

The Geneva Pres



JANUARY

2016

The Presbyterian Church in Geneva

24 Park Place
Geneva NY 14456
(315) 789-1343

Website:

<http://www.PresbyterianChurchInGenevaNewYork.org>

Rev., Dr. Deborah Lind-Schmitz - Minister

Richard Cox - Director of Music and Adult Bell Choir Director

Linda Hanson Cox, Church Organist

Kathleen Breese - Dir. Christian Education

Lisa Gage, Lorraine Jones – Children's Choirs

Edna May Langan – Secretary

Mark Springmeier – Custodian

Beth Nicholas – Parish Nurse

Deb Drennen – Nursery care

Paula Foote Breese – Coordinator of Youth Ministries

Alan Schenck – Financial Administrator

Fritz Aude - Treasurer

Bette J. Schubert - Clerk of Session

Fred Schuhle – Asst. Clerk of Session

Art Lewis - Webmaster



Pastor's Report

January 2016 Sharing One Hope for the Future

Affirmation of Faith adapted from the Confession of Belhar

We believe that the unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope.

The Presbyterian Church (USA) is in the final stages of adopting the Confession of Belhar. It will be added to our Book of Confessions which begins with the Nicene Creed and the Apostles' Creed. Most of you grew up memorizing one of those affirmations of faith. I remember the whole congregation standing and reciting the Apostles' Creed every Sunday. In the last decade, we have occasionally included either the ancient creed or the most recent, Brief Statement of Faith. There are eleven confessions that represent almost two thousand years of Christian Creeds. The Belhar Confession will be the twelfth. Each give us a snapshot of the Church during a specific historical period. From 350 AD to 2016, congregations seek to define their beliefs and mission.

One of the greatest misconceptions has to do with the word, "Confession". In the Christian tradition confession has a totally different definition than the "admission of wrongdoing or guilt". According to the editors of The Book of Confession, "*confession has an earlier, positive sense. To confess means openly to affirm, declare, acknowledge or take a stand for what one believes to be true. The truth that is confessed may*

include the admission of sin and guilt but is more than that. When Christians make a confession, they

say, “This is what we most assuredly believe, regardless of what others may believe and regardless of opposition rejection or persecution that may come to us for taking this stand.”

The South Afrikaans Reformed Churches took a stand against apartheid by standing up for belief in “unity of the people of God”. It may seem like a subtle or assumed stance. However, creeds often represent a “live and death” statement.

When we stand up and confess our belief that baptism unites us we are united with Christians around the world. That is a powerful act of faith. In the next few months, I will occasionally include an affirmation of faith in the worship service. Look for the insert explaining the historical context of each creed. Our faith is personal and corporate, our church is local and global; our creeds are historical and present-day.

Come let us affirm our faith, “work for one cause and share one hope” in 2016.

Rev. Deborah Lind-Schmitz



Sunday, January 24, 2016

JAN 3 **Epiphany (Jan.6) New Members Recieved**
Sermon: **(You Have) A Bright Future**
Scriptures: **Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2: 1-12**

JAN 10 **The Lord's Baptism- Renewal of Baptism**
Sermon: **Renewal of Baptism**
Scriptures: **Acts 8: 14-17, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

JAN 17 **Second Sunday after Epiphany- Installation**
Sermon: **Given for the Common Good**
Scriptures: **I Corinthians 12:1-11, John 2:1-11**

JAN 24 **Third Sunday after Epiphany Annual**
Meeting
Sermon: **The Spirit of the Lord is Upon You**
Scriptures: **I Corinthians 12:12-31a, Luke 4:14-21**

JAN 31 **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**
Sermon: **Without Love, It means Nothing**
Scriptures: **I Corinthians 13:1-13, Luke 4:21-30**

PLANNING AHEAD

FEB 7 **Transfiguration**
FEB 10 **Ash Wednesday**
FEB 14 **Valentine's Day and First Sunday in Lent**





Epiphany Feast

Sunday, January 10, 2016

5:30 PM

*Join us for this special event
in the life of our congregation!*

*It will be an Epiphany celebration for all ages, remembering the
three wise men as they followed the star to the manger.*

*Come celebrate the One who is the true light –
the bright morning star!*

The Worship Committee will provide
turkey, ham, rolls, drinks and dessert.

PLEASE BRING: \$2.00 each (\$1.00 each for children 12 and
under) and a vegetable or other side dish.

IF YOU WISH: bring and leave at the manger a gift for
people escaping domestic violence through the “Safe Home”
project. Gifts may include: toiletries, diapers, alarm clocks,
kitchen items (such as silverware, pots & pans), Band-Aids and
other basic necessities.

