



# Inside Lisha's Kill

A publication of the *Lisha's Kill Reformed Church*



## Pastor's Ponderings

May 2017

Dear Friends,

One of the most poignant stories in the Bible for me is the story of the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus prays for the cup to pass from him. Yet, he said, "Not my will, but yours be done." And as we have just commemorated in the events of Holy Week and Easter, we know what the cup entailed and what Jesus bore out of love for us.

This reminds me that, in the hour of Jesus' Passion, prayer was a priority even for the Son of God. Lately, seemingly everywhere I turn, I been reminded of the importance and necessity of prayer in the life of a Christian. One hymn writer hits it bang on: "Prayer is the Christian's vital breath, the Christian's native air."

But the question is, do we truly believe it? Listen to these words by Henri Nouwen:

Perhaps the challenge of the gospel lies precisely in the invitation to accept a gift for which we can give nothing in return. For the gift is the life breath of God, the Spirit poured out on us through Jesus Christ. This life breath frees us from fear and gives us new room to live. Those who live prayerfully are constantly ready to receive the breath of God, and to let their lives be renewed and expanded. Those who never pray, on the contrary, are like children with asthma; because they are short of breath, the whole world shrivels up before them. They creep into a corner gasping for air, and are virtually in agony. But those who pray open themselves to God and can breathe freely again. They stand upright, stretch out their hands, and come out of their corner, free to move about without fear.

Without prayer, the Christian gasps for breath. But through prayer God is able to open us up to experience freedom and power to live lives of productivity and service in gratitude for the free gift of grace given us through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior and Lord.

How is *your* breathing?

Grace and peace,

*Pastor Lisa*

### **PASTOR:**

Rev. Dr. Lisa Vander Wal

### **CONSISTORY**

#### **Board of Elders**

- Bill Dergosits
- Dick Farmer
- Bob Farquharson
- Paul McConnelee
- Jim Shirikian

#### **Deacons**

- Linda Brennan
- Lee Derico
- Mark Reynolds
- Kent Vander Wal
- Ray Wingle

#### **Kids Hope Director/Office Manager:**

Sharon Nagell

#### **Treasurer:**

Barbara Paquette

#### **Sextons:**

- Inside: Courtney Bloomingdale
- Outside: John Rzeszuto

**Librarian:** Joan Byam

**Organist:** Evelyn Gordon

#### **Choir Director:**

JoAnne McNamara

#### **Sunday Service:**

10:00am

#### **Christian Education:**

Children: 11:20am

Adults: 9:00am & 11:30am



### Going to the Dogs

"Going to the Dogs" dog socialization groups are meeting again on Monday evenings. Little dogs (6:00pm-6:45pm) and big dogs (7:00pm-7:45pm). You must register your dog prior to attending. Please contact the church office for more information.

### Lisha's Kill Christian Preschool

Registration is now open for the 2017-18 school year. LKCP is a Christian preschool program designed for children ages 3 and 4 years old. School is held Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9:00am-12:00pm. Class is taught by a certified elementary school teacher, follows the South Colonie school calendar for most holidays and recess weeks, offers a safe and secure environment and affordable tuition. Contact the church office for more information.

### NEAT Dinner (Not Eating Alone Tonight)

...Thursday, May 25 at 4:30pm. Come and enjoy a great dinner with friends old and new! This month picnic fare will be served: hamburgers, hotdogs, salads, dessert and beverages. A freewill offering will be taken to offset the cost of the dinner. Reservations appreciated by May 22.

### Christian Camp Scholarship

Attending a Christian camp can be one of the highlights of summer for young people; there are several in our area. Camp Fowler, our Reformed Church in America camp, is located in Speculator NY amongst the beautiful Adirondacks, and Camp Pattersonville is a little closer by, just outside of Schenectady. A week

at camp can help a young person enjoy the wonder of God's creation, meet and make new friends, and deepen their faith in God. To find out more about these camps, please visit their websites. Financial assistance is available to parents or guardians of children who will be attending Christian Camp this summer. All requests will be considered. Contact the church office for more information. Application forms are available on our website or from the church office. Deadline for applications is May 28, 2017.

### Christian Ed

We are approaching the end of the Education program year. A lot of things have been going on this year and as we culminate our program year, we hope you will join us for a special time during worship on May 21. We will recognize those students who have worked hard in Sunday School all year, and we will be recognizing those who have given of their time and talents leading the various programs throughout the



## May Calendar

Visit us on the web  
to view this month's calendar  
[www.lishaskillchurch.org](http://www.lishaskillchurch.org)



Food Pantry  
**43 bags**  
through April 30

*Inside Lisha's Kill* is published monthly. The deadline for submitting articles is the 16th of the preceding month.

Drop your **typed** news article in the Newsletter Editor's box in the downstairs consistory office, or email it to: [newsletter@lishaskillchurch.org](mailto:newsletter@lishaskillchurch.org)

Email attachments **must** be Microsoft Word documents (text) or JPEG format (pictures).

Sharon Nagell, Editor  
Linda Brennan, Circulation  
Printing courtesy of PBR Graphics



year. In addition, there will be a program presented by the children and adults who have participated in our education offerings this year. This program—*Does Christianity Make a Difference?*—will highlight how being a Christian makes a difference in our lives.

Many people have given of their time and talent to lead our Sunday School and various Bible Study groups. We'd like to express grateful appreciation to...

*Sunday School leaders:*

- Linda Brennan
- Bill Dergosits
- Kim Dergosits
- Marylou Jones
- Deborah Morrison
- Sharon Nagell
- Karen Stufflebeam
- Melissa Vicalvi

*Adult study:*

- 11:30am: Pastor Lisa and Dave Vander Wal
- 9:00am: Barbara Cullum

*Tuesday Women's Bible Study:* Paula Farquharson

*Wednesday Morning Bible Study:* Barbara Cullum

*Saturday Men's Group:* Rea Jones

*Nursery Coordinator:* Melissa Vicalvi

New programs will be starting in the fall. Watch for that information in our newsletter and on the web.



**Mark the Date!**  
This year's church picnic will be held on Sunday, June 25.

### **The History of Lisha's Kill Reformed Church: Part 4**

The third major change was the addition built to the rear of the church in 1950. It was two stories high for additional classroom space with a new entrance on the east side.

Again in 1957 the need for more Sunday School space prompted the addition of a wing to the easterly side of the 1950 addition. At this time the old stage area was removed from the main Sunday School room under the sanctuary.

In 1962 the need again for further space necessitated the addition of the west wing, the remodeling of the large area under the sanctuary, and the new kitchen as we know it today.

The year 1964 again saw changes as the new parsonage was built, the church acquired additional adjoining property, and the lounge was dedicated to the memory of Richard Zhe. It is most noteworthy that the 1950, 1957, 1962 and 1964 construction work was all accomplished by the father and son contractor team of Leo and Robert Dox, members of the congregation. In 1967 the church was in dire need of repair, both internally as well as externally. The consistory voted to restore and remodel the existing church to meet present day needs. This work has now been completed and rededicated.

At the time of the rededication the architects strived to blend the historic value of the existing church building with the revival of fundamental Reformed worship. Because the financial situation did not allow for a complete restoration, the architects' aim was to do a restoration in Federal period as nearly as possible.

Conforming with the Reformed tradition, the basic church was simple. Two interior stairs were constructed to make the access from grade to sanctuary floor as easy as possible. Because of the lack of room in the northern area, they were forced to place the stairs to each side. Ironically, it was found during the demolition process that the original stairs were in about the same place.

The History of LKRC is taken from the book *The History of the Religious Communities in the Town of Colonie*, published in 1995 by The Town of Colonie Centennial Committee. Look for more installments in future editions of this newsletter.



Lisha's Kill Reformed Church  
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 Schenectady, NY 12304

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**Lisha's Kill Reformed Church is a family of believers  
 committed to touching lives for Jesus Christ in today's world.**



**Hello!**

Here is your **May 2017** newsletter from the Lisha's Kill Reformed Church. We hope you will enjoy all of the items inside and will find it helpful in knowing more about your church.

- SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP ..... 10:00am
- CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (for children)..... 11:20am
- CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (for adults) ..... 9:00am & 11:30am
- WOMEN'S EVENING BIBLE STUDY ..... Tuesday 7:30pm
- AA MEETING ..... Wednesday 7:00pm
- SENIOR CHOIR ..... Wednesday 7:30pm
- CHRISTIAN CLUB "55" ..... 2nd Thursday 11:00am
- N.E.A.T. DINNER ..... 4th Thursday (As Announced) 4:30pm
- MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY ..... 2nd Saturday 7:30am
- FAMILY ACTIVITIES ..... As Announced
- CREATIVE MINISTRIES ..... As Announced