

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

You may know by now that I enjoy sharing Children's Literature in sermons and conversations. There are always lessons to learn and new perspectives to explore. I have shared a story below by Margaret Wise Brown. It is a story for children of all ages.

Once there was a little bunny who wanted to run away. So, he said to his mother, "I am running away."

"If you run away," said his mother, "I will run after you. For you are my little bunny." "If you run after me," said the little bunny, "I will become a fish in a trout stream and I will swim away from you." "If you become a fish in a trout stream," said his mother, "I will become a fisherman and I will fish for you." "If you become a fisherman," said the little bunny, "I will become a rock on the mountain, high above you." "If you become a rock on the mountain high above me," said his mother, "I will become a mountain climber, and I will climb to where you are." "If you become a mountain climber," said the little bunny, "I will be a crocus in a hidden garden." "If you become a crocus in a hidden garden," said his mother, "I will be a gardener. And I will find you." "If you are a gardener and find me," said the little bunny, "I will be a bird and fly away from you."

"If you become a bird and fly away from me," said his mother, "I will be a tree that you come home to." "If you become a tree," said the little bunny, "I will become a little sailboat, and I will sail away from you." "If you become a sailboat and sail away from me," said his mother, "I will become the wind and blow you where I want you to go." "If you become the wind and blow me," said the little bunny, "I will join a circus and fly away on a flying trapeze." "If you go flying on a flying trapeze," said his mother, "I will be a tightrope walker and I will walk across the air to you." "If you become a tightrope walker and walk across the air," said the bunny, "I will become a little boy and run into a house." "If you become a little boy and run into a house," said the mother bunny, "I will become your mother and catch you in my arms and hug you."

"Shucks," said the bunny, "I might just as well stay where I am and be your little bunny." And so he did. "Have a carrot," said the mother bunny.

During these fifty days of feasting known as Eastertide or Easter Season, Jesus shows up again and again. Jesus spent forty days on earth after the resurrection before he ascended, and then there were ten more days after that before the Day of Pentecost. Jesus *"presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God."* Acts 1:3 NIV

Jesus shows up after the resurrection to Mary at the tomb. Jesus shows up to the women as they hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy. Jesus shows up on the road to Emmaus to two disciples walking along the way. Jesus shows up to Simon Peter. Jesus shows up to the disciples hiding behind locked doors. Jesus shows up to the disciples when Thomas was not with them. Jesus shows up to the disciples when Thomas was with them. Jesus keeps showing up. The love and presence of God are inescapable. Even when we runaway, God pursues us.

God is with us in comfort and sorrow. God is with us in floods and natural disasters. God is with us in the streets and in our schools. God is with us in hospitals and nursing homes. God is with us in prisons and mental health facilities. God is with us in times of great joy and great despair. God's pursuing love is always with us. God is persistent. God is steadfast. There is no escaping God, because whether we are runaway bunnies or runaway Christians, we are never alone.

Let us pray together:

God of inescapable love, your love is always with us. We cannot outrun your affections. Even when we try to run and hide, you seek us out. Even when we seek everything and everybody except you. You don't give up on us. Touch us again. Fill us again with your Holy Spirit. Clothe us with humility so that we can receive your joy and peace. Extend to us your grace and mercy again and again. We are so grateful that you love us and that you never ever leave us alone. In the name of Jesus the Christ we pray. Amen.

Shalom,
Dr. N. C. Wimberly



What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written:

*“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”*

*No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 8:31-39 NIV***

APRIL FINANCE REPORT

Despite the relatively milder winter, expenses continue to rise with regard to the maintenance of our church and other properties. We **need to all put our thinking caps on and work toward increasing income and lowering expenses.** Please see any financial officer, trustee, or our Pastor with any suggestions.

The Ross Grant application has been received and is currently being worked on for submission by a committee composed of Rev. Wimberly, Dr. Bob Evans, Jim Ferris, Hal Payne, Bonnie Nadig and Janet Wilson. IF anyone has suggestions, please see any one of the committee members with your ideas.

When submitting bills for payment, please remember to us a *"Payment Request Form"* which can be found outside the church office in the Education Building – below the Treasurer's Mailbox. **Attach a copy of the receipt to the form** and a check will be drawn.

Thank you to all who continue to support Harrisena.

Your Financial Team: *Ken Zacharias, Bonnie Nadig, Janet Wilson*



Fellowship

by Pam Loeb and Shelley Durkee

Thanks to the **Evans and Loonan families** for the delicious breakfast in February. In March **Deanna and Hal Payne and Janet and Ralph Wilson** provided a wonderful corned beef dinner.

