



The Good News

February 2020

For the members and friends of the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsford

MUSINGS FROM REV. JIM

Stakeholder

At the beginning of Temporary Supply Pastor work at a church in Irondequoit last year, a member of session brought to a meeting a letter from the West Irondequoit School Board sent to all residents of the school district. The letter was announcing the search for a new school superintendent. I read the letter and noticed that several paragraphs identified “stakeholders” in the search process. “Stakeholder” was a word the Rochester Psychiatric Center, my former employer, also used when it corralled staff to work on a hospital mission statement.

The term stakeholder, in my experience then, had been used twice in two different organizations. I began to think that perhaps this is a “new word” in organizational theory. So I decided to ask the same question organizations were asking themselves of the church, “who are the *stakeholders* in the church?” To simplify, I decided to change the question from plural, “stakeholders” to singular, “stakeholder.” Who is the most important stakeholder in the church?

I asked session at the beginning of my tenure, a few times during my tenure, and at the very last day of my tenure with the congregation, actually, from the pulpit hoping someone would shout out the answer. My pedagogy must have been poor because no one remembered.

I still think it a very good question because it simplifies ministry and mission, and also efforts to organize for these tasks. I will not tell you who I think is the main stakeholder in the church, but will tell you if you ask me in person, or face to face, and we will go from there. Maybe we can secretly share the answer.

Focus

Around 2008 or '09, I began playing pickup basketball with folks from work. There were several good players, much taller and bigger than me, but it was a challenge, fun, and full court. I found that to make baskets required 100% of one's consciousness at the moment of shooting on the front of the rim of the basket. On one occasion I was passed the ball close to the basket, faked right, spun left around my opponent and made a short layup. The clinical director of the hospital enthusiastically praised me. That little skill had everything to do with draining your consciousness of everything at that moment except the move and shot you were making. I was so pleased and thought maybe I have a future in basketball. I saw it again in the eyes of Drew Brees, Saints QB in a touchdown pass he threw against the Vikings. The look in his eye was inspiration, almost scary.

Stakeholder and Focus

Our ministry in the church is simplified when we identify the mission's main stakeholder, and then find some skill in giving this our full, undistracted attention. Both of these are most fundamental in our life in Christ. Well executed fundamentals always wins! You can email me your answer at jcw@pittsfordpres.org. Add some texts of scripture if you can that support your answer.

~ Jim

Lectionary for February

February 2

**4th Sunday after
Epiphany**

Micah 6:1–8

Psalms 15

1 Corinthians 1:18–
31

Matthew 5:1–12

February 9

**5th Sunday after
Epiphany**

Isaiah 58:1–9a [9b–12]

Psalms 112:1–9 [10]

1 Corinthians 2:1–12
[13–16]

Matthew 5:13–20

February 16

**6th Sunday after
Epiphany**

Deuteronomy 30:15–20
or Sirach 15:15–20

Psalms 119:1–8

1 Corinthians 3:1–9

Matthew 5:21–37

February 23

**Transfiguration of
the Lord**

Exodus 24:12–18

Psalms 2 or Psalms 99

2 Peter 1:16–21

Matthew 17:1–9

February 26

Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1–2, 12–17 or

Isaiah 58:1–12

Psalms 51:1–17

2 Corinthians 5:20b–
6:10

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

Join Us to Complete Our Habitat House!

We still need volunteers to finish our Habitat House build. We have heat in the house and all the drywall is finished. Work needs to be done, such as painting, trim, flooring, shelving, etc., to finish the interior. Just three hours of your time will be a big help! You can volunteer for mornings 9-12 or all day. Remember, no skills or tools are needed! Our supervisor will show you how to do what work needs to be done.

Please consider volunteering on a church project that is right here in Rochester serving those of lesser means, who put in their sweat equity, to own a home. Just think, you don't have to drive more than 10-15 miles, you don't have to get on a plane to fly to Africa.... you can volunteer right here where the need is great!

The website for registration and volunteering is at Rochesterhabitat.org. Scroll down to the icon for HIP (Habitat Interfaith Partnership) and open the icon. This will give you dates to choose and hours to volunteer. Pick your date(s) and it will prompt you for the information to register. If you should have any difficulty, please email Dianne Brown at dibrown@rochester.rr.com. Thank you for volunteering to be a part of this mission work right here at home!

Needle Nellies

Needle Nellies will meet Tuesday, January 28, 11 am–1:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Happy New Year to everybody!
Kay Saxum (385.9807)



Cameron

Talk with any of us about what helping for just three hours at Cameron's hot lunch program means to us, the staff, and patrons. You can do one time or as many as you want. We meet there or can give you a ride on the 4th Friday of the month, 10 am–1 pm. Cindy Becker 575-703-4878 cindyleebecker74@gmail.com

Special thanks to the donors of the seven pies from the Habitat sale—a happy, delicious surprise!

