

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

*"The Lord your God is with you,
the Mighty Warrior who saves.
He will take great delight in you;
in his love he will no longer rebuke you,
but will rejoice over you with singing" (Zephaniah 3:17, NIV).*

Can you imagine God singing? The Hebrew phrase "he will rejoice over you with singing" can also be translated literally as "he rejoices over you with a shout of joy." God rejoices over you with loud singing. As God the Father is One who holds His daughter Jerusalem and sings joyfully in her presence. Just as a loving parent cradles a child and sings out of love, so God's song over God's people is born of great love. WOW!

These words come to a people, after a time of hardship. Here our loving Lord dries the people's tears, comforts their hearts, and welcomes them to a new world. This is the message of Advent. It is the promise of intimate fellowship and communion between God and Israel which is the foundation of God's joy in humanity and humanity's joy in God.

Advent's intention is to awaken the most profound and basic knowledge within us, specifically, the knowledge of God, who stepped through time and space, into human history to become a child because of love. Advent's invitation is to rehearse the great history of God's amazing love toward us and to awaken to the present reality of life's fresh longing for God with us.

Advent is the opportunity to reflect within; always knowing that we are more than the sum of our actions and our days, our thoughts and moods; knowing that we wait for the return of Christ in glory to consummate his eternal kingdom.

Advent gives us the space and place to recover our dreams of a world filled with love, a world filled with joy, a world filled with hope, and a world filled with peace. It is a time between already and not yet. It is a time of great expectation and of waiting, of anticipation, of knowing and not knowing. It is a time filled with the holy presence of God. It is our time with God.

During this Season of Advent, take refuge in God. Put your hope on the righteousness of Christ. Allow the Lord God to embrace you, right where you are. Rest in God's arms. Listen for God's voice. God is singing. The Lord, the King of kings, rejoices over you with gladness and exults over you with loud singing. God loves... God loves you.

"May the sounds of Advent stir a longing in your people, O God. Come again to set us free from the dullness of routine and the poverty of our imaginations. Break the patterns which bind us to small commitments and to the stale answers we have given to questions of no importance. Let the Advent trumpet blow, let the walls of our defenses crumble, and make a place in our lives for the freshness of your love, well-lived in the Spirit, and still given to all who know their need and dare receive it. Amen" Written by Dr. Howard Thurman in ***The Mood of Christmas***.

Have a blessed Advent and Christmastide! God is singing over you!

In Christ's service with you.

Shalom,
Dr. N. C. Wimberly

President's Message
Submitted by Doris O'Rourke

Although the Thanksgiving holiday has come and gone, our feelings of thankfulness for our blessings stay with us.

As we welcome the Advent season, we can add another dimension of thanks. Let us recall the various people who accompanied us on our faith journey. Many times it was our family but for many others it might have been a caring neighbor who took us to "Sunday School" or the kind teacher there who awakened our yearning for God. Perhaps we met someone who fed our spirit, or one who shared their understanding with us. However it happened, we feel gratitude for all. **Christmas Blessings to you and your loved ones.**

Membership Committee December Report

As an ongoing, long-term project, our committee is working to update and maintain our **Harrisena Church membership list**. We will be communicating with members who have not been in contact with the church in one way or another. The committee is reaching out to members who have been shut-ins, or have been unable to attend church for various reasons to assure them that their membership at Harrisena is for life.

Additionally, we will be **working to update the birthday recognition list**; to suggest visitor welcome events; and to promote membership opportunities.

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna Gelder Bigelow, Brady Maddon, Cheryl Straut



TREASURERS' REPORT

The BUDGET VOTE is scheduled for **Sunday, 12/11/22** at the Congregational Meeting held after worship. **If you have not already made a pledge, please consider it now.**

Thank you!

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

HARRISENA COMMUNITY CHURCH BUDGET FOR 2022 AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2023

INCOME	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Church Rental/Usage Income	--	500
Fundraising Income	6,000	7,000
Grant Income	50,000	50,000
Holiday Offering Income	--	100
Interest Income	200	250
Memorial Donations	5,000	5,000
Non-pledged offering income	10,000	14,000
Other income	1,500	500
Pledged Offering Income	60,000	50,000
Special Collection Income	<u>700</u>	<u>700</u>
TOTAL INCOME	133,400	128,050

EXPENSES

Committees:

Buildings Expense	8,000	2,000
Grounds Expense	7,500	6,500
Liability Insurance	8,000	3,500
Structural Repairs & Maint.	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
TOTAL BUILDINGS & GROUNDS:	20,500	14,000

Christian Education	1,000	1,000
VBS	<u>600</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL CHRISTIAN ED	1,600	1,000

Expenses, cont.....

