**First Presbyterian Church of Honeoye Falls**

Grant Report

Adam Lewis- Director of Christian Education

In the Fall of 2017, the First Presbyterian Church of Honeoye Falls received a portion of the Congregational Health Grant that the Christian Education committee applied for. The $250.00 aided in the purchase of a MacBook Pro as well as a digital video camera and microphone. With the incorporation of technology into our Sunday School program and worship service, our goal was to reach the younger generations in the congregation. With the societal movement towards technology, it’s vital that the church does not lose sight of that. Technology helps to draw in the interest of the youth and being able to share their excitement with the congregation is invigorating to our church as a whole.

With the purchase of the new technology, we have been able to dovetail our Sunday School Program with our Puppet Ministry, in making videos that we have been able to share in and out of worship. We were able to create a video style Christmas Pageant that we showed during our Christmas Eve Family Service. The youth and adults truly enjoyed this and appreciated the outside the box worship element. We also were able to make a farewell music video for our interim pastor, David Ashby. The YouTube link is attached below. This was a fun and inventive way to say goodbye and also thank him for the work that he did while we searched for out current pastor, Kirk Baker. Both of them were and are very supportive of our Christian Education Program and our push towards reaching the youth through creative thinking. Our latest video, that we played on our Sharing Day, wrapping up our Sunday School year, shed light on the children’s take on what they learn in class every week. The video was filmed in a style reminiscent of the TV show, *The Office.* In a very comical way, we were able to illustrate, for the congregation, what the youth learned and took away from our church school curriculum. These achievements would not have been possible without the purchase of the items that the grant helped us to buy.

Our congregation’s spiritual health is very high right now, and a large part of that is because of the young families that are partaking in our worship. We pride ourselves in the dedication that we put into our Christian Education Program and the families see that. We have 27 kids on our youth roster and 16 of them are in class on a weekly basis. The technology that we have been able to entwine into our program had not only gotten the buy-in from the youth, but their parents and other church members as well. The joy and excitement of the youth is fuel for the church, which sets the stage for our openness to the Word. The grant money that we received assisted in this and we look forward to further opportunities to enhance the overall health of our congregation.

YouTube Link

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2AGZMagc9WE