



The Oracle

Ogden Presbyterian Church
2400 S. Union Street
Spencerport, NY 14559
(585) 352-6802

January 2009

Oracle Volume V - Issue I

Dear Friends,

Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr was a professor at Union Theological Seminary in NY in the 1940's. He wrote some very brilliant theological books, and yet what he is most noted for today is not his scholarly work, but his *Serenity Prayer*. Dr. Niebuhr was at his summer cottage in Massachusetts. And as often is the case for seminary professors, he was asked to lead worship and preach at a small church in the area. He wrote a prayer for that worship service on the envelope. After he came home, one of his neighbors who had been in church asked him for a copy of his prayer. And this is the **Serenity Prayer**:-

“God grant me the serenity to
accept the things I cannot change,
courage to change the things I can,
and wisdom to know the difference;

“Living one day at a time,
enjoying one moment at a time;
accepting hardship as a pathway
to peace;

“Taking, as Jesus did, this sinful
world as it is, not as I would have
it; Trusting that You will make all
things right, if I surrender to your will;

“So that I may be reasonably
happy in this life, and supremely
happy with You forever, in the
next. Amen.”

May the *Serenity Prayer* be your prayer in the year of 2009. Happy New Year!

Sudi

Annual Congregational Meeting Convenes Sunday, 1/25/09

The annual meeting, prescribed by the church by-laws, will take place immediately following the conclusion of the worship service on this fourth Sunday of the month. The business of this meeting is to receive the budget, vote on the pastor's salary package, and review reports.

The church's Annual Report can be picked up on the preceding Sunday, January 18, 2009.
Please plan to attend this important meeting.

January Sermons

Jan. 1: 2nd Sunday after Christmas Matthew 2:1-12 "The Real Gift" Holy Communion

Jan. 8: Baptism of the Lord Mark 1: 4-11 "You Are Loved"

The Baptism of the Lord is celebrated on the Sunday following Epiphany, Sunday, January 8, 2009. In particular, the Baptism of the Lord is connected with our baptisms. We remember that in baptism we are claimed by Christ and share in His ministry. It is therefore a day to renew baptismal vows and to reaffirm our commitment as disciples of the Risen Christ. Please plan to come and participate in this special worship service.

Jan. 18: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary time 1 Corinthians 12:1-21; 27-28 "One Body"

Service of Ordination and Installation of New Church Officers

Jan. 25: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Acts 2:37-46 "Small Groups"

200th Anniversary Committee

Members of the committee are Alice and Gene Brendel, Ann Delaney, Sandy Friday, Meghan Lodge, Dan Proper, Joanne Ville and Marlene Dyer. The committee is meeting monthly to plan our big 200th Birthday Celebration. Our theme for the celebration is "TWO CENTURIES OF GRACE." We have tentative plans for five events during 2011. We will be updating our history and interviewing some of the "senior" members of our congregation. We also plan on contacting some of the churches in our Presbytery who have already had their celebrations to see what worked for them and what didn't. We will be in further touch as plans progress. Please contact any member of the committee if you have questions or ideas that you would like to discuss with us.

submitted by Marlene Dyer

Highlights of the Dec. 2, 2008 Presbytery Meeting

Meeting held at Brighton Presbyterian Church and co-hosted with Laurelton Presbyterian and New Life Presbyterian Churches.

Noted the anniversaries of Presbytery of Genesee Valley Pastors, starting with two of them at their five year anniversary, and ending with our former interim pastor, Alan Gripe, who celebrates his sixty second anniversary in the ministry.

The Committee on Ministry reported the addition of one interim Pastor to PGV and the resignation of five pastors leaving the ministry of PGV.

The first class of Commissioned Lay Pastors will be completing their two year course and will be assigned to the pulpit supply list or assigned to a church. The policy of their responsibilities was passed unanimously.

The first reading of the 2009 budget was presented. The anticipated income is \$702,736. This is a reduction of approximately \$7,000 from 2008.

The second reading and vote was presented and taken on the proposed automatic administrative leave regarding sexual misconduct policy. The policy passed.