PLEASE SIGN UP IN ADVANCE so the Worship Committee
will know how much turkey and ham to buy.

EPIPHANY FEAST: Call the church office 789-1343,
leave your reservation in the offering plate, or e-mail us at:
secretarypcgny@rochester.rr.com

NAME: _____ **Phone:** _____

Number of reservations: Adults _____ **Children** _____

Adult Forum

Meets from 9:15-10:15 on Sunday Morning in the South Parlor

Paul: Eclipsing Empire

Eclipsing Empire: Beginning in January, we will continue our study of Eclipsing Empire. This study explores Paul's mission in the early church and includes an exploration of some of the locations of Paul's ministry in Turkey.

January 3	No Class	
January 10	Mat DeMoras	Paul's Letters
January 17	Bill Fox	Paul's Ethics
January 24	Judith McKinney	Paul's Theology
January 31	Mat DeMoras	Paul's Eschatology

Looking Ahead

Revelation: Our Lenten Bible Study will begin on January 15. Everyone is welcome to attend and discuss the significance of this remarkable Book in the Bible.



Thanks from Village Links Teen Moms

The Teen Moms served by our Village Links program and the staff and advisory committee would like to thank all those in the congregation who have donated WalMart gift cards recently.

These gifts allow our Moms to provide needed items for their children at this time of year. Warm clothes and blankets, food, paper diapers and other necessities. As Jesus said, "Truly, I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew, 25:40.

Merry Christmas to all, Thank you.

SERRV International Fair Trade Gift Shop

The SERRV shop will be closed during the month of January for inventory and will reopen for regular hours in February after both services and regular hours on Saturdays.

SERRV international travels to many places around the world, assisting local artisans to create marketable fair trade merchandise. Through our produce collaborations and development work, our partners lift themselves and their families out of poverty and the benefits ripple out to transform their communities. We believe that everyone deserves a life of dignity and equality and that breaking the cycle of poverty builds stronger societies and economies and peace.

Thanks to all who have participated in our mission during the past year by either volunteering or shopping in our store. Through your support we have been able to make contributions to many mission projects.

We look forward to seeing you in February when the shop reopens for the new year.

Dear Members and Friends,

My apologies for the delay in providing Contribution Statements this past year.

During 2015, we have replaced all of the computers in the offices. We also replaced the membership database. This stores pertinent information on the entire congregation, and it is used for the newsletter, stewardship mailings, and recording pledges and contributions from you folks.

This has taken me much longer than I expected to learn and feel comfortable with the new program. The year-end statements for tax purposes will be available later in January.

Please contact me if you have any questions. Alan

Sunday School

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT – THANKS to all the kiddos!! Nice job!

PLUM PUDDING – THANKS to all who donated cakes and cookies. YUM!!!!!!

JANUARY 31 – Children's choirs sing at 10:30 worship.



JANUARY 11, 2016, 7:00

JANUARY 31, is SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY. If you put a dollar in the soup pot after worship we can feed many, many people right here in Geneva.

THANKS!!

HEIFER PROJECT-*the gift that keeps on giving*

This year the Sunday School will try to purchase a goat for Heifer Project. Watch for the Heifer bucket in Fellowship Hall if you'd like to help.

GO FOR GOATS!!!

CAMPBELL'S SOUP UPC CODES

Please save your UPC CODES

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

to benefit Geneva Head Start

Youth Fellowship January Grades 6-12 Movie

featuring
recliners



Time: To be determined (1:00-6:00), will depend on movie selected

When: Sunday, January 17th

Where: Will meet at church, will travel to Eastview Mall Movie Theater. Based on the number of people we will look ahead and vote on a movie and decide on the time.

Cost: \$5, bring extra money for snacks if you want

Please RSVP to Paula by email (pjfoote25@gmail.com) by Sunday, January 10th. We will not be able to take people that do not respond by the 10th. Transportation and movie selection will be done the week of.



Time: 1:00-3:00pm

When: Sunday, January 24th

Where: Geneva Recreation Complex

Cost: \$4 (City Residents), \$6 (Non Residents)

Please RSVP to Paula by email (pjfoote25@gmail.com) by Tuesday, January 19th!



Presbyterian Women

Upcoming Events:

PW January meeting has been cancelled.

PW will meet February 21, 2016 immediately following the 10:30 am service in the conference room at Church. All women welcome.

