

June 2022

News From the Interim

In John 21:17, Jesus tells Simon Peter, one of the apostles, "Feed my sheep."

On April 24, 2022, twelve members of the Park Presbyterian Church took part in an Asset Mapping exercise. It proved to be a lot of fun. When the participants were asked what they liked about the exercise, the responses included the ability to talk and share with one another and the creativity of thinking outside of the box. What came out of the asset mapping session? First, an appreciation for Park Presbyterian's people assets. An organization's people assets are often overlooked. As I expressed in the April Newsletter, sometimes we get bogged down and start thinking scarcity where there is abundance! Park Presbyterian has lots of gifted and talented volunteers as well as paid staff. This is Christ's abundance in action. The second thing that came from the asset mapping exercise was the appreciation of the kitchen as a usable mission asset. Excitement was generated as the group considered ways the kitchen might be used in conjunction with other community assets like the Newark Food Closet to promote healthy nourishment. What if there were cooking classes? How might Park involve other community assets such as area churches, the Boys Scouts, and students needing capstone hours? How might this connect with Family Promise? When I was talking with a close friend of mine about the exercise and what had transpired, her brain started working. She made a couple of interesting suggestions related to the Newark Food Closet as a community asset. She suggested gathering items that the Food Closet has into a meal in a box with directions of how to prepare a meal from what is in the box-like those meals that come in a box and have all the ingredients and you put them together in a short period of time. A demonstration might happen in the kitchen. Another idea was to have a competition of creative dinners using different items from the Food Closet. Might there be a VBS related to healthy food preparation and sharing? The action title that emerged from the asset mapping exercise was, "Christ's Nourishment." Christ nourishes us in so many ways-not just with food. This heading seemed appropriate for both the appreciation of people assets as well as cooking classes. How does Park Presbyterian

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June Birthdays



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Church “nourish” its people? How does Park Presbyterian Church “nourish” its community. What are the implications and where will this lead? Is this one “bridge” to the Third Century for Park Presbyterian? The excitement and enthusiasm generated from this exercise was wonderful to see. Let’s keep the momentum going! As Jesus said, “Feed my sheep.”

Acts 6:1 says,

“Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food.”

My interim mentor recently shared with me nine common sources of conflict in churches. (They are posted in the front entrance hallway on the bulletin board) You see, all churches have conflict. And conflict is not new. It has been going on since the church began. Sometimes I wonder why Jesus left his church in human hands. No one church can ever be perfect because each church is made up of humans each of whom makes mistakes. That is why Jesus teaches about forgiveness. That is what grace, God’s grace, is all about. It is what unifies us as human beings. The letter of I Corinthians deals with how the church managed conflict poorly. Paul writes the letter to clarify his instruction to a fledgling church and to urge immediate and drastic action that must be taken to solve the problems in conduct within the church. Paul’s letter to the Galatians deals with another type of conflict-that of values and beliefs. People disagreed about whether the new Gentile converts needed to be circumcised or not; this was a Jewish custom, not a Christian custom. That is what Paul points out. Others deny his apostleship (leadership) and thus his decision concerning circumcision. Even as the number of disciples was first increasing in the Book of Acts, the Grecian Jews complained against the Hebraic Jews because they believed their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.

Conflict is not necessarily bad. It is how you deal with conflict that is important. In the book of Acts, the original apostles could not do it all. The structure no longer fit the “congregation’s size.” In this case, they needed to increase help and called in seven leaders to do the job and to free up the apostles for the work they needed to do. So, how we manage conflict is important. I am asking the session members to take the Kraybill Conflict Style Inventory. Kraybill talks about conflict using agenda and relationships. According to Kraybill, there are five conflict styles: directive, cooperation, compromising, harmonizing, and avoidance. Directive is low on relationship but high on one’s own agenda. “This is the way we are going to do this because I say so...” It has good and bad components. When there is a fire in the building and you are directing people how to get out fast...you do not worry about relationships, you worry about your agenda or objective of getting everyone out fast. Directive can be bad when it is used

