

# North Church Chimes

JULY 2025



## Summer Services

Church service will be held upstairs in church, unless weather is too warm

- July 6 - Mark Aquino
  - Congregational Meeting
- July 13 - Rev Hughes
  - Hot Dog Roast
- July 20 - Mary Whitcomb
- July 27 – Songs and Readings

Special consideration, time, and thought has been put forth to bring in guests for our summer services, if you are available, please join us!



Special thank you to Nancy Treichler and Tina Cragg for making the front of the church look so beautiful.

Nancy and Tina have graciously donated their time and expertise helping our church continue to be an inviting and beautiful place to worship.

## In Focus

## Vacation Bible School

Registration has been extended for VBS. Open to members and non-members K-5. Preschool kids may also attend if they are fully potty trained.

This year we are planning many fun activities to include bible stories by the campfire, making butter, quality crafts, nature walks, games, and music. Snacks will be provided each day. There is no cost for VBS, donations are welcome.

Volunteers are still needed.

To help keep VBS free, we are accepting donations of gift cards to Wegmans (to cover the cost of snacks), Walmart, cash (please write on envelope that funds are to be used for VBS) and we have an Amazon Wishlist.

Thank you to those who have already donated.

[VBS](#)

[AMAZON WISH LIST](#)



*We come before You to seek Your blessing of good health. Grant us the strength to lead vibrant, energetic lives and the peace to enjoy every moment You give us. May Your protective hand guide us away from illness and pain, and may Your healing touch restore those who are already suffering. Help us to nurture our bodies and spirits, and to live in a way that honors the life You have granted us. In Your loving care, we place our well-being, trusting in Your endless goodness.*

*Dearest Heavenly Father, we pray for our North Presbyterian Family. We lift up in prayer those who need special consideration including Judy L, Andrew, Patricia, Roger, David, Jessica, Jane, Elaine F, Michele, Terry R, Jean, Mary, Ruth, Justine, Michele, Deborah T, Lindsay, Tim, Jeff, Jim, Gloria, Alex V, David P, Ginger M, Kathy C, Brenda M., Jerry C., Phalguni, Bev & Sam T, and John C.*

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Please join us for our congregational meeting on July 6, immediately following worship. We will be presenting the proposed slate of officers.

### Session

Lynda Cox  
Virginia Mitchell

Martha Luchterhand  
Michael Keagel

### Deacons


Margaret Linkowski  
Judith Michael  
Sandra Sikora  
Gail Mackmin

Anthony Michael  
Rose Mitchell  
Ellen Hall

*Thank you all for the best Birthday Party I ever had. I really know what church family means and I have the best!*

*Love to all,*

*Eileen Troy*



# CAMP NORTH

GRADES K-5


# VBS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**JULY 7-11**  
**9 AM - 12 PM**

168 PAYNE AVENUE  
NORTH TONAWANDA

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: [NTNORTHCHURCH.ORG](http://NTNORTHCHURCH.ORG)



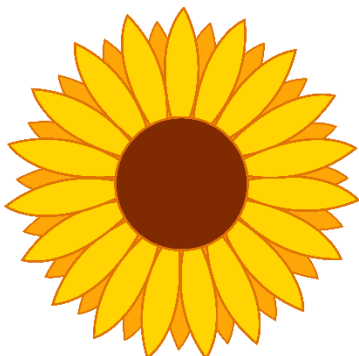
## JULY BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

*As you grow another year older, may you also grow deeper in your faith and closer to God. May His wisdom guide you and His love comfort you.*

*John Cox  
Charles Mye  
Oliver Pastwik*

*Gordon Luchterhand  
Brenda Freiert  
Olivia Sasso*

*Marilyn Wende  
Suzanne Munson  
Sharon Silvis*



# Author Visit

Join us to meet Daniel Schwabauer, author of *The God of Story*, followed by a buffet supper.

Saturday, July 12, 2025

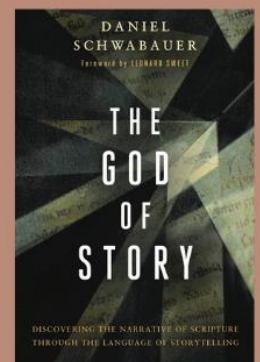
3:00PM to 6:00PM

First Presbyterian Church

149 Broad St, Tonawanda NY 14150

[www.firstprestona.org/event-info/the-god-of-story-author-visit](http://www.firstprestona.org/event-info/the-god-of-story-author-visit)

This program is made possible through a Vital Worship Grant from the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, Grand Rapids, Michigan, with funds provided by Lilly Endowment Inc.