The judicial courts upheld the appeal of the decision on the Oakfield Presbyterian Church trial withdrawal from the PC(USA) and be allowed to take all properties without compensation to the Presbytery. All properties and congregation will remain in the Presbytery of Genesee Valley. Any additional appeal by the withdrawing congregation must be ok'd by the judge that handled the appeal.

The search continues for the two part time positions of Presbyter for Committee on Ministry support and Presbyter for Pastoral Support. Each of these positions will have a remuneration package of \$20,000. The general Presbyter will be Linda Badger Becker, with a total remuneration package of \$90,000. Submitted, Robert Wallace, Commissioner to Presbytery

Family Bible Reading for January

First Graders-January 6th is Epiphany. Please read about the visit from the Three Wise Men, on pages 14-15, in your story book, A Book About Jesus. This story is taken from the Book of Matthew 2:1-12, in the adult Bible. Ask your family to explain and discuss Epiphany with you.

Fourth and Seventh Graders-In observation of Epiphany this month, please read Matthew 2:1-12, in your Bible. As you read and discuss this event with your family, think about what gift(s) you give to others in your community, in the form of service.

Senior Luncheon

The OPC senior luncheon will be held at noon on Tuesday, January 13 at the Elmgrove Family Restaurant, 730 Elmgrove Rd. The menu will include soup, choice of roast beef, turkey, or tuna salad sandwich, and beverage. The cost will be \$10.50 including tax and gratuity. The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, January 7.

Reservation forms will be available on the Fellowship bulletin board or from Anne or Bob Wallace.
Hope to see you there!

Our Newest OPC Member - Jennifer Hartwig

Welcome to Jennifer Hartwig who was received by letter of transfer on December 14, 2008. Her sponsor is Pam Gonnoud.

Jennifer writes:

“My husband, Erik, son, Kaleb, and I started coming to Ogden late this spring. I have gone to Bethany my whole life but decided to give Ogden a try since we live in North Chili and I'd heard many wonderful things about it. We were greeted by so many wonderful people and Sudi came over and spoke with us. It was so nice to be in such a welcoming environment which you don't always get with larger churches. Erik and I felt so welcome that we gave it a try the next week and found the sermons to be inspiring and uplifting. We loved it so much we kept on coming back! When I was approached to see if I wanted to become a member I did not even have to think about it, I knew immediately that I wanted this to be my new church home. I have now joined Bell Choir and hope to become more involved as Kaleb gets older. I want to thank everyone at OPC for being so friendly and welcoming to us, you made my whole family feel very special.”

Treasurer's Report

Giving Progress

Pledged through Dec. 21, 2008	\$133,385
Received against above	<u>\$130,755</u>
<i>BEHIND</i>	\$ 2,630

<i>Per Capita requirement for 2008</i>	\$6,645
Per Capita received as of Nov. 23	\$3,380

2009 offering envelopes are available for pick up. People who pledged for 2009 or gave in 2008 will receive new envelopes unless the treasurer has been informed that they are not necessary.

Don't forget to try Internet payment of your pledge if you already pay your bills using the "bill payment" feature. Use your envelop number as your account number. Currently, 4 families at OPC are using this method.

SNL: 2009

Sunday, January 18, 2009

Join us, for "Sunday Night Live"

For additional information, please contact John Goehle at 585-594-2141

5:30 pm Potluck Dinner. Please bring your favorite dish to share.

6:30 pm Worship Service.



Photo from SNL on 12/21/08

Christmas Poinsettias

Poinsettias were donated this year by the following people:

Jerry and Chris Matull, in Honor and Memory of Loved Ones

Bob and Anne Wallace, in Honor of Andrew Wallace

The Metherell Family, in Memory of Charles and Lois Metherell

The Metherell Family, in Memory of James R. Myers

Marlene Dyer, in Memory of Charles Dyer

Nancy Dell, in Memory of Bill Dell

Evelyn Bentley, in Honor and Memory of my Beloved Family Past and Present

Bonnie Bush, in Memory of Lawrence and Laura Bush, Lawrence Bush Jr. and Jean Taylor

Diane, Dennis, Doug and Kristen Dupree, in Memory of Ida and Kenneth Webster & Gladys and Lester Dupree