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Keegan Ehle

Cooper Ehle

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Aaron Frederick

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Judy Leone

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Susie Earl

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Eleanor Brennessel

Quinn Ehle

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Diane Allerton

12

Heather Appleby

13

Berk Burgess

Everett Cole

18

Christopher Mergener

20

Anthony Humphrey

21

Bonnie Hammond

Ellie Conklin

Kathy Short

22

Cali Cree Tanea

28

Bob Tack

30

Mary Guchone

Brendan Briggs

McKenna Briggs



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to get one's way without consideration for others or their thoughts and feelings. Cooperation is high on agenda and high on relationships. You get two parties to sit down and talk things through. There is no compromising or giving something up. Both parties "cooperate" with each other to produce a solution where everyone benefits. The problem is that it takes time to do this and may not be the style that can be used every time especially if an issue is time sensitive. A Compromiser (and this is what I am) is medium on relationships and agenda. At first, this surprised me as I thought compromising was a good thing. It can be. What concerned me was the realization that agendas as well as relationships can suffer. That is why Kraybill suggests that we all will have one style we favor, but we should learn each of the others and how to use them in different situations. Harmonizing is high on relationships and low on one's own agenda. A harmonizer puts relationships over agenda. This can be bad, because eventually, the harmonizer gets fed up with giving up their agenda for others. An Avoider has a low agenda and low relationship. This can be good if the conflict is such that to get involved would only make it worse. It can also be bad, because often the person leaves with no resolution.

What is interesting about Kraybill's style inventory is that he considers the two different conflict styles we use in what he calls "calm" and the style used in "storm." Calm is as you can guess...when you are calm, and storm is when things get heated. Did you know that your conflict style can change depending on the "heatedness" of the argument? Yep! After the session members have taken the style inventory, I hope to have a small groups congregational discussion where the rest of you will be able to figure out your styles with the ruling elders guiding and answering questions based on what they have learned about themselves. Stay tuned!

1 Thessalonians 1:2-3 says:

"We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ."

Three ideas emerge from this reading about the Thessalonian congregation. The apostle Paul points out their works of faith, their labors of love, and their hopeful steadfastness. We too are looking at Park Presbyterian Church's works of faith, labors of love, and your hopeful steadfastness as we build a bridge to the Third Century here in Newark, New York. We started this process with the congregational discussions held on February 17, March 6, March 20, and March 27. These Congregational Discussions will continue starting May 1,

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2022 Session MEMBERS

Clerk of Session:

Cari Taylor

Steve Mitchell

Natalie Lemmon

Dale Groover

Anne Rogers

Rick Bald

Karen Cameron

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May 22, and May 29. (May 8th is Mother's Day and May 15th is a Worship and Music Meeting) At the May 1st discussion, we will be looking at all the information we have collected thus far and look for overarching themes. The congregation has been good at giving me information. I gathered other information from annual congregational meetings. I may have left information out...I apologize and do not want anyone's feelings hurt if I missed or overlooked information that I tried to type up and send out after the discussions. I tried to fill in gaps where I could find information, but I also make mistakes! Forgiveness please! The original sheets are a mess, and information I typed up is too much. I will attempt to take each time period we covered and put information there related to community, demographics, church programming, leadership, and other information that you can then look at to see if there are themes that seem to emerge from the material. These themes may coincide with the Core Value Survey information. I will share this information with you at the May 1st discussion. We may overlay the two to see what comes out. All of this is designed to tell you about yourself-to answer the question "Who are we?"

Pastor Susan Frost

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9-4

Please call 315-331-2255 to make any appointments

Email: interimpastorsfrost2@gmail.com

As I ended my last letter, I do again. Things are happening at Park Presbyterian Church. Thanks be to the Lord who has plans for our welfare and not for harm, to give us, Park Presbyterian Church a future with hope. (Jeremiah 29:11)

In Christ, Rev. Susan



COMMON THREADS

Common Threads volunteers got together on Saturday April 9th and put together eleven new clothing racks! The new racks, made possible by a recent fundraiser by the Newark Middle School Musicians, have shelving so they no longer have bins on the floor! The space looks much more open and clean. They continue to be open on the first and third Saturday of the month.



