

Steeple Views

First Presbyterian Church
209 Union Street
Schenectady, NY 12305

Pastor Larry Roff

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April 2011

Pastor's Points

Senior Pastor Larry Roff



THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

2 – JOY

A Christian is someone whose heart has been converted by God—radically and supernaturally transformed. Once the Holy Spirit performs that miraculous work of regeneration, the individual is able to believe in Christ and is given a new nature that will begin to demonstrate new attitudes. The Bible calls that the fruit of the Spirit. Every Christian will increasingly reflect these qualities of Christ-likeness as he or she matures in their walk with the Lord.

Last month we looked at the first dimension of that fruit – love. The second dimension, as Paul lists the fruit in Galatians 5:21-24, is joy. With each of these, there is a unique God-centeredness. Unbelievers are not strangers to these things. They demonstrate love. They experience joy. (We call this common grace – God’s goodness to unbelievers as well as believers.)

But there is something different when these qualities are the fruit of the Holy Spirit, not merely characteristics of the human personality with which one was born. These are spiritual traits that can be found only in a believer’s new heart. The same thing is true of the beatitudes. Unbelievers can be poor in spirit and meek. But the poverty and meekness the Spirit produces are not the same. Like the fruit of the Spirit, these qualities exist in a selfless attitude that expects no reward or acclaim, and that does so with a conscious desire to please God.

When it comes to joy, there is much of that in an unbeliever’s life. And much of that is good ... the joy of a relaxing vacation, the joy of a winning team on the field, the joy of a child’s performance. Joy is something that God has built into our human personality. Just look at a baby laughing with delight or a newly engaged couple planning their honeymoon. Even dogs experience joy, as evidenced by their happy face and wagging tail when offered a treat.

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Japan Disaster Relief

“...any man’s death diminishes me because I am involved in mankind...”

—John Donne

We may not have felt the 9.0 magnitude earthquake that hit Japan or seen the huge tsunami wall of water as it tore into the shore or been within the danger zone of the nuclear reactors, but if we heed the Biblical injunction to bear one another’s burdens, we must be keenly aware of the needs of those affected by these events. What can we do? The Session offers three agencies with whom our church has strong connections whose practices exalt the Lord.



World Relief (WR) [worldrelief.org]

Since 1944, when it was founded by the National Association of Evangelicals as the War Relief Commission, World Relief has helped the vulnerable, whatever that vulnerability may be.

In response to the earthquake and tsunami in Japan, World Relief is committed to what they do best, empowering the local church to meet the needs of the most vulnerable. They are fortunate to have like-minded partners on the ground like the Japanese Evangelical Alliance. Together they support churches as they reach out to those on whom this tragedy has taken a terrible toll.

Samaritans Purse (SP) [samaritanspurse.org]

Immediately after the earthquake Franklin Graham said, “I want the people of Japan to know that God has not forgotten them.” Samaritan’s Purse airlifted 93 tons of emergency aid to Sendai, Japan, on March 22, and immediately began distributing supplies to their ministry partners to hand out to the victims.

Evangelical Christians number less than one-half of one percent of Japan’s population, according to some estimates. With partners like the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and Samaritan’s Purse, Christian churches are able to bring help and healing to their whole country. Christians working together to bring positive changes in the name of Jesus Christ gain credibility with their neighbors.

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The Fruit of the Spirit

(Continued from Page 1)

But this joy that the Spirit produces in the heart of every convert is not the reaction evolutionists explain as emotions induced by the release of specific hormones on parts of the brain. It is something that flows out of a new heart. And, as John Piper explains it, this is not joy in joy itself, but joy in God. The joy that the Spirit produces as the fruit of His presence and influence is not a joy merely as an emotion, but a joy in things of God.

This is joy in the security of knowing God loves me, joy in the assurance that nothing can separate me from Him, joy in the discoveries of the changes God is making in my life, joy in the honor of sharing the gospel with someone who responds in faith, joy in reports from missionaries of new churches planted, joy in the realization that sins that once gripped me are losing their attraction, joy in learning more about the character of God, joy in singing songs of praise in worship, joy in probing more deeply the great doctrines of Scripture.

