



The Oracle

Ogden Presbyterian Church
2400 S. Union Street
Spencerport, NY 14559
(585) 352-6802

September 2017

Oracle Volume XX — Issue VIII

Friends,

I've been thinking a lot about "compassion" lately. At the CREDO Conference I attended back in May, I worked on my Rule of Life. A "Rule of Life" for us at the conference was a set of goals/practices we wanted for our lives. We worked very hard to understand who we were as individuals and how we wanted our lives to be. For me, the number one goal/practice of my Rule was: *To think, speak, act with compassion*. What this means for me is to be (become) a person for whom *compassion* is the deepest characteristic which drives my behavior: how I think, speak, act. Compassion to me is caring deeply for others in a way that I am encouraging, loving, uplifting, and not hurtful. It is a way of being in which I lift others up, show my caring for them, avoid saying or doing hurtful things, and work to bring them peace and joy. It means giving people the benefit of the doubt.

Needless to say, fully living into this has been a challenge. Too often I fall short. At those times, I try to remember the Scriptures and how many times they tell that "Jesus had compassion on..." Those passages remind me of the deep theological and Biblical mandate to live a life of compassion. And while it is true I have fallen short of that, very often I have succeeded. At those times life has felt so satisfying and rich and complete. That is when I feel closest to God in Christ. When I am able to fully live into a life of *thinking, speaking, acting with compassion*, I engage others better, more kindly, more positively. It really is a beautiful way of being and changes lives.

Along the same lines as compassion, in some studying I was doing not too long ago, I came across the rather long and daunting phrase: "*hermeneutic of generosity*". It is a term coined by Dr. Paul Farmer, founder of Partners in Health and an infectious disease specialist who has worked in many poor countries like Haiti. He coined this term to mean the following: "interpreting the intentions, actions and statements of others in a favorable light." Basically, I see this as a compassionate way of living in which we immediately and regularly see others in a positive and hopeful way. It means that when someone says something to us, our first inkling is that what they are saying is positive, hopeful, and said to make us and our lives better (i.e. filled with compassion) — even if it doesn't seem so on the surface. A hermeneutic of generosity leads us to hold others in a positive way, so that what we hear them say or what we see them do sounds and looks like life-giving love. This hermeneutic of generosity is a way of living our lives compassionately so when someone doesn't show up for an appointment that we assume they have a very good reason, and instead of getting angry at them we pray they are okay. It means that when we receive an email that "sounds mean and angry" that we assume they were having trouble putting their thoughts into writing and that we will not read anything negative into what is written. A hermeneutic of generosity helps us see others with the heart of God — a heart that loves first, last, and foremost.

Let me encourage you to practice this hermeneutic of generosity in the upcoming weeks. Before you read your emails, tell yourself that you will interpret everything that is written in a positive light. Before you head off to work, tell yourself that you will give everyone the benefit of the doubt today — in all they say and do. When talking to your spouse or children or friends, assume that they care deeply about you; that you trust and respect them and know that what they say or do at this moment comes from a place of love and concern. And then see what happens. See what happens to you — but also see what happens to them. It is amazing what happens when we treat others with compassion.

Pastor Tedd

RALLY DAY... SEPTEMBER 10th

Fun, Games, Food!!



Join us for the Official Kick-Off of Sunday School 2017-18!! We are excited to continue with our rotation curriculum “Power Xpress”. Last year was a great success thanks to the congregation of OPC. We had many people volunteer to teach, and the kids loved it!

We are looking for volunteers to teach again! Please let Donna Metherell know if you are interested. **It's only a 1 Sunday commitment for the year!**

Join us after worship for our annual “Rally Day” lunch... guaranteed to be the cheapest lunch in town! All proceeds support the Christian Education Program!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2017 “Maker Fun Factory”



Vacation Bible School was held at OPC from July 10th—14th. 60 children and teens participated along with 20 adult volunteers! We co-hosted with the First Congregational United Church of Christ and Ogden Baptist Church. Our program was “**Maker Fun Factory: Created by God, Built for a Purpose**”. We made Gobots, solved Perplexinator puzzles, learned new songs, made and ate great snacks, and played lots of games; all related to the Bible stories that were shared each day. On Sunday, July 16th, the children joined together again to worship and celebrate our Vacation Bible School during Sunday worship. Our local mission project this year was collecting wish list items for Willow Domestic Violence Center in Rochester. We had a terrific time!



