

No lead article this week

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## **A Calendar of Prayer for our Presbytery**

### **March**

- 8 Ministers at Large: Cheryl Ann Elfond, Lisa Heckman, Bob Heinle, Barbara Schwartz
- 15 Windsor -
- 22 Cortland Christ Community - Rachel Ditch, Pastor
- 29 Afton

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### **Prayers:**

Prayer for Judi & Rick Gage on the passing of their son Josh.

UPDATE: Rick and I wish to thank you all for your support, prayers and expressions of care during his time. Due to the Covid19 outbreak, we will postpone Josh's Memorial service until late summer. Prayers for all as we walk together through this time of Lent in anxious times. Peace for the day and Grace for the journey.

Judi Gage

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Pastor of First Presbyterian Union Church in Owego, continues to be very grateful for prayers as he recovers from leukemia. He is thankful for the loving care of the Owego congregation. Bruce has not had complications from his bone marrow transplant, but the chemo drugs have caused problems including blurry vision, numbness in his hands, and pain in his hands and legs. He has felt good enough to preach three times in recent weeks and to attend Lenten study groups and some committee meetings. He feels blessed.

Please contact Committee on Ministry co-chairs, Lisa Heckman and Bob Heinle if you have a pastoral care concern or need.

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### **Other News:**

#### **Grant Money to Help Congregations**

The presbytery is offering up to \$500 per congregation to use for whatever you need to stay connected in these challenging times. We're calling this the 2020 Staying Connected Grant.

We make no stipulations about how you use the money; your session can determine what is best for your ministry.

So if you want to buy a camera for live streaming or a router and internet access or anything else that will help, we have \$500 to make that happen.

Simply fill out [this form](#) and email it to Dave Johnson, PSV Finance Chair at [pastordave@unitedpresbyterian.net](mailto:pastordave@unitedpresbyterian.net), or mail to:

Pastor Dave Johnson  
Cortland United Presbyterian Church  
25 Church Street  
Cortland, NY 13045

Our Creative Ministry Fund is enabling this to happen.

~~ the PSV Cabinet

**[2020 Staying Connected Grant form](#)**

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**Coronavirus Resources for Churches**

Please check out our website page containing information on the Coronavirus. We will update the page as information comes in.

**[PSV Coronavirus Resources for Churches](#)**

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News about COVID-19, the new coronavirus, is everywhere. This is a rapidly evolving situation, so it's important to be prepared for questions from employees about how you are preparing for a potential outbreak and how their medical benefits through the Board of Pensions can support them.

We are continuing to monitor the situation and will provide any additional information as it becomes available.

**[COVID-19](#)**

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**Doubting Believer**

Ok, good pastors don't play favorites, but there are members who make their jobs easier. If you want to be that kind of church member, check out these 10 things.

**<http://www.doubtingbeliever.com/2020/02/25/10-ways-to-be-your-pastors-favorite/>**

Grace and Peace,

Bruce Gillette

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**[The Board Bulletin Spring 2020](#)**

The Board Bulletin is published after each regular meeting of the Board of Directors of The Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and represents key information and actions taken that affect plans and programs administered by the Board of Pensions.

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**2020 Standard Mileage Rates**

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service today issued the 2020 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes.

Beginning on Jan. 1, 2019, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (also vans, pickups or panel trucks) will be:

- 57.5 cents per mile driven for business use, up 3.5 cents from the rate for 2018
- 17 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes, up 2 cents from the rate for 2018, and
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations.

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