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Rev. Dr. Carson O. Mouser, Interim Pastor

November 2011 Newsletter

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“Today is Your Day!”

“Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting. So... get on your way.” [Dr. Seuss \(Theodor Seuss Geisel\)](#)

So, we are on our way of sojourning through this forest of transition that will lead to the calling of a new installed pastoral leader. I am blessed to be on this journey with you and look forward to all we will see and do. We begin our sojourn by mapping out the journey ahead of us and taking a look at the mileposts along the way.

You have actually reached the first milepost - calling an interim pastor to serve you during this time of transition.

The second milepost is completing the mission and ministry statement. This milepost will be coming into view as we do the hard work of “Preparing to Call a Pastor” narrative mission study, which begins with informal conversations at members’ homes in January. The next portion of the journey to this milepost is the workshop scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 28 from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm at a location to be announced. Following this workshop, you will be seeking to define the ministries of the church as you take a forward look at where the Ontario community is heading and what issues are arising on the horizon that you can participate in addressing. Then, it will be time to consider the kind of leader you will need to guide you toward your vision for the future. Once all of this work is complete, a subcommittee of folks will put it into a written statement of identity and ministry purpose, which the congregation will affirm and the Session will approve before sending it to the Presbytery’s Committee on Ministry (COM).

Once COM has approved the identity statement and ministry purpose, we will have reached the second milepost and be ready to journey on toward the third milepost.

You will reach the third milepost once the nominees to the Pastor Nominating Committee have been called by the Nominating Committee, the Session has approved the size and budget for the Pastor Nominating Committee, and you, the congregation, have elected the folks nominated to be on Pastor Nominating Committee.

The fourth milestone comes when the Pastor Nominating Committee has prepared the Church Information Form (CIF) using the results of the mission study process. Session will approve the completed CIF before sending it to the COM for approval leading to the PNC entering the CIF online for inclusion in the Church Leadership Connection matching database.

The fifth milestone comes into view once the PNC has interviewed potential candidates and has discerned which person God is calling to serve this congregation, performs all the required reference checks, invites the person to be called to preach a candidate sermon followed by a congregational meeting to elect the candidate to be the installed pastor.

Following this congregational meeting, the PNC submits the report of the congregational meeting to COM for its stated meeting prior to a Presbytery meeting. At the presbytery meeting the candidate is introduced to presbytery and the presbytery votes to approve the call.

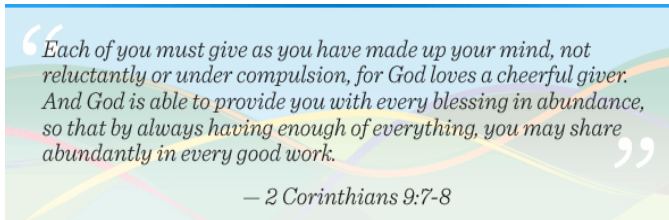
The sixth milestone is reached when you and I celebrate the end of the interim ministry and you prepare to welcome and celebrate the new pastor's arrival.

Finally, the mountaintop is reached when the new pastor arrives with celebration and excitement for the new beginning.

Today is your day and we are on our way!

Peace,

Pastor Carson



Greetings Friends and Members,

God has called each of us to care for the world God created, and to do for others as Jesus would do. The Holy Spirit calls us as individuals and as a church community to respond with our lives and our resources.

How is **Ontario Center Presbyterian Church** responding to care for the world God created and to do for others as Jesus would do?

- **REACH 2012** will work to improve more than 60 homes within a 30-mile radius of Ontario. Over 400 Sr. High youth and their adult leaders will offer basic home repairs and renovations to community members in need. Reach Ontario is sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church of Ontario Center, in collaboration with the Wayne Central School District, Reach Workcamps, and numerous community partners.
- Our members participation in **Ontario Food Pantry and Clothing Closet** helps to assure those less fortunate in our community have food and clothing.
- The First Presbyterian Church of Ontario Center provides financial support to **Pines of Peace**, a local comfort care home for the terminally ill through budgeted church funds in collaboration with Geneva Presbytery.
- Providing a Parish hall offers **hospitality** to those who enjoy a Ham dinner and to Girl Scouts. The Rummage Sale gives us a venue for our "leftovers" to be "reused" by others, some less fortunate than ourselves.
- We are able to provide a building to **promote wellness** to AA members and Yoga participants.
- Our pastor, organist, church building and many church members, work together so that we can **worship God, learn about Jesus and experience the Holy Spirit.**

Over the next year, First Presbyterian Church will be prayerfully discerning what ministries God is calling us to do and/or continue. This church community will give thought and prayer as to what type of pastor will be best suited to our ministry and mission. The outcome of this discernment? Only God knows—but we can be assured that God will be with us.

Just as we as a church must decide how best to serve God, we as individuals must answer this question. Please take time this fall to prayerfully ponder how you can live your life as a disciple of Jesus in this church community. As part of that, consider what percentage of your income will be returned to God for God's purposes through this church. November 20, 2011 will be the final Sunday of the Stewardship season.

IN OUR PRAYERS...

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to the Horsey family, as they grieve the loss of Dick.

Members and Friends:

Jean Hill – diagnosed with breast cancer

Our elderly and homebound members:

Edie Buck, Frank Pitts, Marlyn Stevens

Military personnel and their families:

Chad Collier, Joseph Geiger, John Skelly, Kent Chivers,

For Disaster Recovery:

For families, in the Binghamton and Vestal areas affected by October flooding, struggling to ready their homes for the winter season.

Friends for Fellowship

Ham Dinner

What a turnout for the Fall Ham Dinner. Great workers and hungry people! The combination of the two groups netted \$1,923.83! The new cupboards for dishes are on their way! Also, our generous diners donated \$74 to the Ontario Food Pantry. Again, many thanks to all.

Treasure/Trash Sale November 11th & 12th

Hopefully by now you have gone thru looking for things you no longer need (fall and winter articles please) and they are already in the parish hall or ready to bring in. Sorting began on Monday the 7th. Friday's sale is from 9 to 4 and Sat. (\$1.00 a bag day) is from 9 to 1. We always welcome help with sorting and especially help with bagging and totaling first thing on Friday morning! We are also planning on a short meeting on Saturday mid-morning.

Peacemaking Offering 2011

The Peacemaking Offering was created in 1980 to support the efforts of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to live out a deeper commitment to peacemaking as part of our faithfulness to God.

We received the offering on World Communion Sunday, October 2 totaling \$326.

Each congregation is encouraged to retain 25 percent of the offering received to use for local ministries of peacemaking within the church and its community. The Session approved twenty-five percent (\$81.50) designated toward Reach 2012 initiative.

As evidenced by the enthusiasm Reach 2012 has brought into our community from our congregation, local businesses, the school district, neighboring churches, youth - in and outside of our church, homeowners, Reach staff and the Reach 2012 committee, a real sense of peace toward helping to service the needs of others through our faithfulness to God.

Reach 2012 Updates!

Hooray for Reach 2012! Registration is now complete with 29 teen workcampers, 6 crew leaders, 4 Hospitality Red Shirts and 4 troubleshooters committed to Reach Ontario 2012.

Heather Moulton visited from Reach Corporate during October. Reach team members drove Heather to sites in Ontario, Walworth, and surrounding communities. A big thank you to Russ Klein, John Domm, Sam Knight, and Janet Maitland for your cheerful driving and hospitality with neighbors. The weather and the video equipment were a bit uncooperative but we were able to videotape 41 sites. Reach Corporate will now review the projects and select sites that match the skills of workcampers and the budget. The decision to visit more sites will be made in early 2012 and is dependent on the number of registered workcampers. Heather Moulton, Mikayla Knight and John Domm visited Wayne Central for a building tour and conversations around school needs, food, and custodial concerns. The Ontario-Walworth Rotary and Fairport Churches are offering special evening dinners. In addition, our Wayne Central administrators are also planning a spaghetti dinner at the school for the Workcampers. They will prepare and serve the dinner! We are fortunate to have this incredible support from Wayne Central staff.

If you would like to volunteer in any of the following areas, please contact Kim LaFave at kimberjkl@aol.com: food service, pre-camp set up, post camp clean up, gathering ladders, delivering materials, etc.

Our Reach Ontario team met on November 6th to review the sites not visited and prioritize the needs. We will begin the process of contacting businesses to request monetary and in kind donations. Our church is responsible to collect \$5,000 for Reach 2012. If you would like to donate to Reach 2012, checks may be written to the First Presbyterian Church, noting Reach 2012 on the memo line. You may send the donations directly to church or place donations in the weekly collection plates.

Thanks for your energy and enthusiasm for Reach 2012!

Peace, Kim LaFave & Scott Crumb

Also, **bottle & can donations continue to be accepted at Sparky's Cans and Bottles at 6341 Ontario Center Rd,** just over the railroad tracks. Please let them know that donations are for First Presbyterian Church.

