THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ULYSSES

the GRAPEVINE

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Anne & Gary Buchner – An Interview

A SERIES OF ARTICLES WHERE WE CAN LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR CONGREGATION.

This month, we profile Anne and Gary Buchner. Anne and Gary have been members of FPCU since 1965, and they have been in the choir for most of that time. Anne sings soprano and Gary sings baritone.

Anne and Gary were both born in Buffalo, New York, and met in a 9th grade Latin class. They parted ways briefly for college, but weren't far apart: Anne pursued a history major at the University of Buffalo and Gary focused on technology and got a teaching degree from Buffalo State.

They were married in 1958, and settled in Churchville, New York. Anne taught English at Churchville-Chili and Gary taught technology, driver education and coached track. They both went to the University of Rochester during this time and earned Masters degrees. Gary also got a grant for a certificate in administration, which is what eventually brought them to the Trumansburg area.

In 1965, Anne and Gary moved to Trumansburg, as Gary had gotten a job as vice-principal at DeWitt Middle School. He would put in 31 years there, mostly as principal. Gary retired from DeWitt in 1993. Anne and Gary have 3 children: David (a technology teacher in Ithaca); Elizabeth (Director of a co-op in Penfield, NY); and Douglas (a banker in Buffalo). They also have 8 grandchildren.

In 1978, after the kids were a bit older, Anne started teaching English in Trumansburg schools. She led the Drama department and chaired the English department. She joined Gary in retirement in 1999.

They have a very active retirement, both enjoying golf, reading, card games (notably Bridge), gardening, cross-country skiing (at one time) and camping. They love traveling and the outdoors, and told us of earlier stories (a '59 trip to Alaska that had them sleeping in the car) and later ones (African safaris in Kenya and Tanzania; riding elephants in Nepal). They've seen much of the world together, and also frequent a cottage in Canada they've had for over 50 years. Next year, they plan to go back to Alaska, but probably won't be found sleeping in their car on the side of the Alcan Highway.

Senior High News

After a delicious lunch provided Deb Regnier and Allison Pritts, the Senior High were ready to take on 18 holes of mini golf and a corn maze. Although an official score card was never turned in, we believe a 43 was the low score, even after going in the water twice. The corn maze was a lot of fun, and we recommend it for a fun family outing.

The Senior high's also met to brainstorm ideas for future meetings. Our next meeting will be at the Crop Walk, October 19, where we will run and rake. All youth are invited to bring along lawn rakes and when we see a yard that needs leaves raked to the curb, we will stop and rake, then run to catch up with the crop walkers. Tucker may even bring a leaf blower. The Youth Group also wants to continue sending care packages to our college students. Please email your child's college address to Kris Alling, neilalling@aol.com.

- Debby Koehler

October Birthdays & Celebrations

1 Alec Bartischevich
2 Bob Brown
3 Helen Grant
4 Jerry VanOrden
6 Pamela Jonascu
7 Ariane Jonascu
15 Mary Ellen Schreher
22 Evelyn Fritz
22 Mary Ellen Johnson
23 Samantha Zaharis
23 John Kirkman

Make sure to join us this month on **Sunday October 12th** right after church for special birthday treats provided by the **Congregational Life Committee**. We will sing Happy Birthday and enjoy fellowship with one another. Thank you to the Caring & Benevolence Committee for a lovely celebration last month!

Also at this celebration, join us in recognizing the following September birthdays; Georgia Brown *(Sept 5th)*, Julia Comin *(Sept 19th)*, Diana Bradham *(Sept 23rd)*.

Want your birthday on the calendar? Call Pam Postle (387-5386) or e-mail lppostle@aol.com.

UPW Review & Renew

Please join us for a bit of R & R, not rest and relaxation, but Review and Renew our commitment to our mission.

We are most thankful for the shared times this summer with the picnic at the Millers, where we learned about Kate Merriman's trip to the Women in Faith Conference. Will we want to explore having a group travel to the conference this coming year?

It was most fun experiencing the joy, laughter and sensitivity of the "Church Basement Ladies" at the Merry Go Round Playhouse. We can better appreciate the gifts and talents shared by all in our congregation.

Thank you to the many hands that have kept our Urn gardens flowering and healthy this summer and into the fall.

