

The Third PRESS



AUGUST 2019

“Standing Strong, Together, in Spiritual Conflict”

As we move to the close of our newsletter study through Paul’s letter to the church at Ephesus, this month we will study Paul’s exhortations on how to live as the Body of Christ in the face of the spiritual opposition that has come and will continue to come upon God’s people until the return of the Lord, Jesus the Christ.

Before reflecting upon Ephesians 6:10-18 (NIV), let’s read that word, as Paul wrote:

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.

After setting forth the truth of God’s love as demonstrated in the giving of His Son as a payment for the penalty for our sins; and, after calling us to repent and receive this good news so that the Holy Spirit may dwell in our hearts enabling us to live as one body in Christ; and, after showing us how a life lived in the power of the Spirit of God is fleshed out in every area of our lives – in the church, at home, at work; Paul charged the church to be strong!

And Paul gave this charge because Paul knew that, for the Ephesians, the coming days would be filled with evil – that there would be struggles, temptations and persecutions -- and God knows that our days are filled with evil: days when children shoot other children -- sometimes for pleasure, sometimes for recognition and acceptance; days when adults blow up other adults -- sometimes for pleasure, sometimes out of a distorted sense of devotion; days when sexual immorality, sexual and physical abuse, racism, abortion, lying, stealing, and all sorts of wickedness permeates every nook and cranny of our world leaving many people numbed to the sin inflicted upon them and the sin they inflict upon others.

115 Winter Street

Troy, NY 12180

518-283-2420

www.thirdchurchtroy.org

office@thirdchurchtroy.org

 [ThirdChurchTroy](https://www.facebook.com/ThirdChurchTroy)

~~~~~  
A community of Christ  
-followers where,

The Head of the Church  
is...

The Lord Jesus Christ

The Ministers of the  
Church are...  
Every Believer

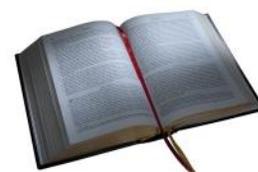
The Passion of the  
Church is...  
to be Spirit empowered  
ministers of  
reconciliation to God,  
inviting all people to  
faith in Christ Jesus  
our Lord and  
to holiness of life.

~~~~~  
Our Mission:

To Love our God and
Neighbor

To Proclaim the Gospel
through Word and Deed

To Make Disciples of
Jesus the Christ



God knows the trials and temptations we face – the challenge to be faithful to our beliefs within a society that mocks purity and laughs at integrity. God knows that we face such conflicts and so He commands us to be strong.

But how can we obey this command? Can we work hard and build up our spiritual fortitude so that we can be strong in the strength of our own might? No! Rather, Paul says, be strong but let that strength be in the Lord and in the power of His might.

Our strength -- any real strength that we may have to live right and do right -- must come from the Lord (see Zech 4:6), for, it's the Lord God who is the Creator of all that exists. And it's the Lord alone who has power over sin and death, over Satan and the forces of evil.

It's the Lord who has the authority to command obedience and to ensure that His will shall be done in heaven and upon the earth.

And so, our strength comes from knowing that those of us who have put our faith in Jesus have been chosen by this sovereign, gracious God. And, our strength comes from knowing that we are now new creatures in Christ, empowered by God to live a new life in Christ. And our strength comes from knowing that God has sealed His relationship with us through the promised Holy Spirit, who marks us as a people belonging to God, and who indwells us so that we can live confident that nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God.

Now, Paul encourages us to be strong because he knows that a life of obedience to God is a life of conflict: conflict within the body of Christ as we struggle against the impulses of our old sinful nature -- our selfishness, our pride, our desire to get our way; and, conflict from outside the church as we face the attacks of a world that does not know God and that does not honor God – a world of sin, the flesh and the devil.

The life of a believer is a life of conflict – a battle – even more a spiritual battle against a dangerous and cunning foe. Our battle is a battle against one who in his boldness thought he could be God, and who in his foolishness continues his vain pursuit. Our battle is against one who disguises himself as an angel of light seeking to blind us so that we would stumble into his deadly traps (2 Cor 11:14). And, our battle is against one who is as a roaring Lion looking for someone to devour (1 Pt 5:8).

The ways of Satan and his forces are shrewd and deceptive. And in his cunning, the “father of lies” (Jn 8:44) attacks the character and credibility of God, hoping to plant seeds of doubt about the object of our faith and the source of our strength. Satan knows the frailty of humankind and so he brings hardship to those too weak to endure suffering, and he brings ease to those too weak to resist complacency. Satan infiltrates the doctrines of the community of faith teaching legalism to those who love rules, and license to those who seek personal autonomy, leaving both sides pointing an accusing finger at the other, while neither experiences the joy and peace of God's saving grace. Satan and his “forces of evil” drain the power and energy of the church by bringing success to plans initiated by the will of men – thus tempting us to rely on our own wisdom; and by bringing obstacles to plans initiated by the will of God -- thus provoking us to question God's direction and provision.

Satan drives a wedge into the church: by instigating and fueling division among sisters and brothers in Christ; by luring God's people with the enticements of the world; and, by tempting God's people to disobey the Word and will of God.

The ways of Satan and his army are many but their intent is the same – to attack and disable the Body of Christ so that at best it will be an inept witness to the glory and majesty of God, and at worst it will drive people away from God and into the grasp of Satan.

As a result, Christians are commanded to stand firm, to be strong in the Lord knowing that the only strength that will help us to live as God's people is that which comes from the Lord. For His strength is both necessary and sufficient to resist the schemes of the evil one. And His strength is both necessary and sufficient to withstand the prompting of our own sinful desires, as well as withstand the seductiveness of a fallen world.

Indeed, God's strength is precisely what we need to stand firm, as we stand together, in these evil days.

And so, Paul, a prisoner in a Roman jail and guarded by Roman soldiers, upon considering the armament of a Roman soldier, in turn described the armor and its use that every “soldier of Christ” must employ.

Paul pictured the Christian getting ready to face the battle of a lifetime -- a battle that will last a lifetime -- and in doing so he imagined the Christian putting on or taking up six pieces of God-given armor necessary to face the enemy.

And Paul began by telling us to put on the belt of truth.

Now, the Roman soldier's thick, heavy leather belt served multiple purposes. It held the soldier's breastplate and sword in place. And, it was used to tie up the long outer cloak often worn by the Roman soldier so that when it was time for battle his movement would not be hindered. Thus, the belt served to "anchor" much of the soldier's equipment -- even as the truth of God's grace becomes that sure foundation upon which we can "anchor" a life of faith, hope and love.

And the truth of the gospel is that we are saved by grace through faith, and that the One who is the Truth has given His life that we might gird ourselves in the security of that truth. For, when we live our life based upon the truth, we can both discern that which is evil, and, we can stand strong in purity and holiness of character.

Paul next moved to the breastplate as he pictured the soldier securing that piece of armament around his chest and fastening it securely to his belt. The breastplate of the Roman soldier served to protect his vital organs so that any thrust to the body would be ineffective.

In the same way the Christian is to put on the breastplate of righteousness -- a right way of living that reflects the holiness of God -- so that when the attacks to our character and integrity come -- those attacks that seek to pierce our heart with their cutting stabs -- we may stand unharmed -- that our devotion will not be wounded and in turn found wanting.

But even if in some way the soldier of Christ is found wanting, for we all still sin; and even if there is a weak spot in our breastplate, yet we can know that undergirding our own righteousness is the "impenetrable" righteousness of Christ, which will save us from any potentially fatal blow to the heart.

This is the good news of the gospel -- that our "security" in Christ is not based upon our righteousness, but upon His. (Rom 8:38-39; Phil 1:6))

From the torso, Paul moved down to the feet.

Now proper footwear is vital for effectiveness in whatever a person does. In fact, many of us have different shoes to help us do different things better, for the care of our feet often impacts our performance. Likewise, proper footwear is essential to keep an army advancing and fighting.

The sandals of the Roman soldier were specially made, with sturdy straps to keep them secure on his feet, and with metal studded soles that would allow him to dig in and maintain traction during hand to hand fighting -- a sort of first-century pair of cleats.

Paul calls us to strap onto our feet the shoes of the preparation of the Gospel of Peace. A Christian soldier must let the peace that comes from the gospel so penetrate our hearts that we will not be moved when hardship comes -- that our footing in the gospel will be sure.

Like a football player getting into his stance on the line of scrimmage, we must dig in, confident that as we stand on the truth of the gospel we will not slip and fall when pushed by the enemy. But then, the peace of the gospel is that wholeness-of-heart-and-mind which enables us to stand firm wherever God places us and however God uses us. The peace of the gospel provides the means for us to be content with God in all situations -- in suffering and in celebration, in plenty and in want -- so that, even amidst conflict, we can know God's peace for ourselves, as we seek to be instruments of God's peace for others.

