

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



*"So let us know, let us press on to know the LORD. His going forth is as the dawn; and He will come to us like the rain, like the spring rain watering the earth." Hosea 6:3 NIV*

A little girl had been shopping with her mom. She must have been 6 years old. She was this beautiful freckle faced girl, the image of innocence. It was pouring outside. The kind of rain that gushes over the top of rain gutters, so much in a hurry to hit the earth it has no time to flow down the spout. We all stood there under the awning and just inside the door of the store.

We waited, some patiently, others irritated because nature messed up their hurried day. I am always mesmerized by rainfall. I got lost in the sound and sight of the heavens washing away the dirt and dust of the world. Memories of running, splashing so carefree as a child came pouring in as a welcome reprieve from the worries of my day.

The little voice was so sweet as it broke the hypnotic trance we were all caught in. "Mom, let's run through the rain," she said. "What?" Mom asked. "Let's run through the rain!" She repeated. "No, honey. We'll wait until it slows down a bit," Mom replied. This young child waited about another minute and repeated: "Mom, let's run through the rain." "We'll get soaked if we do," Mom said. "No, we won't, Mom. That's not what you said this morning," the young girl said as she tugged at her mom's arm. "This morning? When did I say we could run through the rain and not get wet?" "Don't you remember? When you were talking to Daddy about his cancer, you said, "If God can get us through this, he can get us through anything!"

The entire crowd stopped in complete silent. You couldn't hear anything but the rain. We all stood silently. No one even moved in the next few minutes. The Mom paused and thought for a moment about what she would say. Now some would laugh it off and scold her for being silly. Some might even ignore what was said, but this was a moment of affirmation in a young child's life. This was a time when innocent trust can be nurtured so that it will bloom into faith.

"Honey, you are absolutely right. Let's run through the rain. If GOD lets us get wet, well, maybe we just needed washing," Mom said. Then off they ran!



The book of Hosea speaks about the outpouring of God's love and mercy on the people. In a world filled with chaos, division, hatred, and confusion, the prophet Hosea prays. Hosea prays a prayer full of confidence in God's love and God's power to restore. He reminds the people (us) to trust the love of God, and to see God's loving hand in their midst of their lives, in every situation and circumstance. Hosea encourages the people to persevere in God's love.

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This is also an invitation to us, HCC, to trust the love of God for us and to see God's loving hand right here, right now with us.

So why the metaphor of rain? In Israel, the only way crops were watered was by rain. So, the people waited for the rain with great anticipation. When we recognize our dependence on God, when we anticipate and wait for God with earnest expectation, God answers and comes to us. God favors, restores life, and blesses the people with good and abundance (love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, and self-control).

We have seen the abundance of God's blessings pouring out on us here at Harrisena. We thrived through the pandemic as we continued to spread the good news of God's love through our worship services every single Sunday. We discovered God's favor in new ways of gathering through our phones and the internet. We now have a Media and Technology committee! God blessed us so that we could be a blessing to others through the work of our officers and committees. Look at the blessings! We have had a trying year and yet we move forward in faith. We are thankful for our president, our dedicated financially responsive and responsible financial officers, and our Board of Trustees. We see God's loving hand in our Friday Meals (over 1900 meals served), annual blood drives, fellowship after worship and out to lunch, chicken barbeques and meals of love, the Festival of lights Christmas tree, Junk-in-the-Trunk, missions to our local, national, and international neighbors (a church in Louisiana, a Ukraine church in Glens Falls, Family Services, Open Door, food programs for school children, etc.), and the many hours of volunteer services and resources provided for the upkeep of our church and grounds. Did you notice the new mulch and weeding around the church? WOW! I thank God for each one of you! You are God's continuous flow of blessings to the community and to the world.

So, will we, Harrisena Community Church, the Body of Christ, risk it all on faith in God and get wet? We have been blessed a long time, but there are more blessings to come. Will you commit to this new chapter in the life of Harrisena Community Church? Will you commit to the work we must do together? In the meantime, as we prepare for what is ahead of us, run in the rain, splash in the puddles, feel the rain on your face, lean into the newness of a cleansed world...breathe the fresh new air.

Don't wait it out! Come on! Run! God can get us through this! God can get us through anything!

In Christ's service with you.

Shalom,  
Dr. N. C. Wimberly

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## A Message from the President

Submitted by Doris O'Rourke

Have a glorious July 4<sup>th</sup>!!

# Trustee's Ministry

## Board of Trustees Report

Repairs to the Parsonage garage door have been completed.

The walkway at the front of the church will be done during the summer months. We may have to temporarily close off the front doors while the walkway dries. We will keep you posted.

*Shelley Durkee*

### Save Stamps for our wounded Veterans

Would you like a fun and easy way to help our military veterans who have helped us and suffered so much as a result?

