

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

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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
 Church Office (518) 861-8031
 Parsonage (507) 227-6942

MINISTER OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Rev. Lindsey De Kruijff

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Ellen Root

ORGANIST

Rae Jean Teeter

CONTACT THE MESSENGER

HRCMESSENGER@GMAIL.COM

From the Pastor's Desk

Letter from Pastor Lindsey

October 18, 2021

To the Congregation of the Helderberg Reformed Church,

I am grateful for the five years that I have walked alongside you in ministry. In this time, I have grown in my leadership capacity and I have come to know more deeply my strengths and weaknesses. I have been privileged to walk alongside many of you in the joys and sorrows of your life; seeing children growing, celebrating saints who have passed on to glory, and saying good bye to dear members have relocated to other places. This congregation has changed.

This season of ministry has brought both challenges and joys for me personally. This past year has been particularly challenging as I have led the congregation through the uncertainty of a global pandemic. And this year has brought some significant and exciting change in my life, welcoming a child into our family and the beginning of a new career for my husband, Steve. These changes and challenges have invited me into a time of reflection on my priorities for me and for my family.

This past year has been very demanding, and it has become clear to me that I need a better balance of work and family in my life. For this reason, I feel that it is time for me to step away from ministry at Helderberg and focus on my role as mom and my service to the greater church in the classis and the Regional Synod.

Continued next page

At Sunset

RJF

When the day begins to take its rest,
We've had our fun or done our best,
There still is light to see your way,
To reach your home at end of day.
The falling sun casts shadows long,
That draw a picture seeming wrong.
Still clouds reflect the sun's last ray,
To keep the falling dark at bay.
A calm, a peace, begins to fall,
As night creeps in to cover all.
So rest your body, mind and spirit.
And say a prayer, for God will hear it.
You need not fear or feel great sorrow,
For the sun will surely rise tomorrow.

I hope to conclude my ministry with this congregation effective December 31, 2021. In the meantime, Steve and I will be looking for a home in the greater Capital District as he begins his career as a mental health therapist in the area. I ask your prayers for me and my family. This will be a time of significant transition and continued discernment as I seek God's continued call for me in ministry.

It is difficult to bring you this news, and I acknowledge the surprise and sadness that it may bring to many of you. My departure will bring significant change to the congregation, and with change, there is loss and grief. Know that I hold you all in prayer as you discern your path forward for the ministry of this congregation. May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Grace & peace,

Rev. Lindsey De Kruif

Minister of Word & Sacrament

Events and Notes

Why You Should Sign Up For Camp Fowler

By TJ Ellwood

There are many reasons why you should go to camp Fowler. I have gone for the last 4 summers and have enjoyed each year. You meet so many new friends and the staff are really nice and make sure to help keep things running. There are so many activities to try from hikes to canoe trips to games to basket making. My favorite camp activity is a camp-wide game called gold rush. There are a lot of fun activities that go along with our discovery (church) time such as rap battles, dance contests, team games, song contests, coloring, and stories. There are campfires every night and a thanksgiving meal/special service on Thursday night before you go home. Over all it is a wonderful and I would definitely recommend it to any school student who has completed 3rd grade (or above).

Property Help Requested

The property committee is looking for help on the following projects:

- Repairing the toilet for the preschool
- Updating the church sign
- Work on the landscaping in front of church
- Various repair projects inside the church

Contact Bob Marr if you can help! Thank you!

Ushering Schedule Request!

Dear Congregation,

It's time to arrange the Ushering Schedule for 2022. Please advise Jackie Marr at 518 356-0062 or 4478jackiemarr@gmail.com if you have any of the following:

- Wish to be added or deleted from this schedule
- Have a change of phone number
- Will not be available certain months of the year

Thanks you, Jackie



Events and Notes

New Editor Found!

Dear HRC,

I am excited to announce that I am the new Editor for the Helderberg Messenger! I appreciate everyone's patience as I learn the ins and outs of this new found position! There is a learning curve for sure, but I am looking forward to getting my "tech" on with many thanks to Steve!

If there is anything you would like to include in the next issue, please reach out via e-mail at the hrcmessenger@gmail.com or by phone at 518-380-0511.

Sincerely,

Emily Tashjian



Have pictures, news or poems to submit to The Messenger?

Send them to:

hrcmessenger@gmail.com

Submissions to The Messenger should be sent by the last Sunday of the month to appear the first Sunday of the next month. Please include photo credits. -Ed.

Stay Informed with HRC!

Pastor Lindsey has been using the HRC email prayer chain to send daily dispatches and updates. If you are not subscribed to the HRC prayer chain, there's never been a better time. Just email hrchurchprayer@gmail.com and let us know you want to receive emails.

How to Give to HRC

During this crisis, it's important to remember to continue contributing your offering to HRC. Now there are two ways you can send your offering:

1. One way is to visit our website hrchurch.org and follow the big blue and white link that says "Helderberg Reformed Church - Online Church Giving Link". This will take you to a service we've set up called Tithely. Simply enter your amount, payment info, and (if you so choose) check the Cover Fees checkbox to help us cover the fee for this amazing service.
2. You may also send a check to:
Helderberg Reformed Church
P.O. Box 196
Guilderland Center, NY 12085

Consistory Notes

September Consistory Notes

Minutes of the Consistory of
the Helderberg Reformed Church
September 21, 2021
7:23 p.m.