Al, Dennise, Tracy, Amy and Eric Webster, in Memory of Pat Warren Engels

Al, Dennise, Tracy, Amy and Eric Webster, in Memory of Kenneth and Ida Webster

Ann Metz, in Memory of Jim Metz

Betty Lou Hogue, in Memory of LeRoy Hogue and Jay

Erna Lever, the Hoffer-Goehle Family and the Lever Family, in Memory of Gordon Lever

Erna Lever and the Hoffer-Goehle Family, in Memory of Aunt Margaret

Jean and Bill Schult, in Memory of Family

Sudi Layraman, in Honor of Ogden Presbyterian Church

Jim and Sandy Frieday, in memory of Lloyd and Gladys Frieday & Russell Inman

Joyce Wheeler, in Memory of Frankie and Allan Crosier

Jean, Bonnie and Connie Thom, in Memory of Stuart & Betty Thom

Randy and Marilyn Spielberg, in Memory of our Parents

Charles and Jean Weaver & Family, in Memory of Albert and Blanch Weaver

Charles and Jean Weaver & Family, in Memory of Morris and Anita Johnson

The Savino Family, in Memory of Loved Ones

Alice and Gene Brendel, in Honor of our Family

The DuWayne Paulick Family, in Memory of our Loved Ones

Trustee of the Month: January - Al Webster

One trustee is assigned per month to take care of any building issues that may arise. A list of the assigned "Trustee of the Month" can now be found on the office window. Please call the designated Trustee if you have something that needs to be addressed. Thank You!

Session and Deacon Retreat

The annual meeting with the Session and Deacons, met at church on November 22nd at 9:00 A.M. with coffee and goodies. We had devotions and opening prayer led by Pastor Sudi. We met and interviewed Jennifer Hartwig who will be joining our church on December 14th, she comes with a letter of transfer from Bethany Presbyterian Church in Rochester. The committee voted in favor of her joining. We also interviewed the class of 2011 church officers of Deacons and Session. Deacons: Jennifer Savino, Stephanie Cassidy. Session: John Goehle, Pat Everett, Sandra Frieday, Chelsea Metherall (student, 1 year term). The above class was voted into their offices and will be installed during the church service on January 18, 2009. Small groups were formed and were given the task of reviewing the Session and Deacon highlights of 2008. We reviewed our performance and wrote short term goals for 2009. These were reviewed after a delicious "Pot Luck" luncheon. We adjourned with prayer led by John Goehle and went immediately into our Session meeting.

submitted by Marilyn Spilberg, Clerk of Session

Session Highlights - December 15, 2008

- Our Presbytery has granted \$800 to OPC for help with the Sunday Night Live Ministry.
- Senior luncheon on January 13, 2009 at the Elmgrove Family restaurant.
- Annual February Fellowship event will be held on February 7, 2009 from 7-9 p.m. Alan Jones from the Spencerport High School will perform with soloist Phyllis Constible.
- The 2009 annual budget was approved except for the Pastor's Term of Call which will be presented at the January Congregation meeting (1/25/09).
- "OPC's Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedures" was approved, subject to review by the Presbytery attorney.
- Christmas Eve offering to go to the SEM Food Shelf.
- Presbytery News- Linda Badger-Becker has assumed the role of the General Presbyter

Thank You, Outgoing Church Officers

Churches, and Christ himself, depend on volunteers. Congregations, and Christ himself, are grateful for people who willingly give their time, talents and energy to future God's work. The following individuals worked diligently and faithfully in service of Christ and his church, and deserve our appreciation and admiration.

These individuals concluded their service as church officers at the end of January 18, 2009. Please thank them when you see them. Elders - Harry Pittman, Marian Smith; Deacons - Mary Saurini, Carol Newman; Trustees - Scott Gaskill.

Donna "GEM" Metherell

The Bell Choir would like to express their sincere appreciation to Donna Metherell for her willingness to be our "last minute" substitute for our Sunday morning playing. You know someone is really talented when they can come in and sight read the music and play beautifully with us. You're a "GEM" Donna and we truly appreciate you and your wonderful talent!!!



