

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Danielle's parents have promised to get her a dog. They have visited the animal shelter now for over a month now. Her parents are becoming a bit tired of the routine that doesn't end with a puppy for Danielle. "Danielle keeps repeating it over and over again. We've been back to this animal shelter at least five times. It has been weeks now since we started all of this," the mother told the volunteer.

"What is it she keeps asking for?" the volunteer asked. "Puppy size!" replied the mother. "Well, we have plenty of puppies, if that's what she's looking for," the volunteer added. "I know...we have seen most of them," the mom said in frustration. Just then Danielle came walking into the office.

"Well, did you find one?" asked her mom. "No, not this time," Danielle said with sadness in her voice. "Can we come back on the weekend?" The two women looked at each other, shook their heads and laughed. "You never know when we will get more dogs. Unfortunately, there's always a supply," the volunteer said. Danielle took her mother by the hand and headed to the door. "Don't worry, I'll find one this weekend," she said.

Over the next few days both mom and dad had long conversations with her. They both felt she was being too particular. "It's this weekend or we're not looking anymore," Dad finally said in frustration. "We don't want to hear anything more about puppy size either," Mom added.

Sure enough, they were the first ones in the shelter on Saturday morning. By now Danielle knew her way around, so she ran right for the section that housed the smaller dogs. Tired of the routine, mom sat in the small waiting room at the end of the first row of cages. There was an observation window so you could see the animals during times when visitors weren't permitted.

Danielle walked slowly from cage to cage, kneeling periodically to take a closer look. One by one the dogs were brought out and she held each one. One by one she said, "Sorry, you're not the one."

It was the last cage on this last day in search of the perfect pup. The volunteer opened the cage door and the child carefully picked up the dog and held it closely. This time she took a little longer. "Mom, that's it! I found the right puppy! He's the one! I know it!" she screamed with joy. "It's the puppy size!" "But it's the same size as all the other puppies you held over the last few weeks," Mom said. No, not size... sighs. When I held him in my arms, he sighed," she said. "Don't you remember? When I asked you one day what love is, you told me love depends on the sighs of your heart? The more you love, the bigger the sigh!"

The two women looked at each other for a moment. Mom didn't know whether to laugh or cry. As she stooped down to hug the child, she did a little of both.

"Mom, every time you hold me, I sigh. When you and Daddy come home from work and hug each other, you both sigh. I knew I would find the right puppy if it sighed when I held it in my arms," she said. Then holding the puppy up close to her face she said, "Mom, he loves me. I heard the sighs of his heart!"

Have you ever laid your head down on someone's chest and heard the sighs of their heart? If you were to do that you had to be pretty close to the individual whose heart you heard.

Close your eyes for a moment, see your head lying on the bosom of God. Listen to sighs of God's heart. Hear the rhythm of Love. Connect to the intimacy, friendship, and affection of God's heart. Accept the embrace of God's grace. Rest in God's wisdom. Now, keep listening. Is your heart beating at the same rate as God's? Is your heart aligned with God's heart?

"This is love indeed--we did not love God, but God loved us and sent His Son to be an atoning sacrifice for our sins." (1 John 4:10 NIV)

So often I experience the sighs of God in the arms of loved ones, in the caress of a sunset, the kiss of the moonlight, and the gentle brush of cool air on a hot day. Where do you hear the sighs of God's heart?

For the next five (5) days, make time each day to stop and listen to the heart of God; you may be surprised at what you hear. Festus (1839) sc. 5, said, "We should count time by heart-throbs." I also read somewhere that life is not measured by the breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

Shalom,
Dr. N. C. Wimberly



THE SEASON AFTER PENTECOST

This past Sunday, we celebrated the Day of Pentecost. On the Day of Pentecost, seven weeks after the resurrection of Jesus, the Holy Spirit was poured out upon those followers of Jesus who had gathered together in Jerusalem. We understand the work of the Holy Spirit through the witness of John in the 16th chapter verse 13: *"But when He, the Spirit of Truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come."*

The Season after Pentecost is the season of the Holy Spirit. This season is also known as ordinary time. What happened on the first Pentecost continues to happen to Christians throughout the world today.