SCRIPTURE READING

Opening Prayer and Scripture Reading

IN ATTENDANCE

Pastor Lindsey	
Pamela Colino	Sue Brooks
Joan Healey	Linda Livingston
Daniel Putnam	Jamie Ellwood (absent)
Jackie Tice	Frank Scully

MINUTES

A motion was made by Joan Healey, seconded by Pam Colino to approve the minutes of August 17, 2021.
The motion passed 7-0.

AGENDA

A motion was made by Jackie Tice, seconded by Joan Healey to approve the Agenda.
The motion passed 7-0.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Lindsey continues to follow up on members as needed for pastoral care.

A nomination committee has been formed to start the search for people to fill the Deacon and Consistory open seats.

Pastor Lindsey will be on vacation September 22-28 and October 27-November 1. Pam Colino is working on the pulpit supply.

Pastor Lindsey is continuing her work on an Educational Series with the Helderberg Catechism.

Churches Learning Change "Disrupting Survival Mode" has been going well, workshops have been great.

ELDERS' REPORT

- Dan Putnam reported the people in attendance at the September 5 communion services
- No deaths, marriages, or births

DEACONS' REPORT:

- Linda Livingston reported two perks will be sent out to two members of the congregation who recently got married
- Deacon's fund has a balance of \$3,938.70. It was decided to donate cash to help with the Christmas Adopt-a-Family and possibly help a member in need or support the Afghanistan refugees coming to Albany.
- The Deacon's would also like to hold a food drive for the Guilderland and Altamont food pantries. Sue Brooks will check with the Guilderland food pantry to see when the best time would be.

COMMITTEES:

1. PROPERTY & FINANCE

Monthly Report

- A motion was made by Sue Brooks, seconded by Joan Healey, to approve the August 2021 Schedule of Bills totaling \$12,928.22. The motion passed 7-0.

Privilege

- No Report

Trust Fund

- No Report

Memorial Fund

- No Report

Property Committee

- Dan Putnam said the Village Carpenter has looked at the parsonage and will provide a quote. They should be able to complete all projects with the exception of the radiators.
- The Patch Boys gave a proposal to repair the fallen drywall in the kitchen. They will replace the fallen drywall and inspect the ceiling to make sure the drywall is secure. If the frame to the ceiling tiles is damaged we will need to get further estimates.
A motion was made by Joan Healey, seconded by Dan Putnam to approve the proposed estimate of \$820.00 to repair the drywall above the kitchen. The motion passed 7-0.
- The preschool toilet has been replaced,
- A quote for snow removal from DJN was received for \$3,000, the same as last year,
- Bill Root has taken the sign down for repair and paint.
- Guilderland Parks and Recreation will clean out the strip of overgrown bush along the church driveway and the Mynderse-Frederick House.

Fundraising

- Ellen Root and Joan Healey will co-chair the October 21 Brooks BBQ.
- Sue Brooks and Frank Scully will co-chair the December 17 Brooks BBQ.
- A discussion ensued about splitting the duties of the BBQ fundraisers up among members; advertising, set up, take down, organizing volunteers, etc. Sue Brooks said she could do the advertising.
- Flyers for the Brooks BBQ will be given to the preschool teachers to send home to families.
- A discussion also ensued about taking orders for dinners ahead of time from members of the church. It was decided it would be up to the Chair(s).
- Joan Healey said the tree lighting will be done again this year; people will be able to buy a light.

2. PERSONNEL**Rae Jean Teeter has begun playing at the Sunday services. The transition has gone very smoothly.**

A discussion ensued about recognizing Agnes Armstrong for her years of service. It was decided to ask members of the church to send her cards and to recognize her on the Tree of Life.

3. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

It was decided a nursery for children five and under will be available during church services. The committee is working on possibly having something for the older children once a month, after Sunday services. As a reminder, for children in 6th grade and up, Helderberg is in partnership with the Altamont and Lynnwood youth group.

4. WORSHIP COMMITTEE

It was decided to allow singing in church again. Masks will still be mandatory and windows will stay open as long as possible. Pam Colino will make the announcement on September 26 and singing will start on October 3.

5. PRESCHOOL

A discussion ensued about the difficulties of picking up children after pre-school. Cars are backed up while students get in the car and buckle up. A possible solution is to have individual parking spots for parents.

OTHER BUSINESS

Messenger deadline is September 26.

NEXT MEETING

- The next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

ROUND TABLE OF THANKS

Thanks was given to

- Bill Root for his time repairing the sign,
- All those who worked on the preschool toilet repair,
- Bob Marr for his endless work with the property committee
- Rae Jean for the smooth transition
- Carol and Les for cleaning the carpets
- Bev Harrington for all her organization.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Sue Brooks, seconded by Frank Scully to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

**Helderberg Reformed Church
2022 Pledge**

I/We make the following pledge of stewardship to the Helderberg Reformed Church for the year 2022:

2022 Pledge \$ _____ per week, month, year (Please circle your choice)

Envelope # _____ (If you do not require envelopes, please check here _____)

Name: _____

Address: _____

To help prepare the 2022 Budget, please return your pledge card by Sunday, November 14, or you may email your pledge to Chris Eddy at: ceddy4228@gmail.com. Thank You.



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trchurch.org