loose change collection we typically have this time of year.

Mask artwork is designed by Bella Piorkowski and will be available in youth and adult sizes. Order your masks by e-mailing fccyouthgroup@gmail.com. We will have a drive-thru pick-up, on a date to be determined. The cost is \$10 a piece. This can be paid by check ahead of time, or at the time of pick-up. If you are not in need of a mask, or if you would like to contribute more to the Child Advocacy Center, please send a check to the church with “Youth Mask Fundraiser” listed on the memo line. Add a stylish FCC mask to your collection, and together we will make a difference in some young lives!



A special church picnic committee is being formed to reimagine this popular event for 2021. **Save the date: June 6!** More information is forthcoming.

Connie Fredericks-Malone Sacred Songs Concert

We are excited to announce that our April music event will be a half-hour concert offered by Connie Fredericks-Malone on Tuesday April 20 from 3 – 3:30. Invite a friend to join you at this live streamed concert of sacred songs.



Coming Soon: Virtual Variety Show @ 7:00 pm April 22, 2021

Excitement is in the air as plans begin to take place for the Congregational Church's Virtual Variety Show. We are looking for participants to share their talents for an hour of fun and congregation antics. What???. Did you say you have no talent?! Not so. Here are some ideas: Perhaps you have the unique ability to wiggle your ears; balance a spoon on your nose or play the spoons on your knee. You could do a skit, become a ventriloquist with a live dummy, perform magic, juggle, decorate a cupcake, dance with friends, sing or lip sync a song, play a musical instrument or air play, do a cheerleading routine, teach the audience a dance routine, feature your pet doing tricks, do a short puppet show, perform a science experiment, play a song using drinking glasses, show how to stand on your hands.... The opportunities are limitless! Consider a family or group performance. Check out "talent show ideas for the talentless" or just "talent shows" on Google for more ideas. The deadline for signing up to perform is **April 19, 2021**. Each act should be no more than **five minutes**. If you have questions please contact Jean Landes (585.905.0540 or email: jlandes15@yahoo.com)

Sacred Conversation on Race – Four New Groups



During the months of April, May and June, we will be facilitating four new Sacred Conversation on Race groups. These groups will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the second and four weeks in April and May and the first full week in June. The groups are letters A-D so that we can easily distinguish them when scheduling. If you are not participating in a group, you are invited to hold those who are beginning this sacred journey in your prayers.

Opportunities at Family Promise:

FPOC NEW VOLUNTEER TRAINING

**"PUTTING THE PIECES TOGETHER
IN THE TIME OF COVID"**

Thursday, April 29th

6:00-8:00

On ZOOM!

**RSVP to Lauren Lamb at
FPOCLiaison@fpocny.org**

Or

(585) 943-0205

to get an email link to join the fun!





A success story:
**A family of 9
moves home!**



A family of 9 had a house but needed everything else, beds & bedding, kitchen stuff, furniture, food. In less than 48 hours 75% of what was requested by FPOC had been promised. In six days the family went from an empty house to a HOME because of our generous volunteers. Our people gave more than was asked for and helped these kids think it was Christmas in March!

April Calendar

Thursday April 1 – Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service 7:00 Live Stream
Friday April 2 – Live Stream Practice 12:00; Easter Flower Delivery 2:00
Sunday April 4 – Easter Sunday Worship 10:30 Live stream; hybrid Sunday School
Monday April 5 - Study Grp 9:00; Study Grp 5:00
Tues. April 6 - Study Grp 9:00; Rughookers 10:00
Wed. April 7 - Study Grp 9:00; TOPS 10:00
Friday April 9 – Live Stream Practice 4:30
Sunday April 11 - Worship Live Stream 10:30; hybrid Sunday School; Cong. Life 11:45
Zoom
Monday April 12 – Study Grp 9:00; Trustees 4:00 Zoom; Study Grp 5:00
Tues. April 13 – Study Grp 9:00; Rughookers 10:00; SCR Grp A 10:30 Zoom;
SCR Grp C 1:00 Zoom
Wed. April 14 – Study Grp 9:00; TOPS 10:00
Thurs. April 15 - SCR Grp B 10:30 Zoom; SCR Grp D 7:00 Zoom
Friday April 16 – Live Stream Practice 5:30
Sunday April 18 - Worship 10:30 In Person & Live stream; hybrid Sunday School
Monday April 19 – Study Grp 9:00; Study Grp 5:00
Tues. April 20 – Study Grp 9:00; Rughookers 10:00; 3:00 Connie Fredericks-Malone
Concert of Sacred Songs; Council 7:00
Wed. April 21 – Study Grp 9:00; TOPS 10:00
Thursday April 22 – Variety Show 7:00 Zoom
Friday April 23 – Live Stream Practice 12:00

Sunday April 25 - Worship 10:30 In Person & Live stream; hybrid Sunday School

Monday April 26 – Study Grp 9:00; Study Grp 5:00

Monday April 26 - Sun. May 2 - Dawn on Retreat at Silver Bay

Tues. April 27 - Study Grp 9:00; Rughookers 10:00; SCR Grp A 10:30 Zoom;
SCR Grp C 1:00 Zoom

Wed. April 28 - Study Grp 9:00; TOPS 10:00

Thurs. April 29 - SCR Grp B 10:30 Zoom; SCR Grp D 7:00 Zoom

Friday April 30 – Live Stream Practice TBD; Prayer Shawl @ Sally Mueller's 2:00