

# First Presbyterian Church of Niagara Falls, NY



## FIRST PRES Newsletter



### July 2021

Dear Friends,

Summer has arrived. The need for wearing masks has been lifted for those who are fully vaccinated. Now we remember and relearn and figure out how to be a community in this post-pandemic time. If you are not yet vaccinated, I encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity. If you have questions or concerns about the vaccine, give me a call and we can talk. If I can't answer your questions, we will find someone who can.

During July, we and our partner congregations -- Riverside, Bacon, and Island Presbyterian -- are going on a journey of questions. We are reflecting on the following four questions:

- Where are you from?
- Where does it hurt?
- What do you need?
- Where do we go from here?

I invite you to think about these questions for yourself as we move through the month.

On July 18 we are exchanging pulpits. I think Laura Norris Buisch will be here to worship and preach with you all.

The questions are rather personal. I think after the pandemic we do ourselves a favor by reflecting on the personal for a bit. Where does it hurt? What do you need? Both are questions that invite us to dig below the surface, to maybe even open up to ourselves about things we have buried or that we would rather not attend to. We will have study booklets available to help you through the series. You can pick one up on Sunday morning. There will be other opportunities for conversation and connection around these questions as July unfolds. Watch the bulletin for more information.

July 13 (Tuesday) we are gathering with the

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folks from our partner congregations for another picnic. This time it is at Bacon Memorial. Bring a chair and join us at 5:00.

During these long summer days, may you find time to rest and reflect and renew yourselves. Be joyful, be jubilant, and celebrate God's good gifts.

Blessings - Cathy

Niagara Area Presbyterian July Happenings  
Tuesday, July 13, 5:00 pm, Bacon Memorial will host the NAP Picnic. A casual pizza dinner will be served followed by a brief worship service. There will be a free will offering to cover the cost of the dinner. A dessert to share would be welcomed. Bring a chair and enjoy the fellowship.

Pulpit Exchange, Sunday, July 18. First Pres will welcome Rev Laura Norris Buisch. Pastor Cathy will be at Bacon Memorial.

Riverside Presbyterian will host VBS Aug 9-13, at Five Senses Park, Ward Road in Wheatfield. More details to follow

#### Drumming Circle

Drumming Circle is held each Wednesday at 5:30 pm in First Pres Parking Lot. Come learn, laugh and enjoy an evening of fellowship

#### Outside Gathering Area

We are setting up an area for sitting and chatting outside. If you have lawn furniture gathering dust in your garage, why not donate it to First Pres? We will put it to good use! If you need someone to pick it up, call the office and we will make arrangements.



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



**Shut-Ins**

Dolores Coleman Elizabeth Ochab

**Prayer List**

Monique Wilson Rev. Jon Rieley-Goddard  
 Margaret Smith Robert Smith  
 Charlene Bush Bonnie Felstead  
 Mark Tarbell Bill Karches  
 Joseph Barber Pearl Durham  
 David Pytlik

**July Volunteer Schedule**

**Lay Readers**

July 4 - Lis Slenk  
 July 11 - John Goddard  
 July 18 - Bill Karches  
 July 25 - Carol Dashineau

**Communion Servers**

July 4 - John Goddard, Carol Dashineau

**July Birthdays**



July 8 Sang Bae Kim  
 22 Kirk Parry  
 24 Savannah Combs  
 30 Abe McLarahmore  
 Happy Birthday!

Sunday worship service is now being recorded and will be on First Pres' YouTube channel after 4:00 pm on Sundays for viewing. The YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L5k4U35p12I>

**Patriotic Quotes for the 4th of July**

For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others." — Nelson Mandela

The United States is the only country with a known birthday." — James G. Blaine

"America was built on courage, on imagination and an unbeatable determination to do the job at hand." -Harry S. Truman

You can come from humble circumstances and do great things." — Condoleezza Rice

One flag, one land, one heart, one hand, one nation forevermore!"— Oliver Wendell Holmes



The office will be closed Monday, July 5, in observance of the 4th of July. Have a safe and Happy 4th of July.

**Budget Report for May 2021**

|                          | <u>Actual \$</u> | <u>Year to Date \$</u> | <u>Budget YTD \$</u> |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| GIVING                   | 2,156            | 15,315                 | 12,290               |
| Investment Income, Other | 252              | 6,296                  | 12,790               |
| TOTAL INCOME             | 2,408            | 21,611                 | 25,080               |
| EXPENSES                 | 7,074            | 41,952                 | 51,650               |
| NET (Deficit)            | (4,666)          | (20,341)               | (26,570)             |

Expenses in May included \$360 for Buffalo Alarm security monitoring (annual), \$340 for Maid Brigade, and \$447 for gas heat.



2021

| <u>Sunday</u>   | <u>Monday</u>             | <u>Tuesday</u>                           | <u>Wednesday</u>             | <u>Thursday</u> | <u>Friday</u> | <u>Saturday</u> |
|---|---------------------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
|   |                           |  |                              | 1               | 2             | 3               |
| 4<br> | 5<br><i>Office closed</i> | 6  | 7<br>Drum Circle<br>5:30 pm  | 8               | 9             | 10              |
| 11  | 12                        | 13<br>NAP Picnic<br>5:00 pm              | 14<br>Drum Circle<br>5:30 pm | 15              | 16            | 17              |
| 18 <i>Pulpit Exchange.<br/>Rev Laura Norris<br/>Buisch</i>                              | 19                        | 20<br><i>Session Meeting<br/>7:00 pm</i> | 21<br>Drum Circle<br>5:30 pm | 22              | 23            | 24              |
| 25  | 26                        | 27                                       | 28<br>Drum Circle<br>5:30 pm | 29              | 30            | 31              |

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

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Return Service Requested



**We're on the Web:**

**www.firstpresny.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: 285-3555

|                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sunday Worship         | 11:15 am              |
| Fellowship             | On Hold               |
| Communion              | First Sunday of Month |
| Children Sunday School | On Hold               |
| Food Pantry & Clothes  | Closed                |
| Closet                 |                       |

## BOARD MEETINGS

Deacons — 2nd Sunday of month—10:30 a.m.  
Session — 3rd Tuesday of the month—7:00 p.m.

Rev. Cathy Rieley-Goddard office hours are Tuesday  
9:30 am to 1:00 pm and Thursday by appointment.

Mask and social distancing are required at Worship  
Service.

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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Reporters: John Goddard, Janet Bianca, Lis Slenk

**Newsletter deadline is the 15th of the month.**

*July 2021*

