

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

DEVELOPING A HEART FOR GOD

"Be still and know that I Am God!" Psalm 46:10 NLT

Hesychía is one of the ancient Greek terms for stillness or quietness. It is used in scripture to describe a manner of living that is pleasing to God. Versions of this word are used in verses such as 1 Peter 3:3-4, *"Do not let your adorning be external... but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious,"* and 1 Thessalonians 4:11, *"But we urge you, brothers, to do this more and more, and to aspire to live quietly, and to mind your own affairs..."*

Remember what happened to Moses's face when he stood in the presence of God on Mount Sinai? Moses face was made gloriously radiant. Imagine how brightly you and I shine when we have spent time with God still and quiet. We realize that the shame we experience as a result of our sin is covered through the power of Jesus the Christ. God's holy and righteous presence shines light on our humiliation, on our shame, and on our guilt, when we enter the presence of God knowing of the transforming sacrifice of Jesus. We are free and the radiance of God shines in, on, and through us!

Ultimately, this is the posture of the heart, an attitude of reverent attention, when all noise, bustle, and activity are quieted. When our souls are still, the words we speak, the things we do, and the way in which we serve others will be wise, kind, full of God's beauty, and full of God's character. With practice, this becomes our way of life. It is life lived intentionally as a spiritual practice always mindful that we live in the presence of God. In God's presence we find our solace. In God's presence we discover that this stillness is a necessity for our soul's health and well-being. This is where we belong. This is where we are empowered, renewed, restored, and freed. The Apostle Paul teaches, *"For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."* 2 Corinthians 3:17 NLT

We are free and therefore equipped with God's wisdom to do the good works we have been created to do all in the presence of God, quiet and still.

"In the stillness of the quiet, if we listen, we can hear the whisper of the heart giving strength to weakness, courage to fear, hope to despair." Howard Thurman

Shalom!

In Christ's service with you,
Dr. N. C. Wimberly

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to Summer. For some of use, this is a time to relax and enjoy the longer and warmer days, for others it's a very busy time. For your Harrisena Family, it is the latter.

The Trustees are busy fixing up the buildings and grounds with such projects like – keeping the plumbing working, the possibility of new floors in Robinson Hall - and, of course, general maintenance. We are very lucky to have such great workers! Thank you for your dedication!

The Financial Committee is always busy trying to find ways to save us money. We are awaiting a reply from the Ross Grant. Thank you to all that worked on writing this wonderful gift from the Ross family who felt they could help our church and others with this grant.

Our Harrisena Family is always looking for ways to find financial help so our church can move forward.

We had a successful *“Junk in the Trunk”* sale on Saturday, June 1st. The *“Wall of Challenge”* is up in Robinson Hall (stop by and fill out an envelope), and we are looking forward to our **annual Chicken Barbeque in July!** To make these events successful we need your help, so **please volunteer where ever you think you could be useful!**

The Mission Committee is busy providing food and support to the families in our community. Please support this busy group!

Our church is in such a beautiful place with the Adirondack Mountains surrounding us, why not **invite a friend or family you know to join us for a Sunday Worship service!**

I am hoping and praying you and your families all have a wonderful and healthy Summer!

President,
Susan Ogden

MISSION'S REPORT

The Mission Projects for the Summer will be to help support the families in our community. We will be **sending a contribution to Family Services** to support their program *“School's Out, Where's Lunch?”*

We **continue to collect food and personal items**, remember that flip-top cans are the most useful for the homeless people.

We are also collecting pairs of shoes which are in good condition. A local Home-School Group is collecting these to send to under-developed countries.

Thank you all for your monthly contributions and, always, for your support!

Mission Committee Members:

Mary Alice Clickner, Pat Zacharias, Susan Ogden

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

By the time you get this month's Harbinger, **this year's Scholarship Applications** will have all been received.

Our committee is looking forward to reading them and awarding monies to help our young people further along on their educational journey.

Scholarship Committee Members:

Bonnie Nadig, Ken Zacharias, Laura Avent, Cheryl Straut, Tim McAuley, Susan Ogden

STRATEGIC PLANNING TEAM WHAT WE ARE LEARNING!

Building and deploying disciples should be the primary job of the church. This means we are all on a journey as we continuously grow in grace...day by day...moment by moment. This is not a passive way of life though. We must be intentional about learning and growing in the image of God through Jesus the Christ.

