



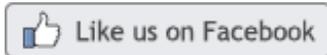
"Equipping Our Churches to Fulfill the Great Commission"



"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
P.O. Box 6010
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(315) 632-5698
www.cayugasyracuse.org



Join Our Mailing List!

May 11, 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!

May 20 Annual Stated Meeting

The 2017 Annual Meeting of the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse will be held on Saturday, May 20, 2017 at the First Presbyterian Church of Auburn (112 South Street). The meeting will begin at 8:30 with registration. Highlights of the meeting include reports from the Latin American Mission Project (LAMP), the Synod Commission, a Proposed Child and Youth Protection Policy, proposed amendments to the Bylaws and Standing Rules, and elections. During the afternoon, we will meet at the Case Mansion (next to the church) for conversations with Doug Pagitt about his book, *Flipped*.

Elections will take place during the morning meeting. The Nominating Committee is looking for people willing to serve on the Leadership Team, with particular interests and skills in finance or working with our Inquirers and Candidates under care, serving on the

Vanderkamp Board of Directors, and serving on the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Presbytery. If you are interested in serving, or if you'd like to suggest someone for service, please contact the chair of the Nominating Committee, Commissioned Lay Pastor Gail Banks, at banksy@yahoo.com.

Papers for the Presbytery meeting are posted on our website [here](#). Check back early next week for some late papers that will be posted.

Joys and Concerns around the Presbytery

In our prayers together this week...

- Pray for our Synod Leader, the Rev. Harold Delhagen, who continues his cancer treatments.
- Pray for the Rev. Patrick Heery, who plans on returning to his ministry at Westminster Church in Auburn this coming week.



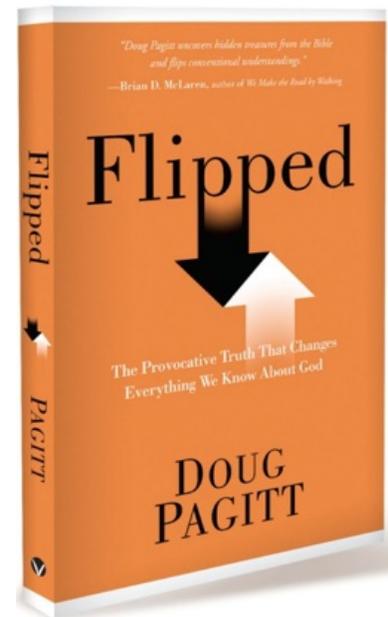
In the cycle of prayer for our Presbytery, please pray for these congregations, faith communities, and individuals: Columbian, LaFayette; First, Liverpool; First, Marcellus; First, Mexico; Morrisville Community Church.

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

Reflections on *Flipped* for the Presbytery Book-Read

Reflection by Beth Loomis,
Westminster Church, Auburn

In reading Doug Pagitt's *Flipped*, I was struck by the simple yet profound difference between having God living in me and living In God. That one basic understanding impacts, as Pagitt points out and enlarges upon in his book, a person's whole outlook on life as a Christian. I don't have to seek God or connect to God because I am already In God. Pagitt writes about "transactional" systems that tend to make us feel the need to earn God's love or attention, to be or behave a certain way in order to get God's approval. But if I am already In God, none of that is necessary. It's a very freeing thought. I can "worship in spirit and in truth," no strings attached.



Around the Presbytery

Online Discussion Group for "Flipped"

There will be an online discussion group for Doug Pagitt's book, *Flipped*. It will be done via a GoToMeeting gathering, in which people can join the conversation either from their computer (or other electronic device) or by phone. If you'd like to be a part of this, please

email [Steve Plank](#), our Stated Clerk/Communicator. The online group will meet this coming **Wednesday, May 17, from noon-1:00 p.m.** After you sign-up, you will receive an invitation to join the group, with details about how to do that.

Rummage and Bake Sale

Amboy Belle Isle United Church (6190 Airport Road, Syracuse, NY 13209) will be having a RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE on Friday, May 19th, from 9am to 2pm.

Cayuga-Syracuse PW Spring Gathering

Thursday, May 25, 2017

10 AM: Meet at the Harriet Tubman House for a brief tour

Admission is \$3 for seniors, \$4.50 for adults under 60.

11:30 AM: Gathering at the United Ministries of Aurora

With worship and our special presentation & short business meeting

Address: 337 Main Street, Aurora, NY

12:45 PM: Lunch and Program

Fargo Bar and Grill 384 Main Street, Aurora

Cost here about \$10-\$15

Program will include presentation on Health Tapestry Ministry, New Horizons Bible Study and other surprises.

Sanctuary churches

Monday, May 15 at 6:00pm

Plymouth Congregational Church, 232 Onondaga St, Syracuse

"Sanctuary: an Evening with Donna Schaper" (What does it mean to be a new Sanctuary Congregation? Building the Necessary Coalitions; Accompaniment vs. Opening Your Building; Maximizing the Impact of Your Commitment; Possible Risks)

Donna Schaper is a nationally known speaker within the UCC. She is Senior Minister at Judson Memorial Church in New York City and a founder and lead organizer of the New York City New Sanctuary Movement which accompanies and protects those living without documents in NYC.

Suggest calling the church to see if you need to register:

315-474-4836

Doug Pagitt Event on May 20 in the evening

Author Doug Pagitt comes to Auburn to give a free evening lecture for the community on Saturday, May 20, 2017 at 7:00 pm at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 17 William St, Auburn. Doug, described as author, speaker, podcaster, organizer, ultra-marathoner, goodness conspirator and possibility evangelist, is the author of Flipped, A Christianity Worth Believing, and Body Prayer. He will lead an interactive, multimedia conversation about the changing spiritual landscape of the United States and how activists and people of faith can create pathways of connection, belonging and robust change and organize just and generous communities of faith.

Doug is the guest of the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse, whose members have been reading and discussing Flipped as part of a Presbytery-wide book read. Flipped takes Jesus' use of "you have heard it said...but I say to you..." to "flip" common understandings of faith into new possibilities of God's call to action in the world. Doug will also speak to Presbytery members at the Case Mansion following the morning business meeting at First Presbyterian church.

For more information about the evening lecture at Westminster, call 315-253-3331 or visit www.westminsterauburn.org.

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



Feasting on Abundance:
*When the World Says
There Isn't Enough*

Once again, the Synod of the Northeast is sponsoring a special event: "Come to the Table." Come to the Table 2017 is approaching and plans are being made to make this a powerful time of gathering, sharing, worship and education. Registration will be available in June, but go ahead and add this to your calendar now: September 22-23 at Stony Point Center in Stony Point, NY.

Amaury Tañón-Santos, Synod Networker

David Bennett, Planning Team

Leslie Latham, Planning Team

Stephen Fearing, Planning Team

Joshua Narcisse, Planning Team

Thea Reggio, Planning Team

Jennifer Rodriguez, Planning Team

Shannan Vance-Ocampo, Planning Team

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



Stewardship Kaleidoscope is an annual conference offering excellent plenary speakers, informative workshop leaders, provocative worship experiences, and incredible networking opportunities for all who are passionate about stewardship and generosity. Drawing leaders from across the Presbyterian Church USA and beyond, Stewardship Kaleidoscope is designed to help participants explore stewardship, in its many colorful dimensions!

Our mission is to create an annual event that:

- Ignites generosity among Presbyterians
- Gives practical tools for cultivating generosity in congregations
- Expands the leadership capacity of those who lead stewardship initiatives
- Cultivates adaptive approaches for funding Christ's mission

Venues vary annually, and you can count on Stewardship Kaleidoscope to provide Real Tools for Real Ministry!

This year, Stewardship Kaleidoscope will be held from Sept. 25-27 at the TradeWinds Island Grand Resort at St. Pete Beach, FL. For complete information, just [click here](#).

The Rev. Steven W. Plank, Stated Clerk/Communicator
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