

Geneva Connection



2 Vi Refosco	20 Sally Pitzer
7 Baylie Yeomans	22 Kevin Grant
10 Mark Ettinger	23 Fran Meza
16 Grace Weithman	24 Nancy Damnjanovic
17 Elaine Knowles	27 Katelyn Loftus
Jean Roberts	28 Sallyanne Smith

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

November 18

Nick and Juliet Johnson

November 19

Bill and Linda Harper

November 22

Cliff and Sallyanne Smith

November 30

Keith and Dina Kessler

November 2015

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DECEMBER

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Newsletter deadline for the

DECEMBER issue is

Wednesday, November 18

Email articles to:

prasor@genevapresbyterian.org



Pastor's Article**May the Evidence Grow!**

My friend Rev. Peyton Hopkins is one of the pastors at Community Presbyterian Church. He shared with me recently that one of the families in their church has been audited by the IRS three times in the last several years due to their generous giving. Apparently one of the red flags the IRS looks for is extraordinarily high charitable giving. If this number is higher than they think normal, they may take a second look.

This reminded Peyton of an age old question, "If you were on trial for your faith, would there be enough evidence to convict you?"

I hope there would be an abundance of evidence in your case – evidence of your generosity, compassion, love and forgiveness. I hope that you are leaving a clear trail of deep faith - not because you can earn God's favor in any way. You can't. I want that for you because that way of life goes hand in hand with a deep sense of peace and an underlying joy that the circumstances of this world cannot shake.

I pray today that the evidence for your faith would grow. May it shine brightly simply by the way that you give and by the way that you live.

Grace and Peace,

Joe

PNC Update**Jill Wild**

On Sunday, October 11, a called congregational meeting was held to receive the report of the Pastor Nominating Committee. Chair, Jill Wild, presented Joseph Albright as its nominee to serve as our next installed pastor. This report had been endorsed by Geneva's Session in August and affirmed at the Fall Presbytery meeting on October 6 by a unanimous vote to grant an exception to the Book of Order to allow Geneva to call its interim pastor as its next installed pastor. The congregational vote to approve his nomination was unanimous. His terms of call were approved to commence effective November 1, 2015. A motion was made, seconded and approved to present these results to the Committee on Ministry (COM) requesting that it appoint a Commission to install Reverend Albright as pastor at an appropriate time and place.

A letter to COM has been prepared by the secretary of the PNC, Mrs. Jan Kukar.

The PNC would like to thank the congregation for their support, prayers and patience. We give thanks for our many blessings and look forward to celebrating with you the installation of our next pastor, Joe Albright.

Pastor Joe's installation service will be Sunday, November 22 at 3:00 pm at Geneva Church. A reception will follow in our fellowship hall. All are invited.

Geneva College Students

Do you have a student away at college?

If so, our Youth Group would like to send them a care package. We need their address. Please contact the church office prasor@genevapresbyterian.org or Lorrie Watkins lwatkins@genevapresbyterian.org to give us their address.



Summary of Stated Session Minutes from October 19, 2015

Rick Ulp, *Clerk of Session*

- The Financial Report was submitted for the month of September 2015. Finances remain in a very solid position as we continue to operate in the Black, with income exceeding expenses. The independent financial audit for 2014 has been started and should be completed by the end of October. Individual ministries have submitted their respective budget requests for 2016. These will be collated and brought to a Called Session working meeting of Session on 9 November.
- The Stewardship Campaign following the “This Is My Story” theme will begin on Sunday October 25, when pledge cards will be distributed, and culminate with a celebration Sunday on November 22.
- Christian Education reports that the youth will conduct a fund-raiser dinner with an “Evening in New Orleans” theme on 8 November in the Fellowship Hall. A motion was made and approved to begin the hiring process for an individual to be the Director of Children’s Ministries. A motion was made and approved to adopt the job description for the Director of Youth Ministries, a position currently held by Lorrie Watkins.
- Community Connections is online with the updated version of the Geneva website. Check us out at genevapresbyterian.org and see how we are being presented to the community. Join Geneva as we represent at the Westminster Fall Festival from 12-4PM on Saturday October 24th.
- Presbyterian Women enjoyed a wonderful gathering held on October 17 featuring Rev. Amy Camp. Approximately 35 attended this event.
- The Nominating Committee is in the process of filling leadership position vacancies for Deacons and Elders, as some will complete their term of office.
- There will be a Called meeting of Session to receive new members at 9:50AM on Sunday 25 October in the Pastor study.