The Great Commission is a far more effective and Biblical church growth model than the arms-length attraction and retention approach used by most churches today. Ephesians 4:11-12 says, "So equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up." As soon as visitors become believers, they should be disciples and deployed into service, not just inside the "4 walls" but to bring more people into the Body of Christ. So...

1. What role can you play in advancing the church's mission around the Great Commission?
2. How can you develop greater skills and passion for the cause of reaching the community?
3. The Great Commission is an obligation of great urgency, NOT AN OPTION!

One primary step in the discipleship direction is building! We will begin a DISCIPLESHIP BIBLE STUDY in July. We are planning to meet after church. Please make this a priority as we grow in grace together.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE – June 2024

Submitted by Melissa Ferrie-Healy

June 16th – Fathering Sunday

Fathering Sunday is an opportunity for us to recognize all those who have fathered us throughout our lives. We would like to put together a special slide show featuring photos of fathers, just as we did for mothers last month. ***If you would like to add a photo of the special fathers in your life, please email them to Rev. Natalie by Tuesday June 11th at the latest.***

June 30th - Baccalaureate Sunday

Baccalaureate Sunday is a special opportunity for us to celebrate the many accomplishments of our recent graduates and affirm that they are loved and valued by their church family at HCC. *Harrisena Scholarship winners will be announced during this service!*

Love Blooms at Harrisena!

Thanks to the combined and loving efforts of our Worship and Flower Committee members, the Sanctuary is alive with beautiful floral arrangements. (see photos) And if the Spirit moves YOU to share a fresh bouquet from your summer garden, please know that **fresh summer flowers are ALWAYS welcome at Harrisena!**

Thank you, Christine Burke!

Whether recruiting readers, sharing words of encouragement, bringing a colorful floral arrangement, sketching a new banner design, reading God’s word from the lectern, or carrying the “*light of Christ*” to and from the altar, **Christine Burke is simply a joy to be around!** After serving faithfully on the Worship Committee for several years, she has decided to focus her time and energy on the work of our Membership Committee. We commend her commitment and wish her all God’s best!

Whatever the Season, Our Need Continues...

We can always use help with the following duties during our Worship Services:

- Reading Scripture
- Assisting with ushering
- Serving Communion (1st Sunday of the month)
- Providing flowers
- Providing special music
-

Sign-up sheets are located outside Robinson Hall, in the Education Building.

2023-24 Worship Committee Members: Christine Burke (until September) Melissa Ferrie-Healy, and Diane Henderson. We are here to faithfully serve God, this Parish and our Community.

+++++

HARRISENA COMMUNITY CHURCH EVENTS

July 27	Dizzy Dave's Chicken BBQ 4:00 - 7:00 PM
August 16	Blood Drive in Robinson Hall 12 – 5:30 PM
September 30	Apple Festival 10 AM – 3 PM (Vendors, Lunch, Silent Auction, Bake Sale)

Thank you for participating in our events.
For more information contact **Shirley Harney** at: **518-832-7306**.

There will be NO JULY or AUGUST Harbingers

Flower Committee

Anyone who can share fresh flowers from their garden over the summer has our appreciation.
Thank you.

Women's Association

We hope to be going to Gardenworks in Salem in June. Email will be sent with details as they become available.
Enjoy your summer!

Membership Committee

Over the past 6 months, Membership & friends, have been working on **gathering new & changed demographic info from all of you**. Once gathered we're making appropriate changes to our membership Directory.

This is where we stand now: We are a **few days away from final EDIT & PRINTING** of a newly updated directory of all members, friends & new faces of Harrisena Community Church.

Tremendous thanks go out to the help of these fine ladies, seeing to my needs: **Melissa Ferrie-Healy, Janet Wilson, Bonnie Nadig, Rev. Natalie** and my mom **Patricia Burke**. I know I couldn't have done this (in this time-frame) without all of your hard work and kindnesses.

Membership is also putting to mind activities/events we can all enjoy to know & celebrate each other.

I, personally, am obliged for the love & patience of my parish family.

