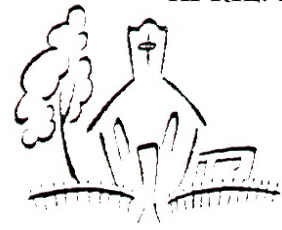


OAKWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL, 2010

313 Tenth Street - Troy, NY 12180 -- www.oakwoodpresbyterian.com

Acorns from Oakwood



PASTOR'S CORNER

John Fisher wrote an article entitled- "God's-Eye View". I'd like to share some of his thought and my reflections.

Text: I Cor. 13:12 - "For now we see through a glass, darkly..."

"There was once a Bible College professor who loved to teach about Faith. One of his tools was to roll out a room-size diagram with a long time-line from Adam and Eve to the present day. On it, at appropriate spots, he would place little figures representing some of the well-known characters of the Bible such as Abraham, Moses, David, Ezekiel and Paul. Then, he would walk over to where Moses was and turn him toward the future, and place a dark pane of glass right in front of his nose.

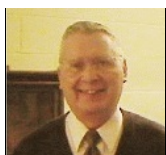
"This is how much Moses could see when he looked this way', the professor would say. And because the students had the perspective of the rest of the timeline, everyone could understand Moses' dilemma, but also gained strength from what they knew lay ahead of Moses that he couldn't see. In other words, in relation to Moses, the student had more of a **God's-Eye View** of things."

"Even though Moses could not see into the future, there were Two Directions the students could look. They could look back and see how God had been faithful in their lives up until then, and most importantly, they could Look Up to God- and put their Trust in the One who sees All."

At Oakwood we are in a similar place. We can Look BACK to the past (a very rich and faithful past) and we can Look UP to God- remembering that there is a God's- Eye View of the future but we can't see it right now. ("For now we see through a glass darkly"). God knows the plan and how the events of our lives and the Oakwood Congregation fit into the overall Divine Purpose. God sees reasons why we have no access. God sees a plan that may look at best murky and even discouraging from our point of view. But God's Purposes for us, and the reliability of these promises, are no less trustworthy than they were to Moses. And in addition, we have the Huge Benefit of much more history than Moses ever had- the fulfillment of things Moses could only dream about.

My friends, whatever you are going through today or wondering about in relation to tomorrow, there is God's-Eye View of this. May we, as individual Christians and also as part of the Oakwood Avenue Presbyterian congregation, Never Forget that there is a God's-Eye View of Everything. And especially this coming year, each one of us needs to Look Up In Faith and acquire a deep conviction that God Sees and Will Direct not only our personal lives but also reveal to us the Holy Plan for Oakwood's Future.

In Christian Love,
— *Pastor Al*



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People and Events at Oakwood

Prayers of Condolences and Healing are extended to the families of David Hains, Brian Hains and Susan Connolly in the loss of their cousin's daughter in an auto accident on the NYS thruway coming home from college to visit family. Jamie Bielas Klemczak was 21 years old and was a senior at Syracuse University

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be taken on Easter Sunday- April 4th. Please continue to put aside something each day in Lent which will help people around the world during natural disasters and times of physical and medical need.

Deacons Elect Co-Chairwomen. Marilyn O'Dell and Sue Connolly will be Co-chairing the Board of Deacons for the coming year. The Deacons continue to be involved in many ministries within and outside our church community. Please notice also that Marlene Conlan was unanimously elected as Clerk of Session for another year. Many thanks for a job well done.

Oakwood's Website continues to be a work in progress. Thanks to Michael Lopez and Hannah Hunter-Harris for working on this project. Check it out!
OakwoodAvenuePresbyterianChurch.com

Lenten Sermon Series. During the Sundays in Lent Pastor Al has been preaching a series entitled: "Is It I?" An introduction of Jesus' Disciples and another look at DeVinci's Painting of "The Last Supper". On Palm Sunday we will give a closer look at Pontius Pilate when he met Jesus.

Troy Larger Parish Bi-Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 21st at the Cornerstone Community Church of Lansingburgh at 6:30 p.m. Twice a year people from the three churches are invited to get together to discuss and plan joint worship and projects for the upcoming months. The structure of the TLP has been simplified. Anyone interest; Anyone with ideas; Anyone wanting to get involved in exciting projects and joint events are invited.

Please bring your gently used clothing and shoes to the blue **Clothing Drop Box** located in the parking lot at Oakwood Avenue Presbyterian Church. The proceeds benefit Oakwood's Capital Funds Campaign. The amount paid for January's collection \$27.68

The **TLP Food Pantry** is seeking volunteers to help out on Saturday from 9 to 11:00 a.m. If you have questions or can help, please contact Linda O'Malley at 273-5199



Crop Walk 2010

CROP Hunger Walks are ecumenical, interfaith community events. Undesignated funds help Church World Service (CWS) and its partners support self-help development, meet emergency needs and address the root causes of poverty and powerlessness through its worldwide programs.

A few years ago, Team Oakwood, consisting of Sue Connolly, Courtney Dayter, Kim Harris, Zay Harris Johnson and Hannah Hunter-Harris raised approximately \$200.00. We hope to increase our goal and walkers!

If interested in becoming a Hunger Walker or Donor, please contact Hannah.Hunter@verizon.net.