Reach Workcamp 2012 (Continued)



Reach 2012 Workcampers are looking for fall 'team building' projects. These projects may include raking, yard work, cleaning out basements & attics,, etc. Donations for team building projects for Reach Workcamp 2012 are gratefully accepted. Please contact Kim LaFave, 585-729-5424 or e-mail, klafave@wayne.k12.ny.us

Food Pantry Needs:

Our church is collecting 60 quick bread mixes for the annual Christmas sharing. Please leave your donations in the Narthex. The donations will be delivered on Saturday, December 17th

Thinking Ahead to Advent



Advent Wreath Making: Sunday, November 27 at 9:45 am in the Parish Hall.

Five Women of Advent Bible Study: Begins on Sunday, November 27 after church with pizza; subsequent Sundays before church at 9:45 am.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE TIME CHANGE:

This year's Christmas Eve service will be held at 4:00 pm. More details will follow in an upcoming Advent newsletter.

United Nation's Commission on Women for 2012

Help Rhonda Everdyke, Geneva Presbytery's Communications Director, change the lives of women around the world! Rhonda is an appointed PC USA Delegate for the United Nation's Commission on Women for 2012. She will need to spend almost two weeks in NYC at her own cost for the UN's conference. The donation link is provided below to help her make this incredible journey. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

<http://www.presbyteryofgeneva.org/news/help-rhonda-get-to-the-un-commission-on-women>.

PLANNING FOR 2012

Session faces significant challenges for our ministry in 2012. As a church, we will be facing several realities including:

- The priority of ongoing spiritual growth,
- Responding to the current economic climate and the increasing opportunities it offers us to share God's love beyond our doors,
- our church buildings and their need for on-going maintenance,
- the interim pastor has a housing allowance rather than use of the manse,
- the family that provided 10% of our pledge income in the past has moved,
- and that we as a church are facing several major transitions.

As plans are made for our ministry for 2012, we will continue to be grateful that Jesus is walking with us.

Financial Statement for September:

Operating Budget	Sept	2011 YTD	2011 Budget
Receipts	\$6,532.00	\$90,030.00	\$100,154.00
Expenses	\$17,234.00	\$94,200.00	\$102,887.00
Operating Account Balances			
Operating Cash	\$3,432.00	10/1/2011	
Mission Work Camp	\$2,224.00	10/1/2011	
Grant Balance	\$73.00	10/1/2011	
Insurance Claim Remaining	\$1,903.00	10/1/2011	
Savings/Investment Account Balances			
Big Ticket Maintenance	\$6,734.00	10/1/2011	
Continuing Ed	\$116.00	10/1/2011	
Reserve Fund	\$1,484.00	6/30/2011	
Memorial Fund	\$7,397.00	10/1/2011	
Endowment Fund	\$57,289.00	6/30/2011	
Life Income Charitable Annuity	\$128.00	1/31/2010	
Posner Bequest Fund CDs	\$87,459.00	3/20/2011	
Money Market	\$42,022.00	10/1/2011	



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2011						
		1 <i>All Saints' Day</i> B – Sue Maxfield	2 B – Austin Kohler	3 Yoga 7:00- 8:00 (PH)	4 <i>World Community Day</i>	5 B – Emily Sipple
6 🕒 Turn Clocks Back 11:00am Worship: Communion Food Offering	7 Sorting/Pricing Begins for Treasure or Trash Sale 8:30am Clothing Closet – Team A NO YOGA	8  Girl Scouts 6:00-8:00pm B – Susan Moss	9 B – Keira Fosdick	10 Yoga at Elly's House 7pm	11 <i>Veterans Day</i> Treasure or Trash Sale  9:00 am – 4:00 pm B – Jean Hill A – Janis & Bruce Goranowski	12 Treasure or Trash Sale 9am-1pm  Friends for Fellowship Mtg @ 10:30am (PH)
13 11:00 am Worship	14 Yoga 7:00- 8:00 (PH)	15 7:00 pm Session	16 A – Sue & David Maxfield	17 Yoga 7:00- 8:00 (PH)	18	19 B – Jim Roome
20 <i>Christ the King</i> 11:00 am Worship After Worship – Pasta Lunch	21 Yoga 7:00 - 8:00 (PH)	22 B – Adam Crumb B – Joseph Zayed	23 B – David Maxfield	24 THANKSGIVING DAY 	25	26 B – Jo Lommason
27 <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i> 11:00 am Worship 2¢ A Meal Offering 9:45am- Advent Wreath Making B – Kim Baker	28 Food Pantry/Clothing Closet Volunteers – Team A Yoga 7:00 - 8:00 (PH)	29 B – Scott Baker	30			

A - Anniversary B - Birthday