Having been clothed with truth, righteousness, and peace, we next take up our shield of faith -- that instrument of defense with which we can protect ourselves from the fiery darts of the evil one.

The shield referred to here was a heavy wood shield approximately two-and-a half feet wide and four feet high. And, it was covered with a leather wrapping so that, when wet, it could extinguish flaming arrows.

Now the word used by Paul for “shield” is the word from which we get the English word “door”, for in many ways it functions like a door -- keeping out those elements that we don’t want invading our hearts and minds. In fact, the Roman soldiers would line up side-by-side, interlocking their shields to form an almost impenetrable wall. And then, advancing in unison, they would push through enemy defenses and conquer enemy territory.

Paul tells the church to move forward together, shielded by an unshakable faith in the power of God and in the truth of the Gospel, that we might overcome enemy strongholds and free those imprisoned by the lies of the evil one.

Paul also charges us to take up the shield of faith so that those fiery darts of Satan -- those seeds of doubt, those temptations to follow the ways of the world -- may not so wound us that our trust becomes shaken and our zeal is pierced to the heart.

Now, the Roman shield was a very effective tool provided each soldier stood fast alongside his fellow soldiers. But if the enemy somehow penetrated that wall of shields the entire army would become vulnerable.

As Christians we must unite and remain steadfast in our defense against false teachings, against worldly practices, and against ungodly attitudes that seek to “penetrate” the fellowship of the church and threaten the faith of the weak and unaware. After all, as difficult as it is to fight against attacks from outside the church, it’s devastating to the faith of many when the fiery darts are launched from within.

The final piece of armament which Paul had the Christian soldier put on was his helmet.

For a Roman soldier, a well fitted helmet brought a sense of invincibility.

A football player may be all suited up to play but it’s not until he secures that helmet that he is ready to throw himself into the thick of the battle.

Likewise, the Christian soldier is to put on the helmet of salvation -- that helmet of security that allows us to enter the battle knowing that we have a future and a hope – knowing that our salvation is sure because our Lord is risen. Indeed, it is because Jesus has already won the victory that we can engage the enemy with confidence.

The Roman soldier was now dressed for battle. And yet he is not quite ready to engage the enemy, since he still needed his weapon. And so as Paul described, he took hold of his sword, a short double-edged weapon, specially designed for hand-to-hand fighting.

In like fashion, Paul described the weapon of the Christian soldier.

Our weapon is the “sword of the Spirit”, which is the Word of God – that double edged sword that cuts to the very heart of believer and non-believer alike, exposing sin while also enabling those who so desire to turn to God for healing and help. (Heb 4:12)

As a soldier of Christ we’re to take up God’s Word -- to meditate upon it, to study it, to live it, and to proclaim it -- for it’s only when we do, that we can challenge the evil of this world and stand up against the one who is the “Great Deceiver”.

The Word of God is the very sword which Jesus used to fend off the temptations from Satan which Jesus endured at the end of His forty days of fasting in the wilderness (Lk 4:1-11). And it’s this same “sword of the Spirit” that we must keep sharp through constant use -- for unlike the sword of a Roman soldier, the more we use the “sword of the Spirit” the “sharper” it becomes.

It is this “sword of the Spirit” that must be held in readiness so that we can attack false teachings and slash through the fabric of lies which so easily entangle us: lies that try to diminish the holiness, majesty and power of God; lies that say a God of love will not judge our sinful behaviors; lies that even reject the substitutionary death of Jesus, presenting Jesus as a mere man instead of the One who is fully God and fully man, and whose crucifixion was necessary for our salvation!

Now as we look at the armor of the believer as described by Paul, it appears that a Christian so dressed and so armed is ready to battle the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

But are we?

Not quite!

There’s still one element necessary before we can successfully engage the enemy.

And that element is prayer.

No matter how well equipped an army may be, it will go nowhere without clear lines of communication, and prayer is that communication link between us, the soldiers, and God, our Commander and Chief.

Prayer enables us to call upon God to guide our efforts, to supply our needs, and to give us the strength to face the foe, for, when we pray, we become more attuned to the ways of God, and in turn more discerning of the schemes of Satan. Our prayers help us to fight the battles God wants us to fight, using the means God wants us to use.

And so Paul wrote: **“Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.”**

Paul made the case that prayer is the essential final element necessary to equip the soldier for battle. And so, Paul calls the army of God to prayer -- to prayer in the Spirit.