There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall to provide treats for after service. Rev. Wimberly has volunteered to provide two pizzas on the first Sunday of the month. A birthday cake will be on the last Sunday of the month. We still need a little something else on those days so please sign up to help.

We need baked goods for the April 1st Fish Fry. It's a drive thru or a dine in event. Everyone is welcome to eat in Fellowship Hall. We are providing coffee, tea and water plus desserts for anyone who chooses to come into the hall.

Please contact Pam Loeb (text 518-744-2504 or email pamelajloeb@gmail.com) to let her know if you can provide a dessert. We need an array of tasty treats: pie, cake, cookies, bars etc. Thanks in advance for your help.

JOIN US ON SUNDAY MORNINGS FOR FELLOWSHIP! MEET NEW FRIENDS AND SPEND TIME WITH OLD FRIENDS! BREAK BREAD TOGETHER!



WORSHIP COMMITTEE – April 2023

Submitted by Melissa Ferrie-Healy

Holy Week & Eastertide

While Easter Sunday **may seem like the grand finale**, it actually **marks the start of the 2nd longest liturgical season of the church year: Eastertide**. This season lasts for 50 days, and ends with Pentecost, when we celebrate Christ being raised up to heaven and leaving us with the Holy Spirit to be our guide.

Lenten Dollar Challenge

Thank you to all who have participated in our Lenten Dollar challenge through prayerful almsgiving in support of the Family Services Association of Glens Falls, a local ministry which helps the poor, homeless, and hungry in our community. Please remember to submit your checks (*made out to the Family Services Association of Glens Falls, Inc.*) by Easter Sunday or donate directly via their website: <https://www.fsaglensfalls.org/>

The Joy of Easter Flowers

Thank you to all who chose to remember and honor their loved ones by ordering Easter flowers to decorate our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday. We can all expect a wonderful burst of color and fragrance to greet us when we arrive for morning worship – a living embodiment of EASTER JOY!

Whatever the Season, Our Need Continues...

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

- Reading Scripture
- Assisting with ushering
- Leading the congregation in song by serving as Cantor?!

Our **sign-up sheets** are located outside Robinson Hall, in the Education Building.

2022-23 Worship Committee Members: *Christine Burke, Melissa Ferrie-Healy, Diane Henderson, and Jodi Loonan. We are here to serve!*

We welcome and encourage your constructive feedback.



Mission's Report

Your Mission's Committee continues to help our community and we give monthly **Open Door**, and during the winter months we give to **Code Blue**.

At Christmas we gave to **Family Services** plus donated 54 jars of peanut butter! In January and February we collected 274 pairs of under garments for Family Services.

We continue to support our three Adopted Children through **Plan International**.

Thank you to all the Harrisena families for your continued support!

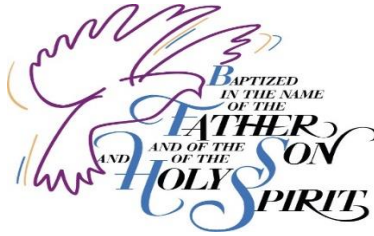
Mission Committee: *Mary Alice Clickner, Patty Zacharias, Susan Ogden*

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, JULY 15, 2023 - Harrisena Chicken BBQ

For Reservations/Payment/ or to reserve "Meals of Love", (or to Volunteer), contact Deanna Payne (518) 761-0133 or cell (518) 681-2606.

Please ask for God's favor on our endeavors!



Dahlia Elizabeth Hall, Baptized on March 19, at Harrisena Community Church!
Parents are Justin & Elizabeth; Grandparents are Jane & Jay McAdam.
Congratulations to all!

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Due to the many vacations scheduled during *Spring Break*, we have **canceled the April 20th meeting**. We will have a meeting in May to work on the Historical Room at a date to be decided!

At present we only have **one officer, our Treasurer, Doris O'Rourke**, who is doubling as secretary. The two jobs are daunting, to say the least! *To continue to function as women of Harrisena who plan and serve*, we need a **volunteer OR TWO** to help continue with our programs.

PROSPECT SCHOOL PROJECT

It's NOT too early to start thinking about donations for this year's "Prospect School's Festival of Trees"!  tree for the

This year our first tree theme will be;
"Patriotic & Santa"

The second tree will be:

"Adirondack Birds & other Other Adirondack Things"



Please give, (or leave on the Narthex table) all donations to the attention of "Deanna Payne".

