



**THE FOOD PANTRY . . .**

*from your grocery cart to our shelves!*

*by Stephanie Hill*

Back in September we started a “new thing” for the Portville Community Food Pantry by collecting a different food item each week. The response was **AWESOME** . . we collected a lot of food, as reported below:

The week of:            we collected:

- 09/02      60 cans of green beans
- 09/09      90 cans of tuna
- 09/16      70 pounds of spaghetti
- 09/23      66 cans of peaches
- 09/30      52 cans of pork and beans
- 10/07      65 cans of corn
- 10/14      79 mac and cheese mixes
- 10/21      32 pkgs of rice
- 10/28      fruit cocktail, counted
- 11/04

Total items collected = 514 + the fruit cocktail.

In September, we distributed food to 59 households consisting of 161 people – multiply the number of people by 9 (3 meals for 3 days) and that totals a whopping 1,449 meals provided by our food pantry. Now that is **AWESOME!** Just to give you an idea of the quantity of food that is distributed in a month, here is a list of the food that was given out in September: tuna, mac and cheese, soup, canned fruit, juice, spaghetti and sauce, hot dogs, cereal, elbow mac,

chicken broth, baked beans, green beans and peanut butter – totaling 962 food items!

**Together** we are doing a tremendous job in stocking the shelves of the food pantry. I hope the above numbers will be encouraging to you – **you** are making a significant difference in meeting a need in our community. I hope you will also realize that it is an ongoing need and you will continue to support this important local mission.

Here is the list of food items we will be collecting in November and December:

The week of:            we will be collecting:

- 11/04      green beans
- 11/11      canned tuna
- 11/18      soups
- 11/25      peaches
- 12/02      pork and beans
- 12/09      mac and cheese
- 12/16      rice
- 12/23      pears
- 12/30      corn

Remember, the food item is listed on a Sunday and you have a week to include it in your grocery shopping and bring it to church the following Sunday. Any questions? Please call Stephanie at 933-6150.

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**Lectionary for November and December 2007****November 4**

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

Psalm 119:137-144

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Luke 19:1-10

**November 11**

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

Luke 20:27-38

**November 18**

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 65:17-25

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Luke 21:5-19

**November 25**

Christ the King/ Reign of Christ

Luke 1-68-79

Colossians 1:11-20

Luke 23:33-43

**December 2**

1st Sunday of Advent

Psalm 122

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:36-44

**December 9**

2nd Sunday of Advent

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Romans 15:4-13

Matthew 3:1-12

**December 16**

3rd Sunday of Advent

Psalm 145:5;10

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

**December 23**

4th Sunday of Advent

Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

**December 30**

1st Sunday after Christmas

Psalm 148

Hebrews 2:10-18

Matthew 2:13-23



## Mission Committee News

Shirley Longbothum / Cso Woodworth

The Bible speaks of the harvest in terms of the seasons and bringing in the fruits and vegetables at the end of a growing season, but in many more cases it speaks of the harvest as bringing people to know and love and honor God.

In all of our mission projects where we reach out to touch others with our love, our sharing and our caring; phone calls, cards & visits to shut-ins; bringing in clothes and supplies for newborns; replenishing the food pantry; sponsoring children for camp experiences; sending workers for Katrina relief; helping to support missionaries; praying for others; serving through teaching, committee membership; cleaning and maintaining the church; offering special expertise in

finance; organization skills and insights; special talents in music, design, arrangement; giving money in support of projects to promote God's work; we are promoting the greater Harvest—bringing others to know and love God.

In one way or another, each of these will touch someone in a special way so that they will feel the care, the love, or the sharing attitude of those behind the action and their hearts will be warmed as God uses these gifts given us to bring a greater understanding of His love to both the giver of the gift and the recipient.

November is a month we connect with "thanksgiving." First, "thanks"—then "giving." We have much to be

thankful for: family and friends, food, shelter, health, our work and leisure time—the list could go on and on. We have many opportunities for "giving" also—and **Harvest Sunday** is one of those. This year we are collecting food to give to two families in our community for Thanksgiving. Please choose items from our harvest display in the sanctuary, purchase the food items, and return them to church by **Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup>**. There are also "tags" for cash donations, which will be used to purchase turkeys, fresh fruits and vegetables, milk and other perishable items. Your generous support of this mission project is always appreciated! So please join in the "greater Harvest"...that of promoting God's love for all.

### Peacemaking Offering

Cso Woodworth

*"And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations"*

*(Revelation 22:2)*

Thank you all for your generous support of the Peacemaking Offering. The total amount given was \$1011, exceeding our goal

of \$586 by \$425. WOW! Our portion of the funds collected (\$252.75) were sent last week to the Southern Tier Military Support Group

to help send care packages to local service personnel serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

It is such an incredible

feeling knowing that your support for the goals set by the Mission Committee for these special offerings (One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, and Peacemak-

ing) are always met with such giving hearts.



## December Hand On Mission Opportunities

Preparations are well under way for our annual Ringing of the Bells for the Salvation Army of Olean. We will again be ringing those bells on December 1st, from 9:00 am and ending at 4:00 pm (that will be the 3:00 pm shift on the sign up sheet. . .) at the Service Store in Portville.

Barb Klingbeil has taken charge of this hands on mission opportunity. She has already reserved our

spot at the Portville Park and Shop (Service Store) with the Olean Salvation Army. A sign up sheet will be in the Narthex. Listen during announcements for the exact location of the sign up sheet in the Narthex.

Another one of our favorite Christmastime mission projects is the Gift Tree. It just wouldn't be Christmas without our church adopting a couple of families and providing them with an Christmas filled with many blessings.

Judy McClain will again be coordinating this mission project for the committee. Once the "greens are hung" in the sanctuary, tags will be on the tree for you to choose from. Remember to wrap each gift and return the item you purchased with the tag you took from the tree attached to the wrapped gift. Once all of the gifts are back Judy will replace the gift tag that you put on the gift with a gift tag that has the person receiving the gift.

## Stewardship and Finance Committee

Kathy Hendrix

I recently came across an article from [The New York Times](#) entitled "Adding It All Up" by Rick Moranis. As a math teacher I was attracted to the title, but God was giving me a surprise message instead. Please read the article below...

### *Adding It All Up*

I have two kids. Both are away at college.

I have five television sets. (I like to think of them as a set of five televisions.)

I have two DVR boxes, three DVD players, two VHS machines and four stereos.

I have nineteen remote controls, mostly in one drawer.

I have three computers, four printers, and two faxes.

I have three phone lines, three cell phones, and two answering machines. I have no messages.

I have forty-six cookbooks.

I have sixty eight takeout menus from four restaurants.

I have one hundred and sixteen soy sauce packets.

I have three hundred and eighty-two dishes, bowls, cups, saucers, mugs and glasses. I eat over the sink.

I have five sinks, two with a view.

I try to keep a positive view.

I have thirty-nine pairs of golf, tennis, squash, running, walking, hiking, casual, and formal shoes, ice skates, and Roller-blades. I'm wearing slippers.

I have forty-one-37-cent stamps. I have no 2-cent stamps.

I read three dailies, four weeklies, five monthlies and no annual reports.

I have five hundred and six CD, cassette, vinyl and eight-track recordings.

I listen to one radio station all day.

I have twenty-six sets of linen for four regular, three foldout and two inflatable beds. I don't like having house guests.

I have one hundred and eighty-four thousand frequent-flier miles on six airlines, three of which no longer exist.

I have *101 Dalmatians* on tape.

I have fourteen digital clocks flashing relatively similar times.

I have twenty-two minutes to listen to the news.

I have nine armchairs from which I can be

critical.

I have a laundry list of things that need cleaning.

I am missing thirty-seven umbrellas.

I have over four hundred yards of dental floss.

I have a lot of time on my hands.

I have two kids coming home for spring break.

The New York Times (November 22, 2006)

The article struck a chord with me as I too began to add up the numerous and, at times, ridiculous items I have around my own house; items that are unnecessary, unused, and often unreliable

Isn't that what we do? Buy, Buy, Buy.... Spend, Spend, Spend.

In the book of Jeremiah (2:13) it states *"For my people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, And hewn themselves cisterns that can hold no water.* If you think of your home as a cistern that holds your valuables, it is easy to reflect on how little value items really have once we have possessed them for even a short period of time. Most of the items we have around our houses have little to no value once the immediate purchase is completed. The only investments that hold value are our relationship with God and with those we love. It is time to fill our cistern with the living water, time with God, God's word and His love.

cont. on page 6

## Stewardship and Finance Committee

Kathy Hendrix cont.

God has a very simple message about the items on “our list” in Isaiah (55:2).

*Why do you spend money for what is not bread, and your wages on what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me and eat what is good, and let your soul delight itself in abundance. Incline your ear and come to Me. Hear and your soul shall live.*

### *The Challenge:*

I challenge you to make an “Adding It All Up” list this month as you reflect on the items you have in and around your home. Is your cistern leaking?

