

The following words are taken from *The Message*, the Bible in Contemporary Language.

“Introduction to the Book of John”

In Genesis, the first book of the Bible, God is presented as speaking the creation into existence. God speaks the word and it happens: heaven and earth, ocean and stream, trees and grass, birds and fish, animals and humans. Everything, seen and unseen, called into being by God’s spoken word.

In deliberate parallel to the opening words of Genesis, **John presents God as speaking salvation into existence.** This time God’s word takes on human form and enters history in the person of Jesus. Jesus speaks the word and it happens: forgiveness and judgment, healing and illumination, mercy and grace, joy and love, freedom and resurrection. Everything broken and fallen, sinful and diseased, called into salvation by God’s spoken word.

For, somewhere along the line things went wrong (Genesis tells that story, too) and are in desperate need of fixing. The fixing is all accomplished by speaking – God speaking salvation into being in the person of Jesus. Jesus, in this account, not only speaks the word of God; he is the Word of God.

Keeping company with these words, we begin to realize that our words are more important than we ever supposed. Saying “I believe,” for instance, marks the difference between life and death. Our words accrue dignity and gravity in conversations with Jesus. For Jesus doesn’t impose salvation as a solution; he narrates salvation into being through leisurely conversation, intimate personal relationships, compassionate responses, passionate prayer, and – putting it all together – a sacrificial death. We don’t casually walk away from words like that. *“The Message”* by Eugene H. Peterson, Published 2002 by NavPress Publishing Group.

Report on the **Wednesday Bible Study**: The six week overview of the Books of the Bible turned into seven weeks! There was so much material to cover and to understand. We had an average of 16 people each week with great sharing from the group. **The last week will be May 3rd at 7pm** with a DVD presentation of the Holy Land. All are invited to attend rather you came to the Bible Study or not.

Pastor’s articles *continued*.....

Shut-in Visitation

I am nearly through the **list of visits to shut-ins and members**. I hope to have accomplished the entire membership and shut-in lists by the end of May. It has been a blessing to meet so many new people with various backgrounds and life situations. **I hope to organize a visitation team sometime in June.** With a little organization, our members could go out on a regular basis and visit nursing home facilities, people in their homes - shut-ins, those recovering from surgery, and those who are quite lonely. It is our duty as Christians to care for one another – Jesus ordained it to be so.

New Member Class

A New Member Class will be held on **Tuesday, June 6th at 7 p.m.** in the Pastor's Study. We will learn more about the history of Harrisena, the business, fellowship and spiritual work that is done by so many. **On Tuesday, June 13, we hope to schedule a time for people seeking membership to meet the leaders of Harrisena at 6 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Please check with Pastor Patti to be sure this is going to happen as planned. We need to coordinate with several people to make this happen.

Forms will be available from Susan in our church office. It is important to step-up in our faith and make a commitment to the Lord and those who work so hard in this ministry. It takes all of us working together with Our Lord for the church to succeed in ministry.

A tentative date for **New Members to be received** into the life of the Church is **Sunday, June 18**, at the 9:30 worship service.

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## “What I Prayed for”

God's peace to everyone.

When I was asked to take on the leadership role for Harrisena a year ago, I hesitated. Not because I did not want to, but I was unsure if I could really help our church. I had never led a church before, and none of my professional experience seemed to lend itself to guiding a church. So, I prayed.

I prayed because I knew that it was not anyone at Harrisena asking me to take on this role. It was God. Perhaps he saw something in me that I was unaware of that Harrisena needed. Or maybe he saw something that I needed to learn that Harrisena could teach me. Most likely, it was a bit of both.

I prayed because I knew if I was to be successful, I would need help. So, I prayed for help. God responded.

