

The Reformer

The Reformed Church of Port Ewen

Reverend Brian Steadman—Pastor



Volume 23 Issue 7

July—August 2025

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We are one month in on our official journey together, it flew by! I wanted to thank all of you for so warmly welcoming my family and I. The work on the parsonage, the housewarming gifts, the gift certificates, and all the hugs, smiles, and enthusiasm have been greatly appreciated. Thank you. I am very blessed and thankful to be making a home and a ministry with you here in Port Ewen. One month down. Lord willing, many more to go.



Summer tends to slow things down in the activities of the church while everyone is traveling or just staying inside out of the heat. Wherever you go or stay this summer, may you count the journey a perfect joy and a sharing in the sufferings of Christ. Stay cool!

Pace e Bene,
Pastor Brian

Brian's Birding New Additions

I thought I'd keep a little updated log of new birds I've added to my life list in the past month. Please don't be shy to tell me of the birds you've seen. June 2025 - Blue-gray gnatcatcher, Eastern Towhee, Wood Thrush, Bank Swallow, Tree Swallow, Spotted Sandpiper, Least Tern, Chimney Swift, Warbling Vireo, Barred Owl



Guest Pastor August 10

Please join us for worship on Sunday, August 10 at 10 am as Guest Pastor JJ Tenclay leads us in worship. Pastor Tenclay is Refugee Ministries Coordinator for RCA Global Mission

There will be a special reception following the service. Mark your calendars!

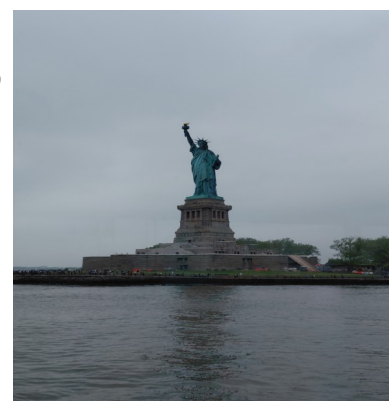


We have a website name change. We are now at *TheRCPE.org*.

Last month, Kathy and I joined the Town Of Hurley Senior Citizens for a delightful bus trip to experience something long overdue on our New York City to-do list: a ride on the iconic Circle Line. Despite our many years living near the vibrant bustle of the city, we had surprisingly never taken this classic tour. We were certainly grateful not to navigate the notorious city traffic ourselves, though our experienced bus driver seemed completely unfazed by it.

While the sun played hide-and-seek throughout the day, we were thankful the rain held off. Even with some of the taller skyscrapers disappearing into the low-hanging clouds, the visibility remained surprisingly good. A wave of emotion washed over us as we passed the majestic Statue of Liberty and historic Ellis Island, a poignant reminder of the path our forefathers took so many years ago.

With the upcoming 249th anniversary of our nation, the sight of these landmarks served as a powerful reminder of the profound meaning of freedom to those who came before us, deepening our appreciation for the liberties we cherish as citizens of this great country."



Happy Independence Day!

RCPE Calendar of Events

July 2025

27th Breakfast Church & Praise,
10am, Fairbrother Hall

August 2025

10 Guest Minister, JJ Tendlay
10 am Sanctuary

31th Breakfast Church and Praise,
10 am, Fairbrother Hall

September 2025

21st Sunday Church School kickoff Beach Picnic Service. Combined service with TOEUMC

27th Town of Esopus Days Bake/Book Sale

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.



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

World — Prayers for our country, Troubled area of our 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 — John Young, Rev. Ann & Ron Rost, Bob Vanderlaan.

Petitions of healing, protection, and deliverance — Brittany Oaks, Linda Wells, Bert Barton, For all of the graduates, Bill Schleppe, Lawson Weckesser, Mr. & Mrs. James Designer, Peggy McFaddy, Brie Bauer, Kim Schaffer, JoAnne Cross, Bill Geisel, Jenny, Carol, Rena Beall, Charles Barnett III.

Church Family — Harry McCarthy, Bob Shelighter, Billy, Rev. Nick & Linda Miles, Penny Harries, Rick Whitaker, Curt Bradley, Sunny Scherry, Bev Sickler, Linda Bresnahan-McCarthy, Fred Harries, Sr., Austin Stokes, Bob Schlichting, Monica Kelbaugh, Janis Loring, Rhoda family.

