



The View From The Park

A Newsletter of Faith & Community

February 2016

1st Presbyterian Church on the Park
17 Park Street
Canton, NY 13617

Phone (315) 386-2570
www.ChurchOnThePark.org
Office@ChurchOnThePark.org

Sundays in February

• **Worship Begins At 10:00 a.m.** •

• **February 7th** •

Transfiguration of the Lord
Deacon & Food Shelf Offering
Annual Children's Communion
Annual Congregational Meeting



• **February 14th** •

1st Sunday of Lent
8:15 a.m. - BAD Guys Breakfast



• **February 21st** •

2nd Sunday of Lent
Name Tag Sunday
Noisy Can Offering for Deacons



• **February 28th** •

Handbell Sunday
Youth Group Meeting
Reception For Miss Barbara
6 p.m. - Silas Wright Club



There will be a special meeting after church on **Sunday, January 31st** to explain and take questions about the **church budget**. All are welcome.

- Rev. Michael P. Catanzaro**..... Pastor
- Donna Doig, CLP**..... Associate Pastor
- Claire Babich**.....Church Secretary
- Lisa Gardner**.....Choir Director
- Michael Walters**.....Handbell Choir Director
- Barbara Burdick**... Director of Christian Education
- Diane Ladison**..... Treasurer
- Laura Toland**.....Organist
- Andy Loeffler**..... Sexton
- Tom Dildine**.....Webmaster
- Linda Potter**..... Newsletter Editor

**The Church Office Hours are
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Annual Meeting

The members & friends of the First Presbyterian Church are hereby called to the annual congregational meeting on **Sunday, February 7th** following worship. We will receive the budget & annual reports, elect officers & approve the pastor's terms of call. **Your presence at this meeting is very important!!!**



2016 Per Capita

If you haven't yet paid your **per capita for 2016**, you still have time. Per capita is the amount that the church pays per member to the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly for services provided. For 2016, this amounts to **\$22.00 per active member** or **\$2,662** total (based on 121 members)

If you are able to include a per capita donation, it would **SIGNIFICANTLY** help our 2016 budget and be greatly appreciated. **Thank You!**



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Family News

Prayers for **Voss Fernandes**, whose mother died just before Christmas. She had a long and beautiful life, and will be greatly missed.

Thanks to **Rich Grayson** and **Barry Walch** for their work to construct an insulated box to cover the exhaust fan/vent in the kitchen (which will hinge open when needed, but swing closed to make our building more energy efficient and lower our gas bill.



Thanks to **J.J. Jockel** in undertaking an energy audit for the church (sanctuary, foyer and Christian Education wing). Copies are available in the church office if you would like, or a short, 1 page synopsis of the findings can be emailed to you or printed out for you (please see Claire in the church office).

Prayers for the family of **Ed Pierce** who died December 28th. Ed was a true gentleman and will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Thanks to all those who helped with the reception following his Memorial Service. The family was delighted by both the excellent food and the tender care.

Congratulations to **Dr. Jack** and **Carol Zeh** on the article in the Watertown Daily Times on Sunday January 17th edition about the opening of a clinic in Massena (in addition to offices in Potsdam and Ogdensburg). The article is posted in the church foyer.

Prayers for young **Sarah Rodee** who had surgery mid-January to address a burst appendix, and has been hospitalized to treat infection; she is doing well. Cards may be sent to her at: 8 Meade Road, Canton, NY 13617.

Prayers for **Carlene Baffaro** who suffered a mild stroke on January 20th. Cards may be sent to her at: 30 Sullivan Dr. #108, Canton, NY 13617.

Family News - cont.

Continued prayers for healing and strength for **Dick Mace** being treated for Lymphoma, and for his wife **Pat** in her support of him.

Prayers for Shane Walsh, son of our Choir Director **Lisa Gardner**, who continues to heal and recover from serious injury suffered in Arizona. Prayers also for Lisa as she endures this travail from afar.