**He sent Rev Patti to lead us.** By sharing her love, leading by example, generous gifts of her time, reaching out to our membership, opening her heart to us through her testimonies about God, sharing the music she had discovered over the years, being there when we need her most, she filled us with what we needed. *And so much to do. (continued.....)*

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**He sent talented leaders.** These gifted individuals own the talent, vision, strength and perseverance to get done what we needed to do. *And so much to do.*

**He sent experienced volunteers,** far too many to mention their names, who believed in the core values of our Jesus' teachings. They demonstrate these values every day by bringing God's love into our world. They came, not because I chased them down. They came because they have a pure desire to share God's love with as many as they can. *And so much to do.*

**He sent the resources.** Incredibly generous individuals and trusts gave us, ***gave us*** the financial resources we need to move forward. *And there is so much to do.*

What a marvelous God we serve! He answered all my prayers and so much more.

**Now I pray that God shares his renewing spirit with all of us,** to keep us healthy, together and loving each other as we finish this year and begin preparing for the next. Now I pray that he calls new individuals to him to help us with his important mission at Harrisena next year.

Just saying thank you seems so little. Just words, but please know that my gratitude for everything everyone has done is heartfelt. Maybe if I said a lot of times it would mean more. Thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you, for everything you do and the love you share. Together we made God's church, Harrisena, successful.

*With gratitude and prayerful thankfulness,  
Jim*

## Scholarship Committee

**The Scholarship Committee** announces the availability of **Scholarships for the 2017 academic year.** Students graduating from high school, **as well as** those presently enrolled in college are invited to apply.

Scholarships are *reserved for Harrisena Church members and their children* (you may re-apply even if you have received a scholarship in the past.) **Completed applications must be received by Friday, May 26, at 5 PM.**

An Application can be found on our website, [www.harrisena.org](http://www.harrisena.org); or a hard copy can be requested from the church office (792-1902). *All applications must be typed.*



## Birth

On March 19<sup>th</sup>, Sarah & Allan Brasch welcomed **Finn Baxter Brasch** into their family! Finn weighed 9 pounds, three and half ounces and was 21 inches long. *Proud great grandmother is Walda Blanchard!*



## Missions Committee

Missions Committee is now supporting **Open Door** and **Family Services**, plus **three children overseas** (Haiti, India, and El Salvador) on a monthly basis. We are also considering a donation to the **Salvation Army Food Pantry**. *Please contact Phyllis Straut if you have suggestions for future aid locally.*

**We appreciate all of the members who signed up to prepare food** for the dinner at *Christ Church Methodist* on **Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>!!** Another meal is planned for **August 26<sup>th</sup>**.

### ***By The Way – Aluminum Tab Fact:***

The Masons collected over 13 tons of aluminum can tabs last year, raising over \$13,000.00 for 22 hospitals, 7 burn units, 57 speech clinics, and 50 dyslexia clinics.

***Each tab that is collected counts!!***

A drop off place for aluminum tabs can be found in the church Office beginning **in May**.

*Thank you, Sue*

### **Special May Dates:**

*5/04- National Day of Prayer*

**5/05-5/07: HYF Retreat Dates**

*5/07 – Ecumenical Boat Cruise*

*5/09- Council @7 pm*

*5/14- Mother's Day*

**5/16 – Chapman Presentation @7 PM**

*5/28 –Memorial Day Sunday*

## Trustee Report

Dates: April 3, 6, 2017

**Meeting through email:** Robert Straut, Thalia Chase, Phil Farbaniec, Doris O'Rourke

There is now a **landline telephone in the Parsonage** as a safety measure because the cell phone service is not reliable in this area.

*Continued.....*

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After further research, we chose to **add an additional phone line in the office** because it is less expensive than installing a new piece of equipment on the fax machine. This will enable the office and pastor's office to access an open line.

We have met with **Thomas Duffy** who will give us a **proposal for the restoration/construction of the front Sanctuary doors**. Stay tuned for more details. We hope to have this project underway next month.



*Doris O'Rourke*

## Women's Association Report

On **Tuesday, May 16th at 7pm** in Robinson Hall the Harrisena Women's Association is sponsoring a free program which will be presented by **Kim Harvish**, Educator at the *Chapman Historical Museum*.

The program is entitled "**Dear Diary**" and is a look at local activities and customs through the words of four local diaries spanning 1855-1920. Please come and join us for this interesting program as our way to say thank you for all your continued support.

*Kelly Smith, Women's Assoc. President*

## Music Committee

*Nancy Wilder*

Lent is over and Easter celebrated. Thank you for all the kind appreciation you have consistently shown the choir. **We plan to sing, as usual, through Memorial Day**, with a potential small group for Baccalaureate in June. It's nice to have Noel back from her major work project.

**On hymnals:** A previous committee explored the need for newer hymnals but decided it was too expensive. The supplemental was printed instead. We are again looking into replacing our 1958 Pilgrim Hymnal, with partial funding from the **Ross Grant**. Books to fit Harrisena's worship style are not common. There are two to three choices. Think about your favorite songs, old memories and new ones. Where should we go musically in the 21<sup>st</sup> century? You will soon be asked which hymns are on your must-have list, including those not in the current book. All thoughts are welcome.



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## Worship Committee

Submitted by *Melissa Ferrie-Healy*

### ***Is God Calling You to Worship Committee?***

*Did you ever wonder what goes on behind the scenes at Harrisena? Do you have a vision for our future survival? Do you enjoy getting to know people better? Do you have strong organizational skills? Would you like to experience the joy of serving communion to our brothers and sisters in Christ? **If you answered yes to any of these questions, the WORSHIP COMMITTEE COULD USE YOU!***

**Jane Gould Badger and I will be completing our 3-year term at the end of August.** As members of the Worship Committee, we have been directly involved in navigating the tremendous changes that have occurred at Harrisena over the past few years. It has not been easy, but the experience has been thoroughly educational – and, when all is said and done, rewarding. We had no idea what we were in for when we agreed to serve on Worship Committee, but we are glad to have been able to play an active role in serving others when our church needed us most.

Though we cannot predict the future, we suspect there will be significant transitional work to be done during the next 3 years. Our church needs committed individuals to guide us through these changes to ensure we will continue to exist. If you hear the “*still small voice of God*” nudging you to help, we ask you to please share your interest with one of us as soon as possible. God never gives us more than we can bear, and He promises to be with us all the way. That has been our experience, and we can also promise to offer help as needed.

*As always, **we continue to welcome and encourage your feedback** with regard to every aspect of the worship experience at Harrisena Community Church.*

**2016-17 Worship Committee Members:** *Jane Gould Badger, Melissa Ferrie-Healy, Susan Ogden, Donna Davidson Smith, Joan Walker and Nancy Willett.*

## VBS 2017

Submitted by *Melissa Ferrie-Healy*

### ***Just the Facts, Ma'am***

**Who:** All children ages 4-12 are welcome to join us, whether they are part of our church family, our community or whether they are visiting from out of town.

**What:** *Maker Fun Factory* Vacation Bible School is a **week-long program designed to help us “build” all kinds of things**, but most importantly our faith and understanding of God, the **GREAT MAKER** of all

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things. Daily activities include story-telling, crafts, indoor and outdoor games, science experiments, singing, dancing and healthy snack.

**Where:** Harrisena Community Church, 1616 Ridge Road, Queensbury, NY 12804

**When:** *Monday July 31 – Friday August 4 at 9 AM-12 PM*

**Why:** We want our children to have a safe, fun place to learn about God and grow their faith over the summer (AND we enjoy making that possible!)

**How:** Interested adults and teenagers in our congregation agree to volunteer their time and talent to prepare and teach the program, mentor our campers, help with decorations, work toward building a sense of community and SO MUCH MORE!

**Cost:** FREE to our campers, but **funded in part by our church, in part by the Ross Grant and in part by the blood, sweat and tears of our volunteers**, who put their heart and soul into making this program a success!

*Does this sound like something you would like to be a part of? **Volunteers are ALWAYS welcome!** You can commit as much or as little time as you are able – **every little bit helps!***

Do you have children, or know of children who would benefit from this program? **Registration forms are available in Robinson Hall.** Why not put the date on your calendar and sign up now!

If you would like more information, please contact VBS director, Melissa Ferrie-Healy at [mlfmusic@yahoo.com](mailto:mlfmusic@yahoo.com) or 518-792-4709.



