

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

"For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11, NIV

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ!

Standing on tiptoe is not a children's game of balance. Rather it is the beautiful prayer of balancing God's promises with our hope and expectation. God's ways are so often surprising, beyond anything our eyes have seen, our ears heard or our minds understand. God often acts in quiet ways, ways that do not necessarily draw our attention. But for those standing on tiptoe, waiting with prayerful expectation, God offers new vision for the future, new insight into the present and new life that transforms the old beyond our imagining.

Seasons of Your Heart, Macrina Wiederkehr

At the beginning of each church year I stand on tiptoe, leaning forward with great hope and expectation of what God will do next in the life of the church. Jeremiah 29:11 reminds us that God has plans for us! With God there is always the expectation of a future that manifests gifts and graces beyond of wildest dreams. God is faithful and is always willing and ready to work in and through us as individuals and as a congregation. This is Harrisena's Season of the Heart. The Season of the Heart is the season we focus on and celebrate God! Will you dedicate this year to God? Will you commit your life to God's will? God has a plan for us!

In the *Inward Journey*, Howard Thurman speaks of how the quality of life a person experiences is often determined by what that person is dedicated to. If the dedication of the life is vague and diffuse, the quality of life is often poor and weak. There is much to be said for the intensity of life's focus that structures and defines where an individual places the living emphasis of her/his days. And yet, in Life, we discover an alternative, another way. This other way is the opportunity given to each person to pour him/herself into God's plan. This is far different from offering one's special talents, as important as that may be. It is more than the offering of resources, however great or limited they may be. It is to offer oneself: to put at the disposal of Life one's life, not merely one's needs, one's demands, one's frustrations, one's unresolved problems. This is to say to Life, "Here I am, I put myself at your disposal to be where I am--all of me. To do, to be, to discover, where I am, with all of me. To respond to life where I am without bargaining or bartering." God has a plan for us!

Let us pray:

Dearest Creator,

We stand on tiptoe, eagerly awaiting your full revelation, always expecting those things that are more than we can imagine, more than we can hope...more and more of You.

Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Your will. Nothing more. Nothing less. Nothing else. On tiptoe, leaning forward, trusting You. Amen and amen.

Shalom,
Dr. N. C. Wimberly

President's Message

Submitted by Doris O'Rourke

It's October and TEAM HARRISENA is ready to begin a new church year!

First, let us thank Pastor Wimberly and the hard working church members of our congregation who have kept Harrisena going through a most unusual time.

Like any successful team, we will need supporters to cheer us on; so all members of our congregation are invited to attend Council Meetings where you will hear about our committee's activities and learn about issues facing our church.

The Rev. George Stefani will be invited back to follow up on remedies that will address concerns raised in the June meetings this year.

On the Sunday preceding our Council Meetings, which are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7 PM, I will be available after our church service to chat with anyone who wants to give information to the council.

Hopefully this year we will be spared the effects of a pandemic and will be able to renew our traditions of worship and fellowship.

In closing, I want to share a favorite of mine from I Corinthians, 12: 4-6:

*"There are different kinds of gifts,
But the same Spirit.
There are different kinds of service
But the same Lord.
There are different kinds of working,
But the same God works all of them in all men/women (persons).*

MEDIATION

Moving Our Mission Forward with Mediation

On June 12, 2021, the congregation held a special meeting to discuss interests to address as we move forward with the mission of the church. Later that month, we meet again to review the results of the June 12 meeting and to begin designing an approach to address our common interests. We concluded that the best approach for our church was to address specific interests through our Church Council, boards, and committees beginning in the fall of this year.

At the end of September, Dr. Wimberly, Doris O'Rourke, Jim Ferris, and Reverend George Stefani, who facilitated our June meetings, met to discuss our next steps. We discussed that a key element in moving forward is to keep our focus on the mission of our church. We have intentionally formed a church with a mission to be an inclusive, welcoming Christian community who welcomes a diversity of beliefs as together we share in the Christian principles of faith, love, and service to others. Our approach then will be to address those interests in ways that strengthens our mission.