Gratefully Submitted,
Christine M. Burke

June 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<i>NO Mission Meals in June</i>						1 5:30am PRAYER Junk in the trunk 9-3
2 5:30 am Prayer Sunday Morning Worship @9:30 am Holy Communion	3 5:30am PRAYER	4 5:30am PRAYER Conversations @1	5 5:30am PRAYER Lectio Divina @10 on zoom AA @7:30	6 5:30am PRAYER 12- SPC	7 5:30am Prayer Scholarship Applications <u>Due!</u>	8 5:30am PRAYER
9 5:30 am Prayer Sunday Morning Worship @9:30 am	10 5:30am PRAYER	11 5:30am PRAYER Conversations @1; Council @7	12 5:30am Prayer Lectio Divina @10 on zoom AA @7:30	13 5:30am PRAYER 11- SPC 12- Women's Assoc. Mtg	14 <i>5:30am Prayer</i>	15 5:30am PRAYER
16 5:30 am Prayer <i>Sunday Morning Worship @9:30 am</i>	17 5:30am PRAYER	18 5:30am PRAYER Conversations @1	19 LGGC 5:30am Prayer Lectio Divina @ 10 PM on zoom AA @7:30	20 5:30am PRAYER 12- SPC	21 5:30am Prayer	22 5:30am PRAYER
23 5:30 am Prayer <i>Sunday Morning Worship @9:30 am</i> <hr/> 30 5:30 am Prayer Worship @9:30 am	24 5:30am PRAYER	25 5:30am PRAYER Conversations @ 1	26 5:30am Prayer Lectio Divina @10 on zoom AA @7:30	27 5:30am PRAYER 12- SPC	28 5:30am Prayer	29

JOIN US FOR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP @ 9:30 a.m. in the Harrisena Community Church sanctuary. You can also join our worship service via livestream at Harrisena.org. Click on the FACEBOOK link at the top right-hand side of the website to the livestream of the service.

June Birthdays: 5) Joanne Beck; 8) Nancy Wilder; 9) Hilary Cartier-Brown; 21) Heidi Helffrich; 26) Deanna Payne; 27) Roger Smith, Kyla Wilson; 28); Melissa Ferrie-Healy; 30) LaMont Robinson.

CELEBRATION FRIDAYS!!

Send your special events and celebrations to the church office for our CELEBRATION FRIDAY email publication. This is our way of sharing the blessings of God with each other as we live filled with gratitude for all that God is doing in our lives.

Long-Term Prayer Requests – June 2024

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

In Facilities

Cindy Farbaniec – Home of the Good Shepherd, Saratoga
Francis Howard – Health & Rehab. Center, Clarksville, VA
Manu Malkani – Fort Hudson
Marilyn Somerville – Coburn Village, Rexford

At Home

Laura Avent – member of Harrisena
Santina Bauer – Friend of the Urrico family
Celine & Bob Boulé – Daughter/Son-in-law of Brandy & Wally Madon
Kathleen Dumont – Niece of Brandy Madon
Rev. Patti Girard – Friend of Harrisena
Randy Huber – Husband of Cindy Huber
Douglas Jones – Son-in-law of Art Norton
Teagan Klingenburg – Student of Melissa Ferrie-Healy
Wendy Leyonmark – Sister of Cindy Huber
Ann Malkani – Friend of Joanne Beck
Robert & Beth Marshall – relatives of Phyllis Straut
Christopher Nobile – Son of Jim & Eleanor Nobile
Gay Smith – Member of Harrisena
Sharon Sturdevant – Daughter of Marilyn Somerville
Fran Tucker – Mother of Bob Tucker

~

*Our Heartfelt Condolences go out to the Families & Friends of: **Jeffrey Kuck**, a neighbor of Roy & Sue Urrico; and **J. Arthur Norton**, long-time member of Harrisena Community Church.*



Members and Friends in the Military

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

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

Derek Dumas—stateside

Michael Gusek, son of Kathleen & Tim Gusek – stateside at Ft. Hood, TX

Joseph Hubbard (*Army*) – stateside

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

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

Tyler Monroe (*USAF*), son of Cheryl Pagano – serving at Sheppard AFB

Kaleb Parker (*Army*), grandson of Rev. Dr. Wimberly – serving in Germany

Griffith Parry (*Army*), relative of Griffith Parry- serving in Poland

James Pearson (*USAF*)

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

Brian Schneider (*Army*) – serving in Afghanistan

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

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

Braden Stormer – serving stateside

A PRAYER FOR PEACE!

Oh God, You are

PEACE.

From You comes

PEACE,

To You returns

PEACE.

Revive us with a salutation of

PEACE,

And lead us to your abode of

PEACE.

—The Prophet Muhammad