



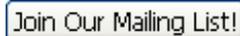
"Equipping Our Churches to Fulfill the Great Commission"



"I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing."

John 15:5

Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse
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July 6, 2017

Dear Friends of Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery,

Welcome to this week's edition of our e-letter, *Presbytery Matters*. Our goal is to highlight things going on throughout the Church: within our Presbytery, in our congregations, as well as in the Synod of the Northeast and across the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). We hope that these are things that will be helpful, informative, challenging, encouraging, supportive. In other words, we hope that these things will matter. Your input is valued, and your comments are always welcomed!

Recommissioning at Amboy Belle Isle United Church



On Sunday, June 25, elder Gail Banks was recommissioned to serve as the Commissioned Lay Pastor of the Amboy Belle Isle United Church. The Rev. Ginny Smith led Gail and the congregation in the liturgy for this special occasion. Ginny reported:

"The congregation presented her with 2 stoles - the green with purple on other side and an embroidered white one. It felt so good to see this faithful little church and their pastor so joyful!"

We give thanks to God for the ministry partnership of Gail and the members of the Amboy Belle Isle congregation!

Joys and Concerns around the Presbytery

In our prayers together this week...

- Pray for the Rev. Andrew McTyre (Park Central) and his family. Andrew's cousin died last week in Florida.



In the cycle of prayer for our Presbytery, please pray for these congregations, faith communities, and individuals: Amboy Belle Isle; First, Auburn; Westminster, Auburn; United Ministry of Aurora; First, Baldwinsville.

If you'd like to share a particular joy or concern with the Presbytery, please contact Steve Plank at statedclerk@cayugasyracuse.org.

August 15 Presbytery meeting preview



The next meeting and gathering of the Presbytery will be on Tuesday, August 15, 2017, beginning with registration at 4:00 p.m. The host for this gathering is the Robinson Memorial - Elmwood church. There will be time spent at this meeting for conversations about the Presbytery and our future direction. We've spent some six years with a new organizational and staffing structure. What has worked well about this? What hasn't worked at all? What changes do we

want/need to make? Where and how do we need staff to best serve our Presbytery and our faith communities? There's lots to consider at this next meeting and in the future.

We'll also be spending some time thinking about the local expressions of the Church that are in our faith communities. Our society has changed significantly and rapidly. What does a congregation in the 21st century need to be and do and look like? If you were to pick a handful of New Testament words to describe the work, witness, and ministry of a

worshiping community, what would you choose? What if *everything* that our community did was focused solely on those key words? Also, when most of us hear the word, "church," we think of a building and a people running its own programs and served by a pastor. And yet we know, at least intellectually, that that model is more and more becoming unrealistic and obsolete. Most of our faith communities just can't afford those things any longer. So, what are some new models for what it means to be a congregation? At the August Presbytery gathering, we'll take a look at some different models that others are trying.

Other Voices from the Presbytery

News of an upcoming event, shared by elder Dan DeBrucker...



The New York State Council of Churches is holding a Conference entitled "Bridging the Urban-Rural Divide" to help communities from all geographic contexts draw on a multitude of tools and perspectives to do justice and care for people. The Conference will be held July 18 to 20 in Johnstown, New York. The event will feature a variety of speakers, both religious and secular, to help us develop models for community ministry which cross many divides.

Come join the conversation. Help us bridge the divide and learn how you can be more effective in your ministry. More information, as well as registration instructions, may be found [here](#).

Around the Presbytery

Christian Education and Mission Coordinator

Pebble Hill Presbyterian Church is seeking an energetic, creative individual to coordinate Child, Youth, Adult and Family Christian Education and Mission activities. Excellent leadership and communication skills as well as strong personal faith and biblical knowledge required. Bachelor's degree and experience preferred. Must be able to work effectively with staff, congregation, volunteers, and the community in providing programs which promote the mission of the church. P-T position 30 hrs/week with some fringe benefits.

Send resume to:

Pebble Hill Presbyterian Church
5299 Jamesville Rd.
DeWitt, NY 13214
Phone: 315-446-0960

Or, email materials to: petephpc@twcny.rr.com.

Boundaries Awareness Workshop for Ministers

Details for the upcoming Boundaries Awareness Workshop have been finalized. The workshop will be on Tuesday, July 25, 2017 from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM at First Presbyterian Church of Oneida, 304 Broad Street Oneida, NY.

The cost for the workshop is \$55, payable at the event; checks can be made payable to Presbytery of Utica. To register, just [click here](#).

Monthly Pancake Breakfast at King Ferry

We are celebrating our 21st year of providing our monthly "All You Can Eat" Pancake Breakfast" on the first Saturday of every month. Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage, Orange Juice, Coffee, Tea, etc. We want to invite everyone to join us. Cost is \$5.00 for Adults, Six to 12 year olds \$3.00 and under Six FREE. This breakfast is a major outreach to the area to visit our Church and join in fellowship with friends and neighbors. The proceeds are used to support the activities of the church and assist in raising funds for the major renovations that is required for our Church building. Serving hours are from 7 AM till 11 AM. The King Ferry Presbyterian Church is located on the corner of State Routes 90 and 34B in the hamlet of King Ferry. We look forward to seeing many of you.

You always may keep abreast on happenings in and around the Presbytery by checking the Presbytery events calendar (<http://cayugasyracuse.org/calendars>) and the church events calendar (<http://cayugasyracuse.org/calendars/church-events>).

Around the Synod of the Northeast

The Presbyterian Women of the Synod of the Northeast are having their 2017 Triennial Gathering in Albany, NY on August 18-19. The event will begin at noon on Friday and conclude at 4:00 p.m. Saturday. The gathering will be held at the Desmond Hotel and Conference Center near the Albany airport.

The theme of this special event is "Household of Faith." Speakers are the Rev. Larissa Kwong Abazia, past Vice-Moderator of the 221st General Assembly (2014) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), whose presentation is entitled, "There's Always Room for One More," and Carol Winkler, PW Churchwide Moderator, who will be speaking about "What a Difference PW Makes in the Household of Faith."

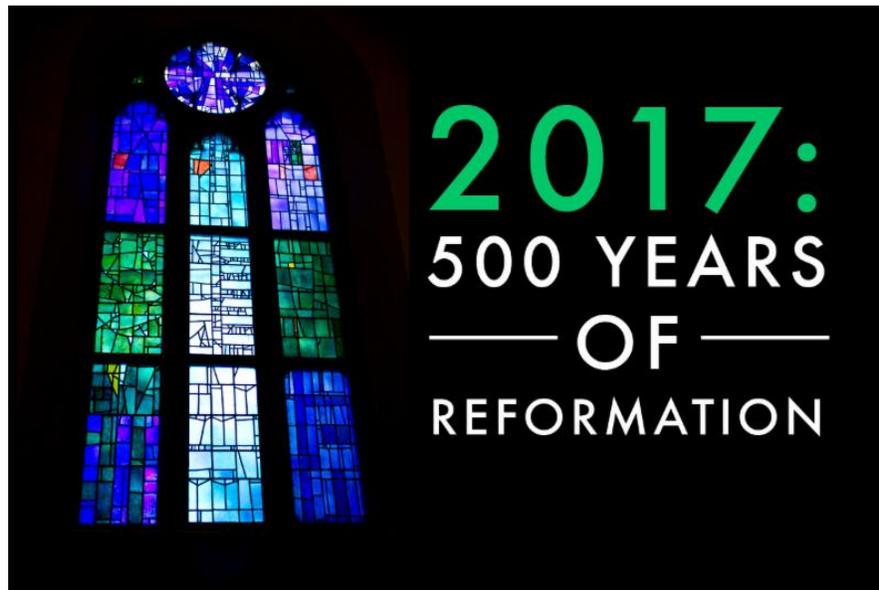
For more information, or to register, visit [this website](#).



Around the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

2017 marks the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the movement that came to be called the Reformation. The roots of most every Protestant denomination are traced back to this event in the 16th century, which flowered in Germany, France, Scotland, Switzerland, England, and other parts of Europe.

The Presbyterian Church has developed a number of resources to help us learn about this rich heritage. Study guides, discussion books, children's resources, and more can be



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