

# First Presbyterian Church of Niagara Falls, NY

## FIRST PRESS Newsletter

### July 2019



#### Where are You

You are missed at church—we hope you will make time to come and worship with us once again. We are still open and worshipping together on Sunday morning at 11:00 AM. We have Christ centered worship services with wonderful music provided by Mark Tarbell and the small but great choir. We pray you are well but if you need to pray with someone, please call the church office and someone will contact you. We have wonderful prayer warriors!

We are still searching for a permanent Pastor but we have several regular preachers who alternate Sundays. Communion is served once a month, usually the first Sunday of the month. Each Sunday a thought provoking and inspiring sermon is preached. You will find the service of worship meaningful. You will also enjoy the wonderful children who come to worship service. They are one of our best assets! You will love their enthusiasm.

See you Next Sunday??

Carol Dashineau

#### The Four Churches summer event for July

July 28th—**Four Church Picnic**, Oppenheim Park. Second Annual Picnic, a return event that was very successful last summer. Same place at Oppenheim, shelter 21. If able bring a dish to share. Hot dogs and hamburger and drinks will be provided. There will be activities for the children.

At First Pres we will gather at 12:30 pm, after church service to leave for the picnic. Rides will be available from the church.

For more information see Carol Dashineau

#### Preaching Schedule for July and August

Below is the Preachers' schedule for July and August. The continuity of leadership in worship will benefit our congregation. Everyone is urged to attend worship, and support our Church.

July 7- Lee Weinsheimer

July 14 - Rev Stacy Otto

July 21 - Lee Weinsheimer

July 28 -Terry McIntyre

August 4 - Rev. Stacy Otto

August 11 - Lee Weinsheimer

August 18 - To be announced.

August 25 - To be announced.

See you in Church

Carol Dashineau

#### Church Picnic

The annual First Pres church picnic was at Hyde Park, Sunday, June 9. Hot dogs and hamburgers hot off the grill were served. Watermelon, salads and desserts were plentiful. Sunny skies, lively conversation, good food and a playground for the children made a fun day for all.

A big thank you to Charlene Bush who organized the day, purchased food and set up for the picnic. Thank you Bill Karches for tending the charcoal grill and helping Charlene with the picnic. Thank you Lis and Carl Slenk for helping Bill and Charlene clean up. Thank you to everyone who brought food to share and for your attendance. .



# The Story of the Fourth of July

## The Declaration of Independence

We celebrate American Independence Day on the Fourth of July every year. We think of July 4, 1776, as a day that represents the **Declaration of Independence** and the birth of the United States of America as an independent nation.

But July 4, 1776 wasn't the day that the Continental Congress decided to declare independence (they did that on July 2, 1776).

It wasn't the day we started the American Revolution either (that had happened back in April 1775).

And it wasn't the day Thomas Jefferson wrote the first draft of the Declaration of Independence (that was in June 1776). Or the date on which the Declaration was delivered to Great Britain (that didn't happen until November 1776). Or the date it was signed (that was August 2, 1776).

## So what did happen on July 4, 1776?

The Continental Congress approved the final wording of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. They'd been working on it for a couple of days after the draft was submitted on July 2nd and finally agreed on all of the edits and changes.

July 4, 1776, became the date that was included on the Declaration of Independence, and the fancy handwritten copy that was signed in August (the copy now displayed at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.) It's also the date that was printed on the Dunlap Broadside, the original printed copies of the Declaration that were circulated throughout the new nation. So when people thought of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776 was the date they remembered.

In contrast, we celebrate Constitution Day on September 17th of each year, the anniversary of the date the Constitution was signed, not the anniversary of the date it was approved. If we'd followed this same approach for the Declaration of Independence we'd be celebrating Independence Day on August 2nd of each year, the day the Declaration of Independence was signed!

(From the website Constitution Facts)

## Session News

The Session continues to do the work of the church. The Pastor Search Committee continues to search for a new Pastor, but it is a very slow process especially when we are looking for a Part Time Pastor. Be assured, we have not given up!

We are in the process of working on several projects around the church. There will be roof work done soon. We are on the list with Fiddler Roofing and they will get to us as soon as the weather permits and our turn comes up. We are also in process of fixing the dining room floor. The water damage last January was extensive and the floor needs to thoroughly dry out. The dehumidifiers are working every day! Our hope is that the floor will soon be dry enough to begin the repairs. We are looking for a long term solution to venting and dehumidification in the basement.

We are working on ways to upgrade our boiler system and looking for estimates and application. We are also working on a new phone system that meets all the needs of the church.

Another project is the bell tower. It needs to be inspected and the rope needs repair. The parking lot is being eyed for repairs that will eliminate some tripping hazards. We are looking at sidewalk de-icing systems to help in the winter. We have not been able to find someone dependable to shovel the sidewalks for a couple of years. Also, we are working to find someone to refinish the wooden front doors and do some stone work around the doors.

