



Welcome to those who have worshipped in this place for years.  
Welcome to our first time guests.  
Welcome to all generations, families, single people and couples.  
Welcome to those who have no church home, need strength, have doubt, want to follow Christ or do not believe.

### **PASTORAL STAFF**

Pastor - Michael Yeoman 315-761-2721  
Oneidafpcpastor@gmail.com

### **CHURCH STAFF**

Office Secretary - John Merritt 315-527-2939  
Sexton-Jennawade Skellham 315-281-3377  
Treasurer - Frank Kordziel 315-263-1474  
Church Organist—Brian Snyder 315-761-7866  
Choir Director-Barbara Seaton 315-225-9452  
Financial Secretary - Pat Thorpe 315-363-8948  
Clerk of Session - Pat Thorpe 315-363-8948

**304 Broad Street**  
(corner of Broad and Stone)  
**Oneida, NY 13421**

### **CHURCH OFFICE**

Phone: 315-363-7590

#### **HOURS:**

Monday – Friday  
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

### **GENERAL EMAIL**

oneidafirstpres  
@oneidafirstpres.org

### **WEB SITE**

oneidafirstpres.org



Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her; “Many daughters have done well, but you excel them all”.

Proverbs 31:28-29

#### **Our Mission Statement**

The vision of the members of Oneida First Presbyterian Church is to LIVE God's plan for our family, our community and our world. TOGETHER with God's grace and guidance, we will reach out and sow the LOVE of Jesus Christ.



# The Church At Worship

First Presbyterian Church of Oneida

**MOTHER'S DAY**  
 May 11, 2025  
 Pastor Michael L. Yeoman



## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

- † Proverbs 31:25–31
- † 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
- † Luke 1:46-55

**PRELUDE** “Near to the Heart of God” Arr. by Virginia Halberg

## MORNING GREETINGS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

**INTROIT** “God’s Great Peace” by Mounger

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, let us gather in the nurturing, loving, and ever faithful presence of God,

**People:** *Today we give thanks for the women who have shaped our lives, who have shown us God’s love in tender care and strong faith.*

Leader: God calls us into a family of faith, where love is not limited by blood, but expanded through grace, compassion, and service.

**People:** *We come to worship the One who created us, who holds us close and leads us like a shepherd.*

**All:** *With grateful hearts, we worship God—the source of all life, love, and hope. Amen.*

## Salty Answers

*Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.*

Colossians 4:6

*Bert placed his debit card atop the restaurant bill. The waiter scooped it up and then paused to ask, “Wait, who is this guy who says, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life?’ That’s so conceited!” Bert realized the waiter was reacting to the words printed on the card by his Christian financial company—Jesus’ words from John 14:6. Amused at the waiter’s response, Bert explained the identity of “this guy” and His sacrificial offering to bring us to God.*

*When we encounter people who know nothing about our faith, we might respond with ridicule or even judgement. But the apostle Peter challenged us, “Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have” (! Peter 3:15). Then he warned, “Do this with gentleness and respect” (v.15). In Colossians 4:6, Paul explained the power of such a response, “Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.” Just as salt on our food enhances flavor, salty answers invite others to come closer to faith.*

*Questions may come in surprising settings from those completely unfamiliar with Jesus. When we respond with gentleness and grace, our answers offer a saltiness that entices questioners to yearn for more.*

\*OPENING HYMN

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

#267

From “Our Daily Bread”, May 2nd, 2025

## FOOD PANTRY

Our food pantry stock is getting low. We are asking for donations of non perishable goods and personal paper products. Many people in the Oneida area live on fixed income and inflation is making it difficult for them to keep basic food staples in their own pantries. You can drop off your donations during Sunday services or drop them off during the week. If you drop them off during the week please call in advance so that John will know you are coming. Thank you for your continued support of this important mission.



