



The Good News

May 2015

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

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN-CELL

LECTIONARY FOR THE MONTH OF MAY

5th Sunday of Easter

May 3

Acts 8:26-40

Psalm 22:25-31

1 John 4:7-21

John 15:1-8

6th Sunday of Easter

May 10

Acts 10:44-48

Psalm 98

1 John 5:1-6

John 15:9-17

7th Sunday of Easter

May 17

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Psalm 1

1 John 5:9-13

John 17:6-19

Day of Pentecost

May 24

Acts 2:1-21 or

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Romans 8:22-27 or

Acts 2:1-21

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Trinity Sunday

May 31

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalm 29

Romans 8:12-17

John 3:1-17

"If mamma ain't happy, ain't nobody happy!" That was the word for helping harmony and peace in the family and it is a reminder to some of us that Mothers' Day arrives in May. We are not only concerned about what mothers might do on their special day, but what they might say or what they might think. Here are some possible things some famous mothers might say:



Mona Lisa's Mother: "After all that money your father and I spent on braces, Mona, that's the biggest smile you can give us?"

Humpty Dumpty's Mother: "Humpty, if I've told you once, I've told you a hundred times not to sit on that wall. But would you listen to me?"

Columbus' Mother: "I don't care what you've discovered, Christopher. You still could have written!"

Michelangelo's Mother: "Mike, can't you paint on walls like other children? Do you have any idea how hard it is to get that stuff off the ceiling?"

Albert Einstein's Mother: "But, Albert, it's your senior picture. Can't you do something about your hair? Styling gel, mousse, something...?"

Napoleon's Mother: "All right, Napoleon. If you aren't hiding your report card inside your jacket, then take your hand out of there and prove it!"

Well – you get the idea! An experienced mother knows that a king-sized waterbed holds enough water to fill a 2000 square foot house four inches deep. But, that doesn't mean that this discovery keeps her at peace. And as for Napoleon – we really can't say that he didn't believe in himself. That is worth a rumination or two when someone offers the somewhat trite comment that "You've got to believe in yourself."

Some of the great men were really men of violence. Napoleon arrived in pomp and power, a man who had achieved the very summit of earthly ambition when he arrived home, and yet, his dreams were consistently haunted by the oppressions of war. It would have been much better to have had peace.

In the months following super-storm Sandy, certain beachfront homeowners found themselves locked in a legal struggle with the State of New Jersey over a beach-protection project. The Army Corps of Engineers couldn't set their bulldozers to work until every beachfront property owner had signed an easement. The easement would permit the Corps to create a large protective sand dune on the ocean side of their property. Even though the project was of obvious value to everyone along the Jersey Shore, some property owners objected. Harvey and Phyllis Karan of the Long Beach Island town of Harvey Cedars sued. They claimed the dune would block the view from their first-story windows. The new dune would reduce the resale value of their home, they complained. They were willing to allow the government to construct it, but they claimed they were entitled to compensation for their loss.

A jury initially awarded them \$375,000, but in September 2013, the state Supreme Court reversed the lower-court ruling, declaring the couple was entitled to no compensation. The dune would protect the Karans' home as well as everyone else's, the justices reasoned. That benefit more than offset the intangible lost value of their first-floor ocean view. Most people find that looking out over the ocean bestows a feeling of inner peace. The New Jersey Supreme Court did not disagree, but they declined to put a price on such peace.



Need some peace? You could try out Deepak Chopra's Dream Weaver Light and Sound Machine, or get yourself an Ostrich Pillow. Or, here's a thought: Save your money, and check out what the apostle John says about deep, abiding peace that comes to us as children of God.

In typically classic American fashion we think that peace can simply be purchased. There is actually an entire industry that is focused on giving peace by denuding your wallet. You can see it at Eastview Mall. There is enticement to buy one of those massage chairs at Brookstone. Forever 21 (which I will never be again) is thinking about a massage kiosk in their stores where you may be able to sip a relaxing drink like Slow Cow (yes, check it out - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slow_Cow) instead of the amped-up stress jolt of Red Bull.

OR – you could try being more loving. It is free. It is usually much appreciated by Moms and it is free (mostly) for us (yes it did cost someone their life). It comes recommended by Jesus and the 1 John. And when we are at peace and Mama is happy, most everyone else is, too.

