

News from the Pews

Greetings!

My name is Rev. Becky Kindig and I have joined in ministry with you here at Conklin Presbyterian Church as a part time minister for Pastoral Care. I am from this area, I grew up in Great Bend and married my husband Scott who is from Endwell where we now live. We have two children, Evan who is 20 and is a sophomore at Binghamton University studying Chemistry and Emma who will be 18 in September and is a senior at Maine Endwell High School. We also have an exchange student this year from Germany whose name is Lene. (pronounced Leena)

I first went to college to study Wildlife Biology with a concentration in Ornithology. (yes, I am a crazy bird watcher!) I grew up Catholic but when I married Scott, I became Presbyterian and was a member of Northminster Presbyterian Church. I became involved in the Sunday School, Youth Ministry, and Christian Education Committee and then also involved with the Christian Nurture team at the Presbytery level. I soon found myself called to pastoral ministry, which was something I had never considered! In 2008 I was accepted to Princeton Theological Seminary and entered as a Dual Degree Student and graduated in 2012 with both my MDiv and a Masters in Christian Education. My family moved with me for the four years and when I was done with school, we landed back here with family while I searched for a call.

I have been at the United Presbyterian Church of Binghamton now for 5 years, becoming their half time Associate Pastor for Spiritual Formation. I oversee the Adult Education classes which include many book studies, a bible study, and Sunday school. I also run the youth Sunday school class which is a preschool class at the moment. I am also the co-chair of the Nurture Team of Presbytery and help to run Presbytery wide youth events. I enjoy preaching, singing in the choir, and overseeing the Property team as well. I absolutely love being a pastor and am so happy that I decided 17 years ago to change my career path and pursue God’s calling.

Some of you may wonder, what exactly is a minister for Pastoral Care? I am here in part to support your wonderful Deacons in their ministry of caring for the people of Conklin Presbyterian Church, both in Conklin and Broad Avenue. I will help to visit people in the hospital, nursing homes, or those who are not as able to get out anymore. I am also here to listen to any of you who may have spiritual questions or who may just need a shoulder to cry on. I am here also for funeral services. I am here to listen to your stories, celebrate your joys, and to help you listen to where God is calling you next. The Session has contracted me for 5-7 hours per week. You can reach me several ways. You can contact the church office and Karla will help you to reach me. You can contact me by email at BKindig@upcbgm.org. And if you are having a pastoral emergency, you can reach me on my cell phone, 607-759-4481.

It has been my great pleasure to get to meet many of you this past month and I look forward to meeting more of you in the future!

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Becky

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## September Birthdays

September 12-----	Ellen Mack
September 13-----	Carol Bell Sally Morgan
September 15-----	Cindy Hauptfleisch
September 17-----	Kevin Brown
September 18-----	Bob Page Emily Trudell
September 23-----	Jaron Anderson Stella Manning
September 24-----	Amber Adams
September 26-----	Scott Brewer
September 28-----	Suzy Barlow Barbara Watson

## September Anniversaries

September 7-----	Betty & Jon Anderson
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## Healing Prayer

Dot Conklin

Family of Dayton Alger Allen	Sandy & Bill Llewellyn Jody Nagel
Julie Allen	Jan Quigley
Alexandra Atwood	Don Roe
Lynn Bond	Jonathan Rouse
Allen Bonner	Maddie Shaw
Mary Borley	Millie Simmons
Jim Davern	Greg Stayer
Family of Mary DeVoe	JP Tschang
Family of Don Everett	Family of Nellie Weyant
Jean Fairbairn	John Yedinak
Nancy Fairbairn	Our Church
Thomas Gately	Our Country
Paul Ives	Hurricane victims in Houston

The next healing prayer meeting will on  
Tuesday, September 19th @ 11 AM in the CPC Chapel.

## Sunday School

Bill Miller & Karla Toman

# Rally Day

is Sunday, September 24th!

Please join us at 9:30 for our Sunday School kick off!

If you have any questions, please contact the church  
office at 607.775.0365.

## Worship Committee

Carol Bell

- ◆ **Communion:** September 3rd @ 11am
- ◆ **Committee meeting:** Thursday, September 7th @ 7pm

Thanks for all your support and participation in signing up for Lay Leaders. If you would like to volunteer for September and October, the sign-up sheet is in the North Hall.

**All Elders and Deacons:** Check out the Communion List in the North Hall for open serving dates. Sign up for a Sunday that works for you!

The Worship Committee is also looking for a new Head Usher for the 4th Sunday of the month. Anyone interested in serving in this capacity, please see Carol Bell.

