



The Good News

JUNE 2016

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

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN-CELL

Lectionary for the month of June

3rd Sunday after Pentecost June 5

1 Kings 17:8-16 (17-24)
Psalm 146
Galatians 1:11-24
Luke 7:11-17

4th Sunday after Pentecost June 12

1 Kings 21:1-10 (11-14)
15-21a
Psalm 5:1-8
Galatians 2:15-21
Luke 8:26-39

5th Sunday after Pentecost June 19

Father's Day
1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7) 8-15a
Psalm 42 and 43
Galatians 3:23-29
Luke 8:26-39

WORSHIP SERVICE WILL START
AT 9:30AM BEGINNING JUNE 26

6th Sunday after Pentecost June 26

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14
Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20
Galatians 5:1, 13-25
Luke 9:51-62

*Don't know why, there's no sun up in the sky,
Stormy weather, since my man and I ain't to-
gether Keeps rainin' all the time, Life is bare, gloom
and misery everywhere, Stormy weather, just can't
get my poor self together, I'm weary all the time, the
time, So weary all the time.*

Song by Harold Arlen & Ted Koehler, 1st sung
by Ethel Waters (strange last name for someone
singing about weather like this).



This song describes a need for some Hydrochromatic Hope which is ultimately the theme of this article. Here we sit on the official gateway to summer, with its dash of color and heat. Is it just me or was the winter not severe, but long? Has it not felt like an endless barrage of cloudy, grey days this spring? More so than usual for upstate New York? Maybe that is why is why I was attracted to a news story about artists from SAIC (School of the Art Institute of Chicago). They developed urban art ideas including sidewalk murals, visible only when it rains. My grand-daughters use sidewalk chalk, and create murals Picasso looking murals on our driveway that disappear when it rains. I don't suggest that we send out platoons of painters to embolden the sidewalks of Pittsford, but something a bit hydrochromatic may be what we need today.

By all accounts, Seoul, Korea, is a great place to live, and one of the most visited cities on the planet. It is a modernized metropolis with amenities. There is a wonderful public transportation system, easy access to great parks, enjoyable food and magnificent weather in the spring and fall. The weather in their summer, however, is less than desirable. It rains nearly as many days as it doesn't and this is only before the monsoon season when things become really dismal – days of drab, dreary grays that weigh on one's soul – in Seoul.

This affects disposition and mood with something professionals call SAD (Seasonal Affective Disorder). But, what if there was a way to bring color and joy into lives so that "The Blahs" could be mitigated by the grey pall of dark clouds? On sidewalks, streets, crosswalks and alleyways the artists from SAIC painted colorful murals with hydrochromatic paint. They painted a giant pink whale surrounded by fish of many shapes, sizes and brilliant colors. They all appear to be swimming down the street together with the pedestrians. On an alley walkway, they painted a team of colorful tortoises.

They incorporated brilliant blues, pinks, yellows, reds, purples and greens that when heads are bent down in "depression" spirits can be lifted in contrast to gray sky. Most of the time *the murals are invisible*. But hydrochromatic paint *becomes visible when activated by water*. In other words, these beautiful works of art are only visible when it rains! Joy peeks through the sadness when dreaded storms are foreboding. Playfulness replaces despair and it happens, not in spite of the rain, but because of it.

In New York, it is the winter that brings us SAD. Normally the summer is more uplifting, but there events that find our souls in monsoon season most any time - ailing bodies, broken relationships, tight finances, boring jobs and general feelings of dissatisfaction with our day-to-day existence can do it.

In the Old Testament there is an account of Naaman who appears to have everything going for him. He is a high-ranking general in the army of Aram, well-regarded by his king and the people. But Naaman develops a skin disease and all his skill in battle are useless against it. He becomes desperate. With a servant girl's advice and cash he heads to Israel where he gets little respect. Nobles shuffle him off to Elisha's place which is not a state-of-the-art dermatology clinic. His heart sinks.

Even Elisha's medical approach feels disrespectful but at the height of his frustration Naaman reluctantly agreed to follow the prescription of Elisha. You can discover this tale in 2 Kings, not the most thrilling beach read, but the books of 1 and 2 Kings have some fascinating tales for post-memorial day thinking.



Naaman's healing in the story is hydrochromatic. He is told to bathe in the Jordan 7 times. But the power for healing was not in the water. Like the rain on the streets of Seoul activating the paint, the water of the Jordan makes visible what had previously gone unnoticed, but had been there all along, that God was with him.

The apostle Paul makes a similar point in 2 Corinthians 12:9. "But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me" (NIV).

This is a difficult paradox: Our weakest moments may also become the moments of our greatest strength! It is then that others see in us we might all miss - grace, strength, courage and faith. We sometimes wield our greatest power not sending a text or issuing directives by email, but by modeling the persuasive power of a life of inner character revealed by the rain.

June usually brings great joy of light, but if you want a different experience, on one of these warm June days, with a heavy summer rain, put on your swimsuit. Don't worry about how you look, you aren't going to model it on the beach. Don't worry about hair, or make-up. You might want flip-flops. Then, go out in the rain, and feel the hydrochromatic love that God can bring. You will be all wet, but refreshed, because you have let a bit of childhood innocence to erupt anew.

Bruce

News from the Nursery School

Our school year has now ended, but not without many happy and joy filled memories. All our toys and books are packed away waiting for September be played with again. The children are gone, off summer adventures, but we think of them often,

they are always in our hearts. We offer summer camp during June, hopefully the weather will cooperate! Thank you so much to all of you who helped make this past school year a wonderful success. Though we may be parted, we remember often special memories and the nursery school at the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsford!



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WEB Club Schedule for 2016

June 8th - The Road to Character by David Brooks - With the wisdom, humor, curiosity, and sharp insights that have brought millions of readers to his New York Times column and his previous bestsellers, David Brooks has consistently illuminated our daily lives in surprising and original ways. Now, in The Road to Character, he focuses on the deeper values that should inform our lives. Responding to what he calls the culture of the Big Me, which emphasizes external success, Brooks challenges us, and himself, to rebalance the scales between our "résumé virtues"—achieving wealth, fame, and status—and our "eulogy virtues," those that exist at the core of our being: kindness, bravery, honesty, or faithfulness, focusing on what kind of relationships we have formed.*



TREASURER'S REPORT - Church Finances ~ Through April, our receipts exceeded expenses by \$11,000 including a planned \$15,000 distribution from Endowment to supplement current giving. Pledge contributions are on budget while non pledged offerings and back pledge contributions are slightly behind budget. Expenses are \$17,000 below budget. This is primarily driven by lower building expense due to mild weather, energy conservation savings, and the absence of significant building repairs.

MEMORIAL SERVICE RECORD ~ Perhaps you have thought about what you would like your memorial service to be like, what hymns you would like sung, or what Bible verses read or perhaps some special music. There are special forms on the table in the lobby. Please feel free to take one, fill it out and bring it into the office where we can give you a copy and file it until needed. This can not only help the pastors with planning, but also aid your family at this stressful time.

2016 HIP (Habitat Interfaith Partnership) Habitat Build

Time to put on your hardhat and sign up for building!

WHERE: 320 Orange Street, Rochester

WHEN: We expect to start the build about June 20 or shortly thereafter

WHAT: 2 Story home, new design on narrow lot

HOW: We need 6 volunteers to work each day during the build.

WHO: YOU!, family and friends!

Please come to our table in the Fellowship Hall to sign up and to pick up more information about registration!



UPCOMING DEACON FUN ACTIVITIES

Monday June 6 at 5pm – Golf Outing at Winding Creek in Farmington – 9 holes
Cost \$10. Sign up with Ed Oliver in Fellowship Hall.

Sunday June 19 ~ STRAWBERRY SOCIAL ~ June 16 – Father's Day
celebrate Dad and Grad's Day. Immediately after both services.

Everyone is welcome. Come and have fun.

Friday June 24 at 7pm – Rochester Red Wings Baseball Game vs.
Louisville Sluggers. Tickets \$10 will be available in Fellowship Hall
next month.



Thursday September 29 to Sunday October 2, 2016 – Adirondack High peaks
Hiking Trip. Staying in near Johns Brook Lodge (Keene Valley, NY) in Camp Peggy
O'Brien. Will climb Mt. Marcy, Gothics and the Great Range. Cost is \$75 for Cabin

COME and HEAR!
Carillon Ringers Bell Concert
June 22, 2016
Sanctuary of First Presbyterian
7:00 PM



Carillon Ringers is a high school handbell choir from Ladue Chapel
Presbyterian Church in St. Louis, MO.

