



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PITTSFORD

THE GOOD NEWS

JUNE 2022

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### Embracing and Sharing Christ's Love

#### **CHARTING THE COURSE WITH PASTOR AARON**

By the time you've read this article I'm writing, I will officially have been your Pastor for two years. That is hard to believe! In one way, it feels like ages ago that I first preached in our sanctuary. In another way, I feel like I remember each and every step along the way, and it feels so recent. I started during an extreme time of transition in the church. There was no permanent Pastor, no permanent Associate Pastor, a soon-to-depart Youth Ministry Director, other staff transitions, and a burgeoning global pandemic notwithstanding. Wow! Honestly, after Rev. Jacobson's recent installation as Associate Pastor, I breathed a huge sigh of relief. It was a tangible and literal marker that all of our staff are finally no longer temporary. It may be hard for many of you to imagine just how much work and how many conversations went into bringing Rev. Jacobson to you for your vote of calling, then to the Presbytery for their vote of approval, and finally back to the congregation for the Presbytery to install her. Now that work is done. Our staff is stable, and the next work can begin.

While I was away on study leave recently, some of my studying involved reading a few books, including *Quietly Courageous: Leading the Church in a Changing World* by Gil Rendle. His main point is that, with the religious climate in America in such extreme transition with no clear direction for churches to move toward, we must treat the world we live in like a wilderness. How do you navigate your way through an unknown wilderness? There's only one thing you can do: you must explore it. We must pay attention to the world. We must be ready to try new things and go to new places. We must be willing to try and fail, in order that we might also try and succeed.

A metaphor comes to my mind. From a leadership perspective, the last two years of calling, hiring, and assembling a stable permanent staff team has been like putting the final touches on a sailboat. We've repaired the keel, lowered the rudder, and hoisted the mainsail. Now we're ready to take the boat on the wild, open waters. I've been here for two years, but in so many ways our journey is still just beginning. Erin is now here, too—for good. Craig, Britta, and Leslie are here. Maria, Jared, Bruce, and Dede are here. Your Elders are here. Your Deacons are here. Your Trustees are here. You are here, and we're all ready. The wilderness awaits, and it's time to explore. Who's with me?

~Aaron

## Members with June Birthdays

Ann Athy  
Tristan Bachmann  
Janice Currie  
Betsy Enstrom  
Jacob Fantuzzo  
Gemma Fernaays  
Robert Glenning

Dick Harper  
Edwin Hediger  
David Hill  
Janet Jennison  
Samantha Kearney  
Natalie Larson  
Shirley Lawrence

Kelly Maas  
Sharon Peet  
Charles Scott  
Korinne Smith  
Nancy Sprenkle  
Susie Wahl

*Wishing you a birthday that is full of laughter, love, and special memories!*

If we missed you, please let the office know.

### Looking forward to hearing from YOU!

The Nominating Committee would love to hear from members of the congregation interested in volunteering, or just wanting to know more about becoming a Deacon, Elder, or Trustee starting in January 2023. We would be delighted to spend a bit of time with you to explore Officer possibilities no matter how experienced you already are, or how unfamiliar you may be with these important positions. Our Call-To-Action is simple—please contact any member of the 2022 Nominating Committee, we'd love your help in saving a lot of dimes-and-time making fewer calls to you!

Nominating Committee 2022

Officers: Len Parker (Chair), Bob Dunn (Trustees), Dan Harrison (Deacons), Jim Weick (Elders)  
At-large: Harold McAulliffe, Steve Mizelle, Barb Smith, Claire Van Arsdale, Henry Wang

### Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) Mission Trip

We will be going down to the Wilmington, NC area to assist families effected by Hurricanes Florence and Matthew. The Neuse Forest Presbyterian Church in New Bern, NC has converted their educational wing into the New Hope Volunteer Village where we will be staying. The Craven County Disaster team has an onsite employee who has meaningful work sites, tools, and materials ready to go. All are welcome and there is always work rebuilding people's houses and lives! We will drive down on Saturday, January 7, 2023 and return Saturday, January 14. The only cost to volunteers is sharing in travel expenses. Contact Dan Traina at [dtraina@rochester.rr.com](mailto:dtraina@rochester.rr.com) or 585-208-6839 to sign up.

## Lectionary for June

### June 5

#### Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1–21 or Genesis  
11:1–9  
Psalm 104:24–34, 35b  
Romans 8:14–17 or  
Acts 2:1–21  
John 14:8–17 [25–27]

### June 12

#### Trinity Sunday

Proverbs 8:1–4, 22–31  
Psalm 8  
Romans 5:1–5  
John 16:12–15

### June 19

#### 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:1–4 [5–7] 8–15a  
Psalm 42 and 43  
Galatians 3:23–29  
Luke 8:26–39

### June 26

#### 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 2:1–2, 6–14  
Psalm 77:1–2, 11–20  
Galatians 5:1, 13–25  
Luke 9:51–62

## Make a Difference

One of the many ways your generosity serves to **Make a Difference** in our community is through our church-sponsored Backpack Program. At the end of last year, 2,200 Rochester schoolchildren were classified as “homeless”; i.e. lack a fixed, regular, adequate nighttime residence, and over 84% of city schoolchildren qualify for free or reduced-price lunches and breakfasts. The Backpack Program provides food for the weekend, packed in a backpack, to elementary schoolchildren at Schools #54 and #35 in the city. 100% of the children in both schools qualify for free or reduced-price breakfasts and lunches. The Backpack Program is an ongoing 42-week program that provides six solid meals each weekend.