Prayers of healing for **Marilyn Coir** recovering from successful surgery to remove a tumor from her abdomen. Marilyn is convalescing at her daughter's home near Boston.



Prayers for **Ray Erickson** as he continues to heal from open-heart surgery.

Prayers also for those living in the nursing home or assisted living: **Dolly Miller, Neil Coir, Jack Klemens, Mickey Williams, Nellie Locy**,

Prayers for those facing difficult personal and family situations.

Student News

Congratulations to **Grace Franklin**, who was named a Student of the Quarter for the 8th grade. Way to go Grace!

Congratulations to **Amelia Rodee**, a member of the St. Lawrence University Children's Choir which participated in the University's annual candlelight service.

Congratulations to **Tucker Catanzaro** and **Luke Frazer** who participated in the Area All-State Music Festival held at the Indian River H.S. at the end of November. Both Luke and Tucker were members of the Choir.

Presbyterian Women

• Postscript •

Postscript resumes on **April 11th**. Enjoy the winter.

• Women's Circle •

Women's Circle meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at **7:30 p.m.** for connection and conversation. The next circle will be on **February 10th** at the home of Linda Potter (2 Park Place, the manse). The topic will be **"Soul Friendships."** Please join us!

Afternoon Book Group

The Afternoon Book Group will meet **Tuesday, February 16th** at 1 p.m. at the home of **Karen Parker**, 17 State St. for a discussion of **"Inside the O'Briens"** by Lisa Genova. Looking ahead - the March 15th book is **"Strong Passions"** by Anita Shreve.



Evening Book Group

Our next discussion will be on **February 23rd** at **7:30 p.m.** at the home of **Pat Mace**, 1757 Old DeKalb Rd. The book is ***The Invisible Thread*** by Laura Schroff.

Church Closing Info

Living in the north country, **bad winter weather** is a fact of life; even on Sundays. In the event of inhospitable weather, **notice of the cancellation of our worship service** (or other church related events) will be sent to the following media sources: **Channel 7 WWNY, North Country Public Radio (NCPR 89.5 FM, NCPR.org), WPDM 1470 AM/WSNN 99.3 FM** and the church website **www.churchonthepark.org**.



Winterfest Concerts

Part of the **annual Canton Winterfest celebration**, the **church concerts** are on **Monday, February 8th** and kick off from **5 to 6 p.m.** with a **soup and bread dinner** at **St. Mary's Church**. The concerts start at **6:30 p.m.** at the **First Presbyterian Church** and continue, led by a bagpiper, to **Grace Episcopal**, the **First Baptist**, the **Unitarian Universalist** and ending at the **United Methodist Church** for refreshments following the music (see below for more info on that!). **Join in for a fun musical night!**

Cookies Please!

As part of Winterfest, **Roaming Mini Concerts** will again be taking place at churches in the Village of Canton on **Monday evening, February 8th**. We Presbyterians are responsible for providing cookies for the reception following the final concert at the United Methodist Church. Specifically, We need **3 volunteers to make 2 dozen cookies** and drop them off at the UMC prior to 6 p.m. on Monday, February 8th. If you can help, please call Beth Hayes: 244-7902. Thank you.

Above & Beyond

Due to some **wild winter weather**, the **January newsletter** assembly had to be rescheduled for the following day. Despite the change, there were **plenty of volunteers** and a whole lot of **laughter**. **Jean McGuire** and **Janet Stitt** braved the snowy, cold weather and offered their experienced help. New to the process, **Arlene** and **Julia Babich**, Claire's mother and sister, volunteered and learned the fine art of newsletter assembly. We had a fun time while we got the work done. **Many thanks to each of you for your help.**



Church Attendance

	Worship	CS
December 20	118	9
December 27	37	No CS
January 3	73	No CS
January 10	74	8

Average Worship Attendance 76
Average CS Attendance 9

Treasurer's Report

	Operating	Mission
December 20	\$4,847.50	\$283.00
December 27	\$2,696.00	\$ 30.00
January 3	\$2,001.50	\$ 74.00
January 10	\$3,554.50	\$160.00
Total	\$13,099.50	\$547.00

Youth Group News

A BIG thank you to Barry Walch & Rich Grayson for resurrecting the **ping pong table** which has now been moved to Fellowship Hall. Youth and adults are encouraged to team up and show case your table-tennis skills as you compete against others in the congregation. Who knows – you may be **featured on the cover** of the next Church on the Park newsletter!

Coming soon – **Foos Ball** (the weather has been less than cooperative in getting the table transported)!

Youth Group will next meet on **Sunday, February 28th** immediately following the worship hour announcements. At this time we will be **brainstorming activities** for the coming year. Youth group is open to anyone 7th grade and above. If you have questions, please contact **Arlo Catanzaro** or **Beth Hayes**.



Officers & Committees

Elders

To strengthen and nurture the faith and the life of the congregation.

Jane Fernandes	Kristine Potter	Georgia Vose
Barry Walch	Mark Erickson	Diane Ladison
Lew Shepard	Vicki McLain	Beth Hayes
Fred Pollard		Armond Spencer
Sarah Melville & Wanda Renick, Co-Clerks		

Deacons

Ministering to the sick, those in need, the friendless, and those in distress.

Betsy Robinson	Ray Erickson	J.J. Jockel
Patience Boswell	Faye Bartley	Marilyn Rodee
Barbara Garrett	Marcy Bennett	Ellen Compeau
Ann Spencer	Arvilla Aldous	

Committees

Resources

Responsible for managing and dispensing funds to fulfill the mission & ministry of our church.

Facilities

Responsible for the maintenance and use of all church property.

Fellowship

Responsible for all fellowship events.

FUNDraising

Responsible for organizing fund & fun raising events.

Education

Responsible for growth, nurturing & learning.

Worship

With pastor, responsible for worship.

C.A.R.E.

Care, Attention, Renewal & Evangelism.

Stewardship

Responsible for securing resources and energy to fulfill the mission & ministry of our church.

Mission

Helping our church, community & world.

Treasurer

Assistant Treasurers - Bill & Lorna Webb

Financial Secretary

Mike Frazer
& Barry Walch

Church & Community

Andy Loeffler,
Jane Fernandes & Janet Stitt

Communion

Vicki McLain & Jane Fernandes

Chairs

Mark Brackett

Lew Shepard

Chair TBD

Beth Hayes

Beth Hayes

Kristine Potter

Arvilla Aldous

Pastor Donna, Liaison

Mark Erickson

Mark Erickson

Diane Ladison

Andy Loeffler,

Jane Fernandes & Janet Stitt

Vicki McLain & Jane Fernandes

The Pastor's Report

Howdy folks!

I trust that these words find you safe and warm, and in the midst of that big winter project you've been "looking forward" to doing since the summer.

Now, enjoying my 18th year as a North Country resident, I feel a bit like a veteran when it comes to winter (that, plus growing up in Buffalo and spending two years dog-mushing in Minnesota). Suffice to say, I *get* winter. So, whenever I meet a person or family new to the community, I endeavor to offer the same bit of advice: "Pick a project!" Winter in this type of climate is not something with which you can go toe-to-toe. Meaning, you can't just slug it out trying to "get through it." One needs to find something to do, a winter project. Be it building a ship in the bottle, reading War And Peace, or cleaning out the basement.

Now, you realize the topic for this article isn't just coming out of the cold, thin air. Though not without some tremendous mountain-top experiences (our RV trip across county) last year was a particularly difficult one for me (my mother's stroke, that darn RV we purchased for the XC trip). I felt as if I had fallen out of sync with myself. So this winter, my project was to get myself *together*.