With the change of seasons upon us and we are doing our fall cleaning, remember to save those special items you no longer find a need for in your home for our annual rummage sale in the spring. Is there news of an arts and talent night, will there be renovations to our kitchen, and what will our efforts be towards a mission project this year...?

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The PW Fall gathering will be a historic Tri-Presbytery event, Saturday, October 18 at the Canandaigua United Church starting at 9 a.m. To learn more about it, see the flier on the bulletin board in the Chapel or contact Pam Postle. Registration is due by October 11th.

Please plan to come and share your ideas and energies, **Tuesday, October 14 @ 7 p.m.**

If you would like to be added to the email listing for other updates, contact Maureen Shallish at Neils76614@aol.com or give a call at 387-5890.

Maureen Shallish

The Annual Reverend Tom Lange Memorial CROP WALK will be held **Sunday October 19th at the United Methodist Church of Trumansburg, rain or shine.** Registration begins at 1:30 p.m.; the walk begins at 2 p.m.

You can participate as a walker, sponsor or both! Walker sign-up will be at the Chapel following the Sunday service on September 28 and October 5, 12, and 19. Walkers may do the 2 mile or 6 mile route.

Proceeds from **CROP WALK** are used to fight hunger and poverty around the globe. 25% of the funds from the T-burg Crop Walk will be used locally to support local food pantries and 75% will be contributed to international efforts to alleviate poverty, food insecurity, and disease in developing countries.

Please join the CROP WALK TEAM!

- Wilson Pond

Youth Sunday School

The youth Sunday school classes are underway and the teachers and I are working hard to be creative in order to offer our youth a nurturing and tailored program to foster interest and growth in the spiritual growth of our children.

But it takes a lot of hands to make this work…

Reality DID hit today, Sunday morning. I have not been comfortable asking anyone to help with Junior High Sunday school class as everyone seems very intimidated by them (a very false misgiving I must say) and a call comes in from one teacher that she is ill – ill all day Saturday, hoping that she would feel better Sunday but unfortunately she did not. So 9 a.m. Sunday morning, I throw out my lesson plan for my Junior High, try to revamp a lesson plan to incorporate grades 1-4 with my 5th-8th. The day before I had offered to cover as liturgist for another as they would be out of town, so planning, re-vamping and preparing all is happening Sunday morning, not to mention baking cookies for the Senior High youth group luncheon. And I start to wonder: why is it that the Christian Ed chair position is always the last to be filled?? How can I sit through cottage meetings hearing how important the youth are to the church yet why does no one step forward when I voice a need for a second teacher for grades 1-4 or ANY teacher for Junior High? It was a hard reality check for me… digging deep into my spiritual reservoir. I am new to the church. I don't know who has done what, who is burned out on what. But I know we have youth, needing guidance and spiritual growth. And wonder, is no one willing to help? Am I so strapped that I need to ask the preK/K teacher to invite a younger member of the next class in to her class while I pull in the rest just because we have no back up?

Faith is amazing – the strength to pull you through all sorts of things… but it also allows you to see how sad situations are. You make it through but gosh, wouldn't if have been nice to know you had support.

I am very sorry for this note, but then again not. I am new; I don't know what I am doing specifically to the traditions of this church and denomination. I am looking to the church for guidance. I hope I find it. I hope to find strength, motivation and commitment to the life and growth of our church. We shall see. In the mean time I ask that everyone take a moment to self-evaluate. I was amazed, as I sat up front today, covering as liturgist, how sparse our church looked. Where is everyone?

-- Deb Regnier

Octoberfest: *Presbyterian Style*

Plan to join fellow Presbyterians and friends for a German dinner on **Wednesday, 10/22 in the Chapel**. We'll begin at 5:30 with a social hour serving pretzels, (root) beer and spezi. A buffet dinner will be ready about 6:30. The church will provide sauerbraten, mashed potatoes with gravy, red cabbage and grilled bratwurst. We'd like help with: crock-pot sausage and sauerkraut, Black Forest cake, German chocolate cake, apple strudel and hearty dark bread (like pumpernickel). Recipes are available on the sign-up table. If you plan to come, sign up in the chapel, call Nancy (387-6546) or Bobbi (387-5408). Please bring your own table service.

Presbyterian (TP) Dinner

Last year, we took "progressive" and "dinner" out of the progressive dinner. The result? A fun, conversation-filled evening at Bobbi Farrell's home, where we enjoyed a variety of appetizers, desserts and drinks. Audrey, Julia, and Madeline Bialke provided childcare at the Chapel, too, which gave parents of younger children a chance to have an evening out. We'll do it again this year, and are **looking for a host location**. Do you have a home that you'd like to open this Christmas season to a group (60-80) of your Presbyterian friends? If so, please get in touch with Scott Dawson at 387-7031. As December approaches, look for more details and a sign-up sheet in the Chapel.

Pastor Nominating Committee

Holds Organizational Meeting with Geneva Presbytery

The long-awaited organizational meeting of the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) took place Sunday evening, September 21. Our group was joined by Hector-Lodi's PNC, also newly-appointed. Geneva Presbytery's Executive Presbyter Joelle Davis led both groups in a careful review of all aspects of the search process, followed by Q&A.

The first task of the PNC will be to create a Church Information Form (CIF) which will include facts and figures relating to our church and also descriptive narrative. The finished CIF will reflect the insights and goals produced by the church's mission study process, giving candidates a brief yet realistic view of what the people of FPCU are really like and what kind of pastor they seek.

I will work with the PNC and presbytery's representatives to our PNC until the CIF is approved by the presbytery Committee on Ministry (COM). After this approval, the church CIF will be posted on the Presbyterian Leadership Connection web site as well as on our church web site, a serious search will begin and I will step out of the process.

At the meeting, one of the points most stressed was the need for absolute confidentiality regarding any specifics relating to pastoral candidates under consideration. This will require a good deal of patience and trust from members of the congregation who are not serving on the PNC. The PNC will, however, make periodic reports to the session and congregation describing in a general sense where they are in the call process.

The one issue that most intrigues both the PNC and the congregation—how long the active search process will take—is a question that simply cannot be answered with any degree of certainty. This is because so much of what the PNC will be doing depends on questions of work volume (how many candidates are being screened) and scheduling --when candidates and PNC members are available for phone and personal interviews, how readily references can be checked, when PNC members are free for travel to hear candidates preach, when the presbytery COM is available to do its own screening of candidates. And, of course, there is always the possibility that when the PNC thinks its work is nearing completion with a consensus on a candidate, that person may choose to accept a call elsewhere.

In the end, the PNC works in faith that, through both active prayer and effort, the Holy Spirit will lead them and one particular pastoral candidate to a deep sense that God has called that person to the ministry of this church. When this happens, the candidate will be introduced to the congregation and preach a sermon here, immediately after which the congregation will vote on whether or not it concurs with the PNCs choice for the next installed pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Ulysses.

Before the meeting adjourned, the PNC chose its regular meeting time (Sunday evenings 6–7:30 p.m.) and selected its officers: Eric de Jager as chairperson and Amy Dawson as secretary.

Your prayers for the mission, officers and members of the PNC are greatly appreciated.

- Glenn Kennedy

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Oct 1 7p Finance	**2**	**3**	**4** 8:30p AA
5 2c/Meal 10a Worship	**6** 7p Caring & Benev 8p AA, Al-anon	**7** 6:30p Member/ Stewardship 7p Bible Study 7:30p Choir	**8** 7p Session	**9**	**10**	**11** 8:30p AA
12 10a Worship	**13** 8p AA, Al-anon	**14** 7:30p Choir	**15**	**16**	**17**	**18** 8a Blood Drive 8:30p AA
19 CROP Walk Egg Sunday, 10a Worship	**20** 8p AA, Al-anon	**21** 7p Bible Study 7:30p Choir	**22** 5:30p Germany-themed Dinner	**23**	**24**	**25** 8a Blood Drive 8:30p AA
26 10a Worship	**27** 8p AA, Al-anon	**28** 1p Mission Knitters 7:30p Choir	**29**	**30**	**31**	**Nov 1**

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This publication is edited by Amy and Scott Dawson.
Our next publication will be the November newsletter. This deadline is the third Sunday in October. Please email submissions to amy@emoticakes.com or scott@dawsonmediadesign.com. If you have any questions or comments, call us at 387-7031.