

The Delmar Prez

Delmar Presbyterian Church
585 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054 (518)439-9252

MAY 2012

Number 396

Interim Pastor's Page

Communities of Practice

The four gospels are full of stories of people with whom Jesus engaged. They are not full of meetings and events as are our 21st century church calendars. This has elicited many engaging observations. Some people don't want to be part of any organized form of religion; just love God or Jesus and their neighbor. Some people don't want to build and maintain church buildings; just put their money and time into helping others. They have a point. Jesus wasn't around long enough to see what his followers had to carry to sustain the mission he began.

Reading through the Acts of the Apostles you can see these disciples of Jesus were active. They started by worshiping and meeting people in Jerusalem—the center of Jewish religious and cultural life. They put into words and actions what Jesus had taught them. They fanned out beyond familiar towns and cities. They traveled roads and boarded ships to distant places. They encouraged people to provide gifts to fund this missionary movement and share their food and financial means with the needy among them. They instructed new believers. They met with religious and political leaders—more often after they were charged with acting on their faith. They organized roles among those who led the church. They worshiped with believers wherever they found themselves in that first-century world. They *organized* themselves precisely so that their love for God and neighbor would expand, and not remain a private, singular experience. God had a love for all the world and Jesus told them to get out there and share it.

The disciples could not have undertaken what they did without first learning and embodying what Jesus had taught them. Jesus hung out with them, taught them, let them learn from him, sent them out to preach and heal. At times they said and did foolish things. They had their doubts. They competed with each other for prestige. But they remained in community and learned from Jesus and one another how to practice what he preached. They created new communities of faith that practiced what Jesus had taught them. Jesus put his Spirit within them.

The congregational survey and focus groups have generated a conversation about a to better know one another, especially across generations. Some members once fondly spoke of a group of couples that met together. A significant number of our members are single – what do they desire? We have many families raising children – what support might they find in one another or those just past that? Young adults are charging into a whole new chapter of their lives – are they finding a fit with the rest of us, is their faith a guide? Are we neglecting our older adults?

Some skills are more segregated by life experiences—adolescence, employment, marriage, parenting, retirement, aging. There also are many spiritual practices that need not be age or situation segregated as prayer, fellowship, studying Scripture, serving others, leadership, building community. While having “experts” or “scholars” teach us is a pedagogical model of learning, most of us already have enough awareness, questions, and insights that we can help each other with peer learning in small groups with similar focus, with one person facilitating when small groups will gather to pursue what it is they want to do together. They are not “standing committees” going on forever, but last as long as the small group participants choose to continue. Nor need they meet at church. It could be in homes, the golf course, a Habitat for Housing site, or a nursing home.

The key is for us to take time to discern what God desires for us, and then become intentional about finding other like-minded individuals with whom we can meet to pursue this together.

Pastor Bob

Interim Pastor's Contact Information

Revs. Robert and Leslie Foltz-Morrison, 74 Delaware Avenue, Apt. B, Delmar, NY 12054
Apartment Phone: 518-512-3594 Bob's cell: 908-432-0408

MAY EVENTS AT CHURCH

<u>Tuesday, May 1</u>	
Boy Scouts	6:30 PM
<u>Sunday, May 6</u>	
Worship & Communion	10:00 AM
Confirmation Class	11:30 AM
<u>Monday, May 7</u>	
Boy Scouts	6:00 PM
<u>Tuesday, May 8</u>	
Personnel Committee	7:00 PM (?)
<u>Wednesday, May 9</u>	
Outreach Meeting	7:00 PM
<u>Friday, May 11</u>	
Memorial Service for Sally Bosse	11:00 AM
<u>Saturday, May 12</u>	
Kiwanis Breakfast	8:00 AM
DPC Garden Day	9:00 AM
<u>Sunday, May 13 (Mother's Day)</u>	
Worship	10:00 AM
Bread for the World Offering	11:30 AM
Confirmation Class	11:30 AM
<u>Tuesday, May 15</u>	
Session Meeting	7:00 PM
<u>Wednesday, May 16</u>	
Deacons Meeting	7:00 PM
<u>Sunday, May 20</u>	
Worship with Interfaith Partnership	10:00 AM
Sundae Sunday MSPY Fundraiser	11:30 AM
Confirmation Class	11:30 AM
<u>Monday, May 28</u>	
Memorial Day Observed	
<u>Tuesday, May 29</u>	
Girl Scouts	4:30 PM