# The Spiritual Retreat Gazette

June 2025



**The Center of Renewal Retreat & Conference Center at Stella Niagara**

4421 Lower River Road, Stella Niagara, New York 14144 \* 716 75407376 \* [stellaniagararetreats.org](http://stellaniagararetreats.org)

## Did You Know?

The Center of Renewal at Stella Niagara has offered spiritual retreats and rental spaces for all denominations for over 50 years. Church groups can rent out space for a day or overnight retreat and enjoy the peaceful, uplifting campus or individuals can join in the Center of Renewal sponsored retreats that are offered for all. Individuals may also make a reservation for a private retreat for one day or overnight. Costs are low and your overnight stay includes three wonderful meals. Take time to renew your walk with God, to take a step back and rest, regroup and catch your breath from the busy world. Call today to make your reservation.

## Retreats Being Offered

**Tuesdays, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, & 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

### **BOOK CLUB – BOOK 2**

#### ***Spiritual Story Seekers***

***The Story Keeper*** by New York Times best-selling author Lisa Wingate. Book two of A Carolina Chronicles series.

**Times: 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM – Cost \$50.00 or  
4:30 PM – 5:30 PM – Cost \$40.00**

**Presenter – Jan Czech**

**Bio:** Jan is a former middle school English teacher, writing instructor and reporter.

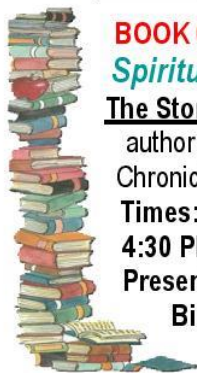
She is the author of six books for young children as well as *Grace Happens*, a middle school age novel. Her numerous articles have appeared in a variety of publications including "The Children's Writer" and "The Buffalo News". She lives in Western New York with her husband and two very spoiled dogs.

**Cost includes:** All four book club sessions for this book.

**NOTE: book not included with cost of retreat**

**Book available :** amazon, Thrift Books, Barnes and Noble, Tyndale House Publishers and Christianbook.com

**Reservation Deadline – June 23, 2025**



**Saturday, July 12, 2025**

### **LET'S GET HOOKED**

**Learn to Crochet a Prayer Shawl  
Retreat Day**

**Crocheters and Non-Crocheters Welcome**

**10:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

**Come enjoy a Retreat Day that can spread comfort, hope & love for years to come.** Retreat day includes instructions on how to crochet prayer shawl history, prayers, patterns, inspirational music, lunch and fellowship with other crocheters.

**Cost:** \$55.00 Includes Retreat, Lunch, Yarn & Crochet Needle; \$45.00 Includes Retreat, Lunch - **Bring Your Own Yarn & Crochet Needle.**

**Reservation Deadline – June 27, 2025**



**"Whatsoever things are true,  
whatsoever things are  
lovely, and whatsoever  
things are honest, think on  
these things."**



**Saturday, September 6, 2025**

**JOIN US AS WE WELCOME A SAINT!**

### **RETREAT DAY ON THE LIFE OF ST. FRANCIS**

**Time: 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

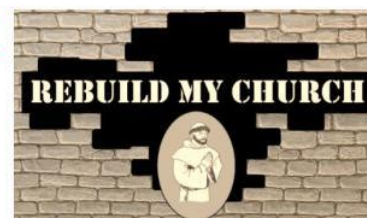
**Live Theatrical Performance By Michael Sacilowski**

**Prayer, Reflection & Questions**

**Sr. Colleen Shanahan, OSF & Sr. Patricia McMahon, OSF**

Not only will this retreat include lunch, prayer and reflection but you'll meet and get to know one of the world's most popular saints, Francis of Assisi, through a live theatrical performance entitled "Rebuild My Church". Experience the power of a personal encounter with Christ and St. Francis through this one-man multi-media event. This inspiring show brings a beloved Saint to life. Discover how his life touched so many people and learn more about Saint Francis and his love of God through this deeply moving performance.

**Cost: \$45.00    Reservation Deadline – August 22, 2025**



**Thursday, September 25, 2025****Let's Do Lunch****Breaking Bread & Bible Study with Bonnie Series****First Session****Fill My Cup Lord****Time: 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

Did anyone ever ask you...what's in your cup? Bonnie will be asking you that question but, "spoiler alert" we mean...what's in your spiritual cup of course. We will spend some time exploring both Psalms 23:5 where the Psalmist asks for an overflowing cup and John 4, the story of the "woman at the well". We will delve into those verses to get some cup content answers to our spiritual question... **What's in your cup?**

**Presented by Bonnie C. Mazur**, a member of our Center of Renewal Staff. Bonnie has an anointed vision to proclaim the Word of God from a sensitive reassuring non-denominational Christian perspective. Bonnie is a retired attorney as well as retired ordained pastor.

**Only \$28.00****Reservation Deadline – September 11, 2025****Saturday, October 11, 2025****Don't Let Suffering Take You Down****Spiritual Transformation Retreat****10:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

This retreat deals with the spiritual awaking to the sufferings in our daily lives and will open new possibilities about how to deal with all areas of suffering.

**Presenter: Sr. Marcella Kiesel, OSF**, A Franciscan Sister of Penance and Christian Charity with experience in Spiritual Direction as well as teaching college.

**Cost: \$75.00** includes retreat, lunch and book by Louis M. Savary and Patricia H. Berne, Teilhard de Chardin Seven Stages of Suffering: A Spiritual Path for Transformation.

**Reservation Deadline: September 27, 2025****Thursday, October 16, 2025****Let's Do Lunch****Breaking Bread & Bible Study with Bonnie Series****Session 2****Did You Ever?****Time: 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

Did you ever make a promise to Jesus that you realized, very quickly, that it was probably not the smartest thing to do? Come to lunch and experience the hilarious journey of one woman's promise to **"Spend the Day with Jesus"** COME AND ENJOY LOVELY LUNCH IN OUR DINING ROOM AND LAUGH TILL YOUR SIDES HURT

**Reservation deadline – October 2, 2025**

COME AND ENJOY A LOVELY LUNCH IN OUR  
DINING ROOM  
AND  
TEA-TIME TO  
SOOTHE YOUR SOUL



**Mark Your Calendar – Advent Retreats**  
**November 22, 2025 & December 3, 2025**

**Spiritual Direction**

Spiritual Direction is a ministry that has taken different forms over the years. It is becoming more widely known as Spiritual Companioning.

**THE FOCUS**

The focus is your experience of God and how communication occurs between you and God.

**THE NEED**

Many people seek spiritual direction when they are yearning for a deeper meaning in their relationship with God. Perhaps they have come to a crossroad, find prayer difficult, or are exploring new forms of prayer that may be more life-giving. Often people wish to have a companion to assist them on their spiritual journey by being present and listening.

**THE EXPECTATION**

You can expect your spiritual director to keep the focus on your relationship with God. We believe that God is found in all things and is ever present. This reality enables us to find God's invitations, urgings and confirmations. The director can ask reflective questions, point out resources, and assist in breaking through spiritual roadblocks and various resistances.

**THE DIRECTORS**

Spiritual directors have special training and a background in ministry, communication skills, and personality dynamics, as well as resources in scripture, spirituality, and prayer.

NOTE: Cost handled through Spiritual Director. A Spiritual Direction Session is usually \$30.00 for a one-hour session.



When misfortunes arise,  
consider that it may be a  
blessing in disguise.

**Call today to make your reservation - 716-754-7376, Ext. 2**

## Chicken BBQ is Back!



Wednesday, July 16, 2025

3:00 PM – 6:00 pm\*

\*or until sold out

**\$15.00 Advance Sale/at the Door/Online at Eventbrite**

### Dinner Includes:

½ Chicken, Coleslaw, Red Dill Potatoes, Roll & Butter

Drive Thru Pickup

Presale Tickets may be purchased from the Church Office or

Online at [Eventbrite](#)

**THANK YOU!!!**



North Presbyterian Church  
300 North Forest Road  
Williamsville, NY 14221  
(716) 632-1330  
[n.church.npc@gmail.com](mailto:n.church.npc@gmail.com)

If you would like to donate a dinner, please purchase a ticket from Louise Cooper or the church office.  
Our goal is to deliver 25 dinners to Willow Lodge at the VA.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gift to Ride for Roswell. Because of you, we are one step closer to our goal of creating a world without cancer. Your generosity is playing a critical role in making that world a reality, and I can't thank you enough for your donation.