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Family Promise:

Our second week of support for the Family Promise families is coming up May 8. The Newark Community Group will provide a meal for the Monday fellowship dinner as well as needed basic groceries for the families without SNAP benefits. It is such a wonderful group. Members from the Methodist Church, the Baptist Church, the Woodlane Church, Rotary, and Park Presbyterian meet. They decide on a menu, take the needs back to their churches for volunteer help and come together to make it happen. This time Natalie is making her delicious spaghetti pie and Paul is providing applesauce and paper goods. Anne collects the dinner dishes, coordinates the shopping, and provides transportation for the families to come to the Day Center for the dinner. It is a blessed experience to host the dinners and have a meal together. Our next rotation weeks will be in the Fall.

Newark Food Closet

The food closet is now open to All of Wayne County residents. Before they were only able to serve the 14513-zip code but with the generous help of donations they can take this step to help everyone without residential limitations. Also, they have opened a baby closet where families can come in with proper identification to get diapers, wipes, and baby food (no clothes). All paperwork needed for either one of these services remains as anyone in the household over 19 needs proof of residency and any person picking up food needs an I.D. They also need proof of children under the age of 18; it can be an insurance card, school ID, birth certificate, etc. Lisa Barrett wants to say THANK YOU for your continuous support to our community pantry. Without your help whether it be donating food items or monetary donations this would not be possible.

Presbytery of Geneva News:

Camp Whitman Spring Clean-Up Day is May 14th from 9:30-3:30. Lunch provided with RSVP.

Special called meeting of the presbytery on April 26, 2022, to examine and approve the Rev. Marjorie Ackerman (Northern Plain Presbytery) for membership in the Presbytery of Geneva and to elect and commission the Rev. Marjorie Ackerman to serve a three-year term as the Presbytery Leader of the presbytery of Geneva, beginning May 1, 2022.

Next Presbytery Meeting is May 24, 2022. Ruling Elder Anne Rogers is our designated Presbytery Delegate for the rest of 2022. Thank you, Anne!

2022 Deacons

Gil Burgess

Holly Burgess

Sue Rowe

Joan Boerman

Scott Briggs

Eileen Taylor

Virginia Bodine

Special Offerings

Pentecost Offering: June 5th is Pentecost Sunday.

On June 5, 2022, Park Presbyterian Church be collecting/blessing the special Pentecost Offering.

40% of this offering remains with our congregation to support ministries with children and youth in our church and local community.

25% of this offering goes to Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) experience. Past gifts have helped train and equip volunteers to engage in mission at 13 sites in the U.S. and around the world, have reduced barriers to serve by providing assistance with student loan debts, medical insurance, and a simple living stipend, and provided additional funding to ensure all young adults have the opportunity to participate, and have provided for retreats, orientation events, and counseling to help YAV's discern God's call.

25% supports ministries with youth, ages 12-18, and those called to accompany them. Past gifts to this Offering have help to fund The Senior Project-a project that offers a path and plan for graduating seniors to explore their next steps in faith, community, and vocation. It has also gone to support the many platforms offered as a part of the Presbyterian Youth Triennium, enabled the office of Ministries with Youth to serve the denomination by providing free, low cost/no cost, digital resources, consultation, and connection. And provided partnership funding for the daily digital devotion a www.d365.org as well as a new book of d365 devotions.

10% supports the "Educate a Child, Transform the World national initiative, which was affirmed at the 221st General Assembly (2014). The goal of this initiative is to motivate and inspire Presbyterians to better the lives of children by joining in God's ongoing transformation of the world by working and advocating to ensure equitable, accessible, quality public education so that all children, created in the image of God, may grow into the fullness of life.

Ukrainian Relief:

\$1000.00 dollars was collected/blessed and sent to Presbyterian Disaster for aide for the refugees

The PW prepared 12 Hygiene Kits for Church World Service (CWS) and delivered to the Canandaigua United Church the week of April 25th

One Great Hour of Sharing:

\$371.00 was collected/blessed on Palm Sunday

PRAYERS:

We offer our prayers through Christ, who is risen from the dead, who lives and reigns forever, and prays for us in heaven.

Through Christ, we pray for the church. Let us be people of joy, living witnesses to the power of the resurrection and the good news of your grace and peace.

The church faces struggles from within and from without. Give us, your people, the courage to face tomorrow and to continue to be ambassadors for you to a world in much need. Help us to love where others dare to go.

