

Old Dutch Church Steeple Chimes

June 2018

From the Pastor's Study....



This month the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America (the denomination that Old Dutch is a part of) will hold its annual meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Minister and elder delegates will gather from across the U.S. and Canada to worship, pray, talk, listen, eat, and make decisions together. It is no secret that this General Synod will be contentious, as have the last several annual meetings. Some are predicting that there will finally be a split in the denomination because of disagreement over the full inclusion of LGBTQ persons. But the real

divide is much broader than this. The deepest disagreement is about how we understand and interpret the Bible.

As our Reformed ancestors confessed, Scripture is “infallible in all that it intends to teach.” What it *intends* to teach is the story of the Triune God’s loving, faithful presence *with* and promises *to* the world. The story invites us to find our truest selves and our real lives in communion with the living God, others, and creation. The Bible doesn’t intend to teach astronomy, or calculus, or biology, or answer every single ethical question that might ever emerge. It intends to tell us we need to know about God—while also telling us that God is (for now) beyond our full knowing.

The Reformed tradition recognizes that the Spirit of God is active all over the place drawing us into greater and greater truth about all things, like—how our brains work and our psyches are formed, what cures cancer and other diseases, and what love and justice call us to, here and now. We understand that the Spirit is immense and is drawing all persons into greater peace, awareness, wholeness, and connection.

The Spirit also helps us to hear God speaking in, with, and through the Scriptures *in light of the Spirit’s active presence in our lives and in the world*. In the Reformed tradition we say “we are Reformed and always being re-formed by the Word of God” in the power of the Spirit who always moves with the Word. God is still speaking and acting. As a congregation we believe that, in LOVE, the Triune God creates, redeems, gifts, and draws persons into God’s life and the life of the Church indiscriminately, unconditionally, and for keeps! We are being re-formed—really trans-formed—by the Spirit. I hope and pray that the Reformed Church in America doesn’t split. But I know that whatever happens, we will just keep living and sharing the good news of God’s immense love and wide welcome to every body. And I know that the Spirit will keep doing what she does, forever.



Celebrating Creation and Reconciling With Mother Earth

On May 17, with a program on climate change, we moved forward with our Native American brothers and sisters in a process of recognizing how our lifestyles are harming the environment and taking steps to be reconciled with and to care for our earth home.

Over the next year several additional events will take place to raise our awareness of what is happening and of how we can become better stewards of the good creation that we are part of, and that God has entrusted to our care. **On Sunday, June 17, our worship service will focus on celebrating creation and reconciling with mother earth.** There will be lots of music (piano, organ, violin, choir, and congregational singing), poetry, readings from Scripture and other wise voices, dance, and at the end of the service, we will process to the Church yard to plant some trees. You won't want to miss this special worship service. Plan to be there and invite others to join!



Children's Sunday and Church Picnic

June 24 is Children's Sunday. Every Sunday is for our children, but on this day our worship service will be designed and led by our kids, Sunday School teachers, and other grown-up "children." There will be children's handbells, a compelling drama about David, Israel's shepherd king, and special music featuring the choir and some of our young ones. Following worship we will have our annual picnic with a cookout, photobooth for silly dress-up photos, and games. Join the celebration, share in the fellowship, and bring the children—family, friends, and neighbors—who are part of your life.

August Worship with Fair Street Reformed Church

During the month of August we will again worship with our brothers and sisters from Fair Street congregation. The theme for the month will be: "What in the World is the Church?" There are lots and lots of ways to answer this question. The Church is a Body, a Sign, an Instrument of God's love. The Church is a "tent in the carnival of life." The Church is priest and prophet, sharing in the reign of God. The Church is a gathering of broken and healing people who are sent into the world as witness. The Church is a light on the hill. Our exploration will be rich. Our fellowship together will be enriching.

Worship will be at 10:00 a.m. as follows:

- August 5 Old Dutch Church (worship followed by a picnic)
- August 12 Old Dutch Church
- August 19 Fair Street Reformed
- August 26 Fair Street Reformed

More details about August worship will be coming in July. For now, just note the change from our normal routine and plan to be part of our shared worship.

Healing Ancestral Trauma

Etaoqua, a M'hicanu grandmother of the Tunxis Nation, a healer, and a friend through the Church's process of reconciliation with Native Americans, will offer **two more gatherings** for the healing of ancestral trauma: June 6 & 20, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Old Dutch Church.

Etaoqua writes: "Many of us carry ancestral trauma manifesting as behavioral patterns from one generation to another. This frequently shows up as depression but can be expressed as any not so good habits or behaviors, such as addictions, excesses, family black sheep, anger, anti-social behavioral patterns, avoidances, hereditary diseases, etc. We recognize it as ancestral when we can see it among various family members in multiple generations. The time to heal this is now."

The format for the gatherings will be: offering thanks; a 30 minute explanation of what we're doing; a 15 minute relaxation; 30 minutes sharing in pairs; and, then releasing in a closing ceremony. The gatherings are free. All are welcome.

For more information: email etaoqua@juno.com



The Roof Project, Again!

Perhaps you noticed.... We have removed one huge maple tree from the Church yard because it was hanging over the Wall street side of the roof, a potential hazard to our Sanctuary, and an obstacle to replacing the roof. There are also piles of scaffolding on both sides of the Sanctuary signaling that the work will begin any day now! It has been a long time coming and it is good to see some progress. We are still planning a couple of special fund-raising events as we edge toward our goal of \$250,000.00. Stay tuned and pray for many dry days in the weeks ahead!



Saturday, August 4 2-5 p.m. Fund-raising Event for Puerto Rico at the Old Dutch Church. With others in our community, we are responding to the needs of the people in Puerto Rico. An afternoon of music, dance, film, & Latin food is being planned to gather funds and provide relief.



Saturday, September 8, 1-6 p.m. Workshop with Dzieci at the Old Dutch Church. Dzieci is the NYC Theatre Troupe that brings us "Fool's Mass" and the "Passion According to St. Matthew." Fuller details will be coming in and available on the Church's website: www.olddutchchurch.org. For general information about Dzieci's transformational work see their website: <http://dziecitheatre.org/>.

PRAYER CORNER

Hospitalized - **Austen Hearn** (Kim Hearn's nephew), **Meghann Kelly, Ah Tua Teo** (Deirdre Ourso), **Giada Pettengill** (toddler with cancer), **Mirni Pangaribuan** (Dewi's sister-in-law, in Malaysia), **Chuck Oliver** (Barbara Oliver's brother), **Janet Every** (Lois' daughter), **Julia Ramsay**



Nursing Homes/Assisted Living - **Mary Markle, Audrey Hornbeck, Edna Atkins, Dorothea Clearwater, Harry Anderson, Maida Blankschen, Donald Bell, Sally Every**

At Home – **Theron Haskins, Galen Kelly, Joel Brink, Ed Ford, Howard Hopkins, Sylvia Van Etten, Milczarzyk Family-Dee, Annie, Mary Anne, Anthony; Tom Pape, Liam Lezniak** (Matt Hall), **Hannah Little, Gregory David Little, Lynda Thaisz**(Pat Allen), **Ellen Fine** (Deirdre Ourso), **Jessica** (Deirdre Ourso's sister), **Solon De Uoz** (Deirdre Ourso's nephew), **Jennifer Potter** (Karen Van Kleeck's sister), **Michael Fisher** (Gene Hall), **Peter Rosier** (son of Henk & Barbara), **Paul Vinett** (Pat Hall), **Tory Lowe** (Jane Hansell), **Scott DiMicco, Fred Hitchens** (Heather Hitchens' father), **Mark Halwick, Thelma Lucas** (Betty Williams), **Frankie Knowles** (age 6, with inoperable brain tumor; by Betsy Arlantino), **Michele** (Dewi Pangaribuan's niece), **Pat Peck** (Anne Ingalsbe), **Carol Campbell** (Jean Campbell's sister), **Liane Potter** (Pat Hall), **Danny Smith** (Dan's son), **Karen Masters for her son, Barry Mitchell, Steve Coon** (by Lisa Dudley; with kidney tumor)

(Names will remain on our At Home Prayer List for one month, unless otherwise requested)

Missionaries - **Rev. Aaro Rytkonen/AI Amana Center** (Oman), **Josh & Erica Bode** (preparing for Oman)

Military Service - **James Bonestell** (son of Ken & Rebecca Rosier)

Incarcerated - **Jeremiah**

Church Life Committee of the Classis of Mid-Hudson encourages us to regularly pray for one another. During June we are asked to pray for: General Synod, June 3; Mid-Hudson Commissioned Pastor candidates, June 10; Mid-Hudson Certified and Commissioned Preaching Elders, June 17; RCA Chaplains, June 24.



Our prayers and sympathy go to the family and friends of Marion (Mickey) Ostrander on her death last month. There will be a visitation and service for Mickey at Decker's Funeral Home in Windham on Saturday, June 9, beginning at 11 am.

Our prayers and sympathy also go out to the family and friends of Richard Johnson on his death in May. Richard's son, Ryan, is a former member of Old Dutch Church, was an active member of the Choir, and served as a Deacon on the Consistory. His former wife, Pat Johnson, was the Director of our Choirs - Senior, Youth, Handbells - for more than 15 years. Mr. Johnson is also survived by two other sons, Richard, and James, his three daughters-in-law and three grandchildren.

The Hudson Valley Pride March & Festival was held in New Paltz on June 3rd. Old Dutch was represented by a contingent of folks who participated in the march.

Walk for Life, sponsored by the Pregnancy Support Center of Ulster County, will take place at Dietz Stadium, Kingston, on Saturday, June 9, 9am to noon. Contact the center at 340-7355 for info.

Pregnancy Support Center of Ulster County **Spring Baby Bottle Campaign** runs from Mother's Day to Father's Day. Spare change, cash and checks made out to the Pregnancy Support Center can help us change the lives of women and their unborn babies. Fill the Bottle...SAVE a LIFE! *Please bring all Baby Bottles back to church by June 17.* Please see Adam Kudlo to obtain a bottle.



ONGOING MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES @ OLD DUTCH:

Music - Mendelssohn Club, Monday - 6:30 pm; Community Chorus, Wednesday - 1 pm (Sept.-May)
Old Dutch Choir, Thursday - 7 pm; Fine Arts Recitals, Thursday - 12:15 pm(Spring & Fall)

Support/12 Step Groups -

AA - Tuesday & Thursday - 9 am; Thursday - 7 pm
Al-Anon - Tuesday - 7:15 pm
Clutterers' Anonymous - 2nd & 4th Tuesday - 10 am (currently suspended)
Debtors' Anonymous - Monday - 6:30 pm (BDA); Wednesday - 6:30 pm (DA)
GRASP (Autism Support Group) - 4th Saturday - 12 noon
Peer to Peer - Thursday - 5:30 pm
SLAA - Friday - 7 pm; 1st Friday - 5:30 pm

God's Word - Worship & Sunday School, Sunday - 10:30 am; Bible Study, Tuesday - 7:00 pm;
Healing Services, 4th Wednesday - 7:00 pm, September - June

Crafts - Sew Happy!, Thursdays - 5 pm; Prayer Shawl Ministry - 2nd Sunday - 12 noon;
Crafts on Wall Street - 1st & 3rd Saturday - 9 am (June through mid-Nov.)

June 2018 						
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JUNE AT A GLANCE

Saturday, June 2 - Crafts on Wall Street - 10 am
Sunday, June 3 - Pride March in New Paltz - 1 pm
Monday, June 4 - Family of Woodstock Board Meeting - 5 pm
Wednesday, June 6 - Healing Ancestral Trauma with Etaoqua - 6 pm
Thursday, June 7 - Choir Rehearsal - 7 pm
Saturday, June 9 - Christmas Wishes "Super-Hero & Princess Luncheon" - 11 am
Sunday, June 10 - Monthly Consistory Meeting - 12 noon
Monday, June 11 - PULSES (Parents Understanding Special Education Services) - 6 pm
Thursday, June 14 - Choir Rehearsal - 7 pm
Saturday, June 16 - Crafts on Wall Street - 10 am
Sunday, June 17 - Father's Day
Tuesday, June 19 - No Bible Study (Pastor attending Classis Meeting)
Wednesday, June 20 - Healing Ancestral Trauma - 6 pm (Final session)
Thursday, June 21 - Choir's Year-End Picnic at the home of Cate & Charley Collier
Sunday, June 24 - Children's Sunday & Church Picnic - 10:30 am
Thursday, June 28 - Ulster County Transportation Council Open Meeting - 6 pm

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday, July 14 - STARS (Second Time Around Animal Rescue) Fundraiser
Saturday, August 4 - Benefit for Puerto Rico
Sundays, August 5, 12, 19, 26 - Joint Worship Services with Fair Street
Saturday, August 11 - Family of Woodstock Flea Market
Wednesday & Thursday, August 29 & 30 - Christmas Wishes Backpack Distribution