We are looking forward to holding a Saturday morning meeting of the Church Council with Reverend Stefani to begin working a process to address our interests concerning church governance and communications. We also expect to start similar meetings with the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee to work through our interests of faith and worship development. Progress will be reported at regular meetings of the Church Council meetings and through future articles in the Harbinger.

We are off to a good start as together we strengthen the fabric of our congregation and our mission to the community.



Dear Members and Friends of the Harrisena Community,

We are certainly living through some difficult and strange times. Still, as children of God, we know ourselves to be blessed no matter the current circumstances.

Blessings are still a big part of our congregation. Despite the pandemic, our Trustees and Pastor found ways to keep Sunday services happening safely for all of us. We never missed a Sunday of worship, be it virtual, conference call or in person. New ministries were born for us. The Friday Meal Program was developed during the pandemic. Our church served well over 1000 meals and continues to prepare and deliver meals. Harrisena hosted three successful BBQ's which included donations of over 90 Meals of Love. We celebrated Christmas with a live nativity scene by our Sunday School students, Christmas Eve Festival of Lights with luminaries, and donated a decorated tree to the Prospect School Festival of Trees. We continued our usual support of the Red Cross Blood Drives, our three International children, Family Services and Open Door donations as well as the Hudson Falls Backpack Program. Cards, gift bags and calls were made to keep us connected to our members and friends.

GENEROSITY is how Harrisena responds to our many blessings. We hope that our generosity improves the lives of our neighbors. We pray that generosity improves us. It changes our relationship with our "stuff" and changes our relationship with God. Generosity moves our perspective to trusting God instead of only relying on our hard work, our knowledge, and our resources. What a relief to understand that we can rely on more than ourselves!

This year's Stewardship drive will be focused on the Harrisena Community's responses to two questions. In early November we will report back to you on those responses. It has been said that Harrisena is "**The Friendly Little Stone Church on the Ridge with the Big Heart.**" What does that mean to you? We are also going to ask you to respond to the question "Why is Harrisena here?" It is our hope you will give these queries serious thought and offer your response by either filling out slips of paper we are going to have in church or sending responses by mail or email to the church office.

Your pledge is the best way to let our congregational leadership know how much financial support Harrisena is likely to see next year. If you can afford to increase your pledge, please consider that Harrisena is poised to expand our engagement with the community and our own church family. Harrisena has done it in the past and we can do it again.

Enclosed is a pledge form. We hope that you will first give it some thought and spend some time in prayer about it. You can return your pledge form at any time to the church office or in the church offering plates or bring it with you to the Annual Meeting on November 14, 2021. That day, following our regular 9:30 a.m. church service, there will be a free church luncheon at Bogey's in Queensbury. All are invited. This luncheon is being provided by a generous anonymous donor.

The Stewardship Team thanks you for your prayerful consideration and wishes you many generous blessings.

The Stewardship Committee:

Ken Zacharias
 Bonnie Nadig
 Janet Wilson
 Doris O'Rourke
 Shelly Durkee
 Rev. Dr. Natalie C. Wimberly

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
 PROPOSED BUDGET ATTACHED
 Budget for 2021 and Proposed Budget for 2022**

	<u>2021</u>	<u>Proposed 2022</u>
Income		
Fundraising Income	6,000.00	6,000.00
Grant Income	50,000.00	50,000.00
Interest Income	500.00	200.00
Memorials-Donations to Church	6,000.00	5,000.00
Non-Pledged Offering Income	4,500.00	10,000.00
Online Giving	200.00	1,000.00
Other Income	3,500.00	500.00
Pledged Offering Income	55,000.00	60,000.00
Special Collection		<u>700.00</u>
Total Income	125,700.00	133,400.00

Expenses

Committees:

Buildings Expense	4,000.00	8,000.00
Grounds Expense	11,500.00	7,500.00
Liability Insurance Expense	4,350.00	3,000.00
Structural Repairs & Maintenance	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>
Total Buildings and Grounds:	21,850.00	20,500.00

Christian Education	1,000.00	1,000.00
VBS	<u>600.00</u>	<u>600.00</u>
Total Christian Education	1,600.00	1,600.00

Communication		
Advertising	<u>250.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>
Total Communication	250.00	500.00

Fellowship Committee	350.00	350.00
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Finance	1,000.00	500.00
Stewardship Supplies & Expenses	<u>300.00</u>	<u>300.00</u>

Total Finance and Stewardship	1,300.00	800.00
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Fundraising Expenses	1,000.00	3,000.00
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Membership Committee	250.00	250.00
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Music Committee

Music	500.00	500.00
Repairs	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>

Total Music Committee	1,500.00	1,500.00
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Outreach Committee	100.00	100.00
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Worship Committee	600.00	600.00
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TOTAL COMMITTEES	28,800.00	* 29,200.00
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Maintenance & Operations

District Fire Taxes	375.00	375.00
Equipment Lease	1,500.00	1,600.00
General Supplies	300.00	300.00
Office Supplies	1,000.00	1,000.00
Postage	300.00	300.00
Printing	100.00	100.00
Supplies & Materials	3,000.00	3,000.00

TOTAL MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS	6,575.00	*6,675.00
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UTILITIES**ELECTRIC**

Church	1,200.00	2,000.00
Parsonage	1,600.00	2,000.00
Ed. Bldg.	1,800.00	1,500.00
TOTAL ELECTRIC	4,600.00	5,500.00

OIL ED. BLDG.**4,000.00** **4,500.00****PROPANE**

Church	1,500.00	1,500.00
Ed. Bldg.	2,000.00	2,000.00
Parsonage	2,500.00	2,500.00
TOTAL PROPANE	6,000.00	6,000.00

Telephone/Internet Expense**3,300.00** **3,300.00****TOTAL UTILITIES AND FUELS****17,900.00** ***19,300.00****PROFESSIONAL FEES****600.00** *** 600.00****PURCHASES****3,000.00** ***3,000.00****CHURCH SECRETARY****4,500.00** ***4,500.00****MINISTER-SUBSTITUTE****600.00** ***800.00****ORGANIST****8,000.00** ***8,000.00****ORGANIST-SUBSTITUTE****500.00** ***600.00****PASTOR**

Add'l. Compensation	2,500.00	2,500.00
Housing	18,000.00	18,000.00
Medical	5,250.00	5,250.00
P/R Tax Allowance	4,425.53	4,425.53
Pension	4,992.00	4,992.00
Salary	39,850.00	39,850.00
Travel Allowance	1,500.00	1,500.00

TOTAL PASTOR**76,517.53** ***76,517.53****PAYROLL EXPENSES**

Disability Insurance	1,400.00	1,000.00
Payroll Administration Fee	1,200.00	1,200.00
Payroll Taxes Exp-ER	2,800.00	2,800.00
Workers' Comp. Ins.	2,300.00	2,300.00

TOTAL PAYROLL EXPENSES**7,700.00** ***7,300.00****TOTAL SALARIES, STAFF & PASTORAL****97,817.53** ***101,317.53**

Total Expenses	154,692.53	156,492.53
TOTAL INCOME	<u>- 133,400.00</u>	<u>23,092.53</u>
Parsonage Allowance	- <u>18,000.00</u>	Deficit 5,092.53

Expenses to be voted on: \$8,675.00 for tech equipment

Will be added to expenses if approved.



WORSHIP COMMITTEE
Submitted by Melissa Ferrie-Healy

November 14: Remembrance Sunday

Worship Committee would like to offer our congregation the opportunity to remember those who have passed between **June 2019 – October 2021** by reading their names and lighting candles in the memory at our Remembrance Sunday service. Please call the Church Office to let us know if there is a name you would like to have included in the program.

