

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ULYSSES

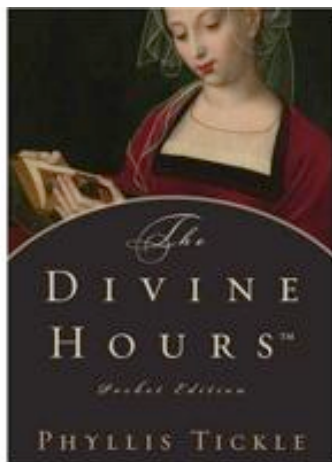
# the GRAPEVINE

VOL V ISSUE VI, JUNE 2011

## Daily Office

**BRNNNG!** My phone signals me four times a day and I am reminded it is time to pray. I stop whatever I am doing and punch the bookmark on my phone to pull up the *Divine Hours*, edited by Phyllis Tickle and available from Vineyard Church of Ann Arbor at [www.annarborvineyard.org/tdh/tdh.cfm](http://www.annarborvineyard.org/tdh/tdh.cfm). They can also be found on your computer at [www.explorefaith.org/prayer/fixd](http://www.explorefaith.org/prayer/fixd).

As a result of Phyllis Tickle's presentation to our presbytery in May, I've begun once again praying the *Divine Hours* or the *Daily Office*. I have done it in the past but found it cumbersome to need a book or books in order to participate. By bringing them up on my cell phone or computer, that problem is eliminated for me, and I would like to suggest that you might find this practice to be useful for yourself.



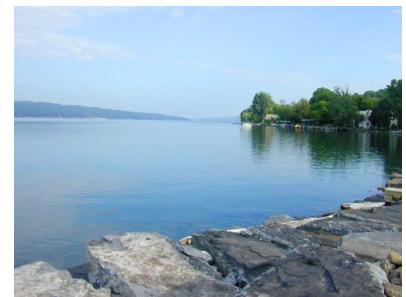
These prayers from Scripture and the early church have been prayed for centuries and unlike free-form prayer, they follow a set pattern based on the Psalms, Scripture, Creeds, Sacred Texts and the Lord's Prayer. They are prayed in the morning, at noon, in the early evening and before retiring for the evening. As the day progresses people around the world are praying the same prayers and these prayers circle the earth following the different time zones.

By participating in the daily office, a person has the opportunity to step away from his or her daily activities and to tune in to God – not only as one person but as a part of something much larger – the community of the worldwide church. By doing so throughout the day, you are continually reminded both of who and whose you are. Give it a try!

*Blessings - Pastor Cheryl*

## WORSHIP AT THE LAKE

During July and August, the Trumansburg Area Council of Churches sponsors a morning service on shores of Cayuga Lake.



At **8 a.m. each Sunday in July and August**, bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy the beauty of Cayuga Lake during worship. The service is held at Taughannock Falls State Park's North Point. Open offerings benefit the Trumansburg Area Council of Churches, while offerings given in your home church's envelope will be delivered to your home church. If the weather's nice, bring a picnic breakfast to the lake for post-service fellowship! You'll find others to share in fellowship during this time.



# Worship at the Barn!

Please join us **June 12 at 10 a.m.** at the Bartishevich's home. This informal outdoor service (indoors in the barn if raining) is a wonderful opportunity for us for worship and fellowship. Join in fun fellowship in the sun!

**Directions to 7615 Willow Creek Road:** From Trumansburg, take 96 south, turning left on Taughannock Park Road. Follow this meandering road to Gorge Road, which is the first left past the north Taughannock Park entrance. The farm is located at the intersection of Gorge and Willow Creek Roads. For those of us with limitations in walking, enter the driveway on Gorge Road by the large red barn with the Pine Cliff Farms sign, and park as directed. The rest will find plenty of parking on the sides of both Gorge and Willow Creek Roads.

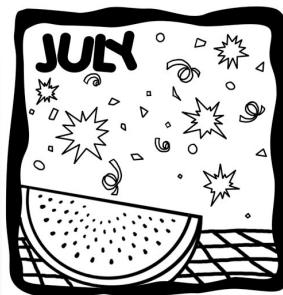
Lawn chairs and casual dress are recommended for the service. Your own table service and a dish-to-pass are recommended (*see the sign-up sheet as the date approaches*) for the excellent and plentiful picnic lunch to follow. Drinks are provided. As always, we thank the Bartishevich family for their generosity in hosting this event. Hope to see everyone there!