Request from FPC RAIHN

The hospitality group for RAIHN could really use more hand towels, washable blankets, and pillowcases to make our guests comfortable. Gently used items are OK too. We also need plastic containers with tops for leftovers. Donations may be put in a labeled cardboard box in the coat room just off the top of the ramp in the foyer.

happy birthday to you!

Members with February Birthdays

Amy Adams	James Kearney
Aidan Bachmann	Liz Mehalso
Diana Douglas	Pat Miller
Anne Ferris	Erin Reeve
Matt Ferris	Gordon Sawrey
Kim Finkbeiner	Kelsey Swetman
Elizabeth Gianakakis	Theodore Wallace
Dan Harrison	Marlys Whitcomb
Stephen Hill	Chris Zimmer

Wishing you a birthday that is full of laughter, love, and special moments!

(if we missed you—please let the office know)

Small Groups Coming During Lent!

January brings the beginning of the Vital Congregations Initiative. “The Seven Marks of a Vital Congregation” will be the topic of a Lenten study. The seven marks are:

- ***Lifelong Discipleship Formation
- ***Intentional, Authentic Evangelism
- ***Outward Incarnational Focus
- ***Empowering Servant Leadership
- ***Spirit-Inspired Worship
- ***Caring Relationships
- ***Ecclesial Health

Our Vital Congregations team will offer a time of study based on these Seven Marks. With a facilitator, a small group will read from Biblical passages, explore and discuss the characteristics of “vital congregations.” Groups will meet at a variety of times and locations, for seven sessions, usually one time per week. This will be an opportunity for our entire congregation to be involved in this time of revitalization. Watch for details over the next few weeks with sign ups during February.

Eve Circle

Eve Circle will meet Monday, January 27, at 12:30 pm in room 200 to discuss chapter two of *Love Carved in Stone*.

Anthony Circle

Anthony Circle will meet Tuesday, February 4, at 10 am in room 200 to make Valentine’s.



News from the Nursery School

This year February is one day longer. One more day of learning and fun :) We will be visited by a postal carrier who will discuss her important job in our community. When she leaves she will take Valentine’s cards that the children have made for their parents. Of course, we celebrate Valentines’ Day with cards and special games. We will offer parent conferences for our 3’s parents; communication is crucial to good relationships. Our 4’s hope to visit Birdsong Trail at Mendon Ponds Park, if the weather cooperates! We will have a week off for President’s week. Our staff and board will be working on Spring afternoon enrichment classes and the summer camp brochure. Our year is now more than half over. Thank you for your continued support!

Teresa Zatyko, Director PCNS

Gentle Yoga

Gentle Yoga meets at 10:30 am Thursday mornings in the chapel. Come join us with your yoga mat and \$10. Any questions, call Margaret Mecredy (381-6430).

Electronic Giving

Sound technical? Complicated? Not really!! Enjoy the convenience of giving without the need to write checks and bring or mail them to the church. Choose to make regular contributions toward your annual giving or one-time gifts to a Special Offering, Per Capita reimbursement, Mission Trip, Fund Raising event....virtually anything you would contribute by check can be done electronically.

HOW??? ONLINE through the church website (www.pittsfordpres.org/giving) select "Give Online Now." Or download the APP: GIVEPLUS+ on your smart phone and select our church. Either way, you can make one-time gifts or establish an account for easy giving and access to your contribution history. Funds may be transferred from a bank account or from a credit or debit card and you will receive an immediate email confirmation. Contributions are subject to the highest level of electronic security and are only accessible by the church financial administrator. You can make your credit card contribution more valuable by selecting to increase your gift by 3.5% to cover the card fee to the church.

Questions? Contact Maria in the church office (586-5688; Tuesdays-Thursdays) or Rob Rhodes, Treasurer 200-9495.

Deacon Fellowship Events

▪ **Valentine's Luncheon** for widows—Saturday, February 8 at noon. Lunch will be served consisting of Quiche, salad, soup and desserts. Special music will be on tap. Sign up with Debbie Matrachisia in Fellowship Hall or at 585-752-5584.

▪ **Eastman School of Music Philharmonia Concert**—Wednesday, February 19. Meet at church at 6:45pm to car pool to Kodak Hall at the Eastman Theater for this FREE student classical concert.

▪ **Jesus Christ Superstar** – Rochester Broadway Theater League – Sunday, February 23 for the 1pm show. We will have lunch together after our 2nd service and then car pool to the Auditorium Theater. Cost to be determined based on ticket availability. Must pre-purchase tickets.

Sign up for all events in Fellowship Hall starting Sunday, January 12, 2020 or call Dan Traina at 585-208-6839

New Officers' Biographies

Bob Dunn – Trustee, Class of 2022

A member of this congregation for 23 years, Bob appreciates the church's spiritual leadership in the community. Having been a business owner, manufacturing representative, and industrial distributor, he enjoys cooking and music in his leisure time.

