



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

The Fisherman

February 2020
PASTOR'S CORNER

Ordinary Time

Traditionally, Ordinary Time is the part of the year when the church is not observing particular Holy Days or the liturgical seasons of Advent and Lent. In English the term "ordinary" means something that is not special. Actually, in the church calendar ordinary times makes up most of the church year, 32 or 33 Sundays. It is called "ordinary" not because it is common but because the weeks in ordinary time are numbered. The Latin word, *ordinalis*, which refers to numbers in series, stems from the Latin word *ordo* from which we get the English word, "order."

And so, after Epiphany and the Sunday when we observe the baptism of our Lord, we now enter a season called "Ordinary Time" in the church calendar. It is a season for growth and maturation leading up to Ash Wednesday. Thus, these numbered weeks of "Ordinary Time" invite us to a time when we live our lives neither in feasting (Christmas and Easter) nor penance (Advent and Lent) but in watchfulness and expectation of what God will do in our lives. "Ordinary Time" is a part of the year when Christ walks among us and transforms our lives. Green is the liturgical color of "Ordinary Time" because green is associated with the growth, including the spread of the gospel and the growth of the church. It is a time for contemplation and maturation until Ash Wednesday when the mystery of Christ is called to penetrate even more.

How will you observe this season of "Ordinary Time"? What is growing in you? How are we to grow as a church in these seasons and in the year ahead of us?

May your prayers this month be deep and blessed as we follow our Savior throughout this season.

Pastor Linda Miles
845-430-3348

2020 CONSISTORY

Elders

Bill Better
Cheryl Halleran
Donna Lynk
Andrea Mastrianni
Nate Winch

Deacons

John Dunham
Olivia JostlinTh
Kim Plass
Amy Race
Melissa Skoda
Bob Weinman

Missionaries

RCA- Partners in Mission
(PIM)
Rev. Brad & Robin Kautz,
Missionaries
Jicarilla Apache, New Mexico

Staff

Andrea Mastrianni
Director of Music
Lloyd Lawrence
Director of Bell Choir
Julianne Fletcher
Administrative Assistant
Alyssa Ellithorpe
Custodian

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KEEP UP TO DATE WITH NEW OPPORTUNITIES & HAPPENINGS!!

**Installations for new Consistory members takes place on February 2, 2020.
Welcome to the dedicated people who serve our church family.**

Newly elected

Elder
Donna Lynk Campion

Deacons
Kim Plass
Amy Race

Serving the second year of their second term are:

Elder
Andrea Mastrianni

Deacon
Olivia Jostlin

Other Consistory members are:

- Bill Better, Elder
- Cheryl Halleran, Elder
- Nate Winch, Elder
- John Dunham, Deacon
- Melissa Skoda, Deacon
- Bob Weinman, Deacon

Pastor Linda Miles is available by appointment. The best way to reach her is by cell phone: 845-430-3348 or by e-mail: lindajosiemiles@gmail.com



The **THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY GROUP** is meeting again. Please join us February 6th at 9:30 a.m. in the CEB Library for "Troublesome Bible Passages".

HAPPENINGS:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Sunday, Feb. 2 nd | Installation of newly elected Consistory members. |
| Sunday, Feb. 2 nd | Pick up Sunday School Subs after service, CEB |
| Thursday, Feb. 6 th | Worship Committee Meeting following Bible Study, Library |
| Sunday, Feb. 9 th | Consistory Meeting following the service, Library |
| Sunday, Feb. 23 rd | Closing service for the Stuyvesant Church, 4:00 pm |
| Wednesday, Feb. 26 th | Ash Wednesday, Service and Potluck, CEB, 6:00 pm |
| Sunday, March 1 st | Annual Meeting following the service. |

SHARING THE GOODNESS OF THE LORD. . .
that filled the earth with food.

You brought food, candy and Christmas napkins and placed them in a nicely decorated box. You included a \$20.00 gift card to be used at ALDI's. Who received those boxes of food? Just a day before Christmas, six unexpected families who, with much gratitude and thanks, accepted the boxes.

At one home two little girls selected the fresh oranges from a box and skipped into the house with their gift of fresh fruit. At another house a young lank boy emerged from a farmhouse in Millerton to accept the gift. Wondering, because of the distance traveled to deliver the box, if he went to Hudson and could use the gift card for ALDI's, he was asked if he ever went to Hudson to shop. Yes, he replied once or twice every couple of months. Observation confirmed that the food would be put to good use that night.

Not finding several of the designated families at home and feeling disgruntled and realizing that the generous box of food would not fit into the mailbox designated as the 'home' for a family, the Holy Spirit went into action. Hillsdale, Mellenville, and Hollowville families opened their doors. Children anticipated something good was arriving the night before Christmas. Children showed delight as parents carried the heavy boxes of food in the decorated boxes into their homes. An attached card invited the families to come to Christmas Eve service at our church. Was it possible that the family down Millerton way would make the trip or would the family that was setting up a small imitation Christmas tree in a room void of furniture or coziness make the visit to church? Probably not. Which brings the next opportunity for giving, how about a bus on Christmas Eve to bring families to meet us and feel a new warmth of Christmas, if even from the lit candles and the sound of bells and voices singing?