How, you may ask, does one do this? Well, for me, the answer is guitar and Tai Chi. Our XC trip gave me the gift of time and inclination to get back into guitar. Come Fall, I challenged myself to get back to playing out in public. So, I starting following the path to Carnegie Hall...practice, practice, practice. Then, during my vacation week after Christmas, I was full-bore sorting my equipment, organizing songs and sets and,

with great excitement, playing through my new guitar amplifier (thanks Santa!). This Tuesday I'll be playing my third of five gigs at the Buccaneer Lounge (under the Cascade Inn, the Carnegie Hall of Canton).

So, with the heart and mind covered (check) it was on to body and soul...Tai Chi. The church has been blessed, these past two years, to serve as the main campus of North Country Tai Chi under the tutelage of our church's own Master Sean Boutin. My son Arlo and I have been attending classes since the first of the year and it feels good just to be moving, stretching and breathing; what a hoot.

So, here it comes, the big segue to the church. Ready? In many respects, our resilience as human beings (especially as hardy North Country folk) means we can get accustomed to just about anything. More often than not this is a strength. Sometimes, though, we get too comfortable with the way things are, or have come to be: the physical, emotional and spiritual detritus and inertia that once was and now has become our lives.

There is much truth and value in understanding the rhythms of life. Winter is a wonderful time to "get it together." Now, this may take any number of forms depending on where your are at (or not at) in you're life. But, you and I know, that each of us has some project or task which beckons to us this winter. So this month I encourage you to get after it! Come on, we'll do it together, it'll be fun.

Pick a project!
Rev. Mike

"Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple..." - John 2:15a

Birthdays This Month

February Birthdays

- 1 Jonathan Witherhead
- 3 Debra St. Hilaire,
Andrew Sutherland
- 5 Heidi Ames, Patrick LaPierre,
Tim Heller
- 6 Gail Abplanalp
- 7 Natasha Rossiter
- 8 Scott Smalling
- 12 Clifford Rossiter
- 13 Marilyn Coir
- 14 Hannah Powers
- 15 Terisa Billings
- 16 Patrick Dean
- 17 Elliott Rodee
- 19 Arvilla Aldous
- 20 Isabelle Powers
- 21 Emily Dawley
- 22 John Miller III, Richard Stone,
Bill Gollinger
- 23 Hope Irene Bethel, Lora Gibson
- 25 Margaret Alexander,
Nancy O'Shaughnessy,
Andrea Heller
- 27 Barbara McCoy
- 28 Melissa Compeau, Dr. Curt Ross,
Josh Smith

Refrigerator Needed

Our extra refrigerator has given up the ghost and needs to be replaced. While we don't use it all the time, it is a **necessary fixture** when we host fundraising dinners and various receptions and events. If anyone has one that you are willing to donate, please contact **Beth Hayes** or **Rev. Mike**. Thank you in advance.

VHS Player?

Rev. Mike is looking for a **used VHS player** that is in good working condition. If you have one to **donate** (or a dual VHS/DVD player), contact him at the church office.



Contact the church office with your birthday so we can keep our list current!

February Lectionary Readings

Transfiguration of the Lord - February 7

Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2
Luke 9:28-36 [37-43]

Ash Wednesday - February 10

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12
Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

First Sunday in Lent - February 14

Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Romans 10:8b-13
Luke 4:1-13



Second Sunday in Lent - February 21

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
Psalm 27
Philippians 3:17-4:1
Luke 13:31-35 or Luke 9:28-36

Third Sunday in Lent - February 28

Isaiah 55:1-9
Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Luke 13:1-9

Spaghetti Dinner

On **Thursday, March 10th** from 5 to 7 p.m., our **Annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser** will be held. The menu includes spaghetti with homemade meatballs, tossed salad, fresh bread and assorted desserts. Cost is **\$7** for adults / seniors, **\$5** for kids ages 3-10. Those 3 and under and 90 and over are free. **Take outs** will be available.



Volunteers and donations are needed! You may sign-up on the sheets in the church foyer (Beginning February 8th) or by calling **Beth Hayes** at 244-7902. Come and enjoy the fellowship and fun while raising money for the church.