## Worship Committee News

Vickie Shields

The Worship Committee met under the leadership of Shirley Longbothum. The committee discussed several items that we want to bring to the congregations.

On November 18th as part of the worship service we will be singing a special hymn of Thanksgiving.

As in years past, we have had the “hanging of the Greens” as part of a worship service. This year we will be celebrating the “hanging of the greens” during the worship service on November 25th.

On December 16th our church will again be hosting

our 5th annual Community Christmas Carol Sing. The joyful time will be led by Dave and Peg Dunbar, in the beauty of our sanctuary. Come sing your heart out, sing your all-time favorite Christmas carols and have a good time with all of our neighbors. The time of this Community Christmas Carol Sing will be announced soon.

And we will be having the traditional Christmas Eve candlelight service starting at 11:00 pm. Bring along all your family and friends that are home visiting over the Holidays. Make this celebration of the birth of

our Lord a tradition in the lives of all the people you hold dear to your heart.

The Worship Committee would like to bring back Special Music for one Sunday in each month. If you are willing to share your gift and love of music, please contact Shirley Longbothum. When nobody has signed up for a month the congregation will be signing a special hymn.

Sunday, December 30th will be a “Talking Faith on the Fifth” Sunday. Please contact Marilyn or Shirley if you are willing to share your faith journey with the congregation.



# Christian Education News

Barb Fairbanks

Reyna, our sponsored CCF child for the past 10 years or so, has found a job and is now self-supporting. So, it is my privilege to introduce you to our new CCF child, Aidee (pronounced ee-day) Mollo Apaza, a 9 year old girl from La Paz, Bolivia. Aidee's father works as a street sweeper while her mother sews native skirts. Since their jobs are unsteady and poorly paid, they cannot fulfill the most basic needs at home. Their income hardly reaches the equivalent of \$85 US a month.

Public services such as tap water and sewage are scarce in the area in which Aidee lives. Only 30% of the families own their own homes while the rest are forced to rent spaces that are adobe dwellings with dirt floors. There usually is only one multi-purpose room which is used by the entire family as bedroom,



kitchen and dining room.

Women work an average of 15-16 hours a day as street vendors, laundresses and maids or in other low-paying jobs. A mother's absence from home forces the oldest daughter to assume the responsibilities of caring for her siblings. This leads them to drop of school. There are no playgrounds or parks for children to play in. Where parks could be, empty lots have turned into garbage dumps, making an already unhealthy environment

even more polluted. Girls are discriminated against in the areas of education, training, health, nutrition and recreation.

The main goal of Niñas Gabriel, the project through which Aidee receives the benefits of our sponsorship, is to encourage her attendance at school and her success in her studies

Introducing our  
new CCF child,  
Aidee .

though nine educational support centers. Health care includes regular checkups and dental attention as well as emphasizing the importance of good nutrition and personal hygiene.

Our monthly sponsorship of \$30 will certainly make a difference in Aidee's present life as well as give her hope for her future. Thank you for your continued support of Christian Children's Fund.

## Nursery Schedule

Julie Pagett

	Date	Attendant	Assistant
November	4th	Emmy Woodhead	Kelsea Gardner
	11th	Diana Dunbar	Clara Hendrix
	18th	Sharon Hill-McLarney	Sophia Hendrix
	25th	Barb Klingbeil	Emily Long
December	2nd	Kari Kloss	Courtney Schmidt
	9th	Christine Long	Erica Schmidt
	16th	Judy McClain	Bizzy Woodhead
	23rd	Julie Pagett	Kristen Woodhead
	30th	Julie Shields	Kelsea Gardner

A gentle reminder that if, for any reason, you are unable to be in church on the Sunday that your are scheduled for Nursery, it is your responsibility to make

arrangements with someone else on the list to cover for you. Please make every effort to get the coverage that is needed

## Sunday School Poem Kari Kloss and class

The story of the Great Flood as told by the multi-age class (grades 1-5).

**A** man named Noah  
**B**uilds an ark  
**C**ause God told him to.  
**D**oes Noah finish the ark  
**E**ven with people laughing at him?  
**F**or sure he does.  
**G**od sends the rain and a  
**H**uge flood covers the earth.  
**I** know Noah believes in God!  
**J**ust then the animals got scared  
**K**ind Noah and family calms them  
**L**istening to the rain as it pours down  
**M**ore and more.  
**N**oah wonders when the rain will stop.

**O**n day 40  
**P**eople and animals on the Ark hear  
**Q**uiet as the  
**R**ain  
**S**topped.  
**T**he raven was sent  
**U**h oh it did not return  
**V**ery soon after Noah sent out a dove  
**W**hen the dove came back he had an olive  
**b**ranh  
**X** marks the spot as land is found  
**Y**EAH! God sends a rainbow with a  
**p**romise SO the  
**Z**ebra lead them all off.

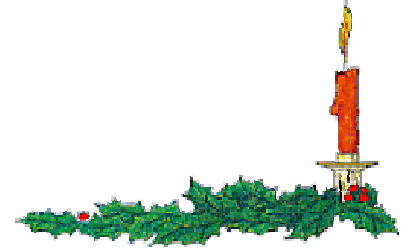
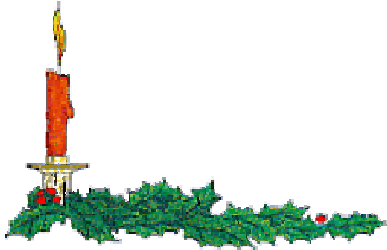


Oh Come All Ye Faithful . . .

Candlelight Christmas Eve Services

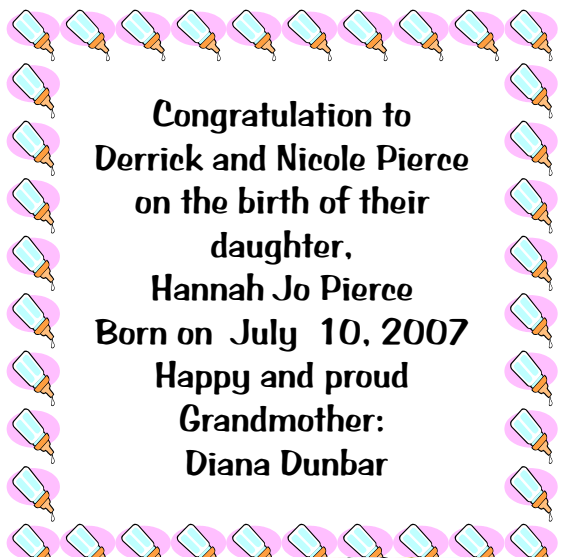
at 11:00 p.m.

Celebrate the birth of  
Christ . . .



Sunday, December 16 at our church  
Sing some of your favorite  
Christmas songs led by Peg and  
Dave Dunbar

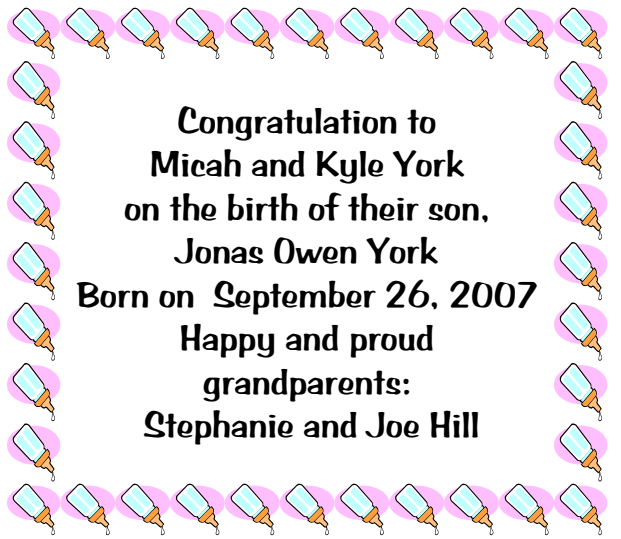
Come . . . join your neighbors and  
SING !!!



Congratulation to  
Derrick and Nicole Pierce  
on the birth of their  
daughter,  
Hannah Jo Pierce  
Born on July 10, 2007  
Happy and proud  
Grandmother:  
Diana Dunbar



**Ladies Night Out**  
Wednesday, December 5  
6:00 pm  
**Mickey's Outback**  
Gift exchange: Tin container  
(contents not to exceed \$5.00)  
**Sign up sheet in Narthex**



Congratulation to  
Micah and Kyle York  
on the birth of their son,  
Jonas Owen York  
Born on September 26, 2007  
Happy and proud  
grandparents:  
Stephanie and Joe Hill