<u>Weekly events:</u>	
Background to the Bible Readings – 9 AM	
Sunday Morning Worship Service – 10 AM	
Bells of Praise– Thursday 6:30 PM	
Choir Rehearsal – Thursday 7:30 PM	
Women's AA Meeting – Sunday 8:00 PM	

PREZ DEADLINE for June	
May 20	

<p><u>National Day of Prayer</u> New York State Capital Thursday, May 3, 2012 10:30 AM Concert of Prayer 12:00 PM Prayers for Govt. Officials www.albanydayofprayer.com</p>
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LECTIONARY FOR MAY

May 6	Acts 8:26-40 Psalm 22:25-31 1 John 4:7-21 John 15:1-18
May 13	Acts 10:44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5:1-6 John 15:9-17
May 20	Acts 1:15-17 Psalm 1 1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19
May 27	Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Acts 2:1-21 John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

READERS

Volunteers needed – please sign up
 May 6 Gary Lind

DEACON IN CHARGE

May 6	Pam Hamlin
May 13	Pam Hamlin
May 20	Pam Taft
May 27	Pam Taft

USHERS

May 6	Doug Hamlin and Merle Winn
May 13	Lynn and Jim Finke
May 20	Lynn and Ron Taylor
May 27	Susan LaFlamme and Randy Morse

WELCOMING HOSTESS

May Libby McGinn

GREETERS

May 6	Trish and Callie McGinn
May 13	The Lowry Family
May 20	Paul and Jacque McGinn
May 27	Libby McGinn and Cameron Duwe

ACOLYTES

May 6	Jennifer Jack
May 13	Matt Phang
May 20	Kevin Hansen
May 27	John Cheu

REFRESHMENTS

Volunteers needed – please sign up
 May 6 The Allendorphs
 May 13
 May 20 MSPYs Sundae Sunday
 May 27

COMMUNION SERVERS

Nate Cady, Jim Finke, Melissa Fleischut, Jack Gajewski, Doug Hamlin, Lee Hessberg (subject to change)



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Our church school year is nearly at an end but we still have events planned for our church members to enjoy. On April 29, we will celebrate Youth Worship Sunday, during which the children and teens of our congregation will lead us in our worship service.

Our May events include Sundae Sunday on May 20th, a mission project of the MSPYs which will benefit the Bethlehem Food Pantry. Please bring a food item to donate and enjoy a sundae during coffee hour that day – refer to the bulletin insert for more information.

Also, on Mother's Day, May 13th, the MSPYs will help the younger children of the congregation to create a special gift for their moms. Because painting will be involved, children are encouraged to wear clothing that can get messy and be easily washed.

Our calendar is as follows:

May 6: Communion Sunday – alternate activity provided for preK-5th graders

May 13: Mother's day – Church school/special activity with MSPYs

May 20: Church School in session/Sundae Sunday during coffee hour

May 27: No church school – Memorial Day weekend

Any questions or concerns, please email or call – thank you!

Mary Prostick, Church School Superintendent

RPMs

The RPM's would like to thank everyone for their support with our annual mission trip. It was a very successful trip and we would like to share our experience with all of you. **Please join us on May 5th at 6:00 pm at the Delmar Reformed Church for our Thank You Pasta Dinner.** We will share stories from the trip and show a slide show. We hope to see you there!

Calendar:

Friday, May 4th

Thank you Dinner Set up/Cooking
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm and 5:30 pm-7:0 0pm

Delmar Reformed Church

Saturday, May 5th

Thank you Pasta Dinner
6:00 pm start time

Delmar Reformed Church

Sunday, May 6th

Junior Leadership Day
Delmar Reformed Church

3:00 pm-6:00 pm

Sunday, May 18th – 20th

Spring Retreat

Camp Fowler

Sunday June 3rd

RPMs Meeting
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Delmar Reformed Church (386 Delaware Ave)

Saturday, June 9th

Senior Night

Sunday, June 10th

BBQ

1:00 pm

Elm Ave Park

A Group of RPM Alumni will be traveling to New York City in July to do a summer Midnight Run. Look for donation boxes at church as we will need clothing, back packs, sneakers and toiletries for the run. Thank you in advance for your help with this!

