



**First Presbyterian Church,
Niagara Falls, NY
March 2023 Newsletter**

Dear Friends,

As we move into March, we are in the midst of Lent; we are thinking about spring with longer days and warmer weather. It is about this time that I start looking at the seed catalogs that have arrived and wonder if I will actually do some work in my yard this year. I never want to start too early, so usually I get around to starting when it is too late for things to bloom or bear fruit. But every year I think about it. I think about changing my habits and trying something new.

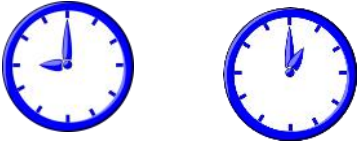
In so many ways, that is what Lent is all about. It is time for us to leave behind the habits we have and consider cultivating something new. There are the tried and true things people do -- giving up chocolate, giving up meat, spending more time in prayer, donating more of one's income. You know what your habits are.

And there is always the opportunity to do something different. Donate to a new cause. Volunteer with a new community organization. Change something about your spiritual life -- read something new, read something by an author you have never read before, take a walk every day, avoid eating at restaurants, join a class at the community center -- the list is as long as your imagination.

As we continue on our faith journey, we are called to be made new again and again. It is not something we particularly enjoy. Most of us are creatures of habit. Yet, we are reminded in the scriptures that we cannot hold onto things and keep change from happening. It just makes the inevitable change harder. Maybe your journey this year is about learning to let go more and more. Who knows what might happen when we have room for something new?

Let's be ready to let go and see what comes our way this year.

Blessings,
Cathy



Office Hours

On Monday, March 6, the office will return to normal business hours - 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

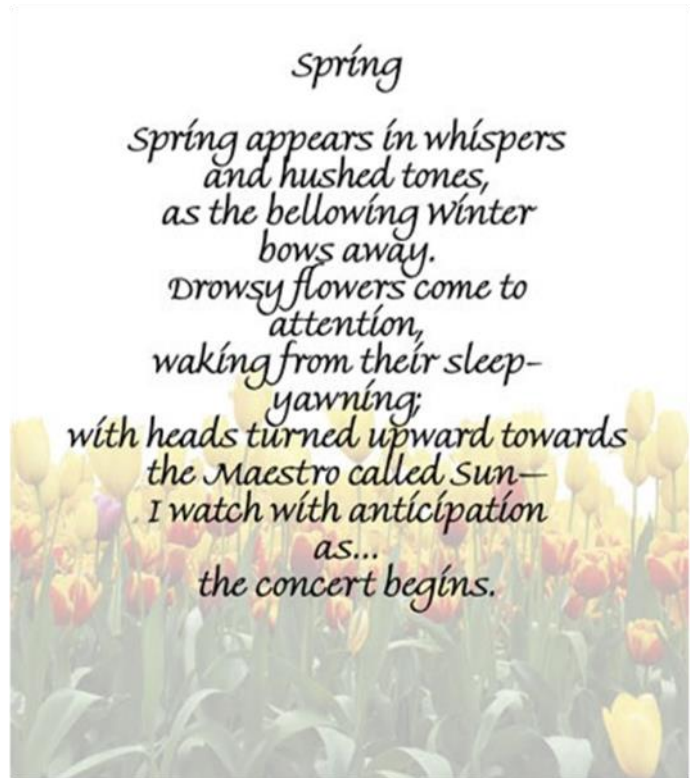


JFS Niagara Area Presbyterians Circle of Care

Thank you to those who donated items for the family from Ukraine. Your generous donations along with those from other NAP Congregations helped welcome our Ukrainian family. Thank you, too, for all the toothpaste, tooth brushes and lotion you donated for the dignity totes. JFS will distribute them to folks in need.

NAP Dinner

Riverside Presbyterian, 815 84th Street, Niagara Falls, will host the NAP Dinner, Wednesday, March 1st, at 5:00 PM. Enjoy a meal, good conversation and fellowship. Everyone is Welcome



Spring

Spring appears in whispers and hushed tones, as the bellowing winter bows away. Drowsy flowers come to attention, waking from their sleep-yawning; with heads turned upward towards the Maestro called Sun—I watch with anticipation as... the concert begins.