And prayer in the Spirit is prayer in an attitude of humility – submitting our wills to the will of God. Prayer in the Spirit is prayer so guided by the Holy Spirit that even when we don't know how or what to pray, the Spirit of God intercedes on our behalf speaking through us and offering up petitions through us in accordance with the will of God - - for the Spirit knows the very mind of God (Rom 8:26-27).

Paul calls us to pray “in the Spirit” so that we might be fully prepared for whatever we may encounter.

And Paul also tells us to pray continually, for a soldier in battle must always be on the alert!

As Paul wrote in “1 Thessalonians”, we're to pray without ceasing (1 Thess 5:17). And to pray without ceasing is to live in continual God-consciousness. To pray without ceasing is to keep an open line of communication with God.

Now, our prayers may be varied in type and content – for we are to pray about many different things and in a variety of ways, as is appropriate at the time. But in our prayers we must always remember to pray for the saints – for the Body of Christ and its leaders. For when we pray for the saints, we build a spiritual bond with one another that helps to prevent attitudes of divisiveness or discontent that can crop up within the church.

Moreover, we must be diligent in praying for the leaders of the church -- the elders, the teachers, the pastor(s) – for Satan and his army will seek to divide-and-conquer the church by striking its shepherds so that the sheep would scatter.

God calls us to pray -- to be in constant communication with Him -- and in that communication to uphold all the saints so that together we might be strong, and so that together we might stand against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Like it or not, as believers we're in the midst of a battle -- a battle for the spiritual health of those within the church, and the salvation of those outside the church. And it's a spiritual battle that calls for non-conventional weapons – the weapons of truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the Word of God, and prayer. But it's a spiritual battle whose victory can be ours if we would be strong, stand firm, clothe ourselves in Christ, and call upon the power of Almighty God.

A war is raging all around us and the call to arms has been sounded. And so I ask you: Are you suited up and ready to engage the enemy? Are you ready to stand strong in the Lord and in the power of His might?

If so, then let's march forth together and be that army of truth and love, that army of grace and peace, fighting for the salvation of all humankind, to the glory and honor of our only true Commander-and-Chief, the one-and-only God of the nations, who is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit!

In His service with you,

Pastor John

Remember in Prayer...

Our Shut-ins at home:

Tillie Herman, Marcella Goard, Jan and John Pedersen, Hazel Landry

At the Eddy: Dot Multunas, Edna Wells

Those dealing with health issues:

Stan Bentley, Kelly Valerio

Our Church:

Pastor John and the Session

Our Community:

Those who don't know the Lord
Those dealing with financial difficulties
That our schools would be places of safety

Our World:

Missionaries serving around the world
Open doors for sharing the Gospel message
Persecuted Christians around the world

Help Fill the Shelves at Hope 7's Food Pantry!

Hope 7's food pantry serves families in need right here in our own community. The need is great and has been growing every year!

During the month of August we will be collecting shampoo.

Donations of other non-perishable Food items will also be accepted.



Serving at the Capital City Rescue Mission August 17th

We have the privilege to minister to those in need by helping to serve the evening meal at the Capital City Rescue Mission. We will meet at the church around 5:00 and carpool or you can meet us at the Mission around 5:30. Serving involves ensuring the tables are set for dinner, serving the meal, and cleaning up the tables afterwards. If you can help, please speak with Andy Miller or Rob Jensen.



Back to School Fair August 24th from 11:00 – 1:00

As a way to serve our community and help children to be prepared for the start of school, Third Church will once again host a Back to School Fair for families in need in our community.



Each child that attends will receive a backpack and school supplies. A Bible or other age appropriate devotional material as well as information about our church and its ministries will be included with each backpack.

There will also be:

- ❖ Games, crafts, and other activities for the children to participate in
- ❖ Food and beverages for everyone to enjoy

How can you help? You could:

- ❖ Provide cookies or brownies for the food area
- ❖ Donate school supplies (1,3, and 5 subject spiral notebooks, loose leaf paper, marble composition books, boxes of 24 crayons, markers, glue sticks, scissors, highlighters, dry erase markers, pencils, pens, pencil boxes and pencil sharpeners)
- ❖ Volunteer to help with set-up, clean-up, cooking and serving food, sorting supplies and filling backpacks, helping with the various games and craft activities.

There are boxes in the narthex for you to place your donations of school supplies in. Monetary donations can also be made by using the "Mission" envelopes in your box of offering envelopes or by indicating that your donation is for the Back to School Fair.

If you would like to help with this ministry, please speak with anyone on the committee – Dean Calamaras, Pat Gilmaier, Jason Laz, Sue Laz, Jen McAuley, Andy Miller, Bill Multunas or Pastor John.



Calling all Kids Preschool - Eighth Grade!!

Our next Sunday school class will be held **August 18th** following the worship service.



Your giving to Third Church enables us to support a variety of ministries, both locally and around the world. The funds given and the prayers offered for our various mission partners are greatly appreciated and we wanted to share some of the thoughts and comments we have received from those we support.

From Perry Jones (Capital City Rescue Mission) – “Summer is a time of great struggle for homeless neighbors in the Capital Region. They face the threat of dehydration and heatstroke – and they spend each day searching for refuge. Thank you for helping us meet the crucial summer needs of the people we serve. Because of your generosity and compassion, we can be here to ensure that they will have a place to go for meals and shelter as they search for a fresh start. Thank you, brothers and sisters. You give hope in Jesus.”

From Andy Lightcap (Capital District YFC) – “I have had some great opportunities over the last few weeks to sit down with our YFC staff and listen to their heart and vision to reach more lost kids in the capital region with the hope of the Gospel. It brings me so much joy to hear their hearts for lost kids. The heartbeat of this ministry and the heartbeat of each and every person on this team is to reach unsaved kids with the life transforming hope of Jesus.

The vision of each of our staff is to create programs and opportunities that will allow us to build life changing relationships with kids and show the love of Jesus. Thank you for your prayer and support as we are seeing these visions become a reality through God’s grace.”

From Peter Halder (Bangladesh YFC) – “It is always a joy to share with you what the Father is doing through your generous giving. We are rejoicing

in His name for the opening of our new building, the Bangladesh YFC Children’s Home in Birgonj. The local government chief Executive Officer was kind enough to be the chief guest at the inaugural ceremony along with two other officers and several foreign guests. So all glory and praise to Him. Not only do we have a new building, but we also have new kids now at the Birgonj Children’s Home.

As I am writing this letter to you, it is so deep in my heart thinking how blessed we are with your heartfelt support to change lives. We thank you very much and ask that you keep up prayer for us.”

We are collecting...



Old or no longer needed eyeglasses

The Lions Club repairs and recycles them to give to those in need.

Pull tabs from cans

These will be given to various charitable organizations that can recycle them to benefit their work.



Receptacles for donations are available in the narthex and in fellowship hall.

If you have questions please speak with Doris Calamaras.

General Financial Update for June		
	Year to Date	June
Total		
Income	\$ 87,127.24	\$ 14,557.28
Total		
Expenses	\$ 86,891.50	\$ 13,824.76
Difference	\$ 235.74	\$ 732.52

Bible Quiz for August 2019

As we continue in our sermon series through 1 Corinthians our quiz for August will consist of questions, quotes fill-in-the-blanks from chapter 15 of that letter.

1. Fill in the blanks: “For what I [Paul] _____ I passed on to you as of first importance: . . .”
2. Fill in the blanks: “. . . that Christ _____ for our sins according to the Scriptures, . . .”
3. Fill in the blanks: “. . . that he was _____, that he was _____ on the third day according to the Scriptures.”
4. When Paul wrote at the beginning of chapter 15 that Jesus appeared to James, who was this James that Jesus appeared to?
5. True or False: When Paul spoke of “the least of the apostles” he was referring to Judas Iscariot.
6. True or False: Paul stated that if Jesus had not been raised from the dead then his teaching was useless.
7. Fill in the blanks: “If Christ has not been raised from the dead, your _____ is futile; and you are still in your _____.”
8. True or False: Lazarus is the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
9. Fill in the blanks: “For as in _____ all die, so in _____ all will be made alive.”
10. What does Paul identify as the last enemy to be destroyed?

International Student Welcome Picnic

**September 7th from 1-4 pm
at Brunswick Presbyterian Church**

*Did you know that every year approximately
1200 international students from over
80 different countries live right
around the corner from us at RPI?*

You are invited to attend to find out more about the Horizon’s ministry with international students and how you could be involved. It is also a great opportunity to just spend time with and interact with the students to learn about them and to welcome them to the U.S. For many of the students this is their first time away from home and friendly faces are a great first step in making them feel welcome here.

Brunswick Church is also looking for help in hosting this event. Below is a list of the areas in which you might wish to serve

The day of the event:

- Set-up of tables and chairs
- Break-down of tables and chairs
- Greeters
- Food prep/Buffer set-up
- Grillers/Barbecue Experts
- Buffet/Kitchen/Dining area clean-up

Other ways to serve:

- Bring a dish to share (preferable to feed 12 or more, in a disposable container if you aren’t attending the event)
- Donate gift cards for Hannaford, Price Chopper, or Wal-Mart for the purchase of food and paper products.
- Provide burgers, hot dogs, and rolls for the picnic
- Provide paper products for the picnic
- Make a financial donation toward the rental of tables and chairs

Please call the church office at 279-3792 for more information.

Serving This Month

August 04

Worship Assistants: Eric Ofori
Jesse Ofori
Greeters: Pat Gilmaier
Bill Multunas
Head Greeter: Rob Jensen
Nursery: Jen McAuley
Alice Bentley
Communion: Andy Miller
Fellowship Hosts: Holly Steciuk

August 11

Worship Assistants: Deena Dominy
Natalia Multunas
Greeters: Valerie Bidwell
Vaughn Skarzynski
Head Greeter: Andy Miller
Nursery: Diane Lewinsky
Lois Pasinella
Communion: Natalia Multunas,
Alice Bentley,
Doris Calamaras and
Dean Calamaras
Fellowship Hosts:

August 18

Worship Assistants: Bill Multunas
Dean Calamaras
Greeters: Bruce Tolagian
Head Greeter: Rob Jensen
Nursery: Jen McAuley
Irene Amponsah
Communion: Deena Dominy, Bill
Multunas, Andy Miller,
and Doris Calamaras
Fellowship Hosts:

August 25

Worship Assistants: Eric Ofori
Jesse Ofori
Greeters: Dean Calamaras,
Doris Calamaras
Head Greeter: Andy Miller
Nursery: Alice Bentley
Lois Pasinella
Communion: Sue Laz,
Natalia n Multunas
Eric Ofori and
Jen McAuley
Fellowship: CHURCH PICNIC



August Birthdays

08/02 Beth Casey
08/08 Sal Scechitano
08/13 Brian Giddings
08/14 Joe Pasinella
08/16 Maureen Somerville
08/23 Terry Marra
08/29 Bruce Tolagian



August Anniversaries

08/07 Megan & Jason Laz
08/12 Rob & Wendy Jensen
08/16 Julie & Graham Tootell
08/25 Peggy & Bill Siracusa

**Session Meeting
July 8, 2019**

Action Items

1. Motion to use the Ed Paul (Youth) funds to cover the expenses of the Back-to-School Fair.

Committee Reports

- Outward Ministry (Mission, Outreach and Communications)
 - Mission spending for June:
 - Capital City Rescue Mission \$ 500.00
 - Bangladesh YFC \$ 600.00
 - InterVarsity at RPI and Russell Sage \$ 700.00
 - Capital District YFC \$ 500.00 (Garage Sale proceeds)
 - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance \$ 800.00 (Spring Mission Offering)
 - Dan McAuley \$2,000.00 (Spring Mission Offering)
 - Theology Matters \$ 50.00 (from Mission Envelope funds)
 - Capital City Rescue Mission \$ 150.00 (from Mission Envelope funds)
 - We will be serving the evening meal at Capital City Rescue Mission August 17th.
 - We will be collecting pull-tabs from cans and old eyeglasses that will then be given to various organizations.
 - The Back-to-School Fair will be held on August 24th from 11-1. We are looking to be more intentional in our outreach to the families that come. In addition to the activities we usually have -
 - We hope to have a church table with Bibles and other literature and information about the church. We will need a couple of folks to man that table and be there to interact with the people who come.
 - We would like to have a couple tables with interactive Bible games and stories for the kids to participate in. Again – we will need people to run those activities.
- Stewardship
 - Finance – General Fund and Session Designated Funds
 - There was a positive cash flow during June of \$732.52. This gives us a year-to-date surplus of \$235.74.
 - Property
 - Still working on the drainage pipe that was installed on the north side of the parking lot.

Next Meetings

- August 12th at 7:00 PM. Business Meeting.
- August 26th at 7:00. Informal/Study Meeting. Please read Jesus the King by Timothy Keller, chapters 11 and 12.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Laz, Clerk



Church Picnic August 25th

Following worship on August 26th we will have a church picnic. The Inward Ministry Committee will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, rolls, and beverages. If you would like, you may bring something to share such as, chips, a salad, or a dessert. You are also encouraged to bring lawn chairs and any outdoor games or activities. This year we will have a tent out back to provide some shade.

Third Presbyterian Church
115 Winter Street
Troy, NY 12180

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
EXALTING GOD / PROCLAIMING CHRIST / MAKING DISCIPLES