Homebound/nursing homes/institutions — Bea Hogan.

Grieving — Family & friends of: Tim & Esther Keiderling, Tom Kelly, Carol White.

Consistory Meets

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

Next meeting September 15th

ELDERS

Matt Van Aken

Ray Wells

Linda McCarthy

DEACONS

Colleen Sutton

Tom Gallagher

Monica Kelbaugh

happy
★ 4th of
JULY
★

Stewardship Moment

Day 18– – It is appropriate to ask people how you can help.

Mark 10:31-52

What do you want me to do for you? Jesus asked him,

The blind man said, “Rabbi I want to see.”

“Go,” said Jesus, “your faith has healed you.”

Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

There is so much we can learn from Jesus. Sometimes it is just astounding. In the tenth chapter of the Gospel of Mark, a blind man cries out to Jesus for mercy. Jesus calls the man over and asks, “What do you want me to do for you?” Let’s remember that Jesus is the Son of God. I am sure that Jesus knew exactly how the blind man wanted to be helped. So why did He decide to ask the question?

On the one hand, Jesus is giving this blind man a chance to express his request in faith. In so doing, God is glorified and both the blind man’s faith and the faith of all who watched would be increased. They would glorify God because of God’s powerful answer to that prayer. We also remember that in relation to us, Jesus is not only our savior; He is also the best role model we could ever have. When we see how He lived, we desire to imitate and learn from Him.

When I see Jesus reaching out to this man and asking how He can help him, I look at my life and I think, “Maybe I, too, should be asking people how I can help them.” See, none of us had all the knowledge and power that Jesus has, so if we are going to figure out how we are to love our neighbor as ourselves, we are going to have to ask some questions. Have you ever been having a really bad day; but you managed to act normal so no one knew something was wrong? Other people know how to do that, too. Maybe they won’t let themselves be helped until someone comes to them and asks point blank how they can help them. Have you ever had a whole lot of stress in your life: but you managed to leave it at home rather than wear it on your sleeve wherever you went? Well, other people can do that one, too. Maybe the people you see all the time – who look like they’re doing just fine – are really struggling. Maybe you could vastly improve their lives through your generosity. I tell you what, there’s only one way to find out.

Today’s Generosity Challenge:

Again, find someone in your church to help. Not sure who? Ask your Pastor. Find someone with a health issue, a marital problem. Or is a single parent. This time, find out what the one, breakthrough act of generosity could be for that person. And no matter how big or small – prayerfully find a way to succeed. Recruit others, have a fundraiser, think big – go for it. If God is for you, who could be against you? Oh yeah, write down your experiences, in detail. Don’t leave anything out here at <http://generousLife.net/Day18>.

* Michael L. Stickler, *A Journey to Generosity (41 Days to a Generous Life)* the Visiongroup Ltd. 2013. Pages 47-48

Lectionary Scripture Readings for July and August 2025



First reading	Alternate first	Second reading	Gospel
And Psalm	reading		

July 6,2025	2 Kings 5:1-14; Psalm 30; Galatians 6:7-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
July 13,2025	Amos 7:7-17; Psalm 82; Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37
July 20,2025	Amos 8:1-12; Psalm 52 or 82; Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42
July 27,2025	Hosea 1:2-10; Psalm 85; Colossians 2:6-15; Luke 11:1-13
August 3,2025	Hosea 11:1-11; Psalm 107; 1-9 ,43; Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21
August 10,2025	Isaiah 1:1,10-20; Psalm 50:1-8, 22-25; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40
August 17,2025	Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:1-2,8-19; Hebrews 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56
August 24,2025	Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6, Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17
August 31,2025	Jeremiah 2:4-13; Psalm 81:1, 10-16; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1,7-14

The Prayer Shawl Ministry offers handmade prayer shawls as a symbol of God's love and a tangible expression of prayer for the recipient. These shawls are created through a spiritual practice, with thoughts and prayers for the individual woven into each one.

The shawls are given freely and serve various purposes:

- **Comfort:** To console those experiencing grief or illness.
- **Hope:** To bring solace to those in despair.
- **Celebration:** To mark life's milestones and joyful occasions.



