

SAINT MARY'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

(PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS)
242 SUNSET DRIVE CORNING, NEW YORK 14830
FATHER DANIEL MAHLER, PASTOR
MAILING ADDRESS: 7 CHATFIELD PLACE EAST
PAINTED POST, NEW YORK 14870

RECTORY OFFICE: 607-962-5285 CHURCH HALL 607-936-0689
FATHER'S CELL: 607-377-0587 OR EMAIL: CARPATHIANPRIEST@GMAIL.COM

(A PARISH OF THE CARPATHO-RUSSIAN ORTHODOX DIOCESE OF THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE)

OUR WEBSITE: SAINTMARYSORTHODOXCHURCHCORNING.ORG

SUNDAY AUGUST 30, 2015



*123h SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST*

Hiero-martyr Myron of Cyzicus

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 16:13-24

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-42

Tone: 4

Liturgical Color: BLUE

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday, August 30, 2015

9:30am Divine Liturgy

Coffee Social

CHURCH PICNIC @ HERRLICH'S

Sunday, September 6, 2015

9:30am Divine Liturgy

Coffee Social

Thursday, September 10, 2015

5:00pm Great Vespers

Feast of the

Beheading of St. John the Baptist

Friday, September 11, 2015

9:00am Divine Liturgy

Feast of the

Beheading of St. John the Baptist

Saturday, September 12, 2015

5:00pm Vespers/Confession

Sunday, September 13, 2015

9:30am Divine Liturgy

Coffee Social

Monday, September 14, 2015

Ecclesiastical New Year

From our President: Relocation Update

After many months of working with the Town of Erwin for approval of our site plan, it looks like final approval will come on September 9th. After that date we will finalize the purchase of the property. The house on the new site will be prepared for the new rectory, and the existing rectory will be placed on the market for sale.

Construction documents will begin soon. We are in discussion with an experienced Clerk-of-the-Works, which is someone who will work as our agent to manage the construction project. This will save us tens of thousands of dollars that a general contractor would typically charge for that management.

Father Dan has been in contact with our Bishop to arrange a ground blessing. We hope to break ground in mid to late October. This will allow the builder to get the shell of the building up prior to winter weather and work through the cold months on the interior. If that occurs, then occupancy could be as early as March of 2016.

As the final design of the building nears, a kitchen design will be needed. I have asked the president of the Altar Society to gather representatives to work with a professional commercial kitchen designer. There are many ideas that have been kicked around, and starting with a blank slate should yield a wonderful workspace for kitchen activities.

Recently a stain glass window expert from Rochester visited to look at the windows in our church. The windows can definitely be removed safely and relocated. The windows will be used in the new church, but not in the exterior walls due to the construction and condition of the windows. We will relocate as many items as practical from the existing church to the new church. There will be a list of new items that will be available to be donated for the new church once the final design is complete.

Recently we received a purchase offer on our existing buildings on Sunset Drive. This was completely out of the blue, as we have not started marketing the property. An agent heard of our plan to move and had a client that needs buildings such as ours. We are still negotiating the terms, and if all goes well we will have a contract. The buyer is looking for occupancy in April, which coincides with our timetable to move into the new facility.

As always, your input is encouraged. The building site is beautiful and will provide a wonderful place to worship and grow for generations to come.

Chuck Coons
Parish President

FROM FATHER'S DESK



If you would like to meet with Father, please call him @607-962-5285 to arrange a time and place that is convenient to you.

Emergency Sick Calls: Father is available for emergencies at any time. Please call him @ 607-962-5285 or on his cell phone @ 607-377-0587.

Our Mailing Address is:

7 Chatfield Place East Painted Post, NY 14870

Confessions are heard after Vespers on Saturday, after any weekday or Lenten service or by calling Father for an appointment.

Marriages are solemnized on Saturdays. Consult Father at least six months in advance and before plans have been made for the wedding reception. Marriages cannot be celebrated during the fasting seasons of the Church.

Baptisms are normally scheduled on Saturdays or Sundays.

Consult Father for scheduling. Two God-parents are required, at least one of whom must be Orthodox by faith and the other a practicing Christian.

