

September



The View From The Park

A Newsletter of Faith & Community

September 2015

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

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

Sundays in September

- **Worship Begins At 10:00 a.m.** •
- **September 6th** •

Communion
Deacon & Food Shelf Offering
Rev. Mike Off
Pastor Donna to Preach



- **September 13th** •

Church School Starts
Blessing Of The Children
Choir Resumes



- **September 20th** •

Teacher Dedication
Name Tag Sunday



- **September 27th** •

Handbell Sunday



Remember...



Rev. Michael P. Catanzaro..... Pastor
Donna Doig, CLP..... Associate Pastor
Claire Babich..... Church Secretary
To Be Determined..... Choir Director
Michael Walters..... Handbell Choir Director
Barbara Burdick... Director of Christian Education
Diane Ladison..... Treasurer
Laura Toland & Debby Nikkari..... Organists
Andy Loeffler..... Sexton
Tom Dildine..... Web Master
Linda Potter..... Newsletter Editor

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

Fall Rummage Sale

The annual Fall Rummage Sale will be **Friday, September 18th, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.** and **Saturday, September 19th, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.** with a **bag sale** all day. A **sneak preview** for church members will be on **Thursday, September 17th** from **6 - 8 p.m.** Bring your donations of **gently worn and CLEAN (folded) warm fall & winter clothes, bedding, and household items** to Fellowship Hall starting on Sunday, September 13th. Sign up for rummage sale set-up, September 14 - 17, will be in the foyer.

For more info, contact: **Ellen Grayson** (323-5669), **Pat Mace** (386-2768) or **Jane Fernandes** (322-2441).

Church School Begins

Church school is **gearing up for a whole new year** with lots of fun activities for the children in **kindergarten through sixth grade**. **Church school starts on September 13th**. Parents - we need you as well. New teachers and shepherds are always welcome! **See page 11 for the registration form!**

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Endowment

DO WE HAVE IT? WHAT IS IT?

SHOULD WE HAVE IT?

HOW DO WE BUILD IT?

I told many last year when I reported on the 2014 Stewardship Campaign, that my considerations of the needs of our congregation lead me to the same considerations that a family responds to each year – or even more often. There was (and is) the immediacy of securing pledge income that would assure continuation of our work & mission for 2015 in the face of the losses of several members of the congregation both to death and to various departures from the Canton area. This created a challenging situation that our congregation understands and has met this year with great generosity and sincerity, by the way! Thank you again. But, for me, there was also the recognition that, increasingly, our church community must rely, in part, on the wise giving of past members who made **specific, thoughtful planned gifts in their wills** specifying that funds be set aside in order to generate income to be used for specific purposes – in other words the income from our savings, our endowment. **Our church must now rely on endowment interest income to meet our budget needs EVERY year.** I believe this condition will continue for several years to come as our congregation –and our community—passes through a millennial change of sorts. In short, **We do have SOME endowment.** We are not endowed as a church of our age, mission and stature in this community should be.

What is it? The Endowment is a pool of funds gifted to our church to be held as income-generating capital for either a specific need or for the general support of the church, whichever is designated in the will or the gifting instrument involved. Most often this gifting is through an estate as specified in one's will or in a codicil to one's will. Such gifting must include instructions that the gift is to become part of the Endowment of the Canton First Presbyterian Church on

Endowment - cont.

the Park. Such a statement instructs the estate executor to gift a designated portion of one's estate to the Church on the Park, and it can instruct the Elders to invest such bequests or gifts as general or specific endowment rather than to spend them to meet annual budget needs as memorial gifts often are used.

Should we have it? Every institution, be it church, college, public tv, public library, major orchestra, museum, etc., etc., has come to rely upon the resources gifted by their members as Endowment in their wills. There are surely many reasons for this reliance, but in our case two factors are primary, namely costs of keeping up our wide-ranging ministry and worship, and keeping our buildings so that they serve us and our community into the future. Ever since Silas Wright our congregants have believed that our church should be supported into the future by major gifts (endowment). The land on which the church rests was Silas Wright's gift to our future! The Sackrider Fund was another, and we have relied on it for both mission and upkeep expenses for many years. I believe that we have demonstrated our responsible stewardship of these gifts for many years. Now, I believe not only that we should have an endowment, but that we must have endowment—perhaps two or three times the amount that we now have.