## SUMMER BIRTHDAYS

We celebrate birthdays the second Sunday of each month during coffee hour. **Be sure to join us on Sunday, June 12** right after the barn service to sing Happy Birthday and enjoy special birthday treats provided by the **Session.**



- 2 Audrey Bialke
- 2 Julia Bialke
- 2 Madeline Bialke
- 11 Max Koehler
- 18 Andrew Peterson
- 18 Eric Wessels
- 19 Matt Ploss
- 25 Paul Bartishevich
- 26 Kira deCoudres
- 27 Aaron deJager
- 27 Jay Bartishevich



- 3 Geoffrey Peterson
- 4 Fourth of July
- 10 Eden Jonascu
- 11 Scott Dawson
- 15 Jeanette Little
- 25 John Peeples
- 26 Ginny Miller
- 28 Bruce Babcock
- 29 Allison Pritts



- \*\*\*\*\*
- 2 Chuck Dunlap
  - 6 Dennis DeCloux
  - 8 Will Metro
  - 9 Marvin Pritts
  - 9 Lori Schneider
  - 11 Dan Schreher
  - 13 Tom Overbaugh
  - 21 Amanda Riley
  - 24 Jane Selover
  - 28 Calvin Henniger
  - 29 Barb Melvin

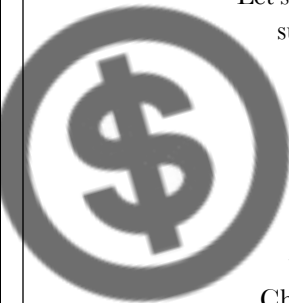
# Finance Update

The new (and returning) Chair of the Budget and Finance committee is concerned about this year's operating budget which will end in just one month. We have barely settled into our first July 1 - June 30 fiscal year, so we cannot yet make comparisons to see whether the change will benefit the program as we anticipated.

In short, our pledged income has fallen behind, even with new enthusiasm in several program areas. How can the Session approve a new budget if a large "gap" on the current one remains? As summer approaches, people inadvertently forget to keep the pledge current. If anyone feels inclined to give a bit extra, this would be a good time to do it. New pledges for 2011-2012 will be solicited soon.

Let's each do all we can to be up to date with our financial support!

- Barb Melvin, Finance



## Thank You, David!

After serving five years as our treasurer, and setting up the current method of accounting with the Church Management System, David Priester won't be available for another term. We thank him for the diligence he has shown, and the many hours he has given to keep church business running and recorded in orderly fashion! - Barb Melvin, Finance

## Save the Date

### Mark your calendars!

Our annual meeting will be on Sunday, July 10. Music and Worship is working on the plans for the meeting, so stay tuned for details.



## Main Street

### Inside Out and Upside Down

First Baptist Church on East Seneca Road will be hosting **Vacation Bible School** this summer from July 11-15 from 6-8:30 p.m. You and your children are welcome. Start making plans to attend this fun-packed experience that will focus on learning to Think and Live as Jesus would have us in our own community. Teenagers and adults who love Jesus and children, and who like to play, serve and have fun are encouraged to join us as VBS team leaders and helpers.

Contact David Brust (607-532-8766) or leave a message at the church (607-387-7705) to sign up or join the team!



## RAISE A CHEER!

Raise a cheer for "Mr. Tentmaster," **Chuck Dunlap**, who is retiring as tent boss. **Jerry Kraus** is the new master.

We need some good puns to measure up to Chuck's clever reports in the past, but we are tongue-tied!

Chuck's announcements on Sundays were always humorous, and his annual written reports give colorful statistics about the many "who had a stake" in it all. He credits Tom Lange for naming the tent "our every member canvas" and Chuck himself has often been called the main Fun Raiser.

Mr. Dunlap likes to "show new workers the ropes." The youngest worker he mentioned in one of his "tent wrap-ups" was the Dawsons' one-year-old granddaughter who helped by putting stakes into the bag. One year wrote that the crew set up the tent 17 times, and took it down 16 times. The wind did it the other time.

He has been a steady director of the operation, with a great sense of humor. The efforts of Chuck and all the Crew have provided scholarships for high school students since 1985. That is more than \$25,000 to help community-minded high school seniors. Thanks for all these years!

