

★ **First Presbyterian Church** ★

# Pres Notes

July & August

Double Issue



First Presbyterian Church  
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**"...for God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26**

Every month, the Session is asked to consider how to deepen the ministry of the church to align with the Mission Statement and to move the Future Story forward. The Future Story itself was based on the Mission Statement and aims to direct the congregation into the future. It is not a stagnant blueprint for the future, rather a general direction intended to be responsive to the leading of the Spirit.

### **The Mission Statement**

We seek to show Christ's love through our actions by:

*Ministering to our Community – helping those in need as Christ taught us*

*Ministering to our Members – providing support and fellowship*

*Ministering to our Souls - offering Christ-centered Worship and Education*

In the Future Story, the Session (at the recommendation of the Future Story Workgroup), made a decision to focus the ministry on two age groups: the predominant senior age group and the 45-65 age group.

One specific initiative that came from the Future Story is monthly Worship with Communion at Appleridge. It started with just a few people in attendance and last month had increased to 15. Rather than take the summer off, we decided to continue the monthly services so that there would not be a break in the momentum that had been gained. This worship service brings together Appleridge residents and members of the church who assist. It is a beautiful and meaningful time together in worship.

Another initiative that came from the Future Story was the Presentation by Mary Schrock on the Goal of Care that was held on June 10<sup>th</sup> along with a Potluck.

There are many more opportunities to deepen and widen the ministry. Everyone's input is welcomed and needed.

In the Future Story, various programs included using the Chapel (with some modification to the flooring) for chair Yoga, Tai Chi, Moving for Better Balance and Health Screening of Blood Pressure and Heart Rate. Workshops such as healthy eating, financial planning, travel, etc. were proposed among other activities.

What is next? I realize that most church members and friends think, well, calling a Pastor is next and indeed it is one of the next steps along the way. But, the church itself is called to ministry and needs to continue to move forward with its vision.

Your PNC is diligently working to seek out the Pastor whom God is calling to join you in ministry. The Pastor is not the end goal -- the end goal is the vital ministry of the congregation as faithful disciples and witnesses for Christ. In fact, Pastors are attracted to congregations that are living out a vision and moving it forward rather than congregations that are waiting for the Pastor to shoulder the responsibility for increasing membership in a church or for "turning a church around."

This congregation is faithful in its ministry and generous in its stewardship of its building, hosting a plethora of non-profit groups such as the Food Pantry, the Pre School, the Youth Orchestra, the Boy Scouts, etc. You host a monthly Friday Community Dinner and you have provided knitted offerings for a variety of groups in addition to the many items you collect and send off to those in need and the financial contributions you make to organizations. These are all very important parts of your ministry.

If you allowed yourself to dream (with some basis in reality!), what else could you envision happening? How could your ministry be deepened? As you listen to God, what is God saying to you about Future ministry possibilities?

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Cheryl Ann



	<b>LAY READER</b>	<b>HEAD USHER</b>	<b>COFFEE HOUR HOSTS</b>
<b>1st</b>	<b>Ellen Benedict</b>	<b>Guy Stillman</b>	<b>Deacons</b>
<b>8th</b>	<b>Jan Stillman</b>	<b>Doug Day</b>	<b>Community Meal</b>
<b>15th</b>	<b>Allen Oldfield</b>	<b>Jim McIntosh</b>	<b>B&amp;G/ Missions</b>
<b>22nd</b>	<b>Doug Cotton</b>	<b>Joe Matejka</b>	<b>Christian Discipleship</b>
<b>29th</b>	<b>Judy McIntosh</b>	<b>Jim McIntosh</b>	<b>Session</b>

## PASTORAL SUMMER VACATION

Pastor Cheryl Ann will be on vacation July 8<sup>th</sup> - August 7<sup>th</sup>

## SECRETARIAL SUMMER VACATION

Church Secretary, Brenda Fasick will be on vacation for the month of August, she will be returning Wednesday, August 29<sup>th</sup>.

## SUMMER WORSHIP WITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

First Presbyterian Church of Horseheads and the First United Methodist Church of Horseheads will worship together this July and August. **Summer worship will begin at 9:30 a.m. starting with July 1<sup>st</sup>.**

In July, we will worship at First Presbyterian Church of Horseheads and in August, we will worship at the First United Methodist Church of Horseheads on Broad Street.

Join us for a summer of worship and fellowship together with friends at the Methodist Church!

### JULY WORSHIP AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HORSEHEADS

July	1	Luke 9:51-56; Galatians 3:26-29, 5:1, 13-15 "Freedom Fix" Communion
	8	Rev. Rhonda Kouterick
	15	Rev. Rhonda Kouterick
	22	Rev. Rhonda Kouterick
	29	Rev. Rhonda Kouterick

### AUGUST WORSHIP AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF HORSEHEADS

August	5	Rev. Rhonda Kouterick
	12	Psalms 67, Acts 16:1-15 "Night Visions"
	19	Psalms 97, Acts 16:16-34 "Earthquakes and Jailbreaks"
	26	Psalms 82, Colossians 1:1-14 "Grounded in the Word"

**Appleridge worship will be at 1 pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sundays of July and August**

# FREE COMMUNITY DINNER



Friday, July 13<sup>th</sup> & August 10<sup>th</sup> @ 4:30PM

## Website and Facebook for our church

First Presbyterian Church of Horseheads now has both a website page and a Facebook page – the goal is to spread the word about the work our church is doing throughout our community.

Our website can be found at [www.horseheadsfirstpres.org](http://www.horseheadsfirstpres.org), and contains all activities of our church, our mission statement, a full calendar of those activities, and contact information.

We also now have a Facebook page on social media, @firstpreshorseheads – if you are a Facebook user, please like our page and then share with all your friends – **the work of our church will quickly spread throughout our community.**



## Food Pantry Needs:

July - fruit cocktail                  August - Jello or pudding  
September - peas or creamed corn

(Here in the Narthex)  
**9:00 am Saturday**  
**July 7<sup>th</sup> &**  
**August 4<sup>th</sup>**