Ghosts From The Past by Tyke Miller

In the **1956 February** newsletter we read: *"February is the month of the beginning of Lent this year. Lent is the period of preparation for Holy Week, Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Traditionally in many churches, it is the time for the gathering in of new church members and the re-dedication of those already on the rolls of the church.*

The Session has tried to plan for both these conditions in providing a Lenten program. Certainly we cannot do too much to prepare ourselves once again to receive Jesus Christ crucified for us."

I feel rather sad that **Rev. Wells** did not include Maundy Thursday in his list of events to be remembered during Holy Week.

I was raised in the **Disciple Church of Christ** in Buffalo, N.Y. Holy Week of course started with Palm Sunday. When I was in 4th grade and 9 years old, my friends and I went forward during the "hymn of invitation" at the end of the service to profess our Faith in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. This we did after meeting with our minister in class every Saturday morning during Lent, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Then each night during **Holy Week** there was an **evening service**. Sometimes there was a visiting speaker and we children sat and listened with no toys or books of course.

Holy Thursday was the **candlelight communion service**. Very impressive! Good Friday evening included **baptism by immersion** of my class with my friends. At nine years of age, it was a little scary but Rev. Bridwell never dropped any of us.



Ghosts From the Past - cont.

Oh, I forgot. There was always a three hour service from noon to three p.m. on **Good Friday**. And Heaven help you if you had to go to the ladies room! No service on Saturday.

Easter Sunday my friends and I took communion for the first time. I remember it as if it were yesterday.

With children taking communion now at very young ages, I often wonder what memories they will have of their **first time experience** of having the Lord's Supper around the table with our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Prayer Warriors

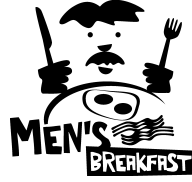
Would you like to help your neighbor, stretch spiritually and be a part of the mystical movement of the church? We are always looking for new prayer warriors to join **the church Prayer Chain** to offer prayers for folks who are ill, troubled or in need. If you want to learn more about the prayer chain, call **Rev. Mike** at 386-2570 or **Wanda Renick** at 386-3474.

To put yourself or anyone on the chain for prayers, contact **Rev. Mike** or any member: **Wanda Renick** 386-3474, **Arvilla Aldous** 386-8327, **Ellen Grayson** 323-0950, **Janet Stitt** 714-2253, **Nona Fisher** 386-3247, **Marilyn Rodee** 386-8447 (January Snowbird), **Joyce Bell** 386-8789, **Georgia Vose** 386-8687, **Ellen Compeau** 386-8369, **Bev Findley** 323-2064, **Jane Fernandes** 322-2441, **Sandy Pollard** 386-3916, **Barb King** 386-8304, **Ellen Janack** 386-3124, **Toni Roller, Karen Parker** 714-2312, **Beth Hayes** 265-8026, **Betsy Robinson** 386-2904, **Pat Mace** 585-350-9529, **Donna Doig** 386-3785 and **Debby Nikkari** 265-2983.



B.A.D. Guys

Our **B.A.D. Guys' breakfast** (Breakfast And Devotions) will be on **February 14th**. The Breakfast is held on the **2nd Sunday of the month** at **8:15 am**



in Fellowship Hall. All the men & boys of the church are invited to come share a devotion, enjoy the spirited fellowship, and a savory morning meal. For more information, contact **Andy Loeffler**, "chief BAD Guy", at the church office.

Congregational Resources

Please remember that the monthly copies of "**These Days**" and "**Alive**" are available to you on the table outside of sanctuary in the Narthex. Please feel free to pick up a copy for yourself or family. Copies of the **Revised Common Lectionary**, on which we base our Liturgy are in the monthly newsletter. Also, the latest editions of "**Horizons**" and "**Presbyterian Today**" can at times be found in the Narthex. Please take a look and return them when you are done so others may enjoy them.

Presbyterian Worship

Partridge Knoll services are held throughout the winter on the **1st Wednesday** of the month at **11:00 a.m.** Everyone is welcome to join in!



