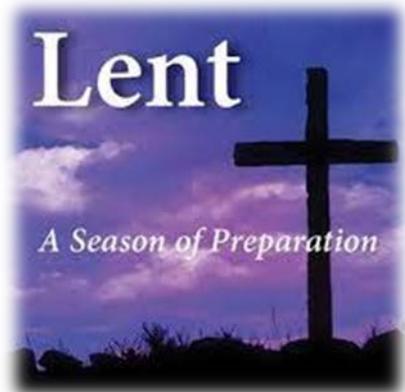


Celebration



March 1, 2022
Church Newsletter

Interim Pastor's Message



This Lent at DUPC

"I invite you therefore, in the name of Christ, to observe a holy Lent..."

Those words are from the traditional liturgy for Ash Wednesday, a day which marks the beginning of the 40 days of Lent, the time of spiritual renewal and of preparation for the celebration of Easter.

There are many different ways people choose to "observe a holy Lent"; some do so by taking on a new spiritual practice; others by assuming the discipline of doing without something. Some people make private decisions regarding Lent, and follow their Lenten practices alone; others prefer to join with others in some common pursuit. All are good choices, and all have value.

Here at DUPC, there will be three opportunities for special Lenten practices this year:

1. **"Dinner Dialogues"** -- each Wednesday evening in Lent (beginning March 2)
6:30 – 7:30 p.m. (via Zoom)

At the beginning of each gathering, I'll pose a theological question, and then we'll spend the next hour batting around our ideas about it. These will be questions on which Christians have differing opinions, and so should lead to interesting and fun conversations! (If the gatherings are large, we'll spend part of the hour in smaller "breakout rooms" to give everyone a chance to talk.) Feel free to eat your dinner before, during, or after these gatherings, as best fits your schedule and preference.

*[Note: the first "Dinner Dialogue" will begin with a very brief liturgy for **Ash Wednesday**, during which you will be invited to place ashes or soil on your own head or hand, if you would like to do so.]*

2. **"People of the Passion in Scripture, Art, & Music"** --each Tuesday morning in Lent (beginning March 8), 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. **(via Zoom)**

Who was there during those last days of Jesus' life? What part did they play in his final days? What do you think of their words and actions? Each gathering will be about 1 hour, and those planning the series hope to share special music and religious art as part of the discussion. Folks are welcome to bring a poem, prayer or writing that they would like to share. Among those to be focused on are Mary Magdalene, Pontius Pilate, Judas Iscariot, and the mysterious young man who "ran away naked" in the Garden of Gethsemane.

3. "Luke in Lent" – daily emails

There's always a lot to be gained by reading straight through a particular book of the Bible, and this Lent, I invite you to read through the Gospel according to Luke. I'll divide the book into 40 small passages, going straight from the first verse to the last, and each day [exclusive of Sundays, which aren't part of the 40 days of Lent] I'll send out an econnect with that day's passage. You can make this read-through a private practice if you prefer, or you are very welcome to respond to any day's email with your own thoughts/reflections/questions on that day's passage, for others to read and respond to.

"I invite you therefore, in the name of Christ, to observe a holy Lent..."

Peace and all good,

Laurie Tiberi
Interim Pastor



For your information, here is Pastor Laurie's weekly schedule:

Pastor Laurie's days off are Fridays.

Also, Wednesdays are her sermon-writing day (at home.) She answers emails and calls on Wednesdays when the sermon is done -- usually late in the afternoon.

Ltiberi@downtownpresbyterian.org

585-325-4000 ext. 23



Thank you for serving as liturgist! We are so glad you'll be sharing your voice as we worship together.

3/6 Sally Allison

3/13 Lea Kone

3/20 David Lee

3/27 Kim McConnell

If you are serving as part of the liturgist rotation and you are unable to serve on a certain Sunday, please contact one of the alternates to line up your own substitute. Then email Penny Crudup at pcrudup@downtownpresbyterian.org to let her know who will be serving in your place. Alternates/substitutes are: Susan Richane, Callie Babbitt, and Ed Saphar. If none of the alternates are available, please email worship@downtownpresbyterian.org for assistance.

DOWNTOWN UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SUNDAY FORUM COMMITTEE
& THE JUSTICE LEAGUE
BRING YOU



Zoom ID: 858 6361 0716 - Passcode: 385022

Spiritual Journeys

March 20th - Laurie Tiberi

April 3rd - Jonathan
Nwagabaraocha

April 24th - Ed Saphar

Spiritual Guides

David Lee presents:

April 10th - Rev. Pauli Murray

May 1st - Rabbi Abraham

Joshua Heschel



To Our Friends Born in March!

Pat Tweet

Karen McCandlish

Cindy Hamilton

Kristen Hunt

Tom Schramm

Windsor Wade

Linc Allison-Stork

Joan Mackey

Kathryn Sette

Teresa Bertalone

Lisa Button

*Christina Bertalone
Burnett*

Joanne Poland

Sam King

Renee St. Germaine

Session Notes

Notes from February Session:

Here are the highlights of the February Session meeting:

- Welcomed Eileen Dietsch, Director of Operations.
- Authorized personnel to finalize a job description and requirements to begin to seek a person for our Christian Ed program who will prepare and carry out Sunday school activities each week.
- Approved the recommendation of the COVID Team that the specific requirements for a **6** foot physical distancing are removed from the previously approved DUPC COVID procedures and signage and replaced with the following statement: "A Physical Distancing of **3** feet is strongly recommended."
- Appreciated David Lee's acceptance to continue as Chair of COVID team.
- Accepted, with deep regret, Kim McConnell's decision to leave Session, while looking forward to the energy and humor she will continue to share with us.

Introducing Eileen Schad-Dietsch, Director of Operations for DUPC



It is with pleasure the Session introduces you to Eileen Dietsch, our new Director of Operations. She began her tenure with us February 7.

She steps into the position held by Mark Anderson, who served faithfully and creatively for the last seven years, before his retirement at the end of June. Mark has agreed to continue to be available as a resource for Eileen to enable a smooth transition.

After Mark's retirement, the Session spent several months evaluating our current needs for this position, and at their December meeting authorized a Search Committee to fill the position from which Mark retired.

Eileen brings a wealth of experience to her role in this job. Having spent her entire career in executive positions with not-for-profit agencies, and for the last 14 years, she has been the Director of Operations at two organizations in the Buffalo area, Cazenovia Recovery Systems, Inc., an agency providing residential treatment for people suffering from substance use. And before that, she was the Director of Operations for Southeast Works, an agency serving adults with developmental disabilities. Before assuming these posts, she was nine years as the Associate Executive Director of the Alcohol and Drug Dependency Services, Inc., in Buffalo.

She holds a Master of Public Administration from University at Albany.

Initially, she will be in her office at the church at least four days a week.

Eileen and her husband, a school teacher in LeRoy, are very familiar with Rochester as they visit frequently for concerts and their son lives in Rochester where he is a student at the Simon School.

So please introduce yourself to Eileen when you are at church. Initially, Eileen's office will be in the office previously occupied by Penny and Teresa, while the office formerly occupied by Mark is refurbished. Her office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10am – 3pm.

She looks forward to meeting all who come by and getting familiar with all that is happening at our busy facility.





***A few short poems
from Deanna Tiefenthal –***

Haiku for March

1-
full moon
Daylight
Savings Time

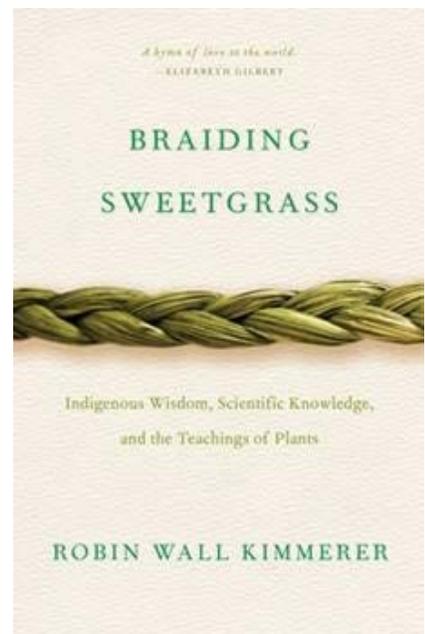
2-
solitude on the towpath
I greet the biker
with a nod

3-
newspaper obituaries
only half
older than I

**The Roundtable Book Group will meet
Friday, March 18 at noon –
on Zoom!**

Our next book is "Braiding Sweetgrass," by Robin Wall Kimmerer

A New York Times Bestseller, Robin Wall Kimmerer has been trained to ask questions of nature with the tools of science. As a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, she embraces the notion that plants and animals are our oldest teachers. In Braiding Sweetgrass, Kimmerer brings these two lenses of knowledge together to take us on "a journey that is every bit as mythic as it is scientific, as sacred as it is historical, as clever as it is wise" (Elizabeth Gilbert).



A link will be shared on eConnect a few days before the discussion.

**Sophia Circle will meet at its regular time in March,
the second Sunday, March 13 at 7PM via zoom.**

That's the start of Daylight Savings Time! We hope to shed some light on our experience of lent – Are we "Giving UP or Giving In?" Where is the LIGHT in LENT?

All are welcome at this circle and a zoom link will be sent a few days in advance.

Upcoming Presbytery Zoom Event:

The Presbytery is holding its annual Congregational Learning Day on **Saturday, March 5, 2022**. Free and Open to All. You can stay for one or both of the two courses.

Registration has been extended past Monday, March 1st, so please just follow [this link](https://pbygenva.org/events-2/congregational-learning-day/) <https://pbygenva.org/events-2/congregational-learning-day/> to sign up, and enjoy!!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Nancy Simpson (585-478-5940).