All of these things can be present in the believer's heart even when outward circumstances are anything but pleasant. Look at Paul, a prisoner in Rome, uncertain of his fate. Despite that, he wrote, "Rejoice always; again I say, rejoice!" Paul found joy in the honor of suffering for Christ. He found joy in hearing news of the advance of the gospel. He found joy in the biblical truths that were sustaining him. He found joy in precious hours of prayerful conversation with a Savior who sticks closer than a brother.

This joy will ultimately find its fullest expression in the eternal glories and delights of heaven. That will be the joy not merely of sadness and sorrow banished forever, but the indescribably wonderful joy of seeing our Savior face to face and exulting in the victory He will have won. Our joy here in this life is real and profound, even in the most difficult of times, since we are always looking forward to the full consummation of that joy when we are with Christ.

Are you enjoying tasting more and more of that kind of joy each day? Can others see it in you? Are you cultivating an appetite for heaven's joys?

Blessings!
Pastor Roff

Japan Disaster Relief

(Continued from Page 1)

[Mission to the World \(MTW\)](http://mtw.org) [mtw.org]

God has placed MTW in a position of strength with their team depth, their broad presence, and their long ministry history in Japan. MTW has approximately fifty adult missionaries ministering on five different teams in the Tokyo and Nagoya areas. These teams immediately began providing relief help in conjunction with JEMA, an association of evangelical Japanese churches, but they will be forming long range plans over the next few weeks as they have time to pray and consider how the Lord is leading them. Right now the primary needs are water, power and shelter as earthquakes continue to rumble, but MTW will continue to work with local leadership offering help as people and churches put their lives back together. MTW has issued a Disaster Response Appeal expecting a strong response.

MTW disaster response excels in the careful use of funding to maximize effectiveness while channeling ministry through local church partners. Because MTW will work with groups that are often overlooked or ignored, their comparatively smaller contribution goes farther in helping those receiving no other help.

How Can You Help

Pray:

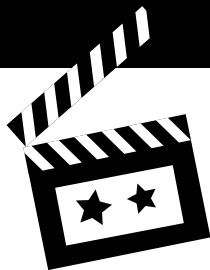
- Pray that God will provide comfort and peace to the suffering.
- Pray that the nuclear reactors will cool and pose no further threat.
- Pray for wisdom and strength for response staff and church partners.
- Pray that God will continue to open doors and provide resources for the relief efforts.

If you would like to make a contribution to the relief effort, please make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church. The check may be put in your regular envelope marked "Japan Relief" under the "Other" portion. If you prefer the relief strategy of one of the above agencies over another, then also note MTW, Samaritan's Purse or World Relief. Undesignated contributions will be split evenly among the three organizations.

For more information, please visit the websites listed for each agency.

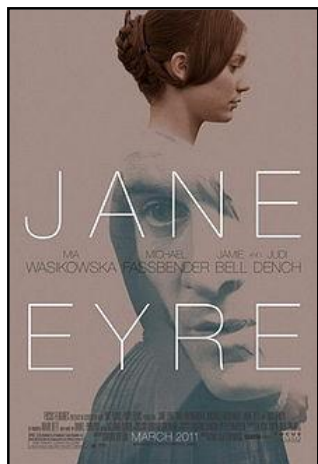


Movie Review



Jane Eyre

Movie Review by Kathleen Mancuso



The new film *Jane Eyre*, starring Mia Wasikowsha, will be arriving in theaters this month. Most adaptations of this great novel focus on the romance between Mr. Rochester and Jane Eyre and the “terrible secret” that he hides in his attic.

Charlotte Brontë wrote *Jane Eyre* partly as a loose autobiographical account of her own childhood. Brontë struggled with her faith after being raised by a harsh, cold, unloving father who was also a curate. She and her sisters were placed in a school identical to Lowood, where two of her sisters died of tuberculosis.

Jane Eyre, the novel, is full of theology, spiritual awakening and growth, as well as numerous allusions to the Bible, *Paradise Lost*, and *Pilgrim’s Progress*. So far, every film adaptation has ignored this central theme of the novel focusing only on her and Mr. Rochester’s romance and the harsh religions of Mr. Brocklehurst and St. John Rivers.

Before you see the movie, read the novel. Charlotte Brontë’s views on morality, atonement, forgiveness, Calvinism, and Christianity in general are insightful – though some are flawed – and are worth reading and considering. The novel ends with the prayer, “Come quickly Lord Jesus.”

Cook’s Corner

Kathleen Mancuso



Roasting Vegetables

A simple way to prepare vegetables for a large crowd is to oven-roast them. Oven-roasting caramelizes the natural sugars in veggies and gives them a deeper flavor and color than you would get from steaming or boiling. To oven-roast most vegetables, preheat your oven to 400°. Spray or brush a cookie sheet with olive oil and lay the vegetables on the sheet. Brush or spray the veggies with olive oil and sprinkle with kosher salt. Depending on the thickness of the vegetable, roast for 10 minutes (for asparagus) to 30 minutes (for cauliflower or beets). When done, the vegetables should have some rich, brown color in spots, and be crisp tender. Watch carrots and beets carefully as their higher sugar content makes them more likely to burn.

You will need to slice larger vegetables, such as cauliflower, to a wedge shape first, about 1 inch or less in thickness. Roast beets whole and unpeeled, lightly covered with foil. The skins will slip right off. Look for thicker stalks of asparagus for roasting.

Brussel sprouts are delicious when oven-roasted. I cut these in half, drizzle with a little oil, and roast for about 15 minutes. I never liked Brussel sprouts until I prepared them this way. Parsnips are another unpopular veggie that takes on a whole new flavor when peeled, sliced and oven-roasted.

Pot Roast with Oven-Roasted Vegetables

4 to 5 lb chuck roast
oil (olive, canola or corn)
½ pound fresh small white onions, peeled (To peel easily, drop in boiling water for one minute. Skins will slip right off)
1 pound carrots, peeled and cut into sections
1 pound parsnips, peeled and cut into sections
2 lbs red potatoes, large ones cut in half
salt and pepper
1/3 cup flour
4 cups stock
1 tablespoon balsamic or red vinegar (optional)

Trim excess fat from roast. Set the trimmings aside. In about 1 tablespoon of oil, sear beef in the bottom of a Dutch oven on medium-high heat. While it is searing, preheat oven to 375°. Place prepared vegetables, excluding potatoes, on a dark baking sheet along with the beef trimmings. Sprinkle lightly with kosher salt. Place baking sheet in oven on top rack. Roast for 30 minutes, stirring half way through. Remove from oven and set aside, lightly covered.

When beef is seared on both sides, cover tightly. Do not add any liquid. Simmer over very low heat for 1 hour. Add potatoes to Dutch oven, on top of beef. Cover and cook for 1 hour more. Remove beef and potatoes, and add flour to fat in bottom of Dutch oven. Whisk and cook for 1 minute on medium heat. Whisk in stock and vinegar. Put roasted vegetables, beef and potatoes in gravy. Heat through and serve.

Session Report - Submitted by Philip Schiesswohl

At the regular March session meeting the session received the treasurers' reports for February 2011:

Church Support (9 weeks through February)

regular giving	\$77,237.05 (94.1% of budget)
budgeted needs	\$82,121.54

Missions (9 weeks through February)

regular giving	\$55,363.34 (86.8% of budget)
budgeted needs	\$63,813.92

In other business session:

1. Approved inviting Rev. Caleb LaRue to preach at the morning services on 3 April.
2. Designated elders Glen Walkup, David Vincent and James Stewart as commissioners to the New York State Presbytery meeting on 9 March 2011.
3. Established a bell choir fund for the purpose of adding hand chimes and other hardware for the bell choir.
4. Approved the Missions Committee requests for distribution of funds (see Missions Committee report).

DOLLARS and SENSE



Statistics are only one indicator of the health of our church. As we start another year, the numbers below look very encouraging:

- Giving is 98% of Budget and 5.5% above 2010
- Spending is 95% of Budget and 1.5% above 2010
- Cash-flow for 2011 is +\$2,450.
- The current balance of the Church Support account is \$118,000

However, we need to examine the factors underlying these statistics:

- This year's budget represents a major cut of 15%.
- The Assistant Minister's position was dropped.

Here are some more hard facts:

- Pastor Roff cannot carry all of the pastoral responsibilities indefinitely.

- Supporting an Assistant Minister requires giving well above 100% of this year's budget.

Any budget is not a goal in itself, and this year in particular it is only a short-term spending plan. Looking at the challenges God has for the future of our church makes it especially important to focus on our relationship with Christ and His will for our congregation. If we truly "*consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord*" (Phil 3:8), then we will devote ourselves to both personal and corporate prayer. We need to discern His will and join together in unity to accomplish that will.

Questions or comments may be sent to Bob Holt at
bobbvoholt@msn.com

Make a Joyful Noise Unto the Lord!



Do you love to sing? Can you play an instrument? Then the music ministry at First Pres needs you!

It is such a privilege to use your musical abilities for the Lord.

Please consider joining the choir or volunteering to provide offertory music on Sunday evenings; you can even join others in playing along with the hymns on Sunday evenings.

Senior choir meets on Wednesday evenings from 7:15 to 8:15 in the choir room upstairs in the sanctuary. We have just started Easter music. Help us fill the sanctuary with His praises!

(Contact Elinore, 377-5478
or Meredith, 399-6840 for more information.)



Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following elementary children who completed all of their Winter Basic Memory Work. Great Job!

Katarina Mills
Clayton Sickler
Susannah Denham
Sarah Jane Gascoyne
Hannah Butts
Calla Elwell
Christopher Denham

Missionary Thanks

Submitted by Philip Schiesswohl

We continue to receive notes of appreciation from our missionary family for remembering them at Christmas. Retired missionary Betty Wilson Silva writes "I am sorry to be so late in thanking you for your kind Christmas Gift. You have been so faithful in remembering me year by year. All is well with me here in California. I praise God for His faithful love and support. Thank you for your kind gift. It is greatly appreciated."

Last June we reported that we had given Made and Nunuk Markus, our missionaries with Bible Centered Ministries International in Indonesia, \$500 to help repair their 1997 van. Made just wrote us this month reporting that with the funds they were able to repair the transmission, do work on the pistons and cylinders and purchase two new front tires. Made writes "We can use the van better for our services after [the] repairs. We would like to thank [you] once again for the fund[s]."



We distributed some of our 2010 budget surplus to the BAAFC. The director of BAAFC writes: "Thank you so much for the generous check you sent. We appreciate your love and support for the center, and above all we appreciate your prayers for us. Please say thank you to the whole Mission Committee."

Jail Ministry



Under the direction of the Board of Deacons we have provided a ministry in the name of Christ for over sixty years to the male and female inmates of the Schenectady County Correctional Facility, (hereafter referred to as the jail.)

We currently provide worship services for the inmates every Sunday morning; a Pen Pal correspondence program; mentoring of individual inmates who are new Christians, rededicated Christians, or are released men; and a Saturday morning men's Bible Study which is coordinated by Brian Merriam. During the past two years we conducted a fourteen-week discipleship class for selected inmates. This intense study met weekly for men willing to study diligently and meet weekly.

The pull of a former lifestyle can be strong. In certain men we see growth in faith and biblical insight, while other men have difficulty breaking free from their past. We believe we are called to simply serve at the jail as witnesses for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. And so we twelve dedicated men faithfully minister to this need population, many of us for many years, most of us from this church.

Women of our church and other churches conduct a similar program through a Saturday women's Bible Study.

Hebrews 13:3 says, "Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering." Do this as you support this ministry in the following ways:

- Pray that men and women having difficulty leaving old negative environments will come to a solid faith and stay focused on following Christ.
 - Pray for new volunteers to help us disciple and mentor men and women while incarcerated or after release or to correspond with inmates who have made a profession of faith in Christ and are now serving a sentence in a state prison.
 - Pray for donations to the Board of Deacons to assist in buying Bibles and other Christian literature for inmates. On a typical Sunday morning we give about two to three Bibles to inmates. That's over 100 Bibles annually.
 - You can donate Christian literature. We can use paperback books (no hard covers allowed) that focus on Christian living, growing in faith, or biographies of Christians. We could also use devotionals, *Decision* magazine, other magazines. Please do not donate *Christianity Today* or *Moody* magazines because they are too difficult for most of them to read.
- Thank you for your support of this vital ministry.

submitted by "David Geisinger, Coordinator of Jail Ministry
on behalf of the Board of Deacons

Kids' Zone



FP Invades Moe's Winter Break Outing

On the morning of February 22, the first day of their winter break, children from First Pres dashed off to Bounce Around in Clifton Park to work off their exuberance. Then, eighteen strong, they bounced on over to Moe's for more fun: merry-go-round, air hockey, video games, and their own ideas of amusement followed by balloons and lunch while moms enjoyed quieter interaction. Playing inside was fun, but comments indicated they are tired of snow and look forward eagerly to summer.



Junior Choir

Junior Choir now practicing to sing for Easter each Wednesday night from 6:30-7:10



Teen Time

Camp of the Woods Retreat

Are You Thirsty?

On the last day, the climax of the festival, Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, "If you are thirsty, come to me!" - John 7:37

I've been going to this church since I was born. Growing up in a strong Christian household and with the constant support of this church definitely set the foundation for a great faith in Christ; but the actual acceptance of His forgiveness and love was up to me. I knew that, and so did my parents.

After going to countless retreats, youth groups, Bible studies, and so on and so forth, I began to develop complacency with where I was in Christ. I wasn't "thirsty" for Christ; I didn't have that drive to live for what I saw in my parents and in the people around me.

This retreat was different. Steve Prettyman, our speaker, challenged us to have that thirst for Christ and his challenge struck home. I watched as I and the other teens around me started to understand that our relationship with Christ was only a mere acquaintance. He wasn't our best friend, our counselor, guidance, and certainly not our God. I realized that God was only something that I was raised to believe in. I knew that He was real, but I had no relationship with Him. This retreat changed that. This retreat changed not only my life, but the other teens' lives as well.

Submitted by Ben Mancuso

Using a theme of being thirsty for God, Steve Prettyman spoke about for the First Pres youth retreat - being thirsty for God. During the sessions, Mr. Prettyman spoke about not being comfortable in the valleys of our relationship with God, surrendering lives to God to be used according to His perfect will, and not acting as if everything is perfect but being real with God and other people -.

Camp-of-the-Woods offered many activities. There was tubing, indoor rock climbing, ice skating, and enjoying a new gym. Also, after-hours, we were able to talk about what had made an impression on us, as well as thoughts we wanted to discuss. Overall, it brought me closer to the Lord, pointed us all to Christ, and made many thirsty for a stronger trust in Jesus.

Submitted by Jonathan Denham





Missions Committee Update

Submitted by Philip Schiesswohl, Missions Committee

As was reported in January, the Lord generously provided an \$18,543.43 surplus in giving to the 2010 Missions budget. Since we do not carry any surplus into the new year, Missions Committee recommended and Session approved that the 2010 surplus be distributed as follows:

- \$4,000 – Brooklyn-Arab American Friendship Center
- \$1,000 – Dr. Koshy (International Friendship Evangelism Association)
- \$1,000 – City Mission of Schenectady
- \$1,000 – to assist Steve and Kim Prettyman (Capital District YFC)
- \$1,000 – to assist Steve and Berenice Rarig (MTW – Australia)
- \$10,043 – Ecuador water project
- \$500 - to assist Union IVCF students attending the New York City Urban Project over spring break

Jaime and Maria Ayala will be relocating to Dallas, Texas, at the end of the current school year. Dominica will graduate from high school and this one year relocation will help her transition back to life in the U.S. They will continue the same work from Dallas and after a year return to Peru. In order to assist with the relocation, the Missions Committee recommended and Session approved allotting \$3000 from the missions bequest funds to this purpose.

Easter Offerings are used each year to assist mission relief work in some part of the world. This year Session has approved that the Easter offering will be split with 50% going toward NAE World Relief and 50% toward the HCJB Charity Fund.

Covenant Children's Orphanage. The Missions Committee recommended and Session has approved using

an additional \$1620 contributed in memory of Janet Mae Nelson for construction of the girls' dormitory at the Covenant Children's orphanage in Manipur, India. The initial gifts given in Janet Mae's memory last year were also used for this same purpose. The new girls' dorm is under construction and only needs about \$20,000 to complete the funding for it.

Debbie Kaufmann Memorial Trust Fund. An additional \$1000 was given near the end of last year in memory of Debbie Kaufmann. The Missions Committee recommended and Session approved adding this to the previous amount in the Debbie Kaufmann Memorial Trust Fund in India, the income of which is used to fund two church planters in India.

Caleb LaRue is currently the half time InterVarsity staff person at Skidmore College and is in the process of increasing his support to go full time, adding Union College. He will be preaching at our morning services on 3 April.

Libby will be our guest at FPC on Sunday morning, April 10. In addition to a report during both AM worship services on her ministry with InterServe, she will speak to the combined adult classes from 9:40 - 10:40 am.

When compared with last year, missions giving continues to be down substantially. Through February the giving was at only 86.8 percent of the budget. Since a number of our missionaries continue to see reductions in their support during these tough economic times, our full support of them becomes even more important.



Good Friday
April 22, 2011
Tenebrae Service

6:30 pm

Celebrate the Lord's Supper with us at this unique service with special music from the choir and soloists.

For more information about the Tenebrae Service, see the March 2010 issue of Steeple Views.

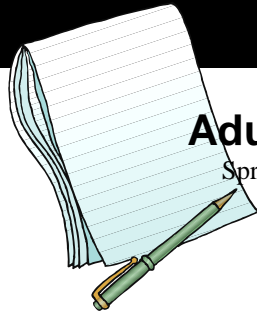


Writing to Missionaries

Submitted by Sandra Geisinger



Have you been hesitant to write to one of our missionary families? Are you concerned about safety and security, especially for those who serve in sensitive areas? On Sunday, April 10 at 5pm, Sandra Geisinger will provide guidelines for correspondence in both snail mail and email. We'll meet in the upstairs parlor of Mekeel Hall. Any questions, contact Sandra @ 887-3030 or geisingers@aol.com.



Adult Sunday School

Spring Quarter, April– May–June

There will be three electives offered this quarter, each on a different track and with a different focus. This is a wonderful opportunity to grow in your faith at the same time you enjoy fellowship with brothers and sisters in Christ.

1. **1 and 2 Corinthians** - Taught by David McKeon and Jim Stewart
This study will continue last quarter's class that began with 1 Corinthians. The church at Corinth was plagued with problems of moral, doctrinal and relational problems. With the same issues present in churches today, this study will be very relevant to our day.
2. **Parenting Your Child: Essentials of Discipline** - Taught by Frank and Anna Privitera
This study combines class discussion with a new DVD production from James Dobson and Focus on the Family. It is not only for parents, but also for couples who anticipate being parents and want to have a solid foundation for raising a godly family using Biblical principles. We encourage you to invite friends outside the church to join us for these. (Optional parenting study guide \$7)
3. **Out of the Salt Shaker and Into the World: Evangelism as a Way of Life** - Taught by Pastor Roff and Keith Creasey
Since its first publication in 1979, Becky Pippert's book on lifestyle evangelism has been one of the most effective resources for people who want to learn how to share their faith. People overcome their fear as they discover how to bring the gospel into the relationships they already have. This study has the potential for changing the lives of participants, and through them, the personality of their church as they cultivate an outreach mentality. (Optional copy of Becky Pippert's book \$12)

If you are interested in one of these classes, please contact the church office, 374-4546, or ifirstpr@nycap.rr.com; also indicate if you would like to purchase the optional resource.

Lord, Prop Us Up

[Unknown]

Every time I'm asked to pray, I think of the old fellow who always prayed, 'Lord, prop us up on our leanin' side.' After hearing him pray that prayer many times, someone asked him why he prayed that prayer so fervently.

He answered, 'Well sir, you see, it's like this....I got an old barn out back. It's been there a long time; it's withstood a lot of weather; it's gone through a lot of storms, and it's stood for many years. It's still standing...but one day I noticed it was leaning to one side a bit. So I went and got some pine poles and propped it up on its leaning side so it wouldn't fall.

Then I got to thinking about that and how much I was like that old barn. I've been around a long time...I've withstood a lot of life's storms. I've withstood a lot of bad weather in life, I've withstood a lot of hard times, and I'm still standing too. But I find myself leaning to one side from time to time, so I like to ask the Lord to prop us up on our leaning side, 'cause I figure a lot of us get to leaning at times.

Sometimes we get to leaning toward anger, leaning toward bitterness, leaning toward hatred, leaning toward cussing, leaning toward a lot of things that we shouldn't. So we need to pray,

'Lord, prop us up on our leaning side, so we will stand straight and tall again, to glorify the Lord.'