Living God, **hear our prayer.**

Through Christ, we pray for the earth. From the dust of the damaged earth, raise up your new creation, full of beauty, wonder, and glory. Lord, we have taken your earth for granted. We think only of our own needs and fail to see the connection we have to the earth and to all living things. Lord, give us the wisdom to understand and to be a part of the renewal of the land.

Living God, **hear our prayer.**

Through Christ, we pray for your shalom-for wholeness, healing, and peace- for all nations of the world. Today, we pray for peace for those countries experiencing war, civil war, terrorist insurgencies, and drug wars and for the peoples most affected. We give thanks for the ways your Holy Spirit has already intervened. Still, we ask for help and aid for those countries housing refugees from surrounding nations taking in thousands of refugees fleeing the war in Ukraine. We pray for those working in the midst of chaos to bring needed medicines and medical supplies and other urgent necessities. We pray for all those who have lost loved ones, homes, and roots. In your mercy, we pray for reconciliation and restoration of the peoples. We also pray for the people of Beijing and the newest outbreak of Covid. Be with them and restore health to this area of the world. As the world strives to find life in the midst of death, direct us Lord and help us to keep our eyes focused on you. Come, Lord Jesus. You are our hope.

Living God, **hear our prayer.**

Through Christ, we pray for this community. Let the doors of this church be open wide as we go forth in love and service; may others who come in to find a home. We invite your Holy Spirit into our hearts as we seek to serve the needs of this community with the love of Jesus in our hearts. Guide us, Lord, as we open ourselves to you and to your will for Newark, NY, in this time and place.

Living God, **hear our prayer.**

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Through Christ, we pray for loved ones.

Let us pray for wholeness, healing, and peace for all who suffer, are in need, face surgeries or times of uncertainty, or who wait for results and/or on-going tests. From our own congregation, we lift in prayer to you, O God, the names of: Aaron, Bethany, Dom, ET, James, Glen, Todd, Richard, William, Jaime, Zoe, David Papineau, Derek Rose, Rev. Tim Johnson, Florence Chapin, Jim Peck, Douglas Groover, Charlie Matias and Joan's neighbor, John.

Let us pray for courage and strength to face each day for all those in need of care and for their caregivers. We lift in prayer to you, O God, the names of: Bonnie and Thurlow, Ed and Cheryl, Kay and Dale, Jeanne and Paul, Barb, Eileen B., Betty C., Thelma, and Jim and Anne Peck.

Let us pray for peace, compassion, and strength for tomorrow for all who mourn the loss of loved ones-families and friends. In prayer, we continue to lift up the families of: Lee Prong, Lynn Donelson, Vern Coleman, Suzanna Bliek Stresing, Rev. John Watkins, The Johnson and South families, Dorothy Ehrhardt, and Melody Neely.

Living God, **hear our prayer.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name, the kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is kingdom and glory forever. **AMEN**

Rummage THANKS!

The PW, and especially Natalie, would like to give a special thanks to all of the amazing volunteers for setting up the sale and making sure it runs smoothly and also to all those who donated goods for the sale.

Thanks!

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR May

Get a head start on contemplating God's Word for the month of May.

May1: Ps. 90: 13-17; John 21: 1-19 "Feed My Sheep"

May 8: Proverbs 31: 10-31; Acts 9: 36-43 "Faithful Women"

May 15: Acts 11: 1-18; Lev. 19: 9-18; John 13: 31-35

May 22: PW Women

May 29: Psalm 97: John 17: 20-26

June 2022

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

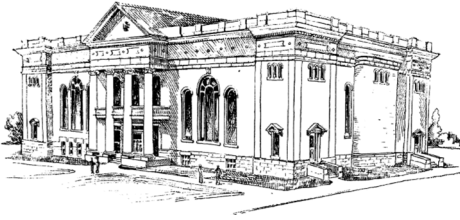
FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

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Newark, NY 14513

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JUNE 2022

***“Our mission is to make
Christ visible
by believing, living and
sharing the word of God.”***

***“Our vision is to be God’s
light – a beacon of love, in-
teraction, and guidance in
Faith and comfort. “***



Be sure to check out our Facebook page for a way to see the Sunday Services.

Facebook is at: [www.facebook.com/parkchurch110\](https://www.facebook.com/parkchurch110/)

(Be sure to like and follow to get notifications when we go live.)

Find us on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-PmjX998CQTaJ3EEkSpl6w>

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