**Want to learn more?** Visit [www.fpcu.info/our-family/tent-crew](http://www.fpcu.info/our-family/tent-crew)

# Highlights from Session

Have you wondered what goes on at Session meetings? Session meets at least once a month usually on the second Wednesday. We met We met May 11 and discussed many things:

- We had a very good visit from Jim Guerling and Sue Goodrich from Geneva Presbytery Committee on Ministry. They do (usually annually) visits to churches that have newly called ministers to ascertain that things are going well for the church and the minister. Discussion was open and interesting. If you have any comments be sure and use the suggestion cards provided in the pews or send a note to a session member.
- We received the first \$500 payment on the grant which we requested for the Trumansburg Food Pantry.
- Congregational Life told us that the Mother's Day Bar-B-Que sold out before it opened practically. They are also wondering about continuing the birthday celebrations each month. Let Bobbi Farrell know your thoughts on this.
- Christian Ed told us about gearing up for next year. They are thinking about different schedules – talk to Amy Dawson about this.
- Buildings and Grounds told us that United Women Presbyterians of our church arranged and paid for cleaning the rugs in the Lange Room and Nursery. They are working on the window repairs. They held a work bee on Saturday for cleanup and spruce up of our physical property.
- Music and Worship is working on the plans for the annual meeting, July 10, and the Barn service at the Bartshevich Farm on June 12.
- We discussed the upcoming stewardship drive as well as the need for end of the year reports. This will be the first year that we have reported out on the new fiscal July to June year.
- The Nominations Team has come up with great nominees for the next Session Elders.
- Caring and Benevolence let us know that we have collected \$110 for the Mother's Day cards and \$90 for One Great Hour of Sharing.

Please feel free to contact any member of the Session if you have suggestions, ideas, interests that we can help you bring to fruition. - *Kris Alling*

## MINISTRY TEAMS

These people chair each of our eight ministry teams.



Interested in helping out? Get in touch, or read more about the ministry teams on the bulletin board outside the church office.

### **Caring and Benevolence**

Linda Andrew

### **Congregational Life**

Bobbi Farrell

### **Music and Worship**

Polly Gutelius

### **Christian Discipleship**

Amy Dawson

### **Membership & Stewardship**

John Kirkman

### **Buildings and Properties**

Jerry Van Orden

### **Personnel**

Dave Schneider

### **Finance**

Barb Melvin

# Bulletins and Announcements

Announcements for the Sunday bulletins are done by Pastor Cheryl and Linda Andrew. If you want to put a message in the bulletin send it to the church at [fpcu@zoom-dsl.com](mailto:fpcu@zoom-dsl.com) or contact Linda at the church office at (607) 387-8185. Announcements need to be sent by Wednesday noon so that they are included in the Family News e-mail also.

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ULYSSES

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This publication is edited by Amy and Scott Dawson. They may be reached at [amy@emoticakes.com](mailto:amy@emoticakes.com) or [scott@dawsonmediadesign.com](mailto:scott@dawsonmediadesign.com). If you have any questions or comments, call (607) 387-7031.

### Future of The Grapevine

While *The Grapevine* has been a part of our church for many years, it has undergone some changes over this past year! For financial reasons, and a desire to be "greener", we moved away from printing and mailing the newsletter unless requested. At the same time, we updated [www.fpcu.info](http://www.fpcu.info) to include a section for news on the homepage, and Cheryl now sends weekly e-mail updates about church events. In addition to these changes, the we also have a Facebook page where Cheryl posts church photos and updates.

After several months of a call for new editors of this publication, we haven't heard from any interested parties. Therefore, our Session has started talking about next steps. Is it time to say goodbye to *The Grapevine*? Is Facebook, a blog, and a weekly e-mail enough? Or, should we be going the other direction and bringing this publication back in print form?

We don't have answers. Many admit that they no longer read the publication now that is just online. Others say they prefer online because they can view pictures in color and read through it quickly when they are already on the computer. Some tell us that they don't read it whether it is in print or on the computer, as they have enough information from the other sources.

Today we ask you to consider the above questions, and whether you feel called to edit the publication. We are hanging up our "editing hat", effective after the publication of this June edition. We appreciate the lovely compliments from folks saying that they couldn't possibly do as nice a job as we've done, but we know that there are many other talented folks in our congregation, too. We understand that if you take on this volunteer opportunity, *The Grapevine* won't be the same as it is now, but it will be just as wonderful. *Thank you for your readership.*

-Scott and Amy Dawson