



News From The Heart

MARCH 2018

First Presbyterian Church of Cazenovia, NY
In the Heart of the Village since 1799

Pastor's Journal

For some strange reason, it so happens that a vast majority of our family members' birthdays land in February: Both my (late) mother and father, my niece Emily and her husband Paul, our nephew Eric, a handful of family munchkins (great nieces & nephews), along with a number of cousins and shirttail relatives to boot. Yep; for the month of February, my family singlehandedly keeps Hallmark in business.

As I write this article, the next birthday we celebrate will be Emily's this coming Saturday, on February 24th.

Today, at 35 years old, Emily lives happily with her husband Paul, and their two little boys in Leawood, Kansas. But I can still remember the day she was born like it was just yesterday.

I guess it was because I had sort of missed out being in on my nephew Joseph's big arrival, who kind of sneaked in on us late one Fourth of July night a few years before.

So I really didn't want to miss any of the excitement of Emily's birth.

And I made that fact abundantly clear to my sister.

At any rate, about 6:00 a.m. on that blessed morning, Mom called to inform me that Cathy

had gone into labor and she would soon be on her way to Wesley Hospital.

Well, I was up, out of bed, dressed and out the front door with a dispatch that would have rivaled any fireman answering the bell. When I got to the hospital, I raced straight up to the Maternity Ward, breathlessly inquiring at the nurses' station as to where my sister and family might be. The attendant nurse checked the computer (which seemed to take an eternity) for her name, but with no luck.

"She might still be down in admittance," the nurse suggested, sending me back downstairs to the ground floor; where I hurried to the Admissions Desk, which again reported no recent registration of a `Catherine Penney`.

"Try the emergency room," said the admissions volunteer. So I raced, now heart in throat, to the emergency room to see if perhaps that had been her point of entry. But, once more, there was absolutely no record that my sister had been admitted, and no signs of any family anywhere in the hospital. And by this time it's already 7:00 a.m.!

Finally, after going back up to the maternity floor...just to double check...in total exasperation I called Mom, "What's going on, you guys?!"

Pastor's Journal—Continued

Where's Cathy?! Are we going to have a baby or what?"

"Well, I didn't mean she was going to the hospital right that minute," Mom very coolly explained. Hey...How was I supposed to know?

As it turned out, Cathy & Co. didn't actually get to the hospital until around noon. So I had plenty of time to persevere upon my own over-anxiousness. But it was just that I was so super excited about this baby's birth!

A story more appropriately told during Advent, you say; when the days lead us towards Bethlehem and rude manger site. Ah...but then...that's the rub, isn't it?

For we are those strange sojourners who, even in the throes of a somber Lenten trek, still move towards woeful Jerusalem with an underscore of joyful anticipation. We move into the dark shadow of the cross with the torch of insider information...because we know what lies on the other side of that gruesome hill and darkened tomb.

We go forward, hopes held high, into Good Friday with Jesus' words ringing in our ears, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, shall live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." [John 11:25-26]

Yes, even our journey to the tomb is not the march of the dead. Rather, like a New Orleans' jazz funeral parade, we go forth as those celebrating new life!

"Why do you seek the living among the dead?" the angels asked the women, who had tearfully brought embalming spices to Jesus' tomb [Luke 24:5]. "You're expectations are all wrong," they

were telling those bereaved disciples. "You've got it all backwards."

God has reached into the immaculate womb of death, and brought forth a bold New Birth. Indeed, God has given us the First Born of many who, in faith, will follow.

Many years ago, a dear friend and mentor, Rev. Bob Wyman, referred to Christians as "midwives" of the Gospel.

I like that image very much; it's stuck with me over the years.

That we, as God's Easter people, are called into a ministry of 'midwifery;' to assist in the birthing process of God's new life in Jesus Christ, which is ever straining to break into this dying husk of a world, even as a butterfly struggles free from the cocoon. And to share all the gladness and hope which comes with the promise of such birth.

As I write these words, the world is mourning the death of the great evangelist Billy Graham, who passed away yesterday, Wednesday, February 21st. In an interview several years ago, Larry King asked Billy – then in his late 70s – if he even thought about his own death or was afraid of dying. And I'll never forget Rev. Graham's replied. "Oh, I'm looking forward to it—I really am," he said. "I'll be happy the day the Lord says, 'Come on. I've got something better planned.'"

Later Graham would imagine, "Think of a place where there will be no sorrow and no parting, no pain, no sickness, no death, no quarrels, no misunderstandings, no sin and no cares."

That is the Good News of New Life, which we are called to share with those who are held captive by death; who are all too preoccupied with

Pastor’s Journal—Continued

destruction and decay; who spend so much time, energy and money trying to elude the inevitable.

