

The Reformer

The Reformed Church of Port Ewen



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October 2024

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(Below is a copy of the Belhar Confession continued on pages 2 and 8. Since there are new members of the church, it might be beneficial to remind people of the newest confession of the Reformed Church of America)

Confession of Belhar

1. We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.

2. We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

We believe

- that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another (Eph. 2:11-22);
- that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain (Eph. 4:1-16);
- that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted (John 17:20-23);
- that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another; that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope; together come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of
- the love of Christ; together are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity; together know and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ that we need one another and up build one another, admonishing and comforting one another; that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness; pray together; together serve God in this world; and together fight against all which may threaten or hinder this unity (Phil. 2:1-5; 1 Cor. 12:4-31; John 13:1-17; 1 Cor. 1:10-13; Eph. 4:1-6; Eph. 3:14-20; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; 1 Cor. 11:17-34; Gal. 6:2; 2 Cor. 1:3-4);
- that this unity can be established only in freedom and not under constraint; that the variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures, are by virtue of the reconciliation in Christ, opportunities for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of God (Rom. 12:3-8; 1 Cor. 12:1-11; Eph. 4:7-13; Gal. 3:27-28; James 2:1-13);



- that true faith in Jesus Christ is the only condition for membership of this church.

Therefore, we reject any doctrine

- which absolutizes either natural diversity or the sinful separation of people in such a way that this absolutization hinders or breaks the visible and active unity of the church, or even leads to the establishment of a separate church formation;
- which professes that this spiritual unity is truly being maintained in the bond of peace while believers of the same confession are in effect alienated from one another for the sake of diversity and in de-spair of reconciliation;
- which denies that a refusal earnestly to pursue this visible unity as a priceless gift is sin;
- which explicitly or implicitly maintains that descent or any other human or social factor should be a consideration in determining membership of the church.

3. We believe

- that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ, that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peace-maker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells (2 Cor. 5:17-21; Matt. 5:13-16; Matt. 5:9; 2 Peter 3:13; Rev. 21-22).
- that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world (Eph. 4:17-6:23, Rom. 6; Col. 1:9-14; Col. 2:13-19; Col. 3:14:6);
- that the credibility of this message is seriously affected and its beneficial work obstructed when it is proclaimed in a land which professes to be Christian, but in which the enforced separation of people on a racial basis promotes and perpetuates alienation, hatred and enmity;
- that any teaching which attempts to legitimate such forced separation by appeal to the gospel, and is not prepared to venture on the road of obedience and reconciliation, but rather, out of prejudice, fear, selfishness and unbelief, denies in advance the reconciling power of the gospel, must be considered ideology and false doctrine.

Therefore, we reject any doctrine

- which, in such a situation, sanctions in the name of the gospel or of the will of God the forced separation of people on the grounds of race and color and thereby in advance obstructs and weakens the ministry and experience of reconciliation in Christ.

4. We believe

- that God has revealed himself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;
- that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged;
- that God calls the church to follow him in this, for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry;
- that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind;
- that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly;

R.C.P.E. Yellow Pages

Data at your fingertips

Prayer Chain

Proverbs 15:29

“The Lord is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayer of the righteous.”

We amplify this power of prayer when we pray together.

To activate the chain for you or someone else, call Katherine Kinsch at 338-6378. That day, a team will be praying for you.

Consistory Meets

The 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM
Meetings open--call 331-2782 for agenda space.

Next meeting October 8th

ELDERS

Matt Van Aken

Ray Wells

Linda McCarthy

DEACONS

Bonnie Lalor

Tom Gallagher

Monica Kelbaugh



Prayer List

(Prayers will stay on for one month unless notified otherwise)

World — Israel’s conflict, the Middle East, the innocent Palestinians, all of the people attacked in Israel, People of Ukraine, World Peace, Political Leaders, an end to the coronavirus, A solution for the refugee crisis, For all the homeless.

Church Worldwide — Religious persecution in Bangladesh, Persecuted Church (China, Nigeria, North Korea).

RCA — Sudan Mission, Oman Protestant Church and Bode Family, Al-Amada Center.

Mid-Hudson Classis — Bob Vanderlaan.

Petitions of healing, protection, and deliverance

— Mary Bolde, Hedy Saylor, Charlie Guerra, John Grasso, Michele Bockelman, Richard & Cheryl, Angela DiBella, Kim Schaffer, Mary Haas, Mike Goodrich, Political Leaders, Brie Bauer, John Pugliesi, Matt Sutton, Mary O’Brien, Jenny, Carol, Rena Beall, Tyson, Charles Barnett III.

Church Family — Anita Hadley, Monica Kelbaugh, Rev. Nick Miles, Bob Schlichting, Janis Loring, Elnora McSpirit, Search Committee, Rhoda family, Bob Shelightner.

Homebound/nursing homes/institutions — John Lattieri, Bea Hogan, Marie Klippel.

Grieving — Family & friends of: Josie Webster, Mary Brillis, Loren Shultis, Christine Murray.

Praise — Emerie Hudson born on September 12th to Mackenzie & Joseph Degasperis. 1st grand daughter of



October Birthdays

- 4 Kathleen De Felice
- 5 Marcella Candlin
- 5 Lynn Barmann
- 6 Mackenzie Goodrich
- 9 Jim Beukelman
- 14 Stanley Brooks
- 15 David Stocker
- 21 Josh Alexander
- 22 Lucille Haynes Jackson

November Birthdays

- 1 Rev. Linda Miles
- 5 Kathy Kinsch
- 10 Monica Kelbaugh
- 11 Tom Gallagher
- 13 Janis Carlson-Loring
- 17 Kelsey Lalor
- 20 Sonia (Sunny) Scherry



October Anniversaries

- 14 Carla & Glenn Knickerbocker
- 24 Jim & Anita Hadley



**Would you have an interest in lay reading on Sunday morning?
 We are looking for lay readers for the upcoming Fall Season.
 If you would be interested in this, please contact Bonnie Lalor
 or the office.**



Stewardship Moment

Day 11- You must serve God with money, not the other way around.

Matthew 6:24

“No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.

A young Christian, full of passion and zeal, once said in his heart, I am going to make a lot of money so I can be a huge help to the kingdom of God. I may not be the one that goes on the missions, but, I can pay for those that will. So, inspiring to great financial gain, he dedicated himself to college and the pursuit of a degree that could make his dream happen. He was very good at what he did and succeeded in landing a good job after graduation. But, something went wrong.

At some point, he stopped wanting to give. While he was a student and working part time, he found giving to be very easy, for the amounts he faithfully gave were not large amounts. Once he began earning larger amounts of money, he found it hard to give in the same manner he once had. The large checks he wrote in the beginning he only did so with great difficulty. Over time, he found that he would much rather keep the money than give it away. After a long journey, he ended up doing exactly the opposite of what he had hoped to do. His generosity had faded into a tight-fisted cheapness; his passionate heart had been burdened down by the worries of the money he earned.

What happened to this man? Jesus taught in Matthew 6:24 that a Christian cannot have two masters. If he tries, he will only truly serve one of his masters, the other he will despise. Specifically, Jesus said that you cannot serve both God and money. In this case, the man stopped serving God and began serving money. At some point, he decided that he would rather have all the money he was earning than serve the God he set out to please. Money is a good thing when used in accordance with God's will. When we begin to seek out money without submitting its use to God and his word, then we begin to let money be our master.

Many people mistakenly think God is there to help us get wealthy. This is the greatest misunderstanding of who God is. What we need to realize is that God will not be used make us money; but, money can be used to honor God.

Today's Generosity Challenge

Have you ever made a similar statement; “God, if you provide for me in this way, I promise I will serve you this way,” What is the problem with this approach? If this is you, today I want you to write an apology to the Lord. You can journal here at this link: <http://GenerousLife.net/Day11>. Be specific, and repent.

Lectionary Scripture Readings for October 2024



First reading	Alternate first	Second reading	Gospel
And Psalm	reading		
	And Psalm		

Oct. 6, 2024 Job 1:1;2:1-10; Psalm 26 or 25; Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16

Oct. 13, 2024 Job 23:1-8, 16-17; Psalm 22:1-18; Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-31

Oct. 20, 2024 Job 38:1-7 (34-41); Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c; Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45

Oct. 27, 2024 Job 42:1-6, 10-17; Psalm 34:1-8 (19-22); Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52

Sunday Church School:

Opening Sunday **October 13th 9:00 am – 9:45 am**

We have a one room Sunday Church School

Ages 3 – 14 Bible lesson, craft and / or snack

**If you know any children who would like to join us, please pass the information onto them.

**If you would like to come and help out, let Bonnie Lalor or Colleen Sutton know.

One time, once a month, holidays, you can make your schedule. Extra hands are always welcome!



The mission of the Prayer Shawl Ministry is to provide a tangible reminder of God's love to those in need. The making of a prayer shawl is a spiritual practice which embodies our thoughts and prayers for the receiver. It is a gift freely given with no strings attached. Made in prayer, as prayer, for prayer, the shawls are passed on hand-to-hand and heart-to-heart.

Joyce Pade has many prayer shawls. If you would like to give one to someone in need, please see her or call the church office.

The Mission of the Month for October is Christmas Wishes Ulster County

This non-profit organization founded in 2014 is dedicated to making the world a better place by helping Ulster County families in need, not only during the Christmas season but all year long.

Your contributions will help to cover costs of shopping for children's gifts.

If you feel called to donate to this mission, please write checks to Reformed Church of Port Ewen and write "October M.O.M." on the memo line.

In November we will be collecting names of those interested in adopting a child from Christmas Wishes. We will receive wish lists to shop for Christmas gifts. If you would like to purchase only one item, think about sharing a child to help cover the cost.

The RCPE will also be wrapping gifts at the Christmas Wishes location in December. Stay tuned for more details on this later in the fall.

Also, during the Month of October....

RCPE will be collecting food donations for the Ascension Holy Trinity Mission Center Food Pantry in West Park. Donation baskets will be in the sanctuary and outside the church office. Items especially needed this Fall are: spaghetti sauce, tuna, canned chicken & salmon, spam, stews, canned soups, hash, evaporated milk, canned ravioli etc. Always in need are cereal, peanut butter, pasta, rice, potato flakes, 100% juice and cooking oil.

Note: The Mission of the Month for September collected \$325.00

Consistory Highlights September 3, 2024

-Josh Alexander presented a Native American medicine wheel, for Healing and Goodness to the consistory. This and other artifacts will be hung in Fairbrother Hall.

-Members will be able to dedicate pulpit flowers to commemorate special occasions throughout the year. If you would like to donate see Anita Hadley.

-RCPE will be donating to the Saugerties First Congregational Church to help with restoring their historic clock and clock tower.

-We are also making another donation of milk and egg cards from Stewart's to be distributed at the Ascension Holy Trinity Food Pantry in Esopus.

-New members' class has begun with Rev. Linda Miles.

-Work is being done in the parsonage. Some appliances are being replaced.

-Family Care has purchased a new gas grill in anticipation of the combined service on October 6th and for future outdoor luncheons.

-We will not be participating in the Esopus Days this year on September 28th

- that for God pure and undefiled religion is to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering;
- that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right (Deut. 32:4; Luke 2:14; John 14:27; Eph. 2:14; Isa. 1:16-17; James 1:27; James 5:1-6; Luke 1:46-55; Luke 6:20-26; Luke 7:22; Luke 16:19-31; Ps. 146; Luke 4:16-19; Rom. 6:13-18; Amos 5);
- that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever flowing stream;
- that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged; that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.

Therefore, we reject any ideology

- which would legitimate forms of injustice and any doctrine which is unwilling to resist such an ideology in the name of the gospel.

5. We believe that, in obedience to Jesus Christ, its only head, the church is called to confess and to do all these things, even though the authorities and human laws might forbid them and punishment and suffering be the consequence (Eph. 4:15-16; Acts 5:29-33; 1 Peter 2:18-25; 1 Peter 3:15-18).

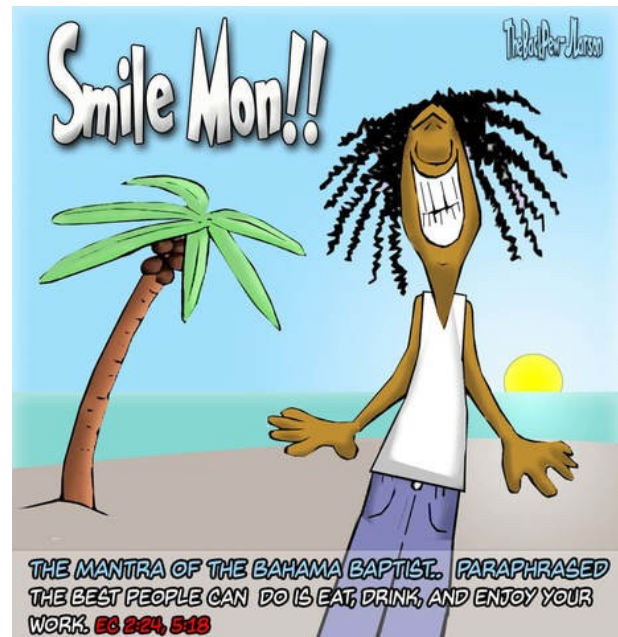
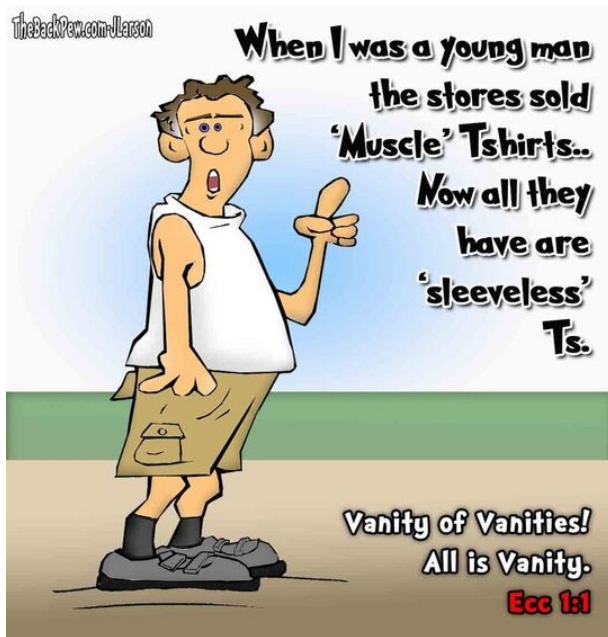
Jesus is Lord.

To the one and only God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory for ever and ever.

Emerie Hudson
Born September 12, 2024
Shannon Goodrich's 1st grand daughter.
Born to Mackenzie & Joseph Degasperis



The Back Pew Clean Humor & God's Truth



MOVIES WITH SPIRIT

October 19, RADICAL (2023), New Paltz United Methodist Church, 1 Grove St., New Paltz —

Amid the neglect, corruption and drug cartel violence of Matamoros, Mexico, on the U.S. border with Texas, students suffer from some of the country's worst academic scores. Most instructors have little motivation to teach. Rather than inspire actual learning, they focus on getting their students to pass government standardized tests. In this true story, a teacher named Sergio Juarez Correa (Eugenio Derbez) arrives to teach sixth grade in 2011. Sergio surprises his students by taking an unorthodox approach to teaching and encouraging them to solve problems creatively. To help them with a math problem, for example, he rearranges the desks in the classroom into a jumble. Imagine the desks are lifeboats, he tells them. There are 23 students, but only six desks. Who among you will survive? And what makes boats float, anyway? His teaching philosophy breaks through his students' apathy and unlocks their curiosity, which not only improves their grades but also inspires them to have confidence to achieve a potential beyond what their impoverished circumstances would suggest. But promoting independent thought eventually causes Sergio to run afoul of a visiting administrator. Winner of 15 critic and festival awards. *"Authentically moving and involving."* — Gary Goldstein, Los Angeles Times. *"A feel-good true story with real potential to make a difference."* — Pete Hammond, Deadline Hollywood. *"A reminder that sometimes it takes something radical to achieve something extraordinary."* — Lía Rueda, EscribiendoCine. *In Spanish with English subtitles. Rated PG-13.*





JOIN US AT THE BEACH!

FOR THE ANNUAL

JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE

WITH RCPE & TOEUMC CHURCHES

~World Wide Communion Sunday~

Fellowship-Music-Food

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024, 11 AM

GEORGE FREER PARK

PICNIC TO FOLLOW- BRING A FRIEND!

Music by

-musicians from both churches-

-Cloud Breakers & Red

-Evan Pritchard-



Feather Singers-

October 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2	3	4	5	
6 11:00 am Worship at Town Beach, Picnic 2-4 pm 4-H (FH) 5-8 pm AA (FH)	7 5:30-7:00 pm Girl Scouts (SCS) 5:30-7:00 pm Brownies (SCS)	8 7:00 pm Consistory Meeting	9 12:30 pm Bible Study 4-9:30 pm SCA	10 12:30 pm Bible Study 4-9:30 pm SCA	11 9 am-8 pm Private (FH)	12 10 am-8 pm Private (FH)
13 9:00 am SCS Begins 10:00 am Worship 2-4 pm 4-H (FH) 5-8 pm AA (FH)	14	15	16 12:30 pm Bible Study 4-9:30 pm SCA	17	18 5-9 pm ANA (FH)	19
20 REFORMER DEADLINE 9:00 SCS 10:00 am Worship 2-4 pm 4-H (FH) 5-8 pm AA (FH)	21 5:30-7:00 pm Girl Scouts (SCS) 5:30-7:00 pm Brownies (SCS)	22	23 12:30 pm Bible Study 4-9:30 pm SCA	24	25	26
27 9:00 am SCS 10:00 am Worship 2-4 pm 4-H (FH) 5-8 pm AA (FH)	28	29	30 12:30 pm Bible Study 4-9:30 pm SCA	31		



Our facilities are handicapped accessible

We're on the net!
www.rcpe.info

October 2024 Reformer

The Reformed Church of Port Ewen
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