Church Funerals are provided for practicing Orthodox Christians who are current in their Spiritual and Financial obligations to the parish otherwise burial is from the funeral home.

If you would like to schedule a Panachida for your loved one please call Father at 962-5285

The Church does not permit cremation.

CAREFIRST

Brought to you by the Ladies Altar Society

Please mark your calendars for a presentation by Carefirst at our coffee hour on Sunday, September 13, 2015. Carefirst is the source for excellent care, support, and knowledge that enables individuals to cope with serious illness and all that comes with it. They embrace families by respecting and empowering them to remain together at home, living their lives to the fullest. Carefirst representative Astuti Bijlefeld will speak to us about these services and answer any questions we may have. Please plan to stay for what will surely be a very interesting conversation about topics that every family must face.

ALTAR DONATIONS

The following items have been generously donated for use during Divine Services:

Carole Herrlich 1 case of Liquid Paraffin (wax) for Altar Candles

Millie Sosonka 1 case of Communion Wine

May God grant you good health, happiness, & salvation for many blessed years!

Nam Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!

St. Mary's Orthodox Church

Council Meeting – August 2, 2015

Members Present: Chuck Coons, Rodney Kerrick, Ted Kerrick, Helen Revelas, Diane Rodrigues, Nancy Gabel, Carol Telehany

Members Absent: Gloria Ewsuk, Mary Leonard

Also Present: Father Dan

The meeting was opened at 11:35 with a prayer. The Council minutes from the May 17, 2015 meeting were approved. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Nancy and seconded by Helen. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Priest Report:

The shut-ins have been visited. Helen Molson, Paul Mertus, and Marge Morse are at home. Vicky Kozey at Corning Center for Health (old Founders) and Myraslava Jurakovic at Elcor. She is a Care-first hospice patient. There were no hospital admittances.

Father Dan will schedule with Bishop Gregory a ground blessing/ground breaking of our new Church property as soon as site plans are firmed up and a property closing date is known.

The Church has received notice from the attorneys of the estate of Andrew Kerrick that he has left a bequest of \$30,000 to the Church. It was Andy's intention as well as the Kerrick family to apply these funds to the new Church Building Fund. A new Altar and Tetropod for the new Church will be purchased from this bequest with the balance going to help defray the cost of the new Church. This arrangement comes with the full blessing of the Kerrick Family.

A deanery wide Stewardship presentation will be held in our Church hall tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 3, 2015. More information will be forthcoming.

Financial Report:

Rodney presented the budget variance report for the second quarter (Jan-June 2015).

Income Summary:

Income was budgeted to be \$35,979.50 and was actually \$40,477.59 resulting in a variance of \$4,498.09.

Annual dues for the first half continued to be over the budgeted amount by \$1,105.00.

7 Day candle donations were under budget by 15% (\$437.00).

Income for cemetery maintenance is over budget by \$330.00.

Envelope donations were over budget by \$2,318.17 (12%).

Flower donations were \$101.00 over the budgeted amount.

Fundraising events brought in \$995.00 more than budgeted.

Expense Summary:

Expenses for the first half of the year were less than the budget amount by \$2,253.68. The actual expenses were \$35,371.12 and the budgeted expenses were \$ 37,624.80.

Rectory utilities were below the budgeted amount by \$609.22.

Church utilities are below the budgeted amount by \$ 1,326.30.

Rectory and Church-Hall maintenance was under budget by \$950.00.

Insurance including workers compensation were over budget by \$184.05. (8%)

Worship Support was over budget by \$406.50 (17%). This was driven by a candle purchase.

Other expenses were well below budget by \$289.08 (72%).

Conclusion: Through June 30th the financials concerning the operation of the Church was budgeted to be a negative amount by (\$1,645.30) and was actually positive by \$5,106.47 resulting in a variance of \$6,751.77.

Altar Society Report:

Helen gave the Altar Society report.

On June 7, 2015 the Altar Society held its annual meeting. Mary Leonard was elected President, Diane Rodrigues was elected Secretary and Nancy Coons was elected Treasurer.

The Altar Society did an honor board for Father's Day which generated \$120.00 in income.

Some baked goods which were in the freezer were also sold.