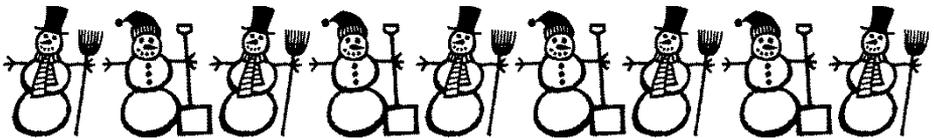


Friendship Study Group - *Tuesday, Jan. 12, 1:30 pm*

Friendship Study Group – “Come to the Waters” series continues

Lesson Four will be “Dangerous Waters – God’s Deliverance” based on Joshua 3 and Psalm 69 1-3. There has been good attendance with everyone contributing to the discussion. Please join us; there is always room for more.

Needles/Craft – no date set





***“By gracious powers so wonderfully sheltered,
And confidently waiting come what may;
we know that God is with us night and morning,
and never fails to greet us each new day.”***

So begins the text of one of our anthems in January. It is a poem/

prayer that Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote in a letter to his mother the day before her 70th birthday from his prison cell in the concentration camp at Flossenbuerg where he had been imprisoned for his opposition to the Nazi. It was a prayer of faith and hope, written to greet the New Year 1945, in a time of brutality, destruction and death. Dietrich reflects on the harsh times that they were living through, confronts it honestly and yet is able to feel the supporting love of God and the hope for a better future in the company of God.

It is a prayer too for our time as we confront the threat of terrorism, the shakiness of the economy, the reality of climate change, and the politics of fear and exclusion. Listen to the rest of this great prayer of faith and hope:

***Yet is this heart by its old foe tormented,
still evil days bring burdens hard to bear;
oh, give our frightened souls the sure salvation,
for which, O Lord, you taught us to prepare.
And when this cup you give is filled to brimming
with bitter suffering, hard to understand,
we take it thankfully and without trembling
out of so good and so beloved a hand.
Yet when again in this same world you give us
the joy we had, the brightness of your sun,
we shall remember all the days we lived through
and our whole life shall then be yours alone.
By gracious powers so faithfully protected,
so quietly, so wonderfully near,
I'll live each day in hope, with you beside me,
and go with you through every coming year.***

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Deacons

Tuned In

I debated for a while about what to write this month. I could write about resolutions, new starts, new beginnings... But, since I discussed that *last* month I decided to go a different route. 😊 My students have been busily preparing for the upcoming Science Fair, and an experiment I often see explores the impact of music on mood and heart rate. After talking with the student who is carrying out the project this year, I reviewed my iTunes playlists and pondered the way music affects me.

My taste in music has been influenced by many people and experiences. From the swing/big band, folk, and world music I heard whenever I went to my grandparents' house, to the classical, classic rock, 70's and 80's music I listen to with my parents, I have connections with certain songs - and types of songs because I heard them with certain people or at certain times. I tend to listen to instrumental music while planning and grading, more upbeat pop/dance/electronica while working out... the list goes on and on. There's an abundance of sound in the world around us, but what makes something music rather than just noise? What makes a song inspiring to some, but boring to others? Based in part on my exposure to so many different types of music, I like a diverse array of instruments, songs and sounds - but only at certain times.

I find that if the radio is on and the music doesn't fit my mood something feels "off". It's like a room arrangement lacking *fung shui*. I'm not sure whether or not this is an experience common to everyone, but I know that we all have some associations to the sounds we hear. The sense of hearing helps us interpret situations and what we hear can alter the way we feel. We can sing music, play it, dance to it, or just listen and enjoy. This month, think about your musical background. Which styles of music do you gravitate towards and why? As you ponder, you might find that you're tuning in to *yourself* in a new and exciting way!



Dear Church Family,

Happy New Year!! I wish you all a year of health and joy (and much, much less snow than we had last year starting in January!). I'd like us all to think about our resolutions and consider a healthy diet, safe exercise and a positive attitude (hard to do in an election year, but let's try).

I have read several articles lately linking people who regularly take a good brisk walk (or at least a walk that leaves you slightly winded) with good brain health and a smaller incidence of dementia. Exercise also improves your mood, helps you to sleep better and reduces stress. So think about resolving to do some walking, or another type of exercise to keep healthy and improve your life.

Diet is another "boring" topic, but oh so important!! If you know that chocolate cake is going to send your blood sugar skyrocketing, or if that 4th spicy taco is going to have you up all night groaning in pain, DON'T EAT IT! When dieting, everything in moderation works for many people. If you want to eat something that isn't great for you, but won't kill you, pick one day of the week you will allow yourself a little bit of it. I had a friend who was dieting, but could not stay away from ice cream. He told himself he could only have ice cream on Sundays, 3 scoops. He ended up losing 60 lbs. over a year. Most of dieting deals with will power. Resolve to be disciplined in what you put in your mouth.

Many research articles have been written about the power of a positive attitude. We all like to be around people who are positive. People who have a positive attitude and become ill usually get well sooner or have better quality of life than people who are not positive. It is not always possible to be positive or happy, really awful things do happen to us all, but not spending all your time dwelling on the bad and trying to find some good each day benefits you. Resolve to be positive!

Work on your faith. Church is not a spectator sport. Reading the Bible, delving into what your faith really means, getting together with other church members to pray for one another's problems or giving thanks for blessings, or just enjoying the fellowship with each other is uplifting. Don't just go to church, be the church, be God's light to others. Resolve to work on your faith and find God's calling for you in this life.

Finally, DON'T FALL!!!!!! Many of you have been in the ER lately getting X Rays! Be safe and steady. *God Bless, Beth*

Lenten Bible Study

Revelation

Visions for the Church in Crisis

Friday Evening

6 pm to 8 pm

January 15 through April 15

Revelation is a letter to Christians of the first century. The letter is written with vivid imagery that captures the imagination and requires us to work toward an understanding of what the letter says to us through it's apocalyptic language and visions. And it is imperative that we work toward an understanding of this unique book because not only has it influenced humanity over the years but it also has relevance for us today.

Are you just a bit curious? Then, join us in our study on Friday evenings. A simple dinner of soup, bread and fruit begins at 6 pm. The Bible study begins at 7 pm and our study is completed by 8 pm. Participants volunteer to bring the meal each week. If you are interested in participating in this study, speak with Diana Capron. There is a Participant's Resource Book and she will provide you with a copy before the study begins.

The first group study will be Friday, January 15. Because other groups will be using the church, we will gather for dinner in the conference room. After dinner, we will join together in the South Parlor to begin our discussion of the drama in Revelation.

Ash Wednesday Service

February 10, 2016

6:00 p.m. - meatless meal followed by a

7:00 p.m. Communion service in the fellowship hall.

Church Pictorial Directory

So far, the response to the request for family pictures for the pictorial directory has been low. Thank you to those families who sent pictures. If you would like to submit a picture, please send us a picture of yourself or household by Christmas. If you can't send it to us by Christmas then send it as soon as you can.

You may email us the picture, saved in a JPEG format, to ServantKeeper@pcgny.org, or send a printed picture (4" x 6") to the church office. For the best results, the subjects in the picture should fill $\frac{2}{3}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the picture and for pictures taken by a professional photographer, please ask the photographer if you can share or copy the picture without violating any copyrights. Please include the names of all the people in the picture, your address and phone with the picture.

We will publish a member only, confidential and downloadable pictorial directory on the Church Member's website by Epiphany, January 6, 2016. If you prefer that we do not share your personal information (address, phone number) please contact us with your request in writing. For those without internet access, there will be a limited number of pictorial directories available by request in the Church Office on January 10, 2016.

We will update pictures as they are provided to us and update the pictorial directory on the Church Member's website on a monthly basis.

January



Bush, Deidre 1	Hovey, John 1
Burrall, Beverly 4	Tourtellotte, Amanda 5
Bley, Rick 6	Cortelyou, Emme 6
Aliperti, Benjamin 7	Aliperti, Sarah 7
Leitner, Kim 7	Hansen, Frances 8
Bley, Fay 9	Butler, Bruce 10
Frick, Thelma 10	Berg-Pappert, Alexandra 12
Pohlig, Christine 12	Baker, Bruce 13
Powell, Susan 14	Cieri, Frederick 15
Colon, Rowena 15	Siebert, Ti 15
Hausner, Mary K. 17	Saracino, Bridget 19
Allen, Thomas 22	**Langan, Edna May 22
DeMoras, Benedict 24	Fellows, Phyllis 28
McLaughlin, Declan 28	Baxter, Stacey 29
Cottrell, Steven 30	Cox, Linda 30
Jennings, Christopher 30	Newcomb, Donna 30
Stearns, Eleanor 31	



NEW MEMBERS

Elisha and Richard Gulvin and their children Jessica Gulvin and

Jeremiah Tomion

Marilyn Jensen, mother of Elisha Gulvin

Barbara Gunn

Aric Lapp

2 CENTS – A - MEAL

We will collect 2 cents offerings on JANUARY 3

You can make a difference

in the lives of hungry people!!!



