

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

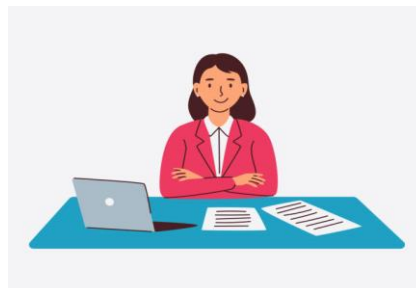
Last Sunday (January 25th), our guest pastor, Rev. Church, gave a sermon titled “**No Little People, No Little Places.**” As I listened to his message, I realized that it’s meaning was that no matter how small a person is or how small a place is, you can make a difference in many ways. Harrisena Community Church has been called “**The Little Friendly Church on the Ridge.**” Our church and congregation may be small, but we are making many differences in our community.

Our Mission’s Committee reaches out to people in our community through our support of Family Services and Open Door’s Code Blue. These two programs alone provide help to people who are in need. **Our Tuesday’s meals** provide dinners weekly to some of our members and others in our area. **Noreen Szmul and I** have started delivering communion to our members who can’t make it to church.

Robinson Hall provides a great place for members of our community to meet: **AA** and **The Lake George Garden Club** hold weekly meetings; on Sundays we **share the hall with Oneida Community Church**, thus giving their church a place to worship while making plans for the church’s future. **The Red Cross** has also used the hall for their blood drives. Our Sunday School rooms are **being used by a Christian based Co-op Home School program**. It is great to see children and teachers in these rooms again! **Our Scholarship Program** has provided financial support to the young people of our community.

So, you see, our church may be small and our congregation few, but we make a big difference in our community. As your President, **I want to thank each and every one of you** who are helping to make these differences possible.

Council President,
Susan Ogden



MISSION COMMITTEE'S REPORT

During these cold winter days there is a great need to help the less fortunate people of our community. Thanks to your financial support and donations of food and personal items **our committee continues to help Family Services**.

In response, we received a thoughtful *Thank You* note **from Kim in the Open-Door office**. She wrote that they are already seeing a rise of requests for help in 2026.

We also received a Christmas Card from the Potter family who **we helped through Family Services**.

We continue to support Open Door's Code Blue Program which provides a warm place and food for people in need.

Thank you for continually supporting our committee so we can make a difference to the people in need in our community

Mission Committee:

Mary Alice Clickner, Pat Zacharias, Susan Ogden.

FLOWER COMMITTEE

Thanks to all who helped to UN-decorate after Christmas - **Melissa Ferrie-Healy, Noreen & Ed Szmul, Kathleen Gusek, and Walter Craft**, our guest minister that Sunday!

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Our January meeting had a **good turnout in spite of the winter weather**. We discussed going to the **Titanic exhibit in Schenectady in late February**.

Debra Barthold shared her ideas for fundraisers that would replace our annual July bake sale: **A garage sale at her home** and donations of **clothes to be sold through places like Finders Keepers in town and shops in Saratoga** as well. We all are looking forward to working on these projects.

Doris O'Rourke

MEMBERSHIP NOTE

This is to all of you who have been enjoying the services at Harrisena Community Church and also to you who haven't shared the sanctuary with us in some time. To the latter - **You are loved & thought of by us all. Please join us when you are able.** You will find a church building near full of fun-loving fellow worshipers celebrating song and His Word, AND each other every Sunday at 9:30. (Our Fellowship time after worship is still shared with the wonderful people of Oneida Church.)

Each and every guest preacher we have hosted has been beyond our expectations both meaningful and passionate. By attending a service. ... You will leave fulfilled, joyful, and most likely finding new friendships that may last for years to come.

Join our congregation of joy!

Representing HCC Membership,
Christine Burke

PS: **Interesting in renewing your membership?** HCC By- laws say this must be done in writing. Lucky you! **Bonnie Nadig has drawn up a simple form letter** located on shelf near steps in the church. Please take one, read it, sign & hand to Christine Burke

WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER STUDY:

A Praying Life, by Paul Miller

Rev. Bill Church and Noreen Szmul will be facilitating a 5-week Wednesday evening prayer study beginning February 18th at 6-7:30 p.m. We will be reading and discussing A Praying Life, by Paul Miller.

This book offers a practical guide to **lessen the mystery of prayer** and help develop a vibrant, joyful prayer life. The **author also fosters habits that deepen our connection and conversation with God.**

Sign up online **through our Facebook page or website.** Paper sign-ups will also be available at church. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to fellowship and strengthen your prayer life!

WORSHIP COMMITTEE - February

Submitted by Melissa Ferrie-Healy

"All You Need is LOVE!"

Our focus for the month of February is LOVE, the foundation of our Christian faith. ***"For God so LOVED the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have eternal life."***

John 3:16

That well-known verse slides so easily across our tongue! Who would suspect that love could be a CHALLENGE? Consider Paul's words to the Corinthians:

LOVE is patient, LOVE is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. LOVE does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

1 Corinthians 13:4-5, NIV

Talk about a challenge! Who could possibly live up to such a standard?

Perhaps we're talking about apples and oranges here. **Consider this: the English word for "Love" encompasses multiple Greek words for "love." As humans, we naturally experience the following types of "love:"**

"Eros" - the romantic love between a man and a woman, such as Adam and Eve in the creation story.

"Storge" - the "brotherly love" and affection that family members have for one another.

"Philia" - a deep, meaningful, faithful friendship, such as the relationship between David and Jonathan.

