THE MESSENGER FEBRUARY 2020

GILEAD LUTHERAN CHURCH

PO BOX 26 CROPSEYVILLE, NY 12052

 CHURCH PHONE: 279-9270

 gileadlutheran.org gilead2@verizon.net

Service time 10:30 AM

**A WORD FROM PASTOR JEFF SILVERNAIL**

February Messenger - Pastor Jeff

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Change has been on my mind a lot lately. First is the obvious reason, the ending of my call with Prince of Peace, Clifton Park and entering into my “retirement.” The quotes are there because I have no

intention of ceasing to do ministry. I will just

be doing it in different settings with hopefully a little more freedom built into my

schedule.

The other reason that change is on my mind is the type of ministry which I will be

entering into. Last year I received the first half of my training as an Intentional Interim Pastor. These are pastors that enter a congregation with the intention of all parties to stay for a limited time and to help guide the congregation from where they are to where God is calling them to be.

Sometimes Intentional Interim Pastors are called following a long pastorate, or following a time of turmoil, or just because a congregation needs to rethink who they are.

Change becomes the focus, but change is never easy. It is not particularly easy for me. It was difficult to finally commit to leaving Prince of Peace even though I know in my heart it was and is a necessary change. It is not easy to step out in faith. And it won’t be easy to lead any congregation toward the future that they can’t quite envision. That is one of the reasons I like the quote by John Maxwell posted above.

I ask for your prayers through this time of change and pray too that in all cases we all may view change as an opportunity for growth.

And in the midst of change remember there is something that never changes –

“Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever.” Hebrews 13:8

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Jeff

**GILEAD’S VISION STATEMENT**

We ring out a joyous message of welcome and togetherness to neighbors near and far through the Spirit of Christ!

**VALUES FOR GILEAD LUTHERAN CHURCH**

PRAISING GOD through Traditional and Contemporary music and Lutheran liturgy.

GROWING IN FAITH through Fellowship, Study, Prayer and Service.

STAYING CONNECTED with each other and reaching out to others in the community.

LISTENING for the Spirit’s guidance in all we do.

AFFIRMING each person as worthy of love and respect.

Please keep our homebound and those that can’t be with us in your prayers:

Fran Fiet, June Boomhower, Flip Coonradt, Bill Beck, Les Dunham,John Grassman, Eric Coonradt, Linda Romano, Mike Boomhower, Matthew Raymond, Tom Spade, Jim Spiak, Kelly Nutter, Kathy Raymond (mother of Nichole Shanahan), Cheryl Mavashev, Ron Bugbee, Bob Guerin and Rick Brown.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

 Hollyn Blair 11 Christopher Brown 26

 Vinnie Coonradt 5 Andrew Morens 12

 Robert Jones 6 Erin Hayner 14

 James Spiak Jr. 6 Kent Duncan 14

 Michael Roberts 7 Marion Daus 19

 Leonard Flath 9 Xavier Keefer 20

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 9th Sunday School 9:30am

February 14th Valentine Cookies Due

February 11th Council Meeting 6:30pm

February 25th Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner 4-6pm

February 26th Ash Wednesday Service 7pm

February 27th Pantry and Community Dinner 3-6pm

March 8th Sunday School 9:30am

March 26th Pantry and Community Dinner 3-6pm

April 10th Good Friday Service 7pm

April 18th Defensive Driving 9am-3:30pm

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

We will be holding Sunday school classes the 2nd Sunday of every month. Please join us!! We will meet again on February 9th at 9:30am. Please join us. Please contact Andrea Keefer with your thoughts, text or call 518-598-2231, email akeefer.gilead@gmail.com.

**FEBRUARY CHURCH CALENDAR**

**Presentation of Our Lord, February 2nd 6th Sunday of Epiphany, February 16th**

Holy Communion Holy Communion

 1st Reading: Malachi 3:1-4 1st Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

 Psalm: 84 Psalm: 119:1-8

2nd Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40 Gospel: Matthew 5:21-37

**5th Sunday of Epiphany, February 9th Transfiguration of Our Lord, February 23rd**

Holy Communion Holy Communion

1st Reading: Isaiah 58:1-9a[9b-12] 1st Reading: Exodus 24:12-18

Psalm: 112:1-9[10] Psalm: 2

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12[13-16] 2nd Reading: 2 Peter 1:16-21

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20 Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

 **Ash Wednesday, February 26th**

 Holy Communion

 1st Reading: Joel 2:1-2,12-17

 Psalm: 51:1-17

 2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20b – 6:10

 Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

**WORSHIP LEADERS READERS**

February 2nd Pastor Dan Hahn February 2nd Betty Britt

February 9th Deacon Jim Netzer February 9th Eleanor Bode

February 16th Pastor Dan Hahn February 16th Glenn Hayner

February 23rd Deacon Jim Netzer February 23rd Al Coonradt

February 26th Deacon Jim Netzer (Ash Wednesday)

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

I am thankful it has been a somewhat uneventful year except for our elevator problem. We continue to work at keeping this beautiful historic building in great repair. When an inspector came by after our elevator claim, he told me he was impressed with the condition of our building. Buildings he has seen which are younger than ours are not maintained as well.

This congregation may be small and may not have the finances that larger churches do, but we excel in our love and concern for our community. Our outreach of the Shrove Tuesday Dinner, Easter egg hunt, Chicken Barbeque, Trunk or Treat, hats, mittens and scarfs and yes the free community dinners and pantry are things this church should be proud of.

So, maybe people are not breaking the doors down for church on Sunday, but many do enjoy the fellowship this church offers them.

People who have come to help out serving or doing whatever is needed, have become “hooked” on our community dinners and pantry. Many have come back each month, without even being asked!

The attendance for our chicken barbecue has grown each year. People know who we are and what this event has become to this community.

Our Defensive Driving Classes provide drivers a ten percent discount on their insurance or point reductions. It has also become a source of income without having to take money from our budget. We have used the money for part of the stained glass window repair and the indoor and outside lighting, just to name a few projects.

Hopefully in 2020 we will find more ways to increase our presence in our community. I invite each of you to help as we attempt to grow this church and share God’s love with one another and throughout our Community .

**THE 2019 ANNUAL PROPERTY REPORT**

January – the 40 gal Expansion water tank was replaced in the boiler room.

During the spring, the floor tiles in the fellowship hall were replaced in different areas in front of the kitchen serving window. Replaced with 12”square vinyl tiles due to 9” squares are no longer made.

May – stairs that lead from kitchen to back hallway were replaced to make all step risers 7-1/2”. Makes maneuver on steps safer.

Replaced elevator ground light with new led fixture that shines on window and

placed on its own timer.

Renovated elevator with updated switches that moves doors to respond quicker.

Placed all new led lights in new brick store room, new bulbs in outside cross, replaced pulpit spot light, elevator outside overhead lights restyled to show more light, right side flood light replaced and replaced front corner floodlights.

New 54” TV purchased with money from defensive driving courses and placed in

fellowship wall.

November – built removable kitchen counter top extension at end of kitchen serving window allowing more room to work.

December – doorway from nursery room to brick supply room opened up that makes easier entry access. Also added new clean up wash sink placed in corner of store room.

New outside led lights added to completely light up back doorway and our parking lot.

Along with normal maintenance to furnace, keeping supplies available and special cleaning and buffing the fellowship hall floor.

We thank everyone who participates in any or all required work that is performed.

Bless all,

Glenn Hayner, prop.chair.

**COMMUNITY MINISTRY**

The free community dinners/food pantry continue with an average attendance of 130 people for dinner. The food pantry has approximately 30 families per month. The 4-H group have been helping us at the dinners. They help with the pantry, serve, pick up and have provided dessert. We thank them for all they do. We adopted three families from the food pantry for Christmas. We collected mittens, gloves, scarves, hats and socks to be donated to the YWCA. We are presently collecting items for the Veterans Miracle Center in Albany. I would like to thank Sue Anthony for continuing to distribute Thanksgiving baskets throughout our community. She gave out 20 baskets to Turnpike Elementary School and 7 to our food pantry people with the bottle money they collected.

We graciously accepted Latham Post Office food drive which they had in May. Many thanks go to the postal workers who still remember Vickie Taylor. Evah and Bill Beck have been instrumental in getting donations from Doors of Hope for our pantry and have also been filling the Blue Box whose proceeds go to outreach. Thank you for all the work you do.

I would like to thank John and Darlene Shanahan for their continued help with all of the outreach programs that we are part of. Marion Daus, Jean Krokenburger and DianneHynes are also faithful servants, helping at all of the dinners. Adding to the list of volunteers include Donna and Bill Charette, Betty Madison, Clara Piche, Melanie Hickey, Matt Kreiger, Leonard Flath, Flora Lee Ashdown and a few others from the community. Thank you all for your dedication. Respectfully, Lisa Kreiger

**Annual Meeting Multi Committee Meeting Report**

The Multi-Committee met throughout the year on the following dates: Feb.5, April 2, June 5, August 13, and Oct. 1. (You will witness separate reports for each committee from their respective chairperson).