Their program features original music for hand bells, as well as
arrangements of familiar hymn tunes, folk songs and spirituals.

The concert is open to the public. A free-will offering will be taken to offset the ringers travel.

Can you host 2 or 3 students overnight? Let Carrie Mitchell know at cnm@pittsfordpres.org

The schedule is:

Concert at 7:00 PM

Meet students at 8:30 pm

Breakfast before returning to church

Meet at church and load bus at 8:00 AM

Bus departure at 8:30 AM

Upcoming Events

SO-SO Gatherings—May 15th-Canceled-Tyler in Jamaica

Crazy Game Night—May 27th

Triennium—July 18th-24th

Youth Triennium 2016

Triennium is happening once again July of 2016. All rising Freshman through graduated Seniors are invited to attend. Join 5000 fellow Presbyterian youth in worship, fun and learning for a week at Purdue University.

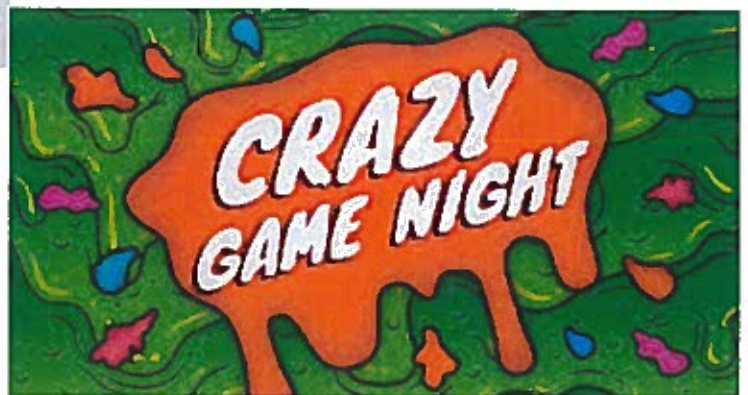


Couches!!!!

The youth are looking for some new couches to put into the youth room! If you have any couches in decent condition that you would like to give to us, please let Tyler know!

End of Year is Fast Approaching

If you see a youth in passing or on Sunday morning, don't forget that they are starting to worry about end of the year. Ask them how they're doing and what's going on in their life!



Summer Sunday School

Christian Education

The church begins having one summer service on June 26 at 9:30. After the Mouse Report children can meet their teacher in the Narthex for a group Sunday school. Typically we go outside to the picnic table to learn, study, discuss and play. Children can be picked up outside or in the Narthex after worship.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School this year will be held the last week of July or July 24-29. 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 online www.pittsfordpres.org/vbs or by calling the office at 585-586-5688



Upcoming Events	
Men's Prayer Breakfast	6/6 7:00 am
Optimists	6/10 5:30 pm
Anthony Circle	6/15 9:30 am
Naomi Circle	6/20 12:30 am
Evening Circle	6/27 7 pm
Prayer Support Group	Mondays 11:00 am
Wednesday Evening Book Club	Monthly 7:30 pm
Lectionary Study	Weds. 7:15 pm
Men's Ecumenical Group	Thursdays 7:15 am
Adult Study	Sundays 9:45 am



Do you take Jesus with you wherever you go?

Jesus is returning to First Presbyterian and he wants to go with you on your summer adventures, be it around the world or in your own backyard.

Decorate him however you want, cut him out and carry him with you! Be sure to take pictures with Jesus and share them on our Facebook page, Twitter or email takejesuswithyou@pittsfordpres.org.

If you share your pictures on Twitter remember to tag our church account by adding @pittsfordpres to your tweet.

How to post on Facebook:

The best way of sharing your pictures of the church on Facebook is to share them as you would any other picture but make sure the privacy of the post is set to "public." Also optionally, in the post start typing "@First Pres" and you should see our church listed. This makes it possible for the church to then share the picture on the church page.