LET US REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

Rev. Brenda Brooks	Family of Alma Kirkwood
Edward Connolly	Family of Jamie Bielas Klemczak
Family of Stanley Gordon	Bob and Shirley Lear
Lionel Harris	Kermit McCauley
Beth Illingworth	Rev. Al Siegel and Family

Also for Healing and God's Guidance:

Miriam and Billy Harrell, Lulu Hamilton,
 Pastor Al Siegel, Charles Armstrong, Carla Hughes
 Joe and Dorothy Krupski, Twila Mattson,
 Bob Leer (Nursing Home), Edna McCauley.

The victims of hunger and injustice throughout the world;
 the sick, the poor the jobless, the lonely and the needy.

Our Troops, world peace, and the Troy Larger Parish

(Please contact Maryellen Reda with any information to be included in our newsletter prayer request list)



April 9 th	Sue Connolly
April 29 th	David Harrell
April 30 th	Joe Krupski

Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women, Albany Presbytery



The Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women in the Albany Presbytery will be on April 8, at First Presbyterian Church, Valatie.

When: Thursday, April 8, 2010, 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
 10:30 a.m. Registration/Fellowship Time
 1:00 p.m. Speaker

Where: First Presbyterian Church, 3212 Church St, Valatie

Program: Jenny Lee, the Synod of the Northeast participant in the 2008 Global Exchange to Eastern Europe and a Racial Ethnic Member at Large on the Churchwide Coordinating Team will speak on her experiences in Eastern Europe.

General Information:

- * Refreshments provided during registration
- * Bring a lunch. Beverage and dessert provided
- * Registration fee \$5.00 collected at the door
- * Fair Trade coffee/tea/cocoa will be for sale
- * non-wool worsted yarn will be collected for *Warm Up America*
- * bring old *Horizons* magazines/ Bible Studies to pass on
- * Freewill offering to go to Roma Basket Project and to Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Albany Scholarship Fund for Synod Events

Questions?

Jo-Ann Baccari: 792-0937, jannbacc@aol.com
 Betty Deitz: 456-4193, adeitz@nycap.rr.com

Community Outreach

During the first quarter of 2010, the Deacons at Oakwood made monetary donations to: Church World Service (Haiti Earthquake) \$200; Souper Bowl of Caring (TLP Food Pantry) \$100; Unity House \$50; and Member Assistance \$30.

Dates to Remember . . .

March 28. Palm Sunday Service, Oakwood, 11:00 a.m.
 April 1. Potluck/Worship, Cornerstone Church, 6:00 p.m.
 April 1. Maundy Thursday Service, First United, 6:15 p.m.
 April 2. Good Friday Walk, Lansingburgh, 12:00 noon
 April 2. Tenebrae Service, First United, 7:00 p.m.
 April 4. Easter Brunch, First United, 9:00 a.m.
 April 4. Joyous Easter Worship, Oakwood, 11:00 a.m.
 April 8. Presbyterian Women's Spring Gathering, 11:00 a.m.
 April 11. Session Meeting, 12:00 noon
 April 18. Meeting of Deacons noon, 12:00 noon

Chili and Cornbread Event

Money raised from the Chili and Cornbread event held March 5th was \$265.58. Canned good weights came to 11 pounds and 5 oz. The Feinstein Foundation will match both the money and food donation weights dollar for dollar, and dollar per pound. The challenge continues until April 30th. Any and all donations will be tallied and sent to the grant program. Thank you all!



Easter Lilies

Orders are being taken for Easter lilies to beautify the sanctuary at Easter. If you would like to dedicate a lily (or lilies) to the glory of God, in thankfulness, in memory or in honor of someone, or in any other way, please fill out the attached form and return it to the church. Be sure to fill in the name(s) of those you would like to have remembered or honored, and please place your order no later than Saturday, March 27. The cost is \$7.00 for each plant. Plant(s) may be taken home after the service on Easter, or can be donated for distribution to shut-ins. If you have any questions, please contact Marilyn O'Dell or any of the Deacons.

I would like to order _____ Easter Lily plants, to be dedicated to: (indicate below)

Donated by: _____

My Name: _____ Tel: _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

I will take my plant(s) home after the service on Easter.

My plant(s) may be donated.



Troy Larger Parish News

Holy Week and Easter Worship in the Troy Larger Parish

Cornerstone Community Church - Lansingburgh

Holy Thursday- April 1st

Potluck Worship at 6 p.m. followed by worship service at 7 p.m. Includes Holy Communion and Tenebrae Service.

Good Friday- April 2

Lansingburgh's traditional Community Good Friday Walk begins at noon at St. Augustine's and continues until 3 p.m.

First United Presbyterian Church - Troy

Maundy Thursday- April 1st

Light Refreshments at 6:15 followed by Service including footwashing/communion in the Fellowship Hall.

Good Friday- April 2 at 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service in Sanctuary

Easter Brunch 9-9:45 a.m. (Reservations suggested)

JOIN US AT OAKWOOD FOR OUR JOYOUS EASTER WORSHIP AT 11:00 a.m.

We hope you enjoy this issue of our church newsletter. If you have any items of interest you'd like to see included in future issues or if you have any addresses to be put on our mailing list, please see Vinny or Maryellen Reda; any items, articles, etc. should be forwarded by the 15th of the month, to appear in the next month's issue.

e-mail: mereda@elections.state.ny.us or mreda@nycap.rr.com

For Your Information

Copies of recent sermons are available on the table at the rear of the sanctuary. Copies of the Troy Larger Parish Newsletter and Council Minutes are posted on the bulletin board downstairs, along with the Oakwood Session Meeting Minutes.