



# The Fredonia Presbyterian

July/August 2023  
Newsletter of the  
Fredonia  
Presbyterian  
Church

## From Our Pastor

*“If you look at the field beside the road and you see merely the generic ‘meadow,’ you’re less likely to care if it’s bulldozed for a strip mall than you are if you know that those tall, flat-leaved spires are milkweed, upon which the monarchs have flown two thousand miles to feed, or if you can name sailer’s breaches and purslane, lamb’s-quarter, or the big umbels of wild carrot feeding the small multitudes. Isn’t the world larger and more valuable, if you know what an umbel is?” –Mark Doty*

um·bel [ˈʌmb(ə)l]

### **NOUN**

1. a flower cluster in which stalks of nearly equal length spring from a common center and form a flat or curved surface, characteristic of the parsley family.

I did not know what it was; did you? I love this quotation from Mark because it evokes our core values as a church--not just because of our earth care commitment, but in our values of wisdom, knowing, and knowledge.

Be it the definition of umbel or the true perspective of someone who lives on the margins, when we know something, we are more likely to tune in and understand or acknowledge how that thing works in the world. And, once we know a thing, we start relating to it.

What and who do we not yet know? It’s a hard question for obvious reasons—how do you know what you don’t know—but I suspect just asking it puts us in a space of seeing what we once looked beyond and then becoming curious about it.

A cluster. Springing from a common center. Separately a tiny, seemingly insignificant flower. Together an umbel, eager to lend nutrients and beauty to the ecosystem.



This summer, may you be curious about the umbel.



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## *The New Colossus*

... Here at our sea-washed,  
 sunset gates shall stand  
 A mighty woman with a  
 torch, whose flame  
 Is the imprisoned lightning,  
 and her name  
 Mother of Exiles. From her  
 beacon-hand  
 Glows world-wide  
 welcome; her mild eyes  
 command  
 The air-bridged harbor that  
 twin cities frame.  
 "Keep, ancient lands, your  
 storied pomp!" cries she  
 With silent lips. "Give me  
 your tired, your poor,  
 Your huddled masses  
 yearning to breathe free,  
 The wretched refuse of  
 your teeming shore.  
 Send these, the homeless,  
 tempest-tost to me,  
 I lift my lamp beside the  
 golden door!"

EMMA LAZARUS



Five items the Food  
 Pantry could really use  
 more of for the July 15  
 and August 19th  
 pantries are

**Soup**  
**Cereal**  
**Canned Tuna**  
**Canned Fruit**  
**Spaghetti Sauce**

## AN INVITATION

By Joe Calarco

As European immigrants (including my Italian grandparents), entered NY harbor, these foreigners seeking a better life, were greeted by the Statute of Liberty and invited with the iconic inscription: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me. I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

These words echo the Biblical parable of the wedding feast, described in Luke. "And when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind and you will be blessed." (Luke 14: 12-24)

Jesus called not the religious leaders or academic scholars of the day. He chose fishermen to make them fishers of men. He came to heal the sick, to save the lost and to save the sinner. He came to encourage the downtrodden and to comfort the heartbroken. He invited all these to "Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matt. 11:28)

If you are a dreamer, a hope-er, a prayer-er, or feel hopeless and helpless, Jesus invites you to "Come...follow me."

So, we sing, "Come, just as you are to worship.

Come, just as you are before your God."

(Brian Doerksen)

Accept His invitation... and come.

The Mission Committee recently received a personal note from Denise Estrada at Church World Service. This handwritten note was to **thank our congregation** for our many years of association with Church World Service and for our serving as a Kit Depot..

"I appreciate your history and experience with the program.

You will touch so many lives with help and hope over the coming months. Thank you for sharing the love with our neighbors here at home and around the world."

The note will be posted on the bulletin board in the hallway leading to the sanctuary.



# The Fredonia Presbyterian

## Notes from the Session:

Rev. Holly opened the June 15, 2023 meeting with prayer. In attendance were Janine Scaccia, Jeff McMinn, Cori Coia, and Susan Pepe. Excused: Carol Calarco and Sandy Johnson.

The agenda and May 18 minutes were approved.

- The deCycles will be staying in Fellowship Hall June 23. KC Clark-Porter will open the doors and make sure they are settled. Jeff McMinn will check the church after they leave the morning of June 24 to make sure everything is set for a group coming in in the afternoon.
- Thanks to KC for welcoming the cyclists.
- Kathy Dloniak has had to submit a letter of resignation to the Deacons. Family obligations are often keeping her in Buffalo.
- The budget was approved as presented.
- Thanks to David Tiffany and Sharon Muggle who have both manned Fellowship Hall when Rural Ministry was delivering for the Food Pantry.
- The Food Pantry received a \$3,000 check from Susan Guziec's company, Healthy Community.
- Reese and a rotation of volunteers continue to serve our youngest attendees.
- Thank you to Susan and Rey Spangler for installing grab rails to help folks climb the stairs to the chancel.
- Holly will be gone June 25th. She and Carol Calarco have discussed having a "lessons in carols" type of service in her absence.
- Holly has spent much time on Pastoral Care in the last month as well as connecting with our digital people and groups such as the Girl Scouts who regularly use out building.
- Holly has become the full time moderator for the meetings of the COM/United Presbyterian Church in Randolph, has participated in some local clergy gatherings, and officiated at Tim Heavern's funeral on May 26th.
- Fredonia Glass will be fixing the broken window in the sanctuary. Carpet cleaning in Fellowship hall is scheduled for June 20.
- Fire inspection was successfully completed on June 13 but the Johnson Controls fire alarm system needs to be upgraded.
- Rehabilitation of sanctuary porch is still being considered.
- Rev. Clark-Porter's vacation requests have been approved.
- Dates for the Feeding Fredonia Challenge were set: October 15-27.
- The Tiffany's will no longer be able to donate the first Saturday of the month to the Farmers' Market. We will need volunteers to help cover the market on those Saturdays.
- Because of supply chain issues and postage costs rising there will be an increase in Equal Exchange prices.
- Tom White has been working on the Giving Garden. Melissa and Ron, who have been coming to our services, donated a compost tumbler to the garden project.
- Trish Lehnen will do a presentation during a coffee hour. Topic: Roadside Plants.

Holly closed the meeting with prayer.



# The Fredonia Presbyterian

**July 2023**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
						Farmer's Market 10-1 Barker Commons  Graduation Party for Leah Bennett at 1 in Fellowship Hall
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Worship 10:30 Communion			Cassadaga Band rehearsal 6-9 PM		Rt. 39 Clean Up 4-5 PM Meet at the Sheridan Liquor Store	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Worship 10:30		Dessert Fest & Cassadaga Band Concert 5:30-7:30		NO Session Meeting		Food Pantry 10-12  Farmer's Market 10-1 Barker Commons
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Worship 10:30			Bible Study. Fredonia Place 1 PM			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Worship 10:30						
30	31					
Worship 10:30						



# The Fredonia Presbyterian

## August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
						Farmer's Market 10-1 Barker Commons
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Worship 10:30 Communion						
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Worship 10:30			Bible Study. Fredonia Place 1 PM	Session Meeting 6 PM		Food Pantry 10-12  Farmer's Market 10-1 Barker Commons
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Worship 10:30						Rte. 39 Clean Up 10-11 Meet at the Sheridan Liquor Store
27	28	29	30	31		
Worship 10:30						

Images from Bing images, free [pix.com](http://pix.com), Carol Groat, and by Catherine Avilez for [gardendesign.com](http://gardendesign.com)



# The Fredonia Presbyterian

## July Anniversaries

1	Audrey Kowmas & Denise Widmer	2015
3	Charles & Carrie Divine	1959
27	Vince & Ellen Vacanti	1974

## August Anniversaries

9	Katie & Matt Prendergast	2022
10	Jeff & Susan Guziec	2022
13	Susan Royal & Wayne Jones	1988
20	Travis & Xin Gordon	2016

**Sympathy** is extended to Scott & Ellen Foley and their family on the death of their cousin, Peter.

Cards to  
Scott and Ellen Foley  
10382 Miller Rd.  
Fredonia, NY. 14063

Continue to pray for Susan Guziec's family as they cope with her brother's death and other issues.

Baby Cassandra is home after several surgeries but please continue to pray for her improving health.

**“What Our Faith Demands of Us”**

A discussion about faith and justice, connecting belief and action

Led by Rev. Leslie Latham and Rabbi Jonathan Freirich

Wednesday, July 12, 7:00 PM,  
First Presbyterian Church of Buffalo  
1 Symphony Circle, Buffalo, NY 14201

Join Rabbi Jonathan and Pastor Leslie as they engage in texts from their faith traditions and formulate ways forward at the intersections between faith and action. We are commanded to seek justice, and live in community, and join our communities to demand a better society of ourselves and from our leaders.

*This event is free and open to the public. No registration is required.*

For more information:  
@ [www.voicebuffalo.org](http://www.voicebuffalo.org)  
✉ [rabbi@voicebuffalo.org](mailto:rabbi@voicebuffalo.org) ✉ [revleslie@firstchurchbuffalo.org](mailto:revleslie@firstchurchbuffalo.org)

**Thank you** to everyone who helped make Blanket Sunday such a success. \$385 was raised to provide blankets for folks who need them.

**Thank you** to everyone who helped make the Yard Sale such a success. The final figure of \$1,527.26 should make everyone smile.

## Two Rt. 39 Clean Up Days

Friday, July 7<sup>th</sup> from 4-5 and

Saturday, August 26 from 10-11

Meet at the Sheridan Liquor Store corner of Rt. 39 & Rt. 20.

Helmets, fashionable vests, and trash bags are provided. Dress for the weather conditions.



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## Prayer List

Marge Benton  
Gina Waite Platt  
Donna Heintzman  
Judy Sumpton  
Joe Dolce

Adrianna Rodriguez  
Dick Ackley  
Dick Watt  
Joy Hite  
Michelle Patterson

Zachary Dloniak  
Deb Harris  
Sandy McBride  
Susie Harris  
Jordan Mendyk

Tracy  
Kurt  
Jessi  
Dylan Pillsbury  
Lorraine Withington

Toni-Jo Mitchell  
Dorothy Ebling  
Bill  
Peggy Tiffany  
Kathy

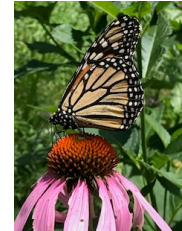
Autumn  
Mick  
George and Mary Anne  
Eugene Taylor  
Cora

Joel  
Jennifer  
Baby Cassandra  
Ron Chwojdak



## July Birthdays

5 Jeff McMinn  
7 Beverly Styborski  
9 Susan Spangler  
13 Tammy McCool  
14 Carol Calarco  
17 Trisha Lehnen  
18 Frank Valente  
21 Susan Royal  
22 Marge Benton  
Braxton Kristan  
31 Rickey Miller



## August Birthdays

2 Vince Vacanti  
3 Tom Gordon  
4 Jennifer Miller  
Denise Widmer  
5 Noah Rinehart  
21 Kathy Dloniak  
22 Tom Salamone  
23 Nancy Roberts  
24 Ned Divine  
28 Wing Lee Haight Will  
29 Dick Watt  
30 Peggy Tiffany

You are cordially invited to a party  
celebrating **Leah Bennett's** graduation from  
**Fredonia High School**

1 PM on Saturday, July 1  
Fellowship Hall



Leah says no presents are necessary but she would  
love your presence.

Fredonia Presbyterian Church  
219 Central Avenue  
Fredonia, NY 14063

Where can you get 3 desserts for \$4.00?

At the Annual Presbyterian Church **Dessert Fest** on July 11 from 5:30-7.

We would like to have as many different desserts as possible so if you are able to contribute that would be great.

Even if you are unable to donate a sweet this year, come anyway to enjoy dessert as you listen to the Cassadaga Band.

You may want to bring your own chair and sun protection.