How-to pictures and printable Jesus pages can be found at <http://www.pittsfordpres.org/takejesus>

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

ANTHONY CIRCLE ~ is a group of women who emphasize mission and fellowship. We meet on the third Wednesday of each month at 9:30 am in the church kitchen (unless we are doing a mission project on another day that month!) For more information contact Janette Henderson.



NAOMI CIRCLE ~ June Picnic ~ Alice Swetman and Ann Thompson will be hostessing lunch at Alice's home, 12:00 noon on June 20. Bring a sandwich (cut in quarters) to share. And think SUN! ☺

EVENING CIRCLE'S ~ EVENing Circle will meet June 27 at 7:00 PM in Room 200 to have their last book discussion for the year. Books are available for those who need them. Any questions call Margaret Mecredy.

KNITTING GROUP MEETING: May 31, 2016 — 11:30am
Approximately. Bring you lunch and we'll provide coffee or tea.

FIRST FALL MEETING: Tuesday, September 27, 2016
Our meetings are always the last Tuesday of the month—except for National Holidays

Everyone is invited and you don't even have to knot—just come and enjoy!!



We were given a big supply of yarn so help yourself so you can knit on vacation.

Thanks for the fun and the projects. Kay Saxum



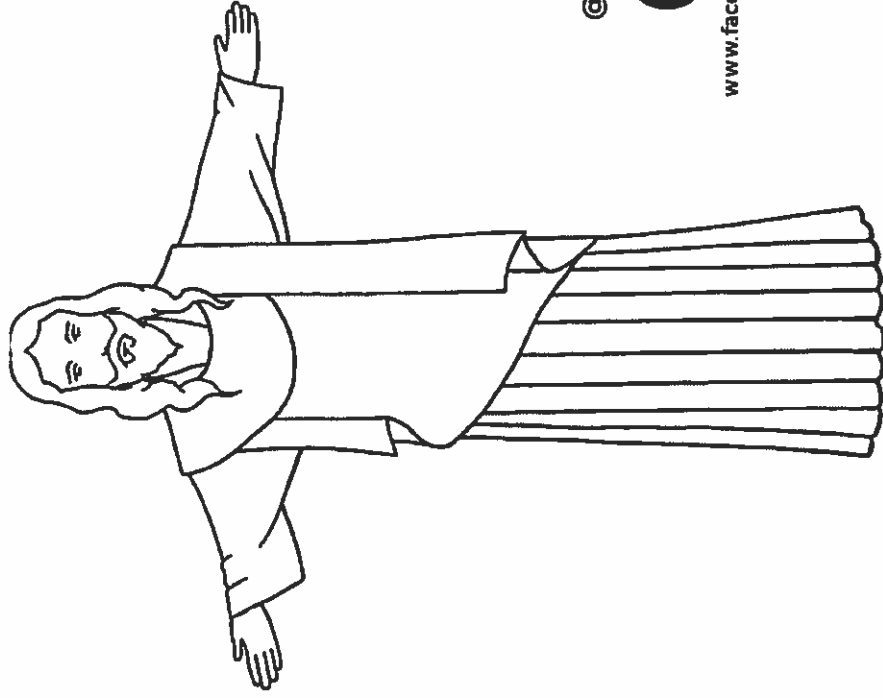
PENNY PINCHER SALE WISH LIST~ As you clean out, reorganize or downsize in the next few months, please keep this list in mind.

Items Wanted: Small appliances, antiques, collectibles, books, CDs, DVDs, sports equipment, holiday items, dishes, glass ware, furniture, jewelry, household, kitchen and craft items, stationery/office items, toys, games and puzzles, tools and garden equipment, linens and electronics.

Please be sure that all electrical items are in working order and that all computers are complete. All donations should be clean and usable. Please mark sizes on sheets, tablecloths, etc. with a tag or tape. This really helps.

We do not accept: Large exercise equipment, skis, boots, poles, single glasses and cups, grills or clothing.