We would like to thank our volunteers from OPC: **Crew Leaders:** Lulu Gonnoud, Jenifer Lalnunkimi, Liam Ewell, Jessica Cruz, Kennedy McKinney, Nick Rosipayla, Logan DeCamp, Molly Howlett, Keegan McKinney, John Pullano, Elizabeth Veltz, and Katie Pittman; **Station Leaders:** Game Makers—Kelly Bindert; Imagination Station—Jim & Sandy Frieday, and Dennise Webster; Snack Factory—Madi Hoadley, Trent Marasco, Carol Quinn, Carol Newman, and Jill Nundy; KidVid Cinema—Heather Cassidy-Schaffer; Bible Discovery—Jen Savino, Susan Azzolina, and Pat Rowe; Registration and Finance—Carol Newman; Tinker Tots Preschool—Anne Wallace, Stephanie Cassidy, Jean Schult; Audio/Visual—Nicole Quinn and Al Webster; VBS Store—Keegan & Kennedy McKinney; Sound Wave Sing & Play/Fun Factory Finale—Donna Metherell; Faithful Side-Kick & Decorations—Heather Cassidy-Schaffer; Office Help—Brandon Arva; and Prayer Leader—Pastor Tedd Pullano. Also a BIG THANK YOU to the Christian Education Committee, and for all others who helped with setup and decorations, as well as to **everyone** who donated food, supplies, and gift cards! Your generosity is overwhelming!



ATTENTION COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Please remember to email your monthly minutes to Brandon at ogdenpresbyterian@gmail.com

Thank you!



EMPLOYEE REVIEWS

Each year the Personnel Committee reviews the paid staff. We will be conducting interviews in the second half of September. All members of the church should feel free to provide input on our staff and employees:

- Tedd Pullano, our pastor
- Brandon Arva, our secretary
- Ellen Bristol, our organist
- Bonnie Bush, our bell choir director
- Jean Weaver, our choir director
- Dennis Dupree, our treasurer
- Donna Metherell, our youth director
- Perrie Wall, our custodian

Please give your responses to Dick Malloy, Chair of Personnel. Thank you!



Sharon & Harry Pittman recently were able to visit with **Ann Delaney**, who asked them to share her message:

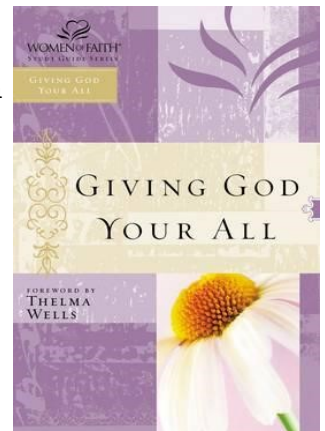
“Hello to all my OPC friends, from Shelburne, VT!”

WOMEN’S TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Women’s Bible Study will begin on **Tuesday, September 12th at 9:30am** in the **Oak Room**.

Title: “Giving God Your All”

Moving from life as a “nominal” Christian to a vibrant follower of Christ requires each of us to give everything in our lives to God — complete surrender. Every woman has asked herself: “Do I trust God enough to let him take the reins? Or who is in charge of my life?” This study looks at what the Bible says about yielding to God and being able to say, “Not my will, but Thine be done.”



