

# The Messenger

## Newsletter of Helderberg Reformed Church

Worshipping God since 1767! Come join us Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

435 State Route 146 Guilderland Center, NY 12085 | [hrchurch.org](http://hrchurch.org) | Find us on Facebook @HelderbergReformedChurch

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### Our Church

#### Sunday Worship

9:30 am with Lord's Supper on the 1st Sunday of the month.

#### Make Contact

P.O. Box 196  
 Guilderland, NY 12085  
[hrchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:hrchurchoffice@gmail.com)  
 Church Office (518) 861-8031  
 Parsonage (518) 861-5489

#### MINISTER OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Rev. Lindsey De Kruif

#### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Ellen Root

#### ORGANIST

Agnes Armstrong

#### CONTACT THE MESSENGER

[HRCMESSENGER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:HRCMESSENGER@GMAIL.COM)

### From the Pastor's Desk

## Getting Through Mud Season

It's the season where our dog Tracker's white belly has a perpetual gray tint to it. Each time we go outside, his quick little paws splash mud up on his underside. He and I will stop by the backdoor each time, so he can shake off the mud, and hopefully not track so much in the house...yet my floors could really stand to be mopped almost everyday.



It is mud season. The time of year when the eternity of winter starts to melt away as the days get longer and the sun shines brighter. We have longed for the warm breeze and the chattering chirps of birds floating through the air, and we finally receive this gift of hope. Warm weather and longer days are coming.

Tracker and I are much more eager to go on our daily walks and enjoy the fresh air. For Tracker, the newly revealed ground means there are new scents to smell and track down. And as he puts his nose to the ground to discover new possibilities, he happily trots through the puddles and the mud seeking whatever there is to find.

Mud season often accompanies the season of Lent, the season in the church year, where we remember Jesus' forty days in the wilderness and his journey to the cross and his resurrection. Wading through the mud of this season reminds me of the spiritual struggle we wade through during the season of Lent.

As Lent draws to a close, we know that the promise of new life is coming soon, but for now we still must wade through mud and the muck. From day to day in this season as in life, we don't know what

## **Forsythia Time**

By Steve Dukenski

She would look beyond  
The cusp of mud season  
To when Spring is firmly fixed  
And we've stopped worrying ourselves  
with  
Winter.

Each year  
She'd say she loved forsythia.  
One year I started listening and asked  
which one it was.  
She pointed to the tangles popping  
brightly by the road  
And like an ancient incantation  
She recalled a snatch of lines:

*Whan that Aprille with his shoures soote  
The droghte of Marche hath perced to the  
roote,  
And bathed every veyne in swich licour,  
Of which vertu engendred is the flour...  
Do you know what that's from?  
That was your Gammy's favorite verse.*

She passed with the Winter.

In this liminal season of mud  
I look for Spring, firmly fixed  
With popping tangles by the road—  
Each effervescent wisp of will  
A yellow-bright reminder:  
*Her spark is in the world, still.  
Keep looking. You will find her.*

lies ahead. We don't know what challenges or struggles will come to us in the days or weeks ahead. Like potholes filled with water, we can't be certain how deep we will get ourselves in until we drive through it.

Yet the promise of new life in the resurrection leads us forward in hope. We can also be assured, as we journey through the mud and muck of life, Jesus walks with us and the only way we will come to know the other side of those struggles is to wade through the mud; to carry our crosses in hope of the power of the resurrection.

In Christ,

## **Holy Week Schedule**

### **Palm Sunday, April 14**

#### **Liturgy of the Palms and the Passion**

9:30 AM at Helderberg Reformed Church

### **Maundy Thursday, April 18**

#### **Potluck Dinner and Communion Service**

6:30 PM at Helderberg Reformed Church

### **Good Friday, April 19**

#### **Afternoon Service in Altamont**

1:00 PM at Altamont Reformed Church

### **Easter Sunday, April 21**

#### **Rau Farm Sunrise Service**

6:30 AM at Rau Farm

#### **Easter Morning Service**

9:30 AM at Helderberg Reformed Church

# Events and Notes

## Blood Drive Helpers Needed

For a number of years Helderberg has held Blood Mobiles in memory of Ken Rivers. Prior to that we hosted the Mobile with Ken and Rocs'anne as the organizers. As Rocs'anne has joined Ken and her Lord, the event on Saturday, May 18, is in memory of the two of them for their work with the Red Cross and their dedicated service to Helderberg.

We need donors to sign up for time slots starting at 7:30 am through 1 pm. Those eligible donors (please see the Red Cross website for criteria) who wish to donate blood in their honor may call 518 595-5106, leaving name, phone number, and preferred time. Each will receive a return call giving confirmation and further directions.

We also need volunteers to help that day--to set up, register donors, run the refreshment center or assist in providing various support functions.

Call 518 595-5106 to volunteer, or to get information, as soon as possible. Sign ups will also be available on Sunday.

We look forward to a successful event--we hope to reach 50 pints to save lives in their honor! Please mark your calendar to help in any way you are able.

## Help Wanted for Hilltowns Players ARC Visit

Altamont Reformed Church is hosting the Hilltowns Players on Saturday, May 18 and they need your help. Volunteers are needed to set up chairs, sell tickets, direct traffic and provide cookies, brownies or cupcakes for refreshments at the show. Volunteers get into the show for free. Contact Altamont Reformed Church to volunteer: (518) 861-8711 ext. 301

## MORE Souper Bowl Thanks!

Dear Friends at Helderberg Reformed,

We wanted to personally thank you for your recent generous gift of \$250.00 through your "Souper Bowl Sunday" tradition to the Guilderland Food Pantry. Your contribution continues to help us reach our goal of feeding neighbors in need.

We continue to rely on support of our faith-based community to "love our neighbors as ourselves."

Thanks again for continuing as a part of our Breadwinner's Circle of organizations fighting hunger in our community.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Susan Hennessy  
Executive Direction  
Guilderland Food Pantry

—

Dear Helderberg Reformed Church Community,

Thank you for the \$155 donation to the Altamont Community Food Pantry from your "Souper Bowl" collection. This donation, in addition to the large soup collection, will be a great help in stocking our shelves so that we can continue to serve people in our area who are in need.

On behalf of all those who use the food pantry, thank you once again, for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

With Gratitude,

Judy Seery,  
Director

# Events and Notes

## **HRC – JANUARY INCOME AND EXPENSES**

### **INCOME**

Offering	\$ 6466.00
Fund Raising	48.90
2019 Youth Fund Donation	250.00
Pre-School Rent	<u>600.00</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 7364.90</b>

### **EXPENSES**

Salaries	\$ 4550.75
Payroll Taxes/Benefits	1980.72
Utilities	2159.43
Insurance	219.78
Supplies/Postage	747.87
Auto reimbursement	0.00
Committees	524.00
Property	4775.76
RCA Assessment	<u>0.00</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$14958.31</b>

### **INCOME OVER EXPENSES \$ (7593.41)**

Trust Fund Transfer	<u>1500.00</u>
Ending Balance	<b>\$ (6093.41)</b>

## **HRC – FEBRUARY INCOME AND EXPENSES**

### **INCOME**

Offering	\$7573.00
Fund Raising	91.47
Pre-School Rent (Feb. & Mar.)	<u>1200.00</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 8864.47</b>

### **EXPENSES**

Salaries	\$ 4550.75
Payroll Taxes/Benefits	1935.72
Utilities	2282.88
Insurance	(1.22)
Supplies/Postage	70.91
Auto reimbursement	0.00
Committees	0.00
Property	2354.39
RCA Assessment	<u>0.00</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$11193.43</b>

### **INCOME OVER EXPENSES \$ (2328.96)**

Trust Fund Transfer	<u>1500.00</u>
Ending Balance	<b>\$ (828.96)</b>

## **Camp Kickoff**

Join Camp Fowler for games, songs, “surprise sessions” and all sorts of Fowler things on Sunday, April 7 from 2-5 PM at Lynnwood Reformed Church in Guilderland. You’ll get the chance to meet some of our Staff and Volunteers and help us get excited for the summer ahead.

Campers, potential campers, never-going-to-be-campers, parents, and volunteers are all welcome! To sign up go the Camp Fowler Facebook page for the event registration or talk to Pastor Lindsey.

The Helderberg Youth Fund has camp scholarships available. If your child or grandchild is interested in attending camp this summer, speak with Joan Healey about getting a scholarship.

Call 518 595-5106 to volunteer, or to get information, as soon as possible.

We look forward to a successful event--we hope to reach 50 pints to save lives in their honor! Please mark your calendar to help in any way you are able.

## **March Consistory Highlights**

The 2018 Annual Financial Report was received. Copies of the report are available in the narthex.