Summer Camp 2012!

Albany Presbytery Recommends:

CAMP FOWLER

Located in Speculator, NY, Camp Fowler provides year round retreat space, where all are welcome. For more info, please visit:

www.campfowler.org

SKYE FARM

Skye Farm is a Camp and Retreat Center located in the Lake George region of the Adirondacks near Warrensburg, New York. For more info, please visit:

www.skyefarmcamp.jgsy.org

CAMP HOLMES

Camp Holmes is a Welcoming Christian Community responding to God's call where lives change and faith grows in a natural setting. For more info, please visit:

www.holmescamp.org

Mother's Day Surprise

The MSPYs will be working with the younger children on **Sunday, May 13th** during church to create a special Mother's Day surprise for their mothers.

Since the children will be painting their surprise gifts, they should wear clothing that can easily be washed.

Smocks will also be available.



We hope that all children will join us for this special Mother's Day tradition!

MSPYs

MSYPs at Schoharie United Presbyterian Church

If you noticed that middle school-aged girls and boys from our MSPY Youth Group were missing during the worship service on April 22nd, there was a good reason for their absence!



L-R (kneeling) Jared Glass, John Cheu, Greg Hyde

L-R (standing) Maddie Mannka, Cordelia Ahner, Jennifer Jack, Callie McGinn

The MSPYs travelled that day to the Village of Schoharie to worship at the Schoharie United Presbyterian Church and to tour spots that were devastated in the August 28th floods that followed in the wake of Hurricane Irene. Leslie Cheu, Gina Jack and Linda Miller accompanied the youth. We were greeted warmly by Rev. Bebb Stone and church members upon our arrival. Services are held in the Education Building behind the church; we would find out why later.



MSPYs touch the flood's high water mark on the church's wall – over their heads!

Following the service, Rev. Stone led us through some hard hit areas of this small, tightly-knit village. Our first stop was the Presbyterian Church, a historic brick building dating to the late 1700s. The interior was destroyed by flood waters over six feet high. Next we walked up the street and visited a woman who had just moved back in her newly-remodeled home. Flood waters destroyed the first floor, but did not reach the second floor of her home. Next door we saw a barn that was moved off its foundation and

twisted onto its side by flood waters. Many volunteers from an Amish community were able to move the barn without power tools or machines. We spoke with the owner of the barn who then invited us in to see the restoration work going on in her 1830's home, where water did reach the second floor. Hundreds of volunteers have helped Schoharie residents since the flood and continue to help with rebuilding.

Before heading home, we enjoyed a delicious lunch at the Carrot Barn and met the owner, Mr. Ball, who gave us a tour of the entire facility. The MSPYs enjoyed a full day and learned how their mission fund-raising projects will help our friends in Schoharie rebuild their church and continue to support one another during this long period of recovery.

Submitted by Leslie Cheu and Linda Miller

Thank You

The first ever Delmar Presbyterian Church Pi(e) Day was a fantastic success! The MSPYs thank you for your support of this fun fellowship and mission event. There were over 20 different kinds of truly *delicious* pies that day that helped raise \$375 for flood relief in Schoharie and Greene counties. The MSPYs have decided to give \$200 of that amount to the Schoharie Presbyterian Church to help rebuild their church sanctuary, and the remaining \$175 to Schoharie Area Long Term (SALT) Recovery—a group that is helping rebuild all the communities along the Schoharie Creek basin that were affected by the damaging floods of August 2011.

The MSPYs hope to make Pie Day an annual event. We knew that the equation for caring was 3.14159 x Delmar Presbyterian Church Pie Bakers, and we look forward to proving that equation again next year!

THANK YOU!! -- *The MSPYs*



SESSION DIGEST

The following are the major items that were discussed at the April 17th Session meeting.

The Session heard a report from the Ad-Hoc Committee on By-Law Revisions. The Delmar Presbyterian Church by-laws must be updated to bring them into conformance with the PCUSA new form of government. This was a first reading of the proposed changes. The committee received feedback from Session and will continue to work on the by-laws with a goal to have an updated document approved by the end of the year.

The Vision Seekers Committee gave an update to the Session and led a spirited discussion concerning the strengths, challenges, and opportunities that the Vision Seekers have identified through their work. The Session expressed its enthusiastic support for the direction expressed in the proposed core values and mission statement.

The Finance Committee report noted a significant drop in pledges received over the first quarter of the year. The Session will continue to monitor this closely.

The Session expressed its appreciation to Pastor Bob and the Worship Committee for the quality and variety of the various worship opportunities throughout Lent and Easter.

Gary Lind, Clerk of Session

NOTES FROM OUTREACH

One Great Hour of Sharing
Thank you members and friends.
You donated over \$7,000.00.

March 19 Senior Lunch

The beautiful weather seemed to bring out more attendees than usual for the Town of Bethlehem's Senior Lunch on March 19th. Guests and cooks/servers alike enjoyed a delicious meal of Carolyn Tweedie and Nancy Lynk's Corned Beef and Cabbage Soup, Irene Harbison's Refrigerator Salad, Peggy Mull's Irish Soda Bread, and Diana Wildemann, Jo Hyde, and Pam Taft's Pistachio Pudding. We all enjoyed the after-lunch program - Ron Tweedie and Will Vail's Irish songs, mostly of the sing-along sort. There were fewer left-overs this time, but Nancy was able to deliver meals to two of our church families.

A thank you letter was sent to us by Will Vail as soon as he got back to the office! It reads:

"Thank you, and the members of your church, for providing the delicious meal for our senior lunch group today. Everybody enjoyed the food that was prepared for them. You and your helpers were fantastic! Every time that you have brought food for this program, it has been of the highest quality. It really is nice that your church stays throughout the meal program to help with serving and socialize with the attendees. Your church has made a valuable contribution to our community by providing nutritious meals to elderly, socially isolated, citizens. Thank you so much for your efforts."

Sincerely yours,

William A Vail, LCSW, Outreach Worker

We are grateful to the Deacons who once again reimbursed us for the cost of the luncheon ingredients.

First Church in Albany
Give a Meal a Month
- May -



Cereal, granola bars, crackers, juice, coffee, tea.

Monetary donations are always welcome to help defray pantry expenses.



CROP Hunger Walk
Sunday, May 6
First Lutheran Church
646 State St.
Albany, NY 12203

It's not too late to support the May 6 CROP Hunger Walk. Rain or shine, registration starts at 12:30 pm in the FLC hall. At 12:45 Delmar Presbyterians will gather for a group photo outside on the lawn. At 1 pm there will be a musical performance by our own Ron Tweedie and friends, and the Walk steps off at 1:30 pm. Walkers can choose between a 4.5 mile loop with rest and refreshment stops and the shorter "Golden Mile" one mile loop. Refreshments will be served at First Lutheran after the Walk. Participants who raise at least \$30 will receive a local "CROP Walk 2012" T-shirt.

One quarter of funds raised are distributed directly by the Capital Area Council of Churches to 30 food pantries and 12 soup kitchens in Albany County, including the Bethlehem Food Pantry. The remaining 75% is used by Church World Service and its partner agencies for hunger relief and development programs in over 80 countries around the world. This included funds to Haiti after the devastating earthquake of January 12, 2011.

If you would like to walk, please contact Lisa Allendorph 475-7752 or Nancy Scholes 439-7759 for a Walker's packet. If you can't walk but would like to make a tax-deductible contribution, please make a check to CWS/CROP and give it to one of the Walkers listed in the DPC narthex.

Thank you,
Nancy Scholes ncscholes@verizon.net

Water in the Global Village

Have you ever had to walk at least a mile to get water for you or your family? **Fact: More than 200 million hours are spent every day by women and children to collect water from distant, often polluted sources.** When you walk the CROP Hunger Walk, you help Church World Service to provide clean safe water and education and training to improve sanitation standards throughout the world.

Submitted by Nancy Scholes

Bread for the World Offering of Letters

On May 13th, we will come together to fight global hunger. We will supply the pens, paper and sample letters and we will mail the letters. We ask you to write them. This outpouring of concern sends a powerful message to our political leaders and helps us move closer to our goal of ending hunger.

Sample letters will be available on May 13th. Handwritten letters—using your own words—are most effective. Here is a sample letter should you choose to write yours in advance:

*Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand or
Senator Charles E. Schumer
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510*

*Representative Paul Tonko
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510*

Sample Bread for the World Letter

Date _____

Dear Senator _____,

Dear Representative _____,

I'm asking you to reform the way the United States delivers foreign assistance so it will help millions of people in poor countries move out of hunger and poverty. Streamlined and more efficient U.S. foreign aid programs will ensure that our tax dollars are used effectively.

By focusing our aid dollars on moving people out of poverty, we help foster economic growth and opportunity. Fewer people struggling with poverty and stronger economies in developing countries contribute to our national security as well.

This is why I am asking you to support reforms in the ways we deliver and administer U.S. foreign aid. Thank you.

*Sincerely,
Your Name
Your Address*

NOTES FROM BUILDING AND GROUNDS



**DPC GARDEN DAY
SATURDAY
MAY 12TH
9 AM - 12 NOON
REFRESHMENTS!**

NOTES FROM FINANCE

Giving Update

During the first quarter of 2012, the church received pledges & income of \$43,610 and incurred expenditures of \$47,426 for a net budgetary loss for of \$3,816. We provide this information on a monthly basis so you know how the Church is managing the resources for which you have entrusted us.

Dave Rees, Chair, Finance Committee

SPORTS UPDATE

TRACK & FIELD - Keeping up with three members of last year's confirmation class is easier said than done. They run. On April 21 they helped the Bethlehem Central High School track team win third place in a 15-school contest, the Lady Eagles Invitational.



They contributed the following:
1600 Sprint Relay - 1st Place - Danika Jensen
4 X 100 Meter Relay - 3rd Place - Devin Jensen
1000 Meter Run - 3rd Place - Danika Jensen - 3:08
4th Place - Lindsay Cheu - 3:14

These are the same young women we're pleased to see Sunday mornings - helping in the Sunday School, ringing bells, and playing a piano or violin.

April 15, one soprano was missing from the choir; Kristin and Nathan Pung were among the 550 runners completing the five-mile Delmar Dash.

SOFTBALL - Presby opened its 41st season in the Cooper-Varney Ecumenical Church Softball League versus the Delmar Reformed Church at the Henry Hudson Town Park, last Thursday, April 26.

Those interested in playing should contact the manager, Greg Turner, at home - 768-2955, at work - 439-9958, or at gturner@nycap.rr.com.

Schedule for May 2012
Game Time - 6:30 p.m.



May

- 3 Delmar Fire Dep't @ Delmar Fire Dep't
- 10 First United Methodist Delmar @ Feura Bush Town Park
- 17 St. Thomas I @ Bethlehem High School, JV Field
- 24 Bethany Reformed @Bethlehem High School, JV Field
- 31 St. Thomas II @ Henry Hudson Town Park

Check the league website for a complete schedule, directions to the fields, results, team standings, and a roster of managers:

<http://cvsoftball.tripod.com>

Twelve churches and the Delmar Fire Department are contending for the league championship. Come spend a few spring and summer evenings cheering for the Presby team.

Bob Lynk, 439-3948
thelynks@midtel.net

New Arrival

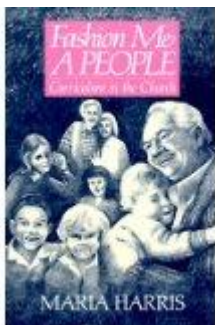
Our granddaughter, Elizabeth, was born early Easter morning, April 8th, at Cornell New York Presbyterian Hospital in Manhattan. Proud parents: Patrick and Heather Scholes; Proud Grandparents: Charles and Nancy Scholes.

In Sympathy

- Doris Jensen – Loss of her father
- Bonnie Turner – Loss of her mother
- Sally Morehouse – Loss of her sister
- Former member Katy DePorte
- Friend Maureen Moran

Library Addition

Pastor Bob has contributed a resource to the library on the topic of church curriculum, "Fashion Me a People," by Maria Harris.



"As Craig Dykstra notes in his foreward, the very word 'curriculum' brings to mind 'dull workbooks for the children.' On the contrary, curriculum as described in (this) book is an exciting process embracing the entire course of the church's life. It concerns the creative and educational powers used to 'fashion a people.' Encompassing the total teaching mission of the church, it includes community service, worship, proclamation, and instruction of all the members from birth to death."

UPCOMING EVENTS

In Memoriam

Memorial Service for Doris Turner

Saturday, May 5, 2012

11 AM

*Graveside Service – Forest Lawn Memorial Park
Elmira, NY*

Sally Bosse

Friday, May 11, 2012

11 AM

*Delmar Presbyterian Church
Delmar, NY*

SUNDAE SUNDAY!

Summer is a carefree time for many people—but not for kids who depend on school lunches for their main meal.

Can you help us help them?
Your reward? A Sundae!!



Please bring one of the items on this list to the coffee hour following church on **Sunday, May 20th:**

- Peanut Butter
- Jam or Jelly
- Granola Bars
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Juice—any shelf-stable variety
- Canned Soup—any variety

These items will be donated to the Bethlehem Food Pantry
Then, please join us for an old-fashioned ice cream social!
A Mission Project of the MSPYs!!

*Ladies Who Lunch
June Luncheon*



FRIDAY, June 1, 2012
at Sherry Putney's home;
Jo Hyde co -host
141 Barent Winne Road, Selkirk
Telephone 767-9579

Catered lunch, cost per person \$10.00
Your reservation is a check payable to "Sherry Putney" or cash given to her.
Deadline for reservation is Tuesday, June 5.

The program will be a DISCUSSION, led by Arden Leach, a member of Westminster Presbyterian Church, of the novel, "Abide with Me" by Elizabeth Strout. Paperback copies of the novel are available through The Bethlehem Public Library or can be purchased at I Love Books at the Four Corners.

Jo and Sherry hope for a sunny, warm day in order to have a porch party.

Letters

Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe that spring has arrived. The pantry was slow during March, yet we still provided food for over 3,500 meals! It was good to see the donations continue. As the pantry gains momentum once again during the spring, your continued support keeps us going. With spring comes thoughts of gardens and fresh vegetables. If you are a gardener, consider planting an extra row or a few extra plants for the pantry. Those we serve appreciate fresh produce. And as always, save those plastic and paper bags. They are ALWAYS needed. Thank you for your continued support of our ministry.

In His Service,
Rev. Barbara Morgan

Delmar Presbyterian Church
585 Delaware Avenue
Delmar, NY 12054

CRTC NEWS

Unprotected Texts: Misconceptions About Sexuality & the Bible, w/ Dr. Jennifer Knust, Colonie Community Reformed, May 10 & 11, 9am- 4pm; From the Song of Songs' lyrical eroticism to the rigid sexual rules of Leviticus- and everything in between- explore the Bible's often surprising messages. One day: \$95; Both days: \$165. Reg. deadline: April 24, 2012.

GET ON BOARD! CRTC River Cruise on the Hudson, May 21, 2012, 5:30-9:00 pm, Learn and have fun while you and your team explore resources to enrich your congregation. Speed-resourcing with the experts! Music, hors d'oeuvres, and more. Details on website! \$200/ team of 4. \$100 individual. Register by May 7.



SHANE CLAIBORNE: A Call to the Simple Way of Radical Christianity, Emmanuel Baptist in Albany, June 22 & 23. Do we make "statements of faith" when we really need "statements of practice"? Explore issues of peace-building, social justice and the call to truly live like Jesus in your neighborhood. Fri. only: \$25 by 5/23; then \$35; Sat. only: \$85 by 5/23; then \$95; Both days: \$105. Age 25 & under: \$10 for both events!

Register online at www.crtc.org or by phone at 518-462-2470. Watch our website for information on these and **many other courses** available in 2012. Scholarships and group discounts available for most classes; please contact us for an application.