Brown paper grocery bags may be placed in the box in the Lobby Room any time. Clean plastic bags and shopping bags for use at the sale may be donated with your sale items in September. If you have extra space in a garage, etc. where you could store items for people who are moving long before the sale, please let me know. Questions? Liz

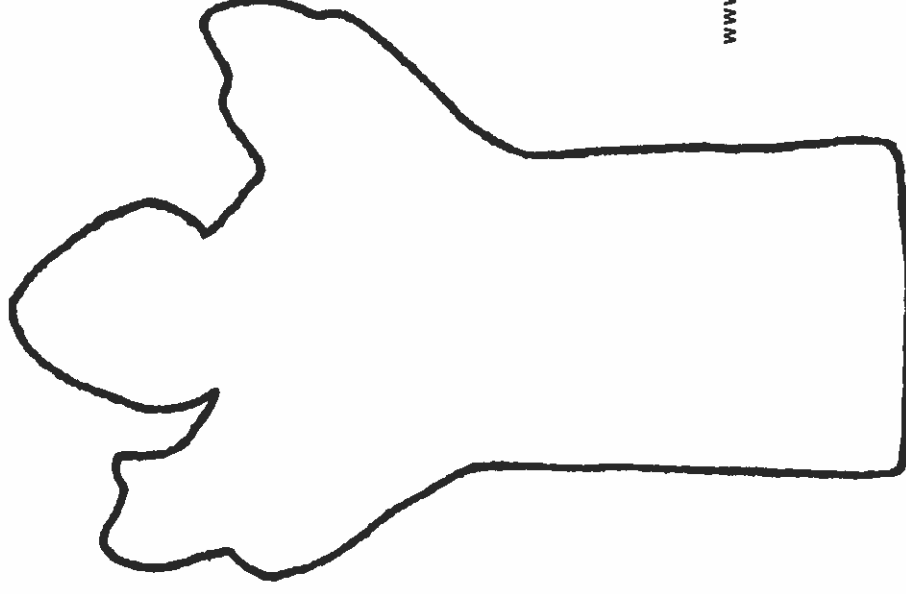


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Jesus
With
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Instructions:

1. Cut out and Decorate Jesus.
2. Take Jesus with you wherever you go this summer.
3. Take pictures of Jesus by himself or with you.
4. Share them on our Facebook page, Twitter or email (takejesuswithyou@pittsfordpres.org) see www.pittsfordpres.org/takejesus for details

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SUMMERTIME STRESS SLOWING YOU DOWN?

~ We like to think of summer as being a relaxing, enjoyable time. But hurts, struggles, crises, and problems don't take a vacation. Many times our difficulties seem even worse during the summer because everyone else seems to be enjoying life while you are feeling down.

If you are experiencing a difficult time—emotionally, spiritually, or relationally—you don't have to suffer alone. Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers, ready to listen, care for and encourage you, pray with and for you, and provide one-to-one Christian care to help you through whatever it is that you are facing. Men are matched with male Stephen Ministers and women are matched with female Stephen Ministers. It's free. It's confidential. And it will make a difference in your life!



To find out more about Stephen Ministry and how you or someone you know could be matched with a Stephen Minister, talk with *Jane Hunter, Alice O'Dwyer, Barbara Smith, Dick Sprenkle or Carol Tiemann, or one of our pastors.*

CAMERON MINISTRIES & PITTSFORD PRESBYTERIAN - Updates & Opportunities

You are probably aware that our church has been sending volunteers to Cameron several Saturdays a month since 1996 to help prepare and serve a meal at their Hot Lunch Program. Lately we have found that we are not needed as we once were because there are more local residents available to help on Saturday. This is good news for Cameron. Consequently, our volunteer teams will discontinue this mission in June. Please understand that this in no way changes our church's support of Cameron through our Outreach Committee and Presbyterian Women. Also, please know that we will continue to collect and deliver your generous donations of seasonal clothing.

There are always volunteer opportunities at Cameron - from the Kitchen, to the Clothing House, to the Office. They often need tutors, reading partners, drivers, chaperones, sorters, envelope stuffers, etc. Helping with the Hot Lunch Program on a weekday might even work for you. If you would like more information, call 254-2697. Cameron continues to make a real difference in the Lyell/Otis Neighborhood.

2nd ANNUAL ART EXHIBIT

The art show last year was very successful.

This year we're looking for Artists in origami folding, painting, pottery, quilting, sewing, sculpturing, wood working or any medium for the art exhibit. Drop off and set up, preferably Monday, August 22 9am - 4pm or Tuesday August 23 if necessary.

If you would like to show your art work please call Craig Kunkle at church 586-5688 to sign up.

Thank you.