## May Birthdays

**1-** Alexandria Cartier; **2-** Christine Burke, Carla Burt, Mike Siano; **4-** Morgan Jenkins, Debbie Shahay;  
**5-** Wm Peter Brown, Steve Jabaut, Duncan Murphy, Liv Robinson, Susan Benva; **6-** Kyle Frank, Denis Hudon, Kathleen Jones, William Irving, Kayla Monroe; **7-** E. Clayton Burgess, Pamela Bonin;  
**10-** Hannah Hewlett, John (Sam) Einzig; **11-** Pamela Arnold, Justin Dutcher; **12-** Dustin Bruhns, Mary Alice Clickner; **14-** Sherry Morehouse, George Muller, John Wilder; **15-** Amy Webster-Mangum, Peggy McArthur, Jamie Mattison; **16-** Allen Dreon, Robert Straut, Sr.; **17-** Angela Gray, Frank Munoff, Lucas Gilles, Madeline Gilles; **20-** JoAnne Pierce; **22-** Shawn Gwinup, Linda Havens; **23-** Joe Blair, Jr., Lori Stiles; **24-** Jay McAdam; **25-** Frank Girard, Callie Hewlett, Judy Howe, Julie McGilpin, Richard Mahoney, Russell Smith; **26-** Chuck Ogden, Colleen Harney-Patterson; **27-** Esther Frederick, Mercedi Loonan, Adrienne Muller-Goldstein, Alexander Aust; **28-** Donald Pierce, Phil Silva, Kim Wilson; **29-** Carol Webster; **30-** Benjamin Lee; **31-** Ryan Healy

| SUNDAY                                                                   | MONDAY | TUESDAY                                                 | WEDNESDAY                      | THURSDAY              | FRIDAY                                       | SATURDAY                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
|                                                                          | 1      | 2 Sewing Group @10                                      | 3 Choir Reh. & AA @7:30        | 4                     | 5 <i>HYF Retreat begins</i>                  | 6 <i>HYF Retreat day</i> |
| 7 <i>Communion</i> @9:30<br>Boat Cruise 4:30 ( <i>HYF retreat ends</i> ) | 8      | 9 Sewing Group @10;<br><b>COUNCIL @7</b>                | 10 Choir Rehearsal & AA @ 7:30 | 11 Women's Assoc. @12 | 12                                           | 13                       |
| 14 <i>Worship</i> @9:30 AM<br><b>NO HYF</b>                              | 15     | 16 Sewing Group @10;<br><b>Chapman Presentation @ 7</b> | 17 Choir Rehearsal & AA @7:30  | 18                    | 19                                           | 20                       |
| 21 <i>Worship &amp; Baptism</i> @9:30                                    | 22     | 23 Sewing Group @10;<br><b>PEO Lunch &amp; Mtg @11</b>  | 24 Choir Reh & AA @7:30        | 25                    | 26 <b>All Scholarship Application due @5</b> | 27                       |
| 28 <i>Worship @</i> 9:30<br><b>NO HYF</b>                                | 29     | 30 Sewing Group @10                                     | 31 Choir Rehearsal & AA@7:30   |                       |                                              |                          |



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## Long-Term Prayer Requests - April 2017

*Please remember the following members and friends who need our prayers of love and encouragement.*

### **In Facilities**

John Austin – Fort Hudson Nursing Home  
Marjorie Bardin – Fort Hudson Nursing Home  
Lee Barton – Home of the Good Shepherd, Wilton  
Rod Bishop – The Landings of Queensbury  
Jane Christensen – Glen Terrace  
Grace Clough – Seacoast Nursing Center, MA  
Esther Frederick – The Stanton Nursing Home  
Roy Havens – Stanton Nursing Home  
Ann Healy – Fort Hudson Nursing Home  
Edward Hooker – Beacon Point Memory Center, Clifton Park  
Jane Lis – Eastern Star Campus, Oriskany  
Patricia Maddock – Assisted Living, Fort Edward  
Dave Thrun – Veterans Home  
Richard Werner – Crest Haven Nursing Home, NJ