Thank You & Welcome!

Many thanks to **Nancy Willett and Phyllis Straut** for faithfully fulfilling their Worship Committee responsibilities for the past several years.

CURRENT WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Melissa Ferrie-Healy, Kathleen Gusek & Phyllis Straut.

We welcome and encourage your feedback!

BOARD OF TRUSTEES and Trustee Member Steve Green!

THANK YOU!
thank you!

For the recent work on the parsonage lawn!



Membership
Submitted by Cheryl Straut

New Member: Robert Tucker

Robert has come to Harrisena Church after receiving an invitation from friends and long-time members, the Straut Family. He was baptized as a child in the Catholic Church, and became a faithful, practicing Christian in 1998. Following years of bible study and Christian growth, he was baptized as an adult in 2005.

Bob is extremely proud of his 27 year-old son, Jason, who is a bread and pastry chef; and Jason's girlfriend, who he counts as his daughter-in-law. Local family members include his mother, one of his two brothers, an uncle, an aunt, and MANY extended family members.

Bob is honored to be a veteran of both the US Army and the US Navy. His military deployment included Cuba, the Caribbean, Puerto Rico, South & Central America, Europe and the Baltics, Favorite duty stations were in Scotland and Norway.

His hobbies and passions include local history and photography. He has been an accredited, professional photographer for over 25 years. His photography resume' includes, but is not limited to the Glens Falls Green Jacket team photographer (Hall of Fame as player and staff), NASCAR and NHRA, fashion week in New York City, local fashion shows, many weddings and countless senior photo shoots.

As a member of Harrisena Community Church, Bob offers his experience to develop the church's technology, such as the Facebook page and website maintenance, as well as photography. Furthermore, he looks forward to being actively involved in men's ministry and bible studies.

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OCTOBER2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 Sunday Morning Worship in-person	4	5	6 AA @7:30	7 Conversa- tions@9:30; Pray Together at noon	8	9
10 Sunday Worship in-person	11	12 Council @7	13 AA @7:30	14 Conversa- tions@9:30; Pray Together at noon	15	16
17 Sunday Worship in-person	18	19	20 AA @7:30	21 Conversa- tions@9:30; Women's Assoc. Mtg	22	23
24 Sunday Morning Worship in- person	25	26	27 AA@7:30	28 Conversa- tions@ 9:30; Pray together @noon	29	30
31 Sunday Morning Worship in- person						

Our SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE IN PERSON.

WE ARE THE CHURCH!

**The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple,
the church is not a resting place, the church is a people.**

October Birthdays: 3) Heather VanDyke; 9) Aleana Martin; 10) Valerie McGilpin; 11) Ashley Staunches; 18) William Loeb; 23) Phil Farbaniec; 25) Meredith Harvey, Diane Matthews; 29) Bonnie Nadig; 30) Richard Smith, Jr.

Long-Term Prayer Requests–October 2021

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

In Facilities

Nancy Cathers – Assisted Living, MD
Maria Foss –Sunnyview Rehabilitation, Schenectady
Theodore Gusek – Home of the Good Shepherd, Saratoga
Linda Kennedy – Fort Hudson
Jane Lis – Eastern Star Campus, Oriskany
Manu Malkani – The Terraces
Art Norton – The Warren 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
Bambi Greychek-Spenser- Friend of Sue Cartier
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
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
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 **John Wallace Loonan and Ronald Armstrong** who transitioned from this life to the next this past month. Wally was the father of Sean Loonan; Ron was a friend of Sue & Peter Cartier.*



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

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

Griffith Parry (*Army*), nephew of Grif Parry – serving in Poland

James Pearson (*USAF*)

Phillip Riccio (*Army*), son of PhyllisRiccio-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

