

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 | Find us on Facebook @HelderbergReformedChurch

In This Issue

From the Pastor's Desk	p. 1
A Poem	p. 2
Events and Notes	p. 3
Food Drive Flyer	p. 4

Our Church

Sunday Worship

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

Make Contact

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From the Pastor's Desk

Summer Detours

I have to admit that detour signs make me a bit nervous. I can be a bit suspicious of how they will lead me off my usual route. And I think I have a bit of irrational fear that I will lose track of the signs and end up in a completely unfamiliar place, unable to navigate to where I intend to go. And detours can be inconvenient, slowing me down and potentially delaying the arrival to my intended destination.



Recently in reading Barbara Brown Taylor's book *An Altar in the World* I came across a passage in which she suggests that detours and side trips in life are important in a life of following Jesus. And she asserts their importance for the very fact that we must slow down and take notice of our surroundings.

Taylor writes: "Reverence requires a certain pace. It requires a willingness to take detours, even side trips, which are not part of the original plan." She goes on to describe the experience of Moses who was letting life as usual carry on while tending his father-in-law's sheep when a burning bush caught his eye. This was a detour that was not to be missed in Moses' life. If Moses had not slowed down to turn aside and notice the bush, he would not have heard God's life-changing call to him. Moses would have missed his call to lead the people of Israel from

This is Just to Say
William Carlos Williams

I have eaten
the plums
that were in
the icebox

and which
you were probably
saving
for breakfast

Forgive me
they were delicious
so sweet
and so cold

slavery in Egypt to liberation and a new life in the Promised Land.

Summer is often a season in which we change our pace of life and allow space for a few more detours and side trips. Perhaps this summer can provide space in your spiritual life as well as your physical life for detours and side trips. Spend time in nature this summer and see how God speaks to you in the quiet. Enjoy the early sunrise and give yourself time to open the Scriptures and pray before the day begins. As you travel, let yourself get caught up in conversation with strangers and friends and be open to how the Spirit is leading you to serve in this world. Like Barbara Brown Taylor says, “Reverence requires a certain pace.”

I hope that your summertime rhythm might include that pace whether or not you are able to gather with us for worship each week. I hope to find myself on some detours and side trips during this season and discover where God is leading me and this congregation in the future. And I hope that I might find myself more open to them this summer. And when we gather again at our more regular pace this Fall perhaps we might have the chance to catch up and share how God has been speaking through our summertime journeys.

In Christ,

Pastor Lindsey



Events and Notes

Guilderland Food Pantry Food Drive at HRC

On July 18th Helderberg Reformed Church will host a food drive for Guilderland Food Pantry from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. Their need is high right now.

Please drop by with unexpired & non-perishable goods. Items suggested by GFP: canned fruit, canned vegetables and canned meats, rice, prepared pasta dinners, Dinty Moore beef stew, soups, canned ravioli and chili, snacks, juice, condiments, coffee, tea, paper towels, laundry detergent and toilet paper.



Thank You for the Floor

In August, the final hallway will be completed. There will be porcelain tile by the back door and finished with the tile that is in the fellowship hall and kitchen hallway. To date, this is where we stand:

Income: Donations 4810.00, Recovery Grill 228.00 and raffle 127.00 for a grand total of \$5165.00.

Expenses: Luxury Vinyl Tile 4898.00, cove base 236.00 and miscellaneous 265.00 for a total of \$5299.00 (there will be additional expenditures for the porcelain tile and door thresholds).

As you can see, the project was almost totally funded through donations. The Property Committee would like to thank all of the donors for their contributions and support.

Property Committee

Third Annual Guilderland Food Pantry Golf Tourney!

Guilderland Food Pantry is hosting their third annual Golf Tourney to benefit GFP and its clients on Friday, August 23, 2019.

This "Scramble Format" tourney will have a shotgun start at 9 am.

Last years tourney covered the cost of GFP's move to their new location, doubling their space and giving them ground floor access to better serve clients.

They invite you to "give it your best shot and help us 'Drive out Hunger.'"

Foursomes can register online at guilderlandfoodpantry.com

Other opportunities to help include becoming a sponsor, advertising in their program, providing an auction gift, donating a gift card as a drawing prize or attending the cocktail hour and awards ceremony. Call Mark Hopper at 518 930 1001 if you can help.

Bonfire & BBQ

Saturday, August 17 at 4:00 pm at Lynnwood Reformed Church. This will be a three church event (Altamont, Helderberg, and Lynnwood). Look for more details in the bulletin.

Ecumenical Worship

Sunday, August 18 - Ecumenical Worship at Orsini Park in Altamont. Join the congregations of Altamont Reformed and St. John's Lutheran for worship at 10 AM. Pastor Lindsey will be on vacation.





Helderberg Reformed Church



Guilderland Food Pantry

Guilderland Food Pantry

FOOD DRIVE

Helderberg Reformed Church

435 Route 146 Guilderland Center NY 12085
(518) 861-8031 / <https://www.hrchurch.org>

Thursday, July 18th
9:00 am – 6:00 pm

Suggested items to meet the current need:

Canned fruit, canned vegetables, and canned meats, rice, prepared pasta dinners, Dirty Moore beef stew, soups, canned ravioli and chili, snacks, juice, condiments, coffee, tea, paper towels, laundry detergent and toilet paper.



Unexpired & Non-Perishable Goods Only

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