Bruce

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



MARY/WELLER ~ will meet on Monday, May 8 at 11:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. Please bring your lunch and least coin and enjoy the fellowship and help work on a new blanket. All women of the church are invited to attend. If not a regular member, please contact Shirley Lawrence.

NAOMI CIRCLE ~ Naomi Circle will meet May 18 at 12:30 in room 200. Come hear our speaker, Pam Graham, update us on Alternatives for Battered Women. Non-members always welcome.

ANTHONY CIRCLE ~ is a group of women who emphasize the fellowship and mission aspects of Presbyterian Women. We meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 9.30 am. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday May 19 at 9.30 am in Room 200 (upstairs) at the church. All women are welcome. Why don't you give us a try in the new year? For more information, contact Janette Henderson.

EVENING CIRCLE ~ will meet Monday, May 25 at 7:00 pm in Room 200 for fellowship and Bible Study. Details to follow in the Sunday bulletin. Any questions call Margaret Mecredy.

KNITTING GROUP ~ Meets: Tuesday, April 28
Time 11—1:30 (or whenever you can make it) - Room 200
Bring your lunch, coffee and tea will be provided.
Any questions? Kay Saxum
We appreciate donations of left-over yarn.

TELL ME ABOUT THE "GOOD NEWS"

Do you find yourself hesitating to read the newspaper? 1 in 6 people in the U.S. live in poverty, 46 million are on food stamps, increasing numbers are unemployed, and terrorism is on the rise. This is just a start. On top of the bad news in the press, we can find ourselves grieving over the death of a loved one, or find ourselves in financial, physical, and/or spiritual pain. The good news is that we have Stephen Ministers who are faithful Christians sent by God to help you through a life crisis. They are filled with God's love. They will meet with you weekly, walk closely with you, keeping everything in confidence. Stephen Ministers have been trained and can provide care and comfort for you. For more information or to receive help from a Stephen Minister, contact one of our Stephen Leaders: Jane Hunter, Alice O'Dwyer, Barbara Smith, Dick Sprenkle, Carol Tiemann or one of our pastors. **Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!**





Christian Education

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is back on July 20-24. The program will run from 9am to 12:45.

The online registration form is now available at:
www.pittsfordpres.org/education



"The Rebirthing of God"
A Celtic Evening with
 Rev. Dr. John Philip Newell

Wednesday, May 20, 2015
 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
 First Presbyterian Church
 300 E. Main Street
 Batavia, NY

- This program is free and open to the public.
- Tickets are required for admission.
- A Free Will Offering will be taken.

For tickets and information visit
www.fpcbatavia.org
 or call 585-343-0505

Internationally acclaimed teacher, retreat leader, speaker, author of over 15 books, John Philip Newell, ordained minister of the Church of Scotland, challenges us to explore a new beginning for Christianity in the midst of dramatic changes in Western Christianity. He offers the hope of a fresh stirring of the Spirit among us.

Adult Educational opportunity

On Wednesday, May 20 at 7pm the Batavia Presbyterian church is hosting a guest speaker. Rev. John Philip Newell will be talking about "the hope of a fresh stirring of the Spirit among us, in the midst of dramatic changes in Western Christianity."

The Christian Education Committee is attending and would like to offer the opportunity to car pool down.

Free tickets are required so please call the office early to register.

Young Adult Fellowship

First Presbyterian Church would like to invite adults ages 18-30 to board game night. Bring your own or play Carcassonne, Settlers of Catan, Dominion, Magic, Forbidden Island, Nuns on the Run, Red Dragon Inn, Heroes of Waterdeep, and more. Snacks and drinks available. Meets twice a month in Fellowship hall.

Upcoming dates: Friday April 25; Saturday May 8 and 23rd at 7m.

Upcoming Events

Men's Prayer Breakfast	5/3 7:00 am
Mary Weller Circle	5/11 11:30 am
Optimists	5/8 5:30 pm
Naomi Circle	5/18 12:30 am
Anthony Circle	5/19 9:30 am
Evening Circle	5/25 7 pm
Not so Basic Bible study	Mondays 7:30 pm
Prayer Support Group	Mondays 11:30 am
Wednesday Evening Book Club	Wed. 7:00 monthly
Lectionary Study	Weds. 7:15 pm
Men's Ecumenical Group	Thursdays 7:15 am
Women's Bible Study	Fridays 9:30 am
Adult Study	Sundays 9:45 am

Coming up for Kids

June 14: Children's Musical

Youth Happenings {7th-12th Grade}



Rock Ventures

Wednesdays @ 5pm

May 6, 13, 20

Cost- \$12/day



Rochester Rhinos Night

May 9th

7:00pm

Tickets \$10.00



Hoopla Fundraiser

May 19th

CRAZY GAME NIGHT

Friday, May 22nd 6-9pm



For more information or to RSVP, contact Joelle at (585)993-0142 OR joelle.truax@pittsfordpres.org



Join the FPC Spring Intergenerational Choir!