Will these families receive brightly decorated boxes of food next year? Yes. Maybe even more families than the six that received the boxes this year.

Thank you. Julie and Louise



ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY, MARCH 1ST

Committee reports due in the office by February 13th.



CORRESPONDENCE

Thank you so much for your donation. We are fortunate to have your kind and generous support.

Sincerely, Linda Reed
Ghent Food Pantry

Greetings Reformed Dutch Church of Claverack (To Linda and the Saints at Claverack)
Thank you for your encouragement, trust, love and support of this shared ministry. Have a blessed 2020.

Walk in balance, Kent Busman
Executive Director,
Camp Fowler

To the Reformed Dutch Church, Claverack,
Twin Recovery Service, Inc. would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the generous donation of \$300 to our Agency. Your donation was used to provide supplies for our Columbia County Men's Residential Program.

Paula Grener,
Director of Finance

Reformed Dutch Church of Claverack,
Dear Community Partner, on behalf of **Community Action in Greene County**, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous donation of \$300 towards the Domestic Violence Program. It is because of individuals and groups such as yours that our agency is able to provide programs and services to those in need.

Thank you for your generosity,
Florence Ohle,
Executive Director

We gratefully acknowledge your \$370.00 contribution to the ministry,
“**Samaritan's Purse**,” Operation Christmas Child.

Thank you.
Franklin Graham,
President

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHILD CARE IN THE NURSERY DURING CHURCH SERVICE.

We are seeking adult or teen volunteers who have had a babysitting course, or other childcare training, to care for babies and toddlers during the 9:30 am service. Please sign up at the church office or the Sunday School room.

- Remember to bring your Christmas cards from this year to be used by the Sunday School next Christmas to create more cards...thank you!

CONFIRMATION CLASSES FOR STUDENTS 7th GRADE AND UP. . .

. . .will take place between February and May. Class Schedule will be determined based on school and church calendars. Please let Pastor Linda know if you are interested in joining the class. It will meet during Sunday School time and sometimes after church. The class will be taught by Pastor Linda, Nancy Hoag-Rasweiler, Tom Patterson, and Glenn Holzauer.

Please let me know if you have any questions I can help with.

Pastor Linda Miles
845-430-3348

GENERATION GAP

(SOURCE: PEW RESEARCH CENTER) As reported in "Christian Century" Magazine, Nov. 20, 2019

	CHRISTIAN	OTHER FAITHS	UNAFFILIATED
Silent generation (born 1928-45)	84%	4%	10%
Baby Boomers (1946-64)	76%	6%	17%
Generation X (1965-80)	67%	6%	25%
Millennials (1981-1996)	49%	9%	40%

Lectionary Readings

EPIPHANY, commonly known as Three Kings' Day in the **United States**, is on January 6.

It celebrates the three wise men's visit to baby Jesus and also remembers His baptism, according to the Christian Bible's events.

Feb. 2, Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; I Corinthians 13:1-13;
Luke 4:21-20

Feb. 9, Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13); Psalm 138; I Corinthians 15:1-11;
Luke 5:1-11

Feb. 16, Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1; I Corinthians 15:12-20;
Luke 6:17-26

Feb. 23, Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

Genesis 45:3-11, 15; Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40;
I Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50; Luke 6:27-38



February Birthdays

Laurel Clapp 2/3

Nancy Rasweiler 2/3

Michael Lennon 2/6

Samantha Steenburn 2/6

Jim Mackerer 2/7

Steve Race 2/20

Henry John Theiss 2/21

Bruce Kline 2/22

Karen Case 2/23

Russ Holze 2/25

Shirley Shumsky 2/29



February Anniversary

Richard and Melissa Skoda 2/3

Scripture readers, Greeters and Coffee Hour signup sheets
are located on the bulletin board at the entrance to the Fellowship Hall.

SUPERBOWL SUNDAY
“SUNDAY SCHOOL SUB SALE”
Order by January 29, 2020

Our Sunday School is having a Sub Sale on
Sunday, February 2nd.
Vegetarian Subs \$8.00
Turkey Subs \$9.00
Mixed Meat Subs \$8.00
(all on 10-inch rolls)

To order, please fill in this form below and place in either a box located in the Sanctuary or in the CE Building **by January 29**. Additional order forms are available at the CEB.

Note: Subs can be picked up after the coffee hour in the church kitchen on
February 2nd

Name _____

Tel No. _____

Number Ordered (please specify below):

_____ Mixed Meat _____ Turkey

_____ Vegetarian