

May-June

2019



GOOD NEWS GAZETTE

# Leslie's Musings

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Leslie's Musings

May-June 2019

*For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.* Romans 10:12

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.* Psalm 23:6a

*Generosity and Goodness.* This is your bi-monthly reminder that during Year C, from Advent to the end of Ordinary Time—November 24, this year—we're studying the *Fruit of the Spirit*, which Paul teaches in Galatians 5:22-23.

A few years ago, I preached on the *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*, and one of those was Extravagant **Generosity**. Author Robert Schnase writes that people in churches give because they "love God, love the church, [and] desire to grow in love of neighbor." Most of us would guess the first two, but would we equate generosity with love of neighbor? And yet, the church is called to be the Body of Christ, and to make the Kingdom of God known in this life, so how could it not be?

Our church is going through a financial crisis, and I know part of it is because of increased money pressures people are facing, and I worry about that. Moreover, the church is no longer the only charity—orchestras, libraries and even podcasts are making appeals for limited dollars. So why give to the church? Because the gospel that Jesus lived focuses on the three L's—the least, the lost, and the lonely, God's preferred people. Historically, churches have taken better care of the poor than almost any other organization (and those that do a great job are often supported by churches as well).

**Goodness** is a trait we all seem to admire, but one that can be difficult to practice. Part of growing up is testing rules and authority, and some children, as they become teens, rebel against being "good." I know I did! But our trusty psalm above refers to GOD'S goodness, which even when we can't practice goodness, sticks to us throughout eternity. In turn, a life focused on practicing the disciplines of the Fruit of the Spirit, helps us to practice goodness, even when we find ourselves facing rudeness and evil. One of the hardest lessons we must learn is forgiveness of those who sin against us, seventy times seven times. It is hard to practice goodness under those circumstances, yet that is what Jesus Christ did, and what we do if we are to faithfully follow him.

Be generous to yourself and others. Look for goodness in the world around you—allow the cherry trees and magnolia blossoms to seep into your soul—and practice it in your own life, and seek it out in others.

Be healthy and strong. Meanwhile, I'll see you in church.

*Love, Leslie*

## Words from the Worship Ministry Team

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**\*\*\*Just a reminder: Worship time goes from 11am to 10am on Memorial Day Weekend through and including Labor Day Weekend.**

### **MAY Worship 11AM**

“Let the peace of God rule in your hearts”.

Colossians 3:15

- Sun, May 05 11a** - Worship with Pastor Nancy Bassett; Communion by Intinction
- Sun, May 12 11a** - Worship with Pastor Leslie
- Wed, May 15 6:30p** - Healing Worship Service with Pastor Leslie
- Sun, May 19 11a** - Worship with Guest at the Pulpit
- Sun, May 26 10a** - Worship with Pastor Leslie

### **JUNE 2018 Worship 10AM**

“Whoever desires to save his life will lose it,  
but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it”.

Matt 16:25

- Sun, June 02 10a** - Worship with Pastor Leslie; Communion by Intinction
- Sun, June 09 10a** - **PENTECOST (wear red!) – CONFIRMATION**  
Worship with Pastor Leslie; Communion by Intinction
- Sun, June 16 10a** - **TRINITY SUNDAY** - Worship with Pastor Leslie
- Wed, June 19 6:30p** - Healing Worship service with Pastor Leslie
- Sun, June 23 10a** - Worship with Pastor Leslie
- Sun, June 30 10a** - Worship with Pastor Leslie



**\*\*Come & join the Worship Ministry Team! A great way to use your gifts behind the scenes! We need your input! Informal! Usually the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday just before choir! Check the bulletin for the date!**



**The WMT needs YOUR help! Please consider learning how to set up for COMMUNION. It's very easy! It takes only a short amount of time/effort. Contact Shirley Hagle, Jane Crossan, Pat Loeswick or Janet Haacker for the instructions/shadowing opportunity!**

All AGES are welcome to become an ACOLYTE



Check with Janet Schurr for more information .

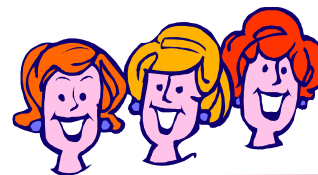
**WMT Members:**

**Co-Chairs: Elders Mary Ferro and Pat Loeswick;**

**Members: Jane Crossan, Kurt Ebsary, Janet Haacker,  
Shirley Hagle, and Janet Schurr.**

**Spiritual Advisor: Pastor Leslie Latham**

# Women's News



## **"Month of May Sale"**

**Wednesday, May 1, 2019**

**10am-1:00pm**

**Lunch 11am-12:30pm**

**Chicken Salad Plate**

**Fresh Baked Pie and Beverage**

**Cost: \$6.00 (Takeout \$6.50)**

## **"Joyful June Sale"**

**Wednesday, June 5, 2019**

**10am-1:00pm**

**Lunch 11am-12:30pm**

**Special Buffet Luncheon**

**Fresh Baked Pie and Beverage**

**Cost: \$7.00 (Takeout \$7.50)**

## **Presbyterian Women's Spring Gathering**

**Saturday, May 4 @ 10:30am**

**Kenmore Presbyterian Church**

**2771 Delaware Avenue, Kenmore**

**Topic: "God With Us/Humor is Healing"**

**Cost: \$7.00**

**Please remember items you no longer need are still accepted. Please be sure they are reusable and in clean condition. Please no electronics.**

## **Church Women United of the Tonawandas**

**May Friendship Breakfast**

**Friday, May 3 @ 9:30am**

**St. Paul's United Church of Christ—Shawnee**

**3921 Mapleton Road, N. Tonawanda**

**Topic: The Time Is Now! "Agree to Differ"**

**AND**

**June Social Awareness Day**

**Friday, June 7 @ 1:00pm**

**First United Methodist Church**

**65 Main Street, N. Tonawanda**

**See Donna Blinston for details.**

# Deacon's Notes

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## Hunger Sunday: May 19 & June 16

Don't forget that the third Sunday of the month is **Hunger Sunday**. Food and cash donations are welcome and proceeds are donated to the Twin Cities Community Outreach. Thank you for your support! Many thanks to Donna and Bruce Blinston for delivering the food to the food pantry every month.



## Tonawanda School Mission Project

Thank you for your continued support with this ongoing mission project. The Deacons are continuing to provide much needed clothing to needy children in the Tonawanda Schools. Even though summer is approaching, we will still continue to collect donations in preparation for the start of school in September. Either a monetary donation or clothing donation is acceptable. A list of needed clothing items is posted in the Narthex. There is also a tote in the Narthex where you can drop off any donations. Please see Jane Crossan or Leslie Dugan with any questions you may have.

## Mission and Outreach Team

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The Distinguished Speakers Series will be taking a break for the summer and will return again in September. Stay tuned for details of some of the exciting topics and speakers that the team has in store. If you know of anyone who would like to speak or if you have any topics you would like to be presented, let Betsy Crocker or Nancy Rolando know.

**Easter Offering:** The Mission and Outreach Team would like to thank everyone for their generous donations on Easter that will be given to the Memory Lane Respite Program.

Stay tuned for details for the upcoming Marla Maertin Memorial Concert which will take place in August at the Gazebo in Clinton Park.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to our Church Family who celebrate their birthday in May and June.  
Thank GOD For You!

## May

2 Jessica Schurr	17 Renée Tasevski
3 Diane Charsley	17 Daniel Liberti
5 Mary Bender	20 Bob Palfi
13 Lynette Ryan	22 Kelsey Burns
14 Linda Apple	26 Meredith Anthony
16 Laura Grant	27 Mary Zielke
16 Betsy Crocker	29 Judy Geerkin
16 Audrey Anthony	29 Nancy Dietrich



## June

5 Kassandra Martinelli
7 Hillary Vecchio
21 Lynn Weber
22 Joya Palermo
29 Kaitlyn Burns



## Glory Bee

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### Celebration Sunday - May 19 at 9:30am

Everyone is invited! Parents, grandparents, relatives, friends & neighbors. Come and celebrate with our PreK-6 grade Sunday School kids in the parlor. This is the last day of Sunday School.

We will meet back on Rally Day - Sunday, September 8.

**Have a fun and safe summer!**



#### **Christian Education Meeting:**

Monday, May 20 - TBD

Monday, June 17 - 6pm

(Parents & Teachers are always welcome)

#### **Bible Study Class: 6 pm**

**May 23 & June 27**

## The Confirmation Journey Continues

Our Confirmation class has been working diligently, meeting most Sundays after church in the parlor—you may have noticed posters and “the word of the week” (tomorrow’s is *Creed*, as we begin to write statements of faith). Our curriculum is called Big God, Big Questions, and focuses on the four questions asked when we are baptized.

The ultimate goal is joining the church, which will happen on June 9, Pentecost Sunday. The curriculum is even more appropriate, as two confirmands will be baptized before they join the church.

We are grateful for the support you, our church family, has given, through supplied meals (a LOT of pizza and pop), prayers lifted, schedules managed, and especially for the relationships that have blossomed between each confirmand and their mentor, who meet weekly for conversations.

Next month will offer many opportunities, including a visit to Congregation Shir Shalom, the Tent of Abraham interfaith walk, and helping to pick up trash along Scajaquada Creek. All are welcome to join any of these activities; we will publicize details.

# Music Notes—May and June

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## Choir Rehearsal: 7:30pm

May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

June 6, 13, 20, 27

## Hearts4Worship Rehearsal:

6:30pm

May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

June 6, 13, 20, 27



## **A Stephen Ministry Message** by Janet Haacker



“He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.” Micah 4:2

**“When we ask God to guide us, we have to accept by faith that He is doing so. This means that when He closes a door in our faces, we do well not to try to crash that door.**

**The promise is that the Shepherd will go ahead of the sheep; His method is to clear the way for us.” Catherine Marshall**

Ever think you “know better than what God can do” for you - He’s either too slow, or He didn’t choose the way you wanted to go? Sometimes it takes another heart, another prayerful person to help you see how God is working in your life. Don’t go the journey alone! Call on a Stephen Minister to help you “hear” God’s directions!

Contact Pastor Leslie (490-0420) or Janet Haacker (694-4290) for a confidential conversation.



# Worship Assistants

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## Greeters: May

5 Nancy Dietrich  
12 Shirley Hagle & Bonnie Zimmer  
19 Jane Crossan  
26 Laura & Alvin Marohn &  
Nathan Harrington

## Greeters: June

2 The Yurek Family  
9 Mary Bender  
16  
23 The Yurek Family  
30

## Liturgists: May

5 Tom Dugan  
12 Diane Charsley  
19 Sue Schurr  
26 Nathan Harrington

## Liturgists: June

2 Nancy Rolando  
9 Lynn Weber  
16 Sue Schurr  
23 Alvin Marohn  
30 Lynette Ryan

## Coffee Hour: May

5 Jane Crossan & Nancy Dietrich  
12 Judy Winters & James Hankinson  
19 Cheryl Yurek  
26 No Coffee Hour

## Coffee Hour: June

There will be no Coffee Hour during  
June, July and August.