We are, also, beginning to organize a committee to "wash up and scrub up" areas of the church that need refreshing. Look for an announcement soon when the first work night will take place.

If you have any ideas on any of these subjects, please speak to one of the Session members.

See you in Church, Carol Dashineau. Clerk of Session



Mark and Janet going over Sunday's hymns. While Mark was off on medical leave Janet played the piano for Sunday Worship. Thank you Janet





Grill Master Bill



Rev. Otto giving the blessing before the meal



First Pres Annual Church Picnic 2019





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

### Shut-Ins

Jean Hackenheimer Pearl Durham  
Ed Van Valkinburgh Dolores Coleman  
Elizabeth Ochab



### Prayer List

Mark Tarbell Monique Wilson  
Antonino Thomas Family Clary Wilson  
Maureen Karches Rev. Jon Rieley-Goddard  
Margaret Smith Dashon Lamorie  
Jeanette Lamorie Robert Smith

### Visitors

Sunday, June 23, First Pres welcomed visitors from New Life Calvary Church of Cleveland at Sunday worship service. The group was visiting the Niagara Falls area and had inquired about our Sunday service. Another couple who was also visiting the area attended worship service and by coincidence was also from the Cleveland area. At the end of worship service the Children from New Life Calvary treated the congregation to a special hymn. The service was lively and enjoyed by all. Sunday worship service visitors are an unexpected blessing for First Pres.

## July Volunteer Schedule

### Ushers

July 7 - John Goddard, Robert MacNaughton  
July 14 - Carl Slenk, Kirk Parry  
July 21 - Robert MacNaughton, Carl Slenk  
July 28 - Kirk Parry, John Goddard

### Lay Readers

July 7 - Janet Bianca  
July 14 - Lis Slenk - Communion  
July 21 - John Goddard  
July 28 - Bill Karches

### Communion Servers (Intinction)

July 14 - Lis Slenk  
Communion will be second Sunday, July 14

For the month of July, Communion will be served the second Sunday, July 14, instead of the usual first Sunday of month.

### July Birthdays

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



Have a safe and Happy Fourth of July



## Budget Report for May 2019

	<u>Actual \$</u>	<u>Year to Date \$</u>	<u>Budget YTD \$</u>
Giving	1,794	14,285	14,010
Investment Income, Other	375	8,146	15,920
TOTAL INCOME	2,169	22,431	29,930
EXPENSES	9,026	39,768	49,725
NET (Deficit)	(6,857)	(17,337)	(19,795 )

Expenses for May included \$3,718 for air conditioner repair.

## Adult Classes, Sunday, 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room

The unit for July is "Listening for God in Changing Times" with Repentance the value emphasized.

July 7: "Serving a Just God" (Judges 2:11-19)  
July 14: "In God's Strength" (Judges 3:15-30)  
July 21: "Let God Rule" (Judges 7:2-15; 8:22-25)  
July 28: "Return to Obedience" (Judges 10:10-18)  
August 4: "The Promise of a Child" (Judges 13:1-25)



Please join us for this exciting adventure into God's Word. All are welcome!



# July 2019



**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

	1	2 F.A.C.T. 9 am—Noon	3	4 	5	6
7	8	9 F.A.C.T. 9 am—Noon	10	11	12	13 Breakfast Club 9 am
14 Deacon meeting 10:30 am	15	16 F.A.C.T. 9 am—Noon Session 7 : 00 pm	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 F.A.C.T. 9 am—Noon	24	25	26	27 Breakfast Club 9 am
28	29	30 F.A.C.T. 9 am—Noon	31			

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

First Press  
First Presbyterian Church  
311 First St

Phone: 716-285-3555  
Fax: 716-285-3482  
E-mail: firstpres2@verizon.net



Return Service Requested



*We're on the Web:*

[www.NiagaraChurch.org](http://www.NiagaraChurch.org)

## CHURCH OFFICE

Hours: Monday through Wednesday, 9 am -1 pm

Telephone: 285-3555

Sunday Worship	11:00 a.m.
Fellowship	10:30 a.m.
Adult Education	10:00 a.m.
Communion	1st Sunday of each month
Church Breakfast Club	9:00 a.m.- 2nd & 4th Saturdays of the month
Food Pantry & Clothes Closet	Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m.—12 noon

## BOARD MEETINGS

Deacons — 2nd Sunday of month—10:30 a.m.

Session — 3rd Tuesday of the month—7:00 p.m.

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.

First Press is published monthly by First Presbyterian Church of Niagara Falls,  
N.Y., U.S.A.

Editor/Publisher: Janet Roat

Reporters: John Goddard, Janet Bianca, Lis Slenk

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

*July 2019*