We are familiar and well-versed with these types of love. Yet human love, no matter how well intentioned, ultimately pales in comparison to the true and perfect love of God:

"Agape" - the sacrificial, self-giving love that is primarily concerned with the good of someone else. Agape love is demonstrated through actions, such as God sending his only begotten son so that *"... whosoever believeth on him should not perish but have eternal life."*

Despite our human shortcomings and failures, we continue to receive the overflowing agape love of God. And we are called to share that same type of love with others, acknowledging our own inadequacy as we point others toward the One who can truly satisfy their desire to be loved.

“He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.”

1 John 4:8

So yes, LOVE is a worthy focus this month. **Let’s pause to reflect on what it means to LOVE as God loves and to remember that we are called to LOVE according to His will:**

One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”

*“The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘**Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.**’ The second is this: ‘**Love your neighbor as yourself.**’ There is no commandment greater than these.”*

Mark 12: 28-31

We LOVINGLY welcome our guest pastors for the month of February:

- February 1st – Communion Sunday: Walter Craft/Richard Kline
- February 8th – Richard Kline
- February 15th – Christine Oden
- February 22nd – Beatrice Saunders

Opportunities to Assist with Worship:

- Ushering/Greeting
- Transporting the “Light of Christ” at the opening/closing of worship
- Reading Scripture
- Presenting a Children’s Story
- Sharing fresh flowers
- Sharing special music
- Serving Communion

**** Christine Burke has graciously offered to help anyone with a desire to approach the lectern with CONFIDENCE and SKILL. We would love to hear God’s word spoken with YOUR voice!***

Sign-up sheets are in the Education Building, outside Robinson Hall.

2025-26 Worship Committee Chair: Melissa Ferrie-Healy

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO LIFT YOUR VOICE IN SONG?

If God has gifted you with a strong singing voice and a desire to lift that voice in song, you would fit right in with the Harrisena Choir! The ability to read music is helpful but not required. **We rehearse every Sunday morning prior to worship, at 8:50-9:15, and immediately following worship, at 10:30-11:00.** If God is calling you to join, please speak with our choir director, Dodi Robinson.

TECH/SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE

Submitted by Melissa Ferrie-Healy, Website Coordinator

Please continue to "LIKE," FOLLOW and SHARE!

If you would like to see something church-related posted on our new FaceBook page (Harrisena Community Church 2025), please contact Noreen Szmul. Also, please remember to LIKE and FOLLOW us on FaceBook!

Also, please continue to send church-related photos, important announcements, calendar additions/updates, and any further suggestions to our website coordinator, Melissa Ferrie-Healy, at mlfmusic@yahoo.com.



FEBRUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Prayer @5:30 Communion @9:30	2 Prayer @5:30	3 Prayer @5:30	4 Prayer @5:30	5 Prayer @5:30	6 Prayer @5:30	7 Prayer @5:30
8 Prayer @5:30 Worship @9:30	9 Prayer @5:30	10 Prayer @5:30 COUNCIL @7	11 Prayer @5:30 Women's Assoc.-12 AA@7:30	12 Prayer @5:30	13 Prayer @5:30	14 Prayer @5:30
15 Prayer @5:30 Worship @9:30 Chili Fellowship with Oneida	16 Prayer @5:30 President's Day	17 Prayer @5:30	18 Prayer @5:30; LGG-12 AA @7:30	19 Prayer @5:30	20 Prayer @5:30	21 Prayer @5:30
22 Prayer @5:30 Worship @9:30 1st Sunday in Lent	23 Prayer @5:30	24 Prayer @5:30	25 Prayer @5:30 AA @7:30	26 Prayer @5:30	27 Prayer @5:30	28 Prayer @5:30

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.

February Birthdays: 2) Linda Richardson; 4) Dan Blanchard; 5) Maxine Einzig, Jim Ferris; 6) Jeremy Cartier, Marilyn Somerville; 17) Kayla Romanowski; 18) Phil Nadig, Linda Brown, Cindy Huber; 19) Shirley Harney; 21) David Farbaniec; 22) David Helffrich, Donnean Thrall; 27) Andrea Lipinski, Jodi Loonan, Victor Urrico.

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

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

In Facilities

Pat Dallas – River Mead, NH
Colleen Donahue – Fort Hudson
Manu Malkani – Fort Hudson
Marilyn Somerville – The Terrace

At Home

Laura Avent – Member of Harrisena
Walda Blanchard – Member of Harrisena
Kathleen Dumont – Niece of Brandy Madon
Rev. Patti Girard – Friend of Harrisena
Douglas Jones – Son-in-law of Art Norton
Brandy Madon – Member of Harrisena
Ann Malkani – Neighbor of Joanne Beck
Lyndsey Robinson – daughter-in-law of Dodi Robinson
Gay & Roger Smith – Members
Bob Straut, Jr. – son of Phyllis Straut
Fran Tucker – Mother of Robert Tucker

*Our Condolences to the Families & Friends of **Joan Stanco, Alyson Robson** and **James Walker**. Joan was a friend of Shirley Harney; Alyson was the niece of Peter & Suzanne Cartier; and James was the brother of Lori Carte.*



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

Wes McQueen, nephew of Dodi/Rev. Robinson- serving stateside

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

Griffith Parry (Army), nephew of Griffith Parry- serving in Poland

James Pearson (USAF)

Daniel Urband (USAF), grandson of Alice Urband—serving stateside

Mark Wilson (Army Spcl Forces/Reserves), husband of **Andrea**—serving stateside

Braden Stormer – serving stateside

