



## Message from Rev. Hale

Except for the oaks and beech, most of the leaves are down now. Things that were hidden all summer and fall have reappeared: the view of the hill across the valley; at night, the lights of the village below; the evergreens stand out again in all the woods; and one of my best things rediscovered are the hawks—it's so much easier to spot them now, sitting in a bare tree or facing the sun on a cold morning or grabbing the last warm rays in the late afternoon. It's hard to let the summer go yet we can push off into the darkening days with a bit of anticipation.

Lose the fluff and flutter and there's always more to see. Get rid of the clutter, and gain a new appreciation for the space around you. Turn down the volume of all that has owned you in a day, and find your sense again in the *quiet* of sounds that are there but are too rarely heard. *Be still and know; know that I am God.*

Embrace the season.

*Come, Lord Jesus, come!*

And may you each and everyone *know!*

*Always blessed on this journey with you, Marilyn*



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## Lectionary for November and December, 2009

Nov. 1 All Saints' Day Isaiah 25:6-9 Psalm 24 Revelations 21: 1-6a John 11:32-44	Nov. 8 : 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17 Psalm 127 Hebrews 9:24-28 Mark 12:38-44	Nov. 15 : 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 1 Samuel 1:4-20 1 Samuel 2:1-10 Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25 Mark 13:1-8
Nov. 22 : Christ the King / Reign of Christ 2 Samuel 23:1-7 Psalm 132:1-12 Revelations 1:4b-8 John 18:33-37	Nov. 29 1st Sunday of Advent Jeremiah 33:14-16 Psalm 25:1-10 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21: 25-36	Dec. 6 2nd Sunday of Advent Malachi 3:1-4 Luke 1:68-79 Philippians 1:3-11 Luke 3:1-6
Dec. 13 3rd Sunday of Advent Zephaniah 3:14;20 Isaiah 12:2-6 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18	Dec. 20 4th Sunday of Advent Micah 5:2-5a Psalm 80:1-7 Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45 (46-55)	Dec. 27 : 1st Sunday after Christmas 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 Psalm 148 Colossians 3:12-17 Luke 2:41-52

### Mission Committee News

by Stephanie Hill / Cso Woodworth

**THE FOOD PANTRY . . .**  
*from your grocery cart to our shelves!*

*So don't get tired of doing what is good.  
Don't get discouraged and give up,  
for we will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time.*

- Galatians 6:9

At this time of year, I am reminded of the abundance

we share and our response of "thanks" giving. Your commitment to bringing a food item to church each week is part of that "harvest" and I am thankful for all you are doing to share the abundance to help meet the need in our community.

The following is a list of food items we will be collecting in November and December:

The week of:    we will be collecting:

11/01	egg noodles
11/08	tuna
11/15	spaghetti
11/22	cake mix
11/29	peaches
12/06	mac and cheese
12/13	jello
12/20	rice
12/27	cream soups

Your support really **does** make a difference!

### Hooray ! You Did It Again!

The summer collection of children's flip flops and books has been sent to Chad Witherell in Cambodia for distribution to children in villages that his unit visits and works in. 77 flip flops and 30 books were shipped.

Thanks to your very generous donations, the Peacemaking Offering "went over the top"! We not only met our goal of \$710 but exceeded it. The final, final total for our Peacemaking Offering was (. . .drum roll

please) \$988, exceeding our goal by \$278. Your support of the Peacemaking Offering and for the local organizations that your church supports with its portion is amazing.

This year the Mission Committee looked at supporting a social justice organization on the local level. Southern Tier Legal Services received \$300 to assist them with their mission of providing free legal aid to low income residents of Cattaraugus County. Southern Tier Legal

Services is part of a larger not-for profit law firm (LawNY) that serves 14 counties of western New York. Problems that Southern Tier Legal Services can provide assistance with include foreclosures, shutting off utilities, rental issues, SSI and SSD, and Family Law. This organization was selected because of the positive outcomes people had that came to our church looking for assistance.

Thank you, again, for giving with your hearts.

### Upcoming Hands-on Mission Opportunities

Our church will again be collecting items for a Harvest Basket, . . well actually two Harvest Baskets. Julie McLarney Pagett, has been working with Stephanie Hill on items needed for the Harvest Baskets. Sunday, Nov. 1 is the start of this mission opportunity. Look for a display in the front of the church. In the past we have had the needed items listed on the back of colorful leaves, candy bars, and thanksgiving decorations.

Julie will have the items needed for the baskets on some creative decoration for you to select from. Please remember to purchase the item (s) you have selected and bring them to church with you. It is truly a delight to watch the steps leading to the pulpit fill up with items for the Harvest Baskets. All items for the Harvest Baskets need to be in by Sunday, November 15, Harvest Sunday. The baskets will be assembled and delivered to

two families that have been contacted by Portville Central school.

And the joy of giving is just beginning. . .



On Saturday, December 5, you will have the chance to ring the bells for the Salvation Army at the Park and Shop in Portville. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex. Grab a friend and sign up as soon as you can . . . don't wait until the last moment to sign up . . .all the "cool" spots may be taken!

## Christian Education News

by Connie King

What do chocolate topping, sprinkles, crushed nuts, strawberry topping, choc. chips, and butterscotch remind you of? (No, this is not Russ Downey's lunch!) This was the welcomed beginning of Sunday School on September 13 to a year of learning, fun, and fellowship. Many of our youth participated as well as members of the congregation. (I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." Psalm 122:1)

The **Pumpkin Party** was held on Sunday, October 25, during Sunday School. Everyone decorated pumpkins with many different items--some were scary and some were pretty. The adult class decorated and helped too. Rachel and Stephanie decorated two pumpkins to show off and promote the Pumpkin Party. This proved to be a very fun time along with the cider and donuts that were provided. Thank you to all who participated. The pumpkins were

placed in the sanctuary on the choir loft railing.



### SPECIAL EVENTS:

#### Sunday, November 22--

Plans are in the making for an Advent Craft activity. Watch the bulletin or a note sent home for the details.

#### Sunday, December 20--

The children's Christmas Program has been set for this date. A play called "Christmas Letters" will be performed. Refreshments with a birthday cake for Jesus will be provided. This is always a nice start to a joyous Christmas season.

What have we been learning in Sunday School? The Primary grade has been learning about God's creations (animals, people, trees, grass). They want you to stop in their room and look at their walls and the poster. They also learned about the Ark of the covenant and what happened. The Intermediate class has been studying

creation and had a team competition. There is emphasis on the importance of God in our daily lives. They also are working on King David and Psalm 19. The Youth class has been reviewing the Bible and the people of the Old Testament. They read Abraham and Sarah in Genesis. The Confirmation class has been learning of the significance of the PCUSA symbol and how its parts help remind us what Presbyterians believe and find important to their faith. They discussed worship and helped the Worship Committee complete a project of theirs. Ribbon markers were inserted in the pew Bibles and gave the committee a final count. Our confirmands are Lindsey Gardner, Chris Hellwig, Sophia Hendrix, Kristin Woodhead, and Jess Wyant. (Chris wants his church family to support his football games! He is a key player on the team in touchdowns and defense.) The Adult class still studying the book



of Matthew. They talked about being part of a community and what it entails. Discussion on the healing of the sick and healing through Jesus' ministry were done. Having a faith was also talked about.

As you can see, this is a busy group learning about Jesus. This is always room for you and your children to come and learn, along with the fun and fellowship that is gained in our church. Please take time to stop in

the rooms and see what is going on or participate in our Sunday School each Sunday. Once again, thank you to all of our teachers for their time and talents! We wish you a very Happy Thanksgiving and a wonderful Merry Christmas.

**Congregational Care Committee** Barb Fairbanks

The Congregational Care Committee is updating its records. In order to make sure we have EVERYONE'S birthday correct, we have a BIRTHDAY sign-up on the wall in the dining room. Please take the time to add your birthday under the appropriate month. Or.... you

can send the information via email to: [bmfairbanks@roadrunner.com](mailto:bmfairbanks@roadrunner.com).

The annual Ladies Night Out is again being planned for Mickey's Outback. The date is Wednesday, December 9 at 6:00 pm. The CCC

(Congregation Care Committee) is asking that a gift of a children's book be purchased. All books will be donated to the Southern Tier Child Advocacy Center. We have all of our college students address collected and have included them for your convenience.

<b>Kathlyn Gardner</b>		<b>Lucas Hellwig</b>		<b>Ali Tigh</b>
2203 East 10th Street		2054 Morrill Tower		304 Stratford St.
Apt. K		1900 Cannon Dr.		Syracuse, NY 13210
Greenville, NC 27858		Columbus, OH 43210		
				<b>Alex Woodhead</b>
<b>Heidi Hellwig</b>		<b>Courtney Schmidt</b>		22 Congress St.
93 1/2/ Temple Street		215 Nixon Hall		Bradford, PA 15701
Fredonia, NY 14063		Fredonia, NY 14063		
				<b>Bizzy Woodhead</b>
				BU Box 17228
				4400 Vestal Parkway East
				Binghamton, NY 13902

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**Painting**



**Party**



## November 2009 Dates to Remember

- |       |  |       |  |
|-------|--|-------|--|
| 11/01 | Sunday School, 10 a.m.<br>Worship Service and Communion,<br>11 a.m.<br>Newsletter distributed<br>Daylight Saving Time ends | 11/17 | PWNY Personnel Committee,<br>12 p.m.   |
| 11/02 | Bible Study, 10 a.m.   | 11/18 | USDA foods delivered (Jacquie<br>Hellwig)<br>Food Pantry open 10-12 and<br>6-8 p.m.                              |
| 11/03 | PWNY Small Church Committee,<br>12:30 p.m.   | 11/21 | Worship Committee, 8 a.m.<br>Presbytery, Franklinville PC, 10 a.m.   |
| 11/05 | Worship Committee, 6 p.m.<br>Mission Committee, 7 p.m.   | 11/22 | Sunday School, Advent Craft<br>Sunday, 10 a.m.<br>Harvest Sunday<br>Worship Service, 11 a.m.                     |
| 11/08 | Sunday School, 10 a.m.<br>Worship Service, 11 a.m.<br>Stewardship Commitment<br>Dedication Sunday                          | 11/23 | Bible Study, 10 a.m.   |
| 11/09 | Bible Study, 10 a.m.<br>Christian Ed Committee, 7 p.m.   | 11/26 | Happy Thanksgiving!  |
| 11/10 | HPNAP/Food Pantries, 12:30 p.m.<br>Session, 7 p.m.   | 11/27 | Wedding rehearsal, 5 p.m.  |
| 11/15 | Sunday School, 10 a.m.<br>Worship Service, Harvest Sunday,<br>11 a.m.  | 11/28 | Julie Shields/Christopher Jones<br>wedding, 3 p.m.   |
| 11/16 | Bible Study, 10 a.m.   | 11/29 | Sunday School, 10 a.m.<br>Worship Service, 11 a.m.<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent, Hanging of<br>the Greens |
|       |  | 11/30 | Bible Study, 10 a.m.   |



Our heartfelt sympathies and prayers for God's comfort  
to Stephanie (Sue) Morris and family on the death of  
Earl Morris, husband, father and grandfather.  
Earl passed away on October 4, 2009



Please be certain to



our newest member . . . **Cindy Kennedy**

The walls must come down. . . The First Presbyterian Church of Gowanda needs our help . . . in destructing the interior walls of their basement then rebuilding those walls. Dates for this opportunity to help our sisters and brothers rebuild will be forthcoming . . . they are looking at starting in about 3 weeks . . Updates will be posted!

## December 2009 Dates to Remember

- |       |   |       |   |
|-------|---|-------|---|
| 12/03 | Worship Committee, 6 p.m.<br>Mission Committee, 7 p.m.  | 12/15 | PWNY Personnel Committee,<br>12 p.m.  |
| 12/06 | Sunday School, 10 a.m.<br>Worship Service and Communion,<br>11 a.m.<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent | 12/16 | USDA foods delivered (Jacquie<br>Hellwig)<br>Food Pantry open 10-12 and<br>6-8 p.m.           |
| 12/07 | Bible Study, 10 a.m.<br>Christian Ed Committee, 7 p.m.  | 12/20 | Sunday School, 10 a.m.<br>Worship Service, 11 a.m.<br>Children's Christmas Program            |
| 12/08 | Session, 7 p.m.   | 12/21 | Bible Study, 10 a.m.  |
| 12/09 | Annual Christmas Ladies' Night<br>Out, Mickey's Restaurant, Olean,<br>6 p.m.                            | 12/24 | Christmas Eve Candlelight Service,<br>11 p.m.   |
| 12/13 | Sunday School, 10 a.m.<br>Worship Service, 11 a.m.<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent                  | 12/25 | Merry Christmas!  |
| 12/14 | Bible Study, 10 a.m.  | 12/27 | Sunday School classes canceled<br>Worship Service, 11 a.m.<br>Deadline for Jan/Feb newsletter |

Oh Come All Ye Faithful . . .

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services 11:00 p. m.

Come . . .bring your family and friends . . .

Celebrate the birth of



# Celebrating John Calvin's

# 500th



## Birthdates to Remember

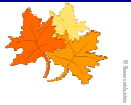
### November

3 Megan Pagett  
 10 Tim Kloss  
 10 Anna Keeley  
 10 Emma Keeley  
 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



### December

5 Peg Dunbar  
 6 Rachel Boyer  
 6 Clara Hendrix  
 7 Diana Dunbar  
 7 Ron Longbothum  
 10 McKenzie Gardner  
 10 Cso Woodworth  
 13 Norm King  
 14 Duncan Wormer  
 16 Sophia Hendrix  
 18 Emily Long  
 21 Kari Kloss  
 21 Arlo Wurster  
 26 Lois Atkinson  
 27 Anna Burdick



## Volunteers for the month of November 2009



Date	Nov. 1	Nov. 8	Nov. 15	Nov. 22	Nov. 29
<b>Greeters and Ushers</b>	Russ Downey	Sharon Hill McLarney	Eric and Sara Talbot	Shirley Lognbothum	Kathy & Mark Hendrix
<b>Liturgist</b>	Mary Ann Clark	Ray Roulo	Judy McClain	Sharon Hill McLarney	
<b>Acolyte</b>	Communion Sunday	Sharon Hill McLarney	Sara Talbot	Hannah Kloss	
<b>Nursery</b>	Cindy Keeley Clara Hendrix	Kari Kloss Hannah	Sharon HM Sophia Hendrix	Julie Pagett Christine	Christine Long Emily
<b>Prayer Family</b>	The Atkinson's	Barb Bliven	The Boyers	Anna Burdick	Ray Carlson

**Elder for the month: Shirley Longbothum**

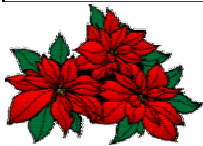


# Volunteers for the month of December 2009

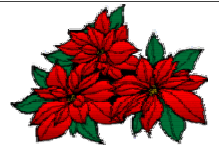


Date	Dec. 6	Dec. 13	Dec. 20	Dec. 27
<b>Greeters and Ushers</b>	Sharon Hill McLarney	Shirley Longbothum	Sunday School	The Woodhead Family
<b>Liturgist</b>	Ronda Pollock	Sharon Hill	Shirley	Duncan Wormer
<b>Acolyte</b>	Communion Sunday	Kathy Hendrix	Hannah Kloss	
<b>Nursery</b>	Julie Shields Clara Hendrix	Cindy Keeley Kristin Woodhead	Julie Pagett Christine	Emily Woodhead Sophia Hendrix
<b>Prayer Family</b>	Tom & Mary Ann Clark	Verna Clark	Coni & Norma Coletti	Betty Cornelius

Elder for the month: Jim Boyer



# Merry Christmas



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH -  
PORTVILLE, NY**

19 North Main Street  
Portville, NY 14770

Voicemail: 933-6426  
Email: portville.presbyterian@gmail.com

Sunday School: 10:00 am  
ages 3 to adult  
Worship Service: 11:00 am

**Website:**

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

# Happy New Year

