

The Good News Gazette

October 2007

Pastor's Notes:

Please read: Revelation 21:1-5

“And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

Revelation 21:5

All Things New

*We have been made new creatures
Changed by the power of God
We are in Christ and old things are passed away
We walk in newness of life in this land we trod.*

*His love for us is manifest
As we go along our way,
We can pass all life's many tests,
If we seek the Lord and pray.*

*His Word will guide us as onward we go
Each day walking in his light
We can have victory here below,
As Jesus will lead in the darkest night.*

*Changes of the heart make one new
With Christ as Lord and Savior,
And each day as we seek Him,
He will keep us safe....within his love and favor.*

*Jo Ann Kelly (c) 10/2002
J. P.'s Inspirations*

Someone buys a new car and you can smell the newness when you ride in it. Yes, it might seem nice. However, if you are like me, it might take awhile to get use to where things are such as the light switches and how to reprogram the time on the clock radio when Day light Savings Time ends. I remember my first new car was a Nissan hatch back. It had a 5 speed on the floor and even a rear window wiper! Wow! My old Plymouth Arrow didn't have that! After I had owned my Nissan, which I named Abraham, for a couple years, I was sitting at a long stop light. Yes, you guessed it. I started playing with a few of the knobs to the lights and a couple other things. All of a sudden I looked in my rear view mirror. I was shocked!... There was liquid coming from some place all over my back window. Much to my delightful surprise, I had a rear window washer. You might say it takes a little reforming from old habits to a new way of doing things!

When the Lord reminds us that "Behold I make all things new..." Here are words that are encouraging for our souls and a delight to our minds imagination! Just take moment and think back to the history in the church. Martin Luther was inspired by the Lord to help change and help create

what we now know as the Lutheran church. Because of his courage and willingness to find away to reform the way the Roman Catholic Church operated, in 1517, he nailed his 95 Theses on the Castle Church Doors in Wittenberg, Germany. In 1529, he was inspired by Psalm 46 to write the much beloved hymn, A Mighty Fortress is Our God. The second verse plainly speaks about the new victory that we are given because of Jesus Christ being our Lord and Savior. The verse states:

"Did we in our own strength confide,
Our striving would be losing;
Were not the right man on our side,
The man of God's own choosing
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, It is He,
Lord Sabbaoth His name,
From age to age the same,
And He must win the battle."

Reformation Sunday is on October 28th. This year may we take a few minutes to stop and thank the Lord for the way that God does indeed create all things new. The Lord has inspired countless Christians before us to take stands for God's sake. May we be able to do the same!

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.

[If you would like to learn more about Reformation Sunday and read a the 95 Theses from Martin Luther, a copy of information from the internet is on the table in the church library.](#)

News From the Deacons:

College & Military Boxes At the Deacons September 13th meeting, they passed a motion to “provide college and military boxes to members and friends of the church residing away from home” (from Chester). The Deacons will be packing college and military boxes once again this fall. Please provide the church with updated names, addresses, etc. for all eligible persons as soon as possible. The Deacons hope to pack these boxes at their next meeting on October 16th.

Pastor Karen will be away on vacation on Sunday, October 7 in the p.m. through Monday, October 15th. She will return to the office on Tuesday, October 16th. If you are in need of pastoral care during this time please contact Rev. Bob Hoag at 692-4017.

Youth Group News:

Leaf...Leaves...Piles of Leaves...Do you have these in your yard? How would you like to have them moved to the curb for the village to remove and at the same time help a worthy cause? The youth group will be raking leaves to continue our yearly support of Cystic Fibrosis. We are looking for FOUR lawns to rake within the village of Chester. There is a minimum charge of \$35.00 per lawn. We plan to rake leaves on Monday, November 12th beginning at 9:30 a.m. This is the day that our youth group members are off from school. Please call the church office to sign-up or use the sign-up sheet in the library. **FIRST – COME-FIRST RAKED.** Thank you for your support.

Operation Christmas Child

It is that time of year again to start planning for Operation Christmas Child. **This year, we are in need of shoe boxes with detachable lids to use to pack boxes.** Beginning on Sunday, October 21st drop off boxes will be in the library and on the back pew in the sanctuary for your convenience. These items are due by Sunday Nov 11th. The cost of shipping and processing each box is \$7.00. The youth group will be collecting the following gift items that would fit into a shoe box:

School Supplies:

Hygiene Items:

Toys

A Personal Note:

Other ideas: Hard candy and lollipops (please double bag all candy), mints, gum, T-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries)

DO NOT INCLUDE: used or damaged items, war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; liquid or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

Please make checks payable to The First Presbyterian Church Youth Group! Thank you in advance for your support!!!

John 6:1-13

A Humble Offering

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: The bread that Jesus our Savior offers will not leave you hungry.

Through multiplying the fish and bread, Jesus the miracle worker also illustrated compassion for the multitudes. When Jesus, testing him, asked Philip, "Where can we buy bread to feed all these people?" Philip replied, "It would take a small fortune to feed them!" Then Andrew spoke up, "There 's a young boy here with five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that with this huge crowd?" Jesus replied, "Tell everyone to sit down." Then Jesus took the food, gave thanks, and distributed it. "And they are until they were full." (see John 6:5-11, NLT)

We know that Jesus is a miracle worker. This story teaches us that Jesus feeds us with manna that can work miracles in everyday people. Jesus used the ingredients of a small boy's lunch to perform a miracle. If that little boy had hidden his lunch or refused to share it, more than five thousand people might have gone hungry that day. Likewise, we may feel we do not have much to offer, but our Master needs whatever we are able to give in time, talent, and resources.

Prayer; Lord, work miracles in our lives. Help us to share our resources to enrich one another; for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Carol Yandell-Clarksville, Arkansas

THE SECRET PLACE is published jointly by the American Baptist Churches in the USA and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Christian Board of Publications.

[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 see me in church. A sign-up Sheet will also be on the back table. Thank you!

Women's Council News

On October 14 the worship service will be led by our Women's Council using as its basis the World Day of Prayer 2007, "United under God's Tent" written by WDP Women of Paraguay. The theme is a way of showing how God acts like the protection of a tent for Abraham and Sarah, and even for many other people today who don't live in a house or have a home, because of various circumstances. God's promise to Abraham and Sarah was fulfilled to both of them; His promise to us fulfilled in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior for all peoples all over the earth. The service today is a call to work and pray together for people in need all over the world.

And, as quite often happens according to the will of God acting in concert with our church calendar, this is also the day we receive Church World Service Blanket Fund Offering. How wonderful are God's ways! You have always been so generous in your response to this second offering each year, and

we thank you in advance for helping our church be recognized once again for giving freely and lovingly to those who have need of a "tent". We are most grateful for your sharing of your blessings from God so that others may be blessed.

Second offering will be received on Sunday, October 14th to benefit Church World Service Blanket Fund. Please make checks payable to: The First Presbyterian Church and be sure to make a note in your memo that your offering is for the Church World Service Blanket Fund Offering. Thank you for your generous support.

ROAST BEEF DINNER - November 3, 2007 - 4:00 to 7:00 P.M.

With Fall upon us, it's time to start planning our next church dinner fund-raiser. Please set aside the time to join us in preparing and serving another delicious meal.

Here is a list of the dates and activities:

Oct. 27, at 9:00am - Kitchen/Dining Room Clean-up. Please speak to Jerry Sutherland (469-4166) if you are able to help.

Nov. 1 at 9:00am - Preparation of coleslaw. Please speak to Carol Ravert (469-2997).

Nov. 2 at 9:00am - Preparation of potatoes & dining room set-up. Please speak to Joan Ribando (469-4208).

Nov. 3, at 3:30pm - Servers and other helpers arrive for last minute instructions and prayer.

Please speak to Marsha Seymour (469-4311) to volunteer.

The dessert will be applecrisp. We will provide a church pan, recipe, and apples if you supply the rest of the ingredients. Please speak to Rosemary Eckard (469-6425) if you are willing to bake. Pans, apples and recipes will be available to pick-up at the church from Wednesday evening (October 31) on.

Volunteers are also needed the day of the dinner to wait on tables or work in the kitchen. Please speak to Marsha Seymour (469-4311). Also see Marsha if you need *tickets*.

Our Women's Council will sponsor a bake sale at the dinner and would appreciate donations of any type of homemade goodies you like to make.

As you can see by the many requests made for your time and talents, the success of these dinners depends on your participation. We thank you for your continued support and hope to see you at our **November 3rd Roast Beef Diner!!!**

Dinner Co-Chairpersons: Marsha Seymour & Jerry Sutherland

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 Fianance 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)