



Message from Rev. Hale

We've embarked on a study of Jonah in the Wednesday Bible Study group. The one and only Jonah who decided all on his own to ignore God; who turned a deaf ear to a direct command from the Lord of the Universe; but best of all of Jonah's ego-maniacal responses was what appears to be his reasoned plan to escape from God—go so very far away that God could never find him, in fact, go by water—leave no trail!

"Where can I go from your presence?" the Psalmist wonders of God. *"If I go to the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall . . ."* what, find me? No, it's not that God will "find" *me*. It's so much better than that. Look it up and see for yourself in Psalm 139.

In our lives in the church it's: Stewardship time; Harvest Baskets time, Thanksgiving time, Advent time, Christmas Gift Tree time, Christmas time, all running in the midst of the flowing stream of Sunday School time, Worship time, Confirmation time, Food Pantry time, Meetings Time, Fellowship and care-giving time, and of course, Wednesday Bible Study time! Take-a-breath time!

Here's a reasoned plan for our life together. "Together with . . ." (you may ask?). Well, you decide! Take Psalm 139 in hand and squirrel away all by yourself in a favorite spot. Get comfortable. Don't read the "Psalm"; read the *words*. For one thing, the words say a lot about "time".

Have a conversation with God through this Psalm. Wrap it around your life, which is "our" life, which is God's best thought for every day we have together! May the keeping of our time be blessed to God's everlasting glory!

Gratefully "hemmed" in, here with you,

Marilyn

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Lectionary for November /December 2014

<p>Nov. 2 Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Joshua 3:7-17 Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 Matthew 23:1-12</p>	<p>Nov. 9 Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 6 Psalm 78:1-7 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13</p>	<p>Nov. 16 Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Judges 4:1-7 Psalm 123 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 1 Matthew 25:14-30</p>
<p>Nov. 23 Reign of Christ / Christ the King Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 Psalm 100 Ephesians 1:15-23 Matthew 25:31-46</p>	<p>Nov. 30 First Sunday of Advent Isaiah 64:1-9 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:24-37</p>	<p>Dec. 7 Second Sunday of Advent Isaiah 40:1-11 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 2 Peter 3:8-15a Mark 1:1-8</p>
<p>Dec. 14 Third Sunday of Advent Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 Psalm 126 <i>or</i> Luke 1:46b-55 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28</p>	<p>Dec. 21 Fourth Sunday of Advent 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 Luke 1:46b-55 Romans 16:25-27</p>	<p>Dec. 28 First Sunday after Christmas Day Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Psalm 148 Galatians 4:4-7</p>

Mission Committee News Cso Woodworth

Mission Committee Updates

The Cuba Cultural Center sent a Thank you to our congregation for supporting the Cuba-Rushford Backpack Program. Our donation to this worthy cause that provides weekend meals to students in need, came from the Pentecost Offering.

The family that you purchased needed school supplies for, expressed their gratitude when they picked up the supplies and gift cards to Wal-Mart and Kmart. And 25 Church World Mission school bags and a check to cover processing fees were packed into

two boxes and shipped off to one of their receiving facilities. On Sept. 28, twenty members of the congregation (and two beautiful dogs) met at the Pfeiffer Nature Center on the Lillibridge Road for a picnic and a short trek through the wood to the location of our church's adopted tree, a white oak (*quercus alba*) tree. Thanks goes out to Vicki Schmidt for putting on her teacher hat and providing those in attendance a Science and History lesson on the tree and nature Center. Picnic goodies were provided by the Christian Education Committee. A heartfelt thank you goes out to our congregation for their support of the Peace and Global Wit-

ness Offering (aka Peacemaking Offering). Your generous gifts to this offering exceeded the Mission Committee's goal of \$700 by \$152. Minutes for Peacemaking were provided by Jess Wyant, Shirley Longbothum, Anita Shuey and Cso Woodworth. A check for \$200 has been sent to the Hamada Initiative for soccer balls. Our congregation will again be participating in the Harvest Sunday Thanksgiving food collection for two families in the Portville area. Our Sunday school students, under Julie Pagett's leadership, will be creating tags for the needed items. The tags will be available on Nov. 9. Please purchase the food item and re-

turn it to the church by Nov. 23. Be looking for more information and tags for the annual gift tree. The tags will be available on Nov. 23, just in time for Black Friday shopping . . .

The Mission Committee has sent \$500 from the Jack Sheppard Memorial Fund to support the Refugees Emergencies to provide support for Central American refugees entering the US through

Mexico and \$500 to Disaster Relief International to support PCUSA's campaign to eradicate Ebola.



Picnic



Pfieffer Nature



Center



LADIES' NIGHT OUT
 Thursday, Dec. 11 at 5:30 pm
 Location: Good Times on State St., Olean
 Bring a book for the Southern Tier Child Advocacy Center
 Sign-up sheet posted in the Quilt Room at church.

THE FOOD PANTRY . . .

from your grocery cart to our shelves!

by Stephanie Hill

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

Especially at this time of year, giving thanks is on our lips and in our hearts as we praise God for the abundance we know and joyfully share our gifts with others.

Thank you for supporting the Portville Community Food Pantry throughout the year -- your gifts of food and money *do* make a difference in the lives of others!

Below is the list of foods being collected.

FOR THE WEEK OF:	WE WILL BE COLLECTING:
Nov. 2	Stuffing Mix
Nov 9	Pumpkin
Nov 16	Spaghetti Sauce
Nov 23	Mac and Cheese
Nov 30	Soup
Dec 7	Egg Noodles
Dec 14	Tuna
Dec 21	Creamed Soup
Dec 28	Spaghetti Sauce

Christian Education News

Connie King

The leaves are falling with the bright colors of the trees fading fast, but the winter season will change to a glorious new color. The white of the snow will soon change the color of the lawns and hillsides.

Sunday School is in full swing. On September 28, the Children's Time was done by Julie and the class. They all read information about Pamela, our CFI Bolivian girl, whom we support. We learned about her family, life style, her country, school, and hobbies. A great slide show enhanced their presentation. Watch

for monthly news updates during that time of worship to learn more about Pamela. On October 26, the kids held a bake sale downstairs to collect donations to be used to send a monetary Christmas gift to Pamela. We hope you enjoyed all the goodies!

At the beginning of the year, the students learned about the Hamada Initiative and the mission work of collecting soccer balls. Also, they have been learning about how God sent his prophet Samuel to anoint a new king of Israel because God was not pleased with

Saul. God has chosen Jesse's youngest son, David, to be the new king. This choice surprised many, even Samuel, