

First Presbyterian Church of Cazenovia

June 2017 Newsletter

The Pastor's Journal

"Life and death are one, even as the river and the sea are one."

Khalil Gibran



The other day somebody suggested to me that in the summertime everything slows down. The days grow longer and lazier, and time itself seems to become more lethargic.

Time is probably the most mysterious dimension of our existence. It is like standing upon the shores of an ocean, the edgewater lapping at our feet while, as we look out towards the horizon, the depths remain seemingly unplumbable.

Of course, time itself never changes: the seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months and years continually tick along with unparalleled precision. And yet, while the waters of time, themselves, never change, still we wade through them as if in many different shoes.

As the humorist Erma Bombeck once wrote, "time hangs heavy over the heads of bored people, eludes the busy, flies by for the young, and runs out for the old. Perhaps we should view it," Bombeck ultimately counseled, "through a child's eyes."

"Through a child's eyes." Is that possible?

So many of us now have the heart of a veteran timekeeper; though we must admit the very notion of *timekeeping* is in itself a misnomer. For though we might do our best to 'record' time, we can never truly 'keep' it. Those of us who have seen so much of time slip by all too quickly know the poignancy of that truth.

Will Rogers once gave a huge pocket watch to his friend David Rubinoff, the consummate violinist, with the following words inscribed:

*The Clock of Life is wound but once,
And no man has the power
To tell just when the hands will stop,
At late or early hour.
Now is the only time we own;
So live, love, toil with a will;
Place no faith in "Tomorrow,"
For the Clock may then be still.*

“Time alone is irreplaceable,” Douglas Southall Freeman with finality observed. Mahatma Gandhi – with perhaps more longanimity – wisely counseled, “Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn to live as if you were to live forever.”

There was something, was there not, that seemed quite eternal about our childhood summer-times? No doubt, children, indeed, know how to do summer; know how to live each day as if it would last forever, how to live as if they will live forever.

“Unless you become like little children,” Jesus told his listeners, “you will by no means enter the Kingdom of Heaven.” We know that he was speaking of the necessity for humility in the disciples’ character. But maybe there is also something in Jesus’ teaching concerning an unpretentious submission toward time as well. The simple truth is we cannot swim against the currents of time.

I once learned, indelibly, the lesson that one cannot swim against an ocean tide. While bodysurfing off the coast of the big island of Hawaii one summer many years ago, in my sporting enthusiasm I found myself far out of my element and struggling against a ‘rip-tide;’ a powerful ocean current that continually moves away from the shore. Countless people have drowned in just such circumstances.

However, when we were renting snorkel equipment from the local surf shop the previous day I remembered the – as it turned *prophetic* – words the shop owner uttered as we were leaving with our gear, “If you get caught in a riptide don’t try to swim against it. Swim sideways, parallel to the shoreline, until you get out of the current.”

Those words undoubtedly saved my life.

Perhaps, in that lesson there is a key to surviving the ‘currents of time’ as well.

Surely, fighting against the current is always an exercise in futility. But if we allow time to sort of sweep us along – perhaps, even move with the current – we might begin to encounter a sort of ‘elongation’ in our experience of time.

In my memory of those first few minutes, before recalling the surf shop owner’s caution, the struggle against the riptide literally seemed like *hours*. But once I began to relax a bit and flow *with* the current, my swim strokes soon became easier and less burdensome. And, when I realized I was going to be alright, I even started to enjoy the feeling of being swept along with the tide in sight of the shoreline.

Perhaps children have not yet learned to ‘fight against the currents of time;’ and that is to their benefit. Adults in the church, so adept to the mandates of time and often steeped in a future focused eschatology, may well tend to forget what Jesus told his disciples: “The [eternal] Kingdom of Heaven has [already] drawn near.”

In his book *The Eternal Now*, the great theologian Paul Tillich wrote, “There is no time *after* time, but there is eternity *above* time.”

Maybe part of the secret to living in ‘the eternal now’ is found in the capacity – that seems to come so naturally to children – to perceive the wonders of God’s realm all around us. To enjoy each and every moment as it serendipitously eddies our way.

For an ageless, eternal God, time is truly without limit, dimensionless. To the degree that we *swim* side by side with God through time, it may become more so for us.

“For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, and like a watch in the night. You carry them away like a flood, they are like a sleep . . . [And yet] from everlasting to everlasting, you are [still] God” [Ps. 90:4ff].

What do you remember as a child wading through the tall green grasses of summer? What was that time of your life like? Do you remember: A butterfly briefly frozen in time, perched lightly upon the hair of a resting hand; fireflies held momentarily captive in a mayonnaise jar, lighting the backyard and warming the heart; countless shimmering stars that drew one's eyes deeper and deeper toward the edges of eternity; droplets of water seemingly suspended in air as the pebble passes through the surface of the pond to continue its journey out of sight into the depths.

If we can keep our eyes open wide enough to see the Realm of God all around us – to live fully in the right here and right now of each moment – then maybe we, too, can reclaim a capacity to perceive the eternal summer which God has placed in our hearts.

“Behold,” God tells the prophet Isaiah, “I *am* doing something *new*. Can you not see it?” And, again, “For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth . . . be glad and rejoice forever in what I create.” [Is. 43:19; 65:17]

Such is God's eternal promise!

So, all you old 'timekeepers' take heart. And receive the Kingdom of God as a child. For, in God's eyes, surely you will ever be so.

This *is* the summer day which God has made! Rejoice and be forever glad in it!

Love,

TOM

(Excerpts from the sermon “Summertime”)



Help is Available!!!

If you, or someone you know, is in occasional need of help to take care of small items around the house or yard that used to be handled personally, the Deacons would like to offer assistance. If the task is a larger one, we may be able to coordinate efforts of local youth volunteer groups that are looking for community service projects. Please contact one of the Deacons personally or call the church office at 655-3191.



American
Red Cross

Blood Drive

Meeting House

Thursday, June 29th, 1 pm – 6 pm

To schedule an appointment
call 1-800 RED CROSS or visit
www.redcrossblood.org.

Men's Breakfast

7:30 a.m. June 14th

Meeting House

All men are welcome to gather for
breakfast and discussion!



Organ history



“Unique circumstances have brought about a unique organ for this church. Although the present edifice was built in 1806, it was extensively—and tastefully—rebuilt sixty-two years later in a style which is only now coming to be understood and appreciated. As organ builders, we could have placed here a contemporary organ design, or even an 1806 organ design. It seemed to us fitting, however, that we work within the style imposed so successfully on the church in the late 1860’s, particularly since we could see how the organ’s and choir’s practical needs would lead to a charming superposition of Italianate arches and motifs, such as would overjoy the staunchest Victorian. Besides, the old organ we found here, built in Utica in 1869 by the Englishman John Marklove, possessed certain admirable qualities. It seemed right, somehow, to honor Marklove’s point of view along with that of the church builders.

“The Marklove organ was stifled by the arcade above the gallery. By extending the central section of gallery somewhat over the heads of the congregation we were enabled to bring Marklove’s old Chestnut case to the front of the arcade and to house the new Great division within it. A new, diminutive case in Marklove’s style adorns the balcony rail center and houses the new Choir, or Rückpositiv, division. To the right, located asymmetrically, is the new Pedal Tower containing the largest pipes in the organ. Because Chestnut wood has been unavailable since the great Chestnut blight, both new cases are made of Chestnut wood removed from Old Saint Mary’s Church in Boston’s North End. A detached keydesk in Mahogany occupies the center of the new balcony space and places the organist in direct communication with both organ and choir.

“The tonal design...is unabashedly eclectic, the theory behind it being that an excellent church organ will result if only good placement, good voicing and tracker key action are present. The Great division is in a Swell box, an unusual juxtaposition that gives flexibility for accompanying the choir and for performing certain pieces of the Romantic organ literature. Performance of this literature is also enhanced by certain softer stops included in the Great. Meanwhile, flexible winding—especially in the Choir division—makes for an authentically Baroque sound.

“This organ...has its own personality, its own pleasurable aspects, its own way of showing sadness or joy or anger...”

Charles Fisk, 1976

Taken From:

http://www.cbfish.com/instruments/opus_70_about

Upcoming Events

<u>Alice Edwards Circle</u>	Meeting: June 21st @ noon	~ Board Room
<u>Board of Deacons:</u>	Meeting: June 18th @ 11:15	~ Library
<u>Board of Trustees:</u>	Meeting: June 12th @ 6:30 p.m.	~Work Room
<u>Christian Education:</u>	Meeting: June 4th @ 11:15 a.m.	~Wendell House
<u>Evangelism & Fellowship:</u>	Meeting: June 25th @ 11:15 p.m.	~Work Room
<u>Men's Breakfast</u>	Gathering: June 14th @ 7:30 a.m.	~ Meeting House
<u>Outreach:</u>	Meeting June 11th @ 11:15 a.m.	~ Board Room
<u>Session:</u>	Meeting: June 19th @ 7:15 p.m.	~ Meeting House
<u>Worship & Music Committee</u>	Meeting: June 13th @ 6:00 p.m.	
<u>Karl Monson Memorial Service</u>	June 10th @ 11:00 a.m.	

Alice Edwards Circle

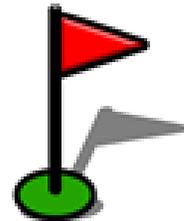
**Next Meeting:
June 21st @ Noon
Meeting House**

Hostesses:

Marion Barbero,
Patricia Johnson,
Diane Phillips
with Candy Riley

Summer Picnic—no sandwich needed

Please bring a smile and a personal care product for CazCares.



