



Pastor's Page

Back in the day, I would sit at the breakfast table with my Mom and Dad. Mom had instituted the practice of reading a selection from the Guidepost Devotion book she purchased every year. One particular day, in the early days of a new year Dad was reading the devotion. I remember that, as Dad replaced the bookmark for the next day's reading, I observed, "At the rate you're reading Dad, I think you'll about have that book finished by the end of the year!" Dad deeply appreciates my sense of humor. Sometimes.



The devotion that day was about a man telling the story of a picture that hung over his desk. The photograph is of an old grain elevator that was transported to the land owned by a friend's father. For 30 years, his friend's father had lovingly been recreating the old grain elevator into a one-of-a-kind home. It has many unique features, like a 1950's soda fountain complete with spinning stools. The photograph of the converted grain elevator had been sent

to the author of the devotion when he was going through a very difficult time of transition in his life.

His friend sent him the picture with words like these - the old grain elevator had had a productive life but, seemingly, had outgrown its usefulness. It must have seemed harsh to be hauled away to a new location; to be sawed and rewired and remodeled. But the carpenter had a plan for the grain elevator that would give it a new life.

His friend went on to say that the carpenter in our life is, of course, God. Now, old grain elevators have no choice about what will become of them. But I believe that God waits for us to accept and participate in God's activity in our lives. People engaged in twelve-step work know that acceptance is hard work. We want the universe to arrange itself to suit us, and we often resist mightily God's work in us and through us that arranges US to suit the needs of the universe. Sometimes accepting, enduring, and submitting to God's work in our lives is hard. Remodeling the human heart and reconciling all our relationships has more in common with ripping out bad plumbing and rotted wood than we are comfortable admitting!


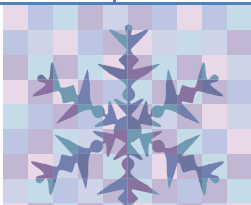


May God give us courage for acceptance of ourselves, our limitations and acceptance of those around us. May God give us patience to endure times of transition and uncertainty in our lives. May God give us grace to appreciate the Spirit's work in each other. And, may God surprise us with joy.

Blessings,

Pastor Karen

February 2019

Bells of Praise: Thursdays at 6:30 pm				Women's AA: Sundays at 7:15 pm, Tuesdays at noon		
Choir Rehearsals: Sundays at 9:00 am				Closed Meeting AA: Thursdays at noon		
Monday Bible Study: Mondays at 10:00 am				Prez Deadline for March: February 24		
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<i>You have established all the boundaries of the earth; you have made summer and winter. Psalm 74:17</i>					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9 am Choir 10 am Communion 11:15 Refreshments	1 pm Monday Painters	3:45 pm Study 5pm Dinner 6 pm Study 7:15 Scouts 7:30 CE Mtg.				2:30 pm Bowling for Beds at Del Lanes
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9 am Choir 10 am Worship 11:15 Refreshments	1 pm Monday Painters Scouts 6 B&G 7 pm	3:45 pm Study 5pm Dinner 6 pm Study	7 pm Scouts			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9 am Choir 10 am Worship and Installation of Officers 11:15 Refreshments	1 pm Monday Painters 4 pm Rental	3:45 pm Study 5pm Dinner 6 pm Study 7:15 pm Session				1 pm Rental
24	25	26	27	28		
9 am Choir 10 am RPMs in Worship 11:15 Refreshments 11:15 Deacons Mtg.	1 pm Monday Painters 6 pm Scouts	3:45 pm Study 5pm Dinner 6 pm Study				

	Liturgists	Readers	Hostess	Greeters	Deacon in Charge	Ushers
3	David Andersen	Deborah Andersen	Beth Walthall	Jack Family	Jack Gajewski	Jack and Ginny Gajewski
10	Ravi Bolleddu	Drew Hyde		Hertz Family	Jack Gajewski	Gary and Ellen Kelly Lind
17	David Austin	David Scott		Andersen Family	Steve Zayas	TBD
24	RPMs	RPMs		Lewis Family	Drew Hyde	TBD

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Church School

Writing a monthly Prez article makes me realize just how fast time goes by. The children truly enjoyed being involved in the entire worship service on January 27th. They all took their participation with respect and honor. The children will be participating in a full worship service again on March 10th.

This Sunday the elementary children will be reading the Gospel story and sharing a little gift with the congregation as reminder of how they interpreted this particular scripture. Once again with the guidance and creativity of

Miss Cheryl the Pre-School class has designed and executed another amazing bulletin cover.



