

BALLSTON CENTER CHURCH NEWS

January 21, 2024

The Children's Hour

Parents: All young children are invited to attend our new combined Children's Church and Nursery ministry-*The Children's Hour*. **We are also in need of volunteers to make this new endeavor a success!** If you are interested in teaching or helping occasionally, please reach out to Sarah (sarah.lynam77@gmail.com) or Stephanie (steph_reilly@icloud.com) or sign up on the CE Bulletin Board in the narthex!

Service Opportunity

If you would like to offer service to God by offering service to your Church, the Deacons are looking for "a few good Ushers". As an Usher, you will have various responsibilities before...during... and after worship (please see the list of "Usher Responsibilities" on the bulletin board in the Narthex).

The Deacons are also seeking to fill the position of "Head Usher". The Head Usher has the additional responsibility to coordinate the scheduling for the Ushers during the year.

If you are interested in Ushering (or, are interested in the Head Usher position), please see Dave Silvestri or any of the Deacons (or, express your interest to the Church office and you will be contacted).

The Deacons thank you for considering if you are called to this service opportunity.

Seasons Northeast

Seasons Northeast is a women's quarterly night of worship and teaching. February 2nd from 6-8:30pm (doors open at 5:30) at Loudonville Community Church. Those interested can visit www.seasonsnortheast.com to learn more and register.

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Fellowship Luncheon

Are you wondering what's happening at Ballston Center Church? Are you looking for a way to serve the Lord? Then come to the January 28 luncheon! It is a regular covered dish luncheon so bring a dish or two to share and enjoy some good fellowship! The bonus is a ministry fair where all small groups and committees will have information and you will have an opportunity to see just where you fit in to Ballston Center Church and how you can thrive in God's family.

Life Savers Ministries

The Missions Committee will be collecting much needed items for the families at Life Savers Ministries. Please choose a card from the missions board located in the Narthex. Place your donations in the box under the missions board. We will be collecting until Sunday January 28.

Children's Hour Location Change

The Children's Hour and Nursery ministry, which has previously been meeting in the Lounge, has moved to the classrooms upstairs. The Nursery (formerly classroom three) is available for parents to drop off their infants and toddlers at any time during the worship service. Pre-school and elementary aged children are welcome to attend Children's Hour, located in classroom two, and can be dropped off during the doxology. With these new changes, the room downstairs that has been historically used as the nursery, will now be used as a quiet space for nursing mothers and other parents with young children who need to step out of service together. A television with a livestream of the worship service will be available.

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Missions Prayer List

January is Sanctity of Life Month, and today is National Sanctity of Human Life Day.

Please pray:

Pray for the not-yet-born, who are created in the image of God for His purposes. Pray that they'll have the opportunity to live, grow, thrive, and serve the Lord their God. *"Before I was born the Lord called me; from my mother's womb, He has spoken my name." Isaiah 49:1b, NIV*

Pray for women facing unplanned or unexpected pregnancies. Pray for their partners and husbands, their parents, and their families. Pray that God will provide the support and resources they need, so they don't feel led to make an unthinkable choice.

Pray for women who have already made the unthinkable choice to have an abortion. Pray for repentance, and God's care. Pray that the Holy Spirit will fill their hearts, that they will come to know peace and forgiveness in Christ, and that they will trust in His grace for their future.

Pray for children and caregivers in the foster system. Pray that Godly people will rise up to meet these needs, so that displaced children can be placed in Christian homes where they'll hear the Gospel as they live in safety and peace.

Pray for our government, as New York strives to create unparalleled access to abortion. Pray that God will change the hearts of our leaders, and that New York might instead be known as a place that preserves and supports life.

Pray for the men and women serving at Life Saver Ministries, who daily reach families in crisis and seek to give life and hope through the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Pray for their safety, and their boldness as they proclaim Christ crucified for the forgiveness of sins while meeting families' physical needs.

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Prayer of Confession

Righteous and merciful Savior, before who's cross I bow down and see the state of my heart, I confess that sin is my malady, my foe, my poison. I know there is no health in me, for I have done those things which I ought not to have done and left undone the good which I ought to have done. And I know that it is that iniquity which caused You to be made a curse, O Lamb of God. Show me the enormity of my guilt by the crown of thorns, the pieced hands and feet, the bruised body and dying breaths. Yet assure me as well that it is Your broken body and shed blood that is my sure hope, for it is the body and blood of the incarnate God: its worth infinite, its value beyond all estimation. While I gaze at the emblems of my Savior's death on the Lord's Table, and ponder why He died, may His Spirit assure my heart, "*Christ died for the ungodly*". And such am I. Henceforth, O Savior, let me walk humbly before You, a forgiven soul, bathed in Your blood, conscience cleansed by the washing of Your Spirit, and my heart assured that I am an Heir of Your eternal salvation.

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