The Altar Society is sponsoring a school supply drive in conjunction with the Salvation Army, a pillow case drive for patients at Corning Hospital, and a pill bottle drive to benefit Mathew 25 Ministries.

In September a presentation from Care First will be held.

Old Business:

Calendar Vote:

Chuck asked Father Dan to put the results of the calendar vote in the bulletin.

Auditors:

Chuck also asked Father to put an item in the bulletin asking for volunteers to be auditors.

Copier:

Father Dan is working on getting proposals for a new copier for the 2016 budget.

Website:

Father Dan is working with Father Paprosky on the Parish website. There are just a few minor items that still need to be worked on.

Anniversary Journal:

The proofs have been reviewed. The book is 60 pages in length.

Relocation Update:

There will be a meeting with the Town of Erwin on August 3, 2015. While we are waiting for the Town of Erwin's final approval, we have started the construction documents.

We are also looking at any repairs that will need to be done prior to putting the existing rectory on the market.

We will be hiring a clerk-of-the-works to oversee the construction project.

We also talked about hiring a general contractor for the project.

We will be developing a list of items that need to be donated for the new church.

New Business:

Mertus Family:

Chuck made a motion for the parish to assist the Mertus Family. It was seconded by Nancy. All members approved.

Pokrov:

The date for the Pokrov dinner is October 18, 2015.

Advertising:

A request was brought to the Council to place Church advertising on place mats. We discussed this and decided that once the new church was built would be the appropriate time to look at possibly doing this.

Picnic:

The Church picnic will be held at the Herrlich pavilion. It was noted that there were cups, plates and utensils already in the hall that could be used for this event. Nothing additional with regard to supplies needed to be purchased.

Committee Reports:

Cemetery Committee:

Nancy Lewek, Carole Herrlich and Andy Havalchak are the new members of the cemetery committee. A meeting of the cemetery committee will be scheduled for some time in September.

Open Discussion: There was none.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 1:05 PM with a prayer. The next meeting will be held October 4, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Telehany

Secretary



AUDITORS NEEDED!

We are in need of a team of Auditors (3 or more) to audit the parish financial records for this year! If you would like to offer your time and talent to assist in this very important task please let our Rodney or Chuck know of your interest.

This week's bulletin is sponsored by

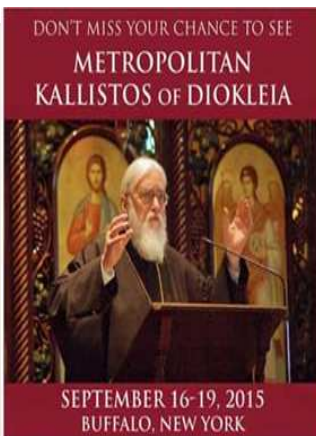
JOYCE MERLETTI

In honor of

MARY LEONARD

On her Birthday!

God grant you many years of good health, happiness, & salvation!



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

check website for updates

<http://greekorthodoxchurchbuffalo.org/news/metropolitan-kallistos-ware-visit>

SEPTEMBER 17 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM

“Icons: Windows into Heaven” Followed by Book Signing
Buffalo State College | 1300 Elmwood Avenue | Buffalo, NY 14222

7:30 PM - 9:30 PM

“Through the Creation to the Creator (Orthodoxy and Ecology)” Followed by Book Signing

Canisius College | 2001 Main Street | Buffalo NY 14208-1517

SEPTEMBER 18 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

“The Current State of Roman Catholic - Orthodox Dialogue”
St. Joseph University Church | 3269 Main Street | Buffalo, NY 14052-0607

6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

“Prayer of the Heart: the Jesus Prayer in Orthodox Spirituality” Followed by Book Signing
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
146 W. Utica Street | Buffalo, NY 14222

SEPTEMBER 19 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

“Heaven on Earth: The Inner Meaning of the Divine Liturgy” Followed by Book Signing
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
146 W. Utica Street | Buffalo, NY 14222