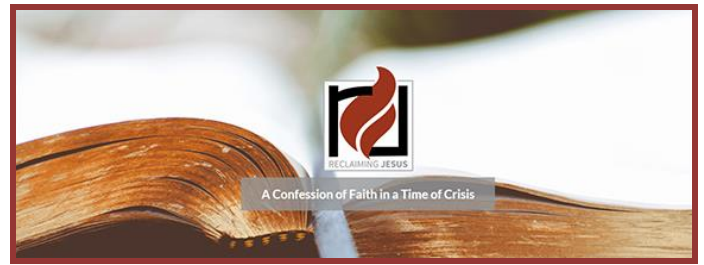
Along with Sarah Lewis and Lisa Bolleddu, our Elementary Class

has been going great. I am humbled and blessed to work with this great faith community.

Is there is anyone who feels they have, or might have, a talent they would like to share with either one or both of the Sunday School classes? Please email, call, or talk with myself, David Anderson, Sarah Lewis, or Cheryl Gardiner. As new Modules come to be, I will try to let everyone know ahead of time what we will be doing so people will be able to plan.

Each day, please try to find a moment to take a deep breath and thank God.

Joani Jameson
Director of Youth & Family



"Reclaiming Jesus: A Confession of Faith in a Time of Crisis"

Tuesdays

Through March 9, 2019

3:45 pm First Session

5:00 pm Shared Meal

6:00 pm Second Session

For the Children:
Planned activities during the second session

RPMS

Midnight Run

Look for donation boxes for our Midnight Run, which will be at each church and will run through February. We need lots of WARM WINTER items, preferably **dark** colors:

Hats (Lots of these)
Gloves (Lots of these)
Coats (Lots of these)
Sweaters and sweatshirts (large and x-large)
Jeans (sizes 32 - 40)
Boots and/or Sneakers (men's sizes 9-12, women sizes 8 plus)
Long underwear
Toiletries

Note:

The RPMs will be leading us in worship on Sunday, February 24th to talk about their upcoming mission trip.

SAVE THE DATE!

GROUNDS FOR GIVING COFFEE HOUSE

Saturday, March 9 from 6-9 pm

Delmar Reformed Church

Tickets 1 for \$15 / 2 for \$25

DEACONS

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Don't see your name? Add your information to the birthday lists in the fellowship hall or email the office at info@delmarpres.org.

1	Michelle Zayas
4	Diana Wildemann
6	Sarah Carroll
9	Nancy Braaten
16	Lisa Bolleddu
16	Andrew Carroll
17	Mary Wilson Hyde
18	Lauren Jack
	Kevin Jack
19	Pam Taft
21	Chris Greagan
22	Greg Hyde

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Ladies Who Care



*Wednesday, February 27th
at Noon*

You will want to circle your calendar for the LWC program on Wednesday, February 27th. Pastor Karen Pollan will introduce the topic, *Celtic Spirituality*, for our contemplation and discussion. All women in the church and guests are invited.

As the Roman Empire crumbled, churches were left to fend for themselves cut off from Rome. Distinctive local culture found expression in the churches of Ireland and Scotland—situated at the edges of the former Roman world -- that has come to be called 'Celtic Christianity.' This church lived during the death of one age and the birth of another. We too are living in an in-between time as what has been called the Modern age gives way to the Post-Modern. Perhaps we can learn from our elders in the faith, as we face the challenges and opportunities and strive to be faithful to our calling in our time.

Please bring a bag lunch. Dessert and beverages will be provided. We'll meet in the church library at noon.

RSVP to Judy Riopelle, jjriopelle@gmail.com, or sign up in the Narthex.

WORSHIP

Music

Musical developments: The organ has been "out for repairs" for the last several weeks. This Sunday we'll have one more service led on the Kawai electronic piano; the organ should be reinstalled early next week.

But there's more news! Last fall we held a 'Coffee House' fundraiser to purchase a quality piano for the sanctuary. We had a great deal of fun together, and raised almost \$3000 for the new Piano Fund.

A couple of months ago, a new friend of the church approached Carol about her baby grand piano. She was willing to give it to the church at a vastly reduced price. The piano was inspected by Claiborne, Carol and an expert in piano repair.

It is a lovely instrument with a very sweet sound. It is an older instrument but has been thoroughly rebuilt, so is in very good shape.

The result that as the Prez is going out we are awaiting the arrival of a Baldwin baby grand piano! The total cost is less than what was raised last fall so this is all paid for. Like many large purchases, there are other associated needs -- tuning and some minor maintenance, and accessories like an adjustable bench, music light, cover, and rolling dolly -- so there may be another fundraiser to raise the rest of these costs this spring. All in all, we are receiving a lovely instrument for far less than its "book value." It's a great blessing that will enhance our worship for years to come!



OUTREACH

Update from Rev. Sandy Damhof of Cornerstone Campus Ministries

As many of you know, my husband, Curt, has been receiving cancer treatments since the beginning of last semester in August 2018. The next part of the treatment plan is a stem cell transplant at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester. The treatment will require that I take a 4-6 week leave of absence beginning Sunday, February 24. Curt and I cherish your prayers for this part of our journey. His treatment team is very positive about the outcome and anticipate that at the end of the transplant, he will be cancer free.