We Need You!

To sign up as a **greeter** or to **host coffee hour** for any Sunday, contact the church office at 386-2570.

Like Us On Facebook!

The Church On The Park has a **Facebook page** which changes regularly - <http://www.facebook.com/TheFirstPresbyterianChurchonthePark>

Church Website



Our Website is updated each month and is a great way to stay a part of the life of the church. If you have questions about, or contributions for the website please email our Webmaster Tom Dildine: **dildine@stlawu.edu**

The Church's email address: **Office@ChurchOnThePark.org**
Reverend Mike's email address: **RevMike@ChurchOnThePark.org**

Sermon Podcasts

The weekly sermon is posted by Thursday and is available for down load or listening. An archive of past sermons is also available.

<http://churchonthepark.org/sermons/>

Deacon's CD Ministry

The Deacons CD ministry **provides our homebound friends & members with a CD of each week's worship service**. CDs are then delivered to homes the following week, and CD players are provided if necessary.

If you'd like to receive a CD of the service, or help deliver CDs, please call the church office (386-2570).

Newsletter Deadline Is The 15th Of The Month

Please submit articles (emailed preferably) to the church office, or directly to the Newsletter Editor, Linda Potter, at:

Nautilus@twcny.rr.com

Hello, my name is...

Remember - **Name Tag Sunday** is **February 21st**.

Come early to church and make your own name tag.
Get to know your neighbor.

Church School News

In the **spring of 2008**, Rev. Mike casually asked me if I “knew of anyone who might be a candidate for the newly created position of ‘**Christian Education Director**’ at our church.” After much thought and prayer, I said, “**Me!**” I have had a wonderful experience getting to know not only lots of children as they grew from elementary into high school students, but also many, many other folks in your wonderful warm and welcoming church as well.

Now, as my husband Neal **retires** from working full time this spring, I have decided that it is time for me to **focus** on other important parts of my life, and to let a new, younger person generate some new enthusiasm for the Bible stories of our faith heritage and to encourage younger families to come to church school and be a part of your **warm faith community**.

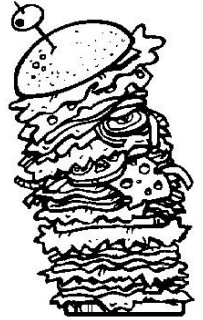
That person is **Kimberly Trombly**, who is already a loyal member of your church with young children of her own. I’ve known Kim since she was in middle school as a former piano student of mine, and I know she is a **creative and experienced** teacher. I am certain that she will do a wonderful job of teaching the meaning of the Bible stories to a new generation of children and setting the example of going to church and being a part of the community. I also know that you will give her the **loving support** and help that you gave me eight years ago as she begins her new job as Christian Education Director **starting this month**.

Thanks for all of it! I will not be a stranger, though. I would miss you all too much. You will still see me around church, just not on such a regular basis. **And, I may come by to actually hear a sermon, Rev. Mike!**

In appreciation,
“Miss. Barbara”

Silas Wright Club

On Sunday, January 10, 2016, the Silas Wright Club met to reconstitute itself after a **ten-year hiatus**. **Barb King** read from the minutes of the Club, which **Tyke Miller** has told us was formed before **1955**, giving the group a few glimpses into the activities of the original organization. There was a brief devotion, conversation over a dinner of cider or coffee, pickles/olives, and **sandwiches of a wide range of types**. Each participant brought a sandwich to add to the platter that is passed to become the center of the meal. Silas Wright participants still make delicious sandwiches! Finally, we had a **wide-ranging discussion** of what people would enjoy doing at meetings. We would **welcome all who are interested to participate**; come to the next meeting to share fun with friends. In fact, **bring a friend or group of friends** for us to get to know. All are welcome.



