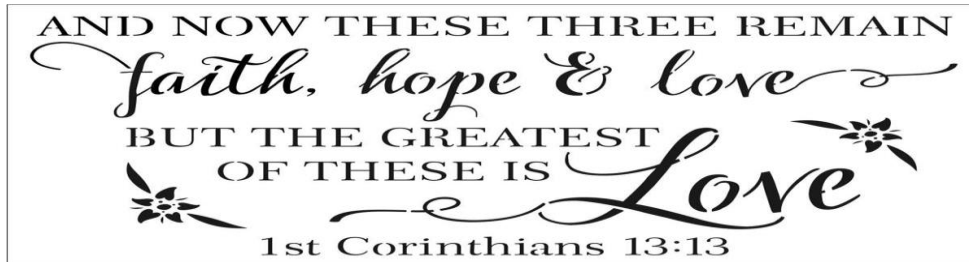


PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



In 1 Corinthians, we hear some of the most beautiful words regarding love. The Apostle Paul identifies love as the “more excellent way”.

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.”

I Corinthians 13:4-8a NIV

The letter of Apostle Paul to the church at Colossae is another wonderful illustration of the presence and power of love. The Apostle writes that love is the most important positive attribute. Love is supreme. It supersedes all other attributes to be lived by the children of God.

“Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony.”

Colossians 3:14 NLT

From Apostle Paul's perspective, love brings people together and makes their differences compatible. This is what "harmony" means. Harmony is the positive combination of things that are not exactly the same. This does not mean believers are perfect or do not make mistakes. It is somewhat like an orchestra. An orchestra is a group of musicians playing together under the direction of a conductor. The musicians perform music specially composed for specific instruments in an orchestral performance. Every now and then, a musician can make a mistake but you can't hear it as the orchestra continues to play together. Each individual sound played in harmony creates the most beautiful music. Love creates the most beautiful world.

Love is the song composed by God that we are all invited to play as we create a world characterized by compassion, humility, patience, justice, mercy, and forgiveness. Love inspires these traits and binds us together as a single family, in Christ remembering that Christ was and is the visible image of the invisible God.

This month, we discover this preeminent message of love as we trace the strings of God's love in the sermon series, “The Invisible String.” On the first Sunday during the

Children's Message, I read a book written by Patrice Karst titled, "The Invisible String." I recommend this book if you have not read it. The message of this book is consonant with what Paul teaches about love. Patrice Karst, says, "Of all that I have learned thus far in my life...the power and healing alchemy of love has been my most profound teacher, greatest source of comfort and most deeply felt inspiration."

Love is the freedom and power given to us by God to co-create a world where God's kingdom is seen, experienced and lived. Love is the very character of God. God is love and love is God's intent for the world.

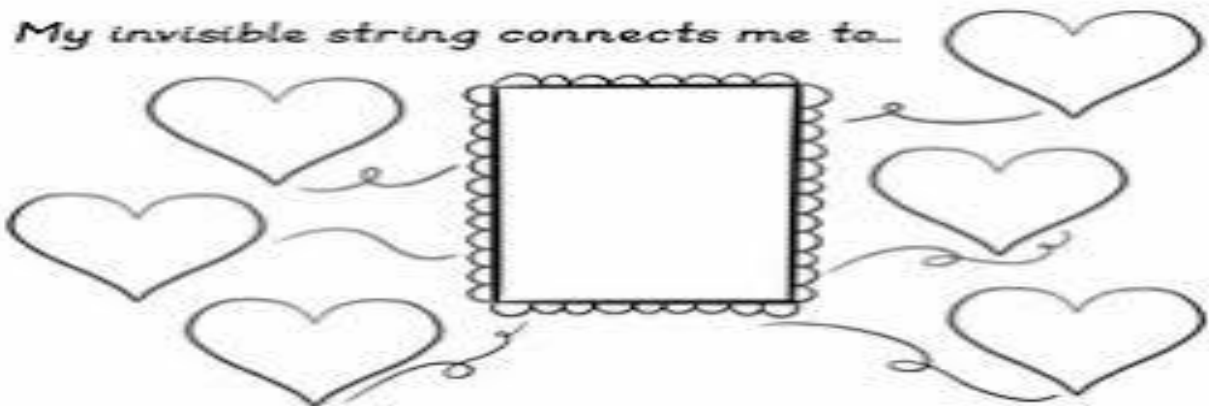
Will you join me this month as we study the Word of God and create together the largest web of love the world has ever seen or experienced?

Shalom,
Dr. N. C. Wimberly



LOVE CONNECTS US!

My invisible string connects me to...



A Message from the President

As we begin the 2020-2021 Church year, I find myself once again called to lead the Harrisena congregation. It is both a privilege and an honor, please accept my thanks for giving me your trust.

For those who do not know me, my family and I have been involved in some form with Harrisena since the 1970s. I attended Mini Bidwell's Vacation Bible School. My older sister was part of the original Youth Group and both my brother and I are also members. My mother sang in the choir. My wife is a member and my grown children are both members of Harrisena and of the same Youth Group. While my family and I traveled and lived all over the country, we never attended another church. We can honestly say that were it not for Harrisena, we would not know God.

Over these years, my faith has transformed from outright denial, to openness to the idea, to faithful believer, to outraged and frustrated congregational member, to dedicated supporter and now to puzzled leader.

While we were preparing for the departure of Rev. Robinson due to retirement, our congregation worked diligently to define our values and vision of our congregation for the future of our church. A group of leaders from our congregation used their professional experience to draw out from us the core of what made Harrisena – Harrisena. The result of this work are the values printed in our weekly bulletin. These beautiful thoughts I think of as the "Commandments of Harrisena".

Covid 19 disrupted our lives. Whether we liked it or not, uncontrollable circumstances brought our lives to a standstill. For Harrisena, this means we cannot safely undertake the normal church activities that kept us so busy for so many years. Like so much of life, even at the darkest moments, therein lies a blessing. For us, this pause gives us a wonderful opportunity to think about our future and strengthen our connections with God.

Indulge me for a moment, take a breath, like an infant, deep and pure. Pull into your lungs as much air as they can take in. Hold your breath for a count of 10. Close your eyes and exhale and join me in saying:

Be still and know that I am God.

Over the coming months and while we wait for our lives to return to normal, Rev. Natalie and I would like to invite the entire Harrisena Church Community into a conversation. A conversation centered upon the Harrisena Commandments, God's calling for Harrisena and our church's mission. Let us begin with our first Commandment:

"At Harrisena, we believe diversity is a blessing."

Our first Council meeting for the new church year is scheduled for Tuesday, October 13 at 7 PM. With the Trustees permission, those who are comfortable are invited to meet in person, using proper social distancing practices, at our Education Building. Those not comfortable with meeting in person can also attend by conference call. This meeting will last for 90 minutes, with the first 20 minutes set aside for our usual business, and the balance of our time spent sharing with each other what this first Harrisena Commandment means to us as individuals, as members of Harrisena Community and how it impacts our understanding of God's mission for our church.

I look forward to an exciting, productive and rewarding year at Harrisena, working together wherever God leads us.

Jim Ferris

HARRISENA COMMUNITY CHURCH

Our Core Values

At Harrisena, we believe diversity is a blessing.

We believe that the message Jesus of Nazareth brought to humankind is as relevant today as it was 2,000+ years ago.

We believe that this message is one of healing and transforming love that breaks down barriers—a message of welcome, inclusion, equality, respect, forgiveness, and care for all people and the earth.

We believe that this message, rather than the particular institutions conveying it, forms the most enduring foundation for a life well lived—in other words, a life lived in the divine image.

We believe that each of us is free to understand and worship God in our own ways.

We believe that faith is enriched by human reason, not in conflict with it.



OCTOBER 13, 2020 @ 7 PM



FINANCE OFFICERS

The Harrisena congregation has spoken and your Finance Officers have listened. You have requested monthly budget reports, a proposed budget for 2021, reversal of deficit spending, and the timely payment of church expenses.

In November 2019 a proposed budget for 2020 was approved at a congregational meeting. A proposed budget for 2021 was recently presented by the Financial Committee to the Trustees for their approval. This budget will be presented to the congregation for its approval at the November Congregation Meeting.

Each Church Council meeting has had a Financial Report as have the monthly Harbingers. Recently the congregation received an email outlining the financial status of Harrisena Church. Also, during the Offertory segment of the Sunday Service, Financial Officers have given brief budget updates.

The Ross Grant and less spending because of COVID-19 will allow us to achieve a balanced budget for 2020, if congregation members faithfully continue to fulfill their pledges. Last year at this time many members were wondering, how would we get through another year without spending down our Savings Account. Here we are a year later and our Savings Account has not been impacted.

So, what about 2021? We recognize that there have been additional savings in 2020 due to COVID-19, we have taken that into consideration when developing the proposed 2021 budget.

In 2021, the Membership will continue to be faithful supporters of the church. The ministry of the church will continue as we have for over 150 years. Open communication will be necessary and intentional.

Your Financial Officers will continue to look for ways to increase income and provide financial stewardship with transparency and integrity. We are always available to answer your questions or concerns. So please feel free to contact us. We are off to a great year!

Your Finance Officers,
Cheryl, Bonnie & Ken



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

WORKING TOGETHER TO STAY CONNECTED

The Membership Committee and Finance Team are putting together treat bags to remind people that we are still connected. We need your help!

In this time of physical distancing, personal connections are more important than ever to make an effort to maintain. With that in mind, we are inviting volunteers to join us in reaching out to our members and friends of HCC with a short note.

The Membership Committee and Finance Team are putting together treat bags to remind people that we are looking forward to the time when we are able to be together again at church and around the community.

Please contact the church office at (518) 792-1902 to let us know that you are excited to join us in this effort in writing a note or assembling the treat bags.

We look forward to hearing from you!



HCC MEMORIAL TREE



Phyllis and Cheryl Straut place leaves on the HCC Memorial Tree in celebration of the lives of Robert Straut, Sr. and other Straut family members.

The Memorial Tree is one way HCC have honored the lives of members, past and present. If you would like to donate leaves for members of your family. Contact the Board of Trustees for prices and availability.

**FELLOWSHIP AND MISSIONS COMMITTEES
ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL MISSIONS PROJECT AND FUNDRAISER**

A great big THANK YOU to everyone who did anything to help with the chicken barbecue. It took a lot of volunteers on a very warm Friday evening to husk corn, wrap potatoes, and scoop coleslaw, while wearing their PPE (COVID-19 masks and gloves).

Saturday afternoon, more volunteers worked faithfully in the heat most of the day, while wearing their masks to stay at COVID-19, Level 1. And we could not have done it without all the people who came together to buy dinners and those who so generously supported our missions projects to share over 40 meals of love!

It was a great meal and a fun weekend! **We made over \$1,090 in profits and donations.**

"CONGRATULATIONS HARRISENA"

HARRISENA CHURCH, WE DID IT...AGAIN!!!



THANK YOU HARRISENA!



Deanna Payne welcoming the NYS Troopers to our Chicken BBQ!



HCC FINANCE TEAM

Setup at the Chicken BBQ!

Working hard to keep an accurate accounting of the monies!

Our traffic director, **Bill Loeb!**



Sue Cartier sold these beautiful lanterns yielding over \$100 in donations to HCC!

THANK YOU, ALL!

Our meals of love went to several individuals, families, the Veterans Home, Bryan's house, Warren County Sheriff's Department and the NYS Troopers (Queensbury).
May God Bless all those who gave meals of love!



Thank you, NYS Troopers for all that you do!



Thank you, Warren County Sheriff's Department! We appreciate you!

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Harrisena Community Church is alive and well despite Covid-19 and the wake of closings and changes it has brought to us all. Join us on Wednesday prayer times, special prayer chain, Saturday meditation and Sunday services remotely and through Facebook Live.

We are here to support each other. If you would like to become a member of Harrisena and a part of this support team, contact our pastor at 518-744-8768. We need you to continue the work and ministries, especially during these times.



Please let us know of any names/situations you would like added to our Prayer Concerns and Long-Term Prayer lists. In addition to contacting the church office, please contact a member of Outreach Committee. (See below.) Thank you!

