



So....it isn't every day that a church congregation gets to say it is celebrating its bicentennial. And our roots actually can be traced back into the 1700s if you were to consider circuit riders in the area and early worship services in local barns.

When church historians, Gary Murray and John Shafer, declared our official start date to be 1817, an ambitious and creative Bicentennial Committee (what else would a Presbyterian church do!) was formed to make plans. In an effort to include our neighbors, many copies of the book "Good and Cheap" were purchased. Recipes from this book about how to eat well on \$4 a day are prepared in a class once a month by church members for interested people at the Tioga County Rural Ministry food pantry. Books are then given to the class participants. An organ concert was held in the spring to showcase our historic Hutchings organ. A long timeline of our history was made and hung in the fellowship hall. Several former pastors, and also a few people who grew up in the congregation and went on to church service, have been invited to preach on upcoming Sundays. Invitations have been mailed to myriad former members in the hopes that they will join us for a catered, celebratory dinner at a local hall on September 30th.

We are proud of the 200 years we have been perched on a small rise in the heart of the village of Owego. And we look to the future with a strong desire to continue to be the hands, feet, and heart of Jesus in the neighborhood where we are planted.

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A Calendar of Prayer for our Presbytery

July

- 2 Margaretville/ Shirley Davis, Commissioned Lay Pastor
New Kingston
- 9 Gilbertsville 1st Mark Piedmonte, Pastor
Garrattsville
- 16 Owego 1st Union Lisa Heckman, Interim Pastor
- 23 Christian Nurture Team
- 30 Walton United

Prayers:

Please contact Committee on Ministry co-chairs, Marsha Muller and Janet Adair Hansen if you have a pastoral care concern or need.

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Other News



In This Issue

[Read the July Board Connections!](#)

- [Medical Dues Updates](#)
- [Medicare Supplement Dues](#)
- [Stand-Alone Death & Disability Dues](#)
- [Investments](#)
- [Counsel and Auditors](#)

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Director of Music Ministry - Union Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)

Job Title and Position Summary:

Director of Music Ministry, a part-time position, beginning in the fall of 2017. This person will coordinate the music ministry of Union Presbyterian Church and lead the Chancel Choir in providing choral music during services of worship.

Union Presbyterian Church (<http://upcendicott.org/>) is a congregation of 157 active members, an inclusive, welcoming community of Christian faith. We are an open-minded congregation in the Reformed tradition. Our goal is to love and serve God by loving and serving God's people. You will see us at worship... the centerpiece of our week, our joyful gathering to give thanks and praise to God each Sunday. You will see us at play...enthusiastic, sometimes hilarious fellowship activities that remind us to be grateful for one another's presence. You will see us at service... as God has so generously given to us, so we give back to our church, to the community, and to the whole world. You will see that we are many ages, many backgrounds, and a diverse patchwork quilt of a congregation!

For more information please click here: [Director of Music Ministry](#)

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Boundary Awareness Training for 2017

Susquehanna Valley Presbytery clergy due for Boundary Awareness Training: Here are 2 opportunities for 2017 - this fall and this summer.

- 1) UCC Susquehanna Association will offer Boundary Awareness Training Monday October 16th at the Homer Congregational Church. Exact time to be publicized later. Presbyterians welcome to join, and SVP COM will recognize this training.

2) Utica Presbytery has finalized all details for the Boundaries Awareness Workshop, scheduled for Tuesday, July 25, 2017 from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM at First Presbyterian Church of Oneida, 304 Broad Street Oneida, NY. All who wish to attend are welcome.

Here is a registration link to copy for all who are interested:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2017-boundaries-awareness-workshop-tickets-35643211806?ref=elinkfb>

Cost for the workshop is \$55, payable at the event; checks can be made payable to Presbytery of Utica. A brochure describing the workshop is attached for distribution.

If you have questions or comments, Utica's Interim Presbytery Leader & Stated Clerk, Larry J. Beasley, welcomes your call or email: mobile 315-794-9124 (best reached at this number), office 315-735-6311 or fax 315-735-7796

Website www.presbyteryofutica.org

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Hartwick Seminary Summer Institute of Theology (HSIT) in Oneonta

The 27th Annual Hartwick Seminary Summer Institute of Theology (HSIT) is a series of courses and seminars that will be held on the campus of Hartwick College from Sunday, July 23rd through Friday, July 28, 2017. The Institute is open to all laity and clergy for personal enrichment and continuing education. It is sponsored by the area Lutherans.

Two types of classes are offered:

- Courses are for one hour each morning Monday - Friday (Monday -Thursday in some cases)
- Seminars are for 2-1/2 hours each Monday-Thursday (afternoons and evenings)

Instructors come from several faith traditions including Lutheran, Orthodox Church of America, Roman Catholic, and in the past Presbyterians.

Attached are:

1) HSIT Brochure with courses and seminars listed [2017 HSIT Brochure](#)

2) HSIT Registration form [2017 HSIT RegisForm](#)

Please look over the list of offerings to see if there is something that peaks your interest.

Our Committee on Lay Preaching encourages everyone in church leadership to consider continuing education opportunities. For more info. about possible scholarships, please contact CoLP member Deb Fleming at (607) 746-2072 or signlady530@gmail.com

For details about HSIT, please contact Paul Messner, Pastor of the Otsego County Lutheran Parish, and Administrator of the Hartwick Seminary Institute of Theology at (607) 287-4534 (cell) or prpaul_theoinst@hotmail.com

May God bless our ministries of education and faith formation.

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Presbytery Camperships Available

The Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley provides campership funds for school-age children and youth, and young adult campers with special needs, to attend overnight Christian camps. Camperships are not a financial aid program; they are an incentive, provided to all families (regardless of family income) involved in churches in the presbytery, to support and enhance kids Christian faith journeys. For more information and applications, visit [susvalpresby.org](http://www.susvalpresby.org): go to Mission > Christian Nurture and click on Camperships. Click here for flyer.

Or else, <http://www.susvalpresby.org/mission/christian-nurture/campership-rules/>

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