



Message from Rev. Hale

We were blessed last Sunday in worship. After the great feast of Christmas just the day before, Sunday’s worship was spread pretty thin across the pews. After singing every carol and opening every gift of beautiful music offered; after hearing every word and lighting every candle, there always seems little left to *feed on* when Sunday morning comes close on the heels of the great Christmas Eve celebration. Yet we were blessed through the spontaneous thanksgiving of a heart full and overflowing; blessed as the Spirit within her gathered us all in gratitude for God’s love.

It may be a new year already, but Christmas is not over! Christmas is the on-going “feast” in life God offers us—even in the seemingly leaner days that follow the great celebration. *The law was given through Moses*, John wrote; *grace and truth came through Jesus Christ*. Grace and truth are the reality of the feast; not laying as leftover reminders of the great celebration, but the on-going richness of God’s sustaining love and acceptance, full and powerfully present to us each and every day.

We celebrated Christmas last Sunday in worship—the *wondrous gift given!* I pray we will celebrate Christmas every Sunday that follows. It will never grow old; we will never go hungry. God willing, may you feast every day!

*Merry Christmas,
throughout the New Year!
Marilyn*

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Lectionary for January / February 2011

Jan.2 (2nd Sunday After Christmas Day)

Jeremiah 31:7-14
Psalm 147:12-20
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:(1-9) 10-18

Jan 9 (Baptism of the Lord)

Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29:1-11
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

Jan16 (2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-11
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

Jan 23 (3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1, 4-9
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23

Jan 30 (4th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15:1-5
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12

Feb 6 (5th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Isaiah 58:1-9a
Psalm 112:1-9 (10)
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)
Matthew 5:13-20

Feb 13 (6th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Psalm 119:1-8
1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Matthew 5:21-37

Feb 20 (7th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18
Psalm 119:33-40
1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23
Matthew 5:38-48

Feb 27 (8th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Isaiah 49:8-16a
Psalm 131:1-3
1 Corinthians 4:1-5
Matthew 6:24-34

Mission Committee News

Cso Woodworth

October, November and December were amazingly busy months in the mission life of this church.

In October, your generous gifts to the Peacemaking Offering made it a huge success. The final total of your gifts to the Peacemaking Offering, collected on

World Communion Sunday, October 3, was \$824, exceeding the goal set by the Mission Committee by \$224. Because of your generosity, \$300 was donated to Southern Tier Legal Services to assist the needy in Cattaraugus County with legal services.

November ushered in three hands on mission opportunities for the congregation to participate in. First came the Harvest Basket. The food that you purchased for the Harvest Basket provided a generous Thanksgiving dinner to two local families. A thank you goes out to Carly Woodhead and Josh

Haynes for preparing the Harvest Basket food tags and to Judy McClain for working with school personnel in identifying the recipients of the Harvest Baskets. There are many families in the Portville area that are living on the edge of poverty – their income is too high to qualify them for food stamps yet they do not earn enough to be able to provide for the holiday meals that many take for granted. These are the families that we try to reach with our Harvest Basket donations.

Next in line for November was the knitting and crocheting of pocket prayer cloths. Many thanks goes out to those that knitted or crocheted the pocket prayer cloths in the congregation. They knitted or crocheted enough pocket prayer cloths to send 115 prayer cloths to the local VA Hospital with Cyndy Kennedy (Eastern Star) and 35 prayer cloths in packages prepared by the Southern Tier Military Support Group to local soldiers serving in Afghani-

stan.

The same Sunday that the Harvest Basket donations were collected, on November 21, we moved into one of our congregations most favorite hands-on mission opportunities: our Gift Tree. This carried the congregation into December with their Mission giving. All gifts for the selected families were under the Christmas tree in the sanctuary by December 19 and delivered to the families by the Portville Central School Resource Office. This year five families had their Christmas wishes answered by your generosity.