Winter Bake Sales: We have chosen **Sunday, February 24** as the date this year. I understand that is rather short notice, but In consultation with our student leaders, we felt it would be best to do the baking while I was still around instead of waiting until I return later in the semester when the schedules of our students get much busier. We were tempted to cancel this semester, but we really feel that our partnership is strengthened when our students connect with you in worship ... and of course, the funds we raise are critical for funding our ministry.



**CORNERSTONE BAKE SALE
FEBRUARY 24TH**

Family Promise
Week of March 10-16

We invite you to join us in this ministry!

You can help by signing up to prepare a meal, spend an evening hosting or sleeping over at the church. Help is also needed to prepare their rooms before they arrive and to break down their rooms when the week is over.

This important ministry helps fragile families get back on their feet. Check with Dave Rees for more information. Drees21@verizon.net
Signup sheets will be in the narthex soon.

SESSION DIGEST

Highlights of the January 15, 2019

Session Meeting for the Prez

- The Congregational Life Committee reported that the January 12 Folk Dancing evening was a wonderful success with about 45 people attending. This was an event in conjunction with B'nai Sholom Reformed Congregation and Journey United Church of Christ. The evening raised about \$450 for Family Promise. The committee worked with the Fellowship Committee to organize the Memorial Service reception for Janice Blakley.
- The Finance Committee Chair presented a draft copy of the 2019 Annual Meeting presentation (Understanding Our Church's Finances), and a possible 2019 budget. Pledge amounts received so far were

reviewed and various options were presented as to how to close the projected 2019 budget deficit. Written reports were also distributed outlining expenditures and income for 2018. Session thanked Bob Lowry for his very fine presentation and for his hard work with the budget and the stewardship campaign.

- The Christian Education Committee submitted a written report of the January 8 meeting. A more thorough review of income and expenditures for the Jermain Fund was discussed.
- The Nominations Committee notified Session there is one elder position to be filled for 2019.
- The Worship Committee reported that the organ is currently being repaired. Session approved a small amount of additional funding as other minor repair needs were discovered once the repair work began.
- The Communications Committee reported they are working with the Christian Education Committee to ensure accurate information on our website for the various studies that are taking place. The committee is also looking at shortening the announcements before worship service. Comments were made commending the Committee for the fine work improving the church web site.
- The Clerk of Session reported that correspondence was received from the Albany Presbytery on December 19 regarding the requirement to file five reports. Session approved the OGA Session Annual Statistical Report for 2018 which was submitted on January 21.

Pastor Karen reported she has been communicating with Holly Cameron regarding Holy week. Dates will be established soon.

Linda Krzykowski and Sarah Lewis, who are leaving Session, were commended for their service and dedication.

Session also approved the following items at the meeting:

- The minutes from the December meeting of Session
- Approval of David Austin as Clerk of Session for 2019
- Communion date of February 3; pew service
- Approval of 2019 Presbytery Commissioner Ron Tweedie; alternate Commissioner Nina Nichols
- Building Requests : **Members:** Kathy Glass-Mullet Corner Gateway LLC Meeting Monday January 21st 8 am – 6 pm, Gina Jack Party Monday February 18th 4-10 pm, Bob Lynk Bethlehem Art Association Meeting Thursday April 11th 6:30-9 pm, Bob Lynk Bethlehem Art Association Workshop Saturday April 27th 8 am – 4 pm, Laura Scott / Liz Poole Modern Quilt Guild Sale Saturday April 13th 8am -5 pm, Lynda Spielman Art Class Wednesday TBD, **Civic:** Kiwanis Breakfast Saturday March 9 8 am – 4 pm, **Community at Large:** Amber Patterson Party Sunday January 6th 1 – 7 pm, Srinivas Voleti Social Gathering Sunday January 13 1 – 7 pm.

The next Session meeting was established for Tuesday, February 19 at 7:15 p.m.

SPORTS



"Bowling for Beds" at Del Lanes Saturday, Feb. 9, 2019 - 2:30 pm

The annual Bowl-A-Thon to raise money for the emergency overflow shelter in Albany will be held this weekend. This continues to be a focus for the Capital Area Council of Churches(CACC).

Since 2000, CACC as sponsor, and First Lutheran Church of Albany as host, have responded to this crisis by providing an emergency overflow shelter through the cold weather months 7 days week 12 hours a day.

Last year Presby's 16 bowlers raised \$1460. So sign up -- get your sponsor's sheet, line up and collect from your sponsors so we can deliver \$1500 this year to CACC on the 9th of February.

Bob Lynk

DPC and Social Media

Visit our website for the latest updates on events
and to listen to weekly sermons!

www.delmarpres.org



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Delmar Presbyterian Church
585 Delaware Avenue
Delmar, NY 12054