During the season after Pentecost, we celebrate what God does to empower us to live out the Gospel, day by day, moment by moment and week after week in the context of our ordinary lives. We are called to live the Gospel not only in the notable experiences of life, but also in the mundane. Chuck Sackett writes, *"These Sundays remind us of the simple truth that most time is ordinary time, neither crisis nor climax, tragedy nor comedy, just ordinary."*

Will you welcome the Holy Spirit into the ordinary moments of your life today? Will you seek the presence of God in your tomorrow? Will you accept the Spirit of Truth into your next week? Will you live out the Gospel in your next month? If you choose to trust the Holy Spirit to guide

your ordinary moments, your ordinary will become extraordinary. It's up to you. *The right perspective can be a wonderful thing!*



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JUNK IN THE TRUNK

Join us for the *Harrisena Junk in the Trunk Sale* in the
HARRISENA CHURCH PARKING LOT

On

Saturday, June 10th, 9 AM-3 PM

\$20/per car Registration Fee

BAKE & BOOK SALE also!

Send Registration Checks to: *Harrisena Community Church,*
1616 Ridge Road, Queensbury, NY 12804, c/o ***"Junk in the Trunk"***

Any questions call Shirley Harney @ 518 832-7306



WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Submitted by Melissa Ferrie-Healy

Honoring Fathers and Graduates

On **June 18th** we will celebrate **Father's Day**. In addition to honoring our Father in Heaven, this is a chance to honor the men who have been father figures for us here on Earth. Whether we can physically give them a hug or not, this is an excellent opportunity for us to show our love and appreciation for our biological fathers, but for all who have fathered us throughout our lives. Please take this opportunity to say "thank you" to all those caring men in your life today AND to share the story of those who are no longer with us.

On **June 25th** we will honor our graduates with **Baccalaureate Sunday**. In addition to celebrating the many accomplishments of our graduates, this is an opportunity for us to affirm that they are loved and valued by their family at Harrisena Community Church. Let's remind our graduates that God has given them all the strength, creativity and resources they will need to rise above whatever challenges they face to make the world a better place.

Summer Blooms are Back!

Summer gardens are blooming with peonies, iris, daisies, roses, and more. **Fresh summer flowers are ALWAYS welcome at Harrisena.** The more, the merrier!

Thank you to **Diane Henderson** for gracing our church windows with beautiful floral arrangements (*see photo*). She is also working on some colorful summertime wreaths for our church doors.

Whatever the Season, Our Need Continues...

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

- Reading Scripture
- Ushering
- Leading the congregation in song
- Sharing special music

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

2022-23 Worship Committee Members: Christine Burke, Melissa Ferrie-Healy, and Diane Henderson. We are here to serve God, Christ, and our parish!

We welcome and encourage your constructive feedback.



THANK YOU, DIANE!

THE PURPOSE-DRIVEN CHURCH

Every church has a controlling factor, a dominant influence, or an overarching philosophy, mindset, conviction, or attitude that affects and directs everything it does.

In 1995, Rick Warren wrote the book entitled **THE PURPOSE-DRIVEN CHURCH**. You may have heard of it. As you may know, the book was written primarily for pastors and church leaders. In this book, Warren advises church leaders to base their ministry on God's purposes, not their own ideas of ministry. Warren suggests **five purposes** that guide effective churches. They are **Worship, Fellowship, Discipleship, Ministry and Mission**. These purposes, Warren claims, are derived from Matthew 22:37-40 (The Great Commandment) and Matthew 28:19-20 (The Great Commission).

Warren's book is based on one basic truth: that **every church is driven by something**. He suggests that there are seven things that drive most churches: **Tradition, finances, programs, personalities, events, seekers and even buildings** can each be the controlling force in a church.

The **tradition-driven church** is a church that is captivated by what God did yesterday. It is a church committed to perpetuating the past. Change is almost always viewed as bad, and stagnation is almost always viewed as stability. The tradition-driven church is a church that is committed to the seven last words of the church, "WE'VE NEVER DONE IT THAT WAY BEFORE."

In the **personality-driven church**, the pastor or some powerful church member is the dominate force. This type of church tends to take on the personality of the dominate leader and its agenda is set more by the will of the leader than by the will of God. If the dominant leader dies or leaves the church, this type of church finds itself seriously crippled.

For the **finance-driven church**, the number one question is "HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?" and the number one activity in this type of church is fundraising. Ministry, discipleship and evangelism all take a backseat to money matters in a finance-driven church.

The **program driven church** is program focused. Its goal is simply to perpetuate programs, regardless of whether or not the program has outlived its usefulness and regardless of whether or not it is meeting the needs of the people.

Some churches are **driven by buildings**. In this type of church, the majority of the church's financial and human resources are spent on paying for and maintaining the building. Funds earmarked for ministry have to be diverted to pay the mortgage or fix constant problems, and the ministry to the people suffers.