Pastor Deb - deblindschmitz@pcgny.org

Edna May - secretary@pcgny.org

Alan Schenck - finadmin@pcgny.org

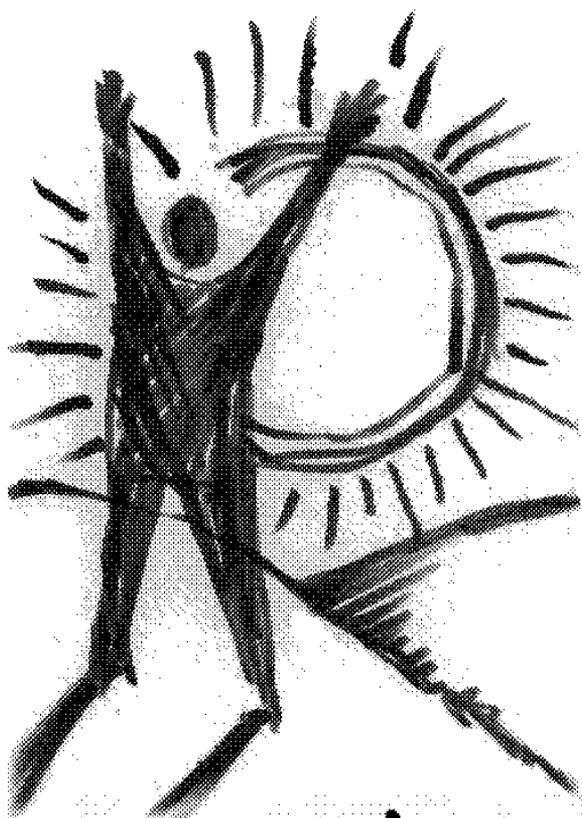
Servant Keeper - servantkeeper@pcgny.org

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
JANUARY 22 - NOON**

**ANNUAL REPORTS DUE JANUARY 8,
2016**

**ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION -
BEGINNING IN
JANUARY**

A monthly Caregiver Support Group for individual's who are caring for a loved one(s) with Alzheimer's disease or another dementia. This group will meet the FIRST Wednesday of every month from 1:30-2:30 pm in the church parlor.



Arise, shine,
for your light has come,
and the glory of the
LORD rises upon you.

Isaiah 60:1

A THOUGHT

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper & complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. 'I've gone for 30 years now,' he wrote, '& in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time & the preachers & priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all.'

This started a real controversy in the 'Letters to the Editor' column. Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

'I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this: They all nourished me & gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today.

Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!' When you are DOWN to nothing, God is UP to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible & receives the impossible!

**Thank God for our physical & our spiritual nourishment!
IF YOU CANNOT SEE GOD IN ALL,
YOU CANNOT SEE GOD AT ALL !**

VANDERKAMP!

February 5th – 7th, 2016

Ski right out your front door over snow covered trails through the woods ...

Read a book by the fire ...

Laugh and connect with friends while doing a puzzle or playing a game ...

Sled down Cherry Hill ...

Share a meal with old friends and new ...

Vanderkamp is a retreat center near Oneida Lake where all this can happen and more. We reserve 3 lodges for our families to share. Want more details? Talk to Lauren Lamb or Sage Gerling! Plan on coming? Let us know & fill out the form below.

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Would you be Head of House? Y/N _____

Number of people in your group:

**Over 12 (\$85.00) _____ Children ages 5-12 (\$75.00) : _____
children 4&under (free!) _____**

Confidential camperships are always available!

**Questions? Contact Lauren Lamb at 789-6589 or
nylambs@gmail.com OR**

Sage Gerling at (607)339-7729 or sgerling@geneva.ny.us

JANUARY 2016



		<h1>JANUARY 2016</h1>				
Worship services 8:15 and 10:30 Sunday School 9:00 Adult Sunday School 9:15					1 Church office closed 	2
3 Communion at both services	4 I & S Com. 7:30	5 Adult Ed Com. 5:30 Property Com. 7:00	6 Alzheimer's Support – 1:30 Deacons 7:00	7 Memorial Com 5:30 Choir 7:00	8 Annual Reports due in office	9 Officer training Deacons 9:00 Lunch 11:30 Elders 12:00
10 Epiphany Feast 5:30 Epiphany BP Clinic	11 CE Com. 7:00	12 Friendship Study Group – 1:30	13 Worship Com. 7:00 Finance Com. 7:30	14 Choir 7:00	15 Twilight 10:30 Soup supper 6:00	16
17 Installation of officers 10:30	18 Church office closed Martin Luther King Jr. Day	19 Red Cross Blood Drive 1:00 Communications Com. 7:00	20 Session 7:00	21 Choir 7:00	22 Newsletter deadline - noon Soup supper 6:00	23
24 Annual Meeting and Brunch 11:45	25 Mission Com. 7:30	26	27	28 Choir 7:00	29 Soup supper 6:00	30
31						