Since 2014 our local Red Cross has been collecting cancelled stamps for a national program to help our veterans: **"Stamps for the Wounded,"** which began in 1942. (For more specific details see [stampsforthewounded.org](http://stampsforthewounded.org))

This long successful program provides mental and physical stimulation ... *"to fight the deadliest foe that hospitalized personnel must fight – ENFORCED IDLENESS and its deadly allies: boredom, loneliness, frustration, futility, and despair. (This program works) to relight the spark of interest and life in the weary eyes of a wounded or convalescent veteran ... eyes that without such help would stare at nothing but, what one G.I. called, 'white ceilings ... dark futures.'*"

It is easy to be a part of this program. Simply **save stamps: any used stamps, with cancellation marks or not.** (Avoid the common stamps such as the non-profit and bulk rate USA stamps, and current US flag stamps.) **Cut around them with a 1/8" to 1/4" margin. When you get a bunch, drop them off at the Sanctuary entrance or in Roberson Hall.**

If you have any old envelopes or unique cancellation markings, save the whole envelope with the stamp, uncut.

Also, **any sort of stamp collection, and any books or materials related to stamp collecting are greatly desired.**

To help our wounded veterans each of us can do a little, and as a church, Harrisena can do a lot.

Bill Loeb  
[williamaloeb@gmail.com](mailto:williamaloeb@gmail.com)

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**OUR CHURCH'S  
FINANCIAL  
HEALTH**

**Treasurer's Report**  
Welcome Summer of 2022

Your HCC Financial Officers have been hard at work to meet all the needs of the church. As you are all well aware, there is always a delicate balance of just how far the money goes. **We have not only been acutely aware of all these necessary needs for the church and parishioners but we have spent a great deal of time coming up with ways to either save money or create new ways to raise funds for HCC.**

To date, there are 23 pledges for 2022 - down from 2021, which means we are down 1 pledge

**We have a pledge commitment of \$36,860.00 to date for 2022.**

We have collected \$18,875.00 Pledged Offerings to date.

We have collected \$8,394.00 in Non-pledge Offerings to date.

Technology has received a total of \$6,312.25 in donations to date.

**Total Fundraising that has been received is \$2,369.50 to date.**

**As of June 16, 2022, our savings account is showing \$137,482.75 minus the Ross Grant that we just received for \$40,000 - we will be adding this to the HCC savings account.**

Thank you all for making our job so satisfying by showing us your love and support.

Your Financial Officers:

*Ken Zacharias*

*Bonnie Nadig*

*Janet Wilson*



**DON'T FORGET TO TURN IN YOUR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS!**

The application can be submitted online or mailed in before the deadline. We welcome your application.

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## Annual Report for the Women's Association

The Women's Association had an accomplished and a fun-filled year:

We had the **Sanctuary carpets cleaned**;  
Robinson **Hall and kitchen floors cleaned and polished**;  
We purchased the **new Event sign**;  
and are waiting for the display case for church Memorabilia to be put in the Robinson Hall Entryway.

We also made a donation to “*Love and Hope for Haiti*” when **Janice Holding**, from Bay Road Church was a guest speaker.

Also, our own **Christine Burke** gave a program on Posture; **Rev. Patti Girard** spoke about the book she is writing; and the September meeting was held at Kathleen Gusek's home to see her beautiful gardens. In December we held a **Christmas Pot-luck Meal**. Lastly, we have a new Mission statement that says:

*The Harrisena Women's Association provides a forum for women of all ages  
And backgrounds to meet and enjoy each other's company and to  
financially enhance the Harrisena Church experience.*

As it states, **the Women's Association is open to all church women and women of the community**. It meets the **third Thursday of each month in Robinson Hall**. Everyone brings their own lunch – dessert is provided.

We hope to see you there!

*Thanks, Joanne*



The Outreach Committee usually consists of 6 members. One person is chosen to attend the monthly council meeting.

Committee Members are responsible for sending cards to church members on the **Long Term Prayer List** each month. They also coordinate the **Red Cross Bloodmobile visit each year**.



## **WORSHIP COMMITTEE (July-August)**

*Submitted by Melissa Ferrie-Healy*

### ***Welcome, Christine Burke!***

We are excited to welcome Christine Burke to the Worship Committee. She regularly attends and is actively engaged in Sunday morning worship. Creative and curious by nature, Christine brings a fresh perspective to our committee. She always has kind words and a smile to share, and she is not afraid to ask questions and think outside the box. We look forward to seeing how God will use Christine to enhance our worship experience at HCC.

### ***Let Us Break Bread Together***

We will continue to serve **gluten free Communion** (traditional and all-in-one packages) the **first Sunday of every month**. Please mark your calendars: July 3<sup>rd</sup> and August 7<sup>th</sup>.

### ***Flower Power!***

This is the season for God and gardeners to display the full glory of their collaboration in FLOWER POWER! We encourage everyone to share the bounty of their blooms at Sunday worship. Worried someone else might also be bringing flowers that day? No worries - we can ALWAYS make room for more flowers!

### ***Banners Under Construction***

The Women's Association and Worship Committee are hard at work creating banners to brighten our Sanctuary and enhance our worship experience. Be on the lookout for something NEW – perhaps by August? It's not too late to join the fun! Please contact a WC member if you would like to help.

### ***As always, we welcome your constructive input and ideas!***

What can we do to make Rally Day extra special this year? What can we do to celebrate Rev. Natalie's 5<sup>th</sup> year of service at Harrisena? Do you have other ideas for special services? Hymn requests? *We would love to hear from you!*

***Remember, many hands make light work! Please let us know if you would be interested in joining us or assisting us in any way.***

***Worship Committee Members: Melissa Ferrie-Healy, Kathleen Gusek, Phyllis Straut, and Christine Burke.***

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**You are invited to –  
HARRISENA COMMUNITY CHURCH**

**Drive-Thru Chicken BBQ  
Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 4-6 PM**



***½ BBQ chicken  
Corn on the cob  
Coleslaw  
Rolls  
Dessert***

**Cost \$15 - Cash or Check  
Call 518 681-2602 for Reservations!**

**Harrisena Community Church, 1616 Ridge Road, Queensbury  
(1/2 mile north of Route 149)**



***COMING SOON: Summer Blood Drive 2022!***

**The Harrisena Community Church Summer Blood Drive will take place on Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 - 5:30 PM in Robinson Hall.**

***How is God calling YOU to help?***

- Spread the word on your social media
- Hang a poster where others in the community can see it
- Pray for the safety and availability of our donors and volunteers
- Assist with set-up or clean-up
- Work as a greeter
- Bake some goodies or help make a meal for our volunteers

If any of these options sound appealing to you, **please contact Melissa Ferrie-Healy or Pam Loeb.**

**If you are feeling especially brave and generous, you could DONATE YOUR BLOOD!** Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments can easily be scheduled ahead of time by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS or visiting [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

**Any help would be appreciated!**





## **Vacation Bible Camp**

July 18-22

8:45-12 noon

**Christ Church United Methodist**

54 Bay St. Glens Falls NY

**518 792-3468**

**Register at:**

[Vbspro.events/p/events/christchurchgf](https://vbspro.events/p/events/christchurchgf)

***ALL Campers and volunteers are welcome!***

## JULY 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Bible Study @1 (zoom only); AA @7:30	<b>7</b> Conversations@10:30	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Council @7	<b>13</b> Bible Study @1 (zoom only); AA @7:30	<b>14</b> Conversations@10:30	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Drive-thru Chicken BBQ, 4-6
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Bible Study@1 (zoom only); AA @7:30	<b>21</b> Conversations@10:30	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Bible Study @1 (zoom only); AA @7:30	<b>28</b> Conversations@10:30	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b>						

### SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Join us in the HCC sanctuary and conference call-in: 1-313-209- 8800. The ID# is 796-8500, then press #. You can also join our worship service via livestream at [Harrisena.org](https://harrisena.org). Click on the link to the livestream of the service. See you in worship!

**July Birthdays:** 3) Jane Gould-Badger; 9) Hal Payne; 12) Jennifer Ferris; 14) David Aust; 18) Kylie Lipinski; 20) Larissa Gusek, Brenda Ferrie; 28) Violet Brown; 29) Cheryl Straut, Janet Richard.

**August Birthdays:** 1) Laurie Ferris; 5) Phyllis Straut; 10) Wallace Loonan; 13) Tim McAuley; 14) Sue Helffrich; 20) Gigi Barrett; 23) Doris O'Rourke

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## Long-Term Prayer Requests – July/August 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  
Maria Foss – Sunnyview Rehabilitation, Schenectady  
Linda Kennedy – Fort Hudson  
Jane Lis – Eastern Star Campus, Oriskany  
Manu Malkani – The Terraces  
Linda McCollister – Home of the Good Shepherd, Saratoga  
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  
Patricia Burke – mother of Christine Burke  
Sally Busted – friend of the Cartier family  
Kathleen Dumont – Niece of Brandy Madon  
Rev. Patti Girard – Friend of Harrisena  
Edna Harris – Sister of Laura Avent  
Randy Huber – Husband of Cindy Huber  
Fabiola Jabaut – Mother of Steve Jabaut  
Marjorie Johnson – mother of Gigi Barrett  
Douglas Jones – Son-in-law of Art Norton  
Teagan Klingenburg – Student of Melissa Ferrie-Healy  
Carmen LeFebvre – Friend of Peg McArthur  
Wendy Leyonmark – Sister of Cindy Huber  
Ann Malkani – Neighbor of Joanne Beck  
Christopher Nobile – Son of Jim & Eleanor Nobile  
Gay Smith - Member  
Sharon Sturdevant – Daughter of Marilyn Somerville  
Doloras Van Detta – Friend of Marie Scarselletta  
Joan Walker - Member

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*Our Heartfelt Condolences go out to the Family & Friends of **James Williams-Ness** and **Marjorie Johnson** who died this past month. James was the brother-in-law of Sean Loonan; and Marjorie was the mother of Gigi Barrett.*



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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.*

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

**Derek Dumas**—stateside

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

**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

**Cpt. Michael Gusek** is home and retired from the military!

