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## HARRISENA COMMUNITY CHURCH

WORSHIP, FELLOWSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE SINCE 1866

### THE HARBINGER NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2024

#### PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

The Holy season of Lent is a season of longing. It is a longing to discover something much deeper than what we can perceive with our eyes or understand with human intellect or achieve by human efforts or accumulations. This longing is the mysterious awakening to our yearning for God.

St. Augustine writes about our deep need and longing for God in his Confessions. He writes, ***"You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are rest-less till they find their rest in you."*** Augustine's writings lead us to center ourselves in God and the mysterious thirst we have that can only be satisfied by God. Consider the ***God-shaped hole***.

The "God-shaped hole" speaks to us of a void in the soul/spirit/life of every person that can only be filled by God. The "God-shaped hole" is the innate longing of the human heart for something outside itself, something transcendent, something "other." Psalms 63:1 expresses this heartfelt plea for God.

*"O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water."* Psalm 63:1 NIV

These words penned by the Psalmist beautifully illustrate the human longing and dependency on God, recognizing that true fulfillment is found in God's presence. Imagine being in a parched land desperate for water. We need water. *Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, "Anyone who is thirsty may come to me! Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, 'Rivers of living water will flow from his heart.'" (When he said "living water," he was speaking of the Spirit, who would be given to everyone believing in him.)*

Pray with me this prayer from "Meditations for Apostles of Sensitiveness" by Howard Thurman.

God, I need Thee.  
When morning crowds the night away  
And tasks of waking seize my mind;  
I need Thy poise.

God, I need Thee.  
When love is hard to see  
Amid the ugliness and slime,  
I need Thy eyes.

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God, I need Thee.  
When clashes come with those  
Who walk the way with me,  
I need Thy smile.

God, I need Thee.  
When the path to take before me lies  
I see it...courage flees-  
I need Thy faith.

God, I need Thee.  
When the day's work is done,  
Tired, discouraged, wasted,  
I need Thy rest.

In Christ's service with you.

Shalom,  
Dr. Natalie C. Wimberly



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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As your president, **I want to welcome the Harrisena Families and Friends to the Lenten and Easter Seasons.** During this time, three words come to mind *Faith, Hope* and *Opportunity*. We must have *faith* that God has a plan for our church. There must be *hope* that this plan will be successful in making our church a place where people will want to come and worship, and grow in their faith. It is up to us to provide the *opportunities* for God's plan to be successful.

As a member of our Strategic Planning Committee, I have been listening to ways we at Harrisena can make God's plan work and be successful. It is up to us to all become involved in our church and community.

I hope all of you will take time to think of these three words, not just during the Easter Season, but all the time. I believe if we all work together to have *faith, hope* and show *opportunities*, our church can grow!

I wish you a meaningful and Happy Easter Season.

*Susan Ogden*



## SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

The **Application for the Harrisena Church Scholarship** this year can be found on our website, [Harrisena.org](http://Harrisena.org). Please fill out the form and return it by Friday, **June 7th**.

Remember if you have received a scholarship in the past, you can still apply again.

*Scholarship Committee*



## MISSION'S REPORT

We continue to collect food items for Family Services. For the months of March and April we will also be collecting personal items (toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shaving cream, shampoo and bar soap). We want to thank Pam Loeb for delivering our donation to Family Services in Glens Falls. We continue to support Open Door as well. We have now delivered over 2766 Friday Night Meals.

Thank you ALL for your support of our committee!

Mission Committee: *Mary Alice Clickner, Pat Zacharias, Susan Ogden*



# Worship Committee

**WORSHIP COMMITTEE – March 2024**

**Submitted by Melissa Ferrie-Healy**

*Are you ready for Easter?*

Lent began on February 14<sup>th</sup> with Ash Wednesday. Throughout these 40 days of Lent (interspersed with the 6 “Little Easter” Sundays that fall within Lent), we are called to

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become more MINDFUL of our relationship with God through Christ. While everyone's life path is unique, the practices of fasting, prayer, confession, repentance, and alms giving offer the opportunity for us to better fall in step with Jesus as he approaches the cross in preparation for his own death - and resurrection. What can you learn about yourself during this journey? What can you learn about God? About Jesus? *Breathe, listen, move forward, and notice...*

**As you journey through Lent, we invite you to consider:**

- Participating in our **Lenten Coin Challenge** through prayerful almsgiving to support the poor, homeless, and hungry in our community.
  - Calendars with suggested weekly themes and focus activities (lovingly created by Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church) are available in Robinson Hall
  - Coins can be deposited in the collection vase near the altar
  - All funds collected will be donated to Family Services
  
- Honoring and/or remembering your loved ones by ordering **Easter flowers** to decorate our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday.
  - Order forms are due to the Harrisena Flower Committee March 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  
- **Attending one or more of our Holy Week Services**
  - Palm Sunday – March 24<sup>th</sup>**
    - Come wave some palms and shout “Hosanna!”

**Maundy Thursday – March 28<sup>th</sup>**

Dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Worship Service at 7:00 p.m.

**Good Friday – March 29<sup>th</sup>**

Northway Christian Family Church at 6:00 p.m.

**Easter Vigil – March 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Easter Sunday – March 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Sunrise Service at 6:00 a.m.**

**Sunrise Breakfast following the Sunrise Service**

**Easter Worship Service at 9:30 a.m.**

*2023-24 Worship Committee Members: Christine Burke, Melissa Ferrie-Healy, and Diane Henderson. We are here to serve!*



## MARCH FINANCE REPORT

When I sit in a pew at Harrisena Community Church, I feel God is with me. The simple but beautiful surroundings are all reminders that Jesus lives within us and encourages us to be our best selves. Following the Golden Rule is a simple but good example of how to live our lives.

Thanks to the support of our congregation, the dream of keeping our Church and the lessons of our Savior will go into the next generations to come. This optimistic view is due to the fact that we see new folks coming to worship with us every Sunday. The dinners we sponsor are well supported by the community and congregation. Our young people are helping to prepare and serve dinners. Our church is able to continue to support local and global missions.

Thank you, Harrisena supporters. Your pledges, fundraising efforts, donations and offerings are making a difference. Please keep up the good work!

Your Finance Officers, *Ken Zacharias, Bonnie Nadig, Janet Wilson*





## **WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

Submitted by Doris O'Rourke

Our **Mission Statement** adopted in **March 2022** is as follows: *The Harrisena Women's Association provides a forum for women of all ages and backgrounds to meet and enjoy each other's company and to financially enhance the Harrisena Church experience.*

That year, 2022, we **purchased the advertising sign used for fundraisers such as the BBQ and Applefest which cost \$269.95.** Covid restricted many of our activities.

**This past year, 2023, we donated \$1,000.00 toward the church fuel cost, paid \$650.00 for the new refrigerator in the kitchen, and contracted for the cleaning and recoating of the flooring in Robinson Hall and the kitchen in the amount of \$926.61.**

At our February 2024 meeting we **again donated \$1,000.00 for fuel costs.**

The Women's Association is **continuing with our Harrisena History Corner.** We are funding the entire project. We hope to complete the room this year.



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS ON MARCH 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2024!**

Turn Your Clocks Ahead as we SPRING forward one Hour on Saturday night,  
March 9<sup>th</sup>!



### **Successful Blood Drive**

On **January 26, 2024** **Harrisena Community Church** hosted another **successful Red Cross Blood Drive**. The need for blood is high and we were able to sign up 48 donors. The drive netted 44 units of blood which is the highest amount ever collected at HCC.

The Blood Drive Team of **Melissa Ferrie-Healy and Pam and Bill Loeb** would like to **thank the many volunteers who made the drive such a success**. The donors and Red Cross workers were very pleased to enjoy homemade baked goods provided by Mary Alice Clickner, Susan Ogden and Suzanne Cartier. Many thanks to **Dr. Bob Evans** for working the registration desk and Sue Ogden for staffing the concession table.

The **next Red Cross Blood Drive** is scheduled for **Friday, August 16, 2024**.



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**SAVE THE DATE**

**SATURDAY, April 6, 2024**  
Harrisena will sponsor a

**Fish Fry**  
**4-7 PM**  
**\$12.00**

We will be taking pre-sale orders.  
Please contact Deanna (518) 681-2602.

Leaving a message is 👍 good. I'll be sure to confirm all messages. You've worked with me before; if I don't confirm, call again! Ok? Ok!



## EASTER FLOWERS

It is time to think about **ordering Flowers** to decorate the church for Easter. Please use the form below to let the **Flower Committee** know your wishes (*please enclose payment by check with your order*). Thank you.

**I would like to order #** \_\_\_ plant (s) **at \$15 each. Enclosed is my check for \$** \_\_\_\_\_. *Please list as follows:*

**“IN MEMORY”** of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ OR

**“IN HONOR”** of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**YOUR Name & Phone #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make your check payable to:** *Harrisena Flower Fund.*

*Please place orders in the* **COLLECTION PLATE** *on Sunday; in the* **FLOWER COMMITTEE MAILBOX** *downstairs in the Ed. building; or mail to:* **HARRISENA COMMUNITY CHURCH**, 1616 Ridge Road, Queensbury, NY 12804.

**DEADLINE FOR ALL ORDERS IS Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>!**

## March 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Women's History Month</b>					<b>1</b> 5:30am PRAYER <i>World Day of Prayer</i> Mission Meal prepared	<b>2</b> 5:30am PRAYER
<b>3</b> 5:30 prayer 9:30 Worship <b>Daylight Savings Time Begins</b>	<b>4</b> 5:30am PRAYER	<b>5</b> 5:30am PRAYER Conversations @1	<b>6</b> 5:30am PRAYER Lectio Divina @10; AA @7:30	<b>7</b> 5:30am PRAYER	<b>8</b> 5:30am Prayer Mission Meal prepared	<b>9</b> 5:30am PRAYER
<b>10</b> 5:30 am Prayer Sunday Morning Worship @9:30 am 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent	<b>11</b> 5:30am PRAYER	<b>12</b> 5:30am PRAYER Conversations @1	<b>13</b> 5:30am Prayer Lectio Divina @10; AA @7:30	<b>14</b> 5:30am PRAYER <b>12- Women's Assoc. Mtg</b>	<b>15</b> <i>5:30am Prayer</i> Mission Meal prepared	<b>16</b> 5:30am PRAYER
<b>17</b> 5:30 am Prayer <i>Sunday Morning Worship @9:30 am</i> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent	<b>18</b> 5:30am PRAYER	<b>19</b> 5:30am PRAYER Conversations @1	<b>20</b> 5:30am Prayer; Lectio Divina @ 10 AA @7:30	<b>21</b> 5:30am PRAYER	<b>22</b> 5:30am Prayer Mission Meal prepared	<b>23</b> 5:30am PRAYER
<b>24</b> 5:30 am Prayer <b>Palm Sunday</b> <i>Sunday Morning Worship @9:30 am</i>	<b>25</b> 5:30am PRAYER	<b>26</b> 5:30am PRAYER Conversations @ 1	<b>27</b> 5:30am Prayer; Lectio Divina @10 AA @7:30	<b>28</b> 5:30am PRAYER	<b>29</b> 5:30am Prayer Mission Meal prepared	<b>30</b> 5:30 Prayer
<b>31</b> 5:30 prayer <b>EASTER Worship</b>						

**JOIN US FOR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP** in the HCC sanctuary and **NEW** conference call-in number: (701) 791-9764 and you will be connected to the service. You can join our worship service via livestream at [Harrisena.org](http://Harrisena.org). Click on the link to the livestream of the service.

**March Birthdays:** 4) Liz Moon; 5) Casper Romanowski; 6) Thalia Matthews –Chase; 9) Walda Blanchard; 12) Patty Zacharias; 14) Brandy Madon, Griff Parry; 15) Natalie Robinson, Jamie Thrall; 16) Sue Ogden, Tyler Monroe; 17 ) Kathleen Gusek; 20) Jonathan Staunches; 21) Dennis Moon; 28) Bruce Lipinski; 30) Peter Aust

### CELEBRATION FRIDAYS!!

**CELEBRATION FRIDAYS!!** Send your special events and celebrations to the church office for our **CELEBRATION FRIDAY** email publication. This is our way of sharing the blessings of God with each other as we live filled with gratitude for all that God is doing in our lives.

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## **Long-Term Prayer Requests – March 2024**

*Please remember the following members and friends who need our prayers of love and encouragement.*

### **In Facilities**

Cindy Farbaniec – Home of the Good Shepherd, Saratoga  
Francis Howard – Health & Rehab. Center, Clarksville, VA  
Linda Kennedy – Fort Hudson  
Manu Malkani – Fort Hudson  
Art Norton – Slate Valley Center, Granville  
Marilyn Somerville – Coburn Village, Rexford

### **At Home**

Laura Avent – member of Harrisena  
Kathleen Dumont – Niece of Brandy Madon  
Rev. Patti Girard – Friend of Harrisena  
Randy Huber – Husband of Cindy Huber  
Douglas Jones – Son-in-law of Art Norton  
Wendy Leyonmark – Sister of Cindy Huber  
Ann Malkani – Friend of Joanne Beck  
Robert & Beth Marshall – relatives of Phyllis Straut  
Christopher Nobile – Son of Jim & Eleanor Nobile  
Gay Smith – Member of Harrisena  
Sharon Sturdevant – Daughter of Marilyn Somerville  
Fran Tucker – Mother of Bob Tucker

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*Our Heartfelt Condolences go out to the Family & Friends of former Member of Harrisena,  
**Nancy Ann Hoover.***



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## Members and Friends in the Military

*Please update the status of anyone you know on this list as soon as information is available.*

**Andrew Bigelow** (*Army*), son of Karen Bigelow—serving stateside

**Derek Dumas**—stateside

**Michael Gusek**, son of Kathleen & Tim Gusek – stateside at Ft. Hood, TX

**Joseph Hubbard** (*Army*) – stateside

**Tony Mitchell** (*USAF*) - serving in Afghanistan.

**Tyler Monroe** (*USAF*), son of Cheryl Pagano – serving at Sheppard AFB

**Kaleb Parker** (*Army*), grandson of Rev. Dr. Wimberly – serving in Germany

**Griffith Parry** (*West Point Military Academy*), relative of Griffith Parry- serving in Poland

**Todd Payne** (*Army*), cousin of the Payne family - serving stateside

**James Pearson** (*USAF*)

**Phillip Riccio** (*Army*), son of Phyllis Riccio -serving stateside

**Brian Schneider** (*Army*) – serving in Afghanistan

**Kelly Thompson** (*US Health Svc*)

**Daniel Urband** (*USAF*), grandson of Alice Urband—serving stateside

**Mark Wilson** (*Army Spcl Forces/Reserves*), husband of Andrea—serving stateside

**Braden Stormer** – serving stateside

**Wes McQueen**, nephew of Dodi & Rev. Robinson- is out of the service!