Bonnie Dunn – Deacon, Class of 2022

Just as her husband Bob, Bonnie appreciates the church family and our musical offerings. She has been a pre-school teacher at Christ Clarion Pre-school for the past 22 years.

Janis Croop – Elder, Class of 2022

An RN specializing in pediatric critical care, Janis currently works in the Ambulatory Pediatric Clinic and Infusion/Treatment Center at Golisano Children's Hospital. She volunteers in the nursery and helps chaperoning our ARC members. Janis is "looking forward to experiencing the evolution of First Presbyterian."

Janette Henderson – Elder, Class of 2022

A member of FPC for about 30 years, Janette values the congregation's appreciation of a "wide range of religious beliefs and cultural backgrounds." A speech and language therapist, linguist, and university professor by training, Janette now teaches literacy at East High School.

New Officers' Biographies, cont'd

Ellen Henry – Youth Elder, Class of 2021

Currently a junior at Mendon High School, Ellen hopes to become an environmental engineer. She is “excited about the opportunity to reach even more people through mission, so I can get to know others, help people, and spread positivity and light.”

Beth Longyear – Deacon, Class of 2022

Beth was baptized at FPC and returned to worship here two years ago. She enjoys our fellowship, bible study, and music in worship. Among future opportunities for FPC she sees growing partnerships with other churches.

Eun Hui Loss – Deacon, Class of 2022

Eun Hui joined the church last year, appreciating the openness and acceptance in the church's activities. She was a technical engineer and now enjoys camping, drawing, and creating flower arrangements.

Chris Oldfield – Deacon, Class of 2020

Chris feels the church has provided a warm, supportive environment for his family, especially for their triplets, Emily, Sadie, and Owen. An instructor in instrumental music, Chris currently directs the bands at Gates Chili High School. The whole Oldfield family loves going on road trips across the country.

Rob Rhodes – Trustee, Class of 2022

Rob became a member of FPC about 40 years ago and has been the church's long-time treasurer. He also volunteers and acts as treasurer of the Tool Thrift Shop and drives for Elder Bus, both in Fairport. Rob is excited about FPC's opportunity to “evolve into what we can be to serve God and one another.”

William C. Rieth – Elder, Class of 2022

Bill Rieth joined the church about two years ago and is an attorney.

Louise Thompson – Deacon, Class of 2020

Louise joined FPC about 20 years ago and has been very active in mission opportunities. She encourages everyone to take part, whether baking and cooking, or providing disaster relief. “As the youth in the church grow, they see our consistent desire to serve and spread the light of Christ everywhere and in any way.”

Tom Thompson – Trustee, Class of 2022

Just as his wife Louise, Tom works at GM, and both enjoy hiking and biking. He sees in FPC's current transition period “...an opportunity for the congregation to get involved in leadership roles of the church.”

Paige Thompson – Elder, Class of 2022

As the daughter of Tom and Louise, Paige has been a member of the church just as long. A psychiatrist at the Strong Memorial Hospital, she values the church's dedication to mission and strong sense of community. Paige is excited about possibilities to bring in younger members and looks forward to seeing the church grow with the times.

Daniel Traina – Deacon, Class of 2022

Dan does not only own a saltwater fish aquarium maintenance business but is also the executive director of the Pittsford Food Cupboard. Among his interests are classical music and Broadway theater, the Buffalo Bills and Sabres. Dan sees an opportunity for reaching out to the many young families moving into the village.

Carolyn Yaekel – Deacon, Class of 2022

Carolyn has worked in market research and retail and has been at FPC for about 45 years. What she appreciates most about the church are the people who care about mission work and teaching about God.

Youth Happenings

Start the New Year off right by checking out some of our upcoming youth events! We hope to be seeing more of all of you:)

February 2	Youth Sunday	Church, 8-11 am
February 5, 12, 26	LOGOS	Church, 4-7 pm
February 9	Soup Sale #2	Church, 8 am-12 pm
February 9	Bob Ross Sunshine Club	Church, 7-8:30 pm
February 9, 16, 23	Sunday School	Church, 10-11 am
February 17-20	Youth Mission	TBD
February 21	Youth Monthly Movie	Church, 6-9 pm
February 29	Leap Year Messy Game Night	Church, 3-5 pm

Soup sale is happening again! Each bowl is made passionately by our loving youth and their families. Varieties of chicken noodle, taco, broccoli cheddar and other soups are yours to enjoy! You can find us selling containers of soup for \$5 each in Fellowship Hall on February 9 after both services. All money raised will be devoted to our youth program, specifically towards our mission programs and the different agencies we work with. We aim to have all your favorites, and of course leftovers will be sold the following Sunday if available.