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS



His Grace, Bishop GREGORY; Protopresbyter Frank Miloro; Protopresbyter John Duranko; Protopresbyter Jim Dutko; Protopresbyter Luke Mihaly; Protopresbyter Lawrence Barriger; Protopresbyter Elias Kozar; V. Rev. Thomas Kadlek; V. Rev. Michael Kleban; V. Rev. Jason Kappanadze; Deacon Robert Kuchta; Deacon Charles Ellis; Deacon Donald Koch; Mother Ralphaela; Pani Betty Baranik; Pani Joan; Pani Kathleen Dutko; Pani Patricia Duranko; Mat. Anna Kozar; Pani Helen Shutack; Sally Ellis; Judy Koch; Michael & Jacqueline Banik; Helen Verno; Eleanor Adzima; Sandra Pleban; Amelia Falcon; Stan Lewek; Julio & Judith Falcon; Michael & Delores Kundrat; Mary Kolson; Lyudmyla Hayova; Kathy Preston; Helen Coons; Katherine Macura; Anna Soraparu; Marge Morse; Victoria Kozey; Orestes Mihaly; Tom Cox; Child Zachary Spaulding; Child Michael Cicvak; Mary Benyo; Joan Shaw; Nancy Bleznuck; Rochelle Corby; Karen Fuller; Carole Herrlich; Paul Mertus; Anna Chudanic; Paul Rodrigues; Dorothy Dymek; Denise Topichak; William Paslawsky; Rebecca Cooper, George Officer; Anamarie Kingsbury

All members of our Armed Forces serving our country

Birthdays & Anniversaries for August



BIRTHDAYS

Aug 31 Angelina McKane

God grant them many years!

FLOWERS FOR DORMITION

The beautiful flowers in honor of the blessed Theotokos on her Feast of the Dormition have been graciously donated by

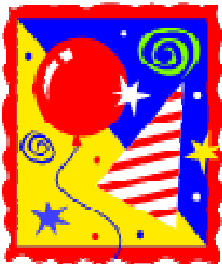
CAROLE HERRLICH

In memory of her parents

JOHN & HELEN SERDULA

Vichnaja Jem Pamjat!

Eternal be their memory!



Next Week is BIRTHDAY SUNDAY, where we celebrate the members of our parish celebrating a birthday that month. Please remember those less fortunate and bring a donation for our birthday bags to the Corning Community Food Pantry, such as cake mix or frosting. Please provide all donations to Millie Sosonka for assembly.

Brought to you by the Ladies Altar Society

REFLECTION ON THE DORMITION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

The years of life seem to pass so quickly, the pace of time quickening as the years advance, and no person can escape the relentless currents that carry each of us to life's twilight and to the inevitable encounter with the specter of our own mortality. This is our common lot in this fallen world ravaged by sin. This world, this life that progresses ruthlessly towards the grave, has been conditioned by the sin of Adam and Eve, that Original Fall with its dark consequences of pain and death. And no one can detour this sojourn through the valley of the shadow of death. We must all traverse the fearful crags of ageing, sickness and the ultimate separation of soul and body— even the Most Holy Theotokos, the Birthgiver of God and the Ever-virgin Mary was subject to the ravages of time and the destiny of mortal flesh. As St. John of Damascus notes in his Second Sermon on the Dormition:

“Today the life-giving treasury and abyss of charity is hidden in immortal death. She meets it without fear, who conceived death's destroyer, if indeed we may call her holy and vivifying departure by the name of death. For how could she, who brought life to all, be under the dominion of death? But she obeys the law of her own Son, and inherits this chastisement as a daughter of the first Adam, since her Son, who is the Life, did not refuse it. As the Mother of the Living God, she goes through death to Him.”

In her advanced years, the holy Theotokos was in the care of St. John the Theologian, that same Beloved Apostle who stood with her during her darkest hours when a sword pierced her heart at the foot of the Cross. Only a mother who has lost a child could even begin to comprehend the pain and anguish she experienced as she held her Son and her God nailed to the tree, waging that cosmic warfare between life and death. And even in those moments of unimaginable pain, the Lord Jesus was concerned for His mother and commended her to the care of His Beloved Apostle: “He said to His mother, ‘Woman, behold your son!’ Then He said to the disciple, ‘Behold your mother!’ And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home” (John 19:26-27). The Apostle John was committed to faithfully fulfilling this sacred trust from his Lord and diligently cared for the Holy Virgin to the end of her earthly life.

None of us wants to get old, for old age does not come alone. It is menacing to realize that we have reached a point in life when we can no longer do the things we used to do, want to do, enjoy to do. There are aching bones and sore muscles, pain and weakness where there was once vitality and strength. Then there is the brooding fear of prolonged sickness and suffering; the potential loss of personal independence, and the dread of some day becoming a burden to the ones we love the most. And ultimately we are forced to face our greatest fear and enemy death itself. “O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?” asks the Apostle Paul. His answer: “But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Corinthians 15:57). Truly, the Mother of God was the first to taste the fullness of this victory.

The living memory of the Church, Her Sacred Tradition, sketches for us the events surrounding the repose of the Mother of God. Three days before her Dormition, as she prayed on the Mount of Olives, the Archangel Gabriel, the same messenger of God who announced that she would be the vessel of the Incarnation, appeared and revealed that within three days time, according to the will of her Son and God, she would be called into the blessed repose of the righteous. As a symbol of the victory won by Jesus Christ over the grave, and of the promised inheritance soon to be hers, the Archangel presented the Theotokos with a

REFLECTION ON THE DORMITION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

Palm branch, reminiscent of the emblems of victory with which the children of Israel welcomed their King as He made His Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem.

At the home of St. John the Theologian the Mother of God prepared for her repose and imminent reunion with her Son and God. Though scattered throughout the known world, carrying out their commission to preach the Gospel to all nations, all of the Apostles, save Thomas, were miraculously brought to be at her side as she approached the end of her earthly life and to oversee her solemn burial. At the time of her departure all lamented and wept as she commended her soul to the hands of the Lord Jesus.

The icon of the Feast beautifully shows the Mother of God laying in repose, peaceful as if asleep, with her delicate hands crossed gracefully over her chest. The holy Apostles are in attendance at her bedside, weeping and distraught over the loss of the Mother of Life. Especially anguished and grief-stricken is St. John, the Beloved Apostle, who loved and cared for the Virgin Mary through her waning years as if she were his own mother. Also present are the ranks of angels and Saints, those multitudes who accompanied the Lord Jesus Christ as He came to receive the soul of His adored Mother. He stands in the glory of His divinity, escorted by the heavenly hosts, holding what appears to be an infant, clothed in white. In truth He holds the pure, radiant soul of His holy Mother, newly born and received into the Kingdom of Light. How accustomed we are to seeing the Mother holding the infant Christ. Now we see the Son and Lord embracing the soul of His Mother, ushering her into the fullness of life.

With great reverence and awe, the Holy Apostles carried the body of the Theotokos in solemn procession to her burial place in the Garden of Gethsemane. It is said that a particular persecutor of the Church by the name of Athonios, because of his hatred for the Mother of God, attempted to topple the bier during the procession. However, as depicted in some icons of the Dormition, an angel came to defend the body of the Virgin Mary and cut off the hands of Athonios. He quickly repented and confessed his faith in Christ, whereupon his wounds were healed.

Placing her sacred body in the tomb, the Apostles paid their final respects to the Mother of God. As they revered her body, the tomb was filled with a sweet perfume, a heavenly fragrance of sanctity. Having sealed the tomb, the Apostles and faithful kept a sober vigil for three days, offering psalms and prayers and hymns to the glory of God and praising His Most-Pure Mother.

On the third day the Apostle Thomas arrived at the tomb by the power of the Holy Spirit. He was overcome with grief and, weeping at the entrance to the tomb, requested that he must see the body of the Holy Virgin one last time and bid his final farewell. Having mercy on St. Thomas, the Apostles opened the entrance to the tomb, and great wonder, discovered that the tomb was empty. The only things that remained were the grave clothes and that sweet heavenly fragrance that surpasses the bouquet of multitudes of flowers in full bloom. They knew that she had been raised by the power of her Son and God, our Lord Jesus Christ. They were filled with great rejoicing at the dawn of a Second Pascha. Indeed, Holy Mary has made that great passover from death to life. The Mother of Life has been raised to life, body and soul reunited, and translated into Paradise. Listen again to the words of our Holy Father, St. John of Damascus:

“Today the living ladder, through whom the Most High descended and was seen on earth, and conversed

REFLECTION ON THE DORMITION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

With men, was assumed into heaven by death. Today the heavenly table, she, who contained the bread of life, the fire of the Godhead, without knowing man, was assumed from earth to heaven, and the gates of heaven opened wide to receive the gate of God from the East. Today the living city of God is transferred from the earthly to the heavenly Jerusalem, and she, who, conceived her first-born and only Son, the first-born of all creation, the only begotten of the Father, rests in the Church of the first-born: the true and living Ark of the Lord is taken to the peace of her Son. The gates of heaven are opened to receive the receptacle of God, who, bringing forth the tree of life, destroyed Eve's disobedience and Adam's penalty of death" (St. John of Damascus, Sermon III on the Dormition).

Having given birth to the Saviour of the world, she is our hope, the model for our piety, the pledge of our regeneration, the promise of things to come. She is our intercessoress before the very Throne of Grace, strengthening us, encouraging us, calling us to repentance and purity of heart that we too may be so blewssed as to see God. We proclaim in the Kondak of the Dormition:

"The tomb and death had no power over the Birthgiver of God, who is ever watchful in her prayers and in whose intercession lies unfailing hope. For as the Mother of Life she has been transported into life by Him who dwelt in her ever-virgin womb."

We know not what the progress of time will bring to each of us in terms of physical and spiritual trials. This all rests in the hands of our merciful God who orders all things for the good of those who love Him (Romans 8:28). Whatever His will, we take courage and find strength in the Most-Holy Theotokos who is the "comfort of the sick, protectress of the weak, staff of the elderly."

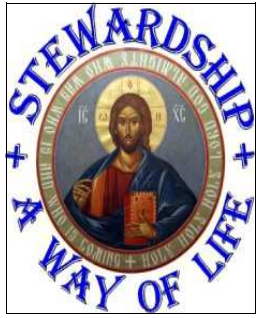
AS we journey together toward that inevitable encounter, that point in time when we cross the threshold between time and eternity, we cling to our faith and our hope of resurrection to eternal life, remembering, as the Holy Apostle Paul instructs us, that "faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). And we rejoice in her Holy Dormition as a preview of our own regeneration.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time" (1 Peter 1:3-5).

We conclude with these words from a prayer of St. Nilus to the Mother of God:

"Wherefore, at the time also of my death, stand before me, O my help;er, and be not then ashamed of me. For I know, O Virgin, that I am guilty of many sins, and I, the wretched one, tremble, contemplating that hour. But you, my Joy, reveal unto me then your presence, work your mercy marvelously upon me, O Intercessoress formy salvation. Rescue me, O Mistress, from the cruelty of the demons, and from the fearsome and terrible trial of the spirits of the air, and deliver me from their malice, and transform all that grief and sorrow into joy by your enlightenment and grant me to pass unharmed through the principalities and powers of darkness and to attain to worship at the throne of glory before Christ our God Who reigns there with His Eternal Father and All-Holy Spirit. Amen." (From the Prayers to the Most Holy Theotokos for Every Day of the Week by St. Nilus).

His Eminence, Metropolitan Nicholas of Thrice-Blessed Memory



Orthodox Christian Stewardship is a Christ-centered lifestyle, which acknowledges accountability, reverence, and responsibility before God. Orthodox Christian Stewardship is a call to all of the faithful to share willingly and cheerfully the gifts that God has bestowed on them including sharing these gifts for God's work in His Church.

Church Picnic

Sunday, August 30, 2015

Time: 12 noon

DIRECTIONS TO CAROLE'S PAVILION

Right on Denison Parkway from Sunset Drive/State Street Follow Denison Parkway to Conhocton Street.

Right on Conhocton Street bearing left approx. 200ft (becomes Park Avenue)

Turn Right on Caton Road (Byrne Dairy on Right)

Turn Right onto Bailey Creek Road (4th road on right) follow to Ellison Road

Turn Left on Ellison Road. (Herrlich's on Right)