

Clarence Presbyterian Church

Growing,
Serving,
Celebrating



Established 1817

SUMMER 2022

June, July and August

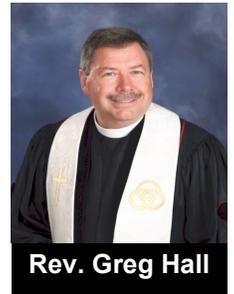
www.clarencepresby.org

9675 Main Street, Clarence, NY 14031

(716)759-8396

Dear Friends:

I want to thank you all for the good wishes that I have received on my upcoming retirement in May of 2023. I look forward to a meaningful and productive final year with you. We will work together to prepare Clarence Presbyterian to move into the future. Some of our members have been asking for the details of the process in selecting a new Pastor. I think it might be helpful to outline the major steps that will be followed in choosing new leadership.



Rev. Greg Hall

- ✦ The Church Nominating Committee began meeting on May 9. Their task is to select nominees for the Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC). They will present 9 candidates for the Congregation to elect to search for new leadership. These 9 will represent various groups and demographics of our church. They hope to complete their work in early June.
- ✦ At a Congregational Meeting (possibly in June) the slate will be presented and elected.
- ✦ The first task of the PNC is to complete the Mission Information Form (MIF). This form describes the congregation and the type of new leadership needed. The MIF is approved by the Session and the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry (COM).
- ✦ Once approved the MIF goes into the Presbyterian National Office where it becomes part of a computer matching system. The PNC will then begin to receive the Personal Information Forms (PIF) from ministers seeking new calls.
- ✦ The PNC will read and sift through more than 100 of these forms. They will settle on a small number to gain more information. They may watch their preaching through recordings on websites. They may interview some on Zoom. When they have narrowed their focus to one or two candidates...
- ✦ The final candidates are invited to visit our community for a face to face interview, to preach in a neutral pulpit and tour our church, and to have a clearance interview by the COM.
- ✦ The PNC makes the final selection and the candidate comes to Clarence to preach followed by a Congregational Meeting where a vote is taken confirming the person as the new pastor.

The process can take most of a year. The PNC should not feel pressured to settle too quickly just to have the task completed. The congregation is encouraged to pray that the Holy Spirit would guide all involved in the search. **One important point I would like to emphasize is that I will have no role in selecting the next pastor.** The PNC can ask me for information to help fill in the MIF, but when that is complete they are not allowed to ask me my opinion about people.

The next year will bring change for all of us. I trust it will be a fruitful time for us all.

Yours in Christ,

Growing, Serving, Celebrating Worship

During the Sundays of June we celebrate several important events. On June 5 we will receive young people into full membership through confirmation. The following week we will worship in the park. The following Sunday we will recognize our high school graduates. Throughout the summer our worship will complete our series on the core stories of the Bible.

June 5	<i>"Pentecost"</i> Acts 2	Rev. Hall
June 12	<i>Worship in the Park: Call of the Disciples</i> Mark 1:16-20	Rev. Hall
June 19	<i>"Jesus Overturns the Tables"</i> John 2:13-25	Rev. Hall
June 26	<i>"Jesus Walks on Water"</i> Matthew 14:22-33	Rev. Hall
July 3	Guest Preacher	Rev. Snell
July 10	<i>"Parable: the Sower"</i> Matthew 13	Rev. Hall
July 17	<i>"The Great Banquet"</i> Matthew 22	Rev. Hall
July 24	<i>"The Unforgiving Servant"</i> Matthew 18:21-35	Rev. Brown Bryan
July 31	<i>"The Prodigal Son"</i> Luke 15:11-32	Rev. Brown Bryan
August 7	<i>"The Good Samaritan"</i> Luke 10:25-37	Rev. Hall
August 14	<i>"Stoning of Stephan"</i> Acts 7	Rev. Hall
August 21	<i>"Road to Damascus"</i> Acts 9	Rev. Hall
August 28	Guest Preacher	Mary Whitcomb
September 4	<i>"Feeding of the Five Thousand"</i> Matthew 14:13-21	Rev. Hall



Sunday, June 12, 11:15 am Worship in the Park and Picnic

We will meet for one service at Main Town Park, 10405 Main St., Clarence. Meet at the Large Pavilion (near the pool) for worship. The picnic will follow with hamburgers and hotdogs being provided as well as plates, utensils, drinks, etc. Please bring a salad or dessert to pass. Sign up is in the Narthex on the kiosk or contact the office at (716) 759-8396/office@clarencypresby.org. Let us know how many are coming and what you are bringing to share. Rain or shine! The 10 am worship

will still take place—in person and live streamed—but there will not be an 8:30 am service that day.