**If anyone is in need of a pastoral visit or knows of a congregation member who would like a visit, please let Pastor Mike know. (315) 761-2721**

### **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*Risen and living Lord, You walk beside us even when we do not recognize You. In our doubt, in our questions, in our everyday routines— You are present, speaking peace and calling us to follow. As we continue to rejoice in the promise of Easter, renew our hearts with hope, fill our lives with purpose, and open our eyes to Your presence in the breaking of the bread. Make us bold to share Your love, eager to do Your will, and faithful in our witness. In the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior, Amen.*

### **\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

The Spirit of the Lord fills the world and knows our every word and deed. Let us then open ourselves to the Lord and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

### **\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*Father, as we look deep within ourselves, some of us are tempted by resentment and unforgiveness because of those who have let us down. Some of us are tempted to condemn ourselves for past failings, and all of us remember times when we have fallen short.*

*Forgive us for doubt, resentment, unforgiving hearts, self-condemning attitudes. Remind us of your forgiveness, always available in Jesus Christ. In Spite of our failures and sin, we trust in Your power to transform our lives. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit, Lord Jesus, so that our lives may bring Joy to Your world and praise to Your Holy Name. Amen*

### **\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON (based on Romans 8:1-2, 11)**

“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Him, the law of the Spirit of life sets us free from the law of sin and death. And if the Spirit of God who raised Jesus from the dead lives in us, God who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to our mortal bodies through the Spirit who lives in us. the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death”. I declare we have been forgiven!

*ALL: Alleluia! Thanks be to God. Amen.*

### **\*GLORIA PATRI**

*“Glory Be to the Father”*

#579

### **\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

### **CHILDREN’S TIME**

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM "A New Song!" by Burroughs

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT Proverbs 31:25-31 OT 579  
The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God

EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 NT 164  
The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God

GOSPEL Luke 1:46-55 NT 53  
The Gospel of Jesus Thanks be to God

SERMON "God Chose Mothers to Help Change the World." Pastor Mike

\*HYMN "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" #753 purple

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From a Brief Statement of Faith)

*We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.*

*In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.*

*But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation.*

*Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.*

*Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. Amen.*



Ushers for *May*



*These Days for April, May and June are in and can be found in the Narthex, Sanctuary and Hall way outside the Boardroom.*



*Our Daily Bread for March, April, May is now available in the Sanctuary, Narthex and Hallway outside the Boardroom.*

A reminder from the fellowship team

Sunday May 18th will be our 50 Year member celebration. The

Fellowship team will be honoring our long time members with a cake and a keepsake. We hope to see you there.

The Per Capita for  
2025 is \$46

The Staff of the First Presbyterian Church would like to wish a happy Mother's day to all of our mother's, grandmother's and expecting mother's.

Have a great and joy filled day.

## WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen*

#### OFFERTORY

#### \*DOXOLOGY

#### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

#### \*CLOSING HYMN

*"God of the Sparrow"*

#272

#### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

#### \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*"Bless All Who Trust in God"*

by Mowbry

#### POSTLUDE

*"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"*

Arr. by Virginia Halberg

*Please consider staying a few minutes to listen to the beautiful postlude music provided by our wonderful accompanist Brian Snyder.*



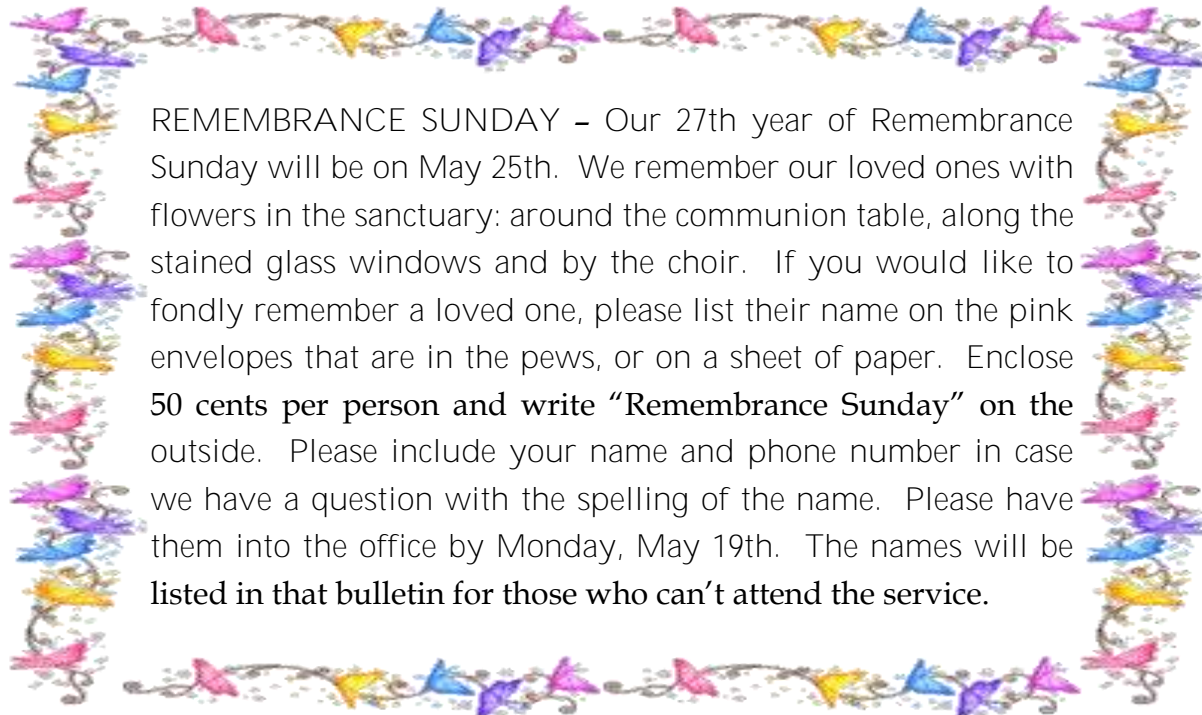
*Thank you for worshipping with us today! Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the auditorium.*

# Scholarship Applications



It's that time of year again! The scholarship applications will be available on website, by email, or mail or in person. They can either be returned by email or mail or in person. Take one, fill it out, and bring it back either to the church office or you can hand it to one of the Deacons by Sunday, May 18th. If you have any questions, please contact either

Kristi Tooker or John Merritt at the church office. The applications will be available from mid April to the middle of May.



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – Our 27th year of Remembrance Sunday will be on May 25th. We remember our loved ones with flowers in the sanctuary: around the communion table, along the stained glass windows and by the choir. If you would like to fondly remember a loved one, please list their name on the pink envelopes that are in the pews, or on a sheet of paper. Enclose **50 cents per person and write “Remembrance Sunday” on the outside.** Please include your name and phone number in case we have a question with the spelling of the name. Please have them into the office by Monday, May 19th. The names will be **listed in that bulletin for those who can't attend the service.**

## LONG TERM PRAYER CONCERNS

Jude Alexander (Mancarella's great nephew)	Becky Grasso
Fred Bavo (Jennawade's Uncle)	Wendy Holtz
Kevin Bedford	Jim Hotaling
Brody	Millie Johnson
Richard Brown	Victor Johnson
Marty Canning	Dan King (Pastor @ New Life Assembly of God)
Ed Cieslak (Friend of John Merritt)	Jean Kowalik
Timothy Carver (Jen Bailey's Father)	Florence LaRock
Elizabeth Coulby	Laurie Mudge
Cora Cramer (Ethel Abbott's sister)	Michelle Newman
Fran Dowd (Jim Sweet's sister)	Becky Nichols
Emeri Dryer (Maggie's grand daughter)	Michael O'Bryan (Mike's Brother in law)
Peggy Eastman	Mike Oot
John Ferguson	Tom Panasci
Robert Feldmann (Melinda's Father)	Elli Pfluke
Linda Felix	Dan & Claudia Rayome
Jillian Felt	Debbie Shaw
Andy Froass	Brian Stites
Don Fuller (Stephanie Gwilt's Father)	Millicent Vidal
Pat Grabow (Chrissy Thompson's Mom)	Jan Whiting

## SHORT TERM PRAYER CONCERNS

Susan O'Bryan (Mike's sister)	Michelle Newman
Bruce Boak	Christopher Joslyn (Phyllis Lighthall's great grandson)

If you have a prayer need, there are cards in the pews. Fill it out and hand it to an usher. If you know of anyone who is sick, in the hospital, or in need of our prayers, PLEASE call the Church Office, 363-7590. Please let us know also when they are healed and can be taken off the prayer list.



### Collection Assistants for May/June

- May 11th-Perry Tooker IV
- May 18th-Randy Bonville
- May 25th-Frank Kordziel
- June 1st-Paule Mancarella



### Scripture Readers for May/June

- May 11th-Barb Seatom
- May 18th-Perry Tooker IV
- May 25th-Pat Thorpe
- June 1st-



### Coffee Servers for May/June

- May 11th-Laura Reckentine and John Merritt
- May 18th-Fellowship
- May 25th-No Coffee Service
- June 1st-Joy, Abby, and Dylan Bartell



### Projection Team for May/June

- May 11th-Trish Vrooman
- May 18th-Trish Vrooman
- May 25th-Dan Gwilt
- June 1st-Paul Mancarella

## CONSIDERING A SMALL GROUP?

Pastor Mike recently attended a conference that focused on grants, stewardship and church vitality. One of the sessions focused on attaining church vitality through the establishment of small groups.

According to the presenter, small groups are essential for fostering community, deeper connections, and spiritual growth within small churches. They also offer a space for meaningful relationships and accountability that larger churches may struggle to provide.

This is not something that is managed by the pastor, Rather, it becomes a passion of one individual to have the vision and excitement to start a small group and then simply say..... *hey, would you like to join me for.....*

Here are some ideas that they gave me:

**Lunch Clubs** – Get a group together that might enjoy the fellowship of sharing in a meal with others. With a national epidemic of loneliness surrounding us, this group could have tremendous impacts on each other and

develop some very special friendships. Frequency and places is something that the group decides together.

**Day Trippers:** The group plans a day trip a month to some local attraction or one that is within an acceptable travel time for participants.

**Game Clubs** – Enjoy board games or interactive group games that promote laughter, bonding and friendly competition. The Janeth P. Whiting Community Center would be a great place for this!

**Prayer Circles** – Create a dedicated time for prayer where members can share their prayer requests and pray for one another.

**Sewing / Knitting Clubs** – Again, the Janeth P. Whiting Community Center might be a perfect spot for sewers or knitters to gather and have fun with this special craft together.

**Spiritual Journaling** – Provide journals for group members to record their thoughts, prayers and reflections on their faith journey. Share entries during meetings.

**Book Clubs** –A reading group where people meet to discuss books they've all read together, fostering a community of shared literary experiences and engaging in discussions about the book.

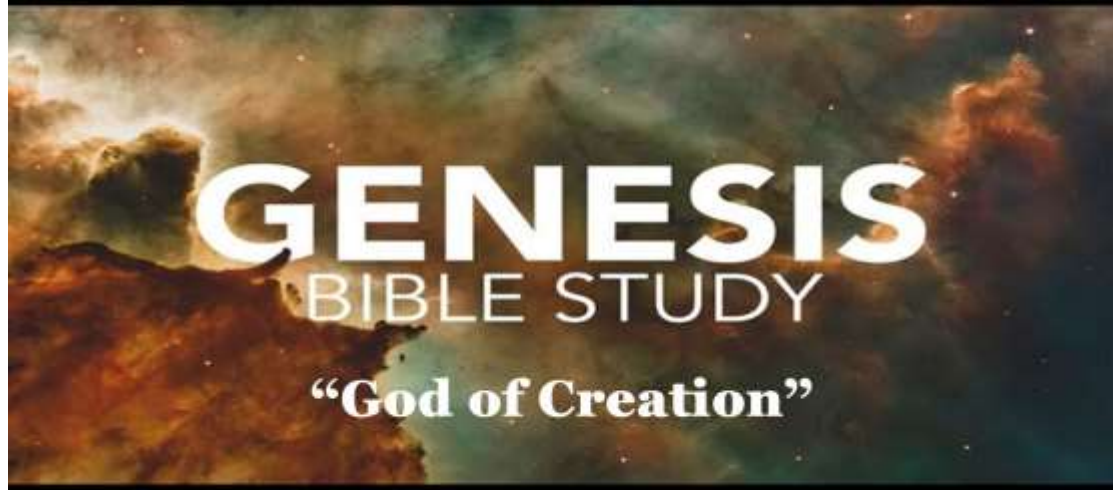
**Creative Workshops** – Host creative workshops like painting, crafting, etc.

**Movie Nights** – Gather as a group and watch a movie together then spend some time discussing it afterwards.

**Walking Groups** – Members meet at whatever frequency is decided and set destinations around the city to walk through and get to know the community better.

These are just a sample of the endless possibilities. If you have an idea, Pastor Mike will do all he can to help you get it started. What if.....

**Next Senior Bible Study Begins May 7<sup>th</sup> 1:00 PM**



**GENESIS**  
BIBLE STUDY  
"God of Creation"

**JANETH P. WHITING COMMUNITY CENTER**



Just a reminder from the deacons

The first Sunday of the month is the loose change collection. If you have any loose change laying around the house bring it in and put it in the collection plate. That change will go to help feeding local families and stocking local food pantries.



**LIFE at ONEIDA**  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**

*Week of May 11th-May 18th*

Sunday, May 11th  
10 a.m. Worship

Monday, May 12th

Tuesday, May 13th  
6:30 p.m. Activ8HER (JWCC)

Wednesday, May 14th  
1:00 p.m. Seniors Bible Study  
3:00 p.m. Connection Youth Group

Thursday, May 15th  
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Friday, May 16th

Saturday, May 17th  
6:00-8:00 p.m. Restoration Fellowship (JWCC)

Sunday, May 18th  
10 a.m. Worship  
50 Year Member Celebration  
11:15 a.m. Deacons Meeting







ONEIDA AREA CIVIC CHORALE PRESENTS ....

# Let There be Peace

Sunday,  
June 1, 2025,  
4:00 pm  
Oneida High School  
Auditorium



100 Voices Directed by Mark Bunce, Accompanied by  
Jared McFarlin, Collaborative Pianist and Guest Musicians.

 \$10.00 Donation: Tickets Available from Chorale Members or scan the QR code to purchase tickets on Event Brite . Please visit our Facebook/Instagram pages or website ([www.oneidachorale.org](http://www.oneidachorale.org)) for further information and ticket outlets.

Sponsored by AmeriCU Investments, Nye Automotive Group, Prudent Engineering LLP, Rodney and Kathy Kent

\*This project was made possible through the ONY Arts Grants for Regional Arts and Cultural Engagement regrant program thanks to a New York State Senate initiative supported by the NYS Legislature, the Office of the Governor and administered by the New York State Council on the Arts.\*

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW

**THE ONEIDA AREA CIVIC CHORALE WILL PRESENT "LET THERE BE PEACE", A SELECTION OF MUSIC FROM** Europe, Africa, and North America centering on peace in the world. The concert will be on Sunday, June 1, 2025 at 4:00 PM at Oneida High School Auditorium, Seneca Street, Oneida. The 110 voice Chorale, a community chorus under the direction of Mark Bunce, will be accompanied by Jared McFarlin on piano and joined by guest musicians. Tickets for the concert are \$10 and are available from Chorale members, at the door, and on the Chorale Website through EventBrite. Please refer to the OACC website ([www.Oneidachorale.org](http://www.Oneidachorale.org)) or Facebook page for additional information.

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS  
WHO ARE GRIEVING FOR:**

ELDERS

CLASS OF 2025

Randy Bonville  
Frank Kordziel  
Lucille Merriman  
Pat Thorpe

CLASS OF 2026

Paul Mancarella  
Perry Tooker IV

CLASS OF 2027

DEACONS

CLASS OF 2025

Sue Kordziel  
Rachel Mancarella  
John Merritt  
Kathy Nichols  
Jennawade Skellham  
Kristin Tooker  
Michelle Yeoman

CLASS OF 2026

CLASS OF 2027

**SPECIAL CONCERNS:**

All first responders, nurses, doctors and healthcare professionals.

All victims and survivors of gun violence.

The Citizens of Ukraine

Pray for those who are serving overseas and our Police/Fire Safety personnel.

Israel and all victims of terrorism

California Wild Fire victims

**PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS:** Pray for those who are stationed in non-combat zones:

Zach Carpenter, Jason Murphy, Jack Sharkey, Mark Sia, Nicholas Young, Philip Messina, Ryan Geer, John Goodwill, Errol Crossman, Corey Reed, Andrew Fargo, Jim Jennings, Peter Thompson, Dylan McClelland, Sean Fuller Jr.

Those serving in combat zones:



**MISSION EMPHASIS:**  
Church of the Lakes, Inlet

## May Prayer Mission

One Great Hour of Sharing is the single largest way that Presbyterians come together to work for a better world by advancing the causes of Justice, resilience, and sustainability.

Through One Great Hour of

Sharing.....we stabilize, we strengthen those who are weak, we connect.

Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing helps improve the lives of the suffering and the vulnerable through three life-saving programs,

**Presbyterian Disaster Assistance**

**Presbyterian Hunger Program**

**Self-Development of People**

There are three ways to give:

Through local donations to your church

Donate by credit card online at [pcusa.org/give-oghs](http://pcusa.org/give-oghs)

Text OGHS to 91999

## Upcoming Blood Drives For April



**Tuesday, May 13th: St. Agatha's Church**

Canastota, NY

1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Friday, May 16th; Munnsville Fire Department

Munnsville, NY

1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.



If you know of anyone who needs to be added to the Deacon's military service list please let Jennawade know, or call into the office so that we can keep our list updated. The Deacons routinely send out cards and packages to our military friends.

Quiet bags are available in the Sanctuary under the information table. If you take one please return the clip board in the bag when you leave the church.

Thank you!