Communication		
Advertising	500	500
TOTAL COMMUNICATION	500	500
Fellowship Committee	350	200
Finance	500	500
Stewardship Supplies & Expenses	<u>300</u>	<u>300</u>
TOTAL FINANCE, FELLOWSHIP STEWARDSHIP	1,150	1,000
Fundraising Expenses	3,000	3,000
Membership Committee	250	250
Music	500	100
Repairs	<u>1,000</u>	<u>500</u>
Total Fundraising, Membership, Music	4,750	3,850
Outreach Committee	100	100
Worship Committee	<u>600</u>	<u>1,000</u>
Total Outreach & Worship	700	1,100
<u>TOTAL COMMITTEES:</u>	29,200	21,450*
Maintenance & Operations		
District Fire Taxes	375	350
Equipment Lease	1,600	1,600
General Supplies	300	100
Office Supplies	1,000	600
Postage	300	300
Printing	100	50
Supplies & Materials	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>
TOTAL MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS	6,675	6,000*
UTILITIES	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Electric		
27103 (Church)	2,000	1,100

27107 (Parsonage)	2,000	2,300
27109 (Ed Bldg)	<u>1,500</u>	<u>2,000</u>
TOTAL ELECTRIC	5,500	5,400
Oil Ed Bldg.	4,500	8,000
Propane		
Church	1,500	3,500
Ed. Bldg.	2,000	2,000
Parsonage	<u>2,500</u>	<u>2,500</u>
TOTAL PROPANE	6,000	8,000
TOTAL UTILITIES	16,000	21,400*
Telephone/Internet Expense	3,300	2,000*
Professional Fees	800	50*
PURCHASES	3,000	3,000*
SALARIES, STAFF & PASTORAL		
Church Secretary	4,500	4,500
Minister-substitute	800	800
Organist	8,000	8,000
Organist-substitute	<u>600</u>	<u>600</u>
TOTAL SALARIES STAFF & PASTORAL	13,900	13,900*
PASTOR		
Add'l. Compensation	2,500	2,500
Housing	18,000	18,000
Medical	5,250	5,250
P/R Tax Allowance	4,425.53	4,600.88
Pension	4,992	5,190.70
Salary	39,850	42,272.88
Travel Allowance	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>
TOTAL PASTOR	76,517.53	79,324.46*
Payroll Expenses		
Disability Insurance	1,000	500
Payroll Administration fee	1,200	1,300
Payroll Taxes Exp-ER	2,800	670
Workers Comp Insurance	<u>2,300</u>	<u>1,000</u>
TOTAL PAYROLL EXPENSES	7,300	3,470*
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>

Uncategorized Expenses		2,000*
TOTAL EXPENSES	156,492.53	152,594.46
TOTAL INCOME		<u>-128,050.00</u>
		24,544.46
PARSONAGE ALLOWANCE		<u>- 18,000.00</u>
Deficit		6,544.46



**Harrisena Community Church
PLEDGE FORM**

With a grateful heart for God's boundless generosity and as an expression of my Christian Stewardship, I make this commitment for Harrisena Church and the ministry of the congregation.

MY/OUR commitment is: \$ _____ per ___ week ___ month ___ year

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

- This is a first-time pledge
- I am also interested in pledging time and skills
- This represents an increase in pledge over last year

ANNUAL MEETING ON DECEMBER 11, 2022!

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE!

PROXY FORM

**Annual Congregational Meeting to be held on December 11, 2022,
after Sunday Service which begins at 9:30 am.**

PROXY FORM

I _____, an active member of the
Harrisena Community Church, hereby appoints

_____ to act as proxy for, and to
vote on behalf of at the Annual Congregational Meeting to be held on
December 11, 2022 for the HCC Proposed Budget for FY2023.

I The undersigned Member directs that this proxy be voted on the HCC
Proposed Budget FY 2023.

_____ I vote **YES** in favor of the **PROPOSED BUDGET** for **FY2023**.

_____ I vote **NO** against the **PROPOSED BUDGET** for **FY2023**.

Active Member Signature

Date

Time of receipt of proxy from active member _____

Signature of Proxy designee: _____

****Return completed proxy form to the church office or the church clerk,
Pam Loeb by email at pamelajloeb@gmail.com as early as possible and
no later than 15 minutes before the meeting begins.**

**Forms received after this time will not be added into the vote
calculations.**

Authorization of Clerk: _____

Date _____ Time _____

WORSHIP COMMITTEE DECEMBER

Submitted by Melissa Ferrie-Healy

Remaining Advent Dates:

Please take note of the following special services during the coming holiday season:

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 12/4 | Communion / Hanging of the Greens /Brunch |
| 12/10 | Women's Association Christmas Brunch (10 AM) |
| 12/24 | Christmas Eve Services (7 p.m. only) |
| 12/25 | Christmas Day Worship Service (9:30 a.m.) |

*(Please note that **Christmas Poinsettia order forms are now available, as well!**)*

As always, we welcome and encourage your feedback regarding any aspect of the worship experience at Harrisena Community Church.

2022-23 Worship Committee Members: Christine Burke, Melissa Ferrie-Healy, Jodi Loonan, and Phyllis Straut.

P.S. Additional Dates to Consider:

- | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| 1/01/23 | Epiphany Sunday |
| 1/08/23 | Baptism of our Lord Sunday |
| 1/27/23 | Winter Blood Drive (12-5:30 p.m.) |



LAST CHANCE TO ORDER YOUR POINSETTIA FOR CHRISTMAS!!

I would like to ORDER ___ Poinsettia(s) at \$12 each. Please list as follows:

IN MEMORY of _____

OR

IN HONOR of _____

Name _____

Phone # _____/Cell _____

**Please make all checks payable to HARRISENA FLOWER FUND,
c/o Harrisena Community Church, 1616 Ridge Road, Queensbury, NY 12804**

**ALL Orders must be into the office by Sunday,
December 11th!!**

DECEMBER 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 Meal Prep. @noon	3
4 Hanging of Greens Sunday @9:30 & Communion	5	6 Conversations @1	7 2 Bible Study/Lectio Divina at HCC @ 12:30 p.m. AA @7:30	8	9 Meal Prep. @noon	10 Women's Potluck Brunch @10
11 Sunday Worship @9:30; Annual Mtg. & Budget Vote	12	13 Conversations @1 Council @7	14 Bible Study/Lectio Divina at HCC @ 12:30 p.m. AA @7:30	15	16 Meal Prep. @noon	17
18 Sunday Worship @9:30	19	20 Conversations @1	21 Bible Study/Lectio Divina at HCC @ 12:30 p.m. AA @7:30	22	23 Meal Prep. @noon	24 Christmas Eve Worship @7 p.m.
25 Christmas Day Sunday Worship @9:30	26	27 Conversations @1	28 AA @7:30	29	30 Meal Prep. @noon	31 Watch Night / New Year's Eve

JOIN US FOR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP @ 9:30 a.m. in the Harrisena Community Church sanctuary and conference call-in at 1-313- 209- 8800. The ID# is 796-8500, then press #. Also, join our worship service via livestream at Harrisena.org. Click on the link to the livestream of the service.

December Birthdays: 4) Marian Philo; 5) Patricia Girard; 6) Judy Barcy; 11) Brian Walker; 14) Tatum Chase; 15) Doug Irving; 19) Erik Robinson; 19) Peter Cartier, Robin Dutcher; 20) Brynne Chase, Susan Urrico; 22) Wally Madon; 24) Cindy Farbaniec, Dodi Robinson; 25) Barry Jones; 30) Stephanie Carte, Melissa Ferrie-Healy, Natalia Helffrich.

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 – December 2022

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 - Hospital
Linda Kennedy – Fort Hudson
Jane Lis – Eastern Star Campus, Oriskany
Manu Malkani – The Terraces
Art Norton – Slate Valley Center
Marilyn Somerville – Coburn Village

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 – Neighbor of Joanne Beck
Christopher Nobile – Son of Jim & Eleanor Nobile
Sharon Sturdevant – Daughter of Marilyn Somerville
Doloras Van Detta – Friend of Marie Scarselletta

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*Our Heartfelt Condolences go out to the Families & Friends of **Allan J. Ferrie** who died this past week. Allan was a long-time member of Harrisena and the husband of Brenda, and father of Melissa Ferrie-Healy. He will be greatly missed.*



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 (*Army 69th ADA BDE*), 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

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

Griffith Parry (*Army*), nephew of Grif 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

