

Abbe Reformed Church

Ascension Sunday
May 17, 2015 – 10:15 AM

GATHERING IN WORSHIP

*Call to Worship

*one: Jesus ascended in triumph,
raising our humanity to the heavenly throne.
All authority, glory, and sovereign power are given to him.
There he hears our prayers and pleads our cause before the Father.
Blessed are all who take refuge in him.*

many: Come, let us worship and bow down.

Acts 1:1-11

*Gathering Hymn

Rejoice, the Lord is King

#228

*Prayer of Confession

**We come, O Lord, on this day of glory
to confess our lack of trust.
While we sing of your lordship over all creation,
we have too often acted as though you are powerless
in the face of today's events.
Help us to live with confidence in your presence today
and in hope for life with you forever. Amen.**

*Assurance of Pardon

Ephesians 2:4-7

*Song of Hope

10,000 Reasons

see insert

*Sharing in the Peace of Christ

Children's Time

THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 15:35-58

see insert

Message

Continuity and Transformation

Pastor Noah

OUR GRATEFUL RESPONSE

Saying What We Believe

Heidelberg Q&A #49

Q: How does Christ's ascension to heaven benefit us?

A. First, he is our advocate in heaven in the presence of his Father.

**Second, we have our own flesh in heaven
as a sure pledge that Christ our head
will also take us, his members, up to himself.**

**Third, he sends his Spirit to us on earth
as a corresponding pledge.**

**By the Spirit's power we seek not earthly things
but the things above, where Christ is,
sitting at God's right hand.**

Offering

Offertory

Choir

*Doxology

Greeting and Announcements

Prayers of the People

Sending Song

Blessed Assurance

#345

*Benediction

**This is my story, this is my song
Praising my savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my savior all the day long**

Pastors Noah & Kristen Livingston

Jennifer Schruers, Music Director

Eric Legters, Pianist

**Congregation please stand as able*

2015 Consistory

Elders

Scott Bensink - Vice President (2015)
Eleanor Aikens (2017)
Quentin Bensink (2015)
Lucinda Legters (2016)
Harvey Oonk (2016)
Mark Summers (2017)

Deacons

(2015) Head Deacon - Eric Dunnewold
(2016) Benevolent Treasurer - Philip Beckerink
(2015) Brian Jantzi
(2017) Scott Neckers
(2016) Jason Stapels
(2017) Laurie TeWinkle

In the name of Christ, we welcome you to the fellowship of Abbe Church, its work and worship, its instruction and service, and to its comfort and blessing.

www.abbereformedchurch.org

 /AbbeReformedChurch

Church Office

Dianne Einink – 716.355.6336
office@abbereformedchurch.org

Faith Community Nurse

Leanna Willink – 716.499.4163
reach@abbereformedchurch.org

Pastors' Study

Kristen & Noah – 716.355.6336
pastors@abbereformedchurch.org

Prayer Concerns and Celebrations: Continue to keep all those who are confined to nursing homes and all those who have ongoing physical problems in your thoughts and prayers, including: *Bob Beckerink, Jim Briggs, Paul Covey, Dave and Kathy Crowell, Karen Dunnewold, Lucas Gibbons, Eric Legters, Sally McMullin, Phyllis Morton, Bryan Nickerson, Jr., Zach See, Amanda Stapels and Paul and Josie TenHuisen.*

Also continue to keep each of the older members of our congregation in your prayers.

Pray again this week for our congregation and our community as a whole. Remember *our Pastors, the Consistory, our Sunday School, the Teens On Fire Youth Group, Awana, REACH Ministry, MOPS, and Wee Care Preschool. Remember also to pray for our schools.*

Continue to pray again this week for our country, for all the unrest around the country and the world, for our President, as well as our national, state and local leaders.

Continue to pray faithfully for the safety of our armed forces in and returning home from various combat zones and for the cause of peace in our world.

Remember again this week to pray for each of our missionaries and mission projects, especially remembering *David and Charlene Alexander*, in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, as we ask that God will continue to bless their efforts as they reach out to others in Jesus' name.

Today is 'BP Sunday'! Take a moment to have your blood pressure checked after the service.

Surprised By Hope

Stay today for the study on NT Wright's *Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church*. We'll begin during the Sunday School hour and meet in the sanctuary!

Our next **Prayers & Squares work day** has been moved to Saturday, June 13, 9 am - 3 pm in the Abbe Fellowship Hall. Please come join us and lend your talents to comforting those in need of prayer.

Thank You:

I wish to thank all the wonderful people – adults and children – that cleaned my lawn so nicely. It was greatly appreciated.

It's wonderful to belong to such a wonderful, caring Church. Thanks again.

Betty Kolstee

I would like to thank the kids and adults that came and cleaned up my yard. Many hands make light work. Thanks again. Sandy K.

There are several **thank you notes** posted on the bulletin board from students for their college care packages.

Women's Ministries Meeting - Monday - May 18th at 1:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will be studying lesson 18 in our study book.

Prayer on Wednesdays

Now that AWANA and the choir are no longer meeting on Wednesday evenings, there is space opened up in our building mid-week. All are welcome to come gather at 7:30 at the church for prayer. Heidelberg Catechism #116 reads this way:

Q: Why do Christians need to pray?

A. Because prayer is the most important part of the thankfulness God requires of us. And also because God gives his grace and Holy Spirit only to those who pray continually and groan inwardly, asking God for these gifts and thanking God for them. (Ps. 50:14-15; 116:12-19; 1 Thess. 5:16-18, Matt. 7:7-8; Luke 11:9-13)

The R.E.A.C.H. Team would like to announce our annual Spring Fundraiser. We will be holding a yard sale in the Abbe Reformed Church Fellowship Hall on Saturday, June 6th from 8 am – 3 pm. Should you have some treasure(s) that you would like to donate, please bring them to the Fellowship Hall on Friday – June 5th in the afternoon. If no one is there please leave your item(s) inside. Should you have big items, please contact Esther Nickerson at 716-355-4131.

We are also looking for volunteers for set up on Friday and help in working the sale on Saturday. Even if you can come for a little while, all help will be much appreciated.

Any other questions or concerns, again, contact Esther Nickerson at 716-355-4131.

Thank you for your support,

God Bless, Esther

The only fitting response to God's grace is to serve Him in humility and love. (Haddon Robinson)

But I have trusted in Your mercy; My heart shall rejoice in Your salvation Psalm 13:5

Today:

10:15 AM - Morning Worship
11:30 AM - Sunday School
7:00 PM - Bible Study

This Week:

Monday - 1:30 PM - Women’s Ministries Meeting
Wednesday - 7:30 PM - Prayer Time
Thursday - 1:30 PM Ladies Bible Study

SERVING THE LORD AND US THIS WEEK

Acolytes Alex Dunnewold and Michael Champoe
Ushers Tracy and Laurie TeWinkle
Greeters Nathan and Leanna Willink
Greeting Elder Lucinda Legters
Nursery Chelsea Howden and Linnel TeCrony
Cameraperson Daniel Gustafson

SERVING THE LORD AND US NEXT WEEK

Acolytes Holly Neckers and Natalie White
Ushers Steve Holthouse and Larry McCray
Greeters Dave and Val Lehman
Greeting Elder Harvey Oonk
Nursery Brad and Katie Johnson
Cameraperson Larry McCray

Shut in of the Week: Carol Neckers at Corry Manor

Missionaries of the Week: David and Charlene Alexander, in Kaohsiung, Taiwan

Pastor Office Hours

Pastors Kristen & Noah have office hours each week in their church study Tuesday 2-3:30 and Friday 10-11:30. Of course, you’re always welcome to schedule a time to meet with us as well!

Attention all VBS Adventurers... we will be holding a Base Camp staff meeting on **Wednesday, May 20 at 6:30 pm in the Abbe Fellowship Hall**. Only those involved in decorating, Imagination Station, Games, Bible Stories, Snacks, Kid Vid, Sing N Play (opening), Finale (closing), and Preschool Directors are strongly encouraged to attend. We will hand out materials and get acquainted with those we will be working with. If you have any questions, please contact Willowe Neckers 355-6345, Louann Heslink 355-2510, Connie Rice 397-3488, Amy Woods 355-1008, or Megan Heslink 450-0904.

Deacons report for May 10, 2015

General Fund \$ 3,540.52
Benevolent 2,220.00
Major Projects 105.00

Total Offering \$ 5,865.52

Attendance 135
Sunday School 77

Needed per Sunday to meet our Budget in 2015 is \$3,183.00 in the General Fund and \$936.00 in the Benevolent Fund. Needed to date in General is \$60,477.00 and \$17,784.00 in Benevolent.

Received for 19 Sundays is \$56,038.57 in the General Fund and \$17,171.00 in the Benevolent Fund.

Second Annual Motorcycle Blessing: The Clymer United Methodist Church & the North Clymer United Methodist Church along with the Late Night Legacy Motorcycle Club will be hosting a **BLESSING the BIKES** on Saturday, **May 30** at the pavilion at **Clymer Pond**. All who could use prayer over their motorcycle and the 2015 riding season are invited. Registration begins at **11:00 am** with the Blessing to be brought forward at 12:00 noon.

Church Address: PO Box 249
595 Clymer-Sherman Rd.
Clymer, NY 14724

Pastors Noah & Kristen Livingston:
PO Box 272
Clymer, NY 14724

Dear REACH Ministry,
Thank you so much for the care packages! We loved them!
Hannah Briggs, Ariel Shuster, Chris Keppel, Richard Resta

REACH Ministry,
Thank you for the starbucks gift card! It is nice to know I'm being thought about and prayed for. Thank you also for the care packages! It came at a time I needed it a lot...the semester is almost over and very stressful.
Thanks again,
Kaleigh Dwyer

REACH Ministry,
Thank you for the generous care package, it is very tasty! I appreciated all your time and effort putting all these together.
Sincerely,
Jennifer Rhodes

REACH Ministry,
Thank you so much for sending me several care packages throughout the year! I loved receiving them (especially the Starbucks gift card) and being reminded of home! Thanks again for thinking of us college students.
Holly Eliason

Dear REACH Ministry,
Thank you so much for all of the goodies and thoughtful messages throughout this school year. You have no idea how great it has been to receive these packages! It is so kind of you to think of us here at St. Bona's! This year is quickly coming to a close, and before you know it we will all be worshipping together again. In the words of St. Francis, "A single sunbeam is enough to drive away many shadows." Thank you for shining God's light upon us through your kindness.
Micaela Young

Dear REACH Ministry,
I can't explain in words to ya'll how excited I have been to receive the packages sent! It means a lot to me. I miss church and youth group, etc. back home like crazy and it's alright with everyone I would like to stop by a teens on fire night or something. Let me know. But I'm happy to say I have found a great church very close to my home down here in Pittsburgh and will going to small discussion/bible study groups soon. I'm very thrilled! College for the most part is good. It's a bit of a culture shock and what not, but I have met great people and I know they'll be lifelong friends. I hope all is well back in little Clymer. I

knew I'd miss the crazy small town, but I miss it much more than expected. Once again thank you for the packages and letter.

Also-the 5 year anniversary of Tyler is coming up, and my best friend's brother passed away 6 months ago. So keep us all in prayer please, it's a rocky road ahead!

Sincerely,
Jenna Schwab