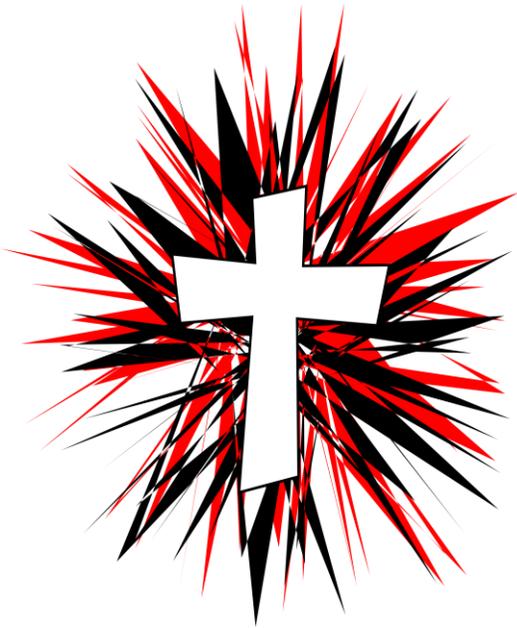


PASTOR'S MESSAGE LENT/EASTER 2016



The sun is a welcome companion today; the change in light makes everything seem more alive and hopeful! Winter has been so mild that what little snow we had is gone and the world is greener every day.

Lent is a time of simplicity and reflection, a time to let go of past regrets and mistakes and look forward. During Lent, we have been reflecting on how we encounter God in our world and how we can live out that encounter as Body of Christ. We claim the Gospel as people who are part of the earth, formed from dust, sustained and baptized by water. We also recognize ourselves as part of the larger world community who have a responsibility to treat creation as the sacred trust it is. We repent in ways we have failed and commit to do better.

As Spring and Easter approach, we have the opportunity to be agents of renewal, bringers of life and hope. With all of nature and in the Spirit of Christ we have the chance to begin again, and continue the work of building the City of God.

I wish everyone a joyful experience of new life, warm light and abundance of resurrection.

Blessings and Alleluia!

Fondly,

Rev. Susan

**The Stephentown Federated Church Men's Group
Spring-Fall 2016 Schedule of Events**

Please join us for breakfast – first Sunday of every month until June. We re-started again in October. Gather with us for good food and great fellowship. The 2016 schedule is:

- March 6, 2016..... Breakfast at 8:00am**
- March 27, 2016..... Breakfast after the Easter Sunrise Service - All Invited**
- April 3, 2016..... Breakfast at 8:00am**
- May 1, 2016..... Breakfast at 8:00am Plan spring clean-up activities**
- June 5, 2016..... All Church Breakfast – Everyone come and join us for a really big breakfast meal! This is the last breakfast meeting 'till fall! 8:00am**
- October 2, 2016..... All Church Breakfast, 8:00am – Start the new meeting season with everyone invited!**
- November 6, 2016..... Breakfast at 8:00am Election of Group leadership for 2017**
- December 4, 2016..... Breakfast at 8:00am**

The 14th Annual Church Family & Friends Turkey Dinner was a huge success. A total of 186 people were served (mostly). That's almost 100 more than we served last year!! We were so surprised by the turnout. The weather on February 20th was unusually mild, the people were friendly and we ran out of some items to serve.

But we prevailed and everyone got something to eat and we are thankful. Rev. Sue commented about “not closing the doors – make the table bigger!!” And we did. Wow!!

Thank you to everyone who came, who donated wonderful pies and other food items and to all those who worked hard all day to make it happen. It made us see that the miracle of “loaves and fishes” still happens today and everyday in our church and community.

Sonshiners

Meetings:

March 20th – All Church breakfast at Ioka Valley Farm 8:00am (please bring your own tip)



April 17th – 8:00am

May 15th - 8:00am

June 19th – 8:00am

**April 2nd – “Health and Wellness Hour” presented by New Life Chiropractic
Pierce Hall 1 PM**



SUNRISE SERVICE

Easter Sunrise Service will be at 6:30 AM on Easter Sunday morning, March 27th, in the Garfield Cemetery. Join us for breakfast in Pierce Hall following the service.

DIRECTORY UPDATE FOR 2016!

Our last directory was printed in 2013. We have a number of new folks to add if they choose. I have printed out the info sheet to fill out. It is on the Communion Table in the sanctuary. Please feel free to fill it in and place it in my choir slot in Pierce Hall. If you are already in the current 2013 Directory, but have changes you can also let me know your changes. In late spring I hope to have an updated 2016 version. Pictures will be taken after Easter for the directory. If you want a new one fill out the sheet.

Many thanks!

Bev Westfall

MARCH / APRIL 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:00 a.m. choir rehearsal 9:30 a.m. Service 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour Mar 20th 8am Breakfast Ioka	10:00 a.m. Monday Morning Prayer Group	9:30 a.m. Heavenly Quilters				9:00- 11:00 a.m. Food Pantry
Mar 27th 6:30am Sunrise Service Garfield Cemetery	7:00 p.m. Gen Com 4th week of month	Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.	6:00 p.m. AA			April 2 1pm "Health & Wellness Hour"

Each month: 1st Sunday ---Communion
2nd Sunday---Hymn Sing
3rd Sunday---Healing
2nd and 4th Sunday---Contemporary Service
5th Sunday---Surprise!

SonShiner's Breakfast at Ioka Mar 20th 8 a.m.

Palm Sunday, March 20th

Sunrise Service March 27th 6:30 am

Easter Service March 27th 9:30 am

HEALTH AND WELLNESS HOUR APRIL 2, 2016 1 PM

EASTER FLOWER ORDER SHEET

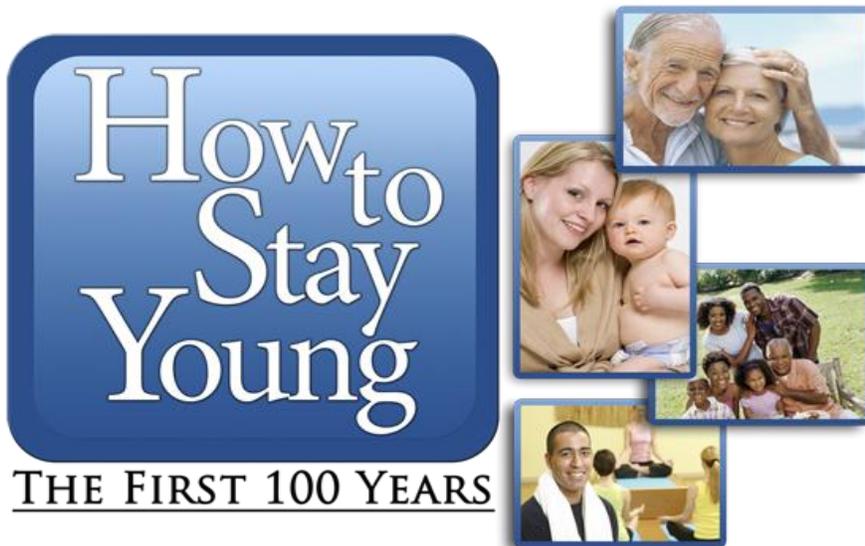
It is time to place your orders for Easter lilies \$13.00 and/or spring bulbs \$12.00 in memory of your loved ones. **We are asking that you have your order in by March 15th.** You can send your check and order form to Jessica Rontey at 1391 Garfield Rd. Stephentown, NY 12168. **Please make checks out to Angel's Trumpet Flowers.** The lilies and bulbs will be placed on the altar in time for our Easter service.

Your name or family name(s)	In memory of:	Specify your choice of Lily \$13 or spring bulbs \$12
Your name or family name(s)	In memory of:	

Total number of lilies and/or bulbs ordered _____

Your total amount enclosed \$_____

Send inquiries to Jessica Rontey at jlynn1016@yahoo.com



Join us for a Healthy Living Workshop!
Saturday, April 2nd, 2016 at 1:00pm

Location: Stephentown Federated Church, 1513 Garfield Nassau Rd, Stephentown

During the class you will learn:

- ✓ **About common health problems**
- ✓ **Solution to these common health problems**
- ✓ **Each individual can take responsibility for their own health**
- ✓ **Preventive methods to improve overall health**
- ✓ **Stay on the right path for good overall health & function**

Quick Facts

- ◆ **The average life span today is 77.6 years and growing!**
- ◆ **Studies reveal that by 2050, 800,000 people will be living to be over 100 years old**
- ◆ **The most common cause of functional disability is “spinal disorder”**
- ◆ **Most conditions that affect are mobility are PREVENTABLE**