

#### **AUGUST 2020 NEWSLETTER**

August, 2020 Volume XXXIX, Issue 8



#### FROM PASTOR COLIN

#### Moderator

On July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 I was installed as Moderator of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley. I will serve in this role for one year. This title often strikes folks as powerful. It isn't. I have almost zero authority in this role. I don't get to dictate, demand, or decide. I don't make decisions on my own and expect the member church communities to follow. I don't get paid. This role, however, does come with a humbling task and the privilege of a voice at the tables where many decisions are made.

The task of the moderator is to do at least these two things: view the community from a distance, and to focus our conversations and communal work on what is best and most possible at the time. The moderator serves helpfully when taking a broad view of the many factors, personalities, priorities, anxieties, and possibilities that influence our corporate life. It is hard and humbling to strive to not get caught up in the very real, yet very limited, individual events that dominate people's passion, reactions, and vision. To acknowledge the moment while striving to recognize and articulate how it is part of a larger story is the challenge.

In a world filled with unlimited need, concerns, and frenzied foci, all things can not be done in our limited lives and time. Part of the work of the moderator is to prioritize that which is most valuable and possible in such a time as this. In our meetings and communal labor, necessarily some things will receive full attention and others will not. This is guaranteed to leave some folks dissatisfied. Yet without clarity of purpose, nothing will get done. So prayerful discernment, and careful listening are required. No one has ever done this work perfectly, but many have attempted it faithfully. I hope to join their witness. Please pray for and with me that this might be so. (cont. on pg. 2)



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#### FROM PASTOR COLIN (CONT.)

I also want to challenge you to take on the role of moderating your own life in these dynamic days. When you find yourself reacting to your world with aggression, depression, hopelessness, or helplessness, take a step back. Look from a distance at all of what may be happening. There will be cause for concern and pain but find its true source and walk through that with Christ. Also, choose what matters the most in your life and faith, and focus on those things. You can not fix or do all things, so make the things you do matter. Necessarily there will be battles you do not fight, burdens you do not carry, sorrows that you surrender to the grace of God. Yet when you do what you can, for what you love, walking the path of Christ, you are right where you need to be to be known as a disciple.

Friends, our days as Moderator have begun.

Grace, peace, and love to you.

Pastor Colin

"He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" ~Micah 6:8

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#### VIRTUAL WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sundays, 10 am Livestream Sunday Service

Wednesdays, 7 pm Livestream Short Service

Wednesdays, 8 pm
Devotional/Prayer Time
via ZOOM\*

\* ZOOM meeting invites are sent to members through email. If you know of anyone who is not a member and would like an invite to the ZOOM time, please have them reach out to the office!

Please note this is a tentative schedule as the building remains closed. All services will be livestreamed on the First Presbyterian Church of Victor's Facebook page at the times indicated. The services will then be available to later watch on our First Presbyterian Church in Victor YouTube channel!

#### FROM ALFRED APPIAH – MINISTRY INTERN

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness (Lam 3:21-23).

Glory be to God for giving us a new month. God is indeed faithful and so deserves nothing but our utmost praise. In this piece, I seek to bring to the fore some of the important things I have learned since I joined this church.

My supervised ministry journey has been a very wonderful one. At this point, I can boldly say I feel much at home for all the good things the Lord is using FPCV to do in my life and ministry. I was incredibly nervous before the beginning of my internship because I had no idea about what this service was going to present. Before I started my internship in June, I was very much concerned about how things would pan out given the virtual service, which has become the new norm that we have to embrace in our quest to trounce this global pandemic. I never knew that there were so many prospects to explore – an opportunity which has helped me to hone my skill in the use of



"When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick." ~Matthew 14:14

technology and online platform in fellowshipping and spreading God's word; something I would never have learned in the classroom at the seminary.

Again, coming from a Presbyterian tradition in Ghana, it is very true that we (My home Church and FPCV) share so many in common in terms of church policy and liturgy. However, there are so many disparities in the socio-cultural environment. My internship continues to allow me to be immersed in the American culture (through the congregants), build relationships, and learn from so many people in diverse ways and be an advocate for justice in my immediate community.

My internship with FPCV has been smooth because I have a supervisor who gives me the opportunity to be myself, lead service in every capacity possible. Pastor Colin has not only been a supervisor to me, but he has also been a friend and a mentor; his selflessness and humility have taught me a lot of lessons that will forever be an asset to my life and ministry. He has taught me how to serve and not to be served. Coming from a background where Pastors are seen to be the "god" of the people, who know everything, the final arbiter in every decision, and are considered to be the authority in every discussion, my supervisor's relationship with me has taught me more about humility and selfless dedication which I am eternally grateful for.

Finally, I would want to thank the entire FPCV for the gift and best wishes Jennifer and I received last Saturday; it was heartwarming to see the faces of most of you, though we know there were so many people behind the scene. We feel at home, and this is as a result of your generosity and reception. The truth is, I pray that this pandemic would be over soon, so we get the opportunity to meet you all in person, spend some time with you, and learn from one another. I have the unwavering faith that this will happen soon; let us keep trusting God!





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#### SUMMER MEAL-KIT MISSION

The Summer Curbside Meal Kit program is just about halfway through, and we picking up momentum as we go! The volunteer team is in the swing of things now, with folks in a routine of shopping, packing kits, and distributing each week. With generous monetary donations from the congregation and food supply building up week-to-week, we've been able to pack more items to the kits in recent weeks, and we plan to continue expanding. Now families are receiving additional snacks and breakfast/lunch items to have throughout the week, and we've given a list of some of these items to the congregation to donate to our pop-up food drive in the church parking lot on Tuesdays. We'd like to extend a big thanks to our connections at the Victor-Farmington Food Cupboard and all congregation members who are helping this program run smoothly!

"This God—his way is perfect; the promise of the LORD proves true; he is a shield for all who take refuge in him."

~Psalm 18:30

#### PANERA DONATIONS

For the time being, Panera Bread is donating baked goods for our community to be received at the church **Monday** on afternoons (depending on delivery times, usually around noon-2pm). Tables are set up in the back entrance and this is drive up and grab whatever you need. First come, first served. Please reach out to anyone you know that might benefit from this!





#### FROM THE TREASURER

Happy Summer! Thanks to all of your contributions and donations, the church is still in a good financial position and we're still able to help the community through our mission works. We're still in the middle of summer, which is typically lighter in contribution amounts. We've been stable so far and I'm hopeful that we can continue to be stable for the next month until we can reopen. Now that Courtney is going into the office more frequently during the week, I'm going in about once a week. I'm checking email daily at home, so email me if there is anything you need. Please continue to donate and meet your pledges as best you can. If you need to make any changes to your pledge amount, or bank account for ACH, or set up a new ACH, let me know. You can also donate to the Deacon's Fund to directly help those in need, simply note on your check or online donation that you would like the funds to go to the Deacon's Fund. You can mail in checks directly to the church or use the new online giving portal.





"But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves." ~James 1:22

#### TREASURER'S REPORT JUNE 2020

### TREASURER'S REPORT (EXECUTIVE SUMMARY) For Month of June 2020

#### TOTAL GENERAL FUND:

 Beginning Balance
 \$30,459.33

 Income
 16,349.76

 Expenses
 17,474.87

 Ending Balance
 \$29,334.22

Offering Actual Budget Difference \$13,986.70 \$16,250.00 \$(2,263.30)

| Year-to-Date:            | Actual       | Budget       | Difference   |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Total Operating Income   | \$121,642.60 | \$125,633.11 | \$(3,990.51) |
| Total Operating Expenses | 116,154.94   | 124,759.54   | \$(8,604.60) |
| Operating Income (Loss)  | \$5,487.66   | \$873.57     | \$4,614.09   |

#### Adult Pledges Year-to-Date:

Actual \$97,342.50
Budget 97,500.00
Surplus/(Shortfall) \$(157.50)
-0.16%

#### PER CAPITA

Per capita is a fixed annual expense of our church to support the work of our Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly of the PC (USA). We ask that you please make a special contribution to cover this expense.

# \$34.68 \*per member\*

This is a fixed denominational administrative expense of our church and your contribution is GREATLY appreciated anytime in 2020.

#### **AUGUST BIRTHDAYS!**

Erica Ekholm...5th Dahlia Liddle...5th Mikaela Antonitto....7th David Delmonico.....10th Delilah Liddle.....16th Stephanie Hastings....17th Eric Dolan..19th Anne Hulbert...19th Laurie Lavery....19th Amy Reinhardt.....20th Dan Miles..21st Aspen Newstead....23rd Erich Sturm....24th Jason Rine....25th Riley Wilbur.....26th Phidelia Cornwell....29th Ellen Quatrano....29th

#### **AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES!**

Kathryn & Erich Sturm...1st

Bill & Kacey Holmes....6th

Sue & Jeffery Grabowski....6th

Russell & Lisa Zieman....11th

Stacie & Burt Kem....14th

Brian & Dawn Pierson...16th

Ann & Verne Aldrich....19th

Sue & John Toomey....22nd

Jen & Jeff Edwards...29th

Stacey & Bill Lauretti.....31st

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

August continues our Summer Sunday school schedule. We will be doing one ZOOM class at 9:00am for grades PreK-5. The ZOOM code is 437 304 8258 password 735049. All required materials will be emailed prior to class. Any questions email micheleekholm@gmail.com.

~Michele Ekholm



#### SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

| Date            | Topic             |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| August 2, 2020  | A Tent for God    |
| August 9, 2020  | Dancing for God   |
| August 16, 2020 | A Temple for God  |
| August 23, 2020 | Singing for God   |
| August 30, 2020 | A Call to Worship |



Mission: Unite the faith community, volunteer organizations and existing agencies in Ontario County to provide a pathway for homeless children and their families to secure reliable housing and self-sufficiency.

#### FAMILY PROMISE UPDATE

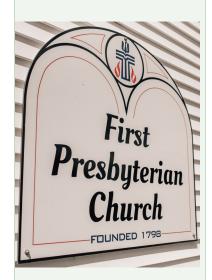
They say that you can never hold good people down, and that has certainly been the case during these long months of the pandemic. Despite the social distancing and business closings, our volunteers and donors have kept Family Promise going. Last month we opened a new version of emergency housing in a Canandaigua apartment. Our first family of three moved into an apartment completely furnished and assembled by volunteers and community donations.

This is just the first of three apartments Family Promise will be providing as transitional housing while our Case Manager, Jay, works with them to secure permanent housing and income to live independently in our communities. In addition, we have been able to provide financial assistance to some of our graduate families who lost employment and were at risk of homelessness.

Our community is coming back to life, restaurants and stores are reopening. Family Promise stands ready to help the increased number of families who continue to struggle with housing. Many of our neighbors are still out of work and continue to need our help.

The Bed Race is FPOCs major fundraising event. **Normally**, teams of five (one rider and four runners) from local schools, businesses, the faith communities, etc., construct an actual bed on wheels and decorate it with the theme of their choice. Teams enter the competition and race their beds (using manpower only) against other teams for awards and prizes. Each team raises money to support FPOC in helping homeless children and their families in Ontario County. This year, the 4th Annual Family Promise Bed Race event was with virtual teams over the course of the past week. Head on over to the Facebook page to see the standings and Grand winner!

If you would like to learn more about Family Promise or want to spread our good news, tell others about our website **www.familypromiseontariocounty.org** or check out our Facebook page **Family Promise of Ontario County**.





#### VICTOR-FARMINGTON FOOD CUPBOARD



"Feeding the Hungry with Dignity and Respect."

