

# The Fisherman

July/August 2010

## RESTING

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### 2010 Consistory

#### Minister

Rev. Kathryn Davelaar

#### Elders

Norma Barnard

Jane Case

Wendy Cook

Jan Dunham

Bob Weinman

Karen Winch

#### Deacons

Russ Holze

Rob LaRocque

Lloyd Lawrence

Jim Mackerer

Ryan Niver

Anne Terwilliger

#### Missionaries

Judy Estelle

Jack and Susan Dabney

Bruce and Laurie Hawley

#### Staff

Lloyd Lawrence

Director of Bell Choir

Andrea Mastrianni,

Director of Music

Roberta Lieberman Nicholson,

Administrative Assistant

Nelson Santiago,

Sexton

Reformed Dutch Church of  
Claverack

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As I write this first page article for the Fisherman, I'm anticipating a time away that will begin the day after tomorrow. We *all* look forward to vacations and restful times. There are many reasons for that, but something about the need for resting in an intentional way is wired into our hard drives. God knows that; that's why God has from the beginning talked about *Sabbath*. Physically, emotionally, spiritually, we are created as beings that need to rest. If we don't, we end up stressed and worried, and not much good to ourselves or anyone else.

One of my favorite writers is a Methodist South African pastor named *John Van de Laar*. I'm sharing a prayer/poem of his to take us through these summer days, as we make room for "small, silent spaces."

#### **Enough**

*Worry and stress are not hard for us, God.  
we do them without thinking.*

*There is always the potential threat  
to our security,  
our comfort,  
our health,  
our relationships,  
our lives,*

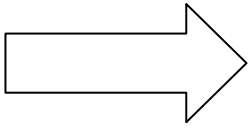
*And we foolishly think that we could silence the fear  
if we just had enough money,  
enough insurance,  
enough toys,  
enough stored away for a rainy day.*

*It's never enough though;  
the voice of our fear will not be dismissed so easily.*

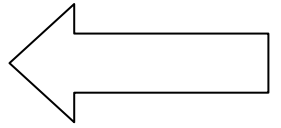
*But in the small, silent places with us is another voice;  
one that beckons us into the foolishness of faith,  
that points our gaze to the birds and the flowers, that, in  
unguarded moments, lets our muscles relax,  
and our hearts lean into loved ones;  
in unexpected whispers we hear it,  
calling us to remember your promises,  
your grace,  
your faithfulness.*

*And suddenly, we discover  
that it is enough. Amen.*

*Pastor Kathy*



**Keep Up To Date With New Opportunities & Happenings!!**



**Annual Church Picnic!!** The picnic will be held August 1<sup>st</sup> after church at Dutchman’s Landing, Catskill. Bring a lawn chair and a covered dish to share. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided by the Fellowship Committee. Anyone with questions can call Anne Terwilliger at 822-9572.

**It’s Never Too Early!!** It’s that time of year once again. The Yule Booth is meeting on Thursdays at 7 pm in the Cemetery Room.

**Midsummer Musings:** A Special Evening of Song, Spoken Word & Mixed Media at the Boght Arts Center, **Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm.** \$8.00 admission to benefit the Boght Arts Center. Presented by **Poets & Writers:** Gary Maggio, Heather Moore Niver, Lynnette Noonan, Marilyn Paarlbert & Karen Schoemer. **Artists:** Cheryl Gowie & Diane Reiner. **Musicians:** Craig Hancock, Ryan Niver, Heather Moore Niver. **Location:** 583 Boght Rd, Cohoes, Just off Rt 9 & 2 miles north of Latham Circle. 518-785-ARTS or [www.boghtarts.org](http://www.boghtarts.org).

**The Mountains are Calling:** Fowler Camp & Retreat Center Benefit Concert. “**An Adirondack Evening of Story and Song.**” **Saturday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm,** Fenimore Hall, Camp Fowler, Speculator, NY (Pelcher Rd off Rt 8). Come join **Kent Busman,** Storyteller and **Scott Adams,** Singer/Songwriter in a memorable evening of story and song.

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**Jelly Jars:** It will soon be time when those who make jam will be busy at it again. Some folks are already planning their batches of jelly/jam for the Annual Bazaar. If you have empty jars to donate/return, please take them to the church kitchen. **THANK YOU.**

**REMINDER!!!!!!!**

Don’t forget to check the August 2010 calendar (last page of the Fisherman) to see the upcoming events.