Financial Status—Income and Expenses Summary



	SEPTEMBER 2015	YTD through SEPTEMBER 2015
Actual Expenses	\$22,505.88	\$182,890.53
Offerings to Operating Fund	\$16,839.11	\$228,045.21*
Over/(Under)	(\$ 5,666.77)	\$ 45,154.68

*Please note that the YTD Offerings to Operating Fund amount include a generous gift of \$35,268.39 from the estate of Beth Smith. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.



Sunday, November 29
Following worship

A light lunch will be served, then we will decorate the sanctuary.
Please sign up in the narthex.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Communion/ Give and Take Sunday YOUTH SUNDAY 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Morning Worship 12:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	2 7:15 PM CE Meeting	3 10:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Choir	4 6:00 pm Dinner 6:30 pm Financial Peace University 7:00 GECKOS Small Group	5 9:30 Prayer 10:00 Helping Hands	6 Church Office Closed 10:00 WISE (resumes)	7
8 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Morning Worship 11:30 am Finance Meeting 12:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm Youth Fundraiser Dinner	9 7 pm Session Budget Meeting	10 10:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Choir	11 9:30 Morning Circle 3:00 Westminster PW Bible Study 6:00 pm Dinner 6:30 pm FPU 7:00 GECKOS Small Group	12 9:30 Prayer 10:00 Helping Hands 7:00 Deacon Meeting	13 Church Office Closed 10:00 WISE	14
15 <i>Deadline for Harvest Bags</i> 9:00 am Sunday School New Member Orientation Class 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Morning Worship 12:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm Youth Group Scavenger Hunt	16 7 pm Session Meeting	17 10:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Choir	18 Newsletter Deadline 6:00 pm Dinner 6:30 pm FPU 7:00 pm GECKOS Small Group	19 9:30 Prayer 10:00 Helping Hands	20 Church Office Closed 10:00 WISE	21
22 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Morning Worship 3:00 pm Installation Service and Reception for Pastor Joe 6:00 pm Youth Group	23	24 Thanksgiving Pie Baking  10:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Bell Choir 7:00 pm Choir	25 4:30 Community Connection Meeting No Evening Activities	26 	27 Church Office Closed	28

December 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November

29 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:30 am Morning Worship 11:30 am Hanging of the Greens No Youth Meeting 6:00 pm Men's Group	30
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SERVERS FOR NOVEMBER

2015	NOV 1 <i>Youth Sunday</i>	NOV 8	NOV 15	NOV 22	NOV 29
LECTOR	YOUTH	Julie Wright	Tom St. Clair	Fran Meza	Ralph Pitzer
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE	Katie Harper	Sharon Hartsell	Lorrie Watkins	Juliet Johnson	Joe Albright
DEACON OF THE DAY	Julie Wright	Bonnie McCarty	Pat Ulp	Julie Wright	Pat Ulp
GREETERS AND USHERS	Bailey Cantrell J. Harper Grayson Loftus Harrison Watkins	Vivian & Gerry Lee Grayson and Brian Loftus Eaven Tayloe	Kay Foland & Grace Weithman John Booth Amy Finnigan Rick Ulp	Ann Beardslee & Helen Bickert Patrick Clarke Sarah Smith Andrew Wild	Bailey & Delaney Cantrell Ken Ettinger Sally Pitzer Cliff Smith
OFFERING COUNTERS	Ron and Rita Bryant Rick Ulp	Gerry Lee Cliff Smith	Pat Allalemdjian Ralph Pitzer	Ron and Rita Bryant Tony Clark	Vivian Lee Sallyanne Smith
SOUND SYSTEM	Hunter Hartsell	Christian Davis	Stephen Clarke	Patrick Clarke	Christian Davis
POWER POINT	YOUTH	Linda Harper	Bonnie McCarty	Linda Harper	Linda Harper

COMMUNION SERVERS - NOV 1

Rita Bryant, Brian Loftus, Cliff Smith, Pat Ulp, Rick Ulp and Julie Wright

Welcome to Israel

Retired Presbyterian Minister, Don Mossa, is planning a spiritual trip to Israel. Pastor Don takes small groups every two years.

Dates set for this trip in 2016 are April 11-22. Cost of the trip not including airfare should be less than \$2,000 per person. Early payment for hotel accommodations and transportation costs will be detailed for all those who are interesting in joining him.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact him anytime at (508) 688-7414 or revdonjonmo@gmail.com Pastor Don is presently serving as Interim Pastor at Peace Presbyterian Church on Southside Blvd.



**Join Us for
A Night in
New Orleans!**

Sunday, November 8th
Geneva Presbyterian Church
Fellowship Hall

6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Cost: \$10.00

Reservations:
Just stop by our table after church
to make a reservation.
You can also just show up!
We'd love to see you!

All proceeds will benefit our
youth group as we plan a Winter
Mission Event and a Summer
Youth Conference Trip.

Thank you for your support!

YOUTH NEWS**Lorrie Watkins, Youth Director****Youth Sunday School**

Sunday mornings from 9:00-10:00 youth are invited to participate in a Youth Church School class to grow in their relationship with God and others. With trusted leaders/teachers (Pastor Joe Albright, Gerry Lee, and Lorrie Watkins), youth are empowered to explore their faith and ask the questions they actually wonder about the Bible, creed, disciples, Jesus, other beliefs, and hot topics. Our Church School class seeks to help young people apply their faith to their lives. We welcome you!

Upcoming Youth Events**November 1st**

9:00 am Meet in the Sanctuary for practice and last minute Youth Sunday details/updates.
 10:10 am Gather in the Narthex to welcome Genevans and visitors to worship, give out bulletins, etc.
 10:30 am Youth Sunday Worship begins!
 No evening Youth meeting.

November 8th

Night in New Orleans Fund Raiser - All proceeds will benefit our youth group as we plan a Winter Mission Focus and a Summer Youth Conference Trip. This event will be similar to our Night in Paris last fall! We need all hands on deck to be successful! We will need servers, cooks, players (JAZZ!), and more! It's gonna be sensational! "Yeah you right!" (A New Orleans expression of agreement or happiness.) Start looking for a vest and develop that New Orleans "style!" Stay tuned for more specifics including preparation dates/times!

November 15th

6:00 pm Food scavenger hunt/collection to help with Thanksgiving dinner for Family Integrity program! Meet in the Fellowship Hall Note: We need adult (21 or older) drivers for this activity! Please let me know if you can drive us (small groups) around! 7:30 pm - Yummy Dinner!

November 22nd

6:00 pm Bible Study and discussion/exploration of the movie Woodlawn. We saw this movie in October as a group, but if you have not seen it, please try to go before today! We will dig into the movie, and glean God's message for us!

November 29th

Thanksgiving holiday weekend, no evening Youth meeting. Enjoy time with your family!

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE**Ralph Pitzer**

This is the month for the Stewardship campaign! We had the 'kick-off' of the "This is Our Story" campaign for 2016 on October 25. This month opportunities will be provided for you to consider where God is leading you in sharing your time, talent, and treasures. Pastor Joe will help us focus on our stewardship role during his Sunday messages. Members will share their story with us during the Minute for Mission time. We all agree that this is an exciting time in the life of Geneva. Each of you is valuable in what you have to offer. We ask you to prayerfully consider how you wish to share your God-given gifts-your time, your talents, and your financial support.

"God loves a cheerful giver" 2 Cor. 9:6-15

Your Stewardship Committee

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Amy Finnigan

Morning Circle – Join us on the 2nd Wednesday (11/11) at 9:45 am in the Knox Room in our Fellowship Hall. We will be on the third lesson of our new Horizons Bible Study “*Come to the Waters*”. Scripture: Exodus 17:1-7, Psalm 42:1-2, 63:1, John 19:28. In this lesson we will explore the absence of water. Study Leader: Amy Finnigan

Westminster Woods – We also meet on the 2nd Wednesday at 3:00 pm in the Eastwood Clubhouse at Westminster Woods. We are also using the Horizons Bible study and will be on the third lesson. Study Leader: Fran Meza

Helping Hands – We meet weekly on Thursdays at 10:00 am in the Knox Room in the Fellowship Hall. We are always busy working on Welcome Bags for The Betty Griffin House, Dresses for Africa, WIC, Hospice, Prayer quilts for our church family. We are also preparing for our **Fall Sale** coming soon! Leaders: Barb Enos and Sally Pitzer.

Evening Circle – We are still in the process of re-organizing. Look for more information soon and an Evite to our next meeting. Leaders: Susan Guthmiller and Adrienne Lord.

We were excited to see so many of us at our **Retreat with Rev. Amy Camp** in October! It was a wonderful morning coming together and sharing our stories! Thank you Lorrie and Adrienne for your stories! A very special thank you to Rev. Amy. Our day was joyful and spirit-filled! And special thanks also to our wonderful musicians who blessed us with special music for our worship time together! Thanks to Fred for his leadership and Janice Reid, Esther Kirkham, Juliet & Becky! We are blessed!

November is **Share The Harvest Time!** Our Presbyterian Women’s food sharing program. We will pass out grocery bags on the **first Sunday** in November. There is a list of items needed on each bag. If you can please take a bag and fill it with the non-perishable items noted and return to Geneva by the **15th**! It is our goal to provide food for 50 families in our community. The food will be distributed by **The Family Integrity Program of SJC**. PW also will give each family a \$20 gift card to buy their perishable food.

And did you know that when you **buy one of our delicious pies** you help **feed a family!** **Thanksgiving Pie Sale!** So you can buy delicious homemade pie for Thanksgiving and help us provide a gift card! We are baking pumpkin, apple and pecan pies for the holiday. Pies will be available for **pick up** Tuesday in the FH around 4 pm and in the narthex during choir practice from 6-8 pm. And also on Wednesday from 9 am until noon.

Sign up sheet is in the narthex.

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Geneva has a new reason to SMILE!

Geneva Presbyterian Church is now registered as a charitable organization with the AmazonSmile program. AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support the ministries of Geneva Presbyterian Church every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you’ll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to Geneva.

To shop at AmazonSmile, simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You can use the same account on AmazonSmile that you already have set up on Amazon.com. On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations before you begin shopping. AmazonSmile will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation to the church. When selecting Geneva Presbyterian Church, please be sure to select the one in St Johns, FL as there are several other charities with the same name.

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible Amazon Smile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes or service charges. Please note that while there are tens of millions of products that are eligible for this program, there are some items that are excluded. So, while doing your Christmas shopping, we hope that you will remember to participate in this program to help fund the ministries here at Geneva. **Please share this information with your friends and family as well!**





OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION AT GENEVA

Sunday	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Morning Worship
	12:00 pm	Choir Practice
Tuesday	6:00 pm	Youth Group Meeting
	10:00 am	Staff Meeting
	6:00 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
Wednesdays	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
	6:00 pm	Fellowship Dinner
	6:30 pm	Financial Peace University
Thursdays	7:00 pm	Bible Study Group and GECKOS
	9:30 am	Prayer Meeting
Fridays	10:00 am	Helping Hands
		Church Office Closed
	10:00 am	W.I.S.E.

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