



The Fredonia Presbyterian

January 2024
Newsletter of the
Fredonia
Presbyterian
Church

From Our Pastor

Cue the New Year's new you! I probably should write about something inspirational, but instead, I will trot out my second annual food predictions ponderings.

Among the most curious is that cocktails will taste like dinner--Thai beef soup: fat-washed whisky with Thai pepper simple syrup. I did not make that up. Other predictions are that we will eat very cheaply on regular nights and go way above and beyond for special occasions. We'll eat flowers and "real ingredients".

But one that especially intrigued me is that snacks will be big because they are "Small, delicious bites" that are a "low-stakes way to explore new cuisines."* Makes me wonder if that means in general we are ready to try new things. Maybe this year, we need to make more snacks in our discipleship. Try something scary, just one toe. Or maybe admit that thing you've never really understood (like how the Bible became the Bible) and learn it. Or maybe we as a church need to do the same and try some things that are low-stakes but could introduce us to something amazing.

So, how about it. What snacks would you like to try this year? Isn't that way more fun than going to the gym?

* Kim Severson, New York Times

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will be held
Sunday, January 14 after worship.

Discussion will include the proposed
changes, additions, and corrections to
the church's by-laws (congregation will
be voting).

Thank you!

If you were unable to make the pancake feast we
missed you! It was a lot of fun!

We can thank Joe and Carol Calarco and Tom
Gordon and Cindy Rechlin for planning the event,
doing all the shopping and decorating, and cooking a
delicious breakfast for the masses. They also took
the lead in the clean up.

Thank you Cindy, Carol, Tom, and Joe!



MARTHA OR MARY?

It was a festive scene. The Fellowship Hall was transformed into a Holiday setting with colored tablecloths, place settings, and small candle lit lanterns placed on the tables. Christmas wreaths adorned the walls. A highlight was the children's presentation of Rev. Holly's Christmas gift from the congregation.

After a breakfast of fluffy, golden pancakes, crispy bacon, fruit, and plenty of hot coffee, Janine led a game of Charades. One person would pantomime while the group had to guess the title of a Christmas song. They took turns. It was fun for all, almost all.



While the game was going on, I was picking up dirty dishes from the tables. At one point, someone yelled out, "It's Joe's turn" In response, I blurted out, "I'm still working. I haven't even eaten yet." As soon as I heard my own words, I felt that something was not right. Finally, the four of us "workers" (Tom, Cindy, Carol, and me) sat down to eat the last of the now cool, bacon less, pancakes. I realized what was wrong with me. I was Martha. When my name was called, I should have put down my stack of dishes and good heartedly joined my brothers and sisters in their communal spirit. I had been in the Martha-mode, and I missed a Mary-moment.

The story of Martha and Mary is recorded in Luke 10:38-42. "On their journey Jesus entered a village where a woman named Martha welcomed Him to her home. She had a sister named Mary, who seated herself at the Lord's feet and listened to His words. Martha, who was busy with all the details of hospitality, came to Him and said, "Lord, are you not concerned that my sister has left me to do the household tasks all alone? Tell her to help me." The Lord in reply said to her: "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and upset about many things; one thing...

(Continued on page 3)



The Fredonia Presbyterian

Martha or Mary (continued from page 2)

...only is required. Mary has chosen the better portion, and she shall not be deprived of it.”

Yes, we all are concerned about daily responsibilities and tasks. It is easy to be in the Martha-mode, to check off our to-do list. However, the Scriptures remind us to be in the Mary-moment, “Seek Ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you.” Are you Martha or Mary?

By Joe Calarco

Thank you!!

to everyone who helped make the Alternative Christmas such a success. Folks who come every year to marvel at the nativities and shop the Alternative Market were joined by newcomers who added a stop at Fredonia Presbyterian to their holiday schedule.

This year, besides the SERRV and Equal Exchange merchandise, there were hats Janine Scaccia knit, angels, snowmen, and jewelry that Sharon Muggle crafted, and cards and prints that Lucy's Art Discovery students sold.

Visitors had opportunities to honor loved ones with a donation to Heifer International, Rural Ministry, and our newest addition, Lakeshore Humane Society. A donation in someone's name to one of these charities is a great way to honor them.

We had a great variety of gift items available at this year's Alternative Market.





The Fredonia Presbyterian

January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
					Annual Reports due from board and committee chairs	Farmer's Market 10-1 Masonic Temple
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Worship 10:30 Communion		Girl Scouts 5-7		Putnam Insurance 8-4		Lake Shore Fellowship 12-5
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Worship 10:30 Annual Meeting following worship			Bible Study 1 @ Fredonia Place	Rotary 12-1 No Session Meeting		Food Pantry 10-12 Farmer's Market 10-1 Masonic Temple
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Worship 10:30		Girl Scouts 5-7				Annual Session Retreat
28	29	30	31			
Worship 10:30						

Over the Coffee Cups:

Tom Gordon and Cindy Rechlin have been blessed with a grandson. Calvin Wang Gordon was born on October 11, 2023 to proud parents Travis Gordon and Xin Wang Gordon. Besides Calvin joining us for Christmas Eve, Xin's mother who was visiting from China was also in attendance. This was her first Christmas in the United States.



The Fredonia Presbyterian

Prayer List

Donna Heintzman
 Joe Dolce
 Dick Ackley
 Dick Watt
 Joy Hite
 Zachary Dloniak
 Deb Harris
 Sandy McBride
 Susie Harris
 Jordan Mendyk

Tracy
 Toni-Jo Mitchell
 Mick
 Jennifer O'Boyle
 Cheryl Connelly
 Kevin
 Lorraine & Joe
 PJ Meadows
 John LaMancuso
 Lucy Thomas

Elaina
 Jessie
 Larry & Sharon Kitty
 Nick
 Rebecca
 Jack Rudy
 Sujat Parikh
 Baby Julien
 Nikki Smalls
 The Siegle Family

Clara
 Dennis Paul
 Diane Bell
 Nancy Dewitt
 Bill
 Rick Lundquist
 Gary Chwojdak
 Duane Dustin



January Birthdays

3 Joan Van Dette
 4 Patty Lynn
 7 Cain Forest Palmer
 10 Audrey Kowmas
 13 Carol Groat
 Grace Rinehart
 14 Emily Rodriguez
 Joy Hite
 15 Ron Hagberg
 16 Katie Prendergast
 29 KC Clark-Porter



January Anniversaries

3	Susan & Ray Spangler	2004
4	Tom & Maureen Webb	1975
25	Rob & Carol Groat	1969

In Memoriam

Grannie Annie (Holly's grandmother) 1/14/23

Sympathy is Extended

To Lillian Divine & family on the loss of her Aunt Hilda.

To Heidi Hardenbrook & her family on the recent loss of her aunt.

Images from Bing.

Fredonia Presbyterian Church
219 Central Avenue
Fredonia, NY 14063

Annual Meeting January 14

We need a few good people to occasionally help out at the Farmers' Market. Two weekends a month (the first and third) is what customers have come to expect. Betsy and Tom White do one weekend and Cindy Rechlin and Tom Gordon are very good about filling in when needed. We've lost one team of Farmer's Market workers, however. If we were able to have a group of workers who might be willing to learn the routine and work a few hours every couple of months, we'll be able to maintain our 2x a month schedule.

Please let Holly know if this is something you are able to try.

January 2024