



# The Good News

FEBRUARY 2016

For the members and friends of the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsford

## FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN-CELL

### Lectionary for the month of February

#### Transfiguration of the Lord February 7

Exodus 34:29-35  
*Psalm 99*  
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2  
Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)

#### Ash Wednesday

February 10  
Joel 2:1-2, 12-17  
*Or Isaiah 58:1-12*  
*Psalm 51:1-17*  
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

#### 1st Sunday in Lent

February 14  
Deuteronomy 26:1-11  
*Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16*  
Romans 10:8b  
Luke 4:1-13

#### 2nd Sunday in Lent

February 21  
Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18  
*Psalm 27*  
Philippians 3:17-4:1  
Luke 13:31-35

#### 3rd Sunday in Lent

February 28  
Isaiah 55:1-9  
*Psalm 63:1-8*  
1 Corinthians 10:1-13

**YOUTH SUNDAY**  
**TRANSFIGURATION**  
**SUPER BOWL SUNDAY**  
**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**VALENTINE'S DAY**  
**PRESIDENTS' DAY**  
**CHORAL EXTRAVAGANZA**



Although February is a short month, it seems like a lot is happening. But as we begin this deep period of winter, my thoughts at the moment are on **Tootsie Rolls**. What a strange thought is that, and no it is not because the chocolate like treats that stick to your teeth like glue make me think that Valentines' Day is around the corner.

To some of us Dr. Paul R. Coleman was known as the Tootsie Roll Minister. Paul was the founding pastor of Christ Presbyterian Church in Youngstown, Ohio. Except for one early appointment as an associate pastor in Mt. Lebanon, PA, he spent his entire career guiding the Youngstown congregation, and when he retired in 1986, he was named "Pastor Emeritus." However, he preferred to be known as the "Tootsie Roll Minister." In fact, when he died at age 92 in 2014, his obituary included this title.

Paul seemingly had a never-ending supply of Tootsie Rolls that he handed out to everyone he met. I even got some one time. They sort of became his calling card. When visiting in the hospital, if someone was asleep, Dr. Coleman left a pair of Tootsie Rolls.

Why did Paul Coleman choose Tootsie Rolls instead of some generic wrapped candy? I don't know and the reason probably died with him. But, an NPR article on design and pop culture this year pointed out how packaging can be so distinctive that it transforms what it covers from a mere consumer product to a cultural icon. The article pointed to Tootsie Roll packaging as a prime example. Ellen Lupton, senior curator at the Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum, agrees, saying "It's a chewy, dark font that perfectly reflects the Tootsie Roll candy."

Besides Tootsie Rolls, the article mentioned the Coca-Cola glass bottle with its distinctive contoured shape, the Pringles can that keeps potato chips from breaking, the Jiffy Pop container that doubles as a tool for cooking the popcorn, the Jif Lemon Juice plastic squeeze bottle that's shaped like a lemon, the Kikkoman Soy Sauce bottle with the dripless spout and the Morton Salt box with the girl under the umbrella. *Each has a distinctive look that helps consumers recognize what's inside and also makes them memorable.*

With this in mind, I have thought about Paul's words that will be read as we move through Lent. They are these: "Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us." Without reading the context, Paul's "join in imitating me" sounds conceited. But if you read the earlier verses it becomes clear that the imitation he seeks is for his readers to commit themselves to "press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus." As one commentator puts it, "Paul seems to be saying, 'Be imitators with me,' rather than 'Be imitators of me.'"

On the Web page containing Dr. Coleman's obituary, there's a guestbook entry from Kim Husk: "What a wonderful and generous man Rev. Coleman was! I will never forget the kindness he showed me as a child in the neighborhood of Christ Church. He was always there with a friendly smile and a Tootsie Roll in his hand when he greeted me. I am blessed to have known him, and I know he is in God's loving arms." Kindness, of course, is not a Christians-only quality, but Ms. Husk recognized the godliness of it as it was demonstrated by Coleman in some ordinary moments of life and cemented with Tootsie Rolls.

British theologian Morna Hooker, writing in *The New Interpreter's Bible*, looks at Paul's "join in imitating me" phrase and notes that Paul said something in 1 Corinthians 11:1 that is similar to Philipians where he wrote "Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ." I thought, so if we are followers of Jesus, we should look like him. If a Tootsie Roll can aid us in doing so, we have no problem with that.



I've been thinking what I might begin to pass out in 2016, especially as a Lenten reminder to imitate Christ. Candy kisses? Hersey kisses? (Now they are distinctive . . . but can melt.) Butterscotchies? I'm open to ideas. If imitating Paul Coleman means that I have a way to imitate Christ, I'm all for that. If Imitating Paul means that I draw closer to Jesus, I'm all for that, too.

#### **ADDENDUM**

Rev. Dr. Paul Coleman once said that he was once audited by the IRS, and the auditor wanted to disallow the cost of several cases of Tootsie Rolls that Coleman had listed as a business expense. When his explanation did not sway the auditor, Coleman handed him two Tootsie Rolls and asked him to take them in to his boss, without identifying Coleman as the giver. The auditor did as asked. A moment later, the boss came out and greeted Coleman by name. "As soon as my man handed me the Tootsie Rolls," he said to Coleman, "I knew it was you." The auditor allowed the business deduction.

**Bruce**

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



**ANTHONY CIRCLE** ~ is a group of women who emphasize mission and fellowship. We meet on the third Wednesday of each month at 9:30 am in the church kitchen (unless we are doing a mission project on another day that month!) For more information contact Janette Henderson.

**MARY WELLER** ~ will meet on Monday, February 15 at 11:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. Please bring your lunch and least coin and enjoy the fellowship and help work on a new blanket.. All women of the church are invited to attend. If not a regular member, please contact Shirley Lawrence.

**NAOMI CIRCLE** ~ Have you ever had thoughts about how you might like to change some aspect of our worship service? This is your chance to share them. For our circle program, we will be covering four discussion topics developed by the Worship and Music Committee. Our feedback will be added to that of other church groups to help Worship and Music capture any changes that might be needed.

**EVENING CIRCLE'S** ~ EVENing Circle will meet January 25 and February 22 at 7:00 PM in Room 200 to continue their book discussion. Books are available for those who need them. Any questions call Margaret Mecredy.

## WEB Club Schedule for 2016

All meetings start at 7:30 pm. Please call host if you plan to attend.

**February 10th- The Nightingale by Kristen Hannah.** *The book tells the story of two French sisters - one in Paris, one in the countryside - during WWII; each is crippled by the death of their beloved mother and cavalier abandonment of their father; each Plays a part in the French underground; each finds a way to love and forgive. \**



*Home of Nancy Sprenkle, 103 Stuyvesant Road Pittsford, 381-8990*

**March 9th - The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie: A Flavia de Luce Novel by Alan Bradley** - *It's the beginning of a lazy summer in 1950 at the sleepy English village of Bishop's Lacey. Up at the great house of Buckshaw, aspiring chemist Flavia de Luce passes the time tinkering in the laboratory she's inherited from her deceased mother and an eccentric great uncle. When Flavia discovers a murdered stranger in the cucumber patch outside her bedroom window early one morning, she decides to leave aside her flasks and Bunsen burners to solve the crime herself, much to the chagrin of the local authorities.\**

*Host to be determined.*

## MEET OUR NEW CHURCH OFFICERS

**James Frame - Deacon, Class of 2018** Jim has been a member of First Pres. for 2 years. He loves golf, bowling, hiking, travel and most sports. He appreciates the camaraderie and community spirit of the members of this church and enjoys the pastors' sermons. Jim is also excited by the many activities that a member can become involved in.

### **Jackson Mooney - Youth Deacon, Class of 2017**

Jack has been a member of First Pres. ever since his Confirmation in May. He has lived in Pittsford his whole life and has grown up in our church. He was recently in his school Musical "Hello Dolly" and is very busy with High School events.

### UPCOMING DEACON FUN ACTIVITIES

**Supper Club - Sunday 1/31** at 5pm in fellowship hall. Cost \$7. This is a hands on cooking class where each person attending will help prepare a meal with a theme. This month is Russian. I have all the food purchased and copies of the menu made. We all learn some new dishes, cook for about 1 hour, then eat our meal together. Anyone may attend. Just pay at the door. Sign up in fellowship hall (It helps me know how much food to buy).

**Valentines Widow's Luncheon - Saturday 2/13** at 2pm in fellowship hall - Last year we tried a new event and it was well received. This year we are doing it on Saturday instead of Sunday 2/14. All widow's are sent a personal invitation (from Debbie M.) and we serve soup, quiche, salad and dessert. Music is also part of the day. I have a sign up sheet for the deacon's to help make the food (ahead of time) and will pass it around again at our next meeting. We could use 2 people making quiche's, one soup and one helper/server the day of the event. This is a day to let everyone know they are loved!!

**Hockey Game - RIT vs Niagara - Saturday 2/20 at 7pm** - I have \$10 tickets for sale the next 3 weeks after church in the fellowship hall. Some of us meet early to car pool and go out for dinner. Others just meet us at the game. Dan Traina

**REMINDER - FEBRUARY 9** is the deadline for the March *GoodNews*. Please place your article in the *GoodNews* mailbox in the back room, or email it to [admin@pittsfordpres.org](mailto:admin@pittsfordpres.org)







One raw egg

+

Your thoughts and Prayers

+



Time to reflect

=



Beauty

# Christian Education

## Coming in lent

Egg decorating is a traditional Lenten way to connect to the season. Thursdays in March join us in creating **Pysanky**. These intricate designed eggs are used as a way to make yours prayers tangible during the Lenten season. These are eggs decorated while reflecting on renewal. 6-7:30 on 2/25, 3/3, 3/10, 3/17.

A **pysanka** is a Ukrainian Easter egg, decorated with traditional Ukrainian folk designs using a wax-resist (batik) method. The word *pysanka* comes from the verb *pysaty*, "to write", as the designs are not painted on, but written with beeswax.

This is open to all ages, however eggs are raw when decorated.

Bring your friends.

## Lenten living

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 10 this year. Christians have observed this season of the church year since the fourth century. It's traditionally a time of reflection, penitence and spiritual renewal before Easter.

During Lent, some Christians give up something that hinders their relationship with God. Others do something extra for their spiritual growth or make a special sacrifice. The key is to make Lent a memorable season of sincere spiritual growth — a time that can set the tone for the rest of the year.

## Lenten reflection materials available

This Lenten season we have available both electronic and paper devotions. The paper version from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary will be available in the Narthex. These daily devotions have both scripture and reflection included. Instruction on how to obtain digital copies are included. See also [www.pts.edu/devotional](http://www.pts.edu/devotional)

Additionally there are daily "Pictorial" devotions provided by [Rethinkchurch.org](http://Rethinkchurch.org) through our Facebook page.

[www.facebook.com/pittsfordpres/](http://www.facebook.com/pittsfordpres/)

### Upcoming Events

Men's Prayer Breakfast @Wahl's	2/7 7:00 am
Mary Weller Circle	2/15 11:30 am
Wednesday Evening Book Club	2/10 7:30 pm
Optimists	2/12 1:00 pm
Naomi Circle	2/16 12:30 am
Anthony Circle	2/17 9:30 am
Board Game Night	2/19 7:00 pm
Evening Circle	2/22 7 pm
Not so Basic Bible study	Mondays 7:30 pm
Prayer Support Group	Mondays 11:30 am
Lectionary Study	Weds. 7:15 pm
Men's Ecumenical Group	Thursdays 7:15 am
Adult Study	Sundays 9:45 am

## Coming up for Kid

Jan. 31: Heifer Fair

Feb. 3: LOGOS - Cozy: Film Fun!

Feb. 10: LOGOS - Hate: A time to love

Feb. 17: NO LOGOS

Feb. 24: LOGOS - Share your talent

## Upcoming Events

SO-SO Gatherings—January 31st, February 28th

LOGOS Gatherings—January 13th, 20th & 27th, February 3rd, 10th and 24th

Youth Sunday—February 7th

Laser Tag—February 12th

Flower City Work Camp—March 28th-April 1st

Triennium—July 18th-24th

### Youth Triennium 2016

Triennium is happening once again July of 2016. All rising Freshman through graduated Seniors are invited to attend. Join 5000 fellow Presbyterian youth in worship, fun and learning for a week at Purdue University.

LIVING  
LOGOS

### Flower City Work Camp

Join your fellow Rochester Youth March 2016 as we help make Rochester a better place to live. Join us as we go out and change lives and help those in need. **Applications are due by January 20th!!!**



## **News from the Nursery School**

This year February is longer due to leap year and we continue to fill it with great educational experiences. February is also community helper month, the dentist visits to talk to the children about the importance of taking care of their teeth and the postal carrier will visit to discuss their important job. She will then take with them Valentine's cards that the children have made for their parents. Parents will be offered the opportunity to have their children's speech screened by graduate students from Nazareth College. We also offer conferences for our parents; communication is crucial to good relationships. Our 4's will be going to Birdsong Trail at Mendon Ponds Park. Of course, we celebrate Valentines' Day with cards and special games. We will also have a family Valentine's Day Party where the children will dance and play! We will have a week off for President's week. Our year is now more than half over. Thank you for your continued support!



Teresa Zatyko, Director, Pittsford Nursery School

## **FPCP CONCERT SERIES 2016**

FPCP Concert Series welcomes the University of Rochester Choral Extravaganza on Sunday February 28 at 3pm. Each of the four diverse groups will present a twenty minute segment. Come hear the high quality music of these energetic young people.



## **OPTIMISTS**

### **The Mystique of Majestic Gemstone Jewelry**

Optimists will meet on Friday, February 12. We gather at 12:30 and eat at 1 pm. Remember to bring your sandwich (lunch), table service and a donation of a paper product for the Pittsford Food Cupboard.



shutterstock 54905056

Tickets for \$2 each must be purchased after church on Sundays January 31 or February 7 or call the church office no later than Friday February 5. Prior sign up and payment of \$2 per person is now required whether you eat dessert or not.

Our very own Matt and Susie Wahl, owners of Forsythe Jewelers will speak about "The Mystique of Majestic Gemstone Jewelry". Matt says "we feel like the luckiest people in the whole word, we are in the business of love". How appropriate a topic two days before Valentine's Day.



## **OUTREACH**

### **Mission Trip to South Carolina**

January 2-8, nine people went on a disaster relief mission trip to Columbia, South Carolina. There were 44,000 homes affected by flooding in the fall in this non-flood zone region of our country. As much as 24" of rain fell in a 24 hour period, breaking dams, overflowing rivers and streams, and backing up storm sewers. The homes we were in had up to 3 1/2 feet of water in them. Lake Murray Presbyterian Church is setting up a Presbyterian Disaster Assistance base camp. They allowed us use of their kitchen, and we provided valuable feedback, assisting them in their development of this new PDA site. Some of our team had the honor of helping Dottie and Richard, a couple LMPC told us about. Richard has stage 4 brain cancer. The whole first floor of their house was flooded. The rest of the team worked on sites alongside the St. Bernard Project with their Americorp workers and other volunteer groups. We did everything from painting fresh drywall, to hanging, mudding and sanding new drywall and installing ceilings. We even did mold remediation, tearing down the old, flood damaged drywall and wire brushing and treating the studs in preparation for rebuilding. We helped Ms. Jennifer, a single mom with two teenage sons and a little dog. Their home was under water and they have been displaced since October, hoping to return home together in February. We also helped Ms. Harriett and her partner Elijah. Though he has health problems he worked beside us all day while Harriet works 2 jobs and brings her mother for dialysis treatments. Their granddaughter and 1 year old great-grandson had to move out due to the mold while their kitchen is rebuilt. Ms. Dynetta's house was our mold remediation job. Though the work from each site varied, it was hard, humbling, and heavenly---rebuilding houses and lives with the hope of Jesus Christ. Thank you all for supporting this mission!

Trusting God with my journey...  
Debbie Matrachisia

### **RAIHN**

Rochester Area Interfaith Hospitality Network (RAIHN) is a network of faith Communities in the area who provide food and shelter for families who need housing for a short time while they seek jobs or a place to live. Our church, along with volunteers from St Paul's Lutheran and Christ Episcopal, completed a rotation just before Christmas. We housed 4 families, served them dinner each evening and providing a safe place for the families to sleep for the week.

More volunteers are always needed. Please consider becoming a RAIHN volunteer. Jobs include hosting for 2 hours during the evening, helping with children, fixing meals, or staying overnight. There are needs for helping with set up for the week and putting everything away at the end of the week. Laundry needs to be done at the end of the week. In addition, volunteers could help with scheduling or writing article like this one for Good News or the Sunday bulletin. Please contact Barbara Smith for more information or to have your name included on an email list for receiving information for volunteers. ( [barbarabsmith13@gmail.com](mailto:barbarabsmith13@gmail.com) or 586-0754 )

Our next rotation is coming up soon. Watch for announcement of dates on the bulletin board at church or after church in Fellowship Hall. Email will be sent to those whose names are on the list.



# STEPHEN MINISTRY



## **Sometimes It's Hard to Ask for Help**

We're brought up to be strong, self-sufficient, independent people. We tend to think that if we ask for help, it is a sign of weakness. So we try to keep our struggles hidden, stuffed deep inside. However, that's not God's plan. Galatians 6:2 says "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ". God wants us to care for others-and allow others to care for us in our time of need. If you're sad or struggling inside, don't suffer alone. Ask for help. We've got a team of Stephen Ministers who are ready to listen, care, encourage, pray, and help you through a tough time. (It's confidential too!) Find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking with one of our Stephen Leaders: Jane Hunter, Alice O'Dwyer, Barbara Smith, Dick Sprenkle and Carol Tiemann. **Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!**

**GENTLE YOGA CLASSES** continue in the Chapel at 10:30 AM on Tuesday, taught by Megan Eiserman and on Thursday, taught by Abby Macrae. Drop-ins are welcome. Fee is \$10.

**A Valentine Luncheon** honoring widows will be held at the church on Saturday February 13 from 2:00—4:00 PM. Feel free to invite a widowed friend, even if she does not attend our church. The lunch will include quiche, soup, salad and dessert.



## **IMPORTANT TRAINING**

We own a Philips A.E.D. (Automated electronic Defibrillator). Should one of our members suddenly become unconscious, immediate use of our A.E.D. can be the best revival tool available.

Use of the A.E.D. is simple, but ideally requires training every two years. Our training will take place **SATURDAY** at Pittsford Volunteer Ambulance, 40 Tobey Road **March 5th 9:00 AM—1:00 PM**. Attendees will receive an Authorization Card from the American Heart Association and will be better enabled to help revive people at our meetings, at home, or elsewhere.

Please sign up for this valuable training **Before February 15**. American Heart charges \$6 for the card. Any group donations will be given to Pittsford Ambulance and to their medics who conduct the course.

Sign up with Doris in the Church office to reserve your place in class!