The Presbyteries of Genesee Valley & Geneva Present
CONGREGATIONAL LEARNING DAY

Back to Basics
Saturday, March 5, 2022
via Zoom

****REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, March 1, 2022****



The 2022 CLD focuses on elder/deacon training and leadership development with two courses—see descriptions below:

- COURSE 1 - Called and Equipped: *Training for Elders and Deacons*
- COURSE 2 - Canoeing the Mountains: *Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory*

Courses are designed for:

- new elders & deacons
- elders & deacons at large
- pastors

Courses are FREE—all are encouraged to attend!

Schedule of the day--

- 9–9:15 a.m. Welcome & instructions for COURSE 1
- 9:15–11:15 – COURSE 1 - Called and Equipped: Training for Elders & Deacons
- 11:30 – 12 noon Worship – *for registrants attending one or both courses*
- 12 noon – 1:30 p.m. - COURSE 2 – Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory

CONGREGATIONAL LEARNING DAY

CLASS SCHEDULE

9:15–11:15 COURSE 1

Called and Equipped: Training for Elders & Deacons

Rev. Aaron Neff and Rev. Erin Jacobson, First Presbyterian Church of Pittsford

Join in this interactive seminar to gain practical leadership tools, hone your skills for the ministry to which you have been called, and discover how discernment lies at the heart of Presbyterian leadership. A portion of the course will be spent in groups of elders and deacons focusing on the unique parts of each ministry.

New and returning elders and deacons will leave feeling equipped and inspired.

11:30 – 12 noon

Worship

Led by the Harvest Neighborhood of Presbyterian Churches and our ecumenical friend, Albion First Baptist Church. Also featuring specially created music by Laurence Tallman, music director at Byron Presbyterian Church.

12:00 – 1:30 p.m. COURSE 2

Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory

Elder Susan Orr, Transitional Leader/Stated Clerk, Presbytery of Genesee Valley

Although explorers Lewis and Clark were prepared to find a waterway to the Pacific Ocean, instead they found themselves facing the Rocky Mountains. You too may feel that you are leading in a context you were not expecting. If you're going to scale the mountains of ministry, you need to leave behind the canoe and find new navigational tools.

Author Tod Bolsinger brings decades of expertise in guiding churches through uncharted territory to help you reimagine what effective leadership looks like in our rapidly changing world. This course is a broad overview of Bolsinger's book of the same title and serves as an introduction to a six-part series being offered Presbytery-wide by Zoom on Wednesday evenings April 20 – May 25.

Stay tuned for dates and times of more congregational learning courses being offered in the near future. A variety of topics ranging from Finance Forum and Trustees to Climate Actions for individuals and congregations are planned.



MARCH 2022 MEETING AND EVENTS

Newsletters arrive the 1st of every month.

Newsletter deadline is the 20th of every month.



Tuesday, March 1, 2022	10:30AM	Psalm Bible Study Zoom Meeting
Wednesday, March 2, 2022		Ash Wednesday
	5:30PM	Justice League Zoom Meeting
	6:30PM	Dinner Dialogues via Zoom
	7:00PM	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, March 3, 2022	5:00PM	Worship Team Zoom Meeting
	7:00PM	Congregational & Community Engagment (CCE) Zoom Meeting



Sunday, March 6, 2022	9:00AM	Sunday Forum Zoom Meeting
	11:00AM	Worship
Tuesday, March 8, 2022	10:30AM	People of the Passion in Scripture, Art & Music Zoom Meeting
	6:30PM	Deacons Zoom Meeting
Wednesday, March 9, 2022	7:00PM	Choir Rehearsal
	6:30PM	Dinner Dialogues via Zoom
Thursday, March 10, 2022	5:00PM	Finance Committee Zoom Meeting
	7:30PM	Property Team Zoom Meeting





Sunday, March 13, 2022	9:00AM	Sunday Forum Zoom Meeting
	11:00AM	Worship
	7:00PM	Sophia Circle Zoom Meeting
Tuesday, March 15, 2022	10:30AM	People of the Passion in Scripture, Art & Music Zoom Meeting
	7:00PM	Session Zoom Meeting
Wednesday, March 16, 2022	7:00PM	Choir Rehearsal
	7:30PM	Webiste Team Zoom Meeting
	6:30PM	Dinner Dialogues via Zoom
Friday, March 18, 2022	12 Noon	Round Table Book Group Zoom Meeting



Sunday, March 20, 2022	9:00AM	Sunday Forum Zoom Meeting
	11:00AM	Worship
	12:00PM	Newsletter Deadline
Tuesday, March 22, 2022	10:30AM	People of the Passion in Scripture, Art & Music Zoom Meeting
Wednesday, March 23, 2022	7:00PM	Choir Rehearsal
	6:30PM	Dinner Dialogues via Zoom



Sunday, March 27, 2022	9:00AM	Sunday Forum Zoom Meeting
	11:00AM	Worship
Tuesday, March 29, 2022	10:30AM	People of the Passion in Scripture, Art & Music Zoom Meeting
Wednesday, March 30, 2022	7:00PM	Choir Rehearsal
	6:30PM	Dinner Dialogues via Zoom

Downtown United Presbyterian Church
121 North Fitzhugh Street
Rochester, New York 14614
585-325-4000

office@downtownpresbyterian.org

