

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth! Psalm 96:1 ESV

Have you ever realized how often the psalmist tells us to “sing a new song”? For example: “Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him” (Psalm 98:1 KJV). David sang, “I will sing a new song to you, my God; on the ten-stringed lyre I will make music to you” (Psalm 144:9 KJV). “Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy,” insists Psalm 33:3. Again and again, God’s people are encouraged to “Praise the LORD. Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of his faithful people” (Psalm 149:1 KJV). Singing a new song is a natural response to God for those who know of the care, mercy, grace, and love we receive moment by moment and day by day. There seems to be something revolutionary about newness.

New means “original,” “fresh,” “one of a kind,” and “never seen before,” or, “never heard before.” New songs of praise are appropriate for new rescues and fresh manifestations of God’s grace and mercy. One of my favorite scriptures is found in the book of Lamentations. It is Lamentations 3:22-23: “*The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.*”

Whether it is a new song or new mercies, newness is a sign of hope and transformation. *As long as God is gracious toward us, as long as he keeps showing us his power, and wowing us with his works, it is fitting that we not just sing old songs inspired by his past grace, but also that we sing new songs about his ever-streaming, never-ceasing grace and mercy* (Mathis, 2014).

God is always doing something new—like saving, intervening, answering prayers, working miracles, and just being present. The prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 43:18-19 KJV) records the words of God pointing and encouraging us toward a hope and a future: “*Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland*”.

We are to forget so that we are not held captive by the past. We are to see so that we move toward God and the new thing God is doing today. God asks, “Do you perceive it?” Do we? Do we recognize ourselves in this new thing? Do we affirm our need for newness of life, for transformation, for hope? Are we willing to learn and to sing a new song to the Lord?

I invite you to pray with me:

God of mercy, of grace, and of new life,

Teach us to sing new songs with new lyrics of your love that we may sing in harmony with you.

Show us new ways to open our mouths in never-ceasing praise to you.

Create in us new hearts, new minds, new spirits - transform our old ways into new ways that please you. Amen.

In Christ’s service with you.

Shalom,

Dr. N. C. Wimberly

A Message from the President

Submitted by Doris O'Rourke

April was a busy month. **On Saturday, April 9th**, once again the Council met with Rev. Stefani. Some members of our congregation joined us as well.

On Easter Sunday there was a delicious breakfast for those who attended the 6:30 Sunrise Service. Early arrivals for the 9:30 service were also able to enjoy the feast. Thank you to all who helped prepare for this celebration.

Our Easter service was enhanced by the beautiful floral arrangements of lilies, tulips, daffodils and more. **Thanks to our Worship Committee** whose hard work made this happen.

Missions- May

During the months of **April and May**, the **Missions collections will be going to support the people of the Ukraine.**

We continue our monthly support of the **Open Door** and collect food, shampoo and deodorant for **Family Services**. Thank you all for your support!

We have delivered 1766 meals since we started the **Friday Night's Dinners.**

Committee Members: Sue Ogden, Mary Alice Clickner, Pat Zacharias

Scholarship Report

The **2020 Scholarship Application** can be found on our website: www.harrisena.org
ALL Applications are due on Friday, **July 1st at 5 PM.**



FINANCE

Approximately one-third of the 2022 Harrisena fiscal year has passed. Our **total income for this period of time is \$21,000 while expenses are \$37,000**. This is a deficit of \$16,000 which we have covered by removing \$20,000 from the Savings Account since the beginning of 2022. This pattern of income versus expenses is similar to 2021.

Our Ross Grant application has been recently submitted. Once again we have requested a large sum of money from the Ross Grant in order to support the operation of Harrisena. We will not learn the results of our request for the next couple of months. Hopefully the Ross Grant will continue its support of Harrisena. **With the continued support by friends and members of Harrisena through the fulfilling of their pledges or non-pledged offering income as well as the generous support of the Ross Grant, we should complete the fiscal year with a small deficit.**

Your Financial officers,
Bonnie Nadig, Janet Wilson, Ken Zacharias

Worship

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Gusek

The Worship committee has been busy decorating the church with flowers, wreaths and banners for Easter! **For Mother's Day on May 8 please bring a framed picture of your loved one, any and all Mother figures in your life are welcome!** Our Memorial Day service is May 29. Please submit the name of any loved one that you would like included in the service to the church office.

