



The Fredonia Presbyterian

March 2025
Newsletter of the
Fredonia
Presbyterian
Church

From Our Pastor

KC has always had poetry books upon poetry books. I was never really into poetry, despite being an English Literature major. But over the years, his daily poetry sessions have spilled into my daily life and now I enjoy poetry more and more. This one struck me, though Wendell Berry often does.

Geese appear high over us,
pass, and the sky closes. Abandon,
as in love or sleep, holds
them to their way, clear
in the ancient faith: what we need
is here. And we pray, not
for new earth or heaven, but to be
quiet in heart, and in eye,
clear. What we need is here.

What we need is here. Oof. Did that hit you too, like maybe you could just chill for a second and not try to "get anywhere"? Let it soak in. Listen for the geese. What we need is here.

John 12:27-28: *"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say - 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again."*

Raise Right

Raise Right is a nonprofit helping other non-profits. The idea is simple: people will sign in to our church account online, buy a gift card from one of dozens of available... think Amazon, Walmart, Home Depot, Whole Foods, Kohl's, Panera... Then our church makes a small profit from the company.

Our code is **XNWWL9KRHYQ6**. Choose "join an existing program" and put in the code. Then it is a piece of cake. Any questions? Ask Holly for help.



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SIT A WHILE

It was a perfect day for baseball. The Mentor group took our 25 Fifth grade boys to Hammond Stadium, home of the Minnesota Twins Spring Training facility in Ft. Myers. Wearing their new red, collared shirts with the Twins logo, they took pictures with CC Bear, the Twins' mascot.

After a tour of the stadium, they were excited to watch the players go through practice drills up close. Each boy received a baseball and competed to see who could get the most player autographs.

Although I knew the 5 boys in my small group, I did not know the names of all the boys. Fortunately, all of us, Mentors and boys, wore name tags. Soon, red shirted boys were running in all directions, watching the players, and yelling for autographs. I noticed one boy sitting alone off to the side, his bowed head in his hands.

I sat with him, but he gave me only one-word answers. He was, unathletic and "chunky," with a huge black curly Afro haircut. I sat with him for a while, until he realized that I was not going away. Finally, speaking in a whisper, he told me that he was new to the school and did not know the other boys. When I asked him if he had ever been to a baseball game, he shook his head. He continued that he had no idea what a baseball game was. I walked him over to a group of boys who were getting autographs from the players and encouraged him to join the others. After his first autograph he was off running with the others to the next player.

At lunch, he sat alone at a picnic table. As I walked over to sit with him, three boys joined him and began talking with him.

When it was time to go, the boys began to load on the bus to return to school. Out of nowhere, a red shirted boy hugged me around my waist, almost knocking me over. I looked down into a curly black Afro. When he looked up, he pointed to my name tag, "Mr. Joe." He smiled, nodded his head. Then, he proudly pointed to his name on his name tag. "Joseph."

You do not have to visit a prison or a health care facility or go on a mission trip. Be Jesus-like, sit a while with someone who is alone, and be there until they realize that you are not going away.

By Joe Calarco

Sympathy Is Extended

To the Divine family: Carrie, Luke, Missy, Ned, Lillian, and Audrey on the death of Charles Divine. Charlie died on February 11th. Services will be held at a later date.

To the family of George Spitale who died recently. George was a friend of Mark Thomas.



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March Anniversaries

5 Christopher & Megan Kristan 2016

Ordination

22 Holly Clark-Porter 2015
22 KC Clark-Porter 2015



Please join Presbyterian Women of WNY for this FREE event!

“Water is Life”

Guest speaker from Buffalo Waterkeepers

March 15, 2025

9:30am - Noon

Orchard Park Presbyterian Church - Light refreshments served
Registration is required. Call Olga at 716-648-2081

There will be a very short **Congregational Meeting**

in the sanctuary at 10:30 on Sunday,
March 9 for the purpose of voting to fill a
position on Session.

The Choir of Westminster Presbyterian Church will
be presenting

Choral Evensong

March 2, 2025, 4 pm

Clarence Presbyterian Church.

An offering will be received to benefit
Buffalo String Works.

Ash Wednesday

Service in our sanctuary
at noon on March 5

Wednesdays during Lent Rev. Mark Thomas will be
presenting a 4 week course in Fellowship Hall titled:

Be Still & Know: Meditation for Today’s World

March 5 at 7pm

March 12 at 7pm

March 19 at 7pm

March 26 at 7pm

Speak to Mark for more information.

“Fat Tuesday”

Come join us Sunday, March 2 at 6pm for
a “Fat Tuesday” pot luck.
Indulge before Lent begins on Wednesday
and share a favorite dish with some of
your favorite people.



Images from Bing and Carol Groat.



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March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Worship 10:30 Communion "Fat Tuesday" Potluck 6	Art Discovery 6-8	Theology on Tap 5ish Next Chapter Book Store	Breakfast at UU 8:30 Ash Wednesday Service 12 Fred Basket 12:30-4:30 Be Still & Know 7	Narcotics Anonymous 7	Soup and a Show 6	Farmers' Market Masonic Temple 10-1 Lakeshore Fellowship 12-6
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Worship 10:30 Congregational Meeting 10:30	Art Discovery 6-8	Theology on Tap 5ish Girl Scouts 6-7	Fred Basket 12:30-4:30 Be Still & Know: Meditation 7	Narcotics Anonymous 7	House of Hope in the Library 10-11	Food Pantry 10-12
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Worship 10:30	Art Discovery 6-8	FeedMore WNY Delivery - time announced Monday Theology on Tap 5ish	Breakfast with UU Fellowship Hall 8:30 Fred Basket 12:30-4:40 Be Still & Know 7	Session Meeting 6 Narcotics Anonymous 7		Lakeshore Fellowship 10-12
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Worship 10:30	Art Discovery 6-8	Theology on Tap 5ish Girl Scouts 6-7	Fred Basket 12:30-4:30 Compeer Craft Group 12:30-2:30 in the Library Compeer Guy Time in the Library 3-4:30 Be Still & Know 7	Narcotics Anonymous 7		
30	31					
Worship 10:30						



Hygiene Kit Changes

From April 6 - May 4 Fredonia Presbyterian will be serving as a depot (drop off center) for Church World Service's kit program. Once we have collected the kits we will deliver them to Downtown Presbyterian Church in Rochester.

To better meet the needs of the folks receiving the kits, adjustments have been made this year to what each kit should include. If you are one of those "Johnny on the Spot" people and already have kits made or have materials purchased to make kits, no worries. Through June they will still accept kits made to last year's specifications.

The need this year is phenomenal. The supplies needed to make a kit follow. Every item that goes into the kit should be NEW.

1-gallon resealable plastic bag

Washcloth

Fingernail or toenail clipper (packaging removed)

Toothbrush (in original packaging)

Bath-size bar of soap (in original packaging)

Travel-size deodorant (3.4 oz. or less, non-aerosol)

Travel-size lotion (3.4 oz or less, fragrance-free, NEW only)

Travel-size shampoo (3.4 oz. Or less, NEW only)

Travel-size toothpaste (3.4 oz. Or less, expiration date of 1 year)

Sturdy wide-tooth comb (6" minimum teeth, packaging removed)

As you can see, they have eliminated items such as band-aids and a hand towel that we would typically include. And, they have added lotion, shampoo, and toothpaste. Please be aware of the specifics. For example, they need the travel toothpaste to have an expiration date that is pushed out a year... at least April or May 2026. Mailing may be denied if a box is opened and checked and the contents do not match exactly what the shipping order/label says is in the box. The whole shipment may be returned.



Food of the Month = Grains

Think

Macaroni

Rice

Spaghetti

Egg Noodles

We are in good shape as far as cereal and bread go.



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FeedMore Delivery Coming Up

The next FeedMore delivery is scheduled for Tuesday, March 11. Help will be needed to unpack the truck, check in the delivery, sort, and shelve the groceries.

Workers Needed

We need a couple more teams to work our table at the once a month Farmers' Market. We are at the Farmers' Market the second Saturday of each month.

We need folks to sign up to work the Fred Basket. There are still many open Wednesday and Saturday (3rd Saturday only) spots just waiting for volunteers to fill them.

Good News: We now have a donated refrigerator dedicated to the Fred Basket! Also, instead of filling bags for people, we are now in a position to let pantry clients shop for their households. It is a steep learning curve for our customers (and our volunteers!). But, once adjustments are made, kinks are worked out, and everyone becomes familiar with the new process, clients will be able to shop for what best meets their family's needs while staying within the FeedMore Western NY guidelines. All this good news requires a strong corp of volunteers. Please consider signing up to help.



Coffee/Fellowship Hour Help Needed

If you would like to bring in refreshments for the coffee/fellowship hour, please sign up on the sheet in Fellowship Hall. Store bought goodies are always a hit.

Per Capita for 2025

The National Presbyterian Church, Synod, and Presbytery of Western NY, (our church governing bodies), ask each local church to contribute toward their costs of supporting services to the local churches as well as national and worldwide ministry. These costs are calculated on a per member basis. The current charge (called per capita) per member is \$40. If you would like to cover your per capita, you may indicate on your check or a pew envelope *Per Capita*. Thank you



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Prayer List

Donna Heintzman
 Joe Dolce
 Dick Ackley
 Zachary Dloniak
 Dick Watt
 Toni-Jo Mitchell
 Mick
 Cheryl Connelly
 Lorraine Withington

Deb Harris
 Susie Harris
 Gerald
 Jessie
 Jimmy
 Sharon Duff-Kibbee
 Avery
 Laurie
 Tim
 Denise

Wayne
 Burris/ Angel Families
 George
 Kitty
 The Chwojdak Brothers
 Carrie
 Jack Borman
 The Gerdts Family
 Elizabeth English
 Bonny Warner

Pete
 Chris
 Carolyn McMinn
 Carmen
 Haley
 Ryan



Prayer List (Continued)

Jill
 Deb
 Marlene
 Johnny
 Samantha
 Vigo
 Brad
 Deborah



March Birthdays

8 Kelly McCoy
 13 Tom White
 18 Rosie Sanden
 21 Tom Webb
 24 Sallie Piazza
 28 Sharon Mugle



Prayer List

Folks are being kept on the prayer list for 2 months. If you have someone who need continuing prayers, please notify the church office.

Fredonia Presbyterian Church
219 Central Avenue
Fredonia, NY 14063

Soup & A Show

Join us for Soup & A Show on March 7 at 6pm when
Art Discovery presents
The Social, Cultural and Personal
Significance of Women's Handwork

Lace pictured is from Getty Images.



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