

News from the Pews

Greetings in Christ!

Happy Easter everyone! I hope that you all had a wonderful celebration.

I was thinking about Easter and the resurrection and about the new possibilities that God gives us all. Before the miracle of the resurrection, before Christ rose from the dead, we were pretty limited in the possibilities that we imagine for ourselves. But because of this miracle, we can realize that if it is God’s plan, nothing is impossible!

A few weeks ago you hosted a Presbytery Event for small churches and it was wonderful. The speaker, George Budine, is a member of our Presbytery and the commissioned ruling elder who is serving Nichols Presbyterian Church and has also been trained by the PCUSA in the New Beginnings curriculum that helps churches to see a path forward when they have become stuck. He has experienced the resurrection kind of miracle in his congregation at Nichols, and has seen that kind of transformation at many other congregations he has worked with. When church people stop worrying about how to continue to “do church” the way it has always been and start listening to where God is calling the church to be now and into the future, it is amazing what can be done.

Some examples that George shared from that morning show that they can be done with not a lot of money or resources. Just love and the ability to open our eyes to where the needs of the community are. One example was a church that had a park next to it. A couple of guys from the church bought a bag of basketballs and committed to going to play basketball once a week. They brought the bag and soon some kids asked if they could play too. Some played next to them and some played with them. As they played together over the next several weeks they got to know them, built a relationship with these kids and got to know what their gifts where and where they needed some help. Many were from the poor neighborhood on the other side of the park. Many didn’t have father’s and their mom’s were busy working two jobs just to get by. They needed some mentors in their lives. These kids became curious about the church that the men talked about all the time and soon started coming to volunteer at things and started to attend worship. They brought their families. The church was open to receiving them because the men had been telling them all along about the ministry they were doing playing basketball and the church instead of judging these kids or their families, embraced them and found more ways to help their neighborhood once they got to know these families. All from a bag of basketballs, a commitment to playing together once a week, and a willingness to be open to where God led them.

This won’t be the answer for every congregation. The trick is to spend some time praying and discerning what resources you have, then making a commitment to going out of the church to build relationships, and then being open to what God brings. It’s going to be something new, something you haven’t imagined for yourselves, and yes it might be a little scary. But you all are an amazing, loving group of people that I am positive that God has something planned for.

And this is exactly where you are right now. Your two campuses of Broad Avenue and Conklin Presbyterian are doing the work of finding out who you are and what is around you. You have done the

work of doing that foundation work by bringing in Holy Cow consulting. You all have been in prayer to be open to what God might be bringing to you. You all are infused with this energy and excitement about what God is calling you into next and it is wonderful! This is the time when you can start to imagine things that you would not have seen for yourselves 5 years ago or even last year. I encourage you to keep going. Keep imagining what could be possible with the resources you have and God will bring the rest. Because if it is God’s plan, nothing is impossible!

Grace and peace,
Pastor Becky

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April Birthdays

April 1	Sunshine Robinson
April 3	Cathy Hutchings
April 6	Nick Miller Don Roe Frank Whitney
April 8	Laura Barnes Alexander Mangino Glenda Rowse
April 12	Bev Emmett Sally Skulteti
April 17	June Stasukevich
April 19	Betty Ann Puzo
April 22	Greg Konnick Anthony Mangino
April 23	Karla Toman
April 29	Dave Hutchings Chad Stephens

April Anniversaries

April 1	Betty Anne & Clint Puzo
April 14	Susie & Wayne Barlow
April 15	Megan & Rick Cleary
April 17	Carol & Ralph Fuller
April 25	Karla & Joe Toman

Healing Prayer

Dot Conklin

Gerry Bakerink	Pat Jackson
Laura Barnes	Family of Sally Morgan
Joan Barrett	Family of Fritz Orzelek
David Birdsall	Kathleen Parkhurst
Mary Borley	Jennifer Phillips
Family of Naomi Clark	Duane Potter
Wanda Derry	Jan Quigley
Helen Dew	Baby Quinn 1 year old
Fallyn, 2 years old	Don Roe
Dick Griswold	Mike Rogers
Hope Hansel	Maddie Shaw
Jackie Heinle	Millie Simmons
	Our Church

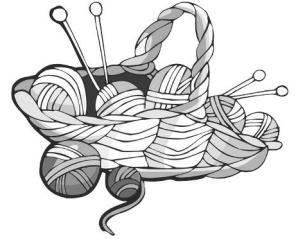
Healing Prayer Service

Reenie Dedrick

Update: Healing Prayer Service will resume on Wednesday, April 18th @ noon, after the Ladies' Bible Study Class, here at the CPC Chapel.

Prayer Shawl

Glenda Rowse



The Prayer Shawl Knitting group has not met for a long time. There has been some interest in reviving the mission. If you might be interested and are unsure what it is all about, let me explain. We will meet regularly at 10 am on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month in the library at church. Bring either knitting needles or crochet hook, and yarn. Each individual makes a shawl with their own color preference of yarn. There is a specific knitting pattern – but simple- that repeats by 3's which reminds us of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. When a shawl is completed a prayer is said over the shawl and given to individuals who are ill. If you think you would be interested or want to have more information see Jackie Guillon or Glenda Rowse. available for your mission giving to the church and our church fellowship.

New Sermon Series

Lessons from the Garden

Life Principles from Matthew 13:1—32

April 8th—22nd

1175 Conklin Road ▪ PO Box 151 ▪ Conklin, New York 13748

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39 Broad Avenue ▪ PO Box 99 ▪ Binghamton, NY 13904

Email: conklinpres@aol.com ▪ Web Site: conklinpres.org

BAN Chapel Congregational Calendar

Sunday Worship Service – 9:00

Building/Grounds----- Beth Lewis

Deacons Judy Evans, Debbie Konnick,

Betty Ann Puzo, and Nancy Rychlewski

Christian Education ----- Debbie Konnick

Children's Sunday School----- Bev Emmett &

Debbie Konnick

Personnel CPC ----- Mary Sternquist

Stewardship CPC ----- Bev Emmett

Choir Tuesdays at 6 PM Gloria Larson,

Music Director

Worship/Bulletin/Newsletter----- Marian Vergason

BAN WOC (Women of the Church) -- Mary Sternquist

AA Meets Saturdays at 7:00 PM

Chapel Meeting: April 7th at 9:30. All are welcome to attend.

BAN Worship

Marian Vergason

March 18th brought the choirs of Broad Ave-North and Conklin Presbyterian together for the first time at BAN performing their Easter Cantata "Christ the King" with Wayne Barlow conducting, Dottie Jean Baer - organ and Gloria Larson - piano. It was wonderful to see so many from both sites filling the church raising their voices in praise to God. Happy Easter to everyone.

BAN Deacons

Nancy Rychlewski

Please remember Grace Corell and Doug Ticknor in your prayers while they are going through difficult times. Also keep Bill Emmett in your thoughts and prayers. God bless you all!

BAN CHOW

Bev Emmett

Please bring pasta and sauce for CHOW during April. Thank you!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Kyle and Nick Tucci on the birth of their identical twin boys, both weighing in at 5 lbs apiece! All are home and doing well. Extended family includes Debbie and Greg Konnick who are the proud Grandparents and Great Grandma BettyAnn & Great Grandpa Clint Puzo.

BAN WOC Rummage & Bake Sale

Mary Sternquist

The Rummage & Bake Sale will be held April 12 and 13 from 9 to 3 and April 14 from 9 to Noon with "Bag Sale". We will also have DOC's City Chicken! This is an important fundraiser and a week long effort which requires many volunteers. Please donate whatever time you can to help make this fundraiser a success. Please contact Mary Sternquist if you have questions.



BAN Save the Date: Sat., May 5, 2018

Bev Emmett

May Friendship Day @ Choconut Center United Methodist Church, the theme this year is "In Gratitude for God's Presence" (see Bev Emmett for tickets \$12.00). Come support Binghamton Church Women United's mission to help women and children in need.

One Great Hour Of Sharing

Bev Emmett

Thank you for your generosity this year sharing your gifts for those who benefit from your giving to One Great Hour of Sharing. Helping the hungry, helping those in times of disaster and self-development of people.

April, the Angel of the Month ~ Vita Sackville-West.

Your Spring Garden--For the Garden of Your Daily Living

Shared by Marian Vergason

Plant 3 rows of peas: peace of mind, peace of heart, peace of soul. Plant 4 rows of squash: squash gossip, squash indifference, squash grumbling, squash selfishness. Plant 4 rows of lettuce: lettuce be faithful, lettuce be kind, lettuce be patient, lettuce really love one another. No garden is complete without turnips: turnup for meetings, turnup for service, turnup to help one another. To conclude our garden we must have thyme: thyme for each other, thyme for family and thyme for friends. Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. There is much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow.

~ The Artful Farm

Whitney Scholarship

Jack Bell

Just a friendly reminder that scholarship applications and references are due to the Stewardship Committee by April 15th!

May Newsletter Deadline

Karla Toman

**The May Newsletter deadline is Sunday, April 15th.
Please send your articles to conklinpres@aol.com.**

Church Office

Church office will be closed on Monday, April 2nd.

Congratulations

Ian Tschang has been named a National Merit Scholarship Finalist and is the salutatorian for the Class of 2018 at Seton High School. Congratulations Ian—we are so proud of you!

Separate Check Club

It's no fun eating alone, join your Church friends at



on Tuesday, April 10th at Noon

Please sign-up by Sunday, March 11th so you can be included in the reservation.

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Stewardship Committee

Bev Emmett

2018 February Financial Results

** figures rounded to nearest \$100*

Balance Sheet:

	2018	2017
Tioga checking account	\$85,900	\$87,900
Unrestricted fund balance	\$24,100	\$28,100

Revenue & Expenses:

	February			Year to Date		
	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
Revenue	\$27,300	\$24,200	\$25,600	\$56,300	\$44,700	\$43,600
Expenses	\$20,500	\$16,700	\$21,900	\$43,900	\$38,400	\$40,500
Diff	\$6,800	\$7,500	\$3,700	\$12,400	\$6,300	\$3,100

Thank You

A heartfelt thank you to the anonymous people who cleaned, painted, and decorated the south end bathrooms. They look beautiful. Thank you.

Mission/Evangelism Committee

Glenda Rowse

Thank you for your generous contributions of fruit and vegetables for the CHOW barrel. We will continue for the month of April with the specific foods being SOUP and CRACKERS.



New Community Outreach Program

Glenda Rowse

The Mission-Evangelism Committee is initiating a Community Outreach Program with Donnelly school. At this time we are collecting items that the school nurse has identified as needing in the Health office. The budget for the Health office does not spread far enough for the purchase of these items. Below is a list of needed items. There is a "school box" in the North Hall to place the items. The target date to have the items delivered to the school would be the last week of April. Thank you all for your generosity.

1. Boys underwear- boxers preferred sizes x-small to x-large
2. Girls underwear- sizes 4, 6, 8
3. Boys and Girls socks- any sizes
4. Elastic waist pants for both girls and boys. Sizes 6, 8, 18, 20.
5. Extra sneakers- Any sizes from child's 11 to adult size 7

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Address service requested

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April 2018

Non-Profit Organization

US Postage Paid

Conklin, NY

Permit #4

BAN Rummage & Bake Sale

April 12th and 13th 9 AM—3 PM

April 14th 9 AM—noon

(see inside for more details)

Separate Check Club

Lunch will be at Olive Garden Italian Kitchen

on Tuesday, April 10th at Noon

(see inside for more details)

Ladies' Luncheon

Saturday, April 21st at noon

Conklin Presbyterian Church

(see inside for more details)

Bowl of Plenty

Free Community Dinner on

Thursday, April 12th @ 6 PM

Conklin Presbyterian Church