After dinner and discussion of meeting times, it was decided that the **next meeting** would be on **Sunday, February 28th** at 6:00 p.m., and we will have our first speaker, **Nick Scelzi**. Nick is a **master furniture craftsman** who will show us his recently completed **Paraguayan Harp** as he explains the details of the crafting of this beautiful ancient instrument. This is the **third harp** he has built, and we consider the Silas Wright Club privileged to be able to see it and learn how it is made.

Please join us at **6 p.m. on February 28th** for sandwiches, brief devotions led by **Karen Parker**, and then Nick’s presentation. Did I say, “**ALL ARE WELCOME!**”? Enjoy the camaraderie of this interesting group.

- **Mark Erickson**

Cabin Fever Coffee & Dessert Night

Canton First Presbyterian Church

17 Park Street

Saturday, February 6th 7 - 9 p.m.

**Raffle of Delectable Desserts & Divine Gift Baskets
Live Music • Coffee & Desserts for All!
\$5 Admission**

**Raffle tickets for desserts & gift baskets sold at event
1 ticket for \$1 • 6 for \$5 • 12 for \$10
(Must be present to win!)**

Desserts to Taste! Desserts to Win! Desserts to Take Home!

To Benefit the Women of Grace Widows' Fund

A joint mission project of the
Canton & Watertown Presbyterian Churches
dedicated to alleviating the extreme poverty
of widows & children in Malawi, Africa.
www.WomenOfGraceWidowsFund.org



Get Out of the House
and Have Some Fun!



Sewing Trip To Malawi

A Women of Grace Widows' Fund sponsored two-week trip in June **2016** is being planned to provide sewing training to the women in Mbowe, Malawi. **Ellen Grayson** of **Canton** and **Margot McGorman** of **Wartertown**, both accomplished seamstresses, will train women (who in turn will train others) on **treadle sewing machines** to reinforce basic sewing abilities and teach advanced skills which can be used to produce clothing for their families and items suitable to be sold at the market.

Ellen and Margot will train 4 to 6 women who show aptitude and interest in sewing by **cutting patterns** and **sewing simple projects** to continually build skills and confidence. They also will instruct 2 to 3 women in **business fundamentals** to ensure that a percentage of the profits from the sale of these hand-sewn items at the market will be set aside to **purchase additional supplies and fabric** for a successful and **sustainable sewing business**. They also will work with all the widows in Mbowe to share **simple sewing repairs** that can be done by hand to extend the life of their clothing.

A **foot locker** is set up in the **foyer** of the church to receive **donations** of the following **sewing items**: sewing scissors, NEW thread - black, white and all shades of gray, hand sewing needles, machine needles - Universal (NOT ball point), #15 bobbins, bobbin cases, acrylic rulers - metric and inches, metric and Inches tape measures, straight pins - quilting, seam rippers, tailors chalk, snaps/snap tools, band-aids, reading glasses and tweezers.

You also can help by making a donation to cover the **costs of the trip** (including sewing machines, fabric, travel, food and lodging, and translation service). This trip is another step in our ongoing mission work in Malawi. **The generous support of the Canton Church is greatly appreciated!**

Come Join Us In Thanking Miss Barbara

Join us on **Sunday, February 28th** for a Thank You Reception to honor Barbara Burdick ("Miss Barbara" to many of us!) as she retires from her position as our Christian Education Director. Barbara graciously stepped up to fill this job in 2008 and, with the help of volunteers, re-energized our Christian Education program with creativity, song, music and laughter as children learned about the love of God and stories from the Bible. As noted on page 9, she has decided to focus on other areas of her life as her husband Neal retires. **All of us, young and more seasoned, have been touched by her enthusiasm and love of life and music.** Come together to celebrate and thank Miss Barbara for her contribution to our church with a reception following worship.

Saving Grace

Lord, behold our family here assembled.
We thank thee for this place in which we dwell,
for the love that unites us, for the peace
accorded to us this day, for the hope with
which we expect the morrow, for the health,
the work, the food and bright skies
that make our lives delightful;
for our friends in all parts of the earth. Amen.