## Mission Highlights

Jean Fairbairn

### Vadaketh Development Center & Vadaketh Rehabilitation Center in India

Please join us on Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> to welcome our long-time friend Mrs. Irene George who, with her late husband, Dr. V.C. George, championed Jesus Christ's call to serve the "least among us" in their home country of India. Caring and advocating for children and adults with severe developmental disabilities, they founded a school for children and a vocational rehabilitation center for adults previously neglected by their community because of their disabilities. Following Dr. George's passing in November 2016, she and the people and system he put into place to continue this important work are making great strides in insuring its ongoing efficacy and permanence. We've enjoyed many heartwarming visits by Dr. and Mrs. George over the years and look forward to seeing her and hearing about the ongoing developments and plans. Copies of the Vadaketh Development Center and Vadaketh Rehabilitation Center Annual Report will be available in the North Hall The Report's introductory letter sums it up: "Dr. George started out as a Christian seeking to help children who were left out of the community. From a room in the George's house to two independent facilities that actually provide a way for these children to be educated, participate in an adult training program and even work in the community is an amazing thing. As George would say, 'it's a God thing, it was Him all along'."

Yours in Christ,

The CPC Mission Committee

## 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

Adult Sunday School

Fellowship/Personnel CPC ----- Mary Sternquist

Fellowship/Nurture 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

**Next Chapel Meeting: To be announced**

## BAN Deacons

*Betty Ann Puzo*

Please keep our shut-ins and those suffering with a health issue in your prayers. During the summer, a long time member, Betty Duscik, passed away. She had spent the last few years in the Susquehanna Nursing Home. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers. Our shut-ins now include Naomi Clark and Bill Emmett.

## BAN Rummage & Bake Sale

Coming October 5 & 6 from 9 to 3 and October 7 9 to Noon with "bag sale". Much help is needed – please contact Mary Sternquist. Donations of baked items are also needed for the Bake Sale. Profits benefiting the WOC (Women of the Church organization).

## Bronzissimo!

*Marian Vergason*

Thank you to the Community Handbell Choir presented by Bronzissimo! for another excellent concert that filled the church and shared their talent and beautiful music with us. The \$100 donation from the choir benefitted the BAN building fund.

## BAN Worship

*Marian Vergason*

We are so blessed to have Rev. Dr. Charles Colton with us as we continue our journey in searching for a new pastor and Rev. Becky Kindig doing pastoral care.

We are currently looking for someone to take over the Adult Sunday School/Bible Study time which is normally held during coffee hour on Sundays. If you are interested, please contact me. We thank Carol, who passed away this year, and her husband, Rick Simrell, for their many years of teaching and commitment to this ministry

## BAN Shoebox Project

*Marian Vergason*

The Shoebox Project is coming along nicely. We have almost a full table of items and some donations of money to put toward the postage needed to mail the boxes. An update on the postage... it now takes \$9 per box to mail, an increase of \$2 from 2016. We will collect items and money until the middle of October. Thank you to those wrapping the boxes during the summer sausage sale and to all who have made donations so far.

## BAN Sausage & Hot Dog Sales

As of this writing, we have one more week to go finishing the sausage and hot dog fundraiser for this year. The profit from the combination of food, drink, bake sale, baskets and book sales will benefit the BAN building fund. We appreciate and thank everyone who supported the effort throughout July and August.

## The Garden Fairy

*Master Gardner, Debbie Konnick*

Dutch Elm disease, what does it mean to you? Millions of dead trees. Well now we are in the midst of losing all varieties of Ash trees to the Emerald Ash Bore. I sit in my back yard looking at all the Ash trees in the woods wondering how much longer they will have leaves. They are currently 50% bare. Then there is the Asian Longhorn Beetle that is also causing much devastation. I urge you to Google these two insects to see what you can do to help combat them.



## More Mission Highlights

Jean Fairbairn

*To Inspire our Hearts and our Service in the Name of Jesus Christ*

### The Asturias Academy in Guatemala

On Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup> Huck Thurston-Griswold blessed us with a heartfelt presentation on an educational mission that “empowers Guatemalan youth to break the cycle of poverty and to build a more just and inclusive society” in the country they call home. A son of Conklin Presbyterian Church, the first youth to serve as an elder on our Session, and now a professor, husband and father of his own children, Huck has embraced and actively supports the work of the Miguel Angel Asturias Academy in Guatemala. Approximately 90% of the students at the Academy come from poor families and without scholarship assistance would be unable to receive the transformative education offered at the school. A study to assess the benefits of an Asturias Academy education found that 95% of its high school alumni were first-generation high school graduates, 77% had continued their

studies at the university level (compared to 3% nationwide) and 89% were currently employed in what they consider to be a decent or worthwhile job. The school currently serves @200 students in Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade on an annual operating budget of \$120,000.00 and virtually 100% of donations go directly to program expenses. Huck leads educational mission trips to the Academy every other year and enthusiastically welcomes participation and/or financial support.

The CPC Mission Committee has chosen the Asturias Academy in Guatemala as our new ALMS Project for prayer and financial support. Just \$600/year can provide the gift of education for one deserving student. Please prayerfully consider joining with us as partners in this mission for peace, justice and hope through education. You may contribute to this Spirit-led Project at any time, by earmarking your donations for the “CPC ALMS Project” and placing them in one of the collection plates or mailing them to our church.

