

The Good News Gazette

October 2008

Pastor's Notes:

Please Read: Hebrews 12:1-2

For All The Saints

Lyrics by William Walsham How, 1864
Music by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

**For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy Name, O Jesus, be forever blessed.
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Thou wast their Rock, their Fortress and their Might;
Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true Light.
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
All are one in Thee, for all are Thine.
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**O may Thy soldiers, faithful, true and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
And win with them the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
And hearts are brave, again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
And singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

The composer of the very famous hymn, "For All The Saints" was William Walsham How. He composed sixty hymns and about twenty of the hymns are still used today. He wrote For All the Saints in 1864 which is still sung in many churches today.

He was a bishop in the Anglican Church in London. He was known and loved for his hard work to help the poor and hard working people. These are the individuals who needed hope and inspiration to face each day! It is no wonder then,

that he wrote this hymn using Hebrews 12:1-2 as his basis to encourage people about the great cloud of witnesses that goes before us.

Hebrews 12:1-2 states:

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God."

God's presence is ever before us. Just think about it! When we celebrate communion, it is the Holy Spirit that gives us the grand connection with all the faithful in heaven and on earth. It is the Lord who helps us run the faithful race for Him.

As most of you know that I will be leaving The First Presbyterian Church in Chester, New York. When I celebrate communion in November, I will be in The First Presbyterian Church in Mexico, New York. We will be connected through the Holy Spirit as we worship our Lord.

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your lives and to walk with you in faith! I know that the Lord has a special pastor in mind to serve you with joy and hope.

Peace, Hope & Faith In Christ's Service,

Pastor Karen N. Green

***Visitors are always welcome at The First Presbyterian Church in Chester, NY. Please join us for Sunday Services at 10:00 a.m.

BLANKET SUNDAY – OCT. 12, 2008

Our congregation has supported this mission for a number of years. Jean Barrett has illustrated the many uses of blankets for people around the world.

Every \$5 you give to Church World Service can provide a good wool or cotton blend blanket because they are bought in large quantities. When possible, blankets are purchased close to the scene of a disaster, to speed delivery and to spur local economies.

Church World Service has been providing comfort and assistance to those in need for more than fifty years. Working with partner agencies on the scene around the world they are able to respond quickly.

In the past, even though we are a small congregation, we have big hearts. Every year we have increased our giving and are so proud of the banners we have received from Church World Service. Please let our church family continue to support the blanket mission without love, gifts and prayers.

ROAST BEEF DINNER - November 1, 2008 - 4:00 to 7:00 P.M.

With Fall upon us, it's time to start planning our next church dinner fundraiser. Please set aside the time to help us prepare and serve another delicious meal. Here is a list of the dates and activities:

- Oct. 25, at 9:00am - Kitchen/Dining Room Clean-up. Please speak to Jerry Sutherland (469-4166) if you are able to help.
- Oct. 30 at 9:00am - Preparing coleslaw. Please speak to Carol Ravert (469-2997).
- Oct. 31 at 9:00am - Preparing potatoes & setting dining room. Please speak to Joan Ribando (469-4208).
- Nov. 1, at 3:30pm - Servers and other helpers arrive for last minute instructions and prayer. To volunteer, please speak to Marsha Seymour (469-4311).

The dessert will be apple crisp. 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 29) 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 you can join us at our November 1st Roast Beef Diner!!

Dinner Co-Chairpersons: Marsha Seymour & Jerry Sutherland

News from the Deacons

College and Military Boxes The Deacons will be packing college boxes to students from families and friends of the First Presbyterian Church. All Service Personnel from the Town of Chester are also encouraged to be listed for us to send them a Military Box. Please provide the church with updated names, addresses, etc. of all eligible persons as soon as possible. The Deacons will be packing boxes after their meeting on October 14th.

A special congregational meeting has been called to dissolve the relationship with The Rev. Karen N. Green and the First Presbyterian Church of Chester, NY on Sunday, October 19, 2008 following worship. Pastor Karen & Bob Green will be moving to Mexico, NY on October 24, 2008. She will be serving as pastor to The First Presbyterian Church in Mexico, NY.

Bob Hoag, 692-4017, will be on call for Pastor Karen while she is away Oct. 9-16. She will return Oct. 17.

2008 Team Chairs and Co-Chairs

Ministering to the People

Church Family: 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: Sara Green (469-2975)

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: Janet Writer (469-2578)

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)

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 (469-4311)

Sexton: Betty Lutjens (468-2524)

Pastor: Karen N. Green (469-4877)

Clerk of Session: Scott Vogt (469-3068)

Moderator of Deacons: James Peterson
(610-3670, cell 325-1829)

Church Office: (469-4877)

Secretary: