

*First Presbyterian Church*  
**THE VISITOR** *March 2023*



Our Sunday Worship begins at 11:00 am. **Please join us!**  
The Rev. Dr. William H. Wilkinson is available on his cell 585.507.3289  
or email [peacepathseeker@yahoo.com](mailto:peacepathseeker@yahoo.com)

Dear Medina First Community Members,

Blessings as we enter the **Season of Lent**. During our **Ash Wednesday Service**, the theme of forgiveness arose during worship. We often think of forgiveness as an individual act. However, in our connectional denomination, recalling that, in Christ, we are a part of the Body, we have come to understand that forgiveness arises out of mutuality. In the presence of the truth being shared, the one who forgives accepts the shared humanity of the one to be forgiven. The act of forgiving reflects the heart of our faith, expressed in the Confession of 1967, Section 9.31, "As we are reconciled to Christ, we are become reconcilers." Forgiveness is Sankofa, looking backward to grasp the egg, the substance for growing, and moving forward, with the one who is forgiven, to the common future.



In **Lent**, we walk, again, with Jesus, his disciples, the movement around Jesus, and with the present Body of Christ, through the development of Jesus earthly ministry. Learning with each other, as if for the first time, opening our hearts, anew, to listening to Christ's call to love as symbol that we are Jesus' contemporary followers. Moving beyond the simple structures and words of important spiritual ritual, we have the annual opportunity to embody our faith in the next, most faithful steps of love, through compassion, peace, and justice.

Our Adult Lenten Education Series, 9:30am-10:45am, begun on February 25<sup>th</sup>, during the Six weeks of Lent and a week of Eastertide, is focused on the Book of Jeremiah and the Letter from Birmingham City Jail of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

On February 26<sup>th</sup>, we installed our new Elders and Deacons to serve in this year's Session and Deacons. Over the next eight weeks, we look forward to baptizing four children and one adult.

Please keep our members who are home bound, and in rehabilitation homes, and those who are living with long-term illnesses, in your hearts and in your prayers.

Blessings and prayers for National healing and reconciliation, and for peace in our Nation, in the Ukraine, Middle East, and around Mother Earth,

Pastor William

Rev. Dr. William Huston Wilkinson

# MARCH

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Caleb Martin 3/2
- Benjamin Martin 3/5
- Rhiannon Martin 3/11
- Alfreda Morse 3/13
- William Wilkinson 3/13
- Katherine Anderson 3/14
- Thea Herian 3/14
- Danielle Allison 3/22
- Bruce Sentiff 3/28

# APRIL

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Sarah Gibson 4/1
- Rog Rogers 4/27
- Jacob Mudge 4/29

**Treasurer's Report**  
 The pledge offering for February: \$4,838.  
 Thank you for your continued support

*In Our Thoughts & Prayers*

Angie Tobin *at the Willows*, David Callard, Jonathan Incho, David Yates, Marilyn Hiwiler, Peggy Pearce, Jason Anderson *David's nephew*, Karen Curtin, Kenny Johnson, Dawn Goering *Pat Rizzo's sister*, our military and their families.



You are cordially invited to a coffee hour served by the Deacons before the worship service on Easter Sunday. Please join us in the fellowship hall at 10:30a.m.

# Dates you should know

March	
2	Lenten Lunch, 12:00
9	Lenten Lunch, 12:00 PW meeting
14	Session Meeting, 6:30pm
15	Deacons Meeting, 5:30pm
16	Lenten Lunch, 12:00
21	MAAC General Meeting, 7:15pm
23	Lenten Lunch, 12:00
26	Men's Breakfast, 8:00am
30	Lenten Lunch, 12:00

March 2023							April 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4							1
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30						

April	
2	Palm Sunday
6	Maundy Thursday
9	Easter, Holy Communion
11	Session Meeting, 6:30pm
13	PW meeting
19	Deacons Meeting, 5:30pm
30	Men's Breakfast, 8:00am

Our members **John and Janice Williams** spend their winters in Georgia where they attend the Saint Simons Presbyterian Church which at the end of January holds a special service and ceremony honoring their Scottish history, legend and folklore. Families bring their tartans, symbols of their clan kinship, to be displayed.



The bulletin explains: *Today we celebrate the olden Scots' love of scripture, unwavering faith, devotion to their Kirk (church), persistence, and strong independence... These tartans, the playing of the (bag) pipes, the singing of psalms, and this special service of worship and praise are dedicated to the One, True, Triune, and Living God. We remember our Scottish ancestors' struggle to affirm and to establish that our Lord Jesus Christ alone is the head of the Kirk.* This is an American service, a reminder that the immigrants from Scotland and Ireland brought the Presbyterian Church to America.



Jan wrote: *The pipers and drummers processed right down the aisle to the front and played until all the tartans had also processed up front. At the end they played Amazing Grace, as the congregation sang - me with watery eyes and a catch in my voice. Then they recessed to Scotland the Brave. Phew! Presbyterians don't go in for much pageantry, so it was all extra special...and loud!* [See this on video at <http://vimeo.com/796438574>]

A colorful, abstract illustration of people in various poses, overlaid with a grid pattern. The colors are vibrant and varied, including blues, oranges, and purples. The overall style is artistic and modern.

**We are there**  
... with Presbyterians worldwide who are answering God's call.  
This Lenten season, please give what you can.

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT 02.22.23 - 04.9.23

WE WERE NOT THERE TOO AND MUSIC BY CHRIS SHELTON © 2010 GIA PUBLICATIONS. REPRODUCED UNDER LICENSE NET 1471359. USED BY PERMISSION. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



...and... He doesn't return items left behind after use!  
Please check the items below to see if something there belongs to you. Then PLEASE come and retrieve it/them! Items still here on March 9, 2023 will be donated or discarded.  
*Thank You.....PW Kitchen Crew*



## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING SPECIAL OFFERINGS

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### HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Typically received during the season of Lent, each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

\$3.1 million granted by PDA in the United States and 15 countries

80 grants impacting 23 countries given by PHP

over 3,000 people trained in food production around the world

191,182 Gift of the Heart Kits and Blankets distributed

276 certified PC(USA) Earth Care congregations helped care for creation

1,500 trees planted in Nigeria, in addition to others around the world

\$15,000 Funded Metropolitan Tenants Organization

\$9,000 Funded the Civil Society Coalition for Poverty Eradication

786 Presbyterian congregations purchased eco-palms for sustainable forestry and livelihoods

\$15,000 Funded Struggle for Miami's Affordable and Sustainable Housing, Inc.



After Pastor William (seen above) called the meeting to order and gave a summary of his activities, Dave Anderson, Chair of the Nominating Committee, came forward to name the nominees for new deacons and session members. Shown also in this photo is what remained of the donuts from the deacons brought by Peg Pearce. Thank you!

The flowers were donated by the family of Suzanne Larson whose funeral service had been held on Friday.

Others seen reporting: Sue Martin, Church Treasurer; Sue Phillips, Deacon Moderator; Margaret Martin, Clerk of the Session.

*Sunday, January 29, 2023*

*First Presbyterian*

*Church*

*Medina, NY*

**Annual Meeting Reports— 2022**



For a printed copy of the 2022 Annual Reports, see Church Administrator, Chris Kaiser in the church office.

# VIPresbyterians

If you have learned of something of interest (achievement, wedding, trip, service rendered ...) that you would like to share with your church family, please leave a note for Chris or email it to the church. Pictures are especially welcome!



Peg Pearce's granddaughter Clara enjoyed building a snowman with her Uncle Kenny. The face is decorated using the pebbles from a flower vase.



Mother Nature's POND ART



*Turn off the wind!!*

## Easter Flowers

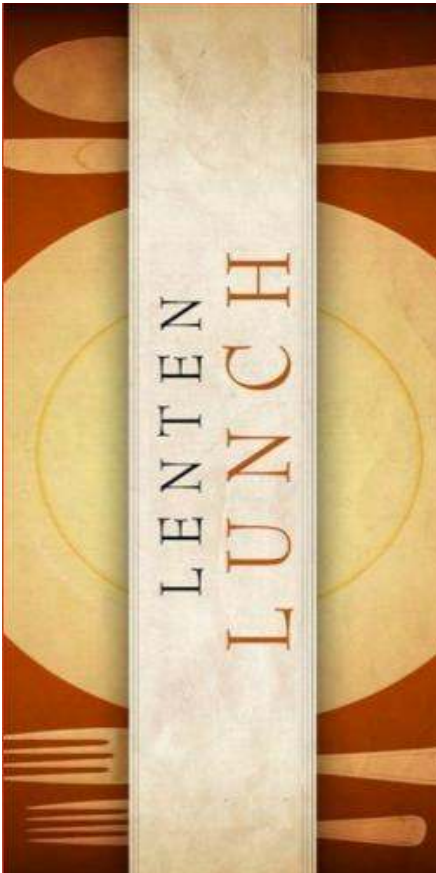
Easter Sunday is April 9, The sanctuary will be decorated with flowers and there will be a special bulletin insert in recognition of all who would like to be included. Please fill out the form below and return it and your contribution (any amount) to the office by March 30.

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Donor's Name(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

“In Memory of” — OR — “In Honor of”: (circle one)

\_\_\_\_\_



Everyone is invited!  
**Thursdays noon to 1pm**  
 First Presbyterian Church, 522 Main St, Medina

Take-outs are available beginning at 11:45am or  
 come for the meal, fellowship, message and hymns.

Suggested donation is \$5.

Proceeds benefit Orleans County Meals on Wheels,  
 and Orleans Koinonia Kitchen.

Feb 23	MAAC Reps	Meatloaf and Mashed Potatoes
March 2	Alabama Full Gospel	Pulled Pork
March 9	UMC Abundant Harvest	Sloppy Joes
March 16	First Presbyterian	Soup and Sandwiches
March 23	First Baptist	Beef on Weck
March 30	UMC The Grove	Scalloped potatoes and Ham

Please let us know if you would like to be removed from our mailing list.  
 The newsletter is always available on our website [firstpresbyterianmedina.org](http://firstpresbyterianmedina.org)

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