**Church Office Hours for the Summer:  
Monday 9am – 12pm, Tuesday 9am – 1pm and Thursday 9 am – 2 pm  
Closed Wednesday and Friday.**

## 2010 General Synod Summary

### **Belhar Confession Declared Fourth**

**Doctrinal Standard:** The General Synod of the Reformed Church in America officially declared the Belhar Confession the fourth doctrinal standard of the RCA. More about this at [www.rca.org/synod](http://www.rca.org/synod).

### **Seawood Calls for ‘Ministry from the Bottom Up’:**

Synod President James Seawood called the RCA to engage in “ministry from the bottom up” by practicing a ministry of presence, listening and learning with the ear and heart of Jesus, and acting as the hands and feet of Jesus. The entire report can be found at [www.rca.org/synod](http://www.rca.org/synod).

**Poest is New President:** Don Poest, pastor of Brunswick Reformed Church in Brunswick, Ohio, is the new president of General synod. He says an area he will focus on in the coming year is “our emerging discernment of where God would have us focus our personnel and resources after the conclusion of Our Call.”

**2011 Assessment:** Delegates approved a General Synod Council (GCS) 2011 assessment total of \$44.00 per confession member, which will provide the GSC, the seminaries and the Ministerial Formation Certification Agency (MHCA) with the same total dollars as in 2010 for carrying out the work of Our Call. Also included in the assessment is 1) \$1.50 per member for assistance grants provided to retirees through the Board of Benefits Services (this amount has remained the same since 1971), 2) funding for Disabilities Ministries to replace a donation that launched the ministry, 3) a small amount to review practices about assessments and

denomination funding, and 4) funding for discipleship resources and experiences to address white privilege. The synod also approved additional funds for reducing tuition costs for MFCA students, funding an annual gathering of professors of theology, and creating a coordination and collaboration group to address the mandates of care, call and standards for theological education.

### **2011 PIM Share and Collection for**

**Global Mission:** Synod voted to increase the Partnership-in-Mission (PIM) share for 2011 to \$6,100 and to encourage all RCA churches – and particularly the 367 RCA churches that do not support RCA missionaries through PIM shares-to take a collection for Global Mission in 2010. PIM shares fund RCA mission work around the world.

### **RCA Insurance Holds Premiums Below Cost, Offers Incentives for Compliance:**

Synod supported the Board of Benefits Services’ commitment to hold premium increases in 2011 to 5%. Group plans across the US are projected to rise 12 to 40 percent. Synod also endorsed the board’s commitment to offer an incentive program to reduce the cost of medical insurance premiums beginning in 2011 for churches and ministers who are faithful to the covenant promises of the RCA’s Constitution with regard to insurance.

**Vander Wal is New Vice President:** Lisa Vander Wal, pastor of Lisha’s Kill Reformed Church in Schenectady, NY was chosen as the new vice president of General Synod. Vander Wal previously served for 10 years as pastor of the Reformed Church of Canajoharie, NY.

## **Heating Solution for CEB approved by Consistory**

Being that we cannot bottle the hot air as of late and use it this upcoming winter, the Church was faced with a problem of what to do with the aged boiler that provides the heat for the CE Building. This was triggered by the circulator overheating as it was running continuously. A decision was made to move forward with a boiler replacement as we knew the outdated boiler was using too much electricity and fuel. A combined property/finance committee effort was undertaken to come up with the best solution. About six proposals were submitted that included both oil and liquid propane (LP) fired boilers. The Committee made a conscious Christian decision to go with LP boilers based on its clean burning, efficiency and lack of a maintenance/cleaning need every year. From there the 2 best proposals were submitted with a detailed cost analysis that included efficiency, fuel usage, electrical usage, installation cost, annual maintenance cost, annual cost, 10 year cost, 20 year cost and a break even period. The Finance Committee's recommendation that was approved by the consistory was to go with the 2 LP boiler option as given by Valley Oil along with fixing the back stairwell heating (putting out too much heat). Major reasons were as follows:

1. Overall cost savings over a one LP burner over the expected life of 20 years and over our current system. The overall savings (including installation cost) was over \$50,000 over this time period compared to the current system. The 2 boiler system has up to a 94% efficiency rating. Our current system was estimated at 54% and the one boiler was estimated at 80-84%.
2. Support staff in place with Valley Oil
3. Valley Oil's ability to offer flexible terms (little money down, interest free financing over 3 or more years if needed)
4. Valley Oil's ability to transfer the oil from the two full tanks in the CEB to the tank(s) in the parsonage. The current fuel on hand may carry the parsonage well into next heating season if not totally through it.
5. Efficiency of the 2 burner system and mitigation of being without heat if one of the burner's goes out.

The approved financing terms are as follows:

1. Use interest earned off of the building endowment to provide for the good faith deposit and part of the total cost
2. Borrow other monies from the principal of the Building Endowment to pay for the project. This project comes from an emergency building need and time is of the essence. It takes about 1 month to get the equipment in and a couple weeks or more to get it installed (based on their pipeline of work). Using other investment/endowment monies could handcuff the Church in the future as not all of them have specific uses. It is better to use the Building Endowment monies for the purpose intended and leave the other monies for other potential needs in the future.
3. Repay the Building endowment principal back from the savings on the system over ten years. The cost savings was estimated at over \$4,000 per year between fuel and electrical use. The repayment will be mitigated by the giving response we receive to help support this project.
4. Use other unallocated investment monies, if needed, to provide enough of a down payment (so down payment totals at least \$12,000) to Valley Oil after the system is installed. This is a contingency plan based on the timing of getting congregational approval for borrowing from the Building Endowment Fund

The total solution cost is \$25,900, which includes removal of the old 150 gallon boiler. Shortly after placing the order through Valley Oil the Church received a donation from a long time member in the amount of \$5,000 to go towards the purchase. Interest in the Building Endowment Fund is \$4,000 or

more so the Church's need to cover the remaining cost is \$16,900. Our annual repayment to the Building endowment will be no more than \$1,690 per year which leaves the approximate \$2,310 to go towards balancing the annual budget. These two figures come from the estimated cost savings of over \$4,000 per year. The more we are able to raise, the less we will have to pay back every year, which further helps support our mission.

The commitment was made to purchase the equipment based on a time of the essence factor and a need to reduce our energy waste. We were on borrowed time with the old boiler as well. This decision will actually help the budget and the borrowed monies (if enough monies are not raised) will come from a fund that does not support the budget. However, careful planning will still need to take place for the 2011 year budget. Please consider a gift to help with this project and/or a fundraising effort and further promotion of this need to assist. Some have mentioned a portion of the 50th annual Bazaar as a possibility. Whatever it may be, we ask for this prayerfully in his name. Thank you for your support.

Nate Winch  
Treasurer

### **Financial Information for May/June (combined) 2010**

#### **Income:**

Assessments	226.25
Deacon's	14.20
Easter Offering	.00
Food Appeal	120.00
Fundraisers	3084.00
Giving - Loose	819.32
Giving – Regular	20,154.00
Interest & Return Investment	3.50
Lilies/poinsettias	.00
Memorial Gifts	75.00
Miscellaneous	687.00
Mission of the Month	140.00
Missions	180.00
Other Pass Throughs	65.90
Unbudgeted Appeals (other)	75.00
RCWM Contribution	.00

**Total Income            25,644.17**

**Expenses:**

Accounting & Consulting	759.60
Benevolences	248.00
Benevolences-Unbudgeted	1149.00
Cable TV & Internet	114.80
Cleaning Services	.00
Custodial Supplies	.00
Denomination Assessments	2287.50
Electricity Parsonage	149.37
Electricity CEB & Church	383.56
Electricity Outdoor Lights	20.13
Fundraising Expenses	500.00
General Maintenance	657.43
Heating Fuel – CEB	1600.00
Heating Fuel – Parsonage	
Office Supplies/Copier/Postage	1293.71
Music/Sheet Music	160.00
Pastor's Reimbursement	11866.45
Payroll Expenses	399.98
Payroll - other	5653.38
Petty Cash/Misc	211.50
Propane - church	405.79
Property & General Liability	1194.00
Service Contract – Parsonage	231.00
Special Programs	63.00
Telephone	533.13
Town Taxes-water	.00
Trash Removal	40.00
Unbudgeted Expense	3879.60
Website	90.00
Worship/Worship Supplies	935.31

**Total Expense**                      **34826.24**

**Income over Expenses**              **(9182.07)**

**January - June: Income over Expenses (17,269.86).**

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**Correspondence:** A thank you note was received from Jan Lynch thanking everyone at the RDCC for the reception and prayers.”

## World Vision Gifts for Lent 2010

Thank you all for your generous support of this year's Lenten appeal for World Vision. This year's appeal totaled over \$1100 - and another \$248 was added from the church's benevolence account. The total shares of various World Vision gifts purchased is shown below. (Note: number of shares do not represent actual number of donations as many gifts were given as a portion of a whole share.) - *from Lloyd Lawrence and the Missions Committee*

Education Support for One Child	2 shares	\$64
School Supplies	1 gift	\$250
Health Clinics	1 share	\$50
Life-Saving Medicines	1 share	\$50
Hope for Exploited Girls	2 shares	\$100
Share of Mongolian Ger	1 share	\$50
Share of Water Pump	1 share	\$50
Clean Water Fund	1 gift	\$250
Training & Tools for Farmers	2 shares	\$72
plus...		
Chile Disaster Relief	1 gift	\$461
<b>TOTAL COLLECTED</b>		<b>\$1149</b>
Additional Gifts (from church benevolence for Missions)		\$248
<b>GIFTS FOR LENT TOTAL</b>		<b>\$1397</b>

### Consistory Highlights

The consistory met on June 9 and on July 7 to take care of the church business. In June, the consistory meeting was preceded by separate meetings of the board of deacons and the board of elders. The following were matters of discussion:

- possible gift cards (Xtra Mart) for use by those who come to the church office for help,
- food pantry deposits (John Hardy used to do this)
- flowers in sanctuary (Sylvia Hardy used to do this)
- Sunday School teachers for fall of 2010 (some needed)
- fellowship committee plans for picnic in August

The building and property and finance committee have been taking and comparing bids for the work that needs to be done on the heating system for the Christian Education Building. A proposal came to consistory at the July 7 meeting and was voted on with a 'yes' by the consistory. We will be continuing to use the services of Valley Oil and will be switching to a propane system. Fund raising plans are in the works.

## *Birthdays and Anniversaries!*



Please help us update our Birthday and Anniversary List.

If you want to be placed on the list, (or we have the dates wrong) please email the church office at [rdcc88@yahoo.com](mailto:rdcc88@yahoo.com), drop off a correction/addition or call at 851-3811.

### July Birthdays

Robert Schroepel	7/1	Ryan Brousseau	7/16
John Wilber	7/2	Wendy Warfield	7/18
Jill Theiss Dean	7/3	Amara Steenburn	7/18
James McNamee Jr	7/3	Charles Post	7/21
Jordan Moon	7/3	Barbara Delamater	7/21
Craig Moon	7/4	Mary Lou Knull	7/22
Peggy Moon	7/4	Sara Elizabeth Miller	7/23
Edna Card	7/7	Julie Veronezi	7/24
Jay Case	7/8	Gary Steenburn	7/24
Jamison Connor	7/9	Severin Bowman	7/24
Candace Alvarez	7/9	Keith Niver	7/25
Jim Champion	7/13	Scott Niver	7/25
Donna Lynk Champion	7/14	Jessica Essig	7/25
Kaitlyn Rose Krein	7/14	Rick Schroepel	7/27
Kyle Brousseau	7/16	Lois Niver	7/27
		Jim McNamee Sr	7/28
		Sara Ann Gregory	7/29

### August Birthdays

Irene Kitchie	8/1	Mary Ann Gregory	8/21
Kathy Essig	8/3	Pastor Kathy Davelaar	8/21
Michael Labelle	8/4	Signe Brousseau	8/22
Scott Holzaur	8/7	Terry Stone	8/25
Joshua Essig	8/8	Cheryl Halleran	8/25
Glenn Holzauer	8/14	Gig Barton	8/27
Teresa Krein	8/15	Jim Schoep	8/27
Klaus Beinkampen	8/17	James Schoep	8/27
John Dunham	8/18	Cameron Holzauer	8/29
Meredith Weinman	8/18	Jay Mackerer	8/3

## **July Anniversaries**

Mike & Vinessa Bowman	7/1
Tom & Snookie Patterson	7/10
Barbara & John Delamater	7/13
Douglas & Darcy Colwell	7/17
Gene & Audrey Hallenbeck	7/17
John & Carolyn Wilber	7/24
Jim & Linda Mackerer	7/29

## **August Anniversaries**

Frank & Jean Starkes	8/2
Klaus & Karen Beinkampen	8/5
William & Nancy Rasweiler	8/6
Thea & Jim Schoep	8/15
Glenn & Irene Holzhauer	8/19
Teresa & William Krein	8/22
Jim & Donna Campion	8/23
Thomas & Tanya Hotalen	8/24
John & Karen Essig	8/24
Peter & Virginia Ambrose	8/28
Sheila & Emil Krizar	8/29

## **INTERVIEW WITH GOD**

I dreamed I had an interview with God.

“Come in,” God said. “So, you would like to interview Me?”

“If you have the time,” I said.

God smiled and said “My time is eternity. It is enough to do everything. What questions do you have in mind to ask me?”

I asked.” What surprises you most about mankind?”

God thought for a few moments and then answered “That they get bored of being children, are in a rush to grow up and then long to be children again.

That they lose their health to make money and then lose their money to restore their health.

That by thinking anxiously about the future, they forget the present, such that they live neither for the present nor the future.

That they live as if they will never die, and they die as if they had never lived.”

God placed my hands in His and we were silent for a while. Then I asked. “As a parent, what are some of life’s lessons you want your children to learn?”

God replied with a smile “To learn that they cannot make anyone love them. What they can do is to let themselves be loved.

To learn that what is most valuable is not what they have in their lives, but whom they have in their lives.

To learn that it is not good to compare themselves to others. All will be judged individually on their own merits, not as a group on a comparison basis.

To learn that a rich person is not the one who has the most, but is one who needs the least.

To learn that it only takes a few seconds to open profound wounds in persons we love, and that it takes many years to heal them,

To learn to forgive by practicing forgiveness. To learn that there are persons that love them dearly, but simply do not know how to express or show their feelings.  
To learn that money can buy everything but happiness.  
To learn that two people can look at the same thing and see it totally differently.  
To learn that a true friend is someone who knows everything about them...and likes them anyway.  
To learn that it is not always enough that they be forgiven by others, but that they to forgive themselves.”

I sat there for a while enjoying my visit with God.

I thanked Him for His time and for all that He has done for my family and me.

He replied, “Any time. I’m here 24 hours a day,. All you have to do is ask for me, and I’ll answer.”

Author Unknown

## **PRAYER CONCERNS LIST**

*Please pray for:*

**Norma Barnard’s aunt**

Beinkampens’ mother/friend...  
Margaret/Ann

Louise Bliss’ friends...**Judy/Marc Dolan**

Wendy Cook’s friends...**Lois/Carl**

**Reverend Davelaar**

**DeLamater Family... Donald, and friend,  
Joan**

Jan Dunham’s friend...**Shaquanda Cobb**

Lois Gorts’ daughter/nephew...  
**Carol/ Donald**

Cheryl Halleran’s friends... **Mikey  
Quirk/Kathy**

Hardys’ daughter/son...**Karen/Robert**

Hotalen Family friends...**Flo, Fred**

Bob Ihlenburg’s mother/family...  
**Hattie/Uncle Augie’s loved ones**

Kitchie/Kramer...**friend**

Pam Kline’s family/friends...**Jackie+Ted  
Wendy Dederick/Andrea  
Andrea’s dad/Tara’s son/sister**

**Knull Family**

LaRocques’ friends...**Tracey/Donna**

Jan Lynch’s family/friend...**Sandy, Julie/  
Aleta**

**Phyllis Mayo’s friend...Crystal**

Moore/Niver friend...**Rose**

Carol Doerfer-O’Neill’s **mother/  
and friends...Mary/Debbie**

Betty Ostrander’s family/friend...  
**Maureen+family/Joanne**

Jenny Post’s friend...**Joan+family**

Schoep Family/friends...**Samuel  
Claudia/Thibault Family**

Schroepel Family/friend...**P-L’s mom,  
Rebecca/friend’s mom, Helen,  
Theodore**

Thomas Seymour  
Heaven Smith

Gary Steenburn's co-worker...**Judy's loved ones**

**Ann/Terry Stone**

Jennifer Stubblebeen's grandfather...

**James Krom**

Jennie Case Sullivan's friends...**White Family**

Theiss Family/friend...**The Moody Family, Derick+Alicia, friend**

Linda Van Der Meulen's friend...**Bella**

**Deb VanDyke's family**

Julie Veronezi's family/friends...

**UncleWillard/Nikki/**

**Marion+family/Jen**

Westendorfs' friend...**Stan Scott**

Wilber Family and friends...**John,**

**Marcy/Tom+ Donna/ Niece's friend/Hartmut/Linda**

Amanda and Ashley Zapp's grandparents...

**Peter/Julie Zapp**

*...and those who are housebound or in nursing/assisted-living homes:*

HOME: **Eleanor/Leon Cook, Eleanor Krizar** (Sheila's mother-in-law)

BARNWELL: **Dr. Robert Johnson, Dale Nicholson** (our church secretary's husband)

PAVILLION: **Hazel Ormerod**

PINE HAVEN: **Ruth Case** (Roger's mother), **Ruth Van Der Meulen** (Linda LaBelle's mother)  
**Nelson Dickey** (Virginia Ambrose's father)

WHITTIER: **Richard Siter** (Tammy Rigos' father)

NOT LOCAL: **Judy Dunham** (John's sister-in-law), **Dorothy Griswold** (Jan Lynch's mother)

**Rev. Davelaar's parents, Anne Terwilliger's parents**

### **FISHERMAN SUBMISSIONS!!!!**

**The next Fisherman will be published August 29th so the deadline for submissions need to be in to the Church office no later than August 13<sup>th</sup> .**

