

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

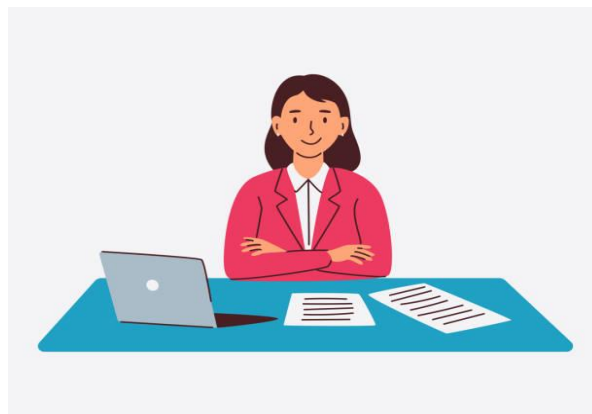
The weatherman and calendar said Spring is here. However, as I sit at the table looking out the window, I still see snow and there is ice still covering the surface of Glen Lake. There is hope however, the weather forecast for tomorrow is temperatures in the low sixties! Hopefully this will melt more snow and open up the lake – I hope so!

The Easter Season brings with it hope for a new beginning. Jesus's rising from the tomb gives all of us that same hope. We at Harrisena are also hoping for a new beginning for our church.

Although we are enjoying our guest ministers, we all are hoping for a new beginning with a part-time pastor to fill our Pulpit.

Please continue to have patience with, and hope for, the **Pastoral Search Committee** as we continue to look for a permanent part-time pastor.

President, *Susan Ogden*



. MISSION'S REPORT

I was talking with one of the members of the **Board of Family Services**, and she wanted to thank us, and let us know how much our food and monetary support donations was appreciated. She said that **the money we donate goes to help the many people in need in our community.**

Examples of where the money goes: The money we donate helps people to buy bus passes to get to appointments, paying expenses, and day-to-day needs.

Please continue to bring in canned foods with flip tops, diapers and personal items.

We thank you for your monthly support to our Mission's Committee!

Mission Committee: *Mary Alice Clickner, Pat Zacharias, Susan Ogden*

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The **2026 Scholarship Application** is available on line at: www.harrisena.org. **The form is new this year**, and you can apply and submit it on line.

All applications will be due on **Tuesday, May 26 by 5:00PM.**

Scholarship Committee: *Bonnie Nadig, Cheryl Straut, Ken Zacharias, Laura Avent, Tim McCauley, Susan Ogden*

UPDATE FROM THE PULPIT COMMITTEE – April

We have received four applications for the part-time minister position to date. Two of them were non-licensed or non-ordained. Although both were excellent speakers, they did not have the desired theology/divinity training. Of the other two applicants one was licensed and one ordained.

The committee has invited the latter two candidates to come to Harrisena to preach and be interviewed. However, **Rev. David Poole has accepted another call and has removed himself from consideration.**

April 19, 2026, Pastor John Hill will be at Harrisena as a guest pastor. Please come to hear and meet this candidate for part time pastor.

In addition, the Pulpit Committee has worked with Advokate to send out a job posting to seek out more applicants. This will expand our search to many of the seminaries on the East Coast.

As always, we value your input, comments, suggestions and questions.

Shelley Durkee durkeeshelley@gmail.com

Bonnie Nadig nadig@aol.com

Susan Ogden ogden64@roadrunner.com

Doris O'Rourke dorisorourke55@gmail.com

Pam Loeb pamelajloeb@gmail.com

Ed Szmul eszmul@roadrunner.com

FELLOWSHIP

Shelley Durkee and Pam Loeb

We invite you all for a **Hot Dog Indoor Picnic** in conjunction with Oneida on **April 12, 2026 following the Sunday Services.** The menu will feature hot dogs and buns, salads and desserts. There is a signup sheet in Robinson Hall. Please join us for fun, food and fellowship.

Our **thanks to Carl Harris** for providing us with packaged treats every Sunday.

Please let Pam or Shelley know if you would like to serve on the Fellowship Committee.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE - April 2026

Submitted by Melissa Ferrie-Healy

A Musical Tenebrae Service for Maundy Thursday

This year's **Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service (on April 2nd at 7 p.m.)** will be enhanced by the soulful music of our Harrisena Choir and cellist Demetria Koninis, founder of The Cello Experience. As scriptures are read, detailing the Passion of Christ, candles will be extinguished and a musical response will be performed. The service should be a deeply worshipful experience for all who attend.

Ms. Koninis offers a variety of cello-related services in various venues throughout the capital region, including cello sound therapy and **Suzuki cello lessons**. **You can learn more by visiting her website: <https://thecelloexperience.com/>**
THEN - Welcome to EASTER! Look for the GOOD!

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

When the disciples were faced with the empty tomb, they were frightened! They had no idea where Jesus had gone, and they had no idea what to do next. And even when they met their risen Lord, they were so absorbed with their fear and sadness that they failed to recognize him at first. Jesus walked and talked with his disciples before they realized he was in their midst. Does this sound familiar? Have YOU ever been so distracted by your own set of circumstances that you failed to recognize the abiding presence of Christ? This Easter, let's be on the lookout for the risen Christ!

Be on the lookout for all that is GOOD:

For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. (Psalm 100:5)

.... Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things. (Philippians 4:8)

We acknowledge God's GOODNESS as we gladly welcome our guest pastors for the month of April:

- April 5th – Easter/Communion Sunday - Rev. William Church
- April 12th – Richard Mahoney
- April 19th – Pastor John Hill

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- April 26th – Rev. Jason White

Kindly consider these opportunities to SERVE at Harrisena:

- Ushering
- Transporting the “Light of Christ” at the opening and close of worship
- Reading Scripture
- Presenting a Children’s Story
- Sharing fresh flowers
- Sharing special music
- Serving Communion

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

2025-26 Worship Committee Chair: *Melissa Ferrie-Healy*



TECH/SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE

Submitted by Melissa Ferrie-Healy, Website Coordinator

Please continue to “LIKE,” FOLLOW and SHARE!

If you would like to see something church-related posted on our new FaceBook page (Harrisena Community Church 2025), **please contact Noreen Szmul**. Also, please remember to LIKE and FOLLOW us on FaceBook!

And please continue to send church-related photos, important announcements, calendar additions/updates, and any further suggestions to our website coordinator, Melissa Ferrie-Healy, at mlfmusic@yahoo.com.

WE WOULD ESPECIALLY LIKE PHOTOS OF OUR AMAZING CHOIR IN ACTION!

APRIL BLOOD DRIVE – 2026

The Harrisena Community Church **Blood Drive will take place on GOOD FRIDAY, April 3, from 12-5 PM** at Robinson Fellowship Hall.

Is God calling you to help?

- Spread the word on your social media – VERY HELPFUL!
- Pray for the safety and availability of our donors and volunteers
- Pray for good weather – no snow or ice, please!
- Assist with set-up or clean-up for the drive
- Work as a greeter at the drive
- Bake some goodies or make a pot of soup/chili for our volunteers

The **MOST IMPACTFUL WAY FOR YOU TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE** is to **DONATE YOUR BLOOD!** ALL blood types are needed! Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments can easily be scheduled ahead of time by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS or visiting redcrossblood.org.

OUR GOAL: **33 donors** (*which means trying to fill all 40 of our time slots!*)

For more information, please contact Melissa Ferrie-Healy or Pam Loeb.

REFLECTIONS OF THE BLACK EXPERIENCE – AN EVENING TO REMEMBER

Submitted by *Noreen Szmul*

On March 20th, our church was blessed with a songbird of exceptional talent. **Thalia Moore** and her accompanist **Parker Konkle** graced our Sanctuary with a **concert** that inspired, educated, entertained, and moved all that were present.

Opera Saratoga was our collaborator, and we certainly hope they will come back in the future! As a church we are called to embrace ‘new things’ (Isaiah 43:19).

Opera Saratoga offers an exciting schedule of events including *My Fair Lady* and other shows. **Check out their website for a full calendar -**
<https://www.operasaratoga.org/>

PLEASE BE A PART OF THE FAMILY
Submitted by Christine Burke

Requirements of each job: All require your devotion to Harrisena Community Church & mostly, to the Lord.

LIGHT OF CHRIST CANDLE: Light candle, walk to altar table at Prelude and “out into the world” at final hymn.

USHERING: Assure that **hymn numbers on Pulpit Board match bulletin**; greet visitors & hand out bulletins; perform collection; clean up pews at end of service. (Please see Bonnie)

SCRIPTURE READING: (This was set up to give the preacher a break before his/her sermon) This also gives you a chance to open your Bible and look at the reading & allows all to hear God’s word from a new voice. There is always help to nudge you! (Please see Christine)

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR TABLE: Using a bud vase, just one flower with greens will do. (Please highlight our Altar Table)

SCREEN (Power Point Mission): Ed Szmul has expressed that he would willing to train anyone in how to run the Sanctuary screens. (Please see Ed)

ALL THE ABOVE ARE MISSIONS OF OUR CHURCH –
YOU WILL BE THE MISSIONARY! *“Don’t Go By – Give it a Try!”*



EASTER FLOWERS - April 2026

GIVEN by:

In "**MEMORY**" of:

Joanne Beck
Christine Burke
Carolyn Curren
Shelley Durkee
Kathleen & Tim Gusek

Bruce Beck, Brian Beck
Scott Fraser and Peter Fraser
Walter Curren
Miner and Durkee Families
Tim's mother, Carolyn Henglein;
Kathleen's mother, Sally
Richards

Melissa Ferrie-Healy

The many beloved friends and
family members who have
passed beyond our mortal vision.