## November 2007 Dates to Remember

11/01	Mission Committee, 7 p.m.	11/12	Bible Study, 10 a.m.
11/04	Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.	11/13	Session, 7 p.m.
	Worship Service and Communion, 11 a.m.	11/14	Food Pantry open 10-12 and 6-8 p.m.
	Cso Woodworth - Elder for the Month	11/18	Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Worship Service, 11 a.m.
	November/December newsletter distributed	11/19	Bible Study, 10 a.m.
11/05	Bible Study, 10 a.m.	11/21	USDA foods delivered (Jacquie Hellwig)
	Christian Education, 6 p.m.	11/22	Happy Thanksgiving!
11/11	Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.	11/25	Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Worship Service, 11 a.m.
	Worship Service, 11 a.m.	11/26	Bible Study, 10 a.m.
	Harvest Sunday - Return Thanksgiving Basket items		



## Happy Thanksgiving



## December 2007 Dates to Remember

12/01	Presbytery meeting, Ellicottville, 10 a.m.	12/17	Worship Service, 11 a.m. Bible Study, 10 a.m.
12/02	Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.	12/19	Food Pantry open 10-12 and 6-8 p.m.
	Worship Service and Communion, 11 a.m.		USDA foods delivered (Jacquie Hellwig)
	Barb Fairbanks - Elder for the Month	12/23	Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Worship Service, 11 a.m.
12/03	Bible Study, 10 a.m.		Children's Program
12/05	Annual Christmas Ladies Night Out, 6 p.m.	12/24	Bible Study canceled Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 11 p.m.
12/09	Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.		
	Worship Service, 11 a.m.	12/25	Christmas Day!
12/10	Bible Study, 10 a.m.	12/30	Sunday School classes canceled Worship Service, 11 a.m.
12/12	Session, 7 p.m.		
12/16	Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.		



## Birthdates to Remember

### November

3 Megan Pagett  
 10 Tim Kloss  
 14 Mary Ann Clark  
 16 Tom Pollock  
 17 Connie King  
 18 Mark Hendrix  
 21 Joyce Roulo  
 24 Tom Clark  
 24 Randy Sprague  
 30 Julie Bixby



5  
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16  
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21  
26  
27

### December

Peg Dunbar  
 Rachel Boyer  
 Clara Hendrix  
 Diana Dunbar  
 Shirley Longbothum  
 McKenzie Gardner  
 Cso Woodworth  
 Norm King  
 Sophia Hendrix  
 Emily Long  
 Kari Kloss  
 Arlo Wurster  
 Lois Atkinson  
 Anna Burdick



## Volunteers for the month of: November 2007



Date	Nov. 4	Nov. 11	Nov. 18	Nov. 25
<b>Greeters and Ushers</b>	Lois and Walt Atkinson	Ray Carlson	Ruth Bray / Julie Bixby	Jacque Hellwig / Val Tigh / Landon
<b>Liturgist</b>	Dave Dunbar	Emily Woodhead	Ray Carlson	Barb Fairbanks
<b>Acolyte</b>	Holy Communion	Hanah Kloss	Barb Fairbanks	Christine and Julie Pagett
<b>Children's Time</b>		Judy McClain	Rachel Boyer	Christine Long
<b>Prayer Family</b>	Ione Fairbanks	The Gardner Family	Marilyn Hale	Amber Harris

Elder for the month : Cso Woodworth



## Volunteers for the month of December 2007



Date	Dec. 2	Dec. 9	Dec. 16	Dec. 23	Dec. 30
<b>Greeters and Ushers</b>	Barb and Bob Fairbanks	Connie and Norm King	Ruth Bray / Julie Bixby	Children's Program	Cso Woodworth
<b>Liturgist</b>	Val Tigh	Elizabeth Woodhead	Norm King	Children's Program	Bob Fairbanks
<b>Children's Time</b>	Ruth Bray	Kari Kloss	Shirley Longbothum	Children's Program	Barb Fairbanks
<b>Acolyte</b>	Holy Communion	Hannah Kloss			
<b>Prayer Family</b>	Mary Lou / Ike Harrison	The Hellwig Family	Abby Hendrix	The Hendrix Family	Lerin Hill

**Elder for the month : Barb Fairbanks**



# Merry Christmas



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH -  
PORTVILLE, NY**

19 North Main Street  
Portville, NY 14770

Voicemail: 933-6426  
Email: portville\_presbyterian1@verizon.net

**Worship hours:**  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. - ages 3 to adult  
Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.



**Website:**

[www.portville-presbyterian.org](http://www.portville-presbyterian.org)