“You’ve gotten it all backwards,” we are telling the world. “It’s not about a slow march toward death, at all. For now, through Christ, it’s all about the celebration of Life.”

Life Abundant! Life Eternal!

And whenever one has faith in Jesus Christ, they can claim that happy reality as their very own. Let

us, therefore, also make this pilgrimage through the somber season of Lent with a sense of excitement and glad expectation.

Yea, let us even race toward the tomb with great joy and hope!

For we shall all be born anew! Through Jesus Christ.

Love, Tom

Easter Flowers

You’re invited to contribute toward the beautification of our sanctuary, by filling out this form. Your dedication will be included in the Easter Worship bulletin. Lilly plants will be gifted post-holiday to congregants in need of cheer! Thank you for your consideration.

DONOR’S NAME: _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of: _____

In Celebration of Jesus’ Resurrection : _____

In the amount of: _____

Please make check payable to First Presbyterian Church, memo “Flowers.”



**First Presbyterian Church
of Cazenovia, NY**

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Centuries Old Church Becomes Handicap Accessible

Cazenovia's Presbyterian Church is the oldest church in Madison County. It stands as an icon to the beliefs and aspirations of early and mid-nineteenth century Cazenovians. The congregation itself was formed in 1799 with Joshua Leonard as its first pastor. It took seven years to establish the congregation and raise funds for the building. The church was designed by renown Albany architect Philip Hooker and built by Nathan Smith of New Woodstock. The church was originally located in 1806 on the north side of the Green, fronting Hurd Street, to be far away from the haunts of civilization ... "far from the tents of joy and hope", that is the local taverns. When it became apparent that the activity and commercial center of the village were concentrating on the Albany Street Green, the church fathers picked up and moved the church in 1826 to its present location on Albany Street. So the church now rests in the heart of downtown.

Now in 2018 this 200+ year old church is due to become 100% Handicap Accessible. The steps from the Sanctuary to the Meeting House have been removed and a wide doorway now goes directly from the Sanctuary to the Meeting house. The work is being done by Steve Riedel Construction. Custom molding was made to match the existing molding of the chancel in the church by Dale Cornue. A faux door was built to the left side of the chancel to give balance to the new real doorway.

In addition to the "pass-through" project, a totally handicap accessible family restroom will be redesigned from the existing women's restroom. Other existing toilets in the Meeting House required the use of stairs.

Funding for this project has come from members of the Presbyterian Church but also though memorial donations in honor of Karl

Monson (daughter of Sharye Skinner and son-in-law Dick Tuttle); Gabe Kinney (husband of Carla Kinney) and Ann Harries (daughter of Susie Grills and son-in-law Russ Grills). The Kinney Drug Foundation gave a donation in honor of their employee, Gabe Kinney.

The First Presbyterian Church is still accepting donations to make this church 100% Accessible. This 200+ structure is finally coming into the 21st Century. Checks can be sent to Caz Pres Church Pass-Through Project. All donations are 100% tax-deductible.

A formal ribbon-cutting celebration will be held when all the work is complete. But if you would like to see the progress the church is making, stop by sometime between 10:00 am to 2:00pm Tuesday through Friday or better yet come to Sunday worship at 10:00am.



Donna Denison stands by the New Pass-Through door.

Photos of the Nearly Completed Pass-Through



Front of Sanctuary with new pass-through doors.



Updated lighting in the new walkway.



New doorway into the meeting house.

Blankets of Love

Attention all Seamstresses, Knitters and Crocheters: Years ago the Women's Association gave a blanket to a child getting baptized in our church. The Board of Deacons would like to take up the torch and re-ignite this practice and expand it to include prayer shawls and blankets for anyone in need of comfort and

support. If you have any talent with a needle and thread, knitting needles or a crochet hook let me (or any of the Deacons) know you would like to help. Email me at leigh_garber@hotmail.com Thank you. Leigh Garber.

Fellowship Update

We had a delicious taco dinner and a great turnout (nearly 3 dozen attended!) at the January 26th Game Night, there were so many old and new games to play! Then, during Cazenovia's Winterfest on February 10th, we built a huge snow sculpture of a cat in the front yard facing Route 20. Did you see a photo of it on Facebook?! Although we didn't win a ribbon in the sculpture competition we enjoyed using our creative energies, the mild weather, and a warm lunch afterwards.

Contra Dancing: Saturday, March 17th

Come join us at a Contra dance hosted by the United Church of Fayetteville, it will be a blast! There will be a caller who teaches each of the dances to exciting, live music. Come with or without a partner; we can meet at church and carpool or meet in Fayetteville. New dancers are welcome and if you tried this several years ago when we hosted one at our church, you know how much fun it can be. The recommended

admission if we come as a group is \$5/ each. Please RSVP to Sue Perriello (sgperriello@gmail.com, 315-655-5826, or to the church office by Friday, March 16. Please let us know if we should consider hosting a Contra Dance at our church in the future.

