

The Good News Gazette

November 2007

Pastor's Notes:

Please read: Matthew 25:31-46 and Luke 17:11-19

“A pessimist, they say, sees a glass of water as being half empty;
an optimist sees the same glass as half-full. But a giving person
sees a glass of water and starts looking for someone who might be thirsty.”

G. Donald Gale

Bits & Pieces October 2007

This Thanksgiving Pastor's Note is a little different than the usual ones that I write. However, I hope and pray that it is food for your souls, helpful for your hearts, and meaningful for your minds.

The Lord healed ten lepers who cried out to the Lord: “Jesus Master,
Have mercy on us!” Jesus, the Son of God in human form, stood before them and told them to go
And show themselves to the Priest. As they went, they all were made clean.

Now, only one came back to thank the Lord and received an additional blessing of mercy and
Kindness. This leper had the first healing human touch that he had probably felt in years! This
Samaritan had an attitude of gratitude for what the Lord had done! Jesus told him,

‘**G**et up and go on his way; your faith has made you well.’

In Matthew 25:31-46, Jesus reminds us that we are to have a heart and soul for Him by

Vibrantly conducting and living our Christian faith until Jesus returns for us one day. When He will say;
‘I was hungry and you gave me food, thirsty and you have me something to drink...’

Nothing can compare with the way that we first welcome our Lord into our hearts and then
Give God thanks for this life and the eternal life that we are given.

Living for the Lord is a daily act of expressing our attitude and gratitude for God's precious gift!

It means thanking God for the gift of others in our past, present and future! It means finding the

Vision for each day to spiritually live and physically act upon the inspiration of the Holy Spirit

In each and every circumstance in our lives. It is only then that we can begin to truly live in

New and wondrous ways for

God!

Each day may seem full of ups and downs! However, at the end of the day may we all be able to see
God's hand working through our **THANKSGIVING LIVING!**

May you have a special time of blessings and reflections this Thanksgiving!

Peace, Hope & Faith in Christ's Service,

Pastor Karen Green

*** Visitors are always welcome at The First Presbyterian Church in Chester, New York

Please join us for Sunday Services at 10:00 a.m.

[Rucia Van Der Meulen](#)
[Memorial Hand Bell Choir](#)

As Isaiah and John cried out- "Prepare the way of the Lord!" are you perhaps prepared to give of your time and talent to ring a hand bell to the glory of His name this Advent/Christmas season? I surely do pray and hope so- it is always a joy and privilege to lead the Rucia Van Der Meulen Memorial Hand Bell Choir I praising and honoring the Lord thru music, especially with others who love to share with me giving back to him a portion of thankfulness for all His blessings to us. Please speak to Maggie if you would and could be a ringer this fall, 469-4268, or

[An Update on Baby Erika Taylor Vogt born on September 26, 2007.](#)

Hello Pastor Karen!

I just wanted to give you an update on Erika. She is doing really well, so well in fact that they are planning to send her home tomorrow, October 18, 2007 after spending twenty two days in the hospital! She has been eating on her own for the last few days and they are really happy with her progress. She now weighs 4lbs 4oz.

If you would like to see some pictures of her please go to : <http://erika.karsco.com/>

We would like to thank everyone for their prayers and concerns.

Do you mind sending this out to everyone on the newsletter?

Thanks!

Scott & Tracy

Church Family
Thanksgiving
Pot Luck Luncheon
on November 18th
following Worship as a
celebration of God's
blessings.

Sunday, November 18th is also Bible Sunday. We ask that you bring your Bible to Church and to the Luncheon. We will have a time for sharing your favorite Bible Verses. If reading in public is not one of your "Top 10" most favorite things to do, someone will gladly share your verse with others. . We will have a sign-up sheet in the library to indicate your interest in attending and what dish you plan to bring. Please come and feast on God's Word as well as food, fun and fellowship!

Did you see what's new in our Memorial Garden?

We would like all to thank Scott Green, Stephanie Green, Joe DeAngelis, Rosemary Eckard and all those who have been helpful in giving our Memorial Garden a much needed face lift. Scott still needs your help to complete the work. If you would be willing to lend a hand, please call Scott at 469-2975.

ROAST BEEF DINNER

REMINDERS

**Next dinner: Saturday,
Nov. 3, 4PM-7PM.**

For tickets, volunteering to work in the dining room or kitchen, or for any other questions you have concerning the dinner, please speak to Marsha Seymour (469-4311).

Women's Council would appreciate any home-made goodies you could provide for their Bake Table at the dinner.

Apple Crisp bakers needed, call Rosemary Eckard (469-6425). Pans, apples & recipes will be available to pick-up at the Church beginning Thursday morning (Nov. 1).

Nov. 1, 9:00am - Coleslaw preparation; please speak to Carol Ravert (469-2997).

Nov. 2, 9:00am - Potato Preparation & table settings; please speak to Joan Ribando (469-4208).

Nov. 3, 3:30pm - Servers & kitchen help arrive for pre-dinner meeting and prayer.

It takes the whole "Church Family" and some "helpful neighbors" from the community to make our dinners enjoyable and successful. Thank you for supporting our church in this way. It is truly appreciated and wouldn't be possible without your participation.

Dinner Co-Chairpersons: Marsha Seymour & Jerry Sutherland.

Come One! Come All, to decorate our Lord's sanctuary !!!

Would you like to help decorate the sanctuary for Christmas? We will begin on Monday, November 26th at 7p.m. If another night is necessary, we will complete our decorating on Tuesday, November 27th at 7 p.m. Plan to come and rejoice in helping us prepare for worshipping our Lord for Advent and Christmas.

Poinsettias for the Sanctuary for Advent and Christmas

Our poinsettias will be available this year for \$8.00. They are available in red, white, pink or marble. A sign-up sheet will be available in the library or you may call the church office, 469-4877 and leave a message to place your order. We also have the same designation as last year. They are: as a thank offering, in loving memory of, in honor of, or to the glory of God. All orders must be placed by Sunday, December 2nd to have your requests printed in the bulletin. Please make your checks payable to the Margaret Emody Flower Fund.

A Big Thank You!

We would like to thank Sara Green for collating, putting the newsletter into envelopes, placing addresses labels & stamps on the envelopes as well as mailing our newsletter to those who need to have the news letter mailed to them.

Women's Council News

We worked at our September meeting getting ready for the church service that we were in charge of. We did a program written by the women of Paraguay called "Under God's Tent". Some of us had readings, others were ushers and Betty Lutjens did the Bible Study. She also provided delicious refreshments and Marsha Seymour had the devotions.

The Saldubehere's are safely back in Cuernavaca, Mexico, and ready to start their missionary work after a relaxing furlough. They wrote and expressed that they all, Darren, Judith, David and Rachael enjoyed their stay in Chester. Everyone made them feel welcome and were so friendly. Keep them in your prayers as they await God's plan for their lives. It was certainly wonderful to have them here as they shared with us God's work in Mexico.

Tuesday November 13th, at 1:00 will be our Thanksgiving Meeting. At that time we pass out cards to send to those in the church, the community, etc. that have given of their time and talents, and we thank them. Betty Lutjens has the devotions and Rosemary Eckard is in charge of the refreshments. Come meet with us in the church library and help us shower our thanks on those who have been a blessing to us.

Hope to see you on the 13th. Bring a friend.

Thanksgiving: Scripture, Prayers, Song & Thoughts:

Psalm 100:4

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise; be thankful unto Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good...

Psalm 150:6

Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.

Hebrews 13:15

By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name.

A Thanksgiving Prayer by Joseph Auslander

We thank thee for our daily bread,
For faith by which the soul is fed,
For burdens given us to bear,
For help that lifts the heart's despair.

We thank thee, Lord, for eyes to see,
The truth that makes, and keeps us free:
For faults -- and for the strength to mend them,
For dreams -- and courage to defend them.

We have so much to thank thee for,
Dear Lord, we beg but one boon more:
Peace in the hearts of all men living,
Peace in the whole world on this Thanksgiving.

A Thanksgiving Prayer

Samuel F. Pugh

"O God, when I have food,
help me to remember the hungry;

When I have work,
help me to remember the jobless;

When I have a home,
help me to remember those who have no home at all;

When I am without pain,
help me to remember those who suffer,

And remembering,
help me to destroy my complacency;

Bestir my compassion,
and be concerned enough to help;

By word and deed,
those who cry out for what we take for granted. Amen.

Thanksgiving Prayer author unknown

Almighty and Ever Giving and Present God, even though I clutch my blanket and growl when the alarm rings each morning, thank You, Lord, that I can hear. There are many who are deaf.

Even though I keep my eyes tightly closed against the morning light as long as possible, thank You Lord, that I can see. There are many who are blind.

Even though I huddle in my bed and put off the effort of rising, thank You, Lord that I have the strength to rise. There are many who are bedridden.

Even though the first hour of my day is hectic, when socks are lost, toast is burned, and tempers are short, thank You, Lord, for my family. There are many who are lonely.

Even though our breakfast table never looks like the pictures in magazines and the menu is at times unbalanced, thank You, Lord for the food we have. There are many who have no job.

Even though I grumble and bemoan my fate from day to day and wish my circumstances were not so modest, thank You, Lord, for the gift of life and eternal Life purchased through the precious blood and life of Jesus Christ my Lord and Savior. Amen.

We Gather Together

*We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
He chastens and hastens his will to make known;
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing,
Sing praises to his name: He forgets not his own.*

*Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
Ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;
So from the beginning the fight we were winning;
Thou, Lord, wast at our side, All glory be thine!*

*We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
And pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation;
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!
Amen*

--Traditional Thanksgiving Hymn

(A translation by Theodore Baker: 1851-1934).

Charles E. Jefferson

Gratitude is born in hearts that take time to count up past mercies.

Izaak Walton

God has two dwellings; one in heaven, and the other in a meek and thankful heart.

H. Norman Pell

I praise God because He not only guides my directions but overrules my mistakes.

2007 Team Chairs and Co- Chairs

Ministering to the People

Church Family: Sara Green (469-2975)

Jerry Sutherland (469-4166)

Meets monthly on the First Tuesday at 7:30

Other Teams of ministry within the Church Family Team:

The Worship Team (meets as needed)

Worship Correspondence Team (meets as needed)

Extended Family: John Miller (782-5978)

Janet Writer (469-2578)

Meets as needed & beginning to find regular meeting time

Other Teams of ministry within the Extended Family Team:

New Membership (meets monthly on the First Thursday at 7:30 p.m.)

Shrove Tuesday Team (meets as needed)

Blood Drive Team (meets as needed)

Caring for God's House

Buildings Grounds: Okey Barrett (651-4707)

Jerry Sutherland (469-4166)

Meets as needed

Administration & Finance: John Ravert (469-1801)

Administration Team: (meets as needed)

Finance Team: (meets monthly on the first Thursday at 7:00 p.m.)

Other Teams of ministry within the Finance Team such as:

Half Chicken Sale Team (meets as needed)

New Membership: (Meets monthly on the first Thursday at 7:30 p.m.)

We are always looking for our brothers and sisters in Christ to help us serve the Lord. Want to join a team in our church? Please contact the team chair/co-chair. We look forward to working with you in the Lord's ministry!

Organist/Music Director: Maggie Johnson (469-4268)

Sunday School Superintendent: Barbara Babcock
(469-4117)

Treasurer: John Ravert (469-1801)

Assistant Treasurer: Marsha Seymour

Sexton: Betty Lutjens (468-2524)

Pastor: Karen N. Green (469-4877)

Clerk of Session: John Ravert (469-1801)

Moderator of Deacons; James Peterson
(845-629-5848)

Church Office: (469-4877)

Secretary: