



Presbyterian Church Niagara Falls, NY Newsletter August 2024

Dear Members - I bring you greetings from the Session of our church. As you know this is not only an important time in the life of our church with the Bell Tower Restoration project and our 200th anniversary, it is also a time of uncertainty. We want to urge everyone to come on Sunday mornings to worship together. It is important for us, as a family of believers, to worship together. We all need to pray for Rev. Cathy -that she receives God's healing and grace. See you in church!

NAP August Dinner

The August NAP Dinner will be hosted by Bacon Memorial Presbyterian Church, 166 59th Street , Niagara Falls, Wednesday, August 7, 5:00 PM. The NAP dinners are a nice way to get to know your neighbors and enjoy fellowship and a meal. All are Welcome



Church Construction

Restoration of the bell tower has begun. Contractors working on restoration of the church bell tower will need access to the south side of the parking lot for their equipment so please do not park in those parking spaces.

Demolition of the buildings surrounding First Pres continues. When visiting First Pres be aware that First Pres is in the middle of a construction zone. Stay tune for more information as these projects progress.

Samaritan Christmas Shoeboxes

Again this year First Pres will participate in the Samaritan Christmas Shoeboxes. Shoeboxes are available at the front of the Sanctuary. School supplies are now on sale in the stores. Items like pencils, pens, crayons, small note pads are less expensive now than in October when you will be shopping for your shoebox. Get an early start on your shoebox and pick up a few sale items. You will be happy you did come October



August Days

By Lenore Hetrick

The last of summer and the first of fall-
together they stand in August days.

The garden is bright with summer bloom,
And yet there creeps up that autumn haze.

You can look forward or look backwards
To a lovely summer you would recall,

But the changing of the season has come-
The last of summer and the first of fall.



THIRD CENTURY CAMPAIGN

Capital Fund Drive

Our Church, formed 200 years ago, is entering its third century of existence. Our church building on this site dates to 1849. It is showing its age! In 2022, we applied for and received a NY Environmental Protection Grant of \$426,464 which at the time was estimated to cover 75% of the restoration costs for the historic building, focusing on the bell tower. That was the percentage that the grant was authorized to cover. We get those funds through reimbursement as the restoration program proceeds. In 2023, we were also awarded architecture and construction grants totaling \$45,000 from the NY Landmark Conservancy's Sacred Sites program. We have received those funds.

We are entering the construction phase of our bell tower restoration project. The estimate for the actual construction is now \$970,000. This is exclusive of administration costs, architect fees, and other fees such as asbestos monitoring and abatement. The construction work is now almost exclusively confined to the bell tower and the south turret, although our original estimate provided for the 2022 grant (\$636,000) covered more items such as resealing all windows and extensive repointing of the masonry beyond the bell tower. Since covid, costs have escalated, and probably the original value supplied for the EPF grant was underestimated as well.

Beyond what the grants provide (\$471,464), the costs will be borne by the church, through donations and through our capital funds. This amount will be approximately \$600,000. The church's capital funds that we can spend on this project now generate investment income and (usually) capital gains which help us cover our deficit budgets. It has been and still is important to our existence that we maintain this reserve as much as possible.

We are initiating a low-key capital fund drive to attract donations for those who would like to contribute. There will be no pledge cards or mail solicitations. Donors will be kept confidential though amounts pledged or donated will be published. If you feel that this is a cause our Lord would like you to support and you are willing, please let the Church Treasurer (Carolyn Goddard) know. Thank you, and may God bless the work of First Presbyterian Church of Niagara Falls in its third century!

**Please Pray for Those Who
are Sick or Shut-in**



Shut-Ins

Dolores Coleman Dom DeFazio
Jane McNaughton Bob McNaughton
Toni Pryor

Prayer List

Bill Karches Jillian Horner
Mark Tarbell Rita Horner
Collette Sorg Jordon Street
Brian Tarbell Cindy Lapolice
Cathy Rieley-Goddard

August Volunteer Schedule

Lay Readers

August 4 - John Goddard
August 11 - Carol Dashineau
August 18 - Lis Slenk
August 25 - John Goddard

Communion Servers

August 4 - Jeanette Lamorie and
Dori Parry



Sunday Worship on You Tube

Each week the Sunday morning worship service is video-recorded. The video is uploaded to First Pres Niagara Falls early in the week. Check it out. The link to You Tube is youtube.com/channel/UCV8PmvV_gWm7wjggyI-q03g.

August Birthdays

August 7 Dominic DeFazio
August 13 Carl Slenk
August 18 Mark Tarbell
August 22 Tracy Hazel
August 24 DaShon Lamorie



Happy Birthday!

Budget Report for June 2024

	<u>Actual \$</u>	<u>Year to Date \$</u>	<u>Budget YTD \$</u>
GIVING	1,951	15,124	14,334
Investment Income, Other	327	9,746	19,002
TOTAL INCOME	2,278	24,870	33,336
EXPENSES	7,753	55,262	66,588
NET (Deficit)	(5,475)	(30,392)	(33,252)

Investment income is from the J.G. Marshall Trust. Expenses included \$195 for electric, \$160 for water, \$88 for gas, \$408 for Worker's Comp insurance.



August 2024

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Sat



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Communion

Dinner 5:00 PM, Bacon Presbyterian

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Session 7:00 PM

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The Newsletter of First Presbyterian
Church of Niagara Falls, N.Y.

First Presbyterian Church
311 First St
Niagara Falls, NY 14303

Phone: 716-285-3555
Fax: 716-285-3482
E-mail: firstpresnfy@gmail.com



Return Service Requested



We're on the Web:

www.firstpresnfy.org

You Tube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lsk4U35pI2I>

Face Book <https://www.facebook.com/First-Presbyterian-Church-Niagara-Falls-117888153453785/>



CHURCH OFFICE

Hours: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 9:00 AM
to 1:00 PM

Telephone: 716-285-3555

Sunday Worship	10:00 AM
Communion	First Sunday of Month

Rev. Cathy Rieley-Goddard office hours are Monday
and Wednesday.

Visit us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/First-Presbyterian-Church-Niagara-Falls-117888153453785/>

News and letters may be submitted by mail to:
First Presbyterian Church, 311 First St., Niagara Falls,
NY 14303
ATTN: First Press



News may also be submitted via e-mail to the Church
Secretary at firstpres2@verzon.net or may be dropped through the mail slot
of the church office.

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