

March, April, May 2017

Jan Richardson is one of our favorite authors and artists. Here is a Blessing that she wrote...
“This day, this week, may you give and receive a blessing that will help you and yours enter more deeply into wholeness. Peace to you.”

Blessing in the Chaos

To all that is chaotic
In you,
Let there come silence.

Let there be
A calming
of the clamoring,
A stilling
of the voices that
Have laid their claim
on you,
That have made their
home in you.

That go with you
even to the
holy places
but will not
let you rest,
will not let you
hear your life
with wholeness
or feel the grace
that fashioned you.

Let what distracts you
cease.
Let what divides you
cease.
Let there come an end
To what diminishes
And demeans,
And let depart
All that keeps you in its cage.

Let there be
an opening

into the quiet
that lies beneath
the chaos,
where you find the peace
you did not think
possible
and see what shimmers
within the storm.

Jan Richardson Janrichardson.com

Bless you for sharing!

Clarification of Committees for Ministers

We would like to reiterate that we have two committees working independently of each other for ministers for our church. The Worship Committee has been dealing with the Sunday to Sunday ministry, which involves getting a minister, putting the service together and doing the bulletin (in which Joanne does a beautiful job of that part). The ministers that we have on a weekly basis are not generally ones that are interested in full time ministry so that's where our Search Committee comes in. It is their responsibility to work with General Committee and the Presbytery to set goals, fix a budget with or without the manse, and still work with a budget that we can afford. This is a time consuming job and we appreciate your patience.

We have had almost three months of wonderful people that have shared their thoughts each week on the scripture. The following dates and times will continue for the rest of March and April. Very shortly we will start working on May and June. People plan ahead so it is important that we get on their schedule early so we will be covered.

March 12, 2017...Rev Dan Daniels
March 19, 2017... Rev Alexandra Lusak
March 26, 2017...Rev Betsye Mowry
April 2, 2017...Rev Betsye Mowry
April 9, 2017...Rev Alexandra Lusak Palm Sunday
April 16, 2017...Rev Alexandra Lusak Easter
April 23, 2017...Rev Kathy Duhon
April 30, 2017...Rev Betsye Mowry

As always the Worship Committee appreciates any input that you have concerning the life of our services together. We would appreciate these concerns be written inputs so that your thoughts are accurately noted during the next worship commt. meeting. Verbal conversations have the opportunity to be misquoted and we don't want that.

God Bless
Bev Westfall ...Chair of Worship Committee

Stephentown Federated Church Officers 2017

Members of Presbyterian USA Session

Larry Eckhardt (Clerk of Session) (2018)
Malcolm Beal (2018)
Marge Feathers(2019)
Larry Eckhardt (2019)
Helen Wallbank (2020)
Judy Leland (2020)

Nominating Committee

* Malcolm Beal, Presb.
Heather Eckhardt, Presb.
Mary French, Meth.
Kate Beach, Meth.
Donna Densing, Meth.

Members of United Methodist Church Council

Janet Atwater (2018)
Bev Westfall (2018)
Kate Beach (2019)
Don Leab (2019)
Donna Densing (2020)
Tom Foody (2020)

Members of the General Committee

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Kate Beach (Council) | Bev Westfall (Choir) |
| Janet Atwater, Secretary | Joe Leland, Treasurer |
| Barbara Terpening (SonShiners) | Joanne Hennig (Christian Ed) |
| *Larry Eckhardt (Session) | Tom Foody (Council) |
| Malcolm Beal (Session) | Ted Bears (Facility Chair) |
| Don Leab (Men's Group) | |

Pastor- Parish Committee

*Larry Eckhardt, Presb.
Patricia Coon, Presb.
Tom Foody, Meth.
Bev Westfall, Meth.

Men's Breakfast Group

Larry Eckhardt, Pres.
Richard Terpening, Scribe
Ted Bears, Treasurer

SonShiners

Kate Beach, Pres.
Barbara Terpening, Treasurer
Joanne Hennig, Secretary

Worship/Tech Committee

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Joanne Hennig | Barb Terpening |
| Tom Foody | Laurelyn Mayen |
| * Bev Westfall | Arlene Longo |
| Pat Coon | Helen Wallbank |

Denominational Treasurers

Pat Coon- Presbyterian

Barbara Terpening - Methodist

* Denotes Chairperson



Celebration of Pat Coon's 90th Birthday!



Please Join the Coon Family and your friend for a celebration of Pat's Birthday on:

Date: Sunday April 2nd, 2017

Time: 10:30am (Right after church service that starts @9:30) Please, join us for both!!!!

Place: Stephentown Federated Church Fellowship Hall, 1513 Garfield Rd, Stephentown, 12168

We will have light refreshments right after church service during an informal party and greeting time.

The Coon Family and friends invite you to stay longer and enjoy a buffet style lunch being served around 12 o'clock noon. All are welcome for this wonderful occasion for a wonderful person. Hope you can attend!

P.S. Cards only, please – no gifts. Being part of Pat's life is gift enough.



Hey! Have you visited the Stephentown Federated Church's FaceBook page yet? If not, please take a moment and check it out. Each week we do our best to keep you up to date on the latest happenings and upcoming events. We'll let you know who our guest speaker will be, and will advise you when the previous Sunday's recording is available to hear. Why not check it out and "share" to your own page – this will increase our reach and hopefully encourage new people to come and see what we're all about.



I would like to thank a lot of people for all the things they did in my absence to keep the music flowing. Special thanks to Laurelyn, Tom and Helen as well as each choir member who did what was needed to cover the parts. I really appreciated their flexibility to make our worship meaningful. Also a thanks to our sound people Skip and Doug who did a wonderful job of recording and keeping our sound coming as well as Arlene who did our music playlist. We are blessed to have such dedicated people.

The Stephentown Federated Church Men's Group

Spring 2017 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 2017 schedule is:

- March 5, 2017..... Breakfast at 8:00am. Discuss the recent Turkey Dinner!
- April 2, 2017..... Breakfast at 8:00am. Plan for the Sunrise Service Breakfast and spring clean-up activities
- April 16, 2017..... Breakfast after the Easter Sunrise Service. Join us for a light “continental” breakfast of hot cross buns, pastries, hard boiled eggs, donuts, jelly beans, and hot and cold drinks. Sunrise service is at the Garfield Cemetery at 6:30am. Breakfast right after service.
- May 7, 2017..... Breakfast at 8:00am More discussion of Spring clean-up activities
- June 4, 2017..... All Church Breakfast – Everyone come and join us for a really big breakfast meal! This is the last breakfast meeting ‘till fall! 8:00am

The 15th Annual Family and Friends Turkey Dinner was another outstanding success. We had over 135 people sit down to dinner and served numerous take-out meals to those who couldn't attend in person. Thanks to everyone who supported us with contributions of food, pies, money and by lending a helping hand. We are truly blessed with a wonderful church community. Special thanks to the kitchen workers, who's all day efforts made for a great meal and great fellowship. Let's do it again next year – February 24, 2018.

Some spring activities that are being planned are the annual clean-up of the Presbyterian Cemetery and our church grounds. Winter has not been kind to the driveway or lawns. It's going to be quite a clean-up effort to remove the dirt and gravel from the grass. We will decide dates for these activities at our next breakfast meeting. Likely to be late April and Early May.

At our last breakfast meeting, Don Leab was elected to represent the Men's Breakfast Group on the SFC General Committee. Don will replace Malcolm Beal, who is now representing the Presbyterian Session on the committee. Thanks, Don, for filling this important role for the Men's Group.

SonShiners

Meeting dates:

March 19th at Ioka Valley Farm (all welcome) – bring tip, 8am

April 9th - (Easter is the 3rd Sunday) 8am bring a dish to share NOTE DATE CHANGE

May 21st – 8am bring a dish to share

June 18th – 8am bring a dish to share



Worship Committee

We will continue to have meetings when necessary to keep making the decisions to keep our pulpit supplied. The next meeting will be Sunday March 19th following church. Thank you.

Recordings of the Sermon

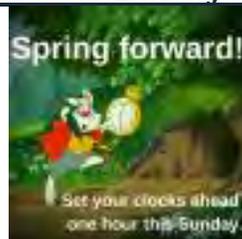
For those of you wishing to hear our services, you will find them at our website:

www.stephentownfederatedchurch.org.

Each

service will be posted on the website sometime early in the week.

Daylight Savings Time Don't forget to turn your clocks Forward on March 12th



Easter Sunrise Service, April 16, Garfield Cemetery, 6:30 a.m.



Easter Service, April 16, 9:30 a.m.

March, April, May 2017

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|
| Choir Rehearsal 9:00 a.m. Service 9:30 a.m. Coffee Hour 10:30 a.m. Mar 12 Daylight Savings Time TURN AHEAD CLOCKS Mar 19th 8 a.m. SunShiners Breakfast Ioka Apr 9 8 a.m. SunShiners Breakfast | | 9:30 a.m. Heavenly Quilters | | | | 9:00-11:00 a.m. Food Pantry |
| EASTER Apr 16 Sunrise 6:30 a.m. After - Continental Breakfast Service 9:30 a.m. | 6:30 p.m. Gen Com 4 th week of month | | 6:00 p.m. AA | Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. | | |

Each month: 1st Sunday ---Communion - open to all
 2nd Sunday---Hymn Sing at beginning of service
 2nd and 4th Sunday---Contemporary Service - Visual screen used for readings and hymns



SunShiners Breakfast at IOKA FARM Mar 19th 8 a.m.

Easter Flower Orders - Due April 2nd



Celebration of Pat Coon's 90th Birthday April 2nd

EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

It is time to place your orders for Easter lilies and/or spring bulbs in memory of your loved ones. This year the lilies are \$12.50 and the bulbs are \$12.50. We are asking that you have your order in by April 2nd. **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 alter in time for our Easter service.

Total number of lilies and/or bulbs ordered _____

Your total amount enclosed \$ _____

| Your name or family name(s) | In memory of: | Specify your choice of Lily or spring bulbs |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| | | |
| Your name or family name(s) | In memory of: | |
| | | |
| Your name or family name(s) | In memory of: | |
| | | |