REMINDER: CHANGE THE BATTERIES IN YOUR SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS



Bell Ringing Circle
Wednesdays, 5:30 PM.
No musical talent needed,
All are welcome.

Please Pray for Those Who are Sick or Shut-in



Shut-Ins

Dolores Coleman
 Abraham McLarahmore
 Dom DeFazio

Prayer List

Margaret Smith Bill Karches
 Mark Tarbell Christine King
 Micheline Bevacqua

March Volunteer Schedule

Lay Readers

March 5 - John Goddard
 March 12 - Lis Slenk
 March 19 - John Goddard
 March 26 - Lis Slenk

Communion Servers

March 12 - Jeanette Lamorie and
 Dori Parry



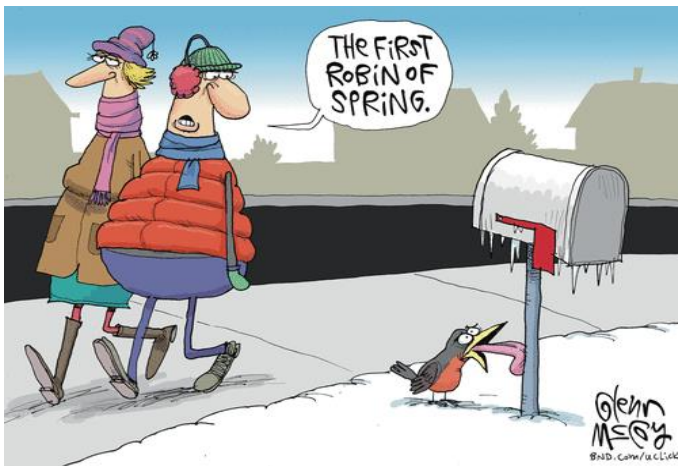
March Birthdays

March 19 - Christine King
 March 20 - Jasmine Street

Happy Birthday

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_gWm7wiggyl-q03g.



Thank you Dale Roat for putting the Cross up in the Sanctuary.

Budget Report for January 2023

	<u>Actual \$</u>	<u>Year to Date \$</u>	<u>Budget YTD \$</u>
GIVING	3,818	3,818	2,424
Investment Income, Other	0	0	2,729
TOTAL INCOME	3,818	3,818	5,153
EXPENSES	12,726	12,726	11,274
NET (Deficit)	(8,908)	(8,908)	(6,121)

There was no investment income reported for January. Expenses included \$2,722 for gas and \$2,990 for church and van insurance.

March

2023



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Sun

Mon






Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

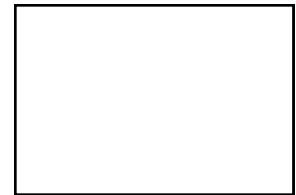
Sat

			<p>1 NAP Dinner Riverside 5:00 PM</p>	2	3 World Day of Prayer	4
5 2nd Sunday in Lent	6	7	<p>8 Bell Ring- ing Circle International Women's Day</p> 	9	10	11  Time to Spring Ahead
12 3rd Sun- day in Lent Daylight Sav- ing begins Communion	13	14	15 Bell Ringing Circle 5:30 PM	16	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY	18
19 4th Sun- day in Lent Congregations Sunday	20 	21 Session 7:00 PM	22 Bell Ringing Circle 5:30 PM	23	24	25
26 5th Sun- day in Lent	27	28	29 Bell Ringing Circle 5:30 PM	30	31	

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

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Return Service Requested



Happy
St. Paddy's Day

We're on the Web:

www.firstpresnfny.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 11:15 AM
Communion First Sunday of Month

Rev. Cathy Rieley-Goddard office hours are Tuesday
10:00 am to 1:00 pm and by appointment on other
days.

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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**March
2023**