"for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

~Matthew 25:35

#### Food/Items Needed:

- Rice, pasta and pasta sauce
- Paper products (paper towels, toilet paper, napkins, plastic cutlery—we give these to homeless people)
- Peanut butter (especially small sizes or packs for student lunch boxes)
- small jars of jelly or jam
- Pop-top soup or canned pasta such as Beefaroni
- Canned proteins (chicken, tuna, etc.)
- Condiments ketchup, mustard, relish, cooking oil, mayonnaise, steak sauce, salad dressing, etc.
- Canned fruit of any type
- Juice or juice boxes
- Cereal
- Easy-to-prepare, nutritious, after school snacks: granola bars, Easy Mac, microwave popcorn, crackers and cheese, peanut butter crackers, Go-Gurt (yogurt in tubes)

#### NEW LOCATION, DRIVE-THRU PICK-UP

Some of you have heard, the V-F Food Cupboard found a new home for the Food Cupboard and had their ribbon cutting this weekend!! They are sharing a building with Mozzeroni's at 4358 Anthony Drive in Victor and they will have 3500 square feet at this location! The food cupboard will continue the drive-in distribution at least until the end of summer, then will reevaluate with FoodLink's guidance. They'll be hosting open houses by appointment (to keep gatherings small) at the end of July and the beginning of August. Come see the new space!!

Another way to help the Food Cupboard: Don't forget FPCV is mid-way through the summer meal kit program for families served by the Victor school district school lunch program. On **Tuesdays** this summer, the Food Cupboard van will be parked behind the church from 7 am to 7 pm to collect items that will be needed for these meal kits. The van can also be a collection spot for fresh produce from home gardeners (the produce will be given out at the Food Cupboard on Wednesdays).

The Food Cupboard is operating with drive-thru pick-up service on Sundays and Wednesdays from 2-4pm.



Grab your coffee, bible, and gather your family around your computer for Virtual services

#### ONLINE GIVING PLATFORMS

Your continued generous financial support over these past few months of closure is graciously appreciated. A continued thanks to the many families that continue to give by ACH and send in checks, with your support we have been able to continue to serve our community and God's ministry here. So many have also been generous to support our Summer meal-kit mission program, **Thank you**, **thank you!** We want to let you know that we now offer an *online giving platform*. Head over to the website and look through the <u>Giving page</u> for instructions on how to give from your computer via Vanco Payment Solutions or your smartphone with the **GivePlus** mobile app!





# First Presbyterian Church Victor

WHOEVER YOU ARE. HOWEVER YOU HAVE COME. YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.

## August 2020

| Sunday                                                                        | Monday                                             | Tuesday | Wednesday                                                               | Thursday                           | Friday | Saturday |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Sunday Service<br>Livestream<br>Service, 10am<br>Summer food<br>mission 1-3pm | 3<br>'White Fragility'<br>book study–<br>ZOOM 7PM  | 4       | 5 From Camp Whitman! Short Service Livestream, 7pm Prayer Time 8pm—ZOOM | 6<br>Session Meeting<br>– ZOOM 7PM | 7      | 8        |
| Sunday Service<br>Livestream<br>Service, 10am<br>Summer food<br>mission 1-3pm | 'White Fragility'<br>book study–<br>ZOOM 7PM       | 11      | Short Service Livestream, 7pm Prayer Time 8pm- ZOOM                     | 13                                 | 14     | 15       |
| Sunday Service Livestream Service, 10am Summer food mission 1-3pm             | 17<br>'White Fragility'<br>book study–<br>ZOOM 7PM | 18      | Short Service Livestream, 7pm Prayer Time 8pm- ZOOM                     | 20                                 | 21     | 22       |
| Sunday Service<br>Livestream<br>Service, 10am<br>Summer food<br>mission 1-3pm | 24<br>'White Fragility'<br>book study–<br>ZOOM 7PM | 25      | Short Service Livestream, 7pm Prayer Time 8pm- ZOOM                     | 27                                 | 28     | 29       |
| Sunday Service<br>Livestream<br>Service, 10am<br>Summer food<br>mission 1-3pm | 31<br>'White Fragility'<br>book study—<br>ZOOM 7PM | 1       | Short Service Livestream, 7pm Prayer Time 8pm- ZOOM                     | 3                                  | 4      | 5        |

Visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/firstvictorpres/ for all Livestream services. Give us a like!

Livestream services can be watched at a later time on our YouTube Channel: Search "First Presbyterian Church in Victor" and Subscribe!

\*\*If you know of anyone who is not a member and would like an invite to the ZOOM times,

please have them reach out to the office!\*\*

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