As always, we welcome and encourage your feedback...

Outreach Committee Members: Melissa Ferrie-Healy (518-792-4709 or mlfmusic@yahoo.com) & Peggy McArthur (518-793-2377 or peggymcarthur48@gmail.com).

Many hands make light work! Please let us know if you'd be interested in joining us or assisting in any way, especially writing cards.



OCTOBER 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 Weekly email blast & Saturday Meditation @3 pm on Facebook Live
4 9:30 am Tailgate Sunday Worship in parking lot & Facebook Live! & Conf. call in & meeting in Church Parking lot @7 pm	5	6	7 AA@7:30	8 Prayer Together @12 noon on Conf. Call & Parking lot gathering @7 pm	9	10 Weekly email blast & Saturday Meditation @3 pm on Facebook Live
11 9:30 am Sunday Worship on Facebook Live! & Conference call in & meeting in Church Parking lot @7 pm	12	13 Council Mtg @7 pm - Conf. call	14 AA @7:30	15 Prayer Together @12 noon on Conf. Call & Parking lot gathering @7 pm	16	17 Weekly email blast & Saturday Meditation @3 pm on FB Live
18 9:30 am Sunday Worship on Facebook Live! & Conference call in & meeting in Church Parking lot @7 pm	19	20	21 <i>Harbinger articles due for October</i> AA @7:30	22 Prayer Together @12 noon on Conf. Call & Parking lot gathering @7 pm	23	24 Weekly email blast & Saturday Meditation @3 pm on Facebook Live
25 9:30 am Sunday Worship on Facebook Live! & Conference call in & meeting in Church Parking lot @7 pm	26	27	28 AA @7:30	29	30	31

Our SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE will continue at 9:30 AM on Facebook Live and by Conference CALL-IN at: 1) Dial+1 (313) 209-8800; 2) Enter Conference ID 796-8500 and press the pound key.

WE ARE THE CHURCH!
 The church is not a building,
 the church is not a steeple,
 the church is not a resting place,
 the church is a people.

October Birthdays:

3) Heather VanDyke; 9) Aleana Martin; 10) Valerie McGilpin; 11) Ashley Staunches; 15) Deborah Barthold; 23) Phil Farbaniec; 25) Meredith Harvey, Diane Matthews; 29) Bonnie Nadig; 30) Richard Smith, Jr.

Long-Term Prayer Requests – 2020

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

Nancy Cathers – Nursing Home, Maryland
Colin Fuller – Slate Valley Nursing Home
Theodore Gusek- Home of the Good Shepherd, Saratoga
Linda Kennedy – Fort Hudson Health Services
Jane Lis – Eastern Star Campus, Oriskany
Lillian McDonnell – Glens Falls Center
James Nobile - The Landing of Queensbury

At Home

Maria Berg – Mother of Nicole Robinson
Celine & Bob Boulé – Daughter/Son-in-law of Brandy & Wally Madon
Lee Ann Clark – Daughter of Murial Clark
Jill Coleman – Friend of Suzanne Cartier
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
Thomas Kerschner – relative of Allan Ferrie
Teagan Klingenburg – Student of Melissa Ferrie-Healy
Diane Lawson – Friend of Sue & Peter Cartier
Carmen LeFebvre – Friend of Peg McArthur
Wendy Leyonmark – Sister of Cindy Huber
Christopher Nobile – Son of Jim & Eleanor Nobile
Diane Parry – Cousin of Griffith Parry
Sharon Sturdevant – Daughter of Marilyn Somerville
Melanie Swinton – Friend of Sue Ogden

~

Our Heartfelt Condolences go out to the Families & Friends of
James E. Harney, Husband of Shirley Harney and long-time member of Harrisena
Church



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

Michael Gusek (*Patriot Missile Battery*), son of Kathleen & Tim Gusek – serving in Middle East

Joseph Hubbard (*Army*) – stateside

Corey Ledgerwood (*Army*) -serving in Afghanistan

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

Griffith Parry (*West Point Military Academy*), relative of Griffith Parry

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 Spcl Forces/Reserves*), husband of Andrea—serving stateside

Braden Stormer – serving stateside