How do we build it? The Church-On-The-Park builds endowment by the thoughtful, planned giving of members of our congregation and by friends of the church who have made specific bequests that portions of their estates should be awarded to the Canton First Presbyterian Church. Consider the importance of your will and your wishes to the future of our church community.

Continued on Page 3

Presbyterian Women

• Postscript •

Postscript Club will start off the fall season with a covered dish dinner on **September 14th** at Brick Chapel church at **6 p.m.** Bring a dish to pass and your own table service. Summer happenings and program ideas will be discussed. Please join us.

• 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 **September 9th** at the home of Linda Potter, 2 Park Place (the manse) and the topic will be "*Spirituality and Happiness*". All women of the church are welcome.

C&CP Report

School supplies will be distributed at the Methodist Church on Sunday, August 30th. Everyone is welcome to attend the **annual meeting** on **September 8th** at 4:30 p.m. at the Canton Fire Hall. Year end reports and special awards will be presented. This is an opportunity to honor past and present volunteers who are the pillars of this program.



You are also invited to view the **renovated Thrift Shop**, open daily, Monday to Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. **New volunteers are always appreciated.**

The **Food Pantry** appreciates your donations of **canned peas, carrots, corn or any non-perishable food item** which helps to keep our shelves stocked.

Questions/suggestions – contact your representatives - **Jane Fernandes, Andy Loeffler** or **Janet Stitt**.

Endowment - continued

If you believe that our mission and our worship are important to continue in response to religious and social needs of Canton, make a bequest specifically to our church and designate it for permanent endowment. If there are questions, mention them to me or another of the Elders so that we can respond helpfully.

Please Consider Your Church in your estate plans. You will touch the future of the whole community.

**Thank You,
Mark Erickson,
Stewardship Chairman**

Afternoon Book Group

The Afternoon Book Club meeting will be Tuesday, **September 15th** at **1 p.m.** at the home of **Karen Parker**, 17 State Street, for a discussion of "*Well Tempered Heart*" by Jan Philip Sendker to be led by **Lynne Pickens**.



Evening Book Group

The evening book discussion group meets the **fourth Tuesday of the month** at **7:30 p.m.** The September book is *The Rosie Project* by Graeme Simsion with the discussion to be held at the home of Georgia Vose, 145 SH 310, on Tuesday, **September 22nd**.

Love Our Volunteers!

The July/August newsletter assembly was quick and easy with so many helping hands to do the job. Thank you to **Wes & Janet Stitt, Bill & Karen Parker, Carolyn O'Connor, Wanda Renick, Joyce Bell, Jessie Manitta** and **Shirley Norton**.

Church Attendance

Worship

| | | | |
|---------|----|-----------|----|
| June 21 | 64 | July 26 | 40 |
| June 28 | 60 | August 9 | 43 |
| July 5 | 30 | August 16 | 45 |
| July 12 | 30 | August 23 | 47 |
| July 19 | 41 | | |

Average Worship Attendance 50

Treasurer's Report

| | Operating | Mission |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------------|
| June 21 | \$1,145.00 | \$143.00 |
| June 28 | \$1,571.00 | \$127.00 |
| July 5 | \$1,771.50 | \$101.00 |
| July 12 | \$1,220.50 | \$ 73.00 |
| July 19 | \$1,147.50 | \$ 83.00 |
| July 2 | \$1,030.50 | \$ 41.00 |
| August 2 | \$1,679.50 | |
| August 9 | \$2,895.50 | \$ 95.00 |
| August 16 | \$1,102.50 | \$ 40.00 |
| Total | \$13,563.50 | \$703.00 |

Fair Trade Coffee Project

Please support the purchase of Fair Trade coffee through the **Equal Exchange/ Presbyterian Coffee Project**. This will be supporting the **Presbyterian Hunger Program's** essential relief and development work around the world. Fair Trade purchases enable a living wage to be paid to its workers and this enables small scale farmers to support themselves, their families and their communities. Last year Equal Exchange donated **\$16,113** to the PC(USA) Hunger Project. We'll begin with the starter kit Sunday, August 30th. **Hope you enjoy the coffee and will support the project.**

Support Group

Comrades of Hope is a support group for the loved ones of **addicts**, either current or deceased. Meetings are the 2nd & 4th Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the Norfolk Rescue Squad Building and the 2nd & 4th Thursday at 6 p.m. at the Massena Community Bldg. For more info, call **Sonya** at 244-9133 or **Karen** at 212-2398.

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

Chairs

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

Mark Brackett

Facilities

Responsible for the maintenance and use of all church property.

Lew Shepard

Fellowship

Responsible for all fellowship events.

Chair TBD

FUNdraising

Responsible for organizing fund & fun raising events.

Beth Hayes

Education

Responsible for growth, nurturing & learning.

Beth Hayes

Worship

With pastor, responsible for worship.

Kristine Potter

C.A.R.E.

Care, Attention, Renewal & Evangelism.

Arvilla Aldous

Pastor Donna, Liaison

Stewardship

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

Mark Erickson

Mission

Helping our church, community & world.

Mark Erickson

Treasurer

Assistant Treasurers - Bill & Lorna Webb

Diane Ladison

Financial Secretary

**Mike Frazer
& Barry Walch**

Church & Community

**Andy Loeffler,
Jane Fernandes & Janet Stitt**

Communion

Vicki McLain & Jane Fernandes

The Pastor's Report

Whew! We made it!

37 day, 6,880 miles, 13 states, 13 National Parks and Monuments all in an 18 year old, 32 foot RV; second craziest thing I've ever done.

The trip across the country, *and* back, was a spectacular, once in a lifetime experience for our family, and we are profoundly appreciative of the congregation for allowing us the opportunity to make this epic journey to traverse the continent.

Over the span of those five weeks we saw an astounding number of amazingly beautiful things, had a lot of really cool experiences and ate some tremendously delicious food. But, by far, the absolute best thing about the trip was simply having the opportunity to spend time together as a family; no interruptions or distractions, with everyone working together toward a common purpose, and ample time just to talk, laugh and love each other. In the process of all of this, not only did we discover new things about each other, we came to know ourselves in very different and, sometimes, very unexpected ways.



One of the surprising gifts which the trip gave to me, personally, is the re-realization of the profound sense of pride I have in being a citizen of this nation. We have the privilege of living in an *astoundingly gorgeous* country, and along the way of our historical march, the leaders and people of this great land have made significant efforts and wise choices to protect, preserve and enhance the

abundant natural resources and remarkable landscapes through which each succeeding generation is blessed; including, now, my own.

Of course, the real challenge of taking a trip like this, or any such “mountain top” experience, is to carry over the new experiences, growth and lessons learned forward into one’s “regular” life. For myself, I’ve come to appreciate both the small joys of each new day and the virtue of taking the challenges of life’s journey one day at a time; tomorrow will be here soon enough and low gear is a beautiful thing.

With immense gratitude,
Rev. Mike

PS - Anyone want to buy an RV?

Wilson Lake State Park (SP) KS, Garden of the Gods in Manitou Springs CO, Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park (NP), Colorado National Monument (NM), Arches NP, Canyonlands NP, Cortez CO, Mesa Verde NP, Durango CO, Monument Valley, Grand Canyon NP, Las Vegas, Sequoia NP, Kings Canyon NP, Lake Tahoe, Sonoma, Pacific Ocean (Bodega Bay, Mount Tampais, Golden Gate Bridge, Santa Cruz, Big Sur, San Simeon SP, El Capitan SP, Dockweiler SB), Kingman AZ, Sedona, Holbrook AZ, Painted Desert NM, Petrified Forest NP, Ghost Ranch in Abiquiu NM, Great Sand Dunes NP, Clinton SP KS, Summit SP OH, Allegany NY, Clarence NY.

Ghosts From The Past

by Tyke Miller

This month I am continuing on about the pastorate of the **Rev. Earnest E. Eells** as written in the Sesquicentennial booklet of our church in 1957. You might call this **Part Two**.

"Extensive work was done in the lower floor of the church in 1951. A new kitchen was installed and the dining room and a smaller room off the kitchen were renovated and made completely useful. We would be lost for our Sunday Church School and organizational meetings today if this work had not been carried on. Repair work of a thorough nature was also done in the manse in these years. Mr. Eells maintained an active organization throughout the church. He was constantly trying to serve the various elements of the congregation, and there are notes of dinners for college students and other such activities.



"Mr. Eells made what is probably the best attempt to solve the situation in regard to the Canton Church and its concern for the churches in the rural areas around the village. He preached and served as he could the churches at Crary Mills, Brick Chapel and Beech Plains. Finally, he proposed the organization of the Canton Larger Parish with the Canton Church as sort of a mother church. The four churches voted to join in such an organization, and a young man just out of seminary, the Rev. James Belt, was called to be associated with Mr. Eells in the work. This promising start was blunted by a series of problems, most of them arising out of misunderstanding between the Canton Church and Presbytery. Presbytery would not approve the plan as set up, and other difficulties arose with the result that the Brick Chapel Church never became actively involved in the program and the Canton Church soon felt itself to be left out.

Ghosts - continued

The Crary Mills and Beech Plains churches continue to be yoked as a two-point charge. Mr. Belt left after two years, but the churches are actively seeking a new minister."

When our family arrived in 1979 we remember attending Easter Sunrise Services at Beech Plains. I loved the design of the beautiful wood on the ceiling and walls. Then we would have breakfast at Brick Chapel, before attending the service at Canton. **Happy, happy memories!!**

September Lectionary Readings

September 6

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23
Psalm 125
James 2:1-10 (11-13) 14-17
Mark 7:24-37

September 13

Proverbs 1:20-33
Psalm 19
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38



September 20

Proverbs 31:10-31
Psalm 1
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

September 27

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22
Psalm 124
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50

Handbell Choir

Handbell Choir practice will resume at the church at **9:00 a.m.** on **Saturday, September 5th.** The first performance will be on **Handbell Sunday** on **September 20th.** **New members are always welcome!**



Birthdays This Month

September Birthdays

- 1 Heather Cole, Matthew Compeau
- 2 Mary Garwood
- 4 Ed Pierce, Sharon Poole
- 7 Susan Johnson
- 8 Lara Syvertsen, John Oliver III,
- 9 Ellen Compeau
- 10 Cheryl Ostrander
- 11 Margaret Forbes, Tyke Miller
- 12 Alexandra Janack
- 15 Fred Pollard, Alice Poole
- 16 Ben Bartley
- 19 Maggie Brizendine, Madeline Koon
- 20 Kimberly Fisher
- 21 Britt Gordon
- 22 Carl Colton
- 24 Erik Johnson, Cheryl Young
- 25 Jake Cole, Whitney Irish
- 27 William Rodee
- 28 Matt Peacock
- 30 Molly Ames, Kendall DeSantis

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

Anniversaries This Month

September Anniversaries

- 9 John & Anne Goetze
- 10 Charles & Margaret Alexander
- 15 Douglas & Terri Knuth
- 20 Christa & Martin Lyon
- 28 Tim & Patti Cryderman

Join The Choir!

Alright, we don't have a director (**yet!**) but let's be optimistic and say that Choir Season will resume after Labor Day with the **first choir practice on Thursday, September 10th at 7 p.m. New members are always welcome** and no prior experience is necessary!



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 322-5669,

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**

386-2768, **Donna Doig** 386-3785 and **Deb-**

by Nikkari 265-2983.



Prayer Network

A prayer network of those who want to receive **email notices** about those who need prayers is being put together. You will receive periodic emails about prayer needs in the church. **All you need to do is add these concerns to your daily prayers.**

To become part of this new network, call

Wanda Renick at 386-

3474 or email her at wrenick@twcny.rr.-com.



You Will Be Blessed.

B.A.D. Guys

Our **B.A.D. Guys' breakfast** (Breakfast And Devotions) will resume **October 11th**. 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 will resume on **November 4th** and will continue through the winter on the **1st Wednesday** of the month at **11:00 a.m.**



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 **September 20th**.

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

Family News

Please pray for **Tyke Miller** awaiting results of a kidney biopsy done in Rochester, and for recovery from illness which has seen her twice admitted to Canton-Potsdam Hospital since her return.

Prayers for **Mickey Williams** as she transitions from her home to the assisted living wing of the nursing home. Cards and notes may be sent to her at Room 303, Maplewood Nursing Home, 205 State Street Rd. Canton, NY 13617. Mickey celebrated her 96th birthday on Tuesday August 25th with ice cream shared by her family and friends.

Prayers for Connie Zelinski (sister of **Ellen Grayson**) on the unexpected death of her husband Joe.

Prayers for **Shirley Seeley** now living in the Highland Nursing Home in Massena. Cards and notes would be greatly appreciated and may be sent to her at: Room 317, Highland Nursing Home, 182 Highland Road, Massena, NY 13662. If you are in Massena she would greatly appreciate a visit as Gene's death, and the move, have been particularly difficult.

