

## PRAYER PROFILE – Ogden Presbyterian Church

Pastor and Moderator: Rev. Tedd Pullano  
Clerk of Session: John Caloritis  
Music Director: Ellen Bristol

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.

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### Did you know?

The Ogden Presbyterian Church was established in November 1811 as the Parma Congregational Church. Many of the churches in our Presbytery were Congregational in their earliest years, so it might be very interesting to learn why and how that denominational shift happened! Is there anyone who can tell that story?

Tedd Pullano has served the church as pastor since June 2016, having previously served the Holley Presbyterian Church and New Life Presbyterian Church in Rochester. He spoke with me at length about the mission commitments of the Ogden Church. If you are thinking (or re-thinking) your congregation's involvement with community mission Tedd might be the perfect person for you to speak with to get some new ideas.

Through "Endowment Mission Grants" the congregation offers approximately \$10,000 each year to community programs. The idea behind the grants is much like the Presbytery's Triple Play Grants – the money granted comes with the people of the congregation. In order to receive a grant, the organization has to show how the good folks from Ogden will be incorporated and connected to the organization long-term. Their first grant went to Aurora House, a local hospice to which the congregation donated the land it was built on many years ago. Tedd explained that the congregation is now involved with the Aurora House program by preparing meals for families using the hospice for the care of loved ones. Church members will soon be receiving training from Aurora House around various end-of-life issues.

Another recipient of the Endowment Mission Grant is a project of the congregation's Christian Education Committee on parenting matters. The grant money has been used to bring in a PhD. Counselor to offer talks on issues directly related to parenting middle school and high school aged youth. The topics range include anxiety/depression, communication, fear/grief, and transitions. To make it most accessible to local families in the community the program is offered at the local middle school.

Tedd described a possible mission partnership with St. Joseph's House of Hospitality in Rochester, in conjunction with the Rev. Laura Bachman of ROC Salt, which has provided shelter and daily meals for many decades. Ogden folks would help prepare Sunday meals there.

Meanwhile, in the life of the congregation Tedd has been pleased with participation in on-going Bible Study, good attendance for worship, up-coming baptisms, Triennium participation, a youth group, and a summer youth mission trip. The congregation also holds an annual "Block Party" each August. The event is based on the urban



Presbyterian churches “Big Lunch.” The congregation brings in a local well-known food truck and offers approximately 100 free meal tickets so various community members and organizations. They also provide games, entertainment and music provided by Gordon Clarke of Webster Presbyterian Church. Each year the event has grown larger and larger. I was interested to hear Tedd explain how the youth group has a monthly meeting before worship on Sunday mornings, based on a request from the youth. It must be a fantastic group to get teens up early on Sundays!



#### Let's Prayer with Our Friends at Ogden Presbyterian Church

- A successful mission partnership with the hospice program at Aurora House
- New opportunities for local families in offering a community parenting program
- Growing youth ministry
- Deepening and broadening Bible faith and practice
- The next Block Party! (Come and see it for yourself!)



Rev. Jim Renfrew, for the Relationships Working Group  
October 14, 2019