Youth Sunday is coming up soon! Every year on Super Bowl Sunday the youth take over the sanctuary to switch things up a little bit. Come and hear many of our amazing youth showing off all their different musical and speaking talents. We'll celebrate with joy and praise, and will make sure to get us all out on time to watch the big game that day! We hope to see you all in service with us!



Remember, if you are thinking about participating in JASY 2021 with the church, make sure to let us know sooner versus later! We are putting together our list of participants earlier this year to allow for more time for fundraising, bonding, and overall planning for our trip. If you are interested or have any questions whatsoever, please reach out to Tyler or Louise or Tom Thompson. We hope you'll think about trying this wonderful mission experience with us!



Christian Education

LOGOS Kids and Ash Wednesday Service

The LOGOS kids will sing in the early part of the Ash Wednesday service February 26. Their song will be placed early in the service in case families have to leave. Everyone is invited to stay after LOGOS for the short service if possible.

Jesus Christ Superstar

Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Jesus Christ Superstar* set the world buzzing when it first appeared on vinyl in 1970 and on Broadway in 1971. The executives at MCA Records were terrified by it. In reaction to the single "Superstar," one MCA exec said, "A song like that will offend everyone." - Scott Miller "Inside JC Superstar"

To prepare for the Deacons' upcoming outing to *Jesus Christ Superstar* on February 23, we will have an adult Bible study for four weeks on January 26, February 2, 9, and 16, at 11:30 am upstairs in the education wing.

Please join us to explore the biblical, cultural, theological, and artistic impact of the musical.

Vacation Bible School

Everyone is invited to join us this year for Vacation Bible School (VBS). Any age group, from adults to children who are able to use the bathroom independently, are encouraged to register for VBS.

VBS this year will be held the third week of July, from the 20th to 24th. We will be inside and outside and learning about **the Spirit of God as Living Water**, as well as what clean water can mean for many people of the world. Registration forms are available online at www.pittsfordpres.org/vbs or by calling the office at 586-5688

Lenten Devotionals Available

This Lenten season we have available electronic and paper devotionals from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. The printed devotionals will be available in the Narthex by the middle of February. They are daily devotionals with both scripture and reflection included. Instruction on how to obtain digital copies are included as well.

Upcoming Events

Men's Prayer Breakfast	2/2 7:00 am
Anthony Circle	2/4 10 am
Eve Circle	2/24 12:30 pm
Naomi Circle	2/17 12:30 pm
Needle Nellies	2/25 11 am
Not so Basic Bible Study	Mondays 7:30 pm
Prayer Support Group	Mondays 11:00 am
Bible Study	Weds. 7:15 pm
Men's Ecumenical Group	Thursdays 7:15 am
Adult Study	Sundays 9:45 am

Coming up for Kids

Feb. 2	— Kids Sing in Church
Feb. 5	— LOGOS: Buddy Night
Feb. 12	— LOGOS: Detective skills
Feb. 19	— NO LOGOS
Feb. 26	— Salt and Light
Feb. 26	— Kids sing after LOGOS at Ash Wednesday Service

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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Our ministry in the church is simplified when we identify the mission's main stakeholder, and then find some skill in giving this our full, undistracted attention.

<p>The Rev. Jim Widboom <i>Temporary Supply Pastor</i> Ext. 25; Thursday, Friday, Sunday JCW@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>The Rev. Carol Anne Strawbridge <i>Temporary Supply Pastor</i> Ext. 41; Monday CAS@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>The Rev. Steve Becker <i>Temporary Supply Pastor</i> Ext. 42; Tuesday, Wednesday SB@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Craig Kunkle <i>Director of Christian Education</i> Ext. 30 craig.kunkle@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Tyler Logan <i>Director of Youth Ministry</i> Ext. 31 tyler@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Britta Konau <i>Office & Communications Coord.</i> Ext. 21 britta.konau@pittsfordpres.org</p>	<p>Maria DiGiambattista <i>Financial Administrator</i> Ext. 23 treasurer@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Tim Carder <i>Custodian</i> Ext. 33</p> <p>Dr. Jared Chase <i>Director of Music</i> musicdirector@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Dr. Bruce Frank <i>Associate Director of Music and Organist</i> bfrank345@gmail.com</p> <p>Dede Holmes <i>Director of Youth Choirs</i> dmh91654@frontiernet.net</p> <p>Dr. Mary Carlson <i>Director of Hand Bell Choir</i> mcarlson74@gmail.com</p>	<p>First Presbyterian Church 21 Church Street, Pittsford, NY 14534 Phone 585 586-5688, Fax 585 586-8090 E-mail connect@pittsfordpres.org Web page www.pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Worship With Us Please join us for Sunday morning worship.</p> <p>Worship Service: 8:30 & 10:00 am Communion is offered on the first Sunday of each month.</p>
		