

We have great news! Our Pastor Nominating Committee was offered the opportunity to secure a bridge pastor while we continue our search for a permanent pastor. Rev. Karen Chamis, recently retired as Resource Presbyterian for the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse, has agreed to serve us part-time. Karen will fill in the gaps, providing pastoral care and administrative support as well as leading worship three Sundays each month. She has served as our guest pastor several times in this past year, and has had an ongoing relationship with our PNC. We are thankful that she will be providing this valuable assistance during our transition process!



Dear JCC folk,

Have you ever had an itch that you just had to scratch?

I'm not talking about the run-of-the-mill mosquito bite, or even the travails of poison ivy, but rather that internal itch that keeps you up late at night?

For the last eight years or so I've been a pastor to pastors, and a shepherd for congregations. At the end of 2022, I stepped down from that ministry in order to discern where God wanted me next. It wasn't that the work I was doing as the Resource Presbyterian for Cayuga-Syracuse was unfulfilling – indeed, it was some of the most fulfilling ministry of my career.



Regardless, I knew it was time to step down. Part of my departure was due to the impact of COVID and my belief that the Presbytery needed someone with a different toolbox in this post-COVID world. But the other part? That was the itch.

I'm still not certain I'm being called to serve in the local church. But there is an itch there. The kind of itch that requires copious amounts of calamine lotion. That itch-that-must-be-scratched is one of the reasons our covenant with each other is such a blessing.



Graduation last May with husband Bill and our daughter, Ella

JCC is in an in-between time. You've done the hard work of having an Interim walk you through your history and have pulled together a great team to search for your new pastor. Those folks have spent hours reviewing resumes and interviewing candidates, but the pool of pastors has diminished greatly over the last few years making the search longer and harder than in previous years.

My work as a Bridge Pastor is to come along side your leadership and to offer a pastoral presence until your new pastor is found. And, because of how God works, ministering with you will help me in my own discernment process. Although I'm not called to be your Called and Installed pastor, I do believe I'm called to do this particular ministry with you.

It seems that whether we are itchy, impatient, exhausted, or frustrated... we aren't going to go through this alone. God continues to be in the middle of it!

Grateful for you – Karen

Your church has had quite an eventful 2023!

In January, we welcomed Beth Cain as our new office Administrative Assistant. Beth has done an exemplary job stepping into her new role. Stop by, or give the office a call to introduce yourself!

Beth takes the place of Doug Mokry who left this position to pursue other career opportunities. We greatly appreciate Doug's many years of dedicated service, and wish him well in his new endeavors. Doug hasn't left us completely; he may still be found assisting with our worship electronics, and his voice continues to complement our talented choir!

February brought the annual **Young Life trip to El Salvador**. With the support of many in our congregation, Eva Harle (accompanied by her dad, Fred) traveled for the second time to assist in this charitable mission. You may recall that this vibrant group of teenagers was invaluable to the success of our last Turkey Supper. We were honored to be able to help support them in this life-changing experience. A note of interest: Ben Titus, who grew up attending Jamesville Community Church, is now a Young Life Area Director!



We are happy to announce that this March we welcomed **River of Joy Baptist Church** to our church home. They are a Korean congregation who worship at 12:30 each Sunday. We were invited to join them as they recently celebrated their 20th year anniversary. Those who attended all agreed that they could truly feel the presence of God in their celebration. We look forward to a long partnership, and are grateful that they have enthusiastically jumped into helping care for our house of worship!



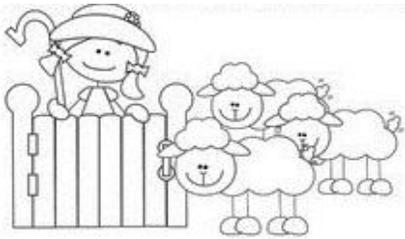
Clean-up day, 2023

The Mission of Jamesville Community Church

- To worship God together;
- To proclaim and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through fellowship, love, prayer, service, mission and the education of both young and old;
- To build a more effective Church;
- To join with others in providing Christian leadership in the community.

**Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, we remain a vibrant church.
Donations of your Time, Talent, & Treasure continue to allow us to work together towards our mission!**

Spread the word: Bo-Peep is NOW REGISTERING for Fall 2023!



Bo-Peep Preschool is our church’s longest running community outreach program. A well-respected early education program in the Jamesville area, Bo-Peep was founded in 1967 by Mrs. Sandy Baker. We have served multiple generations of more than 1500 children. Newly implemented public school Universal Pre-K programs have impacted our enrollment numbers. We are asking the congregation to help spread the word.

Program & registration info may be found at the church website: www.jamesvillecommunitychurch.org

2023 Vacation Bible School will be held August 14-18 from 9-noon each day. This year's theme is **STELLAR!** We are currently enlisting volunteers. Contact Alex or Christina Snow if you would like to be a part of this very popular outreach program. 315-247-3733 or 315-247-9073. Registration info will be posted later this summer on the church’s website.



Thursday August 3rd at 7pm, we are proud to host **MARK STUART – LIVE in JAMESVILLE** in our sanctuary. Presented in part Paul Rush (some of you may recall his dad, Don Rush as a former pastor of our church,) Mark is a very talented, versatile guitarist who tours across the United States. His résumé includes working with Joan Baez and Freddy Fender. Visit our church website or scan this QR code for more info...



Just a reminder that our **Church Leaders** may be contacted through the church office, or through their Breeze directory info. We welcome questions, suggestions, and, of course, offers to volunteer as we navigate this exciting time in the life of our CHURCH!

2023 Church Council: Tim West (Chairperson), Diane Klossner, Sue Smith, Kate Bolsei, Greg Sohrweide, Linda Wright, Fred Harle (Lay Leader), Gary Hartman (UM Rep), Rob Shallish (Treasurer)

2023 Trustees: Lorana Zirbel (Chairperson), John Bell, Peter Fallon, Chris Gerde & Dave Cain

Church Office Administrative Assistant: Beth Cain

Contact Jamesville Community Church:

Church office phone: 315-492-1465

Pastor's email: pastor@jamesvillecommunitychurch.org

Church office email: admin@jamesvillecommunitychurch.org

Church website: **JamesvilleCommunityChurch.org** for calendar updates, daily devotions, link to Facebook worship, Bo-Peep & VBS registration,)

Breeze Church Directory: **jvillecc.breezechms.com**

(Contact the church office if you need your log-in information.)