Now, what do the coming months of the new year hold for the congregation regarding mission opportunities? Have no fear—the Mission Committee is always tuning into the needs of people around us. Our first project is for knitters and crocheters and is available in the Narthex. The Mission Committee is asking for your help in knitting or crocheting scarves

for Special Olympians. The yarn and patterns are available in the Narthex. All scarves need to be returned by January 29th.

The donated scarves will be a “symbol of unity, support, compassion, and empowerment, as the Special Olympics athletes, coaches, families and volunteers wear them” during the 2011 Special Olympic games.

Also occurring in January is a Mission Trip back to the Gulf Coast by Stephanie and Joe Hill. They will be staying in the East New Orleans area at the Olive Tree, a Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Village that opened in October, 2007. They are going with a group from the Presbytery of Western NY from January 16 to January 22. The group will be working 20 miles of the PDA Village. Please keep Steph and Joe in your prayers as well as all the Katrina volunteers.

And finally, the Mission Committee has begun planning our 4th Annual Ecumenical Fun Fleece Festival.

The date for this event is February 7 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm in the dining room of our church. Fleece blanket kits are on sale at JoAnn's in Olean. Stop in and pick up a kit before all the great patterns are gone!

As in the past, a light dinner will be served prior to the start of making of the fleece blankets. This activity is open to anyone in the community. Please feel free to invite your friends to come help out.

We will again be donating the fleece blankets to Southern Tier Child Advocacy Center. Look for fliers in the church for more information.

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

by Stephanie Hill

The food pantry survived the holidays in good shape thanks to everyone who so generously gave food and monetary donations!

We supplied food to 58 families in November and 60 families in December. Our food packages provide

three meals a day for three days. We are averaging about 65 pounds of spaghetti every month! Tuna, mac and cheese, and soup are the staples that make up the lunch portion of our food package. These are some of the basic staples of our food pantry and we are running very low on these items. Your help, as always, is appreciated!

Here is the list of food items we will be collecting in January and February:

<u>The week of:</u>	<u>we will be collecting:</u>
01/02	spaghetti
01/09	tuna
01/16	spaghetti sauce
01/23	mac and cheese
01/30	spaghetti
02/07	tuna
02/14	egg noodles
02/21	spaghetti
02/28	soup

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

Christian Education News **Connie King**

Feed the flock, and they will come! "Advent: A Journey of Peace" was celebrated on Sunday mornings Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, and 19, at 10 a.m. in the church dining room. A craft/lesson began with the making of pre-cut black ornaments to fill with colored tissue paper to take home or to decorate the

Jesse tree. The paper really made them light up! A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him...(Isaiah 11:1, 2a). Each Sunday the cut-outs were different, from Noah's ark, Jacob's ladder, Jesus' coat, Moses

and the burning bush, Passover lamb to King Solomon's crown, the cross, and the Star of David plus many more. Five different ornaments were introduced each Sunday. Thank you to Diana D. for all her artistic coordination and to those who helped cut out the black intricate orna-

ments. Our lesson each Sunday was also incorporated in a take-home devotional made by Rev. Hale.

After our beginning craft, grace was said. We all ate a wonderful variety of breakfast foods/drinks prepared by many people. The casseroles, muffins, coffee cakes, and fruit each Sunday were all delicious and different. Thank you to those who signed up to make food, made coffee, set tables, cleaned up, washed dishes, staffed the kitchen, or helped in any way. There was warm fellowship as we ate and looked at and colored our beautiful placemats with a verse and drawing of the Sunday theme.

After eating there were two different Peace trees to put together as a take-home

project. The second Sunday everyone could make a cute lion and a fuzzy lamb with clothespin legs. At the end of the hour, we came together to sing "Light One Candle" which was continued in our service upstairs when lighting the Advent candles. Thank you to Anita S. for playing the piano for us. At the third Sunday of Advent, Hope is remembering the blooming flower and the stream in the hot, dry desert. We admire the crocus coming up and giving us the hope and newness of the spring to come. These weeks have taken us through the journey of peace, love, hope, and finally joy. The Baby Jesus came to bring us all of these as experienced with the love in our hearts.

Thank you to Rev. Hale and Stephanie (Chm.) and

the C.E. Committee for taking on this endeavor and planning our Advent Peace Journey. It was very relaxed for a time of fellowship and learning together. We had on the average of 35-45 participants of the young and the young at heart each Sunday, and we appreciate all the support. It was a wonderful time of preparation and a coming together for all.

DATES TO REMEMBER: No Sunday School on January 2, or February 20 (President's Day Weekend). The next Sunday School class session will run for six weeks from January 9 to February 13.

May the Peace, Love, Hope, and Joy we experienced during Advent extend to all of us in the new year. Happy New Year 2011!

Worship Committee News

Shirley Longbothum

As we enter 2011 we will continue to present our "Building Blocks of Worship" through the Minutes for Worship on the second and

fourth Sundays of the month. In January the topic of worship to be emphasized is **Assurance**; what it means and how it is mani-

festated through our worship services, corporately and individually. The building blocks already covered have been **Praise** in November

and **Confession** in December. Other helpful information related to each is included in the corresponding Sunday Worship Bulletins.

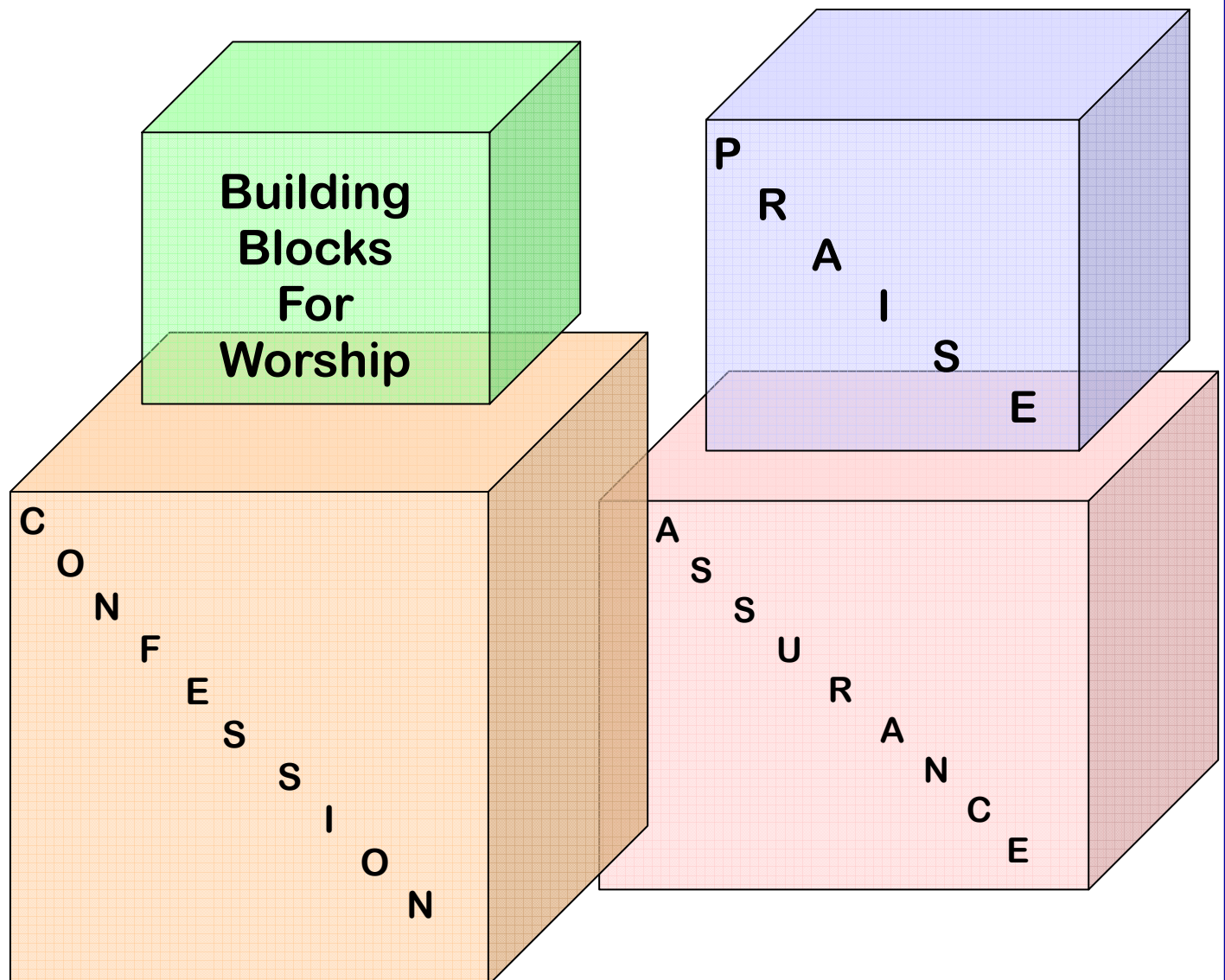
The Presbyterian daily devotionals, These Days, has been well received and is being used by many in our congregation. If you have any questions about the

devotional or you missed receiving a copy, please call the church office or Shirley Longbothum.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to making our Advent Worship Services and Christmas Eve Service so beautiful and meaningful.

Also, Cyndy Kennedy is scheduling special music for Sunday Services. Please contact Cyndy if you are willing to share your talent with the congregation. Cyndy's contact information is in the church directory.

May your new year be filled with worship that brings you ever closer to God.



From Abby Hendrix:

Hello Everyone!

I'm training to run in the Surf City Half Marathon as a member of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS) Team In Training. All of us on Team In Training are raising funds to help stop leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin lymphoma and myeloma from taking more lives. I am completing this

event in honor of all individuals who are battling blood cancers. These people are the real heroes on our team, and we need your support to cross the ultimate finish line – a cure! My goal is to raise \$1600.

Please make a donation to support my participation in Team In Training and help advance LLS's mission.

I hope you will visit my web site often. Be sure to check back frequently to see my progress. Thanks for your support!

Donation Site: <http://pages.teamintraining.org/ocie/surfcity11/ahendrixsc>

Training Blog: <http://abbysh.wordpress.com/>

Announcements, Thank you notes, Concerns

Announcement: the Annual meeting of the Congregation will be on January 30 following the worship service.

Thank you: *You know me and my long-winded-ways...and yet all I can ever say is "thank you." Thank you for your generous hearts. You are the gift in my life here—in all the ministry we share. Love, Marilyn*

Thank you notes were received from: Southern Tier Child Advocacy Center for the donation of books collected from Ladies Night Out; Presbyterian World Mission for our continued support of Dr. Martha Sommers, a pediatrician working in Malawi, Africa; from the Doty family for our continued support of their work as bible translators.

Keep in your prayers: Joe Matthews, Anna Burdick, Betty Cornelius, and Wilda Hill

Nursery Schedule for January / February

	Date	Attendant	Assistant
January	2nd	Kari Kloss	Hannah Kloss
	9th	Sharon Hill McLarney	Christine Pagett
	16th	Julie Pagett	Sophia Hendrix
	23rd	Nicole Coletti	Kristen Woodhead
	30th	Cindy Keeley	Clara Hendrix
February	6th	Julie Jones	Hannah Kloss
	13th	Cindy Keeley	Kristen Woodhead
	20th	Vickie Sheilds	Clara Hendrix
	27th	Emily Woodhead	Sophia Hendrix

January 2011 Dates to Remember

01/01	New Year's Day!	01/19	USDA foods delivered
01/02	Sunday School classes canceled Worship Service and Communion, 11 a.m. January/February newsletter distributed	01/20	Mission Committee, 6 p.m.
01/03	Bible Study, canceled	01/23	Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship Service, 11 a.m.
01/05	Portville Community Food Pantry Committee, 6 p.m.	01/24	Bible Study, 10 a.m.
01/09	Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship Service, 11 a.m.	01/25	HPNAP Advisory Committee, 12:30 p.m. Christian Education Committee, 7 p.m.
01/10	Bible Study, 10 a.m.	01/26	Food Pantry open 10-noon and 5-6:30 p.m.
01/11	Session, 7 p.m.	01/29	Presbytery Meeting, FPC, Alden, 10 a.m.
01/16	Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship Service, 11 a.m.	01/30	Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship Service, 11 a.m. Annual Meeting of the Congregation
01/17	Bible Study, 10 a.m.	01/31	Bible Study, 10 a.m.
01/18	PWNY Personnel Committee, 12:30 p.m.		

February 2011 Dates to Remember

02/06	Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship Service and Communion, 11 a.m.		Worship Service, 11 a.m. Info to Cso for March/April newsletter
02/07	Bible Study, 10 a.m. Fun Fleece Festival, 5:30 p.m.	02/21	Bible Study, canceled
02/08	Session, 7 p.m.	02/23	Food Pantry open 10-noon and 5-6:30 p.m.
02/13	Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship Service, 11 a.m.	02/27	Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship Service, 11 a.m. March/April newsletter distributed
02/14	Bible Study, 10 a.m. Happy Valentine's Day	02/28	Bible Study, 10 a.m.
02/15	PWNY Personnel Committee, 12:30 p.m.		
02/16	USDA foods delivered		
02/17	Mission Committee, 6 p.m.		
02/20	Sunday School classes canceled		



Birthdates to Remember

January 2011

February 2011

- 1/3 Courtney Schmidt
- 1/3 Dan Schmidt
- 1/10 Shelley Pollock
- 1/13 Landon Tigh
- 1/16 Deanna Dunbar
- 1/16 Pat Kennedy
- 1/17 Jack Pagett
- 1/19 Joe Matthews
- 1/20 Joseph Long
- 1/20 Alex Woodhead
- 1/22 Emmy Woodhead
- 1/31 Ty Hoagland



- 2/2 Jim Boyer
- 2/6 Ray Roulo
- 2/13 Barb Fairbanks
- 2/13 Terry Keeley
- 2/16 Alison Tigh
- 2/16 Gary Woodhead
- 2/17 Adam Hellwig
- 2/21 Jack Wyant
- 2/24 Marie Hildebrand
- 2/27 Jo Dunbar
- 2/28 Shirley Scott



Volunteers for the month of: January 2011

Date	Jan 2	Jan 9	Jan 16	Jan 23	Jan 30
Greeters and Ushers	Cso Woodworth	Connie and Norm King	Coni Coletti Jess Wyant	Eric and Sara Talbot	Steph and Joe Hill
Liturgist	Eric Talbot	Kathy Hendrix	Cso Woodworth	Jess Wyant	Mark Hendrix
Acolyte	Communion Sunday				
Prayer Family	The Woodheads	Cso Woodworth	Duncan Wormer	Dick and Arlo Wuster	Jess Wyant

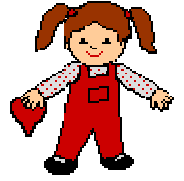
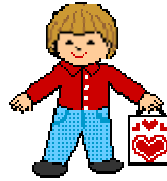
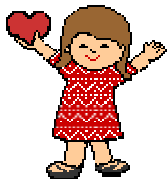
Elder for the month: Jim Boyer



Volunteers for the month of February 2011

Date	Feb 2	Feb 13	Feb 20	Feb 27
Greeters and Ushers		Dean and Eva Travis	Jess Wyant	Josh Haynes and Carly Woodhead
Liturgist	Carly Woodhead	Jess Wyant	Joe Hill	Vicki Schmidt
Acolyte	Communion Sunday			
Prayer Family	Marsha Wyant	Lois and Walt Atkinson	Barb Bliven	Rachel and Jim Boyer

Elder for the month Vicki Schmidt



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH -
PORTVILLE, NY**

19 North Main Street
Portville, NY 14770

Voicemail: 933-6426
Email: portville.presbyterian2gmail.com

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

Website:

www.portville-presbyterian.org