### **At Home**

Adeline Aversano – Sister of Roy Urrico  
Maria Berg – Mother of Nicole Robinson  
Celine & Bob Boulé – Daughter/Son-in-law of Brandy & Wally Madon  
Christine Burke – Member of Harrisena  
Paul Butler – Friend of Jeanette Hunt  
Lee Ann Clark – Daughter of Murial Clark  
Kathleen Dumont – Niece of Brandy Madon  
Ingrid Engelhard – Friend of Debbie Shahay  
Alyson Fazio – Friend of Peg McArthur  
Olga Fisk – Mother of Lisa Kelly  
Collin Fuller (Veteran) – Son of Pastor Patti Girard  
Jane Henshaw – Friend of Joanne Beck  
Fabiola Jabaut – Mother of Steve Jabaut  
Douglas Jones – Son-in-law of Art Norton  
Carmen LeFebvre – Friend of Peg McArthur  
Joshua Louk – Nephew of Diane Matthews  
JJ Mattison – Friend of Tim McAuley  
McCane Family – Relatives of Bob & Phyllis Straut  
Terry & Dylan McDonnell – Cousins of Rev. Patti Girard  
Christopher Nobile – Son of Jim & Eleanor Nobile  
Todd S. Norton – son of Art Norton  
Oscar Olson – Great-nephew of Kathy Allen  
Jean Stein – Friend of Peg McArthur  
Sharon Sturdevant – Daughter of Marilyn Somerville  
Melanie Swinton – Friend of Sue Ogden  
Gail Varney – Member of Harrisena  
Lochlan Woodard – Cousin of Richard Kline

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## Members and Friends in the Military

*Please remember in prayer the veterans from **all wars**, who continue to suffer from PTSD and other injuries of the mind and body.*

**Ryan Barrett** (Pilot), nephew of Gigi Barrett—Afghanistan

**Alexis Best** (Army), stateside

**Andrew Bigelow** (Army), son of Karen Bigelow—serving stateside

**Aaron Clark** (Army/Spcl Forces)—serving in Afghanistan

**Derek Dumas**—stateside

**Gary Hogan** (USAF)

**Walter Howard** (USMC) – stationed in California

**Joseph Hubbard** (Army) – stateside

**Christopher Maille** (AFRES), son of Peter Christian- serving in Spain

**Maxwell Marshall** (Army) - serving in Afghanistan.

**Wes McQueen**, nephew of Dodi/Rev. Robinson- serving stateside

**Tony Mitchell** (USAF) - serving in Afghanistan.

**Chris Moore** (USN), friend of Beck family- serving stateside

**Brandon Payne** (Army), son of Deanne/Hal Payne- serving in Afghanistan

**Todd Payne** (Army), son of Deanna/Hal Payne – serving stateside

**James Pearson** (USAF)

**Phillip Riccio** (Army), son of Phyllis Riccio-serving in Germany

**Dominick Simione II** (Army), friend of Russ Smith- serving in Afghanistan

**Russell Smith** (USNG)

**Kelly Thompson** (US Health Svc)

**Daniel Urband** (USAF), grandson of Alice Urband—serving stateside

**Mark Wilson** (Army Spcl Forces/Reserves), husband of Andrea—serving stateside

**James Zito** (Army Reserves), friend of Beck family—serving stateside

*Please **update the status of anyone you know on this list as soon as information is available.***



Harrisena Community Church  
1616 Ridge Road  
Queensbury, NY 12804

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***The HARBINGER***

Harrisena Community Church  
1616 Ridge Road, Queensbury, NY 12804  
[www.harrisena.org](http://www.harrisena.org)

**SUNDAY WORSHIP:**

9:30 AM in the Sanctuary  
Nursery & Church school at 9:30 AM in  
The Education Building  
***ALL ARE WELCOME!***

Email: [harrisenchurch@gmail.com](mailto:harrisenchurch@gmail.com)

**Office Hours: 9 AM - 1 PM (T-F)**  
Office Phone (518) 792-1902  
Office FAX # (518) 743-0453



Interim Pastor: Rev. Patti Girard  
(518) 638-8201

**HARRISENA COMMUNITY CHURCH**