Through June, July, August

Adult Education, 8:30 am—Meeting in the Bodine Room (lower level south, Christian Ed wing), this group will be meeting over the summer using the study [*Daniel, Spiritual Living in a Secular World*](#) by Douglas Connelly. Facilitated by class members, we seek to learn more about ourselves and our faith through our study. We are all at different points in this walk so don't hesitate to give us a try. Steve and Margie Dale (716-634-8077) are the contacts for this group.



Junior Church—This program takes the place of Sunday School through the summer months and begins on **Sunday, June 5**. Children three years old through 3rd grade leave the sanctuary after the Children's Sermon. As the services are a bit shorter in the summer, we encourage our older children and youth to experience worship. We are still looking for help with Junior Church. If you are willing, **please sign up** for one Sunday during the summer. Sue Zografos will supply you with all you need for the approximately 40 minute class. Sign up in the Narthex.

Music for our summer services—When the choir is off from the last Sunday of June to the first Sunday of September, we welcome soloists to use his/her talent to worship the Lord. If you are interested in playing a musical instrument or singing during the summer, please contact me at Skotoe@verizon.net or 716-908-8590. —Kotoe "Koto" Shimojo



Sunday, June 5 at 10 am Service—Confirmation



- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| ✦ Ryan Belanger | ✦ Caroline Johnson | ✦ Jeremy Lynch |
| ✦ Cory Cummins | ✦ Brie Lorenz | ✦ Natalie Lynch |
| ✦ Samantha Gawron | ✦ Charles Lorenz | ✦ Eva Wolfley |

At this service the confirmation class will be presented: They will reaffirm their baptismal covenants and profess their faith and intention to assume greater responsibility in the life of the church and God's mission in the world. Congratulations to our 2022 confirmation class!

Help us get to know each other! If you don't have a name tag, fill out a form that can be found by the name tag storage boxes on the north counters of the Narthex. If you do have a name tag, please wear it on Sundays!

Remember the



Third Century Fund

Seniors that are college bound next fall, don't forget to pick up a brochure on scholarships available through our church and the wider Presbyterian Church family. Contact the office for a copy of the brochure.

Sunday, June 19 at 10 am Service High School Graduates

Congratulations to the class of 2022!

At this service we will recognize our high school graduates:



Tessa Bernd, after graduating from Clarence HS with honors with an advanced regents diploma, will continue her academic study at the University of Pittsburgh majoring in Biology on the Pre-Medicine track. Tessa is forever grateful to Clarence Presbyterian for the lifelong friends she has made and the kind mentors that have blessed her every step of the way.

Emma Call, after graduating from Clarence HS, will be attending Elon University in North Carolina. Emma is a high honors student, Scholar Athlete, member of the NHS and has been a starter for both Varsity softball and basketball for the past 3 years. This season, she was a captain of the basketball team and was awarded the "White Letter" for her leadership, character and determination. Her favorite memories at Clarence Presbyterian Church are the Christmas Eve Candlelight services and helping at Birthday Squad. Thank you for being a supportive congregation!



Madeline Call, after graduating from Clarence HS, will be attending Emerson College in Boston to pursue a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Creative Writing and Comedic Art. Her dream is to write for Saturday Night Live one day! Madeline is a high honors student, member of the National Honor Society, President of the Empower Club, member of Bella Voce & Symphonic Orchestra. She recently received the Dual Seal of Biliteracy Award of Excellence for French & Spanish. When not in school, Madeline thoroughly enjoyed dancing at Classical Ballet of WNY for the past 11 years. Thank you Clarence Presbyterian Church!



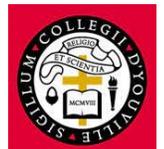
Owen Cummins, after graduating from Clarence HS as a scholar athlete (lacrosse, wrestling, and football) and National Honor Society member challenging himself to excel during his time at CHS and as a member of Clarence Presbyterian Church, is now excited to start the next chapter of his life at Lebanon Valley College (outside of Hershey, PA), where he will be studying biochemistry and playing lacrosse.



Paige Janas, after graduating from Tonawanda High School with High Honors, will be taking a gap year before studying at SUNY Fredonia in the fall of 2023. She plans on studying musical theater and forensics. During the next year, Paige will further her exposure in the local musical theatre with performances throughout the Buffalo area. She would like to thank everyone for their support over the years at Clarence Presbyterian Church.



Jocelyn Keese, after graduating from Williamsville East HS, will be attending D'Youville University in Buffalo in the fall to pursue a Bachelors of Science in Nursing. Jocelyn has enjoyed her time at Williamsville East, Harkness Career and Technical Center, where she studied basic nursing and received her Nursing Assistant Certification, membership in the National Technical Honor Society, Sherry Martin Dance, and Clarence Presbyterian Church. She would like to thank her family and the congregation for their past and continued support of her education and passions.



Jack Peterson, after graduating from Clarence HS, will be attending The University of Buffalo to pursue his degree in Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science. Jack would like to thank his family for their love and support and Clarence Presbyterian Church for its spiritual mentorship and guidance as he enters the next chapter of his life.



Allen Potter, after graduating from the Nichols School, will be going to SUNY New Paltz in the fall, where he will be in the Honors Program and will be a Theater Arts major.



Anna Ridge, after graduating will be attending Pennsylvania State University, studying Accounting and Finance. Also furthering her athletic career as a Cross Country and Track athlete.

Also graduating is **Rachel Vohwinkel**. Congratulations to all of our graduates!

The deadline for **Scholarship Application** is the 3rd Sunday of July. For more information, there are scholarship booklets on the literature display by the church office or contact Maryalice Yaiko (716-759-2629).

Summer Trips

After two long years of limited opportunities, there will be three Clarence Presbyterian trips this summer! We ask prayers for safe journeys.



Switzerland & France Tour, June 26—July 7

The first trip will begin on June 26 following worship. That morning forty members and friends of our congregation will be traveling to Zurich, Switzerland to begin a twelve day trip. Some of the highlights of this trip will be a journey up Mt. Pilatus, a visit to the World Council of Churches in Geneva, a worship experience in Taizé and time at the Louvre in Paris. The group will depart from Paris, France to return home on July 7.

Algonquin Canoe Trip, July 10—July 16

As the COVID statistics continue to improve both here and in Canada, our CPC canoeists will again be able to travel to [Algonquin Provincial Park](#) in Ontario for a week of canoeing and tent camping. Ten campers will depart on Sunday, July 10 and travel north to visit Joe Lake, Little Otterslide Lake, Big Trout Lake, White Trout Lake, McIntosh Lake and Little Doe Lake, returning on Saturday, July 16. As has always been the case, all required equipment and food will be packed here prior to departure. Canoes are rented from an outfitter local to the park entrance point. We wish our campers a safe trip as they immerse themselves in God's magnificent creation.



Iona Youth Trip, July 22—July 30



After many years of delay, thirteen youth and six adults will be leaving on July 22 to be part of the Youth Festival on the Island of Iona in Scotland. The youth will experience living in Christian community with youth from Britain. There will be activities including an all-day hike around the Island. They will also spend some time touring Edinburgh following the festival.

Office Hours:

Monday—Friday, 8:30 am to 3 pm
Jim Owen—Mondays, 9 am to 2 pm
Kotoe Shimojo—Fridays, 1 to 3 pm



The Trustees wish to thank everyone who came out to help with the spring clean up in April.



If you are looking for solace and want to feel God's presence after the past days of horror in Buffalo, you are invited to visit our courtyard to sit a spell and/or walk the labyrinth. The courtyard is available when the office is open.





The Nominating Committee met May 9 and is working on a proposed slate of nine people to serve as our congregation's Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC). The PNC will be charged with identifying, and proposing to the congregation for confirmation, the next person to serve as minister to our congregation, since Greg has communicated his plan to retire in May 2023. The Nominating Committee seeks to propose a PNC slate that is broadly representative of our congregation.

Each PNC Member must:

- Be a member of the congregation.
- Be willing and able to make the time needed for the important work of the PNC. Depending on a host of factors (including luck), the process can take up to a year (or more in unusual circumstances) and can be challenging and intense. It can involve weekly meetings and "homework" (review of candidate information forms, viewing sermons, etc.).
- Be committed to, and an active participant in, the important work of the PNC.
- Be able to work well with others on a committee (active listening, preparing in advance, thoughtful contribution, respectful discussion).
- Ideally have a working familiarity with technology like zoom (enough for remote interviews or viewing of sermons online).

If you are interested in serving or wish to nominate a person to be considered to serve on the PNC, please contact **Mary Ann Deb (Chair)** at mdeb75@gmail.com by **Sunday, June 5**. Thank you in advance for your thoughtful recommendations.



Women's Knitting Ministry—Our Prayer Shawl Ministry brings a sign of God's healing, peace, and hope with the distribution of prayers shawls and/or blankets of varying sizes to the following:

- ✦ To the newly baptized and to those who are hurting in our congregation.
- ✦ To immigrant and deserving families served by the McGuire group who have limited income and few family members who visit. All faiths are served.
- ✦ To Journey's End and Cornerstone Manor when reopened and the Covid restrictions ease, we will be delivering afghans, lap robes and baby items to them once again.

You are welcome to offer a prayer shawl to anyone in or out of the congregation. Please see Rosemarie Adams to select one or contact the office. We dedicate our knitted and crocheted items in Advent and Lent. We especially welcome you to contribute:

- 12" squares to be sewn into lap robes
- Prayer shawls and lap robes
- Washable hats, mittens, socks or scarves for those served by Journey's End
- *Washable worsted weight* yarns (size 8-9 needles) to be knit into squares for our afghans

If you participate in this quiet and generous ministry by your stitching or donations, please give your name and/or email address to Trish in the office (office@clarencypresby.org). We want to keep a record of participants and share the lovely thank you notes we receive. If you like to knit and/or crochet we always welcome newcomers to a mission that can be done on your own schedule. See Rosemarie Adams, Patty Gamin, Laurie Dentinger, or contact the office if you want information.



Those who would like the Prayer Chain to pray for themselves or someone else may contact Barbara Schreiber (716-633-2184), Marsha Brauer (716-741-2700) or the office (office@clarencypresby.org). **Prayer chain requests are not published. Please inform the prayer chain when their special prayers are no longer needed.**

Growing, Serving, Celebrating

2022 Ride for Roswell—Working Together To Cure Cancer

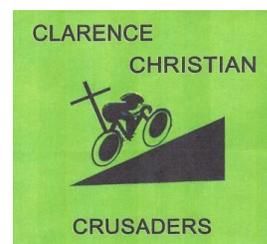


Our church team, The Clarence Christian Crusaders, is participating again this summer in the Ride for Roswell to raise funds for cancer research. The number of team riders has continued to increase over the past ten years along with our total donation to Roswell. Last year we had 30 riders and raised close to \$20,000!

There are several ways YOU can support us with or without even riding a bicycle!

1. If you would like join our team to ride, you may participate in the Roswell sponsored ride on Saturday, June 25, or you may join us in July for a team ride in Clarence or a team ride in August or you may ride “your own way” on a day and route that works for you and your friends or family. There are no registration fees and no minimum donations required. All ages and abilities are welcome. You may also join as a “virtual” rider and support us by collecting donations. Some of our top fundraisers do not let their age or that hip or knee replacement hold them back!

2. Together with the donations some of our riders collect, the support of the congregation leads us to our success. There will be donation envelopes available in the pews the beginning of June. Donate in memory of or in honor of your special family member or friend and place it into the offering plate in the narthex. The donations will then be deposited directly to Roswell in our team’s account. All checks MUST be made out to “Ride for Roswell.”



Why do we ride and why have members of the congregation continued to support us over the past several years? Several of us are thankful survivors, others have loved ones who are being treated for cancer and in some cases, in combination with COVID, and then we all know of those unfortunate ones who we have lost.

If you enjoy riding your bicycle, sign up to support our important mission! YOU can make a difference. You may use our team website at rideforroswell.org to join our team as a rider or [to make a donation](#). Please be sure you go to our team site, The Clarence Christian Crusaders, and then select a team rider to support.

For more information: contact Julie Furminger or stop and chat with one of our enthusiastic supporters including: Dave Burghardt, Janet Mattar, Wil Mondschein, Bren Price, Janet Mustard, Linda Large, the Gardiners, the Thompsons or the Storys. We already have several riders registered for 2022 and \$2,400 in donations!

Your support will be appreciated and together we can help to save lives.

Team captains: Julie and Bob Furminger



The Mission Committee thanks everyone who helped package 10,000 meals on Mission Matters Sunday, May 1, 2022.

Fall Newsletter deadline is Sunday, August 14.

This newsletter will cover September, October and November.



The Church Library is located off of the east end of the Upper Fellowship Hall and is a great place for small group meetings!



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Our Mission Committee thanks our congregation and Sunday School children for their contributions to OGHS. To date we have collected \$4,404. The children's fish banks have not been counted at this time. Thank you for your generosity!



Life Line Screening will be performing a day of preventive health screenings at **Clarence Presbyterian** on **Thursday, August 18**. This collaboration helps bring important health tests to our community at an affordable price. The tests look to identify risk factors that can lead to cardiovascular disease, stroke, and other serious illnesses.

Life Line Screening uses these non-invasive methods to get you lab-accurate results and recommendations you can review with your doctor. You must pre-register. Appointments are limited, so please sign up now:

- Call toll-free at 888-653-6441
- Online at <https://lsa.social/HS>
- Text the word **circle** to 797979

Ways to show the Jefferson Ave. Community you care...



- ◆ You can make a donation to one of these groups which all support the Black Community:
 - **Black Love Resists in the Rust** which will provide mental health and food support <https://donate-usa.keela.co/mental-health-and-food-support>.
 - **African Heritage Food Cooperative** which is currently providing food to people in need because of the closure of the Tops. Go to their Facebook page or <https://myahfc.com/>.
 - **VOICE Buffalo** – They are providing short and long term help. For information about their response to the TOPS shooting, go to their Facebook page. The website is: <https://www.voicebuffalo.org/>
- ◆ **United Way** has a broad reach but they are taking money for the families of the victims and the community. Consider donating to their Buffalo Together – community Response Fund or their Buffalo 5/14 Survivors Fund. Go to <https://www.uwbec.org/>
- ◆ **The Buffalo Community Fridge** at 257 East Ferry Street will accept fresh and non-perishable food donations. Check their Facebook page for information: <https://www.facebook.com/buffalocommunityfridge/>.
- ◆ You can help deliver food to homes or neighborhood pop-ups by contacting <https://linktr.ee/coloredgirlsbyketo>.
- ◆ **Buffalo Creek Academy** will pick up groceries and deliver to the community around Tops. Call 716-217-2661.

In Our Church Family

just married! **Congratulations and best wishes** to Nancy Turgeon and Rick Thomas on their marriage! Rev. Hall performed the ceremony at CPC on Saturday, April 23, 2022. (See picture page.)



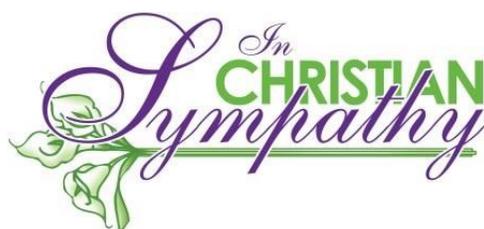
On Sunday, April 24 at the 10 am service we welcomed Remington Samuel Brach, son of Heather Ratka and Robert Brach into the fellowship of Christ. Julie and Bob Furminger are "Remie's" grandparents! (See picture page.)



A note from Patti Gamin: Thanks to everyone for their prayers and get well cards following surgery, a long hospital stay and rehab. Your thoughtfulness was much appreciated!



We extend our deepest sympathy to the families that have recently lost loved ones as noted:



- Al Darbee, husband of Rosemary Darbee, died on March 1, 2022. Condolences may be addressed to Rosemary at 6308 Heritage Pt. S., Lockport NY 14094
- Phyllis (Mattar) Margrey, mother and mother-in-law of Mark and Janet Mattar, died on Thursday, March 3, 2022. Condolences may be addressed to Mark and Janet at 6402 Woodberry Ct., East Amherst NY 14051-1547.
- Janet Boyer, mother and mother-in-law of Ed and Martha Boyer, died on March 31, 2022. Condolences may be addressed to Ed and Martha at 8362 Clarence Lane Ct., East Amherst NY 14051-2001.
- Linda Austin, wife of Jim Austin, died on April 9, 2022. Condolences may be addressed to Jim at 5692A Ferncrest Ct., Clarence Center NY 14032-9197
- Roberta Cross Harris, mother and mother-in-law of Carolyn and Curt Holmes, died on May 5, 2022. Condolences may be addressed to Carolyn and Curt at 68 Laurel Lane, Williamsville NY 14221-8334.
- Richard Gustafson, brother and brother-in-law of Sarah and J Thompson, and son of the late Barbara Gustafson, died on April 29, 2022. Condolences may be addressed to Sarah and J at 4695 Goodrich Rd., Clarence NY 14031.



Recently I heard an Associate Pastor speak on his last Sunday since he had accepted a call to another church. His farewell message urged us to get to know the Sunday School children. He and his wife had three of their own kids, had fostered several others throughout his tenure. "I want to thank you for greeting my children every Sunday, for becoming a friend, calling them by name. They speak knowingly of you. My wife and I want you to know this has been an enormous blessing in our family's life. Please, in our absence, continue to do this."

Have you said Hi to a kid today? ~ contributed by Sally Dussing

Ways to Stay Connected...

- ◆ Watch our 10 am service via our [website/Live Streaming](#) when you are unable to be here.
- ◆ Receive our weekly e-letter via email called [Staying Connected](#).
- ◆ Receive your [newsletter electronically](#).
- ◆ Check the church calendar anytime at <http://926599.view-events.com> (Also available through a link on our website.)
- ◆ [Download the sermon](#) each week from the [website](#) or [Facebook](#) or watch service on our [YouTube Channel](#)

Share your email address with us by [contacting the church office](#) to take advantage of these timely, cost effective ways of communicating!

Dash's Tapes/Receipts—Keep them coming! Our friendly Dash's Markets continue to give us \$125 for every \$5,000 in receipts that we turn in to them. So far this year we have received \$1,000 from them! Put the tapes in the brightly colored box next to the name tags.



• FLOWER CHART •



The sign up form for sanctuary flowers is in the Narthex. Arrangements cost \$50. Only one arrangement is available on the first Sunday of the month. A limit of two are available for all other weeks. Add your name to the date you want and the office will take care of the rest!

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Saturday, June 25, 2022



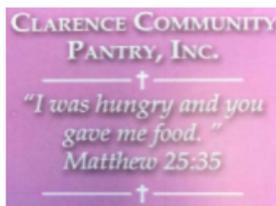
Per Capita is a Latin phrase literally meaning “by heads,” and translated as “for each person.” Per capita is a fundamental way in which all of the nearly 11,000 congregations and mid councils of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) are connected and participate in the work of the wider church. Our per capita funds the work of the Presbytery of WNY, the Synod of the Northeast and the General Assembly of the PCUSA. Our per capita for 2022 is **\$35 per member**. Please note in the memo section of your check “Per Capita” whether you are using the designated envelope or not. Thanks!

Scan with your phone's camera to open CPC's PayPal page to donate.



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We support:



Growing, Serving, Celebrating



Birthday Girl!

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