Palm Sunday Brunch: March 25th

Your Fellowship Committee will host a brunch after worship on March 25th, Palm Sunday. Scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausage, coffee, juice, milk and table service will be provided, and we ask that others in attendance consider bringing a dish of fruit, sweetbreads or other brunch item to share.

Providing a dish is optional, and there's no need for a RSVP. We hope that you will plan to stay a little longer on the 25th for some good food and great fellowship!

Potluck Dinner: Sun, April 22nd (Earth Day)

More details to follow!

Children's Sermon Volunteers Needed

We are very thankful for all our wonderful volunteers who prepare a children's sermon, also known as "Children's Time". We are looking for more volunteers! If you have a message to share with the children, you are welcome to participate! It's a great way for the children to get to know you and feel more included in this wonderful church family! If you only want to do one, that would be fine. If you would like to do more, that would be great!

The children get to know us better and seem to

enjoy the variety of sermons presented to them. So, the more volunteers, the better! Rev. Tom will be adding some children's sermons books to the library.

If you would like more information or suggestions, you could email me at: rocky1@windstream.net, or call me at 315 655-5784.

Thanks,
Roseanne

Sunday School

Sunday School Schedule

March 4- Students in grades 4 and older remain in service, younger children to Sunday School

March 11- Regular Sunday School

March 18- Children assemble hygiene kits and make banners for Palm Sunday

March 25- Child pass out palms, Regular Sunday School

"Souper Bowl of Caring"

Many thanks to everyone for supposing the Sunday School's project. We were able to deliver 52 cans of soup to CazCares.

Palm Sunday Celebration

The Sunday School will celebrate Palm Sunday this year by decorating the church with banners and passing out palms to the congregation. We will also celebrate our lord's life by assembling hygiene kits for Church World Services.

Missing a Dish?

There are various dishes and Tupperware that have been left behind at the church. Please take a look in the kitchen the next time you are there to identify your items and take them home

From The Music Director



We're gearing up for Lent and Easter...

It's the time of year once again where the Christmas story comes to its triumphant end on Easter Sunday with the rising of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Before then we have some musical reflections

to share with you for the Lenten season. We're happy to have you join us on the journey.

The Caz Pres Ringers adult bell choir finished out the short bit of ordinary time between Christmas and lent on Transfiguration Sunday with two old favorites: "For the Beauty of the Earth", and "The Church's One Foundation" Thank you to all the ringers for your hard work and filling our rehearsals and services with Joy! We're always looking for a couple more ringers so please feel free to stop and see me on a Sunday and see what it's all about!

The Jubilate Children's Choir is back on the chimes with a great crowd. We're getting some new pieces to share with you during the Lenten season. The kids are always willing to try anything, and this past Sunday we had some improvisation on "Joyful, Joyful..." and "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring". Exiting things to see happening!

On Maundy Thursday, this year on March 29th, we'll present "Tenebrae – A Service of Darkness" by Hal H. Hopson. This touching piece scored for Choir, Organ, Violin, Congregation, and readers recounts the story of Holy Thursday with communion and Good Friday. Please join us for this essential piece of the Lenten Journey.

The following Sunday, April 1st is Easter Sunday, and we'll share more details as we get closer. So far we're planning our traditional service with choir and brass. Stay tuned.

Newsletter

Mar 2018 (Eastern Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>25</p> <p>9 am - Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>10 am - Worship Service</p> <p>11:15 am - Jubilate Choir</p> <p>6 pm - AA</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:30 am - Thai Chi</p> <p>12 pm - AA</p> <p>7 pm - Caz H2O Color</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6 pm - Caz Community Band</p>	<p>28</p> <p>12 pm - AA</p> <p>1 pm - blood drive</p> <p>6:30 pm - Bells Practice</p> <p>7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9 am - AA</p>
<p>4</p> <p>9 am - Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>10 am - Worship Service</p> <p>11:15 am - Christian Ed</p> <p>11:15 am - Jubilate Choir</p> <p>4 pm - Cubscouts @ Wendell</p> <p>6 pm - AA</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6 pm - Cub Scouts @</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:30 am - Thai Chi</p> <p>12 pm - AA</p> <p>5 pm - Cub Scouts @</p>	<p>7</p> <p>5 pm - Cub Scouts @</p> <p>6 pm - Caz Community Band</p>	<p>8</p> <p>12 pm - AA</p> <p>6:30 pm - Bells Practice</p> <p>7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9 am - AA</p>
<p>11</p> <p>9 am - Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>10 am - Worship Service</p> <p>11:15 am - Jubilate Choir</p> <p>6 pm - AA</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:30 pm - Trustees</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:30 am - Thai Chi</p> <p>12 pm - AA</p> <p>6 pm - Worship and Music</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:30 am - Men's Breakfast</p> <p>6 pm - Caz Community Band</p>	<p>15</p> <p>12 pm - AA</p> <p>6:30 pm - Bells Practice</p> <p>7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9 am - AA</p>
<p>18</p> <p>9 am - Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>10 am - Worship Service</p> <p>11 am - Fellowship Meeting</p> <p>11:15 am - Deacons</p> <p>11:15 am - Jubilate Choir</p> <p>4 pm - Cub Scouts</p> <p>6 pm - AA</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6 pm - Cub Scouts @</p> <p>6 pm - Cubscouts</p> <p>6:30 pm - Session Meeting</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline</p> <p>9:30 am - Thai Chi</p> <p>12 pm - AA</p> <p>5 pm - Cubscouts</p> <p>7 pm - Caz H2O Color</p>	<p>21</p> <p>12 pm - Alice Edwards</p> <p>6 pm - Caz Community Band</p> <p>6 pm - Cub Scouts</p>	<p>22</p> <p>12 pm - AA</p> <p>6:30 pm - Bells Practice</p> <p>7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9 am - AA</p> <p>12 pm - Cubscout Pinewood</p>
<p>25</p> <p>9 am - Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>10 am - Worship Service</p> <p>11 am - Palm Sunday</p> <p>11 am - Ronald McDonald</p> <p>11:15 am - Jubilate Choir</p> <p>6 pm - AA</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:30 am - Thai Chi</p> <p>12 pm - AA</p>	<p>28</p> <p>6 pm - Caz Community Band</p>	<p>29</p> <p>12 pm - AA</p> <p>6:30 pm - Bells Practice</p> <p>7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9 am - AA</p>

Annual MS Walk

On Sunday, March 4th Donna Denison will be participating in the "Annual MS Walk" at Destiny USA to benefit MS Resources of CNY. Donna is seeking financial contributions for this very important event. Money raised will assist over 1500 clients throughout our

Central NY area who are living with Multiple Sclerosis. Your support will be greatly appreciated. Please make checks payable to "MS Resources." Donna can be contacted at coffee hour after church or by phone at 315-655-3517. She will be accepting donations until April 4th.



Deacons Ask for Help

The Board of Deacons are responsible for finding volunteers for greeters, ushers and coffee hour sponsors every week. To help us accomplish this there is a white board in the meeting house which shows what is needed on any given Sunday and a space where you can fill in your name. Greeting, ushering and sponsoring coffee hour is a great way to expand your interaction with your church family

and a great way to share your worship experience with your own family. Greeters and Ushers should plan on being at church about 15 minutes before the beginning of the worship service. Sponsoring coffee hour is not only for the master baker. Any one that can open a box of crackers or cookies and pour some juice for the kids can do coffee hour. Tom Leone sets up the coffee and tea. All

you need to do is put out a few munchies and clean-up at the end. If you are unsure of what to do there are written guidelines posted on the bulletin board in the kitchen or pair up with someone that has performed these functions before. So, I urge you to sign up. The Deacons sincerely appreciate your help and ITS FUN!

Health and Hygiene Kits

During Lent there will be a box in the Narthex to collect the health and hygiene kits. Please place the following items in a gallon size zip-lock type bag. We will be collecting these throughout Lent and they will be delivered soon after Easter. Thank you so much in advance for your continued generosity.

1 hand towel measuring approximately 15" x 28" to 16" x 32", (no fingertip, dish towel, micro-fiber or bath towels)

1 washcloth
 1 wide-tooth comb (removed the package)
 1 fingernail or toenail clipper (removed from the package)
 1 toothbrush (in original packaging)
 1 bath-size bar of soap in the wrapper
 10 standard size bandages (e.g. Band-Aids brand)

NO TOOTHPASTE PLEASE

First Presbyterian Church of Cazenovia, NY

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Non –Profit Organization

U.S. Postage Paid
Cazenovia, NY 13035

Permit No. 2

Upcoming Events

Alice Edwards Circle

Noon, Wed., March 21st
Meeting House
Hostesses: Donna Denison,
Nancy Loffredo, Diane Phil-
lips
Program: Cooking with Janet
Presenter: Janet McCobb

Please bring a smile, a sand-
wich, and a personal care
product for CazCares.



**American
Red Cross**

Blood Drive

Thursday,
March 1st,
1-6pm

Men's Breakfast

7:30 a.m. March 14th
Meeting House

All men are welcome to
gather for breakfast and
discussion

