

First Presbyterian Church

Pres Notes

July & August Double Issue

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FROM THE



PASTOR

Happy Summer! While Memorial Day marks the unofficial start to summer, June 21st marks the "official" start. This year it seems like that was a fairly accurate marker for the change in the weather. The light in the morning and evening was noticeably different, the rainy days were subsiding, and, on a regular basis, there was a noticeable warmth in the afternoon sun.

The marked change in the weather means for many folks a change in routine – a daily walk around the neighborhood, time at the lake, cultivating planting in the garden or just enjoying a sunny day on the patio. Personally, I find myself seeking ways to squeeze in a few extra miles before the daylight runs out on my evening bike rides.

In addition to getting to enjoy the summer weather in my free time, I am finding that as I settle into my new call as your Pastor, that these longer days are an encouragement to develop routines – time in study and prayer, for visitation and conversation, for dedicated 'office hours.' A mentor recently encouraged me in my new call to, "*grow your heart.*" Their instruction was this, *immerse yourself in the stories of your congregation, and in reflecting on your own story and how they relate. You will better understand the challenges of the world around you and you will be a better pastor and more capable of serving those in need, if you grow your heart.*

I wonder how you hear those words, "*grow your heart?*" These words are a good instruction for each of us. They are foundational to the Gospel, "*Love your neighbor as yourself (Mark 12:31).*" "*Seek the welfare of the city in which you dwell (Jeremiah 29:7).*" Who is our neighbor? How do we seek the welfare of the community? How do the experiences of our lives transform who we are and reshape our world?

In the coming months, and years, I hope that my heart will continue to grow, not only in the summer months, but every week as we build God's community of faith together.

Remember that throughout July and August that we will be sharing worship with the Horseheads United Methodist Church, at 9:30am each Sunday. In July worship will be at our church, Horseheads Presbyterian, and in August, we will worship at the Horseheads United Methodist Church.

I pray you have a wonderful summer and invite you to Grow Your Heart, by engaging the community around us!

Peace,

Aaron



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 7th.**

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!

Dear Members and Friends,

I wanted to share with everyone what was done as a farewell "gift" for Pastor Cheryl Ann Elfond. First Presbyterian Church of Horseheads made a donation to The Food Bank of the Southern Tier in her honor. The Food Bank serves Broom Co. where Cheryl Ann lives as well as our area. I am happy to be able to tell you that our donation will provide 1,064 meals for people in need. Cheryl Ann was so pleased to learn this and I thought you might be pleased too.

Sincerely,
Marty Oldfield



FREE COMMUNITY DINNER

**Friday, July 12th & August 9th
@ 4:30PM**

There will be no Men's Breakfast in July.



	LAY READER	HEAD USHER	COFFEE HOUR HOSTS	Served Communion
7th	Doug Cotton	Guy Stillman	Deacons	Rev. Rhonda Kouterick Doug Cotton Marty Oldfield Doug Day Jan Stillman Ruth Hauser
14th	Judy McIntosh	Joe Matejka	Community Meal	
21st	Marty Oldfield	Jim McIntosh	B&G/ Missions	
28th	Allen Oldfield	Doug Day	Christian Discipleship	