Other churches are **driven by events**. The calendar of an event-driven church is packed with activity, but in the church, there is very little productivity. The main focus in an event-driven church is to boost attendance at the events, with little regard for actual ministry or discipleship.

And still other churches are **driven by seekers**. These kinds of churches forget all the other Biblical purposes of the church and just focus on attracting lost people.

Warren suggests that *the only thing that should drive God's Church are God's Purposes*. God's purposes should be our priorities, and God's purposes are revealed in God's Word. We must be clear about God's priorities, God's purposes, and God's perspectives so that we can be clear about our own.

WHAT IS A PURPOSE DRIVEN CHURCH?

- A church driven by God's Biblical purposes, not by our personal plans, programs, or personalities.
- A church which seeks **TO GROW WARMER THROUGH FELLOWSHIP, DEEPER THROUGH DISCIPLESHIP, STRONGER THROUGH WORSHIP, BROADER THROUGH MINISTRY, AND LARGER THROUGH EVANGELISM.**
- A church that seeks to evaluate everything it does against the five purposes of the church.
(Warren 1995)



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!

Drive-Thru Chicken BBQ
Saturday, August 12th, 4-6 PM



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

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Slate from 2023 stays the same except for the following people to be voted on during the on June 11 Congregational Meeting:

President	Susan Ogden
Flowers	Phyllis Straut Doris O'Rourke Janet Wilson
Membership	Christine Burke
Pastoral / Parish Relations Committee	Cheryl Evans, Ken Zacharias

These people are new to committees and already serving:

Diane Henderson	-	Worship
Ron Henderson	-	Fellowship
Dr. Evans	-	Trustee



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

HARRISENA COMMUNITY CHURCH EVENTS

JUNE 10 **Junk In The Trunk** 9:00 - 3:00 \$20.00 each Bake sale & Book Sale

August 12 **Dizzy Dave's BBQ** 4:00 - 6:00

September 30 **Apple Festival** Venders Lunch Silent Auction Bake Sale

Thank you for participating in our events.

Please contact: **Shirley Harney at: 518-832- 7306** for further information.

June 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 1	2 2 Mission Meal Prepared	3 3 5:30am PRAYER
4 5:30 am Prayer Sunday Morning Worship @9:30 am Holy Communion	5 5:30am PRAYER	6 5:30am PRAYER Conversation s@1; Council @7	7 5:30am PRAYER Lectio Divina @12:30 & 7pm; AA @7:30	8 5:30am PRAYER	9 5:30am Prayer Mission Meal prepared	10 5:30am PRAYER
11 5:30 am Prayer Sunday Morning Worship @6:30 & 9:30 am ; Congregational Meeting after worship/Bylaws and Nominations	12 5:30am PRAYER	13 5:30am PRAYER Conversation s @1;	14 5:30am Prayer Lectio Divina @12:30 & 7pm AA @7:30	15 5:30am PRAYER 12- Women's Assoc. Mtg	16 <i>5:30am Prayer</i> Mission Meal prepared	17 5:30am PRAYER
18 5:30 am Prayer <i>Sunday Morning Worship @9:30 am</i>	19 5:30am PRAYER	20 5:30am PRAYER Conversation s @1	21 LGGC 5:30am Prayer Lectio Divina @ 12:30 PM & 7pm AA @7:30	22 5:30am PRAYER	23 5:30am Prayer Mission Meal prepared	24 5:30am PRAYER
25 5:30 am Prayer <i>Sunday Morning Worship @9:30 am</i>	26 5:30am PRAYER	27 5:30am PRAYER Conversation s @ 1	28 5:30am Prayer Lectio Divina @12:30 & 7pm AA @7:30	29 5:30am PRAYER	30 5:30am Prayer Mission Meal prepared	

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.

June Birthdays: 5) Joanne Beck; 8) Nancy Wilder; 9) Hilary Cartier-Brown; 21) Heidi Helffrich; 26) Deanna Payne; 27) Roger Smith, Kyla Wilson; 28) Melissa Ferrie-Healy; 30) LaMont Robinson.

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 – June 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: **Joseph Patterson**, son-in-law of Shirley Harney, and **Joan Reinmuth**, daughter of Jean Meyer; **Karen Goodale**, friend of Shelley Durkee.*



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

A person is silhouetted against a vibrant red sky, standing on the peak of a rocky mountain. The person is looking out over the horizon. The overall mood is contemplative and spiritual.

Lord Jesus,

You are a shield around me.
Strong in love, heavy with power
Shaped with hope and gilded with truth.
I will fear no evil, for you watch over me
You defend and deliver me.
In this day, this hour, this moment
I put my trust in you.

Amen.