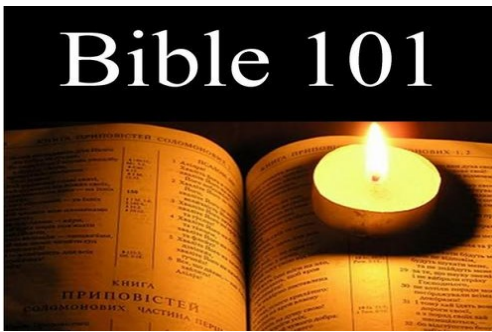
Join us for this personally challenging study as we look at what the Bible says about yielding to God and letting God be God in our lives. See or call Sharon Pittman (247-4463) with any questions and to reserve a book!



THE PITTSBURGH PROJECT... A THANK YOU

Thank you for the bag of “warm fuzzies” that I received for the 2017 Pittsburgh Project mission trip. Each one was very special and meant a lot to me. One tired evening, I sat on my bunk bed and looked through the entire bag. Each item spoke to me in a special way.

Many thanks, Harry Pittman



Bible 101

BIBLE 101 SERIES

Would you like to learn more about the Bible in just a few weeks? Pastor Tedd will lead an 8-week study and discussion group on Thursday evenings, between September 21st and November 9th here at OPC. Time will be 7:00pm. Come, bring your Bible, your thoughts and your questions, and build up your Bible expertise!

AUGUST SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The OPC Session met on Tuesday, August 20th . Some highlights from the meeting included:

- ❖ OPC Mission Study work must continue. The committee will reconvene (with additional members) to pursue bigger steps, and further define potential OPC Mission opportunities.
- ❖ The August 26th “OPC Block Party & Open House” is almost here. Final plans are now in place and many from the congregation and committees are actively engaged to support the effort. We pray this will be well-attended and well-received by the community.
- ❖ The Nominating Committee is doing speedy work in filling positions for the Class of 2018. They deserve our thanks and continued prayers. We are blessed to have an engaged and committed congregation.
- ❖ Session approved the motion to hold the “Kirken o’ the Tartans” service on Sunday, October 8th.
- ❖ Pastor Tedd’s “Bible Study 101” will begin on September 21st at 7:00pm. This is the first of 8 sessions.

OPC continues to be blessed with many gifts and talents. Thanks be to God!

OPC Session

FROM SESSION REGARDING THE MISSION STUDY

Now that the Mission Study Statement has been written and approved by Session, we would like to put our statements into action! We would like to move forward by meeting with and having conversations with the groups we identified in the Mission and Ministry Statement about how to provide ministry and support. Would you like to be a part of this Mission Ministry Team? It’s going to be exhilarating and fun! Please see Pastor Tedd, Cindy Anderson, Dennis Dupree, Harry Pittman, or Dawn Sheffet with questions or if you want to join us.



MEN’S BIBLE STUDY GROUP

When we broke for the summer, we were left with some questions to ponder: 1) What day or evening would be best for us to meet? (If you have conflicts, we need to work around them.) 2) What do we want to study? New Testament? NOOMA? Something else? (Pastor Tedd will be teaching old/new testament 101 to the congregation on Thursday evenings) 3) Do we still meet twice a month, and is one of those at Union Street Eatery? **Let’s meet on Monday, September 11th at Noon at Union Street Eatery to discuss these questions.**



From the Deacons

Scatter seeds
of kindness
wherever you go

Our Shut-ins

Judy Pagel
at St. Mary's

Gene Brendel
at The Cottages at Unity

The Allyn's
at The Rochester
Friendly Home

Joyce Wheeler
at Latta Rd

Alice Fulgenvia (Pat Everett's mom)
at Wedgewood

Our Deacons for 2017

Dawn Sheffet — Moderator
Dennise Webster — Co-Moderator/Cards
Harry Pittman — Charity, Men @ Work
Cindy Caloritis — Flowers
Diane Dupree — Membership
Sim Mulford — Communion Setup
Ruth Gaskill — Communion Servers
Marilyn Spilberg — Secretary
Ron Tucker — Treasurer

Deacon News

- ❖ Thank you to Suzie Ewell for the beautiful flowers she provides for our communion table each Sunday.
- ❖ Reminder the communion envelopes in the pews for the Communion Sunday go to the Deacons. We appreciate your support.
- ❖ Reminder to leave any donated cards for touch cards in the basket in the "crying room"
- ❖ Deacons will begin meeting on September 18th, but we would like to say thank you to all the Deacons and Angels who silently and faithfully served our congregation this summer.
- ❖ The devotional guide, *Our Daily Bread*, for September/October is available on the table in the Narthex. Please feel free to take a copy.

Please remember our military:

SGT. MULFORD, GARY
CMR 414 BOX 129
APO AE 09173



DINNER FOR 8

FRIENDS. FOOD. FUN. FELLOWSHIP



Enjoy a trip to the country! Tim and Pat Rowe will host a “Dinner for 8” at their home in Churchville on **Friday, September 8, 2017 at 6:00pm**. The address is 815 Palmer Road, Churchville. (It’s not that far — only 15 minutes from OPC!) Please sign up on the sign-up sheet posted on the Discipleship Board in the Fellowship Hall. See or call Pat (729-8769) if you have any questions. Have dinner down on the farm as the Scottish belted Galloway (“Oreo”) cows stroll by.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY PROJECT



Women’s Bible Study continues to collect, clean, package and send used pill bottles to Matthew 25 Ministries. So far, we have sent over 2,500 bottles and have more to send soon! Thank you all for your bottles, and continue to drop them off in the box on the Mission Table.

~Sharon Pittman, for Women’s Bible Study



Dear Church Family,

I greatly appreciate all of your kindness and support! Thank you so much for the beautiful quilt and the Amazon gift card! They brightened my day!

Love, Madi

Our OPC Family,

Thank you for all your prayers, cards, and support during Madi’s recovery. Thanks for the gift card and the beautiful quilt. We are so blessed.

Love,

Dawn, Dave, Alyssa & Madi Hoadley



FOOD SHELF CURRENT NEEDS

Boxed Potatoes are the current needs. Any cash donations toward purchase of gift cards can be given to Jean Schult or Andy Resch.

There are over 120 families that regularly depend upon help from our Food Shelf. Your donations help fulfill that need in our community. Thank you for your continued donations.



~Jean Schult and Andy Resch, Food Shelf Representatives



A heartfelt thank you to the entire OPC Congregation for supporting the Mission Trip. Whether you prayed for us, wrote us a "Warm Fuzzy," or supported us financially, we are very grateful! We had an amazing, unforgettable time!



**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
TEA PARTY**

Saturday, October 14
1-3 pm

SAVE THE DATE!



CHOIR REHEARSALS

begin Wednesday,
September 6th
7pm

New voices welcome!

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN EVENT
Potluck Dinner & Infinity Scarves**

**Monday,
September 11th
6pm @ OPC**

All women are welcome!

**See the sign-up sheet on
the PW Bulletin Board.**



Previously known as the Peacemaking offering, this is one of four special offerings taken yearly to support Presbyterian Mission. 50% is used to promote peace and justice around the world, 25% is used to promote peace and reconciliation to Presbyteries and Synods, and 25% stays at OPC for our local peacemaking. **We will collect this offering on October 1st.**



Worship and Fellowship Assistants

GREETERS:

September 3 Carol Quinn
 10 Tim & Stephanie Cassidy
 17 Randy & Marilyn Spilberg
 24 Debra Glor

USHERS:

September 3 Sharon & Harry Pittman
 10 Marilyn & Randy Spilberg
 17 Sandy & Jim Frieday
 24 Bonnie & Roger Howlett

LITURGIST:

September 3 John Pullano
 10 Sandy Frieday
 17 Carol Newman
 24 Norma Jones

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS:

September 3 Cindy Anderson
 10 Christian Ed (RALLY DAY)
 17 Sandy Frieday (ROAD RALLY)
 24 Deacons

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS:

September 3 TBA
 10 RALLY DAY
 17 Jen Savino
 24 Carol Newman

NURSERY CARE:

September 3 TBA
 10 TBA
 17 TBA
 24 TBA

COMMUNION SERVERS:

September 3: Cindy Anderson, Judy Rynne,
 Donna & Chelsea Metherell

TRUSTEE OF THE MONTH: Eileen Smith — September 734-6505

One trustee is assigned per month to take care of any building issues that may arise. Please call the designated Trustee if you have something that needs to be addressed.
 Thank You!



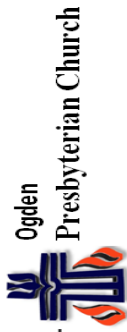
Name	Day
Julia Schumann	9 / 2
Sim Mulford	9 / 3
Christopher Gonnoud	9 / 4
Kelly Bindert	9 / 5
Bonnie Bush	9 / 5
Gary Newman	9 / 5
Mary Lou Maynard	9 / 8
Gloria Farnsworth	9 / 9
Kristen Goehle	9 / 11
Warren Dennis	9 / 11
Julianna Mandarano	9 / 15
Molly Corey	9 / 17
Alfred Allyn	9 / 18
Matthew Schumann	9 / 18
David Schumann	9 / 19
Harry Pittman	9 / 23
Teresa Bulan	9 / 23
Cheri Hill	9 / 24
Mary Saurini	9 / 25
Gavin Scheel	9 / 28
David Mandarano	9 / 29

THE "CRACKED POTS" HAVE A NEW HOME!

The Cracked Pots chapter of Home Bureau will now be meeting at OPC, since Parma Baptist has now closed.

The ladies' group will meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, from 9:30 until 2:30. Each meeting consists of formal business for the organization, a light lunch, and a craft project.

For more information about the group, feel free to stop on by to a meeting.



Phone: 585-352-6802
 Email: OgdenPres@frontiernet.net
 Web site: ogdenpresbyterian.com

September 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6 TOPS, 5:30pm Bells, 6pm **CHOIR, 7pm	7 Missions, 7pm	8	9
10 RALLY DAY	11 PW Potluck Dinner & Craft, 4-8pm Men's Bible, Noon Finance, 7pm	12 Women's Bible, 9:30am W&M, 7pm Fellowship, 6:30pm	13 Home Bureau, 9:30-2:30 TOPS, 5:30pm Bells, 6pm Choir, 7pm	14 Stitchin' for Mission, 10am SEM, 10am @ OPC	15	16 Cookout w/ Vets, 4pm?
17 Road Rally/Ice Cream Sundae Bar	18 Lunch Bunch, 11 @ Slayton Place Deacons, 6:30pm Trustees, 7pm	19 Women's Bible, 9:30am Session, 7pm	20 TOPS, 5:30pm Bells, 6pm Choir, 7pm	21 Bible 101, 7pm	22	23
24	25 Men's Bible, Noon	26 Women's Bible, 9:30am Membership, 7pm Personnel, 7pm	27 Home Bureau, 9:30-2:30 TOPS, 5:30pm Bells, 6pm Choir, 7pm	28 Bible 101, 7pm	29	30

OPC Mission Statement: Our purpose is to equip ourselves and others to be disciples of Christ as we seek God's will for our church and beyond.

Ogden Presbyterian Church
2400 S. Union Street
Spencerport, NY 14559

Tedd Pullano, Interim Pastor
Telephone: (585) 352-6802
Office email: ogdenpresbyterian@gmail.com
Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.
Website: <http://www.ogdenpresbyterian.org>

****DATED MATERIAL****

September 2017

September 2017

Newsletter Deadline: Articles for the *October 2017* issue of The Oracle are due in the Church Office no later than **Monday, September 18th** by 10:00 a.m. All contributions are subject to editing with regard to the subject matter and space requirements.

The Oracle is the newsletter of the Ogden Presbyterian Church of Spencerport, New York, a member congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The newsletter is sent to members and friends of the congregation to keep them informed of events, activities, and people in the life of the congregation. **Sunday worship is at 10:00a.m.** Church school is offered for all ages. Coffee Fellowship immediately follows worship. All guests are welcome!

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