Diane Read Kerchner
Doris O'Rourke

Dr. Cloyd Kerchner
Edward O'Rourke, Stephen
O'Rourke

Dodi Robinson
Phyllis Straut

My Beloved Monty
Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Morgan, Mr.
& Mrs. John Witmer, Robert A.
Straut, Donna Straut, Morgan
Monroe.

GIVEN by:

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In "**HONOR**" of:

Christine Burke
Shelley Durkee
Melissa Ferrie-Healy

Melissa Ferrie-Healy
Miner and Durkee Families
My beloved family and friends who continue to
bless my life in countless ways! Also – The
many faithful souls who have helped keep the
doors of our "*Little Stone Church on the
Ridge*" open for worship!

Phyllis Straut

Robert Straut, Jr., Richard & Diane Straut,
Cheryl & Robert Tucker

APRIL 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 5:30am Prayer AA @7	2 5:30am Prayer Maundy Thursday Svc @7	3 5:30am Prayer Blood Drive 12-5	4 5:30am Prayer
5 5:30 am Prayer Easter Worship @9:30	6 5:30am Prayer	7 5:30 Prayer Conversations @1;	8 5:30am PRAYER Women's Mtg @12 AA @7:30	9 5:30am Prayer	10 5:30am Prayer	11 5:30am Prayer
12 5:30 am Prayer Morning Worship @9:30 am Indoor Picnic with Oneida	13 5:30am PRAYER Income Taxes Due	14 5:30am Prayer Conversations @1 Council @7	15 5:30am Prayer LGCC @12 AA @7:30	16 5:30am Prayer	17 <i>5:30am Prayer</i>	18 5:30am Prayer
19 5:30 am Prayer <i>Morning Worship @ 9:30 am</i>	20 5:30 am Prayer	21 5:30am Prayer Conversations @1	22 5:30am Prayer AA @7:30	23 5:30am Prayer 12-	24 5:30am Prayer	25 5:30am Prayer
26 5:30 am Prayer <i>Morning Worship @9:30 am</i>	27 5:30am Prayer	28 5:30am Prayer Conversations @ 1	29 5:30am Prayer AA @7:30	30 5:30am Prayer		

Our SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP @ 9:30 a.m. in the Harrisena Community Church sanctuary may also be viewed on our YouTube Channel: [harrisenalive2024](https://www.youtube.com/channel/harrisenalive2024)..

April Birthdays: 1) Carolyn Curren; 7) Donna Davison-Smith; 8) Jeremy Carte; 9) Lori Carte; 14) Ken Zacharias; 15) Kathy Herold, Doug Helffrich, Jr.; 16) David Michaels; 23) Blake McComsey; 25) Ralph Wilson; 26) Anne Kingsley, Sean Robinson; 30) Elizabeth Gusek, Mac Petrequin.

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 – April 2026

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

In Facilities

Pat Dallas- River Mead, Peterborough, NH
Manu Malkani – Fort Hudson
Marilyn Somerville – Elderwood, Ticonderoga

At Home

Laura Avent – member of Harrisena
Walda Blanchard - Member
Kathleen Dumont – Niece of Brandy Madon
Rev. Patti Girard – Friend of Harrisena
Avery Graves – Friend of Shelley Durkee
Douglas Jones – Son-in-law of Art Norton
Ann Malkani – Friend of Joanne Beck
Robert Marshall – friend of Phyllis Straut
Roger & Gay Smith – Members of Harrisena
Fran Tucker – Mother of Bob Tucker

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*Our Heartfelt Condolences go out to the Family and Friends of **John Holland** who died this past month. John was an active Harrisena Community Church Member for many years.*



MEMBERS AND FRIENDS SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Please update any of the below listed members as to their current 2026 status.

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

Derek Dumas—stateside

Joseph Hubbard (Army) – stateside

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

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

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

James Pearson (USAF)

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

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

Braden Stormer – serving stateside