If you are interested in golfing in a late-summer church golf tournament (September), please call or text Steve McEntee ([315.380.7891](tel:315.380.7891)) with your name and how many golfers you would sign up. Please respond before June 25.



Sunday School News

Sunday School Schedule

June 4- Pentecost Sunday..Children will do chalk drawings when released to Sunday School
2017 Confirmation joins the church

June 11- Presentation of 3rd grade bibles, Regular Sunday School, Annual Church Picnic

June 18- Recognition of Graduates and Father's Day, Regular Sunday School

June 23- Start of Summer Sunday School

Welcome

The Christian Education Committee welcomes Hilary Denis Roach as our new caregiver for the nursery. Hilary grew up in our church and community. Hilary is married and the mother of three children. Please stop by and welcome her.

2017 Confirmation Class

The members of the confirmation class will join our congregation on June 4. The class met with Rev. Oak during the month of May and are Alison and Madelyn Raymond, Laura Connors and Rebecca Allen.

Annual Picnic

The CE Committee invites everyone to our Annual Church Picnic following the service on June 11. Hamburgers, hotdogs, drinks and ice cream will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. The Cazenovia Community Band will play starting at 11:45AM.

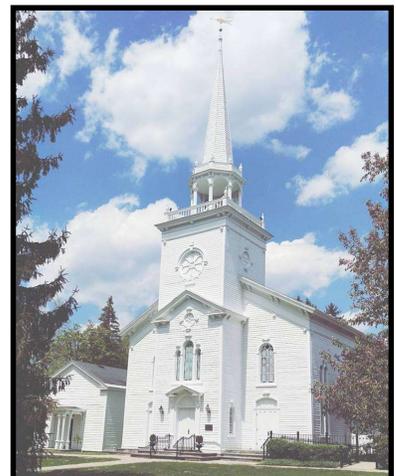
Summer Sunday School

Sharye Skinner will once again take over Sunday School for a fun filled summer starting June 23. Children of all ages are welcomed.



National Day
of Prayer

A Beautiful Spring day





From the Music Director

Ah, summertime! Alright, I realize the official start is a couple weeks away yet, but we're feeling it in the music department! The snow is done now (hopefully), the grass is green, and we're ready for some summer music. We've had a good response so far for soloists and instrumentalists to join in for the summer. Planning is still in the early stages, but we have a few hopefuls to share with you: Kathy Knoff, and Myself will be planning some piano duets which are always a blast to play! The KCs (Carla Kinney, Kathy Campagna, Kristin and Robin Curtis, and Carol Buckhout) are thinking of a couple pieces to sing as a small vocal ensemble. On July Second, Lorin Hunt will be filling in for me as guest organist, and will present a special organ piece or the offertory.

At the end of June, we're blessed to have the Handbell Musicians of America presenting a conference right in Syracuse, at Onondaga Community College. Ringers from all over the northeast will travel to Syracuse to share in our craft. Joan DeFrees, Kathy Knoff and I will be attending the three-day event where we'll participate in classes to improve our ringing and conducting technique. Part of the conference is also a mass ring. Many handbell choirs and hundreds of ringers get together to practice then present a concert where we ring pieces originally written for a single choir. I'm told the sound is out of this world, and I'll be happy to share more information as we find it out.

We're still looking for a few more performers to fill out the rest of the Sundays in July and August. If you'd like to share your gifts with the church, we'd be happy to have you! Please drop me a note at Vincent@cnyorganist.com, or catch me after the service.

Many Thanks and God Bless,
Vince Guarneiri



<http://cazpres.org/>





Obituary of Karl Monson

Karl Willard Monson, 99, of Cazenovia, NY was reunited with his heavenly family on May 8, 2017. He was born on April 24, 1918 in Velva, North Dakota, the son of the late Andrew and Ida Monson. He was raised in Grand Rapids, Michigan and studied at Wheaton College earning his BS in 1941. He enlisted in the Army as a Private, six months later, Pearl Harbor was attacked. As a result of the United States entering World War II, he was recruited to be a "90 day wonder" and then promoted quickly to the rank of Major. Karl served most of the war commanding the 602nd

Anti-Aircraft Artillery battalion. His first assignment was in England and then continued fighting across France after landing on Easy Red of Omaha Beach. His 602nd took heavy losses in the Battle of the Bulge. Near the end of the war, at the age of 26, he was promoted to Lt. Colonel and he ran a center for Recovering Allied Military Personnel after which Karl returned home in 1946.