The cost is about \$5.65 per child per week to provide 2-3 breakfast items, 2 substantial lunch items, 2 substantial dinner items, 4 juice drinks, and several snack items for the weekend. Even though it’s a great value, the total costs for the 70 children the program serves are over \$16,000. A small amount for the good it brings. The Principal of School #54 said the change was obvious—kids were more attentive, less ornery, and much more focused on Monday mornings.

Your pledges help to support this program—and the Backpack Program will gratefully accept monetary donations designated specifically for their mission. Or perhaps you can volunteer to assist with delivery/pick-up of the backpacks at the schools. Want to **Make a Difference** in a child’s life? Increase your pledge during our pledge drive later this year, send a check to the church designated to the Backpack Program, or contact Dave Testa at 585-355-2000 to volunteer.





## Landscape Volunteers Needed

Weeding and trimming of the gardens are needed this month for anyone interested in helping to maintain the beautiful grounds that surround our church. The date is Wednesday, June 15, 7-8:30 pm. (Rain date is the following day, the 16th, same time)

Thank you! Debbie Gaudion  
debbieanne0204@gmail.com

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## Camp Whitman Spring/Summer 2022

“Camp Whitman on Seneca Lake lives for those who are longing for belonging, seeking connection with community and creation, respite from chaos and competition, and an opportunity to encounter both the Holy and themselves.”

Camp Whitman is quickly booking up for many of its Spring/Summer 2022 programs. Programs span from typical **Youth Summer Camping** sessions to **Family Retreats, Youth Retreats**, and even rentals of the camp’s cottages and cabins for individual family getaways on the lake! Have you ever thought of a few days in August in a cabin on the lake with your family?

This summer the Camp also has **job openings for nurses** for three sessions from the end of June through July. Would you, or someone you know, qualify for working at the camp this summer in a nursing capacity? There is also an opening for one CIT position for a girl this summer.

Learn more about all these exciting opportunities from the camp’s website [www.campwhitman.org](http://www.campwhitman.org) or call the church office for additional inquiries.

*LET THE SUMMER BEGIN!!!!*

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## Deacon Event in June

Dads and Grads Strawberry Social - Sunday June 19 after each service.

We will be honoring our fathers and graduates with ice cream & fresh strawberries after each service.



## News from the Nursery School

Once again, we had a different year. But we are slowly returning to our normal. We are so grateful to so many people who made this possible. The church we reside in, all its people, all our parents, the list goes on and on. We all worked together to keep our children safe and happy. They deserve the best. We are once again able to offer summer camp to our children. The school year has now ended, but not without smiles, hugs, and tears. All our toys and books are packed away waiting for September to be played with again. The children have left, off to summer adventures, but we think of them often—they are always in our hearts. Though we may be parted, we remember often special memories and the nursery school at the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsford!

Teresa Zatyko, Director Pittsford Nursery School

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## Concentus Spring Concert: Together in Song

Saturday, June 4, 7:00 pm, Nazareth College, Linehan Chapel

Sunday, June 5, 7:00 pm, First Presbyterian Church of Pittsford

Concentus Womens’ Chorus brings together a diverse repertoire to celebrate the human spirit through music. Seven different languages and music-making traditions will be honored in this concert, along with an original composition commissioned by Concentus in 2020 from Buffalo native, Caroline Mallonee.

Tickets are available at the door and online. \$15 adult/\$5 student. [concentus.org](http://concentus.org)

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## Eve Circle

Eve Circle will meet on Monday, June 27, at 12:30 pm. Location and program still to be determined.

# Christian Education



## Children's Service May 22

I want to congratulate all the kids who participated in worship this last weekend. You guys worked hard and created a meaningful and enjoyable service to praise God. Between the leaves, the river being created, the puppet show, and the music it was a wonderful experience.

Thank you also to the parents who supported their kids in practicing.

*~ Craig*

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## This Summer—Young Families in Fellowship

Each month this summer the church kids and their families will be out at area parks eating grilled cheese sandwiches and playing on the playground. We would love for you and your family to join us. The first will be on Wednesday, June 29, at the Allen Creek School playground. Future dates are July 13 at Jefferson Road and August 10 at the Spiegel Center.

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## Teacher Appreciation June 12

All Teachers and Shepherds are invited to gather for a luncheon on Sunday, June 12, at 11:30 am. We want to say thank you for enabling Christian Education to happen! Please bring your partner and children if you desire. We will eat together and then briefly talk about the Christian Education program. Look for an email with signup.



### Anthony Circle

Anthony Circle will meet Wednesday, June 8, at 10 am in the library. Clara will share information on Boldt Castle. We will meet again in September.

**Dads and Grads Sunday** will be celebrated on Sunday, June 19, during the 10 am worship service. Please send us the graduation information that you would like to be celebrated for your high school senior or college graduate by June 6. Information can be sent to [erin.jacobson@pittsfordpres.org](mailto:erin.jacobson@pittsfordpres.org)

### OPTIMISTS

OPTIMISTS will meet on Friday, June 10, at 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Come in volunteering spirit to be additional 2022-2023 back-up for current volunteers. Please also bring a donation for Pittsford Food Cupboard, your own lunch, and table service. June program is being planned.

### Needle Nellies

Needle Nellies will meet on Tuesday, May 31, 11 am – 1:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Come make those needles click! For more information contact Kay Saxum 585.385.9807



### Our 2022 Confirmands, part three



Name: **Jack Gerew**

Parents: **Kate & Bill Gerew**

Grade: **8th**

Favorite Class: **Phys Ed, Math**

Favorite Movie: **Kung Foo Panda**

If I could visit any place in the world it would be: **The Alps**

My hobbies: **soccer, ski racing, riding my bike with friends, video games**

My most prized possession: **my dog and two cats**

Three words that describe me: **fun, laid-back, athletic**

My dream profession is: **Mechanical Engineer**

People (outside of parents) I most admire: **actors Ryan Reynolds, Adam Sandler**

My favorite Bible story: **David and Goliath**

If I had one million dollars I would: **help my family and friends, set up my future, then travel**

If I were to pick one characteristic of Jesus I most like it would be: **forgiveness**

Words that describe the day I was baptized: **family, joyous**

Where I was baptized: **First Presbyterian Church of Pittsford**

How can we pray for you? **pray that I continue to work hard toward my goals**



Name: **Nick Chihoski**

Parents: **Angela & Michael Chihoski**

Grade: **8th**

Favorite Class: **Social Studies**

Favorite Movie: **Someone Great**

If I could visit any place in the world it would be: **Portugal**

My hobbies: **photography & traveling**

My Nickname: **Nico**

My most prized possession: **my camera roll**

Three words that describe me: **vicarious, adventurous, passionate**

My dream profession is: **flight attendant**

People (outside of parents) I most admire: **my grandpa and my aunt**

My favorite Bible story: **Jesus walking on water**

If I had one million dollars I would: **donate it to various charities**

If I were to pick one characteristic of Jesus I most like it would be: **Jesus' forgiving nature**

One question I want to ask Jesus someday: **What is the very next thing you are going to do?**

Words that describe the day I was baptized: **joyful and charming**

Where I was baptized: **Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago, IL**

How can we pray for you? **You can pray that the transition between middle and high school is smooth and easy.**



Name: **Morgan Wilson**

Parents: **Keith & Betsy Wilson**

Grade: **8th**

Favorite Class: **math**

Favorite Movie: **Mamma Mia**

If I could visit any place in the world it would be: **Bora Bora**

My hobbies: **lacrosse, field hockey, basketball**

My Nickname: **Morg**

My most prized possession: **my phone**

Three words that describe me: **athletic, nice, empathetic**

My dream profession is: **lawyer**

People (outside of parents) I most admire: **my friends and my idols**

My favorite Bible story: **the Gospel of Luke**

If I had one million dollars I would: **donate some and save some**

If I were to pick one characteristic of Jesus I most like it would be: **forgiving or non-judgmental**

Words that describe the day I was baptized: **I was too young to remember**

Where I was baptized: **First Presbyterian Church of Pittsford**



First Presbyterian Church  
21 Church Street  
Pittsford, New York 14534  
www.pittsfordpres.org

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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

*The wilderness awaits,  
and it's time to ex-  
plore. Who's with me?*

*Rev. Aaron*

<p>The Rev. Aaron Neff <i>Pastor and Head of Staff</i> 585.643.1240 aaron.neff@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>The Rev. Erin Jacobson <i>Associate Pastor</i> 585.204.2012 erin.jacobson@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Craig Kunkle <i>Director of Christian Education</i> Ext. 30 craig.kunkle@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Britta Konau <i>Office &amp; Communications Coord.</i> Ext. 21 britta.konau@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Maria DiGiambattista <i>Financial Administrator</i> Ext. 23 treasurer@pittsfordpres.org</p>	<p>Leslie Harvey <i>Custodian</i> 585.364.2430 lharvey@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Dr. Jared Chase <i>Director of Music</i> musicdirector@pittsfordpres.org</p> <p>Dr. Bruce Frank <i>Associate Director of Music and Organist</i> bfrank345@gmail.com</p> <p>Dede Holmes <i>Director of Youth Choirs</i> dedeholmes1954@gmail.com</p> <p>Joshua Burke <i>Livestreaming Technician</i> josh@pittsfordpres.org</p>	<p><b>First Presbyterian Church</b> 21 Church Street, Pittsford, NY 14534 Phone 585.586.5688, Fax 585.586.8090 connect@pittsfordpres.org www.pittsfordpres.org</p> <p><b>Worship Services:</b> <b>8:30 and 10:00 am in-person</b> <b>10:00 am also livestreamed</b> Communion is offered on the first Sunday of each month.</p> <p> </p>
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