Yours in Christ,

The CPC Mission Committee

## 2017 Harvest Festival

Reenie Dedrick



**Mark your calendar for this fall event !!!!!**

**Saturday November 4, 2017 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

The success of our annual fund raiser depends upon all of the church family participating. How can you help?

- ◆ Donate items for the "gently used sales".
- ◆ Donate a theme basket. Contact Betty Noccolino at 607.775-2356 if you'd like donate a basket.
- ◆ Bake some goodies for the bake sale.
- ◆ Volunteer to help - don't wait to be asked. You are needed to set up and to clean up and take down. We all can help in some way.

**Rummage Sale is 3 days this year!**

**Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 2, 3, 4 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

The North Hall Rummage Sale needs items too! As you prepare for fall clearing out of your house, attic, garage, basement, and other storage areas, Put aside these items to donate to the November festival Rummage Sale.

- ◆ Pocketbooks and purses.
- ◆ Gently used children's toys. Boxes are available now in the north hall for these two items.
- ◆ Gently used books, CDs, DVDs, games, and puzzles to the kitchen annex. These items to be sold in the rummage sale.
- ◆ Items needed: linens, kitchen items, items to be sold in rummage sale
- ◆ Household items, holiday items, etc.
- ◆ **No clothing or shoes please.**

There are areas set aside now, for collecting items for the rummage sale. Contact Amanda Killmeier for information at 607.287.7254.

Remember, your gently used stuff could be some else's treasure. **The 2017 Harvest Festival event is a big event and we need your help.**

Amanda Killmeier, Coordinator

Reenie Dedrick, PR



## Stewardship Committee

Jack Bell

Happy summer everyone! Lately, Sunday attendances have been exceeding that of the corresponding week last year at both campuses. Reverends Colton and Kindig have brought a new energy to our two campuses in my judgement.

As you can see from the above numbers, financial results were better than last year's from a income/expense ratio for both July and year to date!

A couple of small custodial issues I'd like to repeat from past newsletter topics:

- THERE IS NO BUILDING FUND.** It has been this way for 2-3 years due to the fact it was eliminated because of the financial fact that it ALWAYS required being supplemented by the regular checking account. We have one regular checking account the covers all expenses for both campuses. Further, an person analogy would be that if you had household income of \$25,000/yr and expenses of \$30,000, you would hardly make extra payments on your mortgage when you deficit spend to pay your regular bills. Should you wish to make a principle payment on our mortgage, that certainly is a great thing.....BUT....please be sure that payment is OVER AND ABOVE your pledged contribution! THANKS.
- Some folks have yet to pick up their 2017 donation envelopes. They are in the narthex with your name on them.
- As always, we on the Stewardship Committee are looking for a "few good Presbyterians". Applicants must be able to add and subtract.
- The mowing crew is looking for a couple more volunteers due to some life changes for some of our members. Must be able to sit on your butt and drive a lawnmower without crashing it into Conklin Avenue. Please see Jack Bell if you're qualified. This has nothing to do financially with stewardship but.....make no mistake...it is worthy to our church.

In Christ's Service,  
Your Stewardship Team,  
Barb, Dana, Dave, Gary, Jack

### July 2017 Financial Results

\* numbers rounded to nearest \$100

Balance Sheet:

	2017	2016	
Checking Account Balance	\$78,700	\$86,300	July's bal 1,500 greater was in June 2017!
Undesignated Funds	\$19,300	\$23,000	July's bal \$3,400 higher than it was in June 2017!

Endowment funds are at about \$530,000. Mortgage balance about \$1,200,000.

Profit & Loss:

	July				YTD thru July			
	2015	2016	2017	%	2015	2016	2017	%
Revenue	\$17,800	\$21,300	\$19,200	-10	\$166,200	\$156,200	\$133,000	-15
Expenses	\$27,300	\$21,400	\$15,800	-25	\$179,100	\$164,500	\$136,400	-17
Difference	[\$9,500]	[\$100]	\$3,400		[\$12,900]	[\$8,300]	[\$3,400]	

Although total income is down 10% for the month and 15% year to date, the "loose offering" portion (a symptom of recent loose change giving) is up 40% year to date. Most likely due to significantly greater attendance.



# Bowl of Plenty

Free Community Dinner on  
Thursday, September 14th @ 6 PM  
Conklin Presbyterian Church

# Fall Hours Begin

Fall worship hours begin at Conklin Presbyterian  
Church on Sunday, September 3rd.  
Broad Avenue—North Chapel worship hours  
has not changed.

# Rally Day

Will be on Sunday, September 24th!  
Please join us at 9:30 AM  
to kick—off Sunday school 2017!

Address service requested

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1175 Conklin Road  
PO Box 151  
Conklin, New York 13748

Phone: 607.775-0365

Fax: 607.775-4318

Email: [conklinpres@aol.com](mailto:conklinpres@aol.com)

Web Site: [conklinpres.org](http://conklinpres.org)

September 2017

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