The purpose of these meetings is to talk about our outreach projects and our future events. All congregation members are invited to attend. One does not need to be on a committee to join us.

Multi-Committee basically covers Stewardship, as each, and every committee already do.

It is nice to have fresh ideas. Most of Gilead’s committees do have at least one representative attending each meeting.

At the meeting we talk about dinners that can be served at the Community dinners, fund raising ideas, Any committee that wants to get ideas and input from others bring their ideas to the table. Committees present at most meetings include but, not limited to: Caring Connections, Community Ministry, Worship& Music Committee, Body & Soul , Story Dinners, but also have discussion about Healing Support, Military Outreach, Sunday School, etc. Many, if not all committee’s envelope a sense of Stewardship.

**Report on Story Dinner**:

January 18, 2019- Invited speaker (Janet Glaude) had to cancel this evening, so we talked and told stories, had abundant food offerings and raised $ 20 for Body & Soul Pantry, $30 to VA Music Program and $24 to Joseph’s House.

March 15, 2019 Soup and Sandwiches night. We raised $20 for Body & Soul Pantry and $30 to the elevator repairs.

October 18, 2019- Eleanor Bode delighted us with the Song Story “Jesus Loves Me”. There was a heartfelt video to follow, from a young man, and backed up by the Oakridge Boys. We collected $5.00 and a basket full of pantry items for Body & Soul.

November 15, 2019, Floralee Ashdown played the piano for “Old Songs Night”, the group had fabulous food, fun and we raised $45.00 and basket of supplies for the Pantry.

December 20- Out to dinner at Crossroads in West Sand Lake- 13 Attended. The food was great, the company even better!

**Children’s Outreach Projects**:

Andrea and Jen are working hard on the Sunday Scholl project, with much success!

**Community Dinners**: (John and Darlene Shanahan)

The 2019 Dinners were- 1/31, 2/28, 3/28, 4/25, 5/30, 6/27, 9/19, 10/17, 11/21, and 12/19/19.

**Caring Connections**: Eleanor Bode and her team have been keeping up with the outreach to theVeterans, and community. They are working on a Support day for care givers, planned for 2020. Stay tuned!

**Body & Soul Pantry**- Lisa is in need of certain supplies, such as Tuna, Kleenex, Soups, and laundry soap. Monetary offerings are also welcome to offset the cost of stocking the supplies for the pantry.

**JourneyTogether**- Formerly Story Dinner-The name was changed at the June 5 meeting, to attempt to freshen it up, after almost 8 years, and interest more people. So far this has not been the case. Attendance was down severely in Oct and Nov. 2019.

Thank you for your time, your help and your interest!

Kathy F. Raymond-Multi-Committee Member

**GILEAD’S CARING CONNECTIONS**

**ANNUAL COUNCIL REPORT**

**“We’re Here For You”**

The Caring Connections Committee’s mission is to reach out to needs of the congregation such as sending get well cards, recognizing outreach activities by members and sending our Caring Connections cards to recognize birthday of our shut-ins.

Our added outreach is to recognize active-duty military who have connections to the congregation – sons, daughters, grandsons, granddaughters, nieces, nephews, etc. We also recognize and honor military veterans at Veterans Day. The congregation was welcome to send Christmas cards to active-duty military and were provided a list of addresses. Caring Connections sent each a photo card with a picture of the “Military Tree” and a greeting from the congregation. The tree was decorated with red, white and blue lights and military ornaments from all branches of the military.

Another veterans outreach is to connect with the Veterans Hospital Music Therapy Program as to any donations we can provide. In the past we have donated drum sticks, and monetary donations in order for the program to enable veterans to purchase cards to download music.

In order for the committee to be effective, we need to be notified of any concerns of members who need a card, a call or maybe a visit.

Thanks to the congregation for your support.

Eleanor Bode, Chairperson

Betty Britt

Marion Brown

Vinnie Coonradt

Michele Krill

Glenn Hayner

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**READ ME, SEE WHAT’S NEW!!**





 **Gilead Lutheran Church**

 **Brunswick, New York**

 **Founded 1742**