



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PITTSFORD

THE GOOD NEWS

May 2024

Embracing and Sharing Christ's Love

CHARTING THE COURSE WITH PASTOR AARON

Happy May! It's important that the congregation stays continually informed about the progress we're making through our Faith Forward initiative. As you heard during the February 11 congregational debrief, the Faith Forward initiative identified four strategic objectives for our church:

- **Everyday Faith** - to reimagine discipleship to become highly personal, relational, and biblical.
- **Groups and Gatherings** - to provide safe places, times, and gatherings for people to connect on the journey.
- **Pittsford Connects** - to reimagine our campus to become a safe place that meets our neighbors' "first" needs (physical, social, and emotional).
- **Re-align to our True North** - to reduce the amount of organizational inefficiencies while refining structures to support what matters the most.

These objectives were announced at the debrief to inform you about the goals we're aiming to accomplish. No policies have been updated nor significant actions taken as of yet. Until the Session decides to make any updates or changes, it's business as usual. So... what have we actually done about these objectives since February 11? Well, the Session has decided to take on one objective at a time and is currently prioritizing the fourth objective to "Re-align to our True North." Toward that end, we are studying a decision-making and operational concept called "policy governance," which was developed by the psychologist and organizational theorist John Carver. The Deacons and the Trustees have been invited into this study. We are also talking to other churches who have refined their organizational structures so we can learn from their experiences.

I am also working with some of the Elders on a few ideas to develop our "Everyday Faith" objective. However, this is in the very nascent stages of development and has not been discussed by the Session as a whole nor by any Committees.

As I said, it is very important that you know that the momentum of the Faith Forward initiative moves ahead and that you are aware of what that forward motion entails. The Session is discussing ways that we can keep the channels of communication open with the congregation about this vital work. As always, we are hopeful about the future for First Presbyterian Church, knowing that we're following God's leading.

~ Aaron

A Legacy of Love

What is **A Legacy of Love**? It is a gift one makes to our church as part of their estate planning. It is an expression of our faith and our love of our church. We realize that we would not be blessed with what the church is today without those who have come before us and given from their treasures. A legacy gift is a gift for our endowment, which supports the future and mission of our church.



As written in James 2:14-18, 26:

What good is it my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action is dead. But someone will say, "You have faith, I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds.... As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.

By planning an estate gift for the church's endowment, you are acting to express your faith forward, and performing a deed as an expression of your faith.

The Legacy Committee will be sharing ideas of ways to leave a legacy and what your gift can do for our church. In the meantime, you can speak with our pastors and members of our Legacy Committee. What will your legacy be?

In Faith,

David Ferris, Heze Simmons, Susie Wahl, and Betsy Wilson
Legacy Committee

www.pittsfordpres.org/legacy-giving



Phone Number Updates



Did you recently get rid of your landline phone number? Do you have a new cell phone number? Please email or call the office to make sure we have the correct contact information for you!

Lectionary for May

May 5 6th Sunday of Easter Acts 10:44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5:1-6 John 15:9-17	May 9 Ascension of the Lord Acts 1:1-11 Psalm 47 or Psalm 93 Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53	May 12 7th Sunday of Easter Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Psalm 1 1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19	May 19 Day of Pentecost Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21 John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15	May 26 Trinity Sunday Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 29 Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17
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News from the Nursery School

It's hard to believe May is here. As we start to wind down the school year, we have lots of fun events, field trips, and end-of-year celebrations planned. We are looking forward to field trips to Mendon Ponds and Pittsford Dairy as well as our last special event, our Spring Carnival. May is the last month of school for our 2s, 3s, and 4s program. We can't wait to celebrate their accomplishments with our end-of-year celebrations. We also continue to offer our popular summer camp program for our students, extending learning and fun through the beginning of June. Thank you for your continued support!

Kathy Woodruff, Director Pittsford Nursery School

Cooking Club

Sunday, May 5, at 5 pm in Fellowship Hall. Mexican Cinco-de-Mayo-themed meal. Join us in preparing tostada, enchiladas, arroz con pollo, and guacamole. Cost is \$8.00. Sign up at dtraina@rochester.rr.com

Landscape Crew!

Our May work date is the 15th from 9 to 11 am with a rain date on the 16th, same timeframe. Hope to see many of you there! Anyone else interested in joining us? Call: Debbie Gaudion 749-3878

Directory Update

Photos for our directory will be taken after each service in Fellowship Hall, May 19–June 16. If you prefer, you may submit photos by June 17. Look for more information in future bulletins and Friday emails.

Update on Elderberry Express

A 2021 Subaru Forester was purchased from Van Bortel Subaru in Victor in February. The Mazda needed \$2,800 in repairs, so they accelerated their search. They traded in the Mazda and paid \$23,657.93 in cash.

Name on vehicle:

Their name and address were put onto the vehicle by Vital Signs in Webster. It cost \$350. Many thanks to Christ Church Pittsford for covering the cost of the lettering.

Ride Report:

In first quarter 2024, they had 46 drivers take 51 clients to 325 appointments. They averaged 108 rides/month last quarter. They currently have 53 drivers and always need more!

Donations from four churches the first quarter of 2024 total \$2,425:

1. Christ Church Episcopal \$1,850
 2. St. Paul's Lutheran \$250
 3. St. Louis Catholic \$250
 4. First Presbyterian \$75
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Needle Nellies

The Needle Nellies will meet on Tuesday, May 28, from 11 am-1:30 pm in room 204. Please bring your lunch and a smile!

Our Habitat House Dedication!

Our Habitat house at 108 Ackerman Street will be dedicated on May 17 at 3 pm! All are invited!

Our next build:

We will begin our next build in June at 207 Melville Street, which is just around the block from the Swan Market (a German deli) on Parcels Ave.

Please watch for further information about when volunteer sign-up begins. For questions or information visit Greater Rochester Habitat for Humanity and under volunteering go to "faith build" and GRIB. For any questions contact Dianne Brown at dibrown@rochester.rr.com.

Members with May Birthdays

Henry Ash	Greg Irwin	Tony Seacat
Martha Boak	Will Irwin	Fred Stehler
Ray Brown	Hannah Marsh	Erin Thompson
Rob Dunn	Margaret Mecredy	Paige Thompson
Allie Finkbeiner	Robert Mehalso	Olivia Valenti
Bob Franklin	Charles Messenger	Alison Wahl
Ben Gartland	Max Murray	Gretchen Wolk
Katie Gaudion	Margot Price	
Jack Holzwarth	Ed Rummler	



May all of your birthday wishes come true!
If we missed you, please let the office know.

You are invited to the

Faith & GriefSM Workshop

Choose Your Workshop

**Mondays, April 29th - June 10th
at 6 pm ET**

**Fridays, May 3rd - June 14th
at Noon ET**

Explore the nature of grief, share your story
and explore spiritual practices designed to
provide comfort as you grieve.

RSVP

faithandgrief.org/events/pittsfordmondays/

faithandgrief.org/events/pittsfordfridays/

or call at 469-616-1795



**Mondays at 6 PM
Starting April 29th**



**Fridays at Noon ET
Starting May 3rd**



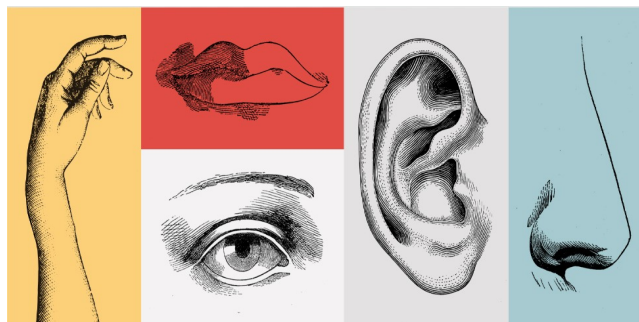


Concentus Women's Chorus presents "Songs Through the Senses"

Friday, May 31, at 7:00pm—The Lutheran Church of the Incarnate Word, 597 East Avenue (14607)

Saturday, June 1, at 7:00pm—First Presbyterian Church of Pittsford, 21 Church Street (14534)

On May 31 and June 1, Concentus Women's Chorus will be performing concerts of "Songs Through the Senses." The cornerstone piece is "Everyday Wonders: The Girl from Aleppo," with music by Cecilia McDowall. The lyrics are taken directly from *The Girl from Aleppo: Nujeen's Escape from War to Freedom*, by Nujeen Mustafa and Christina Lamb. Both works tell the moving and true story of two sisters fleeing Syria for the safety of Germany, and the obstacles they face along the way, especially as Nujeen, who has cerebral palsy, must travel by wheelchair. Concentus performed this work last summer in Kent, England, where they collaborated with Vox Anima Chamber Chorus. They were privileged to have the composer in the audience and knew they must bring this moving and important piece to audiences in Rochester.



