

WEST HENRIETTA BAPTIST CHURCH

1815-2017

THE LINK



BE CHANGE AGENTS

JANUARY 2018

"You will see greater things than these . . ." John 1:50

Greetings to you all in the mighty name of Jesus our Lord and Savior. The New Year has arrived and we should be thankful to be alive. New Year certainly brings lots of excitement, but also challenges, and we cannot forget those of our loved ones who left us last year to be with Jesus.

I extend my wishes that the New Year be filled with faith, hope, love, joy, good health and prosperity. It is in God that we hope. Deuteronomy 7: 9 reads: "*Know therefore that the Lord your God is the faithful God who keeps his covenant and love with those who love him and keep his statute for a thousand generations.*" An amplified version would read, "All our hope is in God's faithfulness and he will keep his promises to his people: pardon them, deliver them, cleanse them, and when that time comes, give them rest in his kingdom."

Looking back at the year in review we have remained faithful to the proclamation of God's word; we have not veered off the narrow path. Our love for God remains unmovable, our passion for evangelism remains strong, our Bible study has been maintained by a faithful few who come together on Thursday evenings, and our Saturday morning prayer meeting remains steady. God has been the ever-constant provider for our church and we have never been without our basic necessities to do ministry.

One often overlooked blessing of a new year is that it presents many wonderful opportunities to avoid the sins and mistakes of the old year. The vision for a new year should involve new beginnings as well as continuation of that which worked well for the local church and the kingdom of God. The church needs unmatched great zeal manifested through evangelism, Christian education, preaching and teaching. The big questions are, "How does your life's schedule fit into all of this?" "What needs to change for you in order to become a faithful servant of Jesus during 2018?" "Where in your life do you sense a need for change and growth?"

My first appeal for you is to allow God to change you (2 Cor. 5:17). We're all a work in progress and we all grow in Christ at different rates. My prayer is that our individual change will manifest itself in our love for Jesus, church attendance, evangelistic efforts, financial giving, and a commitment to the weekly programs of our church.

The second is a request for you to become change agents. Let's not become complacent with who and what we are presently. We do have a long way to go. Let me ask you to reach out to your family members, co-workers, neighbors, and friends through Facebook, WhatsApp, Texting, Viber, Hike, Line, Snapchat, WeChat or any other social media platforms at your disposal with weekly invitations to attend an event at our church. Share with them what is presently happening in worship, starting with heartfelt singing and a message from God's word every Sunday. The verse of the hymn below is my prayer for 2018 and I strongly urge you to make it your prayer too.

***Take my life and let it be consecrated Lord, to Thee,
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my will, and make it Thine; It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is Thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.***

Yours truly, Rev. Dr. Peter E. Grinion, Pastor

Worship Servants

January 7

Invocation: Leanna Shirley
Scripture: Valerie Bandemire
Offering: Leanna Shirley
Kids' Moment: Marti Spaker
Greeter: Bonnie Healy
Nursery: BOCE
Fellowship: Kathy Gosnell

January 14

Invocation: Betty Heisig
Scripture: Joyce Shutts
Offering: Betty Heisig
Kids' Moment: Marti Spaker
Greeter: Bonnie Healy
Nursery: BOCE
Fellowship: Marti Spaker

January 21

Invocation: Clara White
Scripture: Betty Heisig
Offering: Clara White
Kids' Moment: Marti Spaker
Greeter: Dan & Sharon Scurlock
Nursery: BOCE
Fellowship: Pot Luck

January 28

Invocation: Leanna Shirley
Scripture: Pat Floyd
Offering: Leanna Shirley
Kids' Moment: Marti Spaker
Greeter: Dan & Sharon Scurlock
Nursery: BOCE
Fellowship: Gretchen Young



Grove of Grace

thankful
&
blessed

The Treasure of Time

What is valued most
of all our earth-land treasures?
Time is our Jewel.

Everything we do
withdraws from our "Purse of Time"
through God's treasury.

Love, good health, and peace,
time fulfills for faith's grace
through his only son.
Praise Jesus Christ. Amen
Psalm 1 18:24

Journey of Life

From infinity
into actuality,
we birth into life.

Time on earth begins,
we grow within loving care;
parents nurture trust.

God's Word strengthens,
character shapes wisdom;
experience adds.

Through helping others,
we maintain true stature
with Joy in living!

Thank you Father God. Amen
Genesis 1
Evy Lyn Shoots



And attend!!

Men's Breakfast
7 a.m. Tuesdays at
Peppermints

Prayer Meeting
9 a.m. Saturdays

Choir Practice
6 p.m. Thursdays

Bible Study
7:15 p.m. Thursdays

**Potluck &
Annual Meeting**
January 21

Deacons' Meetings
10 a.m. Jan. 11

MLK Service
7 p.m. HUCC



Jan. 10 - Rachel Gress
Jan. 14 - Don Peoples
Jan. 15 - Loretta Hirshman
Jan. 20 - Barbara Zima
Jan. 23 - Jasmine Morse
Jan. 26 - Eric Heisig & Laura Heisig
Jan. 27 - Steve Wenthe
Jan. 28 - Anne Greco
Jan. 30 - Marti Spaker
Jan. 31 - Virginia Bliss

New Year's Day

On this new day, the men of science say.
Our globe terrestrial swings its way into
another circuit of the sun.
Whence we mark the milestones we have
come.

New orbit of winter-spring-summer-fall.

Like none before will open up to all
the wide-flung open door of opportunity.
And there ahead, new vistas bright, of what
we'd wish to be.

In countless years gone by we've learned,
mankind
has lived and fought, and climbed and
grown, to find
That only when himself, he'd fully subjugate.
Would he right well achieve and win from
fate
The blessing and the joys he ever sought.
Which flow at last from deeds for others
wrought.
May courage, strength, and cheer greet each
new sun!
Peace and contentment fill our souls, when
day is done.

Roger H. Cross, Jan. 1, 1952

MISSIONS

Thank You for your generous support to provide a Christmas dinner and gifts for a local family of four. We pray the food, and gifts for the little boys, brought them joy. It was delivered Dec. 19, 2017.

The Missions Committee is planning for 2018, & preparing a Committee Manual.



Merry Christmas from the Heeds.

"Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to Me. Get away with Me, and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take real rest. Walk with Me and work with Me- watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace, I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me, and you'll learn to live freely and lightly." Matthew 11:28-30 (The Message)

I wanted to write about hope. A small word, that makes such a difference in life. So often we (myself included) run from crisis to crisis, cleaning up spills of life, assuming that this is what we are supposed to be doing. Dealing with drama, helping, errands, dishes. We get discouraged, feeling that the tasks and the issues will never end (or even pause!) In our busyness, we look to ourselves instead of Christ.

This Christmas, I invite us- to get out of the way for a while, to set down our busyness, grab a cup of tea, and invite Jesus into our story. He is called our burden-bearer--are there burdens we need to tell Him about? Are we just too tired to think, and we need Him to meet us in the exhaustion? Or in the mundane? Or in the grief? Or in the dead dreams?

We believe in Christ in our hearts, but there's more. I want to believe Him in my moments. I want to believe Him in the everyday, in the good and bad. **Can we get away from the noise to be with Christ to tell Him the things on our hearts? Could that be our Christmas gift to Him?**

These are the things God has been teaching me. Ministry and family are doing well. Dave is directing a Christmas choir, and loving it! We are having kid's feeding program Christmas parties and kids are having opportunities for the Gospel. I've had a few stints of malaria, but am better now. Olivia is a cutie pie and healthy.

Michelle, Dave, & Olivia

News

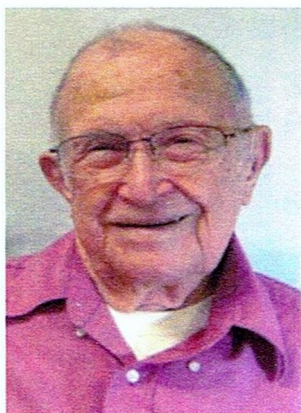
Did you hear? Early the morning of Dec. 25, a car driven by a drunk driver

went thru the Erie Sta. Rd. parking area damaging the ramp, railings (on ramp & front of lot), and breaking a window. There may be other damage covered by snow. Be careful entering Church from there until something can be done about the situation.

Thank you Michael for cleaning up after the accident, and for shoveling the walks. Thanks Ryan for taking pictures.

The Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, Jan. 21, after a Pot Luck Fellowship meal. It is VERY IMPORTANT that everyone attend to vote on Officers & Board Members as well as the proposed Constitution changes. (See page 5 for more information.)





In Loving Memory

Marshall Smith passed October 13, 2017 at The V.A. Hospital in Canandaigua. He was one of our poets. He and Fry Shoots shared a kinship in their use of the English language.

Jul. 15, 1927- Oct. 28, 2017

He graduated from Charlotte H.S. in 1944; enlisted in the Navy in 1944. Joined Construction Battalion (C.BV.'s), 1st Class Petty Officer & received a Direct Commission in the US Coast Guard; retiring as Lt. Commander.

He received a B.S. Degree in Forestry with a Major in Landscape Architecture & Certified Ornamental from Syracuse Univ. & SUNY. He was also a Horticulture Teacher. Marshall was the owner of Brookside Nursery & Landscaping Service, Inc. from 1960-1981; it was one of the largest landscape service, nursery, & garden centers in the Rochester, NY area.

He was a Mason, Shriner, Rotarian and Medicare Supplemental insurance broker.

He is the beloved Dad of **Valerie Bandemere**, Marlene Meredith, Neil, Lora Harris, & Terry plus 13 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren & 1 great, great grandchild.

Don Hirschman passed December 13, 2017. Even though he was ill, he and his family continued the tradition he started many years ago of supplying the Christmas Tree for the sanctuary.



A Life Well Lived

Donald Hirschman passed away peacefully on December 13, 2017 at his home on East River Road in West Henrietta. He is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Loretta; sons, Karl (Theresa) and Paul (Michelle); grandchildren, Elizabeth, Rebecca, Ryan, Rhettley, Kylee, Makai and Jaden. He is also survived by his sisters, Dorothy and Irene. He was predeceased by his brothers, Robert and Earl. His cousins and many nieces and nephews also survive him.

Don worked for 24 years as a heavy equipment operator for RG&E. However, at heart he was a farmer all his life. Don grew up at 468 Tremont Street in Rochester, and attended Madison High School. Since his teenage years, he worked on the Rypma-Hirschman family farm growing crops and raising turkeys. Don and his family moved into the homestead several years after the farmland and equipment were sold, and he lived the remainder of his life in the same house in which he was born.

Don enjoyed outdoor activities such as hunting, driving his tractors, and riding ATVs with his sons. He loved spending time with family and friends; especially laughing with his grandkids. His wife was his true partner in life, and they cherished every minute they had together. Don was strong in faith and was blessed by the support of his church community. He lived to the ripe old age of 88 years after battling cancer and enduring COPD. He is now finally in heaven where he was so looking forward to breathing easy once again.



Donald C. Hirschman
1929 - 2017

A New Year's Prayer

*Thank you Lord for giving me
the bright new year ahead.
Help me live the way I should
each new day I tread.*

*Give me gentle wisdom
that I may help a friend.
Give me strength and courage
so a shoulder I might lend.*

*The year ahead is empty.
Help me fill it with good things
each day filled with joy
and the happiness it brings.*



*Please give the leaders of our
world a courage born of peace that
they might lead us gently and all
the fighting cease.*

*Please give to all upon this earth a
heart that is filled with love, a
gentle way to live with your bless-
ings from above....*

- Charlotte Anselmo

Christmas Eve, Candlelight Service



These changes will be voted on at the Annual Meeting, January 21, 2018.

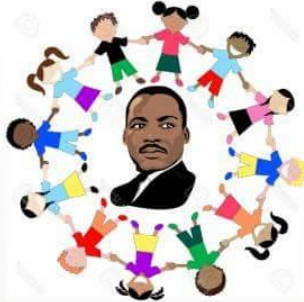
Summary of Proposed Revisions to WHBC Constitution

1. The constitution will require a Procedures Manual that clarifies responsibilities and is easily amended.
2. It creates an “inactive list” status for members who have neither attended nor given, without valid excuse, for two years.
3. “Exclusion” is based solely on the recommendation of the Deacons and vote of the congregation. “Gross immorality or extended delinquency” have been eliminated as causes for exclusion.
4. The language is gender neutral throughout.
5. The position of Moderator has been revised to reflect the current role.
6. The position of School Superintendent was eliminated.
7. The duties of the Board of Christian are more generic with the understanding that specifics will be in the Procedures Manual.
8. It clarifies that any Pulpit Committee appointed by the Advisory Council would be responsible for the hiring, supervision, and possible dismissal of an interim.
9. The original resolution creating the Memorial Endowment Fund has been removed. The spirit of that resolution remains. Any necessary specifics for its management will be in the Procedures Manual.
10. The Pastor’s Cabinet is to meet monthly and serve as a pastoral relations body and work with the Pastor on plans to be recommended to the Advisory Council. Responsibility for an annual planning conference has been moved from the Advisory Council to the Cabinet.
11. The “Special Fund” has been renamed a “Designated Purpose Fund.”
12. The boards of Deacons and Christian Education shall have No More Than six members. The Board of Trustees shall have At Least three members.



Two Upcoming Events to take notice of:

Stronger Together



11TH ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING CELEBRATION

FOR THE HENRIETTA & RUSH COMMUNITIES

JANUARY 11, 2018

7 P.M.

HENRIETTA UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
1400 LEHIGH STATION ROAD ~ HENRIETTA, NY 14467

SPONSORED BY:

The Interracial Clergy Council of Henrietta & Rush
Town of Henrietta
Rush-Henrietta Central School District



Effective Leadership Workshop Fridays

for Clergy and Lay-Leaders

with

Rev. Dr. Lynn M.
Acquafondata, LMHC
9:30-2:30

Jan. 12th: Grief Issues and Leadership

- Learn to recognize typical grief patterns and how they affect functioning.
- Learn techniques to minister to those who are grieving.
- Learn how to process one's own grief effectively while ministering to others.

March 9th: Managing Anxiety in Congregations

- Learn the signs of congregational anxiety and tools to manage that anxiety.
- Learn ways to manage anxiety in self.

Draws on the work of family and congregational systems theorists as well as Rev. Lynn's own models.

May 4th: Communication and Conflict Resolution in the Congregation

- Learn models of effective communication.
- Learn strategies for managing difficult relationships.
- Explore how power dynamics affect communication.
- Explore the dynamics of setting boundaries.

Cost: \$75 per congregation plus \$10 per person (Free workshop specials available.)

Location: 1010 East Ave next to Asbury First United Methodist Church (red brick building)

Schedule: 9:30 to 2:30 with 45 minute lunch-break for building connections. Bring your own lunch. Coffee and tea provided. Refrigerator available.

Registration: [Register here.](#)

Questions: Contact Rev. Lynn at 585-330-1340 or acquafondatal@gmail.com

