



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

The Fisherman

Summer 2019

PASTOR'S CORNER

SUMMER SABBATH

Observing Sabbath is one of our ancient spiritual practices. The Hebrew word for Sabbath means to rest from labor. Its theological meaning is rooted in God's rest following creation. We are called to take Sabbath by God's commandment. But Sabbath is not just a duty, or a rest from labor, but also a time to grow closer to God. Sabbath is not just going to church on Sunday. Jesus further taught and nuanced teaching about the Sabbath, in Matthew 12:1-8 and Mark 12:8 saying, "The Sabbath was made for humankind, not humankind for the Sabbath." Sabbath is setting aside a time to be with God, to pray, and to listen to God's voice in your life. Sabbath is also a time of self-care so that you can receive the gift of God's love for you. Sabbath can be observed at any time of the day or any time of year. Sabbath can take place anywhere, in your own living room, on a walk in the mountains, or at the beach.

Anne Morrow Lindbergh wrote a book, *Gift from the Sea*, about her Sabbath time at the beach. At the beach, she considered lessons from the sea and its creatures, lessons about simplification, relationships, grief, aging, joy, and fulfillment. As she walked the beach, she collected shells in her pocket. She writes, "Perhaps this is the most important thing for me to take back from beach-living: simply the memory that each cycle of the tide is valid; each cycle of the wave is valid. Each cycle of a relationship is valid.

And my shells? I can sweep them all into my pocket. They are only there to remind me that the sea recedes and returns eternally." (P.110).

Summer is one of the best times to integrate Sabbath practices into your life. I encourage and challenge you to find time and place to be alone with God during these summer months. May you experience the gifts of summer with God!

Summer blessings,

Pastor Linda Miles

2019 CONSISTORY

Elders

Bill Better
Cheryl Halleran
Andrea Mastrianni
Nate Winch

Deacons

Wendy Cook
John Dunham
Susan Ihlenburg
Melissa Skoda
Olivia VanAlphen
Bob Weinman

Missionaries

RCA-Partner in Mission (PIM)

Staff

Reverend Linda Miles, Pastor
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 Opportunities & Happenings!!

A reminder that the First Sunday of Each Month is the collection for Local Food Pantries. The Consistory encourages the church family to support the local food pantries with a money donation which will enable the pantries to purchase food at a much lower discounted price than the general public can pay for food items. Also, non-perishable foods will continue to be collected and taken to our local pantries every month. Toiletries and diapers may be donated as well. In addition to the non-perishable items, please consider giving fresh fruits and vegetables (like apples, oranges, and potatoes).

Wednesdays at 10 am and 7pm. Our new season of **Yule Booth meetings** started in the cemetery room downstairs in the CE Building. Please consider joining us every Wednesday in creating Christmas ornaments for sale at our next bazaar. Many hands help to create more memories for the person who receives the ornament.

Sunday, July 21 at 2 pm. The Fellowship Committee has planned a social afternoon at the **Mac-Haydn Theater**. The play is "Grease" and the group will gather at LaGonia's for dinner following the play. Tickets are \$36.50 but if we have more than 12 attending there is a discount. Make your check payable to Mac-Haydn Theater but give it to Sue Ihlenburg ASAP. Tickets are going fast. If you do not have a check available immediately but want to attend, please let Sue know so that she can make a reservation for you.

Readers Needed: If you would like to read the scripture during the service, please sign on the easel in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

Greeters Needed: Greeting our brothers and sisters as we enter God's house is an important part of our worshipping Him. If you are able to greet on a Sunday morning, please sign on our handy easel in the Fellowship Hall. Thank You!

Coffee Hosts Needed: Sign up to make coffee or cold beverages to serve after church service. Light snacks or cookies would make a nice addition to this sharing time. Thank you.



FLOWERS REQUESTED: If anyone is interested in providing homegrown flowers for the sanctuary some Summer Sunday, please let the church office know.

VEDDER SCHOLARSHIP FUND - Funds are available to provide interest-free loans for any member of the Reformed Dutch Church of Claverack to use toward higher education. The loan amount is currently established as \$750 per student per year. Repayment is expected to begin one year after completing the course of education. A signed agreement is required. For more information contact Wendy Cook.



Please remember the church when you are traveling and keep up with your tithes and offerings during the summertime. Our ministry depends on your generosity.

SCRIPTURE AND SERMON TOPICS for JULY AND AUGUST 2019

July 7, 2019	Guest Preacher Rev. Derek DeJager
July 14, 2019	Luke 10:25-37 "The Good Samaritan"
July 21, 2019	Luke 10:38-42 "Sisters"
July 28, 2019	Luke 11:1-13 "Jesus' Prayer"
August 4, 2019	Guest Preaching Elder Jan Melichiar-Utter
August 11, 2019	Guest Preaching Elder Jan Melchiar-Utter
August 18, 2019	Psalms 80:1-2, 8-19, Luke 12:49-56 "Signs of the Times"
August 25, 2019	Luke 13:10-17 "The Healing on the Sabbath"

A great big
!!!THANK YOU!!!
to our Sunday School Students and Teachers
for the very thoughtful and appreciated sweet "treats"
that were given out on Mother's Day and Father's Day!

**Thank you from Kent Busman, Executive Director at Camp Fowler:
Your gift of \$1,000 will continue to support us in this ministry.**

Lectionary for July and August 2019

July 7	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost 2 Kings 5:1-14; Psalm 30; Isaiah 66:10-14; Psalm 66:1-9 Galatians 6(1-6), 7-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
July 14	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Amos 7:7-17; Psalm 82; Deuteronomy 30:9-14 Psalm 25:1-10; Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37
July 21	Sixth Sunday after Pentecost Amos 8:1-12; Psalm 52; Genesis 18:1-10a, Psalm 15; Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42
July 28	Seventh Sunday after Pentecost Hosea 1:2-10; Psalm 85; Genesis 18:20-32; Psalm 138; Colossians 2:6-15; (16-19); Luke 11:1 13
August 4	Eighth Sunday after Pentecost Hosea 11:1-11; Psalm 107:1-9, 43; Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23; Psalm 49:1-12; Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21
August 11	Ninth Sunday after Pentecost Isaiah 1:1,10-20; Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23; Genesis 15:1-6; Psalm 33:12-22; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40
August 18	Tenth Sunday after Pentecost Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19; Jeremiah 23:23-29; Psalm 82; Hebrews 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56
August 25	Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; Isaiah 58:9b-14; Psalm 103:1-8; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17

NEEDED: JELLY JARS, NO LIDS
Contact Shirley Shumsky or let the church office know.