

NORTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
921 COLLEGE AVE
ELMIRA NY 14901-2048

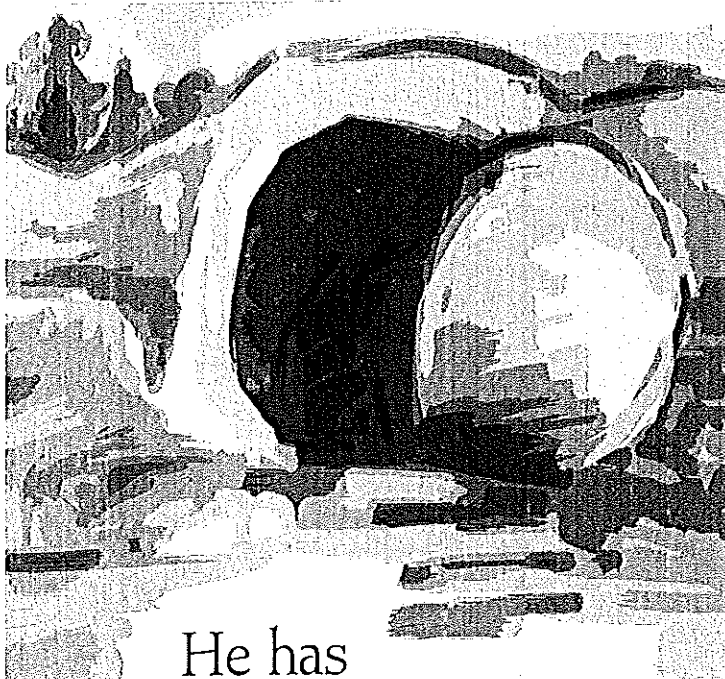
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April 2011

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He has
given us a new
birth into a living hope
through the resurrection
of Jesus Christ
from the dead.

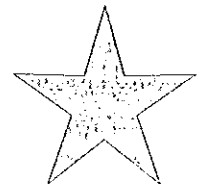
1 Peter 1:3, NRSV

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April

NORTH STAR



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Kindermuzik in Community Room	CASH - Tax Program				1 9- Community Kitchen 10- Food Pantry 5:15 AA	2 8- AA
3 8- Bell Choir 8:45 - Praise Band 9-Chancel Ch 9:30 - Worship/Com 10:35- Fellowship 10:45 - Adult & Youth Ed 10:45 - New Member Class 1- College Bible Study 6:30 - Women's Bible Study	4 10 - Food Pantry 2-Cash 6:30 - Deacons	5 8:30am - Yoga 10 -Trust Group 2 -Cash 5:30 - Youth Ch 6:30 - AA 7- Music & Worship	6 10-Food Pantry 12 - Bible Study 1- Pantry Coalition 4-CSI/EC 5 - Fellowship 6-Lenten Supper 7-Lenten Service 7:30 - Chancel Choir	7 8:30am - Yoga 2-Cash 6:30 - AA 7 - Men's Bible Study 7- Women's Bible Study	8 10- Food Pantry 5:15 AA	9 12-5-Willits in use 8- AA
10 8-Bell Choir 9- Praise Band 9:30 - Worship 10:35 - Fellowship 10:45 -Adult & Youth Ed 10:45 -New Member Class 1-College Bible Study 6:30-Women's Bible Study	11 10 - Food Pantry 12-Cash 6:30 - Trustees 7- Encounter group/Library 10pm - 3am - EC Exam night	12 8:30am -Yoga 10 -Trust Group 2-Cash 5:30 - Youth Ch 6:30 - AA 10pm-3am - EC Exam night	13 10 -Food Pantry 12-Bible Study 4- CSI/EC 6-Lenten Meal 7-Lenten Service 7:30-Chancel Ch 10pm - 3am- EC Exam night	14 8:30am - Yoga 2-Cash 6:30 - AA 7- Men's Bible Study 7- Women's Bible Study 10pm - 3am -EC Exam night	15 10-Food Pantry 5:15 AA	16 9- Trustees Workday 8- AA
17-One Great Hour of Sharing Palm Sunday 8-Bell Choir 8:45 -Praise Band 9- Ch Choir 9:30 - Worship 10:35 - Fellowship 10:45 -Adult & Youth Ed 1- College Bible Study 6:30 - Women's Bible Study	18 10- Food Pantry 7- Session	19 8:30am - Yoga 5:30 - Youth Ch 6:30 - AA	20 10-Food Pantry 12 -Bible Study 7:30 - Chancel Choir	21 8-12 - Thursday Morning Musicals 8:30 - Yoga 4:30 - Deadline for May Northstar 6:30 - AA 7- Audubon 7:30- Maundy Thursday Service	22 10 - Food Pantry 5:15 - AA	23 8-AA
24-One Great Hour of Sharing Easter 8- Bell Choir 8:45 - Praise Band 9- Ch Choir 9:30 Worship 10:35 - Fellowship 10:45 -Adult & Youth Ed 1- College Bible Study	25 OFFICE CLOSED 10- Food Pantry	26 8:30 - Yoga 5:30 - Youth Choir 6:30 -AA	27 10-Food Pantry 12 -Bible Study 4- CSI/EC 7:30 - Chancel Choir	28 8:30 - Yoga 6:30 - AA 7- Men's Bible Study	29 10- Food Pantry 5:15 -AA College Bible Study/Manse Sundays @1pm	30 8am - Men's Breakfast 8pm - AA CSI Christian Searching Issues Wednesdays @ 4 EC Campus Center

GETTING IN THE HABIT OF GOD

Rev. Gary Chorpenning
northprespastor@stny.rr.com

Some things you must understand in order to do them. Surgery is one example of that principle that comes to mind. Conversely, some things you must do in order to understand them. Fasting is a prime example of this latter principle.

From an intellectual perspective fasting is hard to understand. All sorts of plausible reasons can be put forward as to why fasting is a good thing to do. Some have to do with purely physical benefits. Some have to do with psychological and spiritual benefits.

Fasting is put forward by some as a practice that is beneficial for our bodies. The web site, www.webmd.com, suggests several positive effects for our bodies from the practice of fasting. The first one is almost too obvious to mention -- weight loss. I don't suppose I need to explain how abstaining from food would cause us to lose weight, do it? Now, I have to let you know that, because of some of the complex physiological response in our bodies when they are completely deprived of food, in the long term, fasting can actually sometimes slow down the process of losing weight and can, in fact, make it more likely that we will gain that weight back eventually.

Another benefit mentioned by that web site is detoxifying or purifying our bodies. I suppose the idea behind this benefit is that by not eating, we allow our bodies' natural filtering systems -- for example, our kidneys and liver -- to catch up, since, during fasting, presumably no new impurities are being added to our system through our food.

One final physical health benefit from fasting that is mentioned on webmd.com is that researchers have noticed a correlation between

regular fasting and longevity. It seems that lab animals and human beings who fast regularly tend to live longer than those who don't. Scientists aren't entirely sure why that is the case, but that it is the case is clear.



But, look, I'm not a weight loss guru. A brief glance at me will make that fact pretty obvious. And my interest in writing to you about fasting has very little to do with any of its physical health benefits. I want to help you understand how fasting can help make you a better disciple of Jesus Christ. Fasting for physical health benefits is a perfectly acceptable practice in my view. But don't try to mix your motives for fasting. Don't delude yourself that fasting once a week in order to look better in a bathing suit this summer will also deepen your relationship with God. Fasting to lose weight involves keeping your eyes fixed on yourself. Fasting as a spiritual discipline involves getting your eyes off yourself and fixing them on God. The two motives for fasting work at cross purposes. We have to be careful not to allow our spiritual disciplines to become complicated by ulterior motives in our hearts.

So, setting aside physical health fasts, we find a number of explanations offered for why fasting as a spiritual discipline has from the earliest Old Testament times been commended to God's people as a great benefit to their spiritual lives. The Bible writers advocate fasting, and they give a number of examples of people fasting -- individually and as a community. What the Bible never really does provide is a direct argument for why we should fast or even an explanation of how fasting works. How is it that fasting is supposed to work as a discipline of the godly life? That the Bible never seriously tries to answer.

Is that because no Bible knows the answer to that question? Or is it because God knows that fasting explains itself when we actually do it?

Well, that, I suppose, should be the end of my article. But, naturally, I'm going to go on just a bit more. Keep in mind that what I write about fasting will really make the most sense to you only once you have done some fasting.

I tend to think about fasting along with some other spiritual disciplines as a discipline of self-denial or maybe a little more positively as a discipline of re-orientation. In that category I would include giving (especially, money) and Sabbath-keeping. In each of those, as with fasting, we choose to deny ourselves. For giving to be a discipline of the spiritual life, our giving needs to be planned, consistent and on-going, and sacrificial. That is, our giving must cause us to limit our spending on ourselves. Our giving should pinch, or it isn't really a discipline and so won't really have much impact on our spiritual life. If we are able spend as much on luxuries, comforts, conveniences, entertainments, etc. as others who make as much income as we do, then we are not giving away enough of our money.

Sabbath-keeping is much more about what we do on our Sabbaths (usually Sundays but not necessarily) than about what we don't do. Sabbath-keeping is concerned with how we use our time. It's about making choices about how we will allot our time on the Sabbath, and that will have implications about how we spend our time during the rest of the week. And that means we will certainly end up spending our time differently than the rest of our neighbors.

First of all, Sabbath is about worship. To keep the Sabbath means to gather together with God's people to worship together, fellowship together, learn together, and serve together. That can be inconvenient, of course. There are lots of other things we might like to do with those Sabbath mornings, more and more things all the time. And so, you have a choice to make each Sunday morning. Will you keep the Sabbath this week or not? Notice, it's not a question of how you feel about doing it. It's a question of

whether you believe God or not and a question of what you will do about that.

That's why I think of these practices (fasting, giving, and Sabbath-keeping) as disciplines of orientation. They are about making decisions. Making decisions is how we orient our lives. I can make decisions that will orient my life toward God, or I can make decisions that will orient my life toward myself.

That's why I also think of these practices as disciplines of self-denial. By making a habit of practicing these disciplines, I steadily build up in myself the habit of choosing God. In that way, my character, my habits of thought and deciding become more and more oriented toward God.

Fasting is especially helpful in this regard because it can be quite simple and focused. I decide to dedicate a set period of time to God, to refuse to gratify my desire to eat as a sign to me and God of my commitment. Every time I feel a pang of hunger, I remind myself that I am practicing the process, the habit of saying "yes" to God and "no" to myself.

It's very much like going to the gym to lift weights in order to strengthen my muscles. With fasting, I am exercising my spiritual muscles that make me better able to say "yes" to God and "no" to myself not just about food but in every aspect of my life and for every decision I have to make.

If you want to have a life that is more and more oriented toward God, consider making these disciplines part of your life. If you want to develop the habit of saying "yes" to God in everything, consider giving your spirit some exercise with these practice.

[Note: One caution, there are some health conditions that make it inadvisable to abstain from food. Diabetic and people with serious digestive disorders should probably talk with their doctors before engaging in fasting. If you'd like to think about some alternatives to fasting from food, get in touch with me, and we can explore what options might be best for you.]



By Ericka Hachmeister
College Minister

College Ministry

A CCOMINISTRY at Elmira College

Making Disciples & Making a Difference

A Call to be Secretly Awesome...

Through 18-20, four students and six church members traveled with me to Pittsburgh, PA for the Jubilee

Conference. Jubilee is a conference about all areas of life belonging to God and presents different speakers and break out session speakers who share with students about faith in their lives, their communities, vocation and

callings. Students are challenged to reflect Christ in everything, they build community with one another on the

trip and are encouraged to develop a worldview based in scripture.



I asked those who attended the conference to reflect on how God is changing them, as Dr. Eric Mason reminded us that God changes the world through changed people, and on the call to be secretly awesome which was Bob Goff's closing challenge. Read

what two students, Jaime Wright and Ali Rowell, and elder, Bill Furnas, had to say in response.

I need your help! I have a prize for whoever can best describe their Jubilee experience in the fewest number of words... but I need you to vote on the winner from this list of finalist!

- 1. Breath of fresh air
- 3. Eye opening

- 2. !
- 4. Challenging

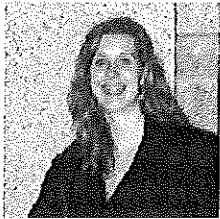
Email me at northpresericka@stny.rr.com with your top pick or just tell me in person!

Dates for the Spring:

- **College Bible Study:** When: Sunday's @ 1:00pm, Topic: The Sermon on the Mount, Where: The Manse.
- **Christians Searching Issues:** When: Wednesday's @ 4:00pm, What: Being a Good Samaritan, Where: EC campus center.
- **EC Women's Backpacking Trip:** When: April 17-24th, What: Spring Break Backpacking Trip, Where: Cumberland Island, GA, Why: to challenge our bodies and renew our minds!
- **Exam Nights:** When: April 11-14th, 10pm-3am, What: NPC opens it's doors to EC students for studying during exam week, We need food! Look for the signup sheet in the Narthex!

Reflections on Jubilee...

I think that God is changing me to be more open to him, and I think that the Jubilee conference definitely helped open doors. It was very helpful in forcing me to realize that an open relationship with God is a good thing, and that changing to accept that is needed.



I really though [Bob Goff] had a good message because it made me think about what it exactly means to be secretly awesome. Mainly, you don't have to advertise your awesomeness and it is better to be awesome in private. I think this spoke to me and I will continue to try to respond to the call of being secretly awesome by doing the little things that make life important such as doing well and not feeling the need to brag about it, or just by simply smiling. This was an interesting thing to encourage and I thought it was a great way to teach people.

~ Ali Rowell '11

God is showing me that His future for me (as far as I can tell at this point) is COMPLETELY different from what I had planned. But it is also so much better than I could have imagined. I find myself more joyful and looking to the future with delight rather than with fear or dread. And I am learning that I can have FUN with God--the Christian life is not a chore. For example, there were many break out sessions that I had labeled as more spiritually-disciplined--I thought about going to them because it was "the right thing to do" but I really didn't want to go. Then God palmed my forehead, told me I coulda had a V-8, and told me to go to the memoir writing, horror novelist, and fantasy novelist instead BECAUSE THEY WERE JUST AS SPIRITUAL AS THE OTHERS. Moral of the story: God has plans to fill my life with JOY--why was I trying to plan my own life? The challenge to be secretly awesome was amazing for me because I have been carrying around a phrase given to me a few years ago: "invisible star". And this sounds strangely similar to what Bob Goff was talking about. I feel like it is embodied in doing great things for God even if we aren't recognized by the world. It is having an eternal perspective on the things we do--or perhaps I should call it a "Kingdom perspective". For me--this means surrendering my pride, because I like being recognized by the world. But the more I discover my worthiness--covered with Christ's blood--the less I will try to make myself worthy to the world. Because God is the only true audience and judge.



~ Jaime Wright: '13

For me change is a change in perspective, a refocusing of: how my life; or what I am doing in my life or with my life. It is an assessment of purpose. It is asking what is the motivation for [what I do]. So instead of just doing, taking the time to really ask is this helping to fulfill Gods mission in the world. Jubilee has helped open my eyes to the huge number of opportunities where my change can effect change for Him.



Being secretly awesome for me comes from the confidence I have from Him to be genuine in all I do. The personal growth (mentioned above) is what will continue that and broaden it.

~ Bill Furnas

~Allison Fischer



God is changing me by constantly challenging me to always question him and find the truth in his words and find his plan in the world. Jubilee gives me hope, direction, and motivation that a Christian can do something positive and active with their faith.

I responded to Bob Goff's challenge by being overwhelmed, knowing that I could probably never do the incredible things that he described in his life (not enough money, friends, or courage). I am currently work on seeing how even by fixing the smaller, less flashy or exciting things (aka rather than helping to write child protection laws in Africa I can help a few students in a poverty stricken neighborhood in the U.S. find their calling and motivate them to do well and stay out of trouble). The way I see it a life is a life, it doesn't matter if it is a physically starving child in Africa or an emotionally and spiritually starved child in the United States, by helping one of these people in God's name improves the world by untold amounts and helps to bring a little piece of God's kingdom down here to earth.

ONLINE LIBRARY CATALOG FOR NPC!

Community service student, Skylar Clapperton, has been working hard under the supervision of Ericka Hachmeister, to make the church library more accessible. Get to know Skylar below in the short bio and read her directions for accessing the catalog from home!

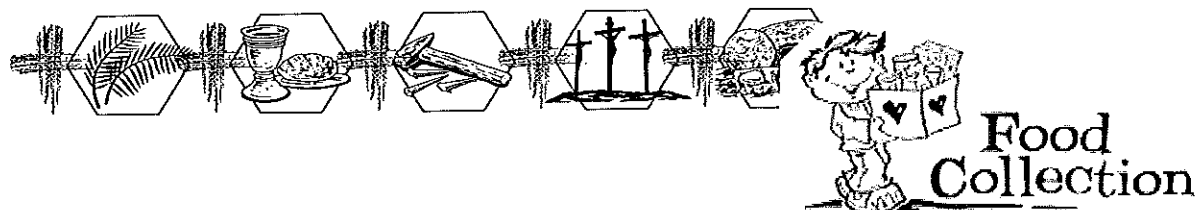


Hello everybody, my name is Skylar Clapperton and I am a freshman at Elmira College. I was born and raised in New Berlin, New York, where I graduated as valedictorian of my 2010 class. At Elmira College, I am studying to receive degrees in, both, French and Adolescent Education. Community Service is a requirement for all freshmen, mandated by the college. This year, I chose to perform my sixty hours here at North Presbyterian Church, under the guidance of Ericka Hachmeister. During my time, I have spent many hours in the library and offices cataloging the books that can be found within the Church.

This cataloging system has made it possible for you, with access to a computer, to find the books that are within North Presbyterian Church. To do this, type: <http://www.librarything.com/catalog/northpres> into the internet address bar and press enter. The page screen will show up with a quick listing of books that the Church has. On the upper right side of the webpage, there is a "Search this library" engine. Type the title of the desired book that interests you in the blank and press enter. If the Church has that specific book, it will show on the webpage with its cover, title, and author. To find the location of this book, there are two methods. With the first, you can click the "use it" link on the top of the page that says, "northpres has a suggested style for viewing this library (use it)." A new page will show that still has the desired book on it, but under comments, it will say "Location" which is either the library, or that specific office in which it can be found. You will also find the section that makes locating the book easier. For the second method, all you have to do is click a picture. Within the long rectangular box that the cover, title, and author are in, there are also small diagrams of a book, a ripped piece of paper, and a green plus sign, on the far right side of the screen. You want to click on the ripped piece of paper. That brings you to the profile of that book. If you slowly scroll down through the information that is provided, you can see a section with "Comments." This also tells you where the book is located and in which section.

I hope this helps all of you find the most use out of your wonderful library here at North Presbyterian Church.

- Skylar Clapperton '14



From the Pantry

On Saturday, May 7th, our local letter carriers will be collecting non-perishable food items for distribution in our community. This is part of a National Food drive in conjunction with the US Postal Service. Food donations can be put in a plastic bag and placed by your mailbox on Saturday morning, May 7th. This is the only large food collection before the summer months, when the children are out of school and not receiving nutritional meals at school. Please help!

The Pantry is now collecting only Spring and Summer clothes.

CARE PACKAGES

for

College Students

Our college students are working hard and nothing revives their spirits more than a **CARE PACKAGE**.

Send a reminder of God's presence & provision by dropping off items in the trunk in the Narthex.

Suggestions of items to donate:

Packets of hot chocolate

tea bags

instant coffee

cookies

candy

gum

trail mix

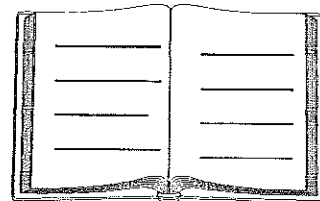
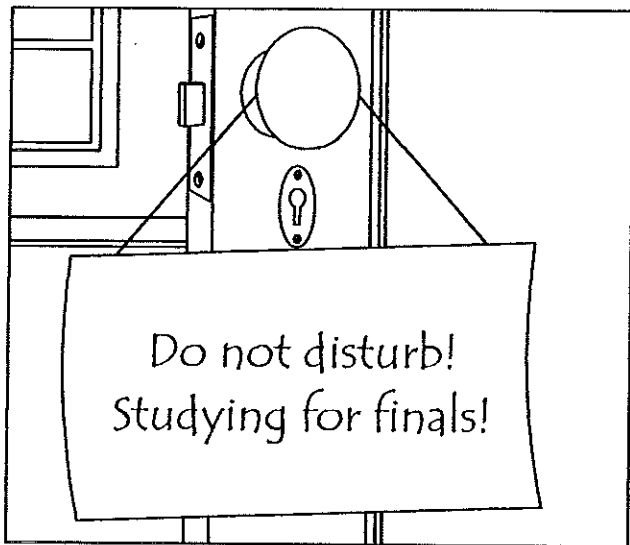
microwave popcorn

Ramen noodles

beef jerky

small toys (to relieve stress)

Be creative!



Deadline for
donations:

April 10th

**“Choosing To See”
By Mary Beth Chapman**

Mary Beth writes this book as a tribute to their 5 years old daughter, Maria, who died in an accident at home on May 21, 2008, and to show God’s grace, peace, hope and love to all who read it.

In her stories, she gracefully and honestly shares her thoughts, fears, despair, and joys, giving the reader a window to her soul. She and Steven Curtis are living their faith and giving us, the body of Christ, practical, faith laden words, to help us through whatever our “new normal” might be.

We do not have to suffer alone in despair, the Chapmans have shown us how to look to Jesus Christ, and to cling to Him while taking each step.

Mary Beth is the wife of Steven Curtis Chapman. She and Steven Curtis started an organization called Show Hope, which provides financial assistance to families wishing to adopt, and opened Maria’s Big House of Hope in China in 2009, to provide medical care to orphans there.



"Thank you to everyone involved with the recent Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner. We had a terrific crew, excellent meal, and so many wonderful cakes were donated. God answered our prayers, and we are so grateful. The proceeds raised from the dinner are going toward the purchase of a new permanent sign for the parking lot. Thank you again, Cindy and Linda "



Immersed in the Game

The chasm separating them was bridged by a chessboard. Sound ceased to exist and neither was there smell nor light nor any other distraction. It was just pure thought as their minds computed their offensive possibilities and defensive probabilities. Each move factored their estimation of the other's personality and foibles. They were totally immersed in the game of Popes and Kings.

Chess can be a complex game whose intricacies take one to the limits of current computer capability. Grade-schoolers can, with a degree of effort, learn to play the game with tolerable skill. Yet, many adults throw up their hands at the fog of complexities. It seems to have something to do with interest and immersion in the game to the exclusion of trivial matters.

God is the master chess player. The chasm between God and human beings might be great, but each day we make choices resulting in consequences. As we play life's game of chess there is a master plan written by the game's designer Himself. The Master plays black (moves second) and responds to our move. The Master has published the ancient game plan called the Bible.

Now let it be clear. Some have charged those of us with a high view of Scripture as "bible idolaters". How Philistine to treat us as Luddites! We hold to the traditional views proven solid through the centuries. Our position is that of Calvin, Luther, Zwingli, and the other reformers. The Bible is life's chess manual. It is not magic nor does it foster a sound bite solution. It is

not to be a pawn of the political left or right. Rather, when read with patient, practiced skill, it provides an understanding for life's moves. It is God's Word.

Your Bible can be thought of as a tool, a very complex tool. The Bible is the fulcrum which provides the leverage point to pry open life. The ultimate authority for life is the Holy Scripture – The Bible.

Some ask: "Isn't it ancient?" Of course it is! Others ask: "Haven't things changed over the period of thousands of years?" Some things have! Others ask: "Can 66 books with almost as many authors be a unity?" The answer to these questions reveals the miracle of God's Word. It is constant in a changing world. After all, it is His world, and His Word.

[The Bible] is constant in a changing world. After all, it is His world, and His Word.

A man from Galilee, fully human and fully God, died on a Roman cross in the spring of 30 A. D. to rise again for our sins. That occurrence requires nothing from us except acceptance in terms of faith. The Bible, with its multiplicity of authors and

Our Bible is God's tool. It is a means of grace to be used by the faithful to understand this thing we are immersed in, called life.

covering so many centuries, is the actual Word of God. It requires from us study and use. Knowledge and skill will then be given to us.

An idol is something one kneels down before and worships. It is useless. Our Bible is God's tool. It is a means of grace to be used by the faithful to understand this thing we are immersed in, called life. The Bible is USEFUL.

An individual assigns importance by choosing those things which surround him. This immersion is the clothing of our life, be it secular or spiritual. Look around you. What clothes your life?

The game of a Christian life is much like chess. Each move made has foreseeable and unforeseeable consequences. Success largely depends upon one's understanding of the basic moves and positions. That understanding for the game of life comes from immersion in the Word of God. You can't play the game without practice. Skill is achieved through study and application.

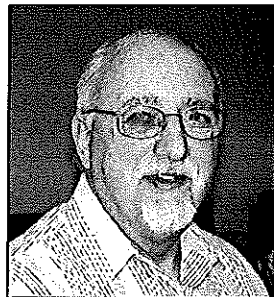
Most churches provide opportunities for Bible study and the development of life's skills. Of critical importance are the Bible studies. If possible attend a study program led by qualified leaders or using videos and study material from well known trusted teachers or institutions. Our church has a half dozen such professionally trained members.

Come explore the workings of God's Word. Sunday our pastor's sermons are from and focus on the Word of God. Following worship is Adult Education where Biblically based concepts are taught and discussed. There are weekly Bible studies: a mid-week noon Bible study, Thursday evening men's group, and a women's group meeting Sunday or Thursday evening, your choice.

If you're not in the Word of God, you are not in the game. Come in and immerse yourself in God's game of life.

See Ya' Sunday

Barry L. Colyer
April 2011
bcolyer@stny.rr.com



et et et et et

"The Bible is a harbor where I can drop down my anchor, feeling certain that it will hold. Here is a place where I can find sure footing; and, by the grace of God, from this confidence I shall never be moved." *Charles H. Spurgeon (19th cent.)*

"Suppose we ponder how slippery is the fall of the human mind into forgetfulness of God, how great the tendency to every kind of error, how great the lust to fashion constantly new and artificial religions. Then we may perceive how necessary was such written proof of the heavenly doctrine, that it should neither perish through forgetfulness nor vanish through error nor be corrupted by the audacity of men." *John Calvin (16th cent.)*

"If you would follow on to know the Lord, come at once to the open Bible expecting it to speak to you. Do not come with the notion that it is a *thing* which you may push around at your convenience." *A. W. Tozer (20th cent.)*

"Just as at sea those who are carried away from the direction of the harbor bring themselves back on course by a clear sign, on seeing a tall beacon light or some mountain peak coming into view, so Scripture may guide those adrift on the sea of life back into the harbor of the divine will." *Gregory of Nyssa (4th cent.)*

et et et et et

Notes from the Stated Session Meeting of February 21, 2011

Pastor Gary Chorpenning led the opening prayer.

Pastor Chorpenning read from Psalms 78, and then directed the Elders to meet with a partner for discussion. This was followed by prayer.

Bill Furnas reported on the recent Jubilee Conference and expressed the importance of maintaining our college outreach ministry.

The financial report for January 2011 was reviewed and received.

A motion was approved to hold an informational meeting for the Congregation regarding denominational issues following the Worship Service on March 6, 2011.

A discussion was held regarding the replacement of the sign for the church that is in the front of the parking lot. Additional information will be provided for action by Session at a subsequent meeting.

Elder Heather Taylor was elected as the Commissioner representing North Presbyterian Church at the Presbytery meeting to be held on March 5, 2011 at Phelps, New York.

Minutes of the Stated Session Meeting of January 17, 2011 and the special Session Meeting of January 30, 2011 were reviewed, corrected and approved. Clarification was needed from the Clerk regarding the minutes of the January 30, 2011 Annual Meeting. They will be returned to the Clerk for additional review.

Donald and Karen Maus were removed from the rolls at their request.

Pastor Chorpenning presented a "Ministry Cluster Plan" to establish meetings on a reoccurring basis to "1) clarify the overall church mission for their particular focus in ministry, 2) to share what each committee or ministry is planning, 3) to look for ways to share ministry projects, 4) to initiate a new ministry." The Clusters include: Administrative Cluster (Budget Committee, Endowment/Investment Committee, Staff Relations Committee, Stewardship Committee, Treasurer, Trustees); Community Life Cluster (Deacon, Fellowship Committee, Worship Committee); Education Cluster (Adult Education Committee, Board of Youth Ministry, Christian Education Committee, Nominating Committee, Stewardship Committee, Worship Committee); Mission Evangelism, and Church Growth Cluster (Board of Youth Ministry, College Ministry Committee, Mission Committee, Outreach Committee, Worship Committee). Pastor Chorpenning will establish the first meeting time for each Cluster.

A representative from CCO would be in the area on March 10th for a meeting with members of Session regarding staffing options.

The next inter-generational Sunday School class will be held March 13, 2011.

A family game night will be held at the church on Saturday February 26th.

Adjourned with prayer led by Reverend Chorpenning.

One Great Hour of Sharing

“For some people, the image of God’s safety in times of storms is figurative and symbolic...for other’s the storm is quite literal.”¹

“We have all felt the effects of the recent economic recession...One Great Hour of Sharing is making a difference...”²

“Thank you in advance for your generosity and the way your giving fulfills the words of our Lord’s Prayer that God’s will be done “on earth as it is in heaven.” Your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing bring a bit of heaven to people here on earth who are in need of God’s redeeming touch.”³

On Palm Sunday, April 17th, we will collect your donations to the “One Great Hour of Sharing” campaign. The funds collected benefit the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Self-Development of People Program, and more. Please give generously. Thank you,

Mission Committee



Food Pantry Item of the Month
Ramen Noodles and/or Jelly (any kind)



Save the Date

Chicken 'n Biscuit Dinner
Saturday, May 7
4:30 - ?



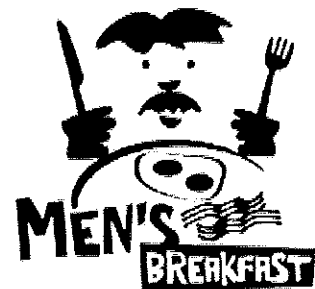
We will be hosting this dinner to benefit Saving Grace Ministry of Elmira as they work to open a transitional housing program for men being paroled from prison.

Want to help? Please see Karen or Kevin Moshier



Men's Breakfast (April)

The April monthly Men's breakfast will be held Saturday April 30 - Start at 8:00 a.m. - out by - 9:00. The kitchen crew is cooking up the best breakfast and fellowship in town. Pastor Gary will update us on the issues being voted on by the denomination. Come and find out the latest chatter around the church.



CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LILY FUND

May be given in Loving Memory or in Honor of a relative or friend. (Deadline April 17)

In Loving Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

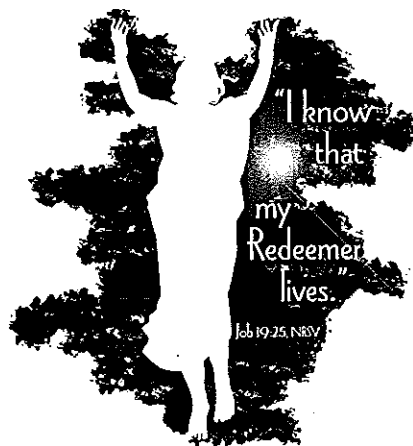
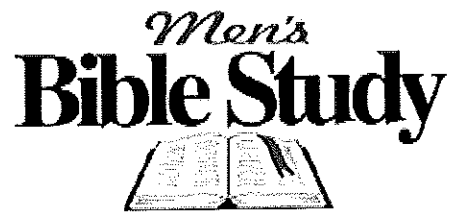
By _____

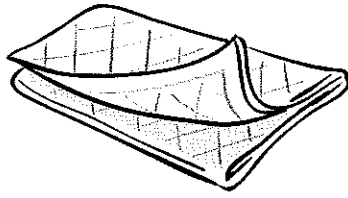
Please enclose a check made out to NPC.



Thursday Night Men's Bible Study

The Thursday night Men's Bible Study will continue study in I Samuel led by Tom Knight. Starts at 7:00 P.M. out by 8:30. Coffee is hot, munchies available and the conversation insures smiles abound. Come on over and find out if Saul would have made a great defensive end?





Church World Service Blankets+

Church World Service provides relief and long-term recovery work to those in need around the world. Blankets for warmth and protection to victims of a disaster, seeds and tools to struggling farmers, and water and health to impoverished communities.

This spring, please honor the important people in your life by contributing to the Blankets+ program. Cards and information will be available in the Narthex from May 1st to May 15th, or by calling the church office.

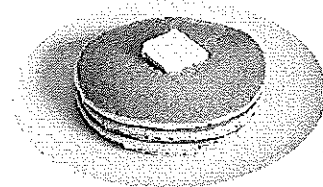
Mission Committee



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST -- 8AM SATURDAY, APRIL 30

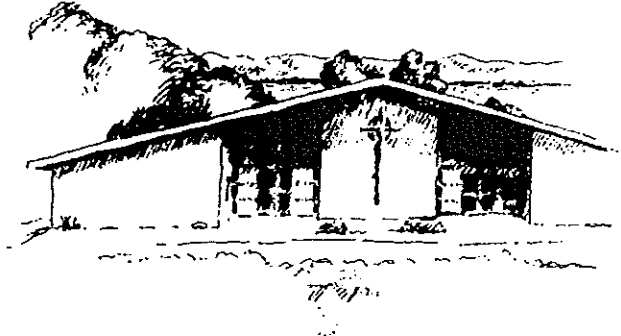
All men of the church are invited to a fellowship breakfast. Meet at North Church for good food, good conversation, great fellowship. BRING A FRIEND

**Guest Speaker - Gary Chorpenning
Ramifications of the
denominational vote**



CAMP WHITMAN

ON SENECA LAKE



PRESBYTERIES OF GENEVA AND GENESEE VALLEY

FAMILY WEEKEND CAMPING

**Memorial Day weekend
May 27 – 30, 2011**

**Labor Day weekend
September 2 - 5, 2011**

**ENJOY FELLOWSHIP...
FUN...
RELAXATION**

Camp Whitman has over 117 acres on the west side of Seneca Lake just off Route 14, three miles south of Dresden, New York. For exploring, there are woods, ravines, meadows, a pond, and the lakefront. There are playing fields, canoes at the lake, and during warm weather, swimming at the pool.

Camp Whitman on Seneca Lake will have a lifeguard at the pool for Labor Day weekend. The pool is not open for Memorial Day weekend. The hours when the pool will be open will be posted. There will also be a waterfront lifeguard on duty and hours for using the waterfront for boating activities will be posted. There will be no swimming at the pool or boating at the lakefront unless the lifeguard is on duty.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND FACILITIES

1. Space for Trailers and tents. (no hookups)
2. Cabins (sleep 4 on bunks with camp mattresses)
3. Shower house (with flush toilets and hot showers)
4. Kitchen (stove, refrigerator, freezer – shared use by everyone on site)
5. Campfire areas *Firewood used must be purchased on site.*

APRIL DEACON VISITATION LIST

APRIL 3

Bruce Flaherty
CCNF -6th Floor
103 Washington St
Elmira NY 14901

APRIL 17

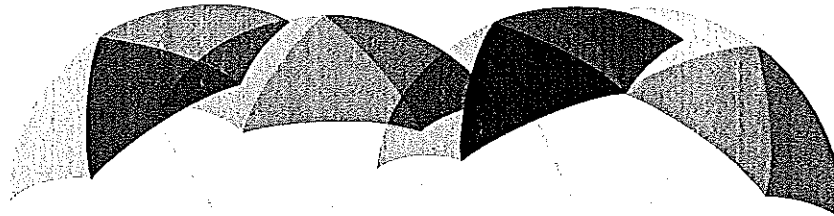
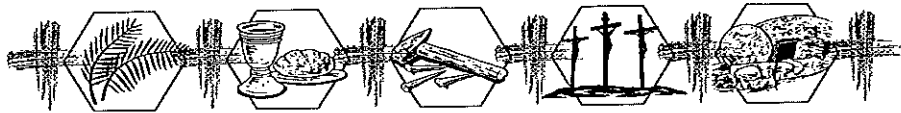
Cynthia Klungle
506 South Ave
Elmira NY 14904

APRIL 10

Agnes Gunderman
Woodbrook #212
1250 Maple Ave
Elmira NY 14904

APRIL 24

Eleanora Koehler
655 Roe Ave
Elmira NY 14905



FLOWER DELIVERY FOR APRIL

3 Kevin and Karen Moshier
10 Joan Barneski
17 Audrey Vanderhoff
24 The Deacons/Easter Flowers

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|--------------------|
| 1 | Harry Fitzsimmons | 15 | Barb Duryea |
| 2 | Kimberly Mosher | | Jedaiah Hungerford |
| | Aaron Haigh | 19 | Susan Kruckow |
| 3 | Adam Hungerford | | Adele Roberts |
| 4 | Katie Washburn | 21 | Rebecca Kowulich |
| 7 | Cory Swatling | | Evan Van Osdol |
| | Charles White | | Marjorie Magaw |
| | Glenda Solowiej | 23 | Lilly Blowers |
| | Ronald Varnum | | Gabrielle Blowers |
| 8 | Norma Brooks | | Sophie Heinsohn |
| | Carolyn Buffington | 24 | Hal Wolfe |
| | Gail Hatfield | 29 | Martha Houston |
| | Barbara Mosher | 30 | Han van den Blink |
| 9 | Joey Robinson | | Peggy Hadlock |
| 10 | Nancy Varnum | | Linda Williams |
| 11 | George Paddock | | |
| 13 | Andrew Robinson | | |
| 14 | Chase Tebin | | |



APRIL PRAYER FAMILIES

APRIL 3

Bill & Bobbi Furnas
 ...Joshua, Rachel
 Richard & Ann Gawenus

APRIL 10


Diane Green
 Pat Goodridge
 Alice & John Greible
 ...Jonathan, Ashley

APRIL 17

Martha & Ted Grinnell
 Donald Guinn
 Agnes Gunderman
 Thomas & Susan Gustafson
 ...Christine, Carl, Curt

APRIL 24

Todd & Peggy Hadlock
 Ryan & Aaron Haigh
 Robert & Kathleen Hansen
 ...Kevin, Jeffrey, Julie



Nancy Shirk and Susie Hoskins
invite you to attend a

Baby Girl Shower
for
Leigha Hoskins

on Saturday, April 9, 2011
from 1:00 to 3:00

in Willetts Hall,
North Presbyterian Church
Elmira, NY
RSVP to Nancy @ 731-5275

HOT CROSS BUNS

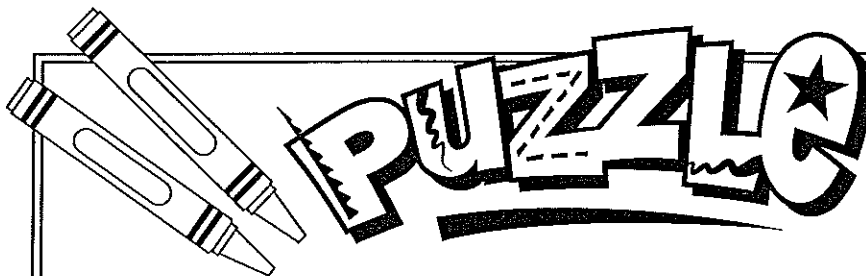
Make this traditional Easter recipe to remember how Christ gave his life for you.

What you need:

- 1 can (12 oz.) evaporated milk
- 1 stick (½ cup) butter, melted
- ½ cup sugar
- Pinch of salt
- 1½ Tablespoons yeast
- 1 egg, beaten
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg
- 5 cups flour
- Icing
- An adult to help

What you do:


1. In large bowl, combine the first eight ingredients.
2. Stir in flour, one cup at a time, to form soft dough. Knead on a floured surface until smooth and elastic (about five minutes).
3. Place in a greased bowl, turning once to grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled (about one hour).
4. Knead out air bubbles. Form six two-inch balls.
5. Place two inches apart on a greased cookie sheet. Cover and let rise until doubled (about 30 minutes).
6. Bake at 375 degrees until golden (13 to 15 minutes). Cool on wire racks.
7. Add icing in a cross shape. Enjoy!




FIX YOUR EYES ON JESUS

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection helps us live with gratitude every day.


Use the picture and number code to fill in the blanks for Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV.



1. Jesus	5. cross
2. weary	6. endured
3. endured	7. scorning
4. opposition	8. shame



1. Jesus	5. perfecter
2. lose	6. him
3. pioneer	7. faith
4. sinners	8. hand



1. eyes	5. right
2. us	6. grow
3. joy	7. God
4. heart	8. throne

"... fixing our _____ on _____, the _____ and
 _____ of _____. For the _____ set before _____
 he _____ the _____, _____ its _____, and
 sat down at the _____ of the _____ of _____.
 Consider _____ who _____ such _____
 from _____, so that you will not _____
 and _____." HEBREWS 12:2-3, NIV

Answer: "...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart." Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV