

MAY 2023

Hamburg Presbyterian Church

The TOWEL AND BASIN

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Mission: To be a spiritually passionate congregation that lives out Christ's teachings; through love-filled relationship building, we prayerfully seek to share our lives and resources with the community and the world





Engaging in the Anti-Racism Journey

The Anti-racism Task Group believes it is called by Jesus to recognize, acknowledge and root out racism, be it interpersonal, structural or systemic, in our communities, churches, state and country. We admit our own complicity in racism and commit to this work as an essential expression of our faith. Our focus is to work with the people of the Presbytery to challenge and support each other in this Anti-racism work. Our intent is to do this through encouraging education, discussion, partnership and action.

[Anti-Racism Resource Page](#)

SEEKING TO BE AN ANTI-RACIST: LIVING THE LOVE OF JESUS

A PAINFUL ANNIVERSARY
MAY 14, 2023

THIS IS A HEARTBREAKING AND ANNIVERSARY: THE ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOPS SHOOTING ON MAY 14, 2022. THE TOPS SHOOTING WAS TRAGIC AND AN ALL TOO POWERFUL REMINDER OF THE REALITY, AND EVIL, OF RACISM IN AMERICA. AS THIS ANNIVERSARY APPROACHES, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT IT NOT BE IGNORED. THE RACISM THAT LED TO THIS EVENT CONTINUES TO DESTROY LIVES.

THE SHOOTER KNEW THAT HE COULD MORE EASILY MURDER PEOPLE OF COLOR BY DRIVING TO BUFFALO FOR HIS ATTACK, SINCE IT IS ONE OF THE MOST SEGREGATED CITIES IN AMERICA. THIS SEGREGATION IS THE RESULT OF RACIST POLICIES AND LEADERSHIP DECISIONS OVER MANY DECADES. SO, WHAT BETTER WAY TO HONOR THOSE WHO DIED THAT DAY THAN TO LEARN THE DETAILS ABOUT WHAT CREATED THAT REALITY. CLICK THE BUTTON BELOW FOR A SERIES OF ARTICLES THAT EXPLAIN THE HISTORY OF SEGREGATION IN BUFFALO AS WELL AS A SERIES OF QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL OR GROUP STUDY. AS ONE LEARNS HOW BUFFALO BECAME SO SEGREGATED, ONE CAN ALSO LEARN HOW TO HELP FIGHT THE INJUSTICES THAT THE SEGREGATION CREATED.

LINK TO MORE RESOURCES:

[HTTPS://MCUSERCONTENT.COM/ED7BA22984F67A2371FB6E031/FILES/3DC4FAE2-01C5-3AA5-15DE-38955C77D4A9/RESOURCES_THE_STORY_OF_BUFFALO_SEGREGATION.PDF?MIBEXTID=Zxz2CZ](https://mcusercontent.com/ed7ba22984f67a2371fb6e031/files/3dc4fae2-01c5-3aa5-15de-38955c77d4a9/resources_the_story_of_buffalo_segregation.pdf?MIBEXTID=Zxz2CZ)



From the Pastor's Heart

I can hardly believe it's been a year since the shooting a Tops killed 10 wonderful Buffalonians because of the color of their skin. That a white man would have so much hate, he would drive three hours to commit such an atrocity on our beautiful city, is heartbreaking.

The day after the shooting our church secretary & member, Kendra Quinn-Moultrie, and I went to the site of the shooting. Indy Jr. came too, he was only four months old. It was hard to know what to expect when we arrived at the Tops Friendly market on Jefferson St. We parked across the street, and as we walked to the site, there was gospel music being sung in the streets and prayers being lifted over microphones and bull horns. I had brought a flower mug to place at the memorial site, and when I did I noticed sidewalk chalk and began to draw hearts and write the word love. Two girls joined me and little did I know that a New York Times photographer would capture the moment; the sweet, tear filled, loving, and heartfelt moment. These were moments the victims would never have again with their children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and children perhaps they were yet to have. Kendra and I offered our presence of love, our prayers and our tears in solidarity.

There's more to be offered and has been since then. As the Presbytery moderator and pastor I attended various memorial services and vigils. Kendra and I attended the funeral for one of the victims, Margus Morrison. The mission team provided and I handed out grocery store gift cards to various Jefferson St. community members. We, as a church & elders, showed up for Shiloh Baptist Church as we attended services and hosted a joint harvest dinner.

We must continue to show up, not only with our thoughts and prayers, but with our actions to bridge the divide between Buffalo and Hamburg. Between whites and blacks, for the sake of all people we must find love in our hearts over hate and fear. Jesus says "love thy neighbor as thy self." May we all learn from this, and truly continue to move forward, loving our neighbors as ourselves.

~Pastor Rachel



Buffalo Shooting



A memorial outside the Tops Market in Buffalo on Sunday. Joshua Rashaad McFadden for The New York Times



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

CIRCLE MEETINGS:

HANNAH CIRCLE, WEDNESDAY, MAY 10TH @ 10:00AM

CHURCH LOUNGE
MARCI TONEY - LEADER

ELIZABETH CIRCLE THURSDAY, MAY 11TH @ 9:30AM

JANIE FELTZ'S HOME
JANIE SMITH - LEADER

RUTH CIRCLE WEDNESDAY, MAY 17TH @ 12:30PM

AMY LOW ROOM
GINNIE SPRAGUE – LEADER

PW COORDINATING TEAM

WILL MEET TUESDAY, MAY 3RD @ 12:30PM IN THE AMY LOW ROOM

MISSION QUILTERS

WEDNESDAY APRIL 3RD @ 9:30AM IN FELLOWSHIP HALL



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

May

May 4 Catherine Knauss

May 6 Aubrey Rae Harris

May 7 Jevene Osborne

May 9 Joe Smith

May 13 Beth Grabar

May 15 Sue Rich

May 17 Melissa Obenshain

May 19 Polly Ferro

May 20 Nick Richardson

May 21 Katie Tothoro

May 22 Cally Miklasz

May 23 Aidan Brodie

May 24 Joyce Huen

May 25 Jake Vincent

May 26 Wayne Arcangel &

Quinn Brodie

May 27 Kim O'Leary & David

Ring

May 28 Laura Low & Anna

Pap

May 29 Jack Gunning & Mat-

thew Richardson

May 31 Tim Connelly, Jordyn

Howe &

Ezra

Vincent



Sandwich Sunday 5/21

Please bring individually wrapped sandwiches to church Sunday morning and put them in the coolers in the coat room. Or, bring them to the Hollenbeck's front porch at 480 Pleasant Ave anytime Saturday or Sunday morning until

Non-perishable food items are needed for the Blessing Box located on Main St. lawn. Box cereal, instant oatmeal, box milk, canned milk, dried milk packets, canned soup, chili, Chef Boyardee, SpaghettiOs, chicken noodle soup, Top Ramen, baked beans, peanut butter and jelly, dried fruit, mixed nuts, granola bars, spaghetti sauce and pasta noodles, mac & cheese, canned tuna, canned chicken, peanut butter crackers, cheese crackers, plain crackers, hot cocoa packets, instant coffee & tea bags. Please note, no expired/close to expiration date items can be accepted. Thank you!

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

*Rich McAlpine,
George Ackerman,
Bill McCoy,
Jonah DeLang,
Donna Burns,
Richard Monckton,
Bob Catalino,*

*Contact Church Office with prayer needs.

April Coffee Hour!

Meet in the lounge after service for a time of fellowship!

7 PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN (all circles) and **PERSONNEL**
14 WORSHIP & MUSIC
21 CHRISTIAN ED
28 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT



MY FLESH AND MY HEART MAY FAIL,
BUT GOD IS THE STRENGTH OF MY
HEART AND MY PORTION FOREVER.

PSALM 73:26

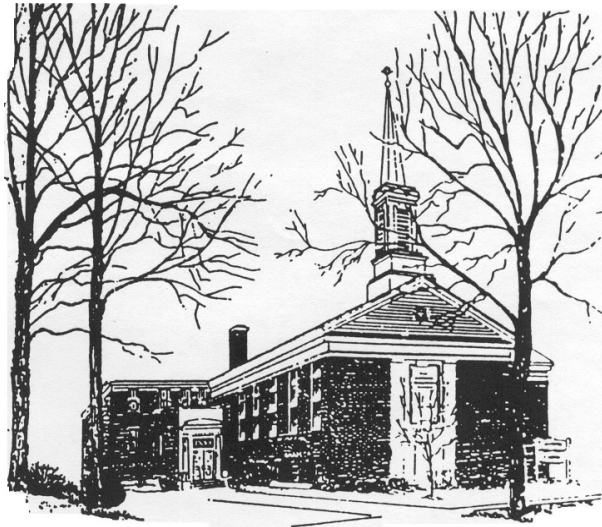


You are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of His household
~Ephesians 2:19



Finally, brothers and sister, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things

~Philippians 4:8~



HAMBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

177 Main St.
Hamburg, NY 14075

Pastor - Rev. Rachel Brown
Christian Education Director -
Minister of Music- Alexander Hamilton
Pastoral Care Assistant - Wendy Zimmerman
Treasurer - Blair Webster
Financial Secretary - Katie Gertner
Church Office - Kendra Quinn-Moultrie
Sexton - Dave Monaco
Office Phone - (716) 649-1970

E-mail - hamburgpres@gmail.com

Web Page - www.hamburgchurch.org

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/hamburgpresbychurch/>

YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtZVuwF9DN62b-WK-iXq5Ug>



Sunday Worship & Christian Ed Schedule

10:00am Worship Service
in the Sanctuary and on Facebook
10:15am Children's Church
(after Children's Sermon)

Worship Online with us!

Visit www.hamburgchurch.org and click on the Media tab to the drop down Bulletin tab. Select the bulletin of the week and access [Facebook Live](#)

Newsletter

Deadline

The deadline for the

June Issue is

May 20th, 2023



HPC OFFICE

Staff Listing

Pastor

Rev. Rachel Brown: 444-7333

Minister of Music

Alex Hamilton

Financial Secretary

Katie Gertner: 400-4892

Church Office

Kendra Quinn-Moultrie: 649-1970

Sexton

Dave Monaco: 931-5213



HPC OFFICE HOURS

(716-649-1970)

Monday 9am - 2pm

Tuesday 9am - 2pm

Wednesday 9am - 2pm

Thursday 9am-2pm

Friday Closed

In case of an emergency,
Rev. Rachel Brown may be
reached on her cell at 444-7333.

NEED PRAYER?

Please let Pastor Rachel know of your prayer needs by contacting her directly at (716) 444-7333.

All prayer requests are confidential and may be made through church email or by phone as well.

MINUTES OF SESSION April 11th 2023

The Rev. Rachel Brown, Moderator, called the Session meeting to order at 7:02pm. Motion to approve agenda was approved.

Elders in attendance were: Chris Burns, Sandy Smith, Jeff Leyonmark, Kris McGuire, Jerry Stitt, Blair Webster, Tricia Harrigan

Also in attendance was Pastor Rachel

Excused was Jim Sampson, Hollis Bahruth, Wayne Hines, Anthony Cimorelli

Deacon in attendance was Mellissa Ferraro

The devotion was provided by Sandy Smith.

The meeting minutes from March 13, 2023 were approved.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

Pastor Rachel will be out 5/15/23 to 6/1/23. Pastor thanked all the Teams for their good work on behalf of HPC. She also presided over the funeral for Ann Leslie's mother Tena on 4/11/23 in the church Chapel.

CLERK'S REPORT:

Bob McKenzie passed away on March 17, 2023. Special thanks to Cheryl Koelmel for doing some membership research (dates and church responsibilities) about Bob for his daughter Anne who will use it in for the memorial service in May. Tom Tabone passed away on March 28, 2023

DEACON'S REPORT:

Melissa update the efforts of the Deacons. Terri Vogler organized the Easter Flowers for distribution to shut-ins and visitors. Continuation of card writing including birthday cards. Elise Perry will be replaced by Cheryl Koelmel and Karen Klug as Chair.

COMM. TO PRESBYTERY:

Next meeting in May. Jim Sampson will be present.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Blair Webster sent the financials to Session prior to the meeting. At this point, giving and expenses are tracking with the budget (25%). One Great Hour of Sharing is around \$1,000 for the end of March with more donated in April.

MINISTRY TEAMS REQUIRING ACTION:

Personnel – The following motion was tabled until the May meeting.

MOTION: The Personnel Team moves that the HPC Employee Handbook be modified to clarify vacation time for parttime employee and to provide for sick leave. Those modifications are attached and highlighted in "red."

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: none

OPEN DISCUSSION

General open discussion was held. Topics included

- Sandy Smith updated Session about the search for a new CE Director. CE will meet

with Personnel. Trish Harrigan spoke to the CE Director at OP Pres.

- Blair advised Session that, going forward, the finances will be managed differently.

There will be a Moment for Ministry Team opportunity on April 23, 2023 for the Christian Education Team.

The devotion for the Session Meeting in May will be provided by Hollis Bahruth.

The **Sacrament of Holy Communion** was celebrated on April 6, 2023 at the Maundy Thursday Service.

The **Sacrament of Holy Communion** was celebrated on April 9, 2023 at the Easter Sunday Service.

The **Sacrament of Holy Communion** will be celebrated on May 1, 2023 at the 10:00am Worship service.

Next meeting date Monday May 8, 2023 at 7:00pm.

A motion to adjourn was approved.

Pastor Rachel closed the meeting at 8:00 p.m. with prayer.

Respectfully submitted:



Clerk of Session

May 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:30am Caregivers 1:00pm Fin. Mgmt. 6:30pm Christian Ed. 7:30pm AlAnon	2 11:00am Worship Planning 12:30pm PW Coordinating (ALR) 5:30pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Chancel Choir	3 10am Hannah Circle (ALR) 7:30pm AA (FH)	4 10:30am Elizabeth Circle (Janie Feltz's home) 7pm Maundy Thursday Service	5 10:00pm AA (FH)	6 9:00am United Church of God (FH)
7 10:00am Worship Service & Communion	8 7:00pm Session (L) 7:30pm AlAnon	9 11:00am Worship Planning & Staff 5:30pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Chancel Choir	10 7:00pm Mission (L) 7:30pm AA (FH)	11 7pm YogaFaith (FH) 6:30pm Deacons	12 10:00pm AA (FH)	13 9:00am United Church of God (FH)
14 10:00am Worship Service & Sandwich Sunday	15 7:00pm Worship and Music (Z) 7:30pm AlAnon (FH)	16 11:00am Worship Planning 5:30pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Chancel Choir	17 12:30pm Ruth Circle (ALR) 7:30pm AA (FH)	18 7pm YogaFaith (FH)	19 10:00pm AA (FH)	20 9:00am United Church of God (FH)
21 10:00am Worship Service & Sandwich Sunday	22 7:30pm AlAnon (FH)	23 11:00am Worship Planning 5:30pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Chancel Choir	24 7:30pm AA (FH)	25 7pm YogaFaith (FH)	26 10:00pm AA (FH)	27 9:00am United Church of God (FH)
28 10:00am Worship Service	29 7:30pm AlAnon (FH)	30 11:00am Worship Planning 5:30pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Chancel Choir	31 7:30pm AA (FH)			