Submitted by Betty Roff





Lenten Dinners

Wednesday Evenings (Through April 20)

“The Seven I AMs in the Gospel of John”

5:45 pm Dinner (\$4/person, \$12/family)
 Music and Guest Speaker
 (concludes by 7:00 pm)

Children's ministry (Kids' zone)
 each week after dinner

7:30 pm Prayer meeting

April 6 Rev. Ken McHear *The Resurrection and the Life*
 (Pastor of Duanesburg Reformed Church)

April 13 Rev. Michael Alford *The Way, the Truth, and the Life*
 (Pastor Emeritus)

April 20 Mike Saccocio *The True Vine*
 (Director Schenectady City Mission)

Pastor Roff will conclude the series at our
 April 22nd Good Friday communion service.

Jesus said, "Before Abraham was born, I AM"



Lenten Dinner in Mekeel Hall



Daily Vacation Bible School Plans

Dates for VBS this summer are July 18-22.

Many volunteers will be needed in a variety of areas: group leaders, games, snack, crafts, registration - if you are interested in helping please contact our VBS director Karen Cummings

Teamwork divides the task and multiplies the success. ~Unknown

April Birthdays and Anniversaries *

* Don't forget your missionaries! Check your Missionaries Handbook to find their birthdays.



1	Judy Austin
2	Tim Shaut
4	Edith Barnes, Judie Taft
5	Caleb Bestvater, Connor Lee Anniv: Bill & Daisie Beadnell
8	Toeum Yen
9	Glenn Webster Anniv: Len & Barb Gower
10	Melissa Pott Anniv: Ed and Donna Emmons
11	Anniv: George & Eileen Weis
12	Mary Fear, Phyllis Koney

13	Joyce Nauman, Joel Russell, Russ Van Buren
14	Ken DeNoble, Carol Gascoyne, Jonathan Harton
15	Tammy Mills, Tim Shaut
16	Laurie Bestvater, Cindy Johnson, Sam Swahlan, Laurie Wallace
17	Rick Bigham, Elinore Farnum, Jordan Van Buren
18	John MacQueen, Christy Schiesswohl Anniv: Joe and Lynn MacPherson
19	Jim Mancuso, Andrew Ramsey

20	Michael Borra, Paul DuBois
21	Audrey D'Amico
22	Ron Compo
23	Kevin Jackson, Bob Scribner, Charlie Sickler
24	Laila Alberga, Anne Bair, Ed Emmons Anniv: Jim & Adrienne Polenz
25	Ruth Bailey, Caleb Coppola, Adrienne Polenz, Laura Webster Anniv: Larry & Judie Taft
27	Mark Mertens, Joan Pott
28	Charlie Farnum



Looking Ahead

▪ **April 3, Rev. Caleb LaRue**

Rev. LaRue, InterVarsity campus minister at Skidmore and Union Colleges, will be our guest preacher at the morning services. This will be an opportunity for us to get better connected with him and the IV students at Union as we are building a ministry connection with them.

▪ **April 10, Evening Service**

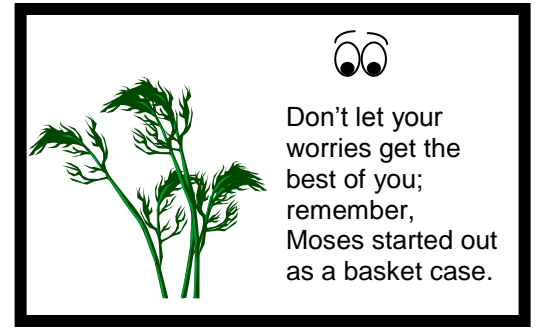
Union College InterVarsity

Our evening music will be lead by vocalists and instrumentalists from the IV chapter at Union.

▪ **April 21, Lenten Communion Service**

Kingsway Arms Nursing Home, 3:00-4:00 pm

This service for Kingsway residents and their guests (and deaconesses) is open to any for whom regular services are inaccessible.



Don't let your worries get the best of you; remember, Moses started out as a basket case.



The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us.

*Steeple Views Co-Editors
Betty Aucompaugh & Meredith Williams
steepnews@yahoo.com*

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. ~Philippians 4:8 KJV