



# THE LAMPLIGHTER NEWSLETTER

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HOKENDAUQUA

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MARCH 2024

**Elders Class of 2024**

Sue Butchinski  
Joyce Wheeler  
John Hrizuk  
Kevin Justice

Dear Church Family,

Most everyone is familiar with Matthew's introduction of John the Baptist: (*"John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey"*—3:4). While Deb and I may not have much to do with camels and seldom use honey, we are still strange (different, unfamiliar) to the congregation and community of Hokendauqua. So, this March newsletter is a chance to introduce ourselves a bit more than just "the couple who spent 2023 volunteering in Africa."

**Elders Class of 2025**

Gail Rhinehart  
Scott Kramlich  
John Faisetty  
Jennifer Hartman

Deb grew up on the outskirts of Quakertown, along with a younger sister and brother, all one year apart in age. Deb's dad was a bookkeeper and her mom a schoolteacher. I was born outside of Detroit; my dad was an accountant for GM and mom focused on raising me and three older siblings (10, 7 and 5). We moved to Princeton, NJ, in '62, where dad attended seminary and mom managed most family matters. Dad's first church was in Reedsville, a small town near Penn State, PA. The last big move, in '72, was to Glenside, outside Philly, when I was 12 and the last child still at home. Dad worked for the Presbytery of Philadelphia and mom fulfilled a life-long goal of becoming a nurse.

**Elders Class of 2026**

Sally Heffner  
Carol Clancy  
Eileen Tremblay

Both Deb and I were members of vibrant church youth groups. In fact, Deb lived just a strong stone's throw from the Mennonite Church her family attended. Carmel Presbyterian was where my parents and I began attending in the early 70's. Deb and I were so blessed within the churches where our faith journeys began in earnest and were so extravagantly cultivated by youth advisors, pastors, and the Christian fellowship of so many families. (Those were the days!)

**Deacons Class of 2024**

Troy Guzenski  
Sue Hoke  
Samara Mebane  
Karen Sentiwany

Deb became an RN in 1982 and began her career at Lehigh Valley Medical Center; I was ordained in '89. Deb and I were married in '90 and moved to Saranac Lake, NY, near Lake Placid, in '93, where our two sons were born. We returned to PA in '04 to serve a church near Altoona. Since '16, we've been more mission focused -- Deb as a Nurse Manager, and me serving a small congregation on Long Island part-time and full-time at the Bowery Mission (TBM) in Manhattan. Semi-retiring to the Poconos in '21, I biked across the United States that summer to raise money for TBM while Deb drove, provided physical and emotional support, and enjoyed sight-seeing. As you know, we volunteered in Malawi last year, which brings us to the here and now, serving you and Neighbors with gratitude and anticipation.

**Deacons Class of 2025**

Melody Faisetty  
Maddie Stettler  
Gail Kramlich

We are hopeful and already feel a connection here because the **Unison Amen** (*My Life Flows On*) at the end of the worship service here at Hokey, was sung in my Ordination and Installation Service way back at the beginning of our (Deb's and my) partnership in life, love, and ministry.

**Deacons Class of 2026**

Louise Juretus  
Deb Snyder

Joy in the Journey,

Pastor Chuck

MTD:

Actual

Budget

Over/Under

Actual	Budget	Over/Under
[REDACTED]		



YTD: Same as MTD

*Per capita apportionment for 2024 is \$48 per member.*

## WHAT'S GOING ON

**Adult Sunday School** meets Sunday after our Church service. Info: DebRBartho2@gmail.com

**Children's Sunday School:** TBA

**Book Club:** Meets every Monday at 10am. Info: Rolley717@gmail.com

**Tuesday Fellowship:** On March 4th (which is a Monday) they will be meeting for lunch at the Cop-perhead at 1PM. On March 19th they will meet at the church for crafts etc. Info:



**Deacons:** The Deacons continue to do the work of Christ's heart for our congregation and our community. Info: susanhoke1412@gmail.com

**Choir:** Practice is Wednesday at 6:30. Info: Mjustice395@gmail.com

**Fellowship/Group Life:** Welcome Luncheon on March 10th following our service to welcome Pastor Chuck and his wife Debbie. Please make plans to be there and share food and to make them feel a warm Hokey welcome to our church family.

### USHERS/GREETERS/COMMUNION

March 2024

March 3: Len Burkert & Leola Andrews

March 10: Sue Butchinski & Carol Clancy

March 17: Tom & Carol Steigerwalt

March 24: Karen & Dave Sentiwany

March 28: Maundy Thursday

March 31: Easter—Rich & Gail Kramlich

Communion set-up: Gail Rhinehart

Communion Servers: John Hrizuk & Kevin Justice



**We welcome** Chuck Monts as our Interim Pastor. His contact information is as follows:

**Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:30AM to 11:30AM.**

**Email: chuckdelos@gmail.com**

**Phone: 814-696-4687**

**If you would like to meet with Pastor Monts please call in advance to make sure he is not on a pastoral visit or an off-site meeting.**



## *March Birthdays :*

**March 1: Madeline Haas**

**March 3: Eileen Tremblay**

**March 4: Shania Schlosser**

**March 5: Sally Heffner**

**March 5: Richard Lychak**

**March 6: Jaxson Pidgeon**

**March 6: Ron Lafaw**

**March 8: Colleen Kloiber**

**March 12: McKenzie McNeill**

**March 15: Gail Rhinehart**

**March 17: Pamela Filipovits**

**March 17: Megan Lafaw**

**March 18: John Rowland**

**March 21: Patti Sammak**

**March 21: Nicole Walters**

**March 22: Briahna Shuey**

**March 26: Troy Guzinski**

**March 27: Mickey Seidick**

**March 30: Benjamin Sammak**



# March

BIRTHDAYS



### **From the Deacons:**

Please let the office know if you have any graduates in your family this year, what school they are graduating from and any future plans they may have.

Also, we have decided our "local outreach project" will be to provide Bingo prizes for three different assisted living facilities, Cedarbrook, Fellowship Manor and Above & Beyond at the Knights. The residents at these facilities enjoy playing bingo on a weekly basis, and prizes are always needed. Deacons plan on purchasing some prizes, however, one of the requested items is used jewelry. . .so, if you have any bracelets, pins, costume jewelry, etc. that you no longer want, kindly bring the items in and place them in a plastic bin located in Fellowship Hall. Jewelry will be collected until Easter, March 31. Many thanks in advance for your help!



### **Easter Dates:**

March 24: Palm Sunday

March 28: Maundy Thursday Service at 7PM

March 31: Easter Sunday





You are invited to a  
**Welcome Luncheon**

on March 10th following our service to welcome Pastor Chuck and his wife Debbie. Please make plans to be there to share food, fellowship and to give them a warm Hokey welcome to our church family.

**The church recently lost our cleaning person** and is in the process of trying to hire another one. With Easter approaching, the Property Committee has been asked to organize a church interior cleaning event on Saturday, March 23rd at 9AM. We will be concentrating on dusting and vacuuming the sanctuary, hallways, big Sunday School room and chapel, along with cleaning the bathrooms prior to the Easter holidays. Please bring your cleaning supplies and energy to this worthwhile event. Call me with any questions. Thank you. John Faisetty, Property Chairman, 610-264-0416



**Congratulations go out to Ethan Guzenski** again this month. He was named to the 2024 PaFootballNews.com All Academic Gold Team. Members of this team competed in the 2023 season with a GPA of 4.0 and up.

**Lehigh Presbytery Helping Hands**

Care Teams next trip will be on April 6 thru 13, 2024. For more information go to [helpinghands@lehighpresbytery.org](mailto:helpinghands@lehighpresbytery.org)



help-



**The plantings in the front of the church were formally dedicated as a memorial garden** in the 1990's. A plaque was installed in the front foyer to remember the loved ones who had passed away. A second plaque was added in 2020. To date 62 names have been memorialized on the plaques. In 2021 the garden was refreshed with the installation of two trees and several bushes. The garden's spring and summer colors have really helped to beautify the front of the church. Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped to take care of it. John Faisetty, Property Committee.

**We had a great response** to our request for soups to sell and there was a table full of a variety of soups to offer to everyone. The sale netted **\$343.00**



for the church! There are several soups left in the freezer if any one is in need of some additional soup.

**Don't forget!** We are the PASTA Church! We are continuing to collect pasta for the Whitehall Coplay Hunger Initiative. So far we have met our goal every month. Our example has encouraged

Easter candy is in the works. The order sheet is hanging in the hallway and we are gathering supplies and helpers to make the candy. Orders are due by March 10th so don't miss your chance to order your delicious Easter candy.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

*Happy 90th Birthday to Richard (Gooch) Lychak on March 5, 2024.*

*It would be great if we all sent a card to help him celebrate. His address is Gino J. Merli Veteran's Center, 401 Penn Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503.*

### **March and April Pulpit Supply**

March 10, 2024: Rev. Doug Cronce

April 21, 2024: Rev. Doug Cronce

## **Did you know?**

**You can view recordings** of all worship services on our church website at [hokeypres.org](http://hokeypres.org). The recording of the service will be posted on the website within 24 hours of the service..

**You may also view our church newsletters** on our church website at [hokeypres.org](http://hokeypres.org). There is an archive of past newsletters as well.

**Joyful Noise Collection** this Sunday School year will be taken for the Food Bank.

**Thank you to all who signed up for fellowship duties** and bringing all sorts of yummy cakes and pastries and fruit to share after our worship services. Please remember there is a sign-up sheet in the hall to claim your date.

## **Our Paul Dyer Library**

The book we are featuring this month is "The Story of Jesus" by Jean-Pierre Isbouts and issued by National Geographic. With this book you will journey through the holy land , experience the origins of Christianity and discover various archaeological findings.



Its contents include the World of Jesus, the Early Years, the Ministry, the Passion, Christians and In His Footsteps. Included in this book is beautiful artwork, maps and photos You may find this book as well as many others in our Paul Dyer Library in Fellowship Hall. Diane Michael is our librarian.





**Please drop a card or note to our members who, because of health or transportation problems, find it difficult to worship with us Sunday morning.**

Janet Bloszinsky	5998 Coplay Rd. Apt. #1, Coplay, PA 18037
Donald DeWalt	276 Circle Drive, Catasauqua, PA 18032
Linda DeWalt	Cedarbrook, 350 S. Cedarbrook Rd., Room 322, Allentown, PA 18104
Dolly Kramlich	Above & Beyond at the Knights, 1545 Greenleaf St., #206, Allentown, PA 18102
Dick & Marie Lychak	Gino J. Merli Veteran's Center, 401 Penn Ave., Scranton, PA 18503
Dorothy Somers	3000 Fellowship Drive, Rm 102, Whitehall, PA 18052
Jim Shedlauskas	3021 Rosewood Court, Whitehall, PA 18052

*Deborah Altorfer*

*David Hertzog*

*Ben Sammak*

*Stephanie Baily*

*Matthew Hess*

*Linda Schlosser*

*Karen Becker*

*Nicky Hudack*

*Rowan Sharrar*

*Bedocs Family*

*Shelly Hillpot*

*Jim Shedlauskas*

*Krista Champagne & Family*

*Bill Jodry*

*Joanne Sienkiewicz*

*Elizabeth Conners*

*Joe Kanusky*

*Carol Steigerwalt*

*Kathy Cutter*

*Raymond Kern*

*Jane Tremblay*

*Michael Dobry*

*Barbara Knarr*

*Donna Walck*

*Doreen*

*Linda Kramaranko*

*Carol Wal*

*Dolly Dougherty*

*Rosemary Kravenko*

*Mike Woodling*

*Due Family*

*Caroline Laudhorn*

*Vance Woodley*

*Pat Frankenfield*

*Jaden Leiby*

*Alisa Gashi*

*Marie Lychak*

*Peter Gilbert*

*Richard Lychak*

*Steve Glick*

*Ivy Lynch*

*Raina Gomez*

*Joe Macrina*

*Maria Gontkosky*

*Juliet Malay*

*Charlie Grim*

*Todd Messner*

*Joey Groller*

*People in the Military*

*Larry Hein*

*Angie Pontician*

*Louise Hein*

*Jacob Rivera*

*Pamela Henckel*

*Josie Sabella*



**People suffering**  
*from depression.*

**People** *who are suffering*  
*because of the virus.*

**People** *who are suffering*  
*Because of the wars.*



**Snowdrops bloom  
in our Memory  
Garden**

**REMEMBER TO  
SAVE YOUR  
REDNER TAPES,**

You may find the container in Fellowship Hall. The Redner profit goes toward the area food banks.

# MARCH 2024

SUN.

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

					1 World Day of Prayer.	2
3 3rd Sunday in Lent. Food Bank Sunday.  Adult S.S. 11AM	4 Book Club 10AM. Fellowship at the Copperhead 1PM. Girl Scouts 6PM.	5 Gooch Lychek's 90th Birthday.	6 Choir 6:30PM	7 NA 7PM	8 International Women's Day.	9
10 4th Sunday in Lent Rev. Cronicc. <b>Luncheon for Pastor Chuck-after service.</b> Joyful Noise Sunday. Candy orders due.	11 Book Club 10AM. Girl Scouts 6PM.	12	13 Choir 6:30PM.	14 NA 7PM.	15	16
17 5th Sunday in Lent.  Adult S.S. 11AM.	18 Book Club 10AM. Girl Scouts 6PM.	19 Fellowship 1PM at church.	20 Mr. Rogers Day. Choir 6:30PM.	21 NA 7PM.	22	23 Church Cleaning 9AM.
<b><u>24 Palm Sunday</u></b> Deacon's Sunday. Adult S.S. 11AM. ***** <b><u>31 EASTER SUNDAY</u></b>	25 Book Club 10AM . Girl Scouts 6PM.	26	27 Choir 6:30PM.	<b><u>28 Maudy Thursday. Service 7PM.</u></b> NA 7PM.	29	30