The Brooks BBQ on March 1 made a profit of \$2021.

The Fellowship Hall Floor projected was finalized. It will be completed the week of April 22. Volunteers are needed to help. The cost will be approximately \$6000. Donations are being accepted to cover the cost.

Services will be held during Holy Week on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday (with a potluck), Good Friday (at Altamont Reformed), and on Easter. A Sunrise Service will be at the Rau Farm and the regular Easter Sunday Service will be at Helderberg.

# Hall Fundraiser



## Save The Date

**What:** Helderberg Reformed Church Fellowship Hall Fundraiser

**When:** Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> from 5pm – 9pm

**Where:** Recovery Sports Grill Guilderland  
2080 Western Ave, Guilderland, NY 12084  
Hamilton Square Plaza (20 Mall)

**How:** Recovery Sports Grill will donate 15% of your food and beverage purchase (including takeout), excluding tax and gratuity to Helderberg Reformed Church. Just present your personal invitation to the server before service.

<b>PRESENT TO SERVER</b>	<b>DINE TO DONATE</b> 	<b>PRESENT TO SERVER</b>	<b>DINE TO DONATE</b> 
	<p>Wednesday, June 5 2019 – 5:00pm-9:00pm</p> <hr/> <p>Recovery Sports Grill Guilderland</p> <hr/> <p>Helderberg Reformed Church</p> <hr/> <p>Albany • Amsterdam • Charleston • East Greenbush • Guilderland Malta • Norfolk • Queensbury • Rotterdam • Troy • Verona • Westamoton</p> <p>Please present this certificate at the time of payment to have up to 15% of your check's value, excluding tax and tip, donated to the organization above. Not to be used with any other coupons or discounts. Tickets are not to be distributed in the restaurant or within the perimeter of the parking areas. Valid only for the date and time listed above. More info: <a href="http://recoveryportsgill.com">recoveryportsgill.com</a></p>		<p>Wednesday, June 5 2019 – 5:00pm-9:00pm</p> <hr/> <p>Recovery Sports Grill Guilderland</p> <hr/> <p>Helderberg Reformed Church</p> <hr/> <p>Albany • Amsterdam • Charleston • East Greenbush • Guilderland Malta • Norfolk • Queensbury • Rotterdam • Troy • Verona • Westamoton</p> <p>Please present this certificate at the time of payment to have up to 15% of your check's value, excluding tax and tip, donated to the organization above. Not to be used with any other coupons or discounts. Tickets are not to be distributed in the restaurant or within the perimeter of the parking areas. Valid only for the date and time listed above. More info: <a href="http://recoveryportsgill.com">recoveryportsgill.com</a></p>
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EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

Please order the following chancel flowers in my name for Easter Sunday. I understand that I may pick them up after the Easter Sunday Worship services.

QUANTITY TOTAL
Lilies at \$11.25 each each



Mums at \$12.25 each



Purchased by: (Please Print)

In memory or honor of: (Please Print)

(Please Print)

(Please Print)

Orders must be placed by April 14th. Please give your completed form and the correct amount of money or a check made out to CASH to Nancy Lawton or the church office.

Celebrating 40 Years

Please Join Us For "A Taste of Guilderland" A Special Dinner Event Celebrating the Guilderland Food Pantry

Tuesday May 7, 5:30-7:30 p.m. 4 Charles Park, Guilderland

Participating Local Restaurants Include:

- Akanomi, Cafe Calabria, Casa Real, Different Blend Bakery, Elegant Touch Catering, Nirvana, Via Fresca, We Do Fondue

CASH BAR



LIVE MUSIC

Come Celebrate With GFP!

Tickets - \$25 per person Order online at Eventbrite.com

OR clip and send check payable to Guilderland Food Pantry PO Box 7, Guilderland, NY 12087 Registration Deadline May 1

Number of tickets at \$25.00 each = Total \$ Name Address E-mail

I cannot attend but please accept a donation of \$ in honor of your 40th Anniversary!

All proceeds benefit the food insecure in our community Guilderland Food Pantry Inc. is a Registered 501(c)(3) Organization

Special Thanks to Our Sponsors MatchMap Media, Young, Fenton, Kelsey & Brown, PC and the Thomas Patrick Morrison Foundation and C.M.FOX



The Helderberg Messenger The Helderberg Reformed Church P.O. Box 196 Guilderland Center, NY 12085 church.org