Thank you



EASTER FLOWERS - *April 9, 2023*

GIVEN by:

In “MEMORY” of:

Joanne Beck

Bruce Beck

Linda Bye

Francis Bye & Catherine Gilson

Donna Davison Smith

My Wonderful Parents: Jean & Don
Moon

Danna Davison-Smith

My Wonderful Husband: Richard C.
Smith

Shelley Durkee

Loved Ones Past

Bob & Cheryl Evans & girls

Abigail Evans

Melissa Ferrie-Healy

My Dear Father – Allan J. Ferrie

Melissa Ferrie-Healy

My Beloved Grandparents: Rachael and Eldred Ayer; Norma and “Jack”
Ferrie, Hertha & Richard Gillespie. In-Laws: Ann & “Jack” Healy.

Melissa Ferrie-Healy

My Beloved Aunt – Raechel Ann Howard

Ron & Diane Henderson

Ronald & Betty Henderson and
Milton & Florence Fournier

Jean Meyer

The Meyers Family and Time
Reinmuth

Bonnie Nadig

Our Loved Ones

Janet & Ralph Wilson

The Wilson Family and The
McKendrick Family

GIVEN by:

In “HONOR” of:

Christine Burke

My dear & fun Cabbies to church:
Phil & Bonnie Nadig and Janet
Wilson, I am forever grateful!

Shelley Durkee

Loved Ones Still Here

Melissa Ferrie-Healy

Beloved Family, Friends and pets who grace my life

Phil & Bonnie Nadig

Our Family

April Birthdays: 1) Carolyn Curren; 7) Katherine Gould, Lauren Gould, Donna Smith; 8) Jeremy Carte; 9) Lori Carte; 14) Ken Zacharias; 15) Kathy Herold, Doug Helffrich, Jr.; 16) David Michaels; 20) April Beasley-Irving; 23) Blake McComsey; 25) Ralph Wilson; 26) Anne Kingsley, Sean Robinson; 30) Elizabeth Gusek, Mac Petrequin.

MAY 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Christian Home Month/ American Heritage Month	1 5:30am PRAYER	2 5:30am PRAYER Conversations @1	3 5:30am PRAYER Conversations@1; AA @7:30	4 5:30am PRAYER	5 5:30am Prayer Mission Meal prepared	6 5:30am PRAYER
7 5:30 am Prayer Sunday Morning Worship @9:30 am Holy Communion	8 5:30am PRAYER	9 5:30am PRAYER Conversations @1	10 5:30am PRAYER AA @7:30	11 5:30am PRAYER	12 5:30am Prayer Mission Meal prepared	13 5:30am PRAYER
14 Mother's Day 5:30 am Prayer Sunday Morning Worship @9:30 am	15 5:30am PRAYER	16 5:30am PRAYER Conversations @1; Council @7	17 LGGC 5:30am Prayer Lectio Divina @12:30 AA @7:30	18 5:30am PRAYER 12- Women's Assoc. Mtg	19 5:30am Prayer <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> Mission Meal prepared	20 5:30am PRAYER
21 Ascension Sunday 5:30 am Prayer Sunday Morning Worship @9:30 am	22 5:30am PRAYER	23 5:30am PRAYER Conversations @1	24 5:30am Prayer Lectio Divina @12:30 PM AA @7:30	25 5:30am PRAYER	26 5:30am Prayer Mission Meal prepared	27 5:30am PRAYER
28 Pentecost 5:30 am Prayer Sunday Morning Worship @9:30 am	29 5:30am PRAYER Memorial Day	30 5:30am PRAYER Conversations @1	31 5:30am Prayer Lectio Divina @12:30 AA @7:30			

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.

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.

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/May 2023

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
Linda Kennedy – Fort Hudson
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
Robert & Beth Marshall – relatives of Phyllis Straut
Christopher Nobile – Son of Jim & Eleanor Nobile
Marie Scarseletta – relative of the Straut family
Gay Smith – Member of Harrisena
Sharon Sturdevant – Daughter of Marilyn Somerville
Fran Tucker – Mother of Bob Tucker
Doloras Van Detta – Friend of Marie Scarselletta

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*Our Heartfelt Condolences go out to the Families & Friends of: **Marilyn VanDyke**, mother of member, Heather VanDyke, and Queensbury Town Historian; **Jane Lis**, Mother of Deanna Payne; **Marilynn DeHoney**, former Harrisena member, and **Joseph Patterson**, son in law of Shirley Harney.*



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 (*West Point Military Academy*), relative of Griffith Parry- serving in Poland

Todd Payne (*Army*), cousin of the Payne family - serving stateside

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

