

The Newsletter of the Reformed Dutch Church of Claverack
A Reformed Church in America Congregation

The Fisherman

March 2016

2016 CONSISTORY

Elders

Bill Better
Louise Bliss
Glenn Holzhauer
Lloyd Lawrence
Steve Race
Julie Veronezi

Deacons

Donna Lynk Campion
Roger Case
Cheryl Halleran
Sue Ihlenburg
Jim Mackerer

Missionaries

RCA -Partner in Mission(PIM)

Staff

Rev. Linda Miles
Pastor
Lloyd Lawrence
Director of Bell Choir
Andrea Mastrianni
Director of Music
Julianne Fletcher
Administrative Assistant
Nelson Santiago
Sexton

Reformed Dutch Church
of Claverack
Drawer K
Claverack, NY 12513
518-851-3811

518-851-9790 (fax)

rdcc88@yahoo.com

claverackreformedchurch.org

PASTOR LINDA'S PONDERINGS

FAITH AND FEAR

For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-discipline.

-2 Timothy 1:7

Author Timber Hawkeye says life is like a cake recipe we are trying to perfect. We can't just follow someone else's recipe. And if it turns out badly, we can't just put frosting on the top, because after we lick off the frosting, it will still taste bitter. But we get to try a new recipe every morning. We can make a different one tomorrow. We have to bake our own cake. We try to add all the ingredients that will make the cake taste just right. "The main ingredients for a successful batter are love, gratitude, kindness and patience. And the single most common ingredient that makes the cake bitter is fear, so don't use it."

One of the most challenging human emotions to deal with is fear. No one is immune from it, and we can call on our faith to help us face our fears and not be overcome. There are so many places in the Bible where we are told not to be afraid. Freedom from fear is one of the greatest gifts that can be found in our relationship to God.

We are told not to be afraid. Yet every day we suffer hesitation, second-guessing, and fearful behaviors. Catherine Doherty's prayer reminds us how to live: "Lord, give me the heart of a child and the awesome courage to live it out as an adult."

Blessings,
Pastor Linda



KEEP UP TO DATE WITH NEW OPPORTUNITIES & HAPPENINGS!!

Paula Mueller, First Reformed Church Hudson, is inviting anyone who would like to be part of the organization and planning for a Summer Bible School to come to a meeting on Saturday, March 19th. at the church which is located on Green Street in Hudson. The meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. Your attendance does not necessarily mean that you have to be present for the Bible School which is scheduled for the first week in August. Everyone with ideas, or who can help with public relations, pre planning or off site participation is invited to attend. Paula's number is 518 731 2762. This is another wonderful opportunity to teach our children about the Bible and to come together to share God's love. And, you can attend the meeting after you have some great breakfast at Applebee's put on by the Boy Scouts. Louise Bliss 518 828 7884

Coffee Hour Signup Sheet is located on the bulletin board on the right by the calendar just inside the front doors of the CEB. ***Please consider hosting coffee hour.***

Pastor Linda Miles office hours will be posted in each Sunday's bulletin. She is also available by appointment. The best way to reach her is by cell phone: 845-430-3348 or by e-mail: lindajosiemiles@gmail.com

Church office hours, Tuesday thru Thursday 9am to 2pm.

CORRESPONDENCE

Special Thank You

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers while my husband (Shump) was having radiation. He will need hormone therapy and appointments every 6 months, but so far his reports have been very good. We are most grateful. – Shirley Shumsky

Sunday School Corner

We are working on Lenten projects; prayer web, praying arms pretzels, jelly bean prayers, and nature committee project. No Sunday School on Easter.



Boy Scout Corner Troop 121

Our Troop once again, like they have for the past 3 years, dominated the District Klondike Derby winter competitions; 4 1st places 2 seconds and a third...to top it off the boys won the inaugural Biathlon race that deals with running and then shooting a rifle at a target.

The Reformed Dutch Church of Claverack Women's Group Meeting , Tuesday, February 9, 2016

The RCWM met in the library at 10:40 a.m. Norma Barnard and Donna Campion presided. Meeting was opened with a prayer offered by Norma. The minutes were read from the October 2015 meeting. Motion was made by Jan Dunham, seconded by Shirley Shumpsy to accept as read. Passed.

For comparison purposed both the 2015 and 2016 budgets were distributed. After an appeal from Building and Grounds for a new floor buffer was brought to the table by Donna, a motion was made by Jane Case: to allow a maximum expenditure of \$1,500.00 to be designated for the purchase of a floor buffer, and to accept the 2016 budget. Seconded by Tanya Hotalen. Further discussion; the degree of support for the 300th Anniversary. Motion passed,

A motion was made by Cheryl Halleran to hold a Bazaar in November 2016. Seconded by Carol O'Neil Doeffler. Discussion. The bazaar is our one fund raiser. We could have an alternative fund raiser; junk in the trunk. We need to establish chairs for the booths early on before summer. We need to have confirmation from Kim Plass that she will be chair again. We need to be mindful of our budget expenditures as this year we did not make as much as in the past, and yet our expenditures have not decreased. There is competition from other organizations and churches holding their bazaars on what have traditionally been our day. Should we change the date? No. We need commitment from all women to the bazaar work. It is a social event and a community

event. The proceeds are distributed to needs in our community and beyond. Motion to have the bazaar in November 2016 passed.

Norma and Donna asked for volunteers to help clean the kitchen before the big events this spring. A work party will be held on February 24th at 9 a.m. Come ready with supplies to clean.

Note: A question was brought to the table that if the Hope College Choir guests are to be overnight guests on Sunday, and for people who leave for work early, will the church provide breakfast in the morning and how will the guests be brought to the CE building for departure? To be answered.

Motion to adjourn by Cheryl, seconded by Shirley. Passed.

Louise Bliss

The Reformed Dutch Church of Claverack Consistory Meeting Tuesday January 19, 2016 at 7 pm

Approved by Consistory on February 9, 2016

Present - Pastor Linda Miles, Donna Lynk Campion, Julie Veronezi, Glenn Holzhauer, Jim Mackerer, Lloyd Lawrence, Louise Bliss, Stephen Race, Roger Case, Sue Ihlenburg

Absent - Bill Better, Cheryl Halleran

1. Opening prayer & scripture - at 7:00pm by Pastor Linda Miles

2. Additions/Deletions to the agenda -

- a. Classis delegates & office approvals - Glenn made a motion that Bill Better continue as Senior Elder, Nancy Rasweiler to continue as classis delegate and Snooki Patterson to continue as alternate delegate, Shirley Sullivan be appointed to treasurer and Stephen Race be appointed to clerk. Lloyd seconds motion after discussion and passed.
- b. Discussed the correct start and end dates of consistory members' terms.
- c. Committee sign-up sheets were passed around.

3. Approval of December minutes: December 9, 2015 minutes were unanimously approved on a motion by Julie, 2nd by Roger and passed. They will be sent to the office for filing.

4. Correspondence - There was a letter from Mike Bowman that outlines the proposal of an Eagle Scout project. The proposed project aims to identify veteran grave sites in the cemetery and mark them with a flag.

5. Deacons Report - Food was brought in and distributed around town.

6. Elders' Report: Elders met prior to the meeting to talk about the confirmation class that is coming up. The class will be taught by Tom Patterson and Tom Hotaling starting on March 6th. Confirmation is on May 15th. The Elders will meet with the students on May 8th after church. The Elders shared concerns for Shelley who is leaving employment with the church as well as concerns for Jan Toelke who is transitioning to her son's home in New Jersey from Florida.

Old Business -

- a. Consistorial Report discussion put on hold until next meeting.
- b. Native American service will be held on Jan. 24 at 9:30 am. At 1:00 pm there will be a community event with Native American music, storytelling, and dance. In case of inclement weather, a snow day is reserved for January 31.
- c. Ordination of Sue Ihlenberg as Deacon, installation of Jim Mackerer as Deacon, and Glenn Holzhauer, Lloyd Lawrence, and Steve Race as Elders during the January 24th service.
- d. There will be a community spaghetti dinner the 2nd Saturday at Philmont Methodist/Reformed Church and the 4th Saturday at Hudson Reformed at 4pm which will be a great opportunity to serve the hungry.
- e. The Sunday School sub sale has been moved to Jan 24. The order information is now available through the church office.
- f. We received an informal request to borrow 30 chairs from the Fellowship Hall. Sign-out form for borrowing church property was discussed. The form should be available in the office.

Committee Reports:

Christian Growth & Education Committee - Cheryl & Donna - The Sunday School is busy getting ready designating projects for items for the Bazaar. They are getting ready to study Elijah. Paula Muller of the 1st reformed in Hudson has volunteered to help with vacation bible school.

Cemetery Committee - Mike B, Mike D, Jim M. - The Cemetery Committee has a meeting tomorrow (January 20th) at 5 PM. Mike Bowman's term is expiring but is expected to be re-elected.

Missions Committee - Lloyd, John Dunham, Cheryl, Roger, Jan Dunham, Jenny Post - Lloyd discussed thank you letters received from November and December. Ghent Food Pantry, Philmont-Mellenville Food Pantry & the Salvation Army in Hudson received donations. \$240 donations were sent to Community Hospice, Habitat for Humanity, and the women's shelter for domestic violence. This money came from unallocated and special needs fund. Louise noted that the Women's shelter donation can be used to take children out for movies or other activities. Samaritan's Purse also received a donation. Pastor Linda discussed 2 Native American missions that are in need assistance. The tribe names are Winnebago and Jicarilla.

Nurture Committee - Louise - Louise discussed a woman she has been visiting. She helped her celebrate the New Year and her birthday. Louise also delivered three boxes of food. Pastor Linda would like to take communion to shut-ins after Ash Wednesday.

Finance Committee - Bill, Shirley, Nate, and Glenn - The financial report received for the meeting was incorrect. A new one will be sent. Jim will speak with Nate and Shirley to discuss corrections to the balance sheet. Parsonage income was discussed.

Building and Property Committee - Julie, Tom Patterson, Wendy Cook, and John Dunham - Seal Rite roofing came and reported that there was evidence of a chimney that was removed in the past and sealed up. The wood from this area was rotted and sunken in. Seal Rite repaired the roof and shingles of the sanctuary and Christian Education building. Ron Moore should be working on bell tower soon. Nelson borrowed floor buffer from bank and Tom suggests we purchase a new one; cost should be around \$1,500. Julie will research the buffer with Tom Patterson.

Worship Committee - Dianne, Glenn, Cindy, Donna - Ash Wednesday is on February 10th. Sharing the service again with Presbyterian Church was discussed. Linda will talk with the pastor Rev. Kathryn Beilke to discuss the service. Potluck will be at 6PM with service to follow at 7PM with communion. Donna will speak with florists about lilies and poinsettias for next year. Dianne will let us know if she is going to remain on committee.

Personnel Committee - Julie, Jim - The Administrative Assistant vacancy was discussed. The job will require someone who has basic bookkeeping experience with a knowledge of Quickbooks accounting software. The vacancy will be advertised by word-of-mouth and the newspaper. Steve Race discussed the need for a new office computer and made a motion to purchase a new computer for the office with Windows 7 and an external hard drive for less than \$1,000. Louise seconded the motion and passed. Shirley has agreed to take over bookkeeping duties until the administrative assistance vacancy is filled. Jim and Julie will speak with Shelley about extra hours and get her input on the process of requesting extra hours. Louise suggested we discuss holding exit interviews for consistory members when they come off consistory.

300th Anniversary Committee - Glenn - The 300th anniversary bell ringing will take place on May 22nd, 2016. The bell will be rung 300 times. Glenn reported that it will cost \$988 to rent a piano for Hope College performance. Andrea will look into getting the piano tuned. Glenn thanked Lloyd for all of his hard work on the Church Directory. Glenn made a motion to order 100 copies of the directory instead of 60 at the cost of \$400. Roger seconds and passed. Glenn would like to use orange and white ribbons in the church for the 300th celebration. The white represents Christ and the orange represents the royal family of Holland for the 300th celebration. Glenn would like suggestions on where to hang banners for the 300th celebration. He suggested that be placed one in the Fellowship Hall, on the side of the church and in the sanctuary. Louise has offered to make a

banner for the celebration. Lloyd offered to speak with someone from the town to get information about town signage ordinances and perhaps stringing a sign across the road between telephone poles.

