

FROM THE PASTOR

“Living With Hope”

I see the world gradually being turned into a wilderness.

I hear the ever-approaching thunder, which will destroy us too.

I can feel the sufferings of millions and yet, if I look up into the heavens,

I think that it will all come out right.

In the meantime, I must uphold my ideals,

for perhaps the time will come when I shall be able to carry them out.

- Anne Frank, from The Diary of Anne Frank

Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

- Hebrews 11:1

When I read those words from Anne Frank, I can imagine they are being spoken today. Terrorism is a strange new threat that strikes innocent people at random. Climate change threatens food production and political stability. Glaciers are disappearing, threatening the water supply of millions of people. Friends and neighbors are being diagnosed with cancer at an alarming rate. How do you respond to such news? Denial? Self-medication? Grab what you can before it's gone? Get your weapons and hide in a bunker? And yet a young girl hiding from the Nazi Holocaust and an early Christian enduring persecution by the Roman Empire, faced with the threats of their day, speak not with despair but with hope. They chose to focus on promise, possibility and hope.

We have a choice. The world is full of terrible things, and the world is full of joy. Everywhere you look, you can find people who are destructive and self-centered and people who are creative and giving. We can live in fear or we can live with blessing. We can be selfish or we can treat the world as a gift. In my own life, I am aware of the struggle to let go of clinging to the past and worrying about the future and open myself to living fully in the present.

Much of the shape of our lives depends on what we give our attention to. Anne Frank chose to focus on her ideals, her hopes and dreams, the beauty she knew was possible even while hiding from the Nazis. The writer of Hebrews focused on God's promise of a world made new as more real and more lasting than suffering and loss. A life given to beauty, joy, generosity, peace and hope – even in the midst of pain and suffering – changes the world and brings blessing and new meaning.

No matter what this new year brings, we have a choice. We can live narrow, fearful lives or lives of hope and beauty. When the world is threatening and full of anxiety, living with hope is more of a challenge. But we have the example, and the presence, of One who has overcome death and gives us new life today and always. “Don't be afraid,” he said. “I'm with you always.”

Blessings in the new year and always - Pastor Sam



Alaska Travel Night

Presentations by Selma O'Meara and Keith Butters. Both recently journeyed to the Land of the Midnight Sun and will be here to tell us of their experiences!

**Dessert & Presentation
Friday, Feb 10
7pm in Dining Hall**

Thanks to the Fellowship Committee for bringing everyone together!

3rd Annual

JOY Waffle Breakfast

Sunday Feb 19
Dining Room
8:30 to 10am

Fresh Baked Waffles
Gluten-free Available
Real Maple Syrup

**Proceeds to Juvenile Diabetes
Research Foundation**
Love You Claire!



Photo by Carrie Scaccia

AROUND THE CONGREGATION

Birthdays

Maegan Fish.....02/04
Bonnie Herter.....02/05
Greg Wood.....02/08
Bob Cook.....02/08
Kyle Sexton.....02/09
Dylan Furney.....02/10
Dick Kahler.....02/10
Armen Roubian.....02/10
Ann Cianfrocco.....02/10
Taro Shimomura.....02/13
Kiki Hinman.....02/13
Vi Stirling (98).....02/14
Jackie Corbett.....02/14
Susie Lewis.....02/16
Heather Tucker.....02/16
Jamie Hinman.....02/16
Calvin Reed.....02/18
Sharri Hartwell.....02/19
Mark Maginn.....02/19
Sue Seubert.....02/19
Catherine Russell.....02/20
Bob Alessi.....02/22
Carrie Scaccia.....02/22
Noah Corigliano.....02/22
Russ Fielding.....02/23
Susan Hatzinger.....02/23
Jennifer Proper.....02/25
Barbara Rhodes.....02/26
Dan Ferens.....02/26
Christina Merithew.....02/26
Jen Reed.....02/27
Eric Townsend.....02/27
Dorothy Southern (100)....02/29

Member Updates

Andrea Radesi, 9500 St Rt 26,
Lee Center 13363

Dan & Becky Russell
rerussell82@gmail.com

Anniversaries

Russ & Darlene Fielding (61)....02/03
Bob & Valerie Wood.....02/05
Jay & Shari Fish.....02/14

Special Birthdays: Please help Vi Stirling celebrate her 98th Birthday and Dorothy Southern celebrates her 100th. These remarkable ladies both reside at Bethany Gardens, 800 W Chestnut St.

News from Jay: Yes I am still cognizant but internally taking my sweet time to heal. Moving around the house is so much easier now. I may have some short public appearances depending on my confidence, otherwise; keeping occupied at home. Visitors are welcome. Thank you so much for all your prayers. I really appreciate it & it lifts my spirits knowing you all wait for my return.

PS: A big Thank You to all that brought food (Shari was relieved for a few nights) but I don't remember who brought what so can we try it all over again ?!

Jay >((((>`.,.,.^`..>((((>

Condolences to the Tucker Families for loved ones lost; Ray's sister and her longtime friend and companion

Condolences to Cindy Agnew on the passing of her brother, Timothy Durgee

**JOY
WAFFLE BREAKFAST
SUNDAY FEB 19**

FEBRUARY SUNDAY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS & MORE

Communion Set-up for Feb 05: Marlie Gillander & Diane Burns

Communion Servers for February:

Brian Burke	Kevin Taylor
Eugene Millhouse	Tim Hughes
Liz Reyes	Nancy Weed

Ushers:

Feb 05 – Dave Scaccia
Feb 12 – Ward Beeman
Feb 19 – George Vickers
Feb 26 – Herb Thorpe

Worship Recorders

Feb 05 – Jay Fish
Feb 12 - Mark Maginn
Feb 19 – Sue Davidson
Feb 26 – Shari Fish

Deacon at the Ramp

Feb 05 – Bobbie Foote
Feb 12 - Kiki
Feb 19 – Dianne
Feb 26 – Gail

Coffee Break Hosts

Feb 05 – Gail
Feb 12 – Kari
Feb 19 – Vi
Feb 26 – Please Volunteer
Heritage Sunday

Greeters:

Feb 5 - Barb Steagall, Vi Head, Brian Burke
Feb 12 - 4 -6 grade class
Feb 19 - Carl & Donna Longley, Marlie Gillander
Feb 26 - Russ & Darlene Fielding, Bobbie Foote

Prayer Chain – Utica Presbytery

Feb 05 - 1st Presbyterian Church, Cherry Valley
Feb 12 - Stone Presbyterian Church, Clinton
Feb 19 - First Presbyterian Church, Cooperstown
Feb 26 - The Committee on Ministry, Utica Presbytery

Acolytes:

Feb 05 – Maryrose Scaccia
Feb 12 – Maegan Fish
Feb 19 – Tyriana Jones
Feb 26 – Ryan Fish

Layreaders

Feb 05 – Evan Griffith
Feb 12 – Youth Sunday
Feb 19 – Keith Butters
Feb 26 – Ginger Passalacqua

Rescue Mission Cook Captains

Feb 07 – Mary Lou Talley
Mar 06 – Cynthia Pendergrast
Mar 13 – Vacant Please Volunteer

Children's Talk

Feb 12 – Julie Denton
Feb 26 – Helen Adsit

MORE AROUND THE CONGREGATION

Many Many Thanks!

Thanks so much to all of you, my church family, for the love and support you showed Clara throughout her illness, and for all the prayers and support you have given her family. I appreciate you all so much...and I know you miss my Clara right along with me. With love Karen Q.

Birthday Party Thanks: I'm truly sorry that I'm late in expressing my appreciation and delight in having so many people join me! Your cards and gifts are great and I will treasure them in a special place in my apartment. Again, I want to express my love and joy to you good Presbyterians and say that I'm proud to be a Presbyterian and member of this Church Family – Love, Fred Barnes (ps – Marlie sends a special thanks to everyone who helped setup, serve and clean!)

Thank You: Heifer International gratefully recognizes the First Presbyterian Church of Rome for its contribution of a healthy goat and subsequent training of its care, to help struggling families overcome a life of hunger and poverty.

The Salvation Army gratefully thanks us for participation in holiday projects for community members in need. They report that 470 families received counseling interview, a Christmas turkey & groceries, new toys 7 warm clothing & many special needs items; 590 Nursing Home residents were visited with gifts and Christmas music programs; 144 children and older adults enjoyed two Christmas parties.

The Salvation Army also compiled thank you letters received from Rome area families. It's posted in the CE & parlor hallway

Lost!

One of our JOY kids lost a brown bag filled with CDs a couple of weeks ago. Have you seen it or picked it up by mistake? Contact the church office or please place in JOY classroom (

Congratulations!

To the Corigliano Family as they welcome Leah Danielle Corigliano into the fold!

Yeah new grandma, Andrea Radesi. She'll soon be visiting newborn Milo & family! Have a great time!

To Keith & Joyce Butters who will become grandparents again in September



AND STILL MORE CONGREGATION NEWS...

Please Pray: Jay Fish, Diana O'Meara, Marcie Ferens, Ed Weed, Joyce Frank, Carol Lee, Vi Head, Barb Steagall, Mary Davis, Shirley Sutter, Dorothea Taylor, Karen Quick, Tyler Boyd, Allan Zinter (Ginny's brother), Bryan Hale, Jeanette Seigel (Andrea's mom), Ed Carr, George Romleski, Craig Buchanan, Jackie Vinneau, Chris Rushton

Please Remember Those who may appreciate cards or calls: Mary Conover, Vi Stirling, Dorothy Southern, Jewel Boyd, Margaret Randall, Doris Rice, Shirley Christman, Joanna Koch, Dorothy Storace, Norm Yackly, May Lewis, Jean DelNero, Emlyn Griffith

Consider This: 80% of all Strokes Can Be Prevented!! Life Line Screening takes pride in the services we provide: Preventive Health Screening at Trinity United Church of Christ on Monday, March 26

Benefit for Tyler Boyd - Tickets Available in Church Office: Classmate, student, paper carrier and friend to many in our congregation – Sun Feb 19 at Lee Center Fireman's Bingo Hall – Noon to 5pm - \$10/person (children under 12 free) – Raffles, Food, Entertainment & Fun for a great cause

Silent Auction to benefit the Rome Home: a nurturing and caring home for adults at 417 N Washington St – Sat Feb 25 at the Beeches, 6:30 to 9pm - \$10 advance sale & \$15 at door/ Appetizers & dessert with cash bar. Tickets at Engelberts, Berkshire Bank and the Capitol Theater among others

Remember February is Black History Month! We have a wealth of resources among us! If you or a group you know of is looking for information, books, or speakers, check out our Church Library and reach out to members of our Church Family who are experts in this area! Our own Jessie Thorpe has her own publication in our library. Be sure to check out this informative book at your leisure.

34th Annual African American History Month Program on Sun Feb 19 at 3pm at RFA. Theme: Black Women in American Culture & History – Event is free & open to the public

Munson Williams LunchArt Video – Free & open to the public – Bring your lunch! Wed, Feb 08 – *Against the Odds: The Artists of the Harlem Renaissance*; Wed 15: *Robert Colscott: The One-Two Punch & Emma Amos: Action Lines*; Wed 22: *Elizabeth Catlett: Sculpting the Truth & Jacob Lawrence: The Glory of Expression*

**IN OUR CHURCH
LIBRARY**

*“An Introductory
History of African
Americans in Rome,
New York”*

**By our very own
Jessie Thorpe!**

SIGN IT OUT TODAY!

MORE NEWS FROM PASTOR SAM

What Is Per Capita? The Per Capita assessment is divided between Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. The total cost for 2012 is \$34 a member. Of that, GA share is \$6.63, Synod is \$3.95, and Presbytery share is \$23.42.

Per Capita dollars fund administrative functions of the Presbyterian Church. At the General Assembly level, these costs are related to the office of the Stated Clerk. Here's a brief look at some of what Per Capita dollars do:

- *General Assembly Meetings every two years*
- *General Assembly Committees and Commissions, including the administration of ordination exams*
- *Identifying & developing church leadership through Office of Vocation*
- *Church Leadership Connection, a web-based matching and referral system for church leaders and churches seeking pastors and staff*
- *Presbyterian Historical Society in Philadelphia collects, preserves and makes available for retrieval and research church records and other historical documents*
- *Constitutional Services*
- *Coordinates schedule & ministry of Moderator & Vice-Moderator of GA*
- *Office of Communications maintains electronic systems and web site*
- *GA Publications, Leadership Development, Ecumenical Relations and more*

For complete information, go to <http://oga.pcusa.org/percapita>

Lent Begins February 22: Our 40-day journey to Easter begins with worship on Ash Wednesday, February 22, at 7:00 PM in the Chapel with the traditional service of penitence and imposition of ashes. For those who wish to receive ashes as a symbol of repentance and mortality, the pastor will make a cross on your forehead with the ashes.

Sundays in Lent, the sermons will use the Old Testament readings and will focus on the theme of "Covenant." Maundy Thursday (April 5 at 7:00 PM) worship will be held in the Dining Room this year around the tables after a simple supper. Because that is a first Thursday, Session meeting will be delayed a week.

Finance News:

December Receipts: \$25,968 December Expenditures: \$29,136
December Capital Improvement Donations: \$3,307
Christmas JOY Collection: \$859

FEBRUARY MISSION NEWS

FAIR TRADE PRODUCTS

Nancy Morgan will have these available the first Sunday of each month during coffee hour.

RESCUE MISSION NONPERISHABLE GOODS COLLECTION

We will continue to collect these items for the Mission on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Boxes will be in the Narthex, the parlor hallway and the Office hallway. Remember that the Mission gets most of its donations during the holiday season, but then the food pantry begins to run low

RESCUE MISSION COOKING

We continue to provide meals for the Rescue Mission on the 1st two Wednesdays of the month. The cooking is done in our kitchen on either the Tuesday before or on Wednesday morning. We are looking for additional help with this project.

We currently have 4 "captains" or coordinators, Liz Clough, Selma O'Meara, Cynthia Pendergrast, and Mary Lou Talley. We would really like to find one more so each person is in charge only once every 2 months. The captain decides the menu, gets the groceries and brings them to the kitchen, sets the time for cooking, makes sure there are enough cooks, and submits the receipts to the Church Office for reimbursement. Liz is willing to work with anyone who would like to try this job. We have recipes and can help you figure out "how much."

"Cooks" have jobs ranging from peeling potatoes and carrots to making jello and preparing salad. Of course there are dishes to wash. There is a lot of time for socialization!

Please consider helping with the important project. You can sign up in the hallway outside the Parlor or call Liz at any time (339-0972).

Remember Dave McMonagle
at this year's Rome Heart Run.

To sponsor Dave email
davidmac@twcny.rr.com.
Money collected until March 3rd.

Take a step towards heart health...

Support the American Heart Association at the

2012 Rome Heart Run & Walk & Pre-registration

Saturday, Feb. 4th

9 a.m. to noon

at Rome Free Academy

Rome Memorial Hospital will offer
free healthy heart living education and
Heimlich maneuver training as part
of the health fair at the event.

America's Greatest
**Heart Run
& Walk**
2012

ROME
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
Celebrating 125 Years

March 3, 2012

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Special Thanks to Michelle Dolan for leading a wonderful and thought provoking class on healing this past month! All who participated found it stimulating and inspiring.

Sacred Dance resumes on Feb. 5th at 12:15pm. Any interested dancers are welcome to join us! We plan to dance for worship on Heritage Sunday

Serenity Circle continues to meet on Tuesday evenings- rain, snow, or sleet! Our focus for the month of February is *Divine Paradoxes*. We meet at 7pm in our parlor unless otherwise noted. All are welcome to attend. Special thanks go to Carol Berger for hosting a lovely ‘Healing Ceremony/ Circle’ at her home on 1/16/12. It proved to be a very significant and meaningful event for all who attended. Serenity Circle plans to do more of these informal at home healing circles in the future.

A new Adult Education Course entitled “Prayer in Many Forms” will be held in our library on Feb. 5, 12, and 19. This class will be facilitated by Diana O’Meara. Class begins each week at 11:30am. Bring your coffee and magnanimous spirit as we deepen our understanding of this topic!

Our Wonderful Thursday Afternoon Bible Study continues each week with Vera Noxon at the helm! If you hunger for a deeper spiritual life and a better understanding of the Bible in all its nuances, this is the class for you. Also, it’s a well known secret that the folks attending this weekly study have far too much fun!!! Currently they are exploring the Beatitudes as it is presented in our PW Bible Study. All are welcome. It’s a great time to join, enjoy, and cultivate your faith for the new year!

Our Video Class for Adults has finished up a humorous and healthy month based on relieving stress. During the month of February, we’ll explore “*The Parables*”. This course is Sunday mornings after worship in our Choir Room. All are welcome to enjoy all or pieces and parts of our offerings. We are grateful for the leadership of Elizabeth Reyes who continues to facilitate this group. She presents interesting materials and provides time and space for stimulating discussions and fellowship! Please join us!

Youth Sunday will occur on Sunday Feb. 12th! Our JOY Youth will prepare, participate, and lead worship on this Sunday. For more details see our JOY Page.



HERITAGE SUNDAY CELEBRATION – FEBRUARY 26

This year’s theme is entitled- *Traditions of Home and Hearth*. Please sign up outside our C.E. Office or submit the ticket below to let us know in what way you can participate. We need people to present simple displays of their own traditions ranging from hobbies, ceremonies, collections, etc. Of course we would like to have a refreshment table filled with people’s favorite recipes! It just would not be a Presbyterian Event without food and refreshments! **You know who you are- we look forward to those fabulous goodies!!!!**

YES – I will participate in Heritage Sunday by...		
Name:	Table Space, Copies Made?, Display Sign, Electricity, etc.	Food Contribution

Singers from our church include
 Mark & Laurie Maginn
 Sandy Taylor
 Faith Merrill
 Ginny Semp
 John Nethaway
 Jim & Pam Henderson
 Sam & Cynthia Pendergrast
 Tom McGibbon

Oneida Area Civic Chorale with Chamber Orchestra

PRESENTS...
HAYDN'S LORD NELSON MASS

KIMBERLY NETHAWAY, DIRECTOR
 SOLOISTS:
 JANET BROWN, SOPRANO
 CAROLYN WEBER, MEZZO-SOPRANO
 JONATHAN ENGLISH, TENOR
 ERIC JOHNSON, BASS

Sunday, March 11, 2012
 4:00 PM
 St. Agatha's Church
 329 North Peterboro Street
 Canastota

DONATION: \$10

Tickets available from Chorale Members
 WJ Hinman Jewelers, 115 Main Street, Oneida
 or call 697-3377

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Sometimes the roadblocks in life can become detours to a safer, more peaceful, and happier journey. Of course when first experiencing 'blockages', we don't always see them as opportunities. I have known many people who have lost a job only to gain a better one eventually or to gain much needed time for family matters in between jobs. Also, I've seen illness completely transform people from busy career focused machines to more human, heart-focused vessels.

Often while traveling, I've met people who live very simply without much material status, fame, or fortune. They are almost always supremely and genuinely happy.

Yet here, in America we people who seem 'to have it all' are often very unhappy and puzzled by our condition. When a minor setback occurs, it can seem like major life catastrophe. In light of this, a real catastrophe can be devastating.

So I've wondered especially lately, how it is that some people have a 'state of being' unaffected by their circumstances while others do not. Perhaps it is a shift in priorities that lines us up for a faithful vision and more real happiness in the fabric of our days. Of course the fact that we don't take this life journey alone also provides for better feelings, support, and strength regardless of outcomes.

While we may never understand this paradox, one thing is certain; we can look at life's challenges differently. We can welcome the roadblocks along our way as possible interesting detours and we can believe that God gives us all the experiences, lessons, tools, and the support of one another necessary for our unique journey. Much love to all of you who make a difference in my life and in the lives of so many. As my family members and I face this unavoidable detour in our present moment, we are sustained, encouraged, and supported by all your love, prayers, and generosity. We experience hope and happiness as a steady diet surrounded by our Church Family and friends who BELIEVE.

With Heartfelt Thanks, Diana

Retrouvaille - Rebuilding Hurting Marriages - March 2-4 at The Good News Center, Utica; This weekend experience helps couples find a new way of looking at themselves and one another; Friday evening to Sunday afternoon; overnight accommodations and meals included. For confidential inquiries contact Andrea/Program Coordinator at 315-735-6210 x228, andrea@thegoodnewscenter.org

JOY NEWS

February 12 is Youth Sunday. The JOY group will lead worship, the upper elementary Church School class will lead the children's sermon and the combined teen and youth choir will sing. Join us in celebration of the youth of our church!

In December, JOY received a letter from Church World Service thanking us for the contribution of \$295 to be used around the world for processing and shipping. This was the balance of the money from our 2011 waffle breakfast, sent after we helped pay for shipping of the school kits the Mission Committee put together in the fall. Thank you for your support!

JOY plans during mid-winter break:

- Friday, February 17 Overnight and serve at Rescue Mission – Meet at the church at 4:15 to travel together to the Rescue Mission. We'll leave on Saturday morning at 10:00.
- We will hold our Waffle Breakfast on Sunday, February 19. We'll meet at the church at 7:30 to get the room set up and test out the waffles before people arrive

Third Annual JOY Waffle Breakfast

On Sunday, February 19 the JOY group will hold a Waffle Breakfast. We'll be in the dining room serving freshly baked waffles – with real maple syrup – from 8:30 – 10:00. We also will have gluten-free pancakes available. Proceeds from the breakfast will go to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. We are supporting Claire Kondella as the teen ambassador for our area Diabetes Walk 2012. Join us for good food and fellowship!

Alternative Spring Break at Vanderkamp

Working with King of Kings in Liverpool, we are offering a chance for 9th-12th graders to come out from April 10th-13th for an Alternative Spring Break experience. The first night, we'll get to know each other and learn about the work ahead of us. On the 11th and 12th we'll be in Schoharie County helping rebuild and clean up the incredible infrastructure damage that happened there during the flooding last year; return on the night of the 12th for reflection, and head home on the 13th.

The cost is just \$75 per person for 4 days and 3 nights, everything included. We would love it if you would join us for this time to help our neighbors in need. Please share this flyer and news with your congregations, friends, or any interested high school aged child who might want to spend part of their spring break giving back. All details can be found at <http://www.vk.org>

LIBRARY NEWS FROM BARB

As you may or may not know, I was gone for 6 weeks over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. We were visiting our daughters in Maryland and Virginia. During that time Bev Johnson graciously agreed to keep track of all the books either checked-out or returned. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank her for a job well done. I really appreciated it.

By the time you read this, the January Book Read will have already happened. I hope it was a success and that many of you discovered books in our collection that you would never have dreamed were there. Our goal these past few years has been to make the library not only organizationally correct but to remind you of the diverse subjects found on our shelves. If you have a problem finding a book on a particular subject (all those books can be a little intimidating), I have a copy of a spreadsheet detailing the title, author and subject of all the non-fiction books that I would be happy to share with you upon request.

February is the LOVE month. Love takes many shapes and forms. Our display case and the table outside the library will be filled with books about love. There will be fiction and non-fiction. Hopefully you will find one that suits you.

We don't have too many new books with my being gone, Diana being out and the hub-bub of the holidays. I did find a Nicholas Sparks book among my daughter's books that I claimed for the library for those of you who are Sparks' fans. Title – "The Rescue". There are also some new fiction books on the On Your Honor shelf. Help yourself! It's hard to tell if that project is a success since we don't keep track of books taken out. But I do find quite a few books being returned with the On Your Honor stickers so I guess it's being used.

It's good to be home again. I attended a Presbyterian church in Potomac, MD and was surprised to find the service was very similar to ours. It was a beautiful church and the people were very friendly - but, guess what! I didn't know anybody. What a difference that makes! It's the people in the church that makes it your "church home".

"Book lovers will understand that the pleasure of a library lies in its very existence" (paraphrased from Jan Morris quotes)

Please remember our Church in your will.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The PW Coordinating Team did not meet in January, but the final numbers for the year as far as income and what we have spent on Missions will be in the Annual Meeting Report booklet. With the help of the entire congregation, men and women, Rome Presbyterian Women have had a very successful year and have been able to help many people. No one has suggested that we should give out the PW Mission envelopes for individual giving, so we will continue to raise money as a group, so that non-circle members will feel very much included. The Coordinating Team wants MISSION emphasized, and the financial report will show this. However, there are many behind the scenes examples of mission giving by those who do it on a regular basis without being prompted. THANK YOU.

The Coordinating Team will meet the second Monday of the month, February 13th at eleven in the Parlor. Please make sure you are able to attend. Evening Circle meets on Tuesday, Feb 21 at 7:30pm in the home of Liz Reyes (210 Croton St). Day Circle TBA in March.

On February 8th, there will be a PW Utica Presbytery meeting at Westminster church in Utica at ten, with a request to bring a covered dish and your table ware. In the case of a storm canceling the meeting, the host church is not left with food and no ladies. It will be over at two.

Activity is still going on to have some items available for sale at the Heritage Sunday celebration downstairs. There are always baby items which can be purchased at any time. Contact the church office and Kari will direct you to the right person. If you stop by the church on a Tuesday or Thursday morning, someone can help you then.

We need IDEAS. If you have found an item you like at another craft show or want an old item made again, please let Barb Steagall, Bev Johnson, Robin Reed or Mary Grow know. New ideas are needed and we welcome your input. Card table covers have been requested as well as plastic bag holders.

A great deal of emphasis nationally is being placed on involving younger women in PW. We do not mean to ignore the busy ladies in our congregation, but when you are able to be involved in an evening circle or daytime circle, you would be welcomed with open arms. In Rome, we do not feel you have to be a joiner to be a PW member. You contribute so much, but if you feel there is a need to be more deliberate in our encouraging women to join, please let Mary Grow know. It is never our intention to be exclusive. The fellowship of a circle has many rewards.

NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

- ♥ We'd like to thank everyone who purchased a poinsettia or delicious items from Tastefully Simple; we raised \$446 and \$500 respectively.
- ♥ February is our Healthy Heart & Dental month and we're hoping to visit a local dentist
- ♥ Niagara Chocolate Fundraiser has begun! Please order delicious holiday treats by Feb 14 – No Tax – Order Packets in parlor hallway – check payable to The Nursery School, please
- ♥ Registration for our September classes has begun! Spread the word!

MUSIC NOTES

Senior Choir Rehearsal: Feb 1, 8, 22 and 29 - No rehearsal on Feb. 15!

Combined Children's and Youth Choir

- ♪ Rehearse Sun. Feb 5 at Noon
- ♪ Sing in Worship Sun. Feb. 12th; No rehearsals

New Choir Schedules for Youth

- ♪ Sun. Feb 19 and 26th:
 - 11 AM: Children's Choir for Grades 6 and under
 - Noon: Tone Chimes for Grades 3-7
 - Noon: High School Singers rehearse

CHURCH OFFICER NEWS

The new Elders, Deacons and Trustees who were elected at the Annual Meeting on January 29 will begin their work this month. The new elders and deacons will be ordained and/or installed in worship on February 5.

First meetings:

- Session February 2
- Deacons February 9
- Trustees February 14

Training for elders and deacons will be Saturday, February 4 and 11 from 10-12 in the Parlor.

ADDITIONAL DEACON NEEDED
Please Contact Sam or Muffy to Volunteer
All Term Lengths Welcome

MORE CHURCH & COMMUNITY NEWS

- ✚ **Our Fellowship Committee** meets again on Monday, Feb 6 at 5pm in our parlor – Thanks for all you do including the awesome Cookie Exchange at Christmastime ☺
- ✚ We'll host **Sunday Worship at The Terrace** at Woodlawn throughout the month of February. The service begins at 2:30pm and all are welcome.
- ✚ Please support **Zak Taylor and his 12U Travel Baseball Team** (the Rome River Rats) as they travel to the Albany area and Cooperstown Dream Park by eating at Wendy's on Tuesday, Feb 28th. Wendy's will donate 10% of the proceeds from both dine-in and drive-thru on those nights from 5-8pm. Zak, his team, coaches, and his parents thank you for helping!
- ✚ The first phase of our **new phone system** is in place. It's awesome and there are many new features that will be beneficial to us all! Please bear with us through the learning curve.
- ✚ I am looking for some help getting **Joanna Koch to and from worship** on Sunday mornings in February. It involves picking her up between 9:00-9:30, putting her in the car and her wheelchair in the trunk, driving to church and then moving her from the car to the wheelchair and into the church.

Returning her to Stonehedge involves the same steps in reverse order following coffee time, so she is there for lunch at 12:15. The most difficult part is helping her on with her coat, and a nurse or aide will help with that if you ask. She is accustomed to one person picking her up and another taking her home, so you could volunteer for one "leg" of the transport. Please call me at 339-0785 to let me know when you can help. Thank you! -Cynthia

COMMUNITY MEAL & WORSHIP FOR LENT

The Rome Clergy are planning an ecumenical series of worship services for the Sundays in Lent. On Sundays at 5:00 PM, from February 26 through April 1, we will gather a different church each week for a potluck supper, scripture, sharing and prayer around the tables. The clergy will set a schedule of meeting places. Watch for this in church bulletins and newsletters and the community calendar.



A PERSONAL INVITATION TO EXPERIENCE PRESWICK GLEN & PRESBYTERIAN HOME REHABILITATION CENTER

If you have not visited Preswick Glen, we are extending an invitation for you to see what everyone is talking about. We will provide a personal tour of our spacious one and two bedroom apartments along with our two bedroom cottages. You will have the opportunity to discover what retirement living is all about as you walk through our community center and view our cozy fire-placed library, extensive exercise room, inviting card room, bright and cheery activities center, our elegant Glen Ivy Restaurant, and popular lunch meeting place, The Bistro.



We will then take you to experience Presbyterian Home's highly rated Rehabilitation Center which services all age groups. Our Rehab Center offers in-patient and out-patient services as well as a popular heated therapy pool. The Presbyterian Home also provides low cost membership to its Wellness Center with high end sports equipment that will certainly keep you well-toned and in tip top shape.

We are lucky to have many outstanding services in this area and it is to your benefit to take a moment and see what is available at Preswick Glen and the Presbyterian Homes.

To arrange a tour, please contact Cindy Dardano or Jim Nolan at Preswick Glen at 734-9586 and we will arrange a personalized tour for you or a group.

LEARN AND SERVE BUS TRIP • CWS

Our next trip to work in the New Windsor service center preparing Kits for shipment will be May 21-25, 2012. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn the next step in the Kit process. This trip offers a hands-on experience volunteering at the SERRV International Gift Shop Warehouse and the Service Center in New Windsor, where the Church World Service Blankets and Kits (Hygiene, School, Emergency Clean-up Buckets & Baby Care) are collected, packed, and shipped for use around the world, including the U.S.

For more information or a brochure contact Amy at amanning@churchworldservice.org or 315-458-8535. Although registration and deposits aren't due until March please notify her as soon as possible if you plan on attending.

PRESBYTERIAN SCHOLARSHIP

Presbyterian Scholarship, Monmouth College, Monmouth, IL: The Presbyterian Scholarship awards students who are interested in connecting their faith to an education at Monmouth College. Two Presbyterian students per state are eligible for a \$5,000 scholarship. These scholarships are renewable for up to three additional years. To assist in awarding these deserving students, please nominate them at www.monmouthcollege.edu/scholarships.

Application forms are also available at the Presbytery of Utica office and they are due by January 13, 2012. Additional information is available by calling Monmouth College toll free 800-747-2687

CIRCLE OF JOY

The Circle of Joy, a non-denominational service designed for people with challenges and developmental disabilities, will be held at First Presbyterian Church, 1605 Genesee Street, Utica, in Fellowship Hall on Monday, January 9th & February 13th, at 6:30 p.m. Service begins at 6:30 p.m.

Refreshments will be served at 7 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to bring a friend. The Circle of Joy is a monthly program, held on the second Monday of the month, unless this is a holiday. Wheelchair accessible. For information, call Betty or Kay, 315-732-5111

HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Hospice and Palliative Care Inc. needs volunteers to work with patients and families in your own area, participate in bereavement support activities, help in the Siegenthaler Center and assist in the office. Spring Hospice Training Dates: Thursdays, Apr 12-May 10 in New Hartford, 6:15pm to 9:15pm. Pre-registration and interview required by March 23. Contact Kate Doran at 735-6487 or visit www.hospicecareinc.org

Our Bell Choir joined Oneida Chorale for a Christmas Concert in December



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>FEB 2012</h1>			1 4:20pm Welcome Hall Serve 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Senior Choir	2 10am Crafty Ladies 3:00 Bible Study 7pm Session 7pm Scouts Roundtable	3	4 10am Officer Training Rome Heart Run & Walk at RFA
5 Holy Communion 10AM Worship Coffee Break Fair Trade Sales Church School Noon Combined Choir Sacred Dance at 12:15 Worship Woodlawn 2:30pm	6 5pm Fellowship meets 7pm AA	7 10am Prayer Shawl 7pm Serenity Circle 7:30p NA	8 PW Presbytery Meeting in Utica 4:20pm Welcome Hall Serve 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Senior Choir	9 WP Group 10am Crafty Ladies 3pm Bible Study 7pm Deacons Parlor	10 10am Mom's Club 7pm Alaska Travel & Dessert Night	11 10am Officer Training
12 Youth Sunday 10AM Worship Coffee Break Church School Sacred Dance Worship Woodlawn 2:30pm	13 11am PW in parlor 7pm AA	14 Nursery School Niagara Chocolate Deadline Happy Valentine's Day 10am Prayer Shawl 7pm Serenity Circle 7pm Trustees 7:30p NA	15 4:20pm Welcome Hall Serve	16 10am Crafty Ladies 3pm Bible Study 7pm CE meets 7pm Mission meets	17 Joy Overnight & Rescue Mission Serve	18 10am JOY Overnight concludes
19 Waffle Breakfast Rescue Mission Collection 10AM Worship Children's Choir Coffee Break Church School Noon Tone Chimes / High School Singers 12:15 Sacred Dance Tyler Boyd Benefit Worship Woodlawn 2:30pm	20 President's Day Office Closed 7pm AA	21 <i>Copperspire deadline</i> 10am Prayer Shawl 7pm Serenity Circle 7:30pm Evening Circle at the of Liz Reyes (210 Croton St) 7:30p NA	22 Ash Wednesday 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Service in Chapel 7:30 pm Senior Choir	23 WP Group 10am Crafty Ladies 3pm Bible Study 7pm Mission Parlor	The Haircut A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and inquired of his father when they could discuss his use of the car. His father said he'd make a deal with his son, "You bring your grades up from an C to a B average, study your Bible a little, and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk about the car." The boy thought about that for a moment, decided he'd settle for the offer, and they agreed on it. After about six weeks his father said, "Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed you haven't had your hair cut." The boy said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair, and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair.." You're going to love the Dad's reply... "Did you also notice they all walked everywhere they went?" <i>Thanks Keith Butters</i>	
26 Heritage Sunday 10AM Worship Dlugolecki Baptism Children's Choir Coffee Break & Celebration in Dining Hall Noon Tone Chimes / High School Singers 12:15 Sacred Dance Worship Woodlawn 2:30pm 5pm Community Lenten Worship	27 7pm AA	28 10am Prayer Shawl 5pm Wendy's Night for Rome River Rats 7pm Serenity Circle 7pm Worship & Music 7:30p NA	29 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Senior Choir			