KNIT. CROCHET. PRAY.

If you know someone who could benefit from a prayer shawl, or if you wish to obtain one for a specific purpose, please contact **Joyce Pade** or the church office.

The Mission of the Month for July—August will be RCAL (Resources Center for Accessible Living, Inc.)

RCAL is a non-profit, community-based service and advocacy organization run by and for people with any type of disability. RCAL advocates for the rights and needs of individuals of all ages with disabilities. Since 1983 it has been dedicated to assisting and empowering individuals with disabilities in Ulster County to live independently and participate in all aspects of community life.

If you feel called to donate to this mission, write a check to the Reformed Church of Port Ewen and write "July M.O.M." on the memo line. Online giving is also available.



Note: The Mission of the Month for May collected \$290.00

July Birthdays

- 9 Jacqueline Stocker
- 14 Ben Bogossian
- 18 Beatrice Hogan
- 20 Joyce Pade
- 23 Glenn Knickerbocker
- 24 Melissa Harshberger
- 28 Ward Breithaupt



August Birthdays

- 1 Pastor Brian Steadman
- 5 Robert Schlichting
- 13 Diane Bradley
- 15 Maria Finger
- 16 Anita Hadley
- 16 Brian Stocker
- 27 Eben Steadman

July—August Anniversaries

July

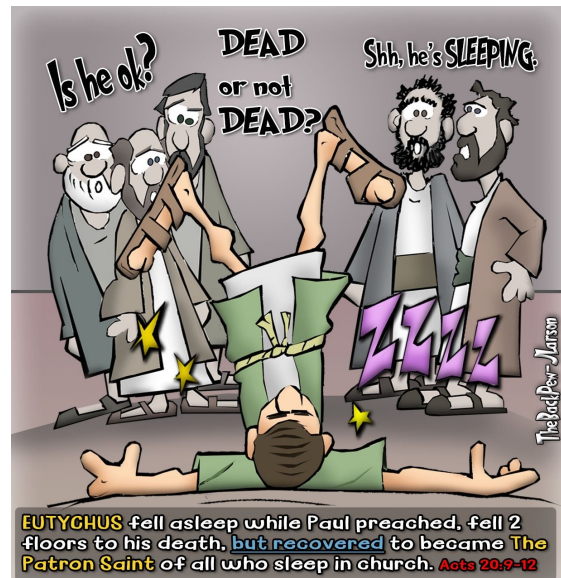
- 8 Linda & Ray Wells
- 13 Betty & Bob Shelightner
- 24 Linda & Harry McCarthy

August

- 3 Vera & Paul Rubeo
- 4 Bonnie & Kevin Lalor
- 12 Bonnie & Doug Vining



The Back Pew Clean Humor & God's Truth



MOVIES WITH SPIRIT

July 19, ARE YOU THERE GOD? IT'S ME, MARGARET. (2023), Kingston Library, 61 Crown St., Kingston — In this timeless coming-of-age comedy drama, 11-year-old Margaret (Abby Ryder Fortson) is uprooted to the New Jersey suburbs from New York City when her father, Herb (Benny Safdie), gets a promotion. With new friends and a new school, Margaret goes through the messy throes of puberty, including getting her period and wearing a bra, not to mention dealing with boys. Throughout all this, she expresses her thoughts, feelings and anxieties, and looks for guidance, understanding and connection, by praying to God, even though she was brought up with no religious faith. She also relies on her mother, Barbara (Rachel McAdams), who herself is struggling to adjust to life outside the city, and her adoring grandmother, Sylvia (Kathy Bates), who isn't happy they moved away and likes to remind them every chance she gets. Based on Judy Blume's groundbreaking young-adult classic of the same title. Winner of 26 critic and festival awards. "A revolutionary coming-of-age tale." — Fred Topel, United Press International. "A cinematic blessing." — Odie Henderson, The Boston Globe. "As lovely, heartfelt and, indeed, deeply radical as the original text." — Katie Walsh, Tribune News Service. *Rated PG-13.*

Volunteers Needed for Lay Readers

We are looking for individuals who feel called to help share God's Word with our congregation through Scripture reading during services. If you have a gift for reading and a heart for ministry, we would love for you to be part of this important role in worship.

If you're interested or would like more information, please contact Cheri, our church secretary.

MOVIES WITH SPIRIT

Aug. 16, RED LIKE THE SKY (ROSSO COME IL CIELO) (2005), Congregation

Emanuel, 243 Albany Ave., Kingston — Cristiano Bortone's heart-capturing drama is inspired by the true early life of Mirco Mencacci, one of Italy's most gifted sound editors. Blinded by a freak childhood accident in 1971, Mirco (Luca Capriotti) is sent to a boarding school for the



blind, as Italian law required at the time. Mirco isn't willing to accept his disability as a handicap. When he finds an old tape recorder and a few used reels, he discovers that by cutting and splicing tape he can create little fairy tales made only of sounds, opening a new creative world to him. But the Roman Catholic authorities running the school oppose his "harboring of illusions" and forbid him from making any more tapes. Undaunted, Mirco sneaks time with his tape recorder and slowly involves his classmates, who immediately love the new activity. One day the students slip out of school and go to the movies, a defiant act school administrators respond to with swift punishment — only to have their decision later reversed in the students' favor. Winner of 19 critic and festival awards. *"An adventure of inspiration and creativity*

that will lift your hearts!" — San Diego Italian Film Festival. *"Reveals how the pupils, many played by young blind actors, rediscover their dreams."* — Kate Fuscoe, Time Out. *"Has an im-*
manent and affecting strength to be hailed
Cinema Omnivore. In Italian with English

and proselytized universally." — Isaac Sharry,
subtitles. Not Rated.



On June 25th, we held our last Bible Study until September, celebrating with a pizza and ice cream party. We extended our thanks to Reverend Alley for his time, effort, and commitment in leading the study, and for his impressive knowledge of the Bible. Please consider joining us when we resume in September.

Submitted by Kathy Kinsch



Worship & Breakfast – June 29

We held our second “Worship & Breakfast” in Fairbrother Hall this past Sunday. The morning started with plenty of good brunch food, setting the tone for a warm and welcoming time together. We then opened our service by singing some favorite, well-known songs. Pastor Brian followed with a short and to-the-point message that left us encouraged and reflective.

It is intended that we will repeat this gathering on the last Sunday of both **July** and **August**. Please plan on joining us—and bring a friend!



July 2025

Sun **Mon** **Tue** **Wed** **Thu** **Fri** **Sat**

		1	2	3	4	5 6:30-10:30 pm Hudson Valley Comm Dance (FH)
6 9:00 am SCS 10:00 am Worship 2-4 pm 4-H (FH) 5-8 pm AA (FH)	7	8 9 am-2 pm Woodstock Weavers	9 4-9:30 pm SCA (FH)	10	11	12
13 9:00 am SCS 10:00 am Worship 2-4 pm 4-H (SCS) 5-8 pm AA (FH)	14	15	16 4-9:30 pm SCA (FH)	17	18 5-9:00 pm ANA (FH)	19
20 REFORMER DEADLINE 9:00 SCS 10:00 am Worship 2-4 pm 4-H (FH)	21	22	23 4-9:30 pm SCA (FH)	24	25	26
27 9:00 am SCS 10:00 am Breakfast Church & Praise 2-4 pm 4-H (FH) 5-8 pm AA (FH)	28	29	30 4-9:30 pm SCA (FH)	31		

August 2025

Sun **Mon** **Tue** **Wed** **Thu** **Fri** **Sat**

					1	2 6:30-10:30 pm Hudson Valley Comm Dance (FH)
3 9:00 am SCS 10:00 am Worship 2-4 pm 4-H (FH) 5-8 pm AA (FH)	4	5	6 49:30 pm SCA (FH)	7	8 Private (FH)	9 1-6 pm Private (FH)
10 9:00 am SCS 10:00 am Worship 2-4 pm 4-H (SCS) 5-8 pm AA (FH)	11	12 9 am-2 pm Woodstock Weavers	13 49:30 pm SCA (FH)	14	15 59:00 pm ANA (FH)	16
17 9:00 SCS 10:00 am Worship 2-4 pm 4-H (FH) 5-8 pm AA (FH)	18	19	20 REFORMER DEADLINE	21	22	23
24 9:00 am SCS 10:00 am Worship 2-4 pm 4-H (FH)	25	26	27 49:30 pm SCA (FH)	28	29	30
31 9:00 am SCS 10:00 am Breakfast & Church Praise 2-4 pm 4-H (FH)						

The Reformed Church of Port Ewen

at Salem and Green Streets

P.O. Box 580

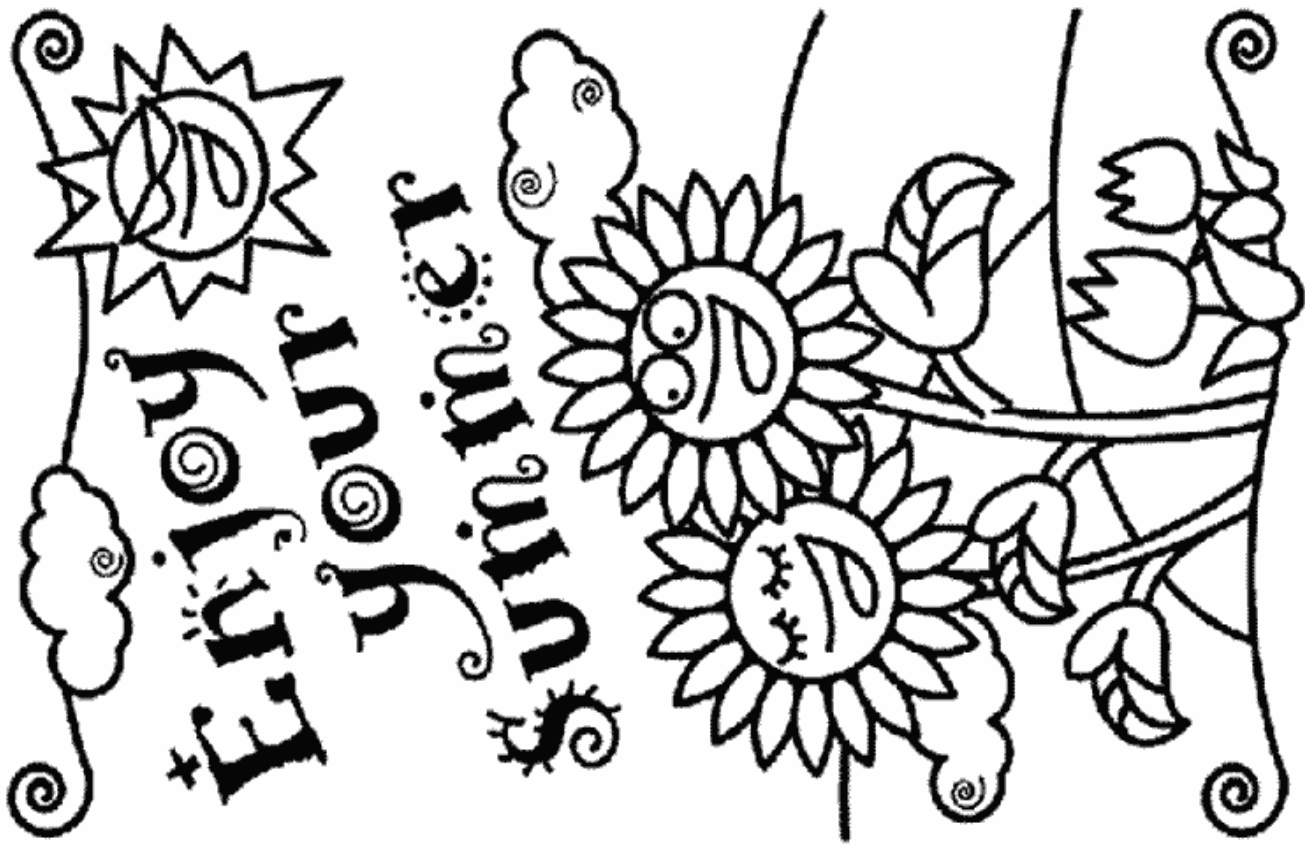
Port Ewen, NY 12466

(845) 331-2782 Church Office
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E-mail: office@rcpe.info

We're on the net!
Therpcpe.org

Our facilities are handicapped accessible

July and August
2025



Coloring Page