April 20, 27; May 4, 11, 18

Come sing with us! This group is open to adults and youth (7th-12th grade) who love to sing, whether you've sung in a choir or not - no prior experience necessary. We'll sing hymns and anthems in rehearsal each week, and combine with the adult and children's choirs for a special anthem at the end of the session. Please let us know you're coming by sending us a quick note: ashley@ashleydanyew.com. Looking forward to singing with you! Ashley & Steve Danyew. Meets Mondays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Treasurer's Quarterly Report:

For the first quarter of 2015 expenses exceeded income by about \$4,000. This is in line with our budget. By comparison, at this time last year, our deficit was \$23,000. The improvement in 2015 reflects higher pledge and offering income as a result of the successful Stewardship campaign last Fall. While we will continue to closely monitor expenses, it is reassuring to see finances tracking to our budget.

OPTIMISTS: Our next Optimist gathering will be on Friday, May 8th, in Fellowship Hall. It will have an international flavor as Mr. Arun (UhROON) Gandhi will be our guest and presenter. Arun Gandhi is the fifth grandson of the late Indian spiritual and political leader, Mahatma Gandhi. He is one of the most influential and respected figures in the international peace movement, speaking worldwide to individuals and groups, carrying his grandfather's message of achieving peace through non-violence and social action. This will be a fine opportunity to gain a firmer grasp of ever changing current events.



We assemble at 5:30 PM with a catered Meat Loaf dinner at 6:00 PM followed by Mr. Gandhi's presentation. Tickets, at \$ 10.00 per, will be available in Fellowship Hall following both services on April 26th and May 3rd - also in the office, during business hours, through May 6th. Please bring your own table service and a non-perishable item for the Pittsford Food Cupboard. DeCaf coffee and dessert will be provided. We encourage you to take the opportunity to hear Arun Gandhi.

PLEASE NOTE: THIS PROGRAM WAS PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY JUNE 12th.

Children's Musical- June 14th *Peace in the Kingdom*

Rehearsals began this past Wednesday April 8th at 4pm in the Choir room .

There's still time to join in the fun! Check out the bulletin board for past performance pix. **You may recognize them!** Contact Dede Holmes for detail

UPCOMING DEACON FUN ACTIVITIES



Supper Club - Sunday April 19 at 5pm Fellowship hall—Cost \$7 - Scandinavian Theme

Garden Club - Tuesday April 21 at 1pm - Chelsea Garden Show DVD

Euchre - Friday 4/24 at 7pm - 45 S. Main St., Pittsford

Young Adults Game Night - Saturday April 25 at 7pm in Fellowship Hall

Joseph & The Technicolor Dreamcoat—Production by Spotlight Theater—Sunday April 26 at 2pm at St. John's Catholic Church in Perinton (corner of Ayrault & Rt. 31). We will meet at our church at 1:15 pm and car pool to the show. Questions? Call Dan Traina

2nd Annual Golf Outing—June 8—More details to follow.

Rochester Red Wings Baseball Game—Monday June 29 at 7pm. Details to follow.

News from the Nursery School



We are now beginning the last month of the school year for our 2's, 3's and 4's. Our Young Kindergarten children end in June. As always, the feeling is bitter sweet. We see and hear the growth

and are so proud, yet sad because we have become so close and will soon be saying goodbye. In the month of May the children will visit Springdale Farm, go to the Pittsford Dairy, visit Tinker Nature Center and take a school bus ride! All the classes will have end of the year celebrations. Once again, we invite you to visit and view all the children's accomplishments. Thank you for all your hospitality.

CAMERON COMMUNITY MINISTRIES -

Many thanks for your generous support of Cameron Clothing House during this long cold winter. We will give you a couple of months before we request clean, gently-used summer clothing for the residents of the Lyell-For more info, call Liz Mehalso