From Robert Louis Stevenson's
Prayers Written At Vailima

Noisy Can Offering

We are starting a **new tradition** in the church. On the **third Sunday of the month**, the kids of the church will go around the sanctuary prior to worship with **cans** to accept your offerings of **loose change**. These donations will support the **work of the deacons** to help others in our community. **Help us make a joyful noise of coins!**

This year for Valentine's Day, you can send a card to your friend or sweetheart with some extra love to be sent to Africa.

For a donation of any amount to the Women Of Grace Widows' Fund, a Valentine's card will be sent to the loved one of your choice notifying him or her that a gift has been made in his or her honor. Better than chocolate and longer lasting than flowers, a Valentine's Day gift to the Women Of Grace Widows' Fund will touch and change lives of widows and children in Malawi, Africa. The Women Of Grace Widows' Fund is a joint mission project of the Canton and Watertown Presbyterian Churches dedicated to alleviating the extreme poverty faced by widows in Malawi. Learn more at www.WomenOfGraceWidowsFund.org



Gifts made by February 8th will be assured delivery by Valentine's Day.

Enclosed is a donation of \$_____ to The Women Of Grace Widows' Fund which is made in honor of:_____. (donation amount is not disclosed on the gift card.)

Please send a Valentine's Day card to:

Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

This gift is from: (names to appear on card)

Your name(s):

Address:

City/State/Zip

Phone Number:

Make checks payable to: Canton First Presbyterian Church and note Widows' Fund/Valentine's Day on the memo line. Please mail to the Canton First Presbyterian Church, WOG - Valentine's Day, 17 Park Street, Canton NY 13617. Thank you!

February 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Bring A Friend To Church Budget Meeting	1	2 Groundhog Day	3 11:00 AM Partridge Knoll Service 11:00 AM Bible Study	4 7:00 PM Choir Practice	5	6 9:00 AM Handbell Choir Practice 7:00 PM Cabin Fever
7 Annual Meeting Transfiguration Sunday Deacon & Food Offering Communion	8 Winterfest Concerts	9	10 11:00 AM Bible Study 7:30 PM Women's Circle	11 7:00 PM Choir Practice	12	13 9:00 AM Handbell Choir Practice
14 1st Sunday Of Lent Valentine's Day 8:15 AM BAD Guys B--Fast	15 Newsletter Deadline	16 1:00 PM Afternoon Book Group	17	18 7:00 PM Choir Practice	19	20 9:00 AM Handbell Choir Practice
21 Noisy Can Offering 2nd of Lent Name Tag Sunday	22	23 7:30 PM Evening Book Group	24 5:45 PM Deacons	25 7:00 PM Choir Practice	26	27 9:00 AM Handbell Choir Practice
28 Handbell Sunday Miss Barbara Reception Youth Group 9:00 AM 3rd Sunday of Lent 6:00 PM Silas Wright Club	29 7:00 PM Session	1	2	3 7:00 PM Choir Practice	4	5 9:00 AM Handbell Choir Practice

The Mission of the First Presbyterian Church of Canton to reach out to all people and welcome them in celebrating truly the joys, freedoms and responsibilities that come with our faith in God, Christ's unconditional love for us, and the power of the Holy Spirit to transform our world. Through this nurturing Christian Community we will fully recognize the value of each believer, humbly forgive ourselves and others, and lovingly embrace God's Grace.

Budget Overview & Meeting - Jan. 31st
Annual Meeting - Feb. 7th
Valentines Via Malawi
Sewing Trip Donations
Reception For Miss Barbara
Youth Group News
Sials Wright Club - Feb. 28th
Cabin Fever Coffee & Dessert Night - Feb. 6th



The Church is charged for every returned Newsletter. If you have moved, or changed a seasonal address, please notify the church office. Thank you.

Address Service Requested

The 1st Presbyterian Church, on the Park
17 Park Street
Canton, NY 13617

The 1st Presbyterian Church, on the Park

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