The Christmas Joy offering is at \$349.
Thank you to those who contributed.

Accident Reporting Procedures

The Trustees will be providing Accident Reporting forms, as required by our insurance company, for the recording of any accidents that occur on Church property. The forms will be centrally located in the Fellowship Hall next to the AED equipment. In the event of any accident please complete the form promptly, providing as much detail about the event as possible, and contact a Trustee immediately. Thank You!

Early Memories of My Life at the Ogden Presbyterian Church

In my youth, I was an active helper doing janitorial work with my older brother Gerard, who had full responsibility of the church and all the grounds.

In the winter we would have to start the coal furnace on Saturday to be sure it was warm enough for Sunday services. To start the fire we had to use a lot of paper, which the parishioners used to bring us, and kindling wood before we added the coal. We did this to the Pot Belly stove in the Sunday school room also. On cold days, we would get up early to open the drafts so it would be warm in the church for services and the Sunday school rooms.

I remember there was just a driveway all around the church with sheds on the North side that housed the horses and buggies. In the wet season, we had to fix the ruts along the driveway where the cars had to park.

Every time I see the church bell in the front yard, it brings back one of my fondest memories. I used to ring the bell for Sunday services. I think if my memory is correct, that we rang it three times at the half hour, two times at the quarter hour and one time on the hour when the church service commenced. I thank all those responsible for keeping the original bell for all to see.



For many years my sister Wilhelmina, who is now going on 92 years old, played the old pump organ for Sunday services. I was blessed to have so many family members going to church with me. I left for the Army in 1943 and after my service ended, I married Nellie and we moved to Colby Street on a part of my parent's farm. There we continued to attend church with our three children Tom, Judy and Bill.

I would like to thank the membership for this wonderful recognition of my 67 years with the Ogden Presbyterian Church.

By Adrian Vandertang

Senior's Luncheon

The OPC senior luncheon will be held at noon on Tuesday, January 13 at the Elmgrove Family Restaurant, 730 Elmgrove Rd. The menu will include soup, choice of roast beef, turkey, or tuna salad sandwich, and beverage. The cost will be \$10.50 including tax and gratuity. The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, January 7.

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Hope to see you there!



Our OPC Prayers in December

JOY LIST

For Chris Smith; grandson of Eileen and Rick Smith

PRAYER LIST

For the Mahood Family

For Jen Savino

For Christopher; grandson of Rick and Eileen Smith

For Ed McBride, Walt P, Jerry G, and Nancy Rollo

For Lisa; step-granddaughter of Betty Parker and for Betty Parker

For the family of Don Netzler; nephew of DuWayne Paulick

For those suffering from chronic illness and pain

For Dottie K; friend of Joyce Wheeler

For June Donner

For Rick Smith; son of Eileen and Rick Smith

For all those traveling over the holiday.

For the Nundy family

For the Walker family

For June Gross; friend of Ruth Statt and Joanne Ville

For all other family members & friends whom we remember in our prayers.

Thank You

Thank you so much for the beautiful roses and gorgeous blanket. I have enjoyed them at the Resource Center. I have saved the flower petals in a vase and think of you every time someone sits in the chair with the blanket across it's back. It was such a pleasure to worship with you in October. To be surrounded by so many of you who knew Peter and even worked beside him, was so healing. I am only able to face each day knowing that I am surrounded in prayer and knowing that the deep abiding love of God never fails.
Susan, Megan and the Orr Family.

Donation

We thank Jean Dimond for her contribution to Heifer International in OPC's honor.

Thank You

Nita Ashman would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. She also sends a big "Thank You" to everyone for their kindness and cards.



Welcome to Chris Smith

Christopher Henry Smith was Born November 24, 2008. Son of Christopher Smith and Sarah Smith Grandson of Rick and Eileen Smith.



Meals on Wheels

Winter relief Volunteers needed!

Your gift of time can provide the "winter relief" needed. Volunteer either weekly, a few times a month or seasonally. Call 787-8326 for more information.

Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, January 17, 2009

Ogden Presbyterian Church

8am-11am

Adults \$4.00

Children under 8, \$2.00

Gift Certificates available



Youth Lock-In

Jan 4 - Jan 11, 2009

The Youth Lock-In at OPC is for youth in grades 6 through 12. Games, lessons, fellowship and food will be provided. Fun for all.

Contact Ruth Gaskill for more information.

Holiday News from the Anderson Family

Wishing everyone a joyous holiday season and sending many thanks for all that you have done, continue to do, for us as we walk along this life path of hope. Thank you for staying by our side. We couldn't do it without you.

Family news: *Kaitlin* is a freshman at St. John Fisher College. She is a business major, with a minor in Marketing. The transition has been smooth and we see her almost every weekend. She works part-time at Buckman's carwash.

Brian is a sophomore at Spencerport. He made the JV Boys Basketball team and plays the alto saxophone. *Bailey*, our 2+ year old black lab, keeps us on our toes! She is very loving and playful.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2009!

With love and gratitude, Scott, Cindy, Kaitlin, and Brian Anderson.

Thank You - Thank You - Thank You

Just have to thank you for the beautiful quilt you made and blessed for me. I was so touched when Eileen Smith brought it over. Green is my favorite color and I use it every day. I think of the people that I don't know that are praying for me. I am so grateful. I am half-through my chemo. Before I know it - it'll be spring - chemo done, trees budding, flowers growing and my new hair will be blooming!

Blessings, Robin Hagberg

Dear Stichin' Friends, Thank you so much for the prayer quilts! I delivered them to 2 of my co-workers who are both battling with cancer. They were so happy and thankful to receive the quilts. I know the quilts will bring them both so much peace, warmth and comfort. Please continue to pray for them both and thanks again for your kindness. Thanks to Sudi too!

God Bless, Eileen Smith

Sincere thanks go out to all of you for the many cards and phone calls I received to wish me well and offer help during my recent illness. Special thanks for the delicious soups (yes, 4 different kinds). They sure were appreciated and enjoyed. I have been truly blessed with a wonderful family and friends.

Joanne Ville

The Spencerport Ecumenical Food Shelf would like to gratefully acknowledge your donation. Your generosity of a \$60 donation and also the \$25 gift card is greatly appreciated.

Sasha Stafford, Food Shelf

Pastor Sudi, The Spencerport Ecumenical Food Shelf would like to gratefully acknowledge your donation from the Thanksgiving Service. The \$207 donation was generous and is greatly appreciated.

Sasha Stafford, Food Shelf Secretary

Thank you so much for the precious baby items, such talent and creativity you have! While I'm certain it's warmer here than in New York, it's still quite chilly here and the babies' moms really appreciate your handiwork! Again I thank you!

*Sandra Moore-Pope LMSW, Neonatal Social Work,
Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia*

My sincere and heartfelt thanks to Pastor Sudi and all who offered expressions of caring, concern, and love during the recent hospitalization of my mother, Della Inman. I would also like to thank the Stichin' for Mission Team for the nice lap quilt. It is very beautiful, and Mom loves it! It was a very thoughtful gift. I greatly appreciated the many prayers and the Touch Cards that I received. It's wonderful to be a part of the OPC church family where everyone cares so much and is willing to help in any way. It truly warmed my heart. My deepest thanks.

Sandy Frieday

From the DEACONS ...

Prayers and Concerns

Ephesians 6:18 --“ We pray for one another..”

TO BE REMEMBERED WITH CARDS AND PRAYERS:

If you would like a request placed on the prayer chain or in the Oracle please contact:

Mary Saurini - 349-4343

Dan Proper - 279-9691

It is important that the person mentioned give permission for the information to be shared.

In need of Prayers:

Scott Anderson

June Donner

Mary Freeman

Ginny Hartman

Judy Pagel

Tim Quinn

Marj Everett

Molly Corey

Sandy Frieday

Pray for those in Care Facilities:

Nita Ashman

Jane Schenk

With Sympathy

Our heartfelt sympathy to Randy and Jill Nundy and their Family of the death of Richard Nundy on December 12, 2008. May God surround, support and comfort them. May they find strength, courage and hope through the peace of Christ, which passes all understanding.