## Ushers: May

5 Team 4  
12 Team 2  
19 Team 3  
26 Team 4

## Ushers: June

2 Team 1  
9 Team 2  
16 Team 3  
23 Team 4  
30 Team 1

## Usher Teams

### -Team 1

William Welch, Jessica Schurr, Alvin & Laura Marohn,  
Nathan Harrington, and Mary Ferro

### -Team 2

Tom & Leslie Dugan, Jeremy Bearfield, Ryan Yurek,  
Shelby Bearfield, and Pat Loeswick

### -Team 3

Randy Marohn, John Greth, J. William Haley, Linda  
Barry, Joya Palermo, and Ryan Tasevski

### -Team 4

Brian Burns, Kelsey Burns, Kaitlyn Burns, Diane  
Charsley, John Faux, and Bonnie Zimmer

<b>May 2019</b>						
<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
			<b>1</b> "Month of May Sale" 10:00a-1:00p	<b>2</b> AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p  H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	<b>3</b>  Church Women United Friendship Breakfast 9:30a St. Paul's UCC  UFO 7p	<b>4</b> PW Women's Spring Gathering - 10:30a Kenmore Pres Church
<b>5</b> Sunday School 9:30a  Worship/ Communion 11a	<b>6</b> AA 9a  TOPS 6:30p	<b>7</b>  Mission & Outreach Team 7p	<b>8</b> Circle II 9a	<b>9</b> AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p Worship Team 6p H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	<b>10</b> UFO 7p	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Sunday School 9:30a  Worship 11a	<b>13</b> AA 9a  TOPS 6:30p	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Circle II 9a  Healing Service 6:30p	<b>16</b> AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p  H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	<b>17</b> UFO 7p	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Sunday School Celebration 9:30a  Worship 11a	<b>20</b> AA 9a TOPS 6:30p  CE Mtg TBD Session 6p	<b>21</b> Memory Lane 10:30a-2:30p	<b>22</b> Circle II 9a	<b>23</b> AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p  Bible Study 6p H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	<b>24</b> UFO 7p	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Worship 10a	<b>27</b> Office Closed  AA 9a  TOPS 6:30p	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Circle II 9a	<b>30</b> AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p  H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	<b>31</b> UFO 7p	

June 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> Worship/Communion 10a	<b>3</b> AA 9a  TOPS 6:30p	<b>4</b> Deacons 1p	<b>5</b> "Joyful June Sale" 10:00a-1:30p	<b>6</b> AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p  Worship Team 6p  H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	<b>7</b> Church Women United - Social Awareness Day: First United Methodist Church 1p  UFO 7p	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>  Pentecost Sunday  Worship/Communion 10a  Confirmation Sunday	<b>10</b> AA 9a  TOPS 6:30p	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Circle II 9a	<b>13</b> AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p  H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	<b>14</b> UFO 7p	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> Worship 10a  Installation of Officers	<b>17</b> AA 9a  TOPS 6:30p  CE Mtg 6p Session 7p	<b>18</b> Memory Lane 10:30a-2:30p	<b>19</b> Circle II 9a  Healing Service 6:30p	<b>20</b> AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p  H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	<b>21</b> UFO 7p	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> Worship 10a	<b>24</b> AA 9a  TOPS 6:30p	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Circle II 9a	<b>27</b> AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p  Bible Study 6p  H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	<b>28</b> UFO 7p	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> Worship 10a						

Ministry Team Chairs, Deacons, Church School, Presbyterian Women & Circle groups – it is your responsibility to submit announcements and/or information on events or meetings to the office by the following date if you wish them to be published.

**July-August Newsletter Articles DUE: JUNE 16, 2019**

Announcements for the weekly bulletin must be submitted to the office by Tuesday before Noon, preferable by email, to be included in the following Sunday's bulletin.



**Elders**

**Class of 2019**

Linda Barry, Diane Charsley, Pat Loeswick,  
Nancy Rolando

**Class of 2020**

Tom Dugan, Betsy Crocker

**Class of 2021**

Laura Marohn, Mary Ferro

**Deacons**

**Class of 2019**

Donna Blinston, Jane Crossan, Leslie Dugan,  
Lynette Ryan

**Class of 2020**

Judy Geerkin, Alvin Marohn, Marlene Tyrrell

**Class of 2021**

Lynn Hyland

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