

Midweek Message



Midweek E-mail from First Presbyterian Church of Jamestown, New York

January 9, 2019

The Reverend Robert J. Hagel

Dear Friends:

Please, stop for a moment. How would you answer the question God first asked Eve, “What is this that you have done” (Genesis 3:13)?

As I was looking back on 2018, I’ve asked myself this question over and over, “What have you done?” Sure, I’ve been busy, but “What have I done?”

Many of us lead busy lives full of activities, both large and small. We run our errands, we go to work, we get in our cars, and we get out of our cars. We do so much that after a while one day runs into the next, and weeks fly by, until before we know it, another month has passed.

What have you done? What were you doing a week ago, and the week before that? Though we may race through our days and week, not always conscious of what we are doing, we can take comfort in knowing that nothing escapes God's notice. God is in every moment of our lives. And because we have been baptized into Christ, every moment of our lives belongs to God.

At first, it might trouble us to know that God sees all that we do. Like Adam and Eve, we might be tempted to conceal some of our shadowy deeds from the All-Seeing One. Yet ultimately, we can rejoice in the fact that every moment of our lives is sacred. God blesses all that we do, bringing good from even our worst mistakes. God entrusts us to be stewards of our time, 168 hours a week. And through it all, God never abandons us, not even for a second.

We run our errands, we go to work, we get in our cars, and we get out of cars. So much of this seems so ordinary. However, because we are followers of Jesus, our lives have been changed. We reflect God's gifts of love, forgiveness, and generosity. Our life becomes an extraordinary witness to Jesus Christ and is filled with purpose and meaning through the relationships that we share with others.

So run your errands, coach your soccer team, listen to your co-workers, and know that you are a witness to the transforming power of Jesus Christ. Lead your extraordinary life, and do it all in Christ.

Happy New Year

Bob

REMEMBERING YOU IN OUR PRAYERS:

Prayers of HOPE for the life of our church, JOY for our families, PRAISE for safe returns and finding our way home; Lucy Miller's son Paul; Catherine Willard's sister Nancy; Margie Cochrane's sister Barbara; Kate Hagel's father; Bob Hagel's father and mother; Claire Murray; Mick Yates; Julie Dudgeon; Verna Krudys; Pauline and McKenzie; healing for Kim and prayers for Toni's family mourning her passage; and our college students returning for their next semester.

ACP Family for October: Sophia and her Mother Sarah

Staff Member: Shari Stevens

If you need a ride to church or a doctor's appointment, would like a visit from the Pastor, could use support from our Casserole and Cookie Crew, or would like to let us know about a prayer concern, please let the church office know. The Member Care Committee is ready to help you out.

Sunday, January 13th

Sunday School Breakfast 9:00 am
Story time at 9:15, then Sunday school classes at 9:30 am
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am
Worship is in the **Chapel** at 10:30 am

Worship Leaders for January 13th

Liturgist: Cyndi Lorenc
Greeters: Deborah and Eve Kushmaul
Ushers: Lee and Heidi Marshall

Worship Leaders for January 20th

Liturgist: Sherra Babcock
Greeter: Jim Dahlie
Ushers: Jane Lockwood and Barb Potter

Coming Soon!

Family Night Dinner

Don't miss this month's Family Night Dinner!

Thursday, January 17th at 5:30 pm

Sandra J. Merwin Fellowship Hall

Enjoy a delicious dinner and conversation
with church friends and family

Free for all, bring the whole family!

Come at 5:00 pm if you can help setup.

Announcing!

There is a new **Sunday Worship Flower Chart** hanging in the Cloister so members can reserve a Sunday to dedicate a floral arrangement in honor/memory of loved ones for the worship service. If you forgot what you did last year, the old one is still hanging up too. Pick your Sunday, write down your name, then contact the church office for more details. (487-1984) Thank you.

DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR

Church Business Hours:

Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

January 9 – Artist Workshop 6:30 pm

January 9 – **Chamber Singers Rehearsal 7:00 pm CANCELLED**

January 10 – Aging and Saging 12:00 pm

January 10 – Children's Choir Rehearsal (3rd – 5th grade) 5:30 pm

January 10 – Worship Committee meeting 6:00 pm

January 10 – Chancel Choir 7:00 pm

January 11 – Chamber Singers Rehearsal 7:00 pm **RESCHEDULED**

January 12 – 12th Night **Society for Creative Anachronism** 10:00 am

January 13 – 12th Night **Chamber Singers Concert** 4:00 pm

January 13 – Member Care Committee 11:45 am

January 13 – Youth Choir 5:00 pm

January 13 – Youth Group 5:45 pm

January 13 – Youth Group Committee Meeting during choir 5:00 pm

January 15 – Education Committee Meeting 12:30 pm

January 15 – Duplicate Bridge 12:30 pm

January 15 – Barbershoppers 7:00 pm

January 16 – TON 3:15 pm

January 16 – Artist Workshop 6:30 pm

January 17 – Aging and Saging 12:00 pm

January 17 – ACP Committee 4:00 pm

January 17 – Building and Grounds meeting 5:00 pm

January 17 – Family Night Dinner 5:30 pm

January 17 – Chancel Choir 7:00 pm

January 20 – Youth Choir 5:00 pm

January 20 – Youth Group 5:45 pm

January 22 – Duplicate Bridge 12:30 pm

January 22 – Barbershoppers 7:00 pm

January 23 – TON 3:15 pm

January 23 – Session 7:00 pm

January 24 – Aging and Saging 12:00 pm

January 24 – Children’s Choir 5:30 pm

January 24 – Chancel Choir 7:00 pm

January 27 – Mission Committee 11:45 am