This concert is being presented in honor of Rochester Refugee Resettlement Services (RRRS), whose mission is to provide services and opportunities to ensure assimilation of refugees into our society by providing assistance as they strive to be self-sustaining neighbors while still maintaining their own cultural heritage.

Featuring door prizes from the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Geva Theatre Center, and more!
Pre-sale tickets and more information at www.concentus.org

2ND ANNUAL WHITEWATER RAFTING TRIP DOWN THE GENESEE RIVER

THURSDAY
JUNE 27
2024



**SCHOOL'S OUT CELEBRATION FOR
YOUTH IN GRADES 6-12!** For more
information and registration, email:

erin.jacobson@pittsfordpres.org

**COST PER PERSON NOT TO EXCEED \$50
FEE INCLUDES A PICNIC LUNCH**

WE WANT TO CELEBRATE WITH YOU!

ATTENTION ALL GRADUATES



Please email Pastor Erin your future plans for inclusion
in the bulletin on Dads & Grads Sunday (June 16th).

erin.jacobson@pittsfordpres.org

Christian Education



Children's Service May 5 and Sunday School

On May 5, kids lead worship and one of the parts of the service is a puppet show. The puppet show is called "Land Animals United" and is based on Acts 10 where God gives Peter a vision, redefining clean and unclean animals. Kids explore what it means to leave some animals out. This same theme can be found throughout the Book of Acts as the gentiles are made a part of the Good News.

Have you seen the new plinko board in the narthex? This mini game draws children in as they take attendance for Sunday school. Kids add a ping pong ball each week when they come to Sunday school. The ball falls with some randomness to the bottom where there are three compartments. Each compartment is labeled with a prize that the whole Sunday school class gets when one of the compartments fills up. The first compartment to fill up was to choose from the prize box. This last week, the special snack filled up. The special snack ended up being Sabbath sundaes. All kids under sixth grade learned about Sabbath and were able to create their own sundaes. This is an idea we got from Perinton Community Church. It is a new take on the attendance awards that we grew up with. The more kids that attend, the quicker the compartments fill up.

Adult Education Opportunities
Monday Night Bible Study 7 pm Zoom
Tuesday Highlands Bible Study 12:50 pm Highlands Activity Room
Wednesday Bible Study 7:15 pm hybrid
Thursday Women's Bible Study noon library

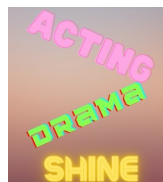
Sunday School Schedule



May 5

Theme: Children's Service

Activity: children lead worship



May 12

we give in gratitude
Mark 12

acting skits



May 19

Pentecost
Acts 2

making paper helicopters



May 26

share everything
Acts 2

games


First Presbyterian Church
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www.pittsfordpres.org

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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

We are following God's leading.

Pastor Aaron

<p>The Rev. Aaron Neff <i>Pastor and Head of Staff</i> 585.643.1240 aaron.neff@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>The Rev. Erin Jacobson <i>Associate Pastor</i> 585.204.2012 erin.jacobson@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Craig Kunkle <i>Director of Christian Education</i> Ext. 30 craig.kunkle@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Britta Konau <i>Office & Communications Coord.</i> Ext. 21 britta.konau@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Maria DiGiambattista <i>Financial Administrator</i> Ext. 23 treasurer@pittsfordpres.org</p>	<p>Leslie Harvey <i>Custodian</i> 585.364.2430 lharvey@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Dr. Jared Chase <i>Director of Music</i> musicdirector@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Dr. Bruce Frank <i>Associate Director of Music and Organist</i> bfrank345@gmail.com</p> <p>Dede Holmes <i>Director of Youth Choirs</i> dedeholmes1954@gmail.com</p> <p>Joshua Burke <i>Livestreaming Technician</i> josh@pittsfordpres.org</p>	<p>First Presbyterian Church 21 Church Street, Pittsford, NY 14534 Phone 585.586.5688, Fax 585.586.8090 connect@pittsfordpres.org www.pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Worship Service:</p> <p>8:30 am in-person 10:00 am in-person and livestreamed</p> <p>Communion is offered on the first Sunday of each month.</p> <div data-bbox="1015 1577 1533 1999">A blue Facebook 'f' icon is positioned to the left of a red circular logo. The logo depicts a church steeple with a cross on top, enclosed within a red circle.</div>
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