Following the War, he embarked upon a long and storied career in the textile industry, first at Glendale Knitting Company in Perry, NY where Nitey- Night children's pajamas were made. Karl developed several innovative printing processes for knit fabric and pioneered plastic feet on kids pj's. He then became President of the Atlas Underwear Company in Piqua, OH which made men's underwear for Montgomery Ward, J.C. Penney and Sears. They made ski-wear under the name Allen-A and manufactured the Nomex "fire-proof" underwear for race car drivers and firefighters. Atlas custom made the underwear for NASA that Neil Armstrong wore when he walked on the moon. That pair is now on display at the Smithsonian Air & Space Museum.

Karl married his high school sweetheart, Janna Loeks in 1943. After the war they started their family, had four children and made wonderful memories. Family vacations often entailed traveling in their own retrofitted Greyhound bus. The couple was together for 39 years until her early death in 1982.

Karl was a life-long learner, avid reader and profound writer. He wrote "Letters to my Children" which delighted family and friends alike. The stories he wrote around the first week of April were well crafted April Fools stunts that always surprised his readers.

He faithfully served Jesus Christ and was active in his church. His strong Baritone voice was an anchor for the choir. His family thrills to remembering him sing "How Great Thou Art."

In 2014 he returned to Normandy to observe the 70th anniversary of the D-Day landings. In recognition of Karl's leadership in the liberation of France, the French Consulate awarded Karl the Medal of Honor and he became a Chevalier in the French Legion of Honor.

Besides his parents and wife he was predeceased by his sisters, Margaret Payne and Marianne McConnell. Karl is survived by his children, Janna (Ian Macrae) Treisman of Fall City, WA, Sharye (Dick Tuttle) Skinner of Cazenovia, David (Carol) Monson of Columbus, OH and Betsy (Jim) Gray of Piqua, OH; his sister, Pat (Paul) Barnard of Bushnell, FL; grandchildren, Zack Treisman, Mike (Rhi) Macrae, Sean Macrae, Duncan Macrae, Jordan (Joanna) Monson, Kenley (Dennis) Holm, Matt (fiancé Stephanie Brooks) Gray, and Jon Gray; great grandchildren, Weston Monson, Avery Monson, Quinn Monson, Thorin Macrae and Juniper Macrae; cousin, Erik (Cajsa) Nyberg of Arvika, Sweden and numerous nephews and nieces. Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, June 10, 2017 in the First Presbyterian Church of Cazenovia. In lieu of flowers, donations may go to the "Handicap Pass-Through Fund" at the First Presbyterian Church of Cazenovia, 27 Albany St. Cazenovia, NY 13035.

Among Our People...



In our nation and around the world

People in Syria, Iraq, Turkey, the Philippines, and other nations torn by war and strife. Especially in Aleppo, and, recently, the Christmas Market attack in Germany.



If you have a name to share, please contact the church office (655-3191).

The men and women stationed throughout the world in service to our country.

Gathered unto God . . .

In the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse

Karl Monson

The congregations and faith communities of: Isaiah's Table, Syracuse; Korean Church of Syracuse; Park Central, Syracuse; Robinson Memorial, Syracuse; South Valley, Syracuse.

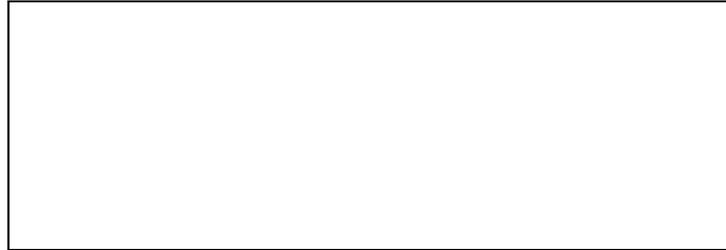
In our Congregation

Friends and Family of Robbie Harrington (wife of Si Ulcickas)
Bonnie Arnold (sister of Nancy Sagar Loffredo)
Mark Bell (friend of Kevin Curtis)
Brian Ball (brother of Bruce Ball)
Laura F. Brown (daughter of Shirley Falkner-Davies)
Margery Caywood (mother of Shelly Brooks)
Norm Gibbon (father of Sue Perriello)
Candy Glenn (friend of Donna Denison)
Helen Ifflander (mother of Nancy Sagar Loffredo)
Evonne Jones (friend of Patricia Johnson)
Kate Kegans (cousin of Leigh Garber)
Sheri-Anne Mitchell (daughter of Barbara & Raymond)
Katharine Neuman (daughter of Linda and Mark Peters)
Joseph Penney (nephew of Reverend Oak and Diane Monger)
Charlie Poole (student of Shelly Brooks)
Nancy Rauh (family friend of Leigh Garber)
Terese (Karl Monson's caregiver)
Annette Tuttle (Dick Tuttle's niece)
Jan Anthony Vinopal (grandson of Jana Laxa)
Carol (Will) Porter (wife of Bill Porter)
Marion York

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Newsletter