Meeting Closed with Prayer: by Pastor Linda Miles

Next Consistory Meeting: Tuesday February 9, 2016 at 7pm

PRAYER CHAIN CONCERNS

Please pray for

Louise Bliss...**Gene, Geneva**

Stan Card's loved ones

Clapp Family...**Brian**

Daly Family...**Mike, Jeff**

John (and Barbara) Delamater

Dunhams' friends...**Shaquanda, Marta**

Cheryl Halleran's friend...**Peter**

John Hardy

Holzhauser Family...**Glenn's brother and nephew**

Hotalen Family/friend... **Winnie/Richard**

Sue Ihlenburg's niece...**Lisa**

Sharon Kavanaugh

Krein-Hart Family...**Rose**

Jan Lynch's family/friends...**Sandy, Kayley + Baby/ Mary Ann, Pete**

Jim Mackerer

Ruth Manning's family...**Barbara**

Andrea Mastrianni's student...**Hayley**

Mayo Family/friend...**Emile/Jane's loved ones**

McNamee Family friends...**Paul, Sam, Christine**

Pastor Linda Miles' family/friends... **Mother /Lorna, Cathy, Bill + Elka, Patti, Ursula, Claire, Courtney's loved ones**

Heather + Ryan Niver's friends...**Ricardo, Michelle**

Carol O'Neill's family/friend...Fred, Helen/ Joan

Ostrander Family/friend...Peter, Kay/Nancy

Kitty Osterhoudt's friend...**Jackie**

Race Family...**Neal, Kevin + family**

Schoep Family/friend...**Terra, Karl/ Library Director**

Schroepel Family friend...**Jackie**

Shumsky Family...**"Shump"**

Denise Smith's friend...**Susan Ruth Smith**

Tara

Anne Terwilliger...**Artie**

Theiss Family/friend...**Lisa/Gina, Brad**

Jan Toelke

Frieda Van Deusen's nephew...**Nick**

Veronezi Family...**Aunt Alice, Uncle Willard**

Wilber Family/friends...**Jackie + Alan, Deena + John/Neighbors, friend's granddaughter, co-worker's father**

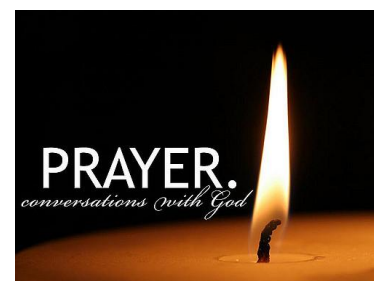
...and those who are housebound or are in rehab/nursing/assisted-living homes:

HOME: **Nelson Dickey** (living locally with his daughter, Virginia Ambrose)

Charles Hallenbeck (living in Ohio with his daughter)

PINE HAVEN: **Pauline Gowen** (P-L's Mom)

WHITTIER: **Millie Spoor, Laura Cornell**



Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone but in every leaf in springtime.

Martin Luther

Lectionary Readings

March 6, Fourth Sunday in Lent.

Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2

Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

March 13, Fifth Sunday in Lent.

Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8

March 20, Palm Sunday.

Isaiah 50: 4-9; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 22:14-23:56 or Luke 23:1-49.

March 27, Easter

Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 65:17-25; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 or Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12



March Birthdays

Kimberly Kline	3/2
Harriet Hageman	3/2
Norma Barnard	3/2/35
Linda Theiss	3/2/44
Elena Campion	3/2
Anne Terwilliger	3/7
Priscilla Fosby	3/8/41
Patricia Hickey	3/8/41
Kameron Case	3/15
Megan Schoep	3/16/97
Shanda Steenburn	3/18/61
Nathan Winch	3/20/68
Gabriel Case	3/22
Christopher Post	3/22/53
Louise Bliss	3/24
Nick Miles	3/26
Edward Cramer	3/27/37
Joshua Campion	3/30



March Anniversaries

No March Anniversaries