Committee members:
Melissa Ferrie-Healy, Phyllis Straut, Kathleen Gusek



PPRC -Pastor Parish Relationship Committee

We are currently working on the call agreement for 2022 and the evaluation for our pastor. The next step is to present it to the Board of Trustees and the Treasurers.

The role and tradition of Harrisena Community Church pastors has been to become involved in the community. Rev. Dr. Wimberly continues this tradition in her active involvement in our community and the work of the following organizations:

- Martin Luther King Celebration – local level
- NYS Brain Injury Association – state level
- Restorative Racial Justice Training, Sacred Conversations – international level
- Christian Leaders for Change – local clergy
- North Country COC, Continuum on Care in Warren, Washington and Hamilton Counties – county level
- Warren, Washington, Hamilton Housing Alliance – county and local level

Rev. Dr. Wimberly's willingness to be involved in these organizations on the local, regional, state and national levels is excellent exposure for Harrisena Community Church.

Remember that Rev. Wimberly is readily available by phone – 518-744-8768 and/or by email – wimberlydrn@gmail.com

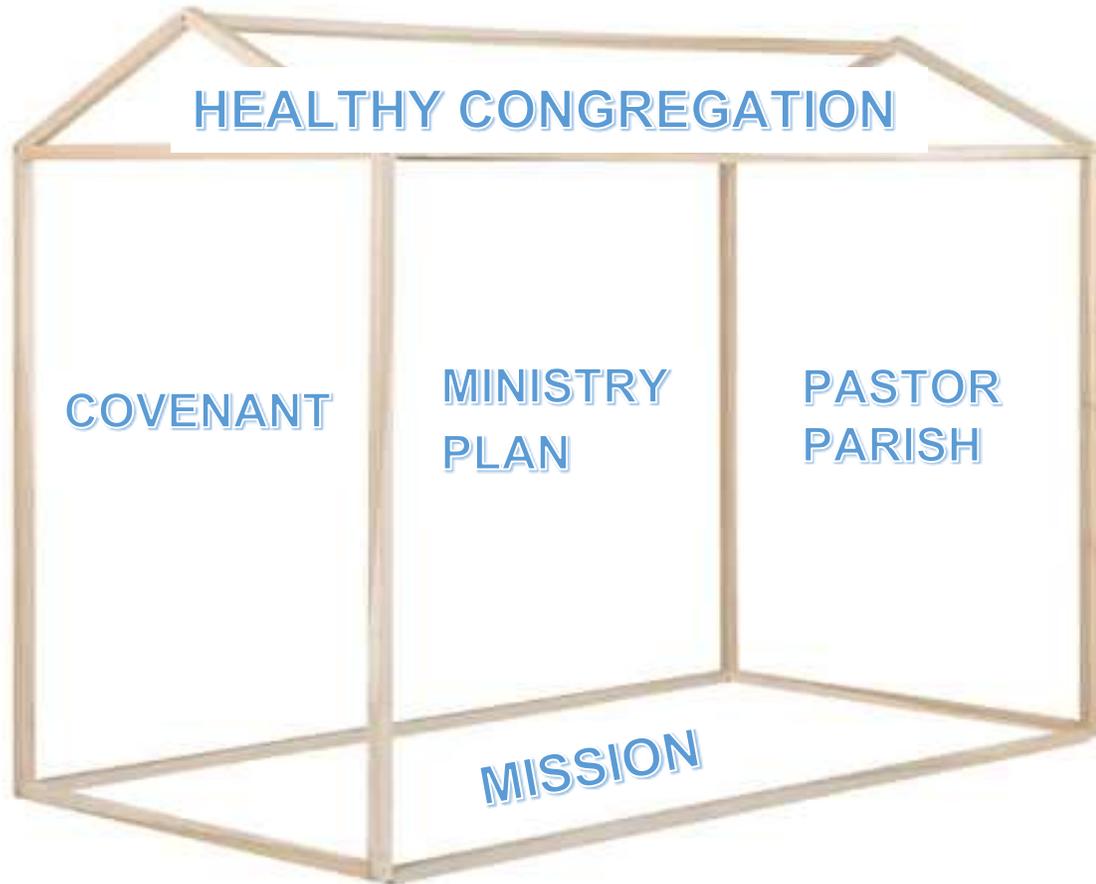
The PPRC would like to thank everyone for participating in the mediation process with Rev. George Stefani. We pray that all will continue to work to build a healthy church congregation.

PPRC members:

Peter Cartier dsuv360fg@hotmail.com 518-793-2351, Pam Loeb pamelajloeb@gmail.com 518-792-1759 or 518-744-2504, Donna Davison Smith donnadavisonsmith@gmail.com 518-793-2304

MEDIATION WITH CHURCH COUNCIL AND REV. STEFANI (4/9/2022)

FRAMEWORK FOR COMMITMENTS



Scriptural Underpinning: Mark 10:35-45 MSG

1. What does this passage say to each of us as leaders?

HOW DO WE BUILD A HEALTHY CONGREGATION?

- Build on the foundation of Harrisena Community Church mission
- Work together in humility and love
- Develop a “ministry plan” and implement it
- Live in covenant with each other in humility and love
- Commit to be a HEALTHY CONGREGATION
- JOIN A COMMITTEE

Upcoming Event

**“Junk in the Trunk” – Harrisena Church Parking Lot - June 4th, 9 am – 3 pm
Vendors Needed (\$20 per car) Application c/o Shirley Harney**

Donation of Books & Items still needed



JUNK IN THE TRUNK

Join us for the *Harrisena Junk in the Trunk Sale* in the
HARRISENA CHURCH PARKING LOT

On

Saturday, June 4th, 9 AM-3 PM

\$20/per car Registration Fee

BAKE & BOOK SALE also!

Send Registration Checks to: *Harrisena Community Church,*
1616 Ridge Road, Queensbury, NY 12804, c/o **“Junk in the Trunk”**
Any questions call Shirley Harney @ 518 832-7306



May 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Communion @9:30; Game Day Event @11	2	3	4 AA @7:30	5 Conversations @10:30	6	7
8 <i>Mother's Day</i> Worship @9:30	9	10 COUNCIL @7	11 Bible Study @7; AA @7:30	12 Conversations @10:30	13	14
15 Worship @9:30	16	17	18 Bible Study @7; AA @7:30	19 Women's Assoc. Mtg @12	20	21
22 Worship @9:30	23	24	25 Bible Study @7; AA @7:30	26 Conversations @10:30	27	28
29 Worship @9:30 Memorial Sunday	30	31				

**Our SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES are in-person, livestreamed on
 FACEBOOK at HARRISENALIVE and by Conference CALL-IN at: 1) Dial+1 (313)
 209-8800;
 2) Enter Conference ID 796-8500 and press the pound key.**

May Birthdays: 2) Christine Burke; 5) Billy Brown; 6) Kayla Monroe; 12) Mary Alice
 Clickner; 15) Peggy McArthur; 20) Pamela Loeb; 22) Linda Havens; 26) Chuck
 Ogden, Lance Fuilon Loonan; 27) Mercedi Loonan; 31) Ryan Healy.

Long-Term Prayer Requests – May 2022

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

In Facilities

Cindy Farbaniec – The Terrace
Nancy Cathers – Assisted Living, MD
Maria Foss – Sunnyview Rehabilitation
Linda Kennedy – Fort Hudson
Jane Lis – Eastern Star Campus, Oriskany
Manu Malkani – The Terrace
Art Norton – Slate Valley Center, Granville
Marilyn Somerville – Coburn Village, Rexford

At Home

Laura Avent – member of Harrisena
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
Fabiola Jabaut – Mother of Steve Jabaut
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
Christopher Nobile – Son of Jim & Eleanor Nobile
Gay Smith – Member of Harrisena
Sharon Sturdevant – Daughter of Marilyn Somerville
Doloras Van Detta – Friend of Marie Scarselletta

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Members and Friends in the Military

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

Derek Dumas—stateside

Cpt. Michael Gusek (Army) , son of Kathleen & Tim Gusek – serving at Fort 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. Wimberly – serving in Germany

Griffith Parry (Army), nephew of Griffith Parry - serving in Poland

James Pearson (USAF)

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

Brian Schneider (Army) – serving in Afghanistan

Kelly Thompson (US Health Svc)

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

Mark Wilson (Army Intelligence), husband of Andrea—serving stateside

Braden Stormer – serving stateside