The work of the board of deacons is supported by your contributions to the *deacon offering* which is taken on *Communion Sunday*. *Green colored offering envelopes are now available in the pews for this collection.*



The Deacons would like to acknowledge those of our church family who are currently serving in the United States Military. We will list these each month in our Oracle and encourage the congregation to remember these people and pray for them in honor of their service to our country. We would appreciate the names and addresses from the family members of our service men and women.

They may be called to:

Mary Saurini - 349-4343

Dan Proper - 279-9691

Lieutenant Commander Eric Hahn, USN
5982 Sitgreaves
Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060

Sgt. Suzanne Hicks

(moved to Fort Drum, no address currently available)

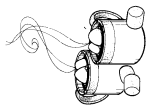
RP3 Paul and Caitlin Meabon
NSA Chapel
PSC 808 Box 54
FPO AE 09618-0054

SGT Sean Mulford

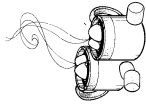
new address is coming...

PFC Gary Mulford
9045 Gunston Rd
PO Box C4
Fort Belvoir VA 22060

IC1(SW/AW) Christopher King (Hutchison Grandson)
IC01 WCS/ SITE Tech.
USS McCampbell DDG-85
FPO, AP 96672-1275



January 2009



Sun

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	GS=Girl Scouts BS=Boy Scouts CS = Cub Scouts CE= Christian Education W&M= Worship and Music WBS = Woman's Bible Study		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Sunday worship is at 10:00 am </div>		1 Happy New Year!	2	3
4	Worship 10 am Communion 6 pm Junior Youth	5 6:30 CS Den 9 6:30 Fellowship 7 pm W&M	6 9:30 am WBS 7 pm CE 7 pm Finance	7 5:30-8 pm TOPS 7 pm Choir 7 pm Bell Choir	8 9:15 am Stitching 5:30p Amadeus 6:15 CS Den 5 7:30 Mission 7-9:30 Irish Children's 7p Discipleship	9 7 pm Pinewood Derby Weigh-in	10
11	Worship 10 am 6 pm Sr. High Youth	12 6:30 CS Den 9	13 9:30 am WBS 7p Deacons 7pAmadeus Board	14 5:30-8 pm TOPS 7 pm Choir 7 pm Bell Choir	15 9-1 Clergy 5:30p Amadeus	16 Set up for Breakfast	17 Pancake Breakfast 6p Youth Lock In
18	Worship 10 am ANNUAL REPORTS DUE Ordination Youth Lock in SNL	19 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE </div> 6:30 Trustee 7 pm Session 7 pm GS Unit	20 9:30 am WBS	21 5:30-8 pm TOPS 7 pm Choir 7 pm Bell Choir	22 5:30p Amadeus	23	24
25	Worship 10 am Congregational Meeting after church	26 6:30 pm CS Den 9	27 9:30 am WBS	28 5:30-8 pm TOPS 7 pm Choir 7 pm Bell Choir	29 5:30p Amadeus	30 3p Pasta Dinner for Youth Mission Trip	31

OPC Mission Statement: Our purpose is to equip ourselves and others to be disciples of Christ as we seek God's will for our church and beyond.

Rev. Sudi Layraman
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Telephone: (585) 352-6802
Pastor's email: SudiLay@aol.com
Office email: ogdenpres@frontiernet.net
Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.
Website: <http://www.Ogdenpresbyterian.org>
January

****DATED MATERIAL****
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

January 2009

Newsletter Deadline: Articles for the February 2009 issue of The Oracle are due in the Church Office no later than Monday, January 19th, by 10:00 a.m. All contributions are subject to editing with regard to the subject matter and space requirements.

The Oracle is the newsletter of the Ogden Presbyterian Church of Spencerport, New York, a member congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The newsletter is sent to members and friends of the congregation to keep them informed of events, activities, and people in the life of the congregation. **Sunday worship is at 10:00 a.m.** Church school is offered for all ages. Coffee Fellowship immediately follows worship. All guests are welcome! Pastor: Rev. Sudi Layraman

OPC Mission Statement: Our purpose is to equip ourselves and others to be Disciples of Christ as we seek God's will for our church and beyond.