You are a crucial member of the Roswell Park Team and your support means so much to our patients. On behalf of all those who walk through our doors seeking health and help, thank you.

Sincerely,

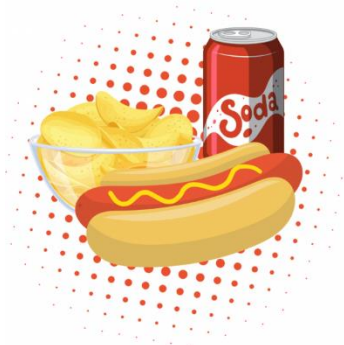
Candace S. Johnson, PhD

Roswell Park Comprehensive  
Cancer Center

## HOT DOG!

Join us immediately following church service on Sunday, July 13 for a hot dog roast.

Only \$5 for hotdog, chips and drink.



**NORTH TONAWANDA  
GARDEN WALK**  
**JULY 12<sup>TH</sup> & 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2025**  
**10AM-3PM | SELF-GUIDED | FREE**



**MICRO GRANT DEADLINE: MAY 1**  
**GARDEN SIGN-UP DEADLINE: JUNE 1**  
**SPONSORSHIP DEADLINE: JUNE 1**

Starry Night Theatre, Inc. Presents

# Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber & Lyrics by Tim Rice

**Directed by DJ Swartz**

**Music Direction by Joann Mis**

**July 24-  
August 3, 2025**

*The Ghostlight Theatre*

**Tickets:**



170 Schenck Street  
North Tonawanda, NY  
14120  
716-743-1614

Admission: \$19  
\$17 for Seniors,  
Students, & Veterans  
[Starrynighttheatre.com](http://Starrynighttheatre.com)



Thursdays 7pm  
Fridays & Saturdays 8pm  
Sundays 2pm

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## SESSION SUMMARY – June 2025

Moderated by Rev. William Hennessey of North Presbyterian Church, Williamsville

Moderator, Peter Somerville, Sarah Franco, Donna Freiert, Karl Wende, Martha Luchterhand

Excused: John Mye, Mike Keagel

Quorum was met.

- Meeting opened with prayer by Rev Hennessey at 12:13pm
- A correction to the minutes of May 4, 2025 was noted. The correct name is Mark Aquino not Mark Armesto. A motion was made by Karl and seconded by Martha to approved the minutes as corrected.
- Karl Wende presented updated treasurer's report
- Donna motioned and Martha seconded and was approved the permission for the Women's Association to have a hot dog sale on July 12 and 13 at the Church.
- Sarah Franco updated us on the progress of the Pastoral Nominating Committee. The Presbytery Committee on Ministry has approved our Minister Discernment Profile.
- Nominating Committee presented the slate of proposed officers. A congregational meeting is called for July 6, following services for the purpose of election of new officers
- On the motion of Donna and second of Martha, a motion carried to designate Camp Duffield for our portion of the Denominational Pentecost offering
- After a discussion on summer services, it was decided to make the decision each Wednesday for the following Sunday whether to meet in the sanctuary or basement. Dependent on weather, if decision is made to meet in basement congregation will be informed by email.
- A motion was made by Martha, seconded by Karl and carried to adjourn with prayer at 12:55pm
- Rev Hennessey closed with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter W Somerville Jr  
Clerk of Session



CONFIRMATION CLASS - June 6, 1969

Rev. Wright - Pastor

Robert Brautigam	Raymond Pearson
Judith Burnett	Pamela Pickert
Jeffrey Carl	Karen Ramsay
Catherine Fulcher	Karen Sunderland
Holly Hampton	Barbara Torpy
William Van Arsdale	Allen Latchford
Jeffrey VanBlargan	Kevin Little
Craig Mavis	Cynthia Neal
Wende Jo Whitcomb	John Wilson
Priscilla Wolanyk	David Parish



Memories