Congratulations to **Neil** and **Marilyn Coir** who celebrated 55 years of marriage on August 20th.

Congratulations to newlyweds **Andrew Loeffler** and Courtney Morehouse (son of **Tracy** and **Andy Loeffler**), **Michelle Roach** and **Gordy Theisen**, and **Mary Basford** and **Elliott Rodee**, all of whom were married in August. Prayers and blessings to each couple in their new life (and adventure) together.

Mary and **Carl Colton** have moved from Canton to South Carolina. Their new address is 1348 Royal Devon Drive, Myrtle Beach SC 29575.

Family News - cont.

Congratulations to **Kristine** and **Tom Potter** on the birth of their daughter **Andrea Mary**, born August 9th; 6 lbs, 13 oz. and 19 inches! Andrea joins big brothers **Jeremy** and **Darren**. Mom and baby are doing great!

Prayers of healing for: **Ellen Janack** still dealing with pain in her neck and shoulders; **Maggie Brizendine's** daughter Martha Jenkins in a very hard battle with cancer; Dennis Farmer, brother-in-law of **Bill Parker**, recovering from heart surgery; **Christa Lyon**, her family and their father Fritz who is living in a nursing home in Germany; **Susan Ward** recovering from surgery and treatment; **Helen**

Randi who suffered a stroke over the summer, was at the nursing home for a time, but is back home now; **Lora & David Gibson** healing from heart ailments and surgery; and, **Erik Johnson**.

Prayers for those in the nursing home: **Neil Coir**, **Jack Klemens**, **Whitney Irish** (now in the skilled nursing part of Maplewood Nursing Home) and **Nellie Locy**. Prayers for those who don't get out so much: **Dolly** and **Wayne Miller**, **Ed Pierce** and **Mickey Williams**.

Our deepest sympathy and prayers are extended to **Janet Stitt** whose brother Allen Fraser recently died. Allen's wife Mary died four years earlier. Their children are Jim and Peter (Karen) Fraser.

Prayers and best wishes for Nathaniel and Liz Vose who are expecting a baby boy in a few weeks. Nathaniel is the son of **John & Georgia Vose**.



Annual Fall Bazaar

Our Bazaar is scheduled for **Saturday, October 24th** from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.. This is a busy day with plenty to do for everyone. Now is the time to be thinking about **how you would like to help**. If you have ideas for something different let us know.



White Elephant – Attic treasures & elegant junk. Knick-knacks, kitchen ware and collectables.

Hand Crafted – Goods made with yarn or fabric as well as other “crafty” creations.

Baked Goods – Breads, cookies, pies, preserves.....what is your specialty?

Candy – Fudge, peanut brittle, buck-eyes, haystacks, caramels, popcorn balls.

Plants & Harvest – Plants, dried flower arrangements and bulbs as well as fall crops.

Books – Romances, best sellers, mysteries, DIY’s and children’s books as well as CD’s, DVD’s & videos.

Jewelry – Check through your glitter and bring us watches, chains, pendants,

Luncheon – Kitchen and wait staff needed. Food donations will be needed.

Many hands make light work and it is great fun besides! **Volunteers? Questions?** Call **Marilyn Coir** (386-4361) or **Beth Hayes** (244-7902)

Fall Bible Study

Our **Fall Bible Study** this year will be a **self-directed journey** into and through the **book of Ecclesiastes** (which we began last January but had to cut short due to Rev. Mike’s mother’s illness). We will begin on **September 9th** and continue each Wednesday through **October 21st** at 11 a.m. A brutally honest examination of human existence, Ecclesiastes is a singular combination of **poetry, eloquence and truth**. We will begin the study from the start of the book. Please come join us!

Saving Grace

God of the seasons, there is a time for everything; there is a time for dying and a time for rising. We need courage to enter into the transformation process.

God of autumn, the trees are saying goodbye to their green, letting go of what has been. We, too, have our moments of surrender, with all their insecurity and risk. Help us to let go when we need to do so.

God of fallen leaves lying in colored patterns on the ground, our lives have their own patterns. As we see the patterns of our own growth, may we learn from them.

God of misty days and harvest moon nights, there is always the dimension of mystery and wonder in our lives. We always need to recognize your power-filled presence. May we gain strength from this.

God of harvest wagons and fields of ripened grain, many gifts of growth lie within the season of our surrender. We must wait for harvest in faith and hope. Grant us patience when we do not see the blessings.

God of geese going south for another season, your wisdom enables us to know what needs to be left behind and what needs to be carried into the future. We yearn for insight and vision.

God of life, you believe in us, you enrich us, you entrust us with the freedom to choose life. For all this, we are grateful.

First Presbyterian Church School Children's Registration Form 2015/16

Parents' names _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

Children's Names: Children's Birth Dates: Current Grade:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Please tell us anything special we should know about your child on the extra line
-- **allergies**, favorites, fears, special interests, talents. . . .

Please complete and bring this form to church on **Sunday, September 13th** for
Church School Registration OR send it to the church at 17 Park Street,
Canton NY 13617.

I Want to SIGN UP for CHURCH SCHOOL!

I Want to BE a TEACHER_____ or a SHEPHERD_____!

The Sundays I am available this year (2015/2016):

| | | | | | |
|-------|---------|--|---------|---------|---------|
| Sept. | 13_____ | 20_____ | 27_____ | | |
| Oct. | 4_____ | 11_____ | 18_____ | 25_____ | |
| Nov. | 1_____ | 8_____ | 15_____ | 22_____ | 29_____ |
| Dec. | 6_____ | 13_____ | 20_____ | | |
| Jan. | 3_____ | 10_____ | 17_____ | 24_____ | 31_____ |
| Feb. | 7_____ | (to help children to bake communion bread) | | | |
| Feb. | 14_____ | 21_____ | 28_____ | | |
| Mar. | 6_____ | 13_____ | 20_____ | 27_____ | |
| April | 3_____ | 10_____ | 17_____ | 24_____ | |
| May | 1_____ | 8_____ | 15_____ | 22_____ | 29_____ |
| June | 5_____ | 12_____ | 19_____ | | |

I would like to be involved with workshops that involve:

Telling stories, reading to children_____

Using puppets with children_____

Doing drama and movement with children _____

Doing arts and crafts with children_____

(Anything special that you like to do?_____)

Making music with children_____

Playing board _____ or active _____ games with children_____

Doing puzzles (word, Sudoku, mazes, jigsaw) with children_____

Doing cooking projects with children_____

Doing photography, sewing or woodworking projects with children_____ Praying with children_____

Writing letters with and to children_____

Doing _____ with children

My name_____ phone_____

E-mail_____

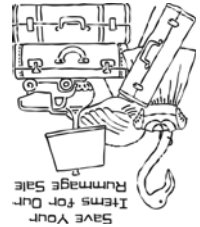
(After you fill it out, please leave this paper in Miss Barbara's mailbox, or on the table in the lobby area.)

September 2015

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 Rev. Mike Off Communion Pastor Donna To Preach Deacon & Food Offering | 7 Labor Day | 8 4:30 PM C&CP Annual Mtng. | 9 11:00 AM Bible Study 7:30 PM Women's Circle | 10 7:00 PM Choir Practice | 11 9:00 AM Handbell Choir Practice | 12 9:00 AM Handbell Choir Practice |
| 13 Choir Resumes Sunday School Begins Blessing Of The Children | 14 Rummage Sale Set Up 6:00 PM Postscript | 15 Newsletter Deadline 1:00 PM Afternoon Book Group | 16 11:00 AM Bible Study | 17 6:00 PM RS Sneak Peek 7:00 PM Choir Practice | 18 9:00 AM Rummage Sale | 19 9:00 AM Rummage Sale 9:00 AM Handbell Choir Practice |
| 20 Name Tag Sunday Handbell Sunday Teacher Dedication | 21 | 22 7:30 PM Evening Book Group | 23 11:00 AM Bible Study | 24 6:30 PM Deacons 7:00 PM Choir Practice | 25 9:00 AM Handbell Choir Practice | 26 9:00 AM Handbell Choir Practice |
| 27 Bring A Friend To Church | 28 7:00 PM Session | 29 | 30 11:00 AM Bible Study | 1 7:00 PM Choir Practice | 2 9:00 AM Handbell Choir Practice | 3 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.

Church School Begins Sept. 13th
Choir & Handbells Return
Annual Fall Bazaar
Family News
Ghosts From The Past
Fall Rummage Sale - Sept. 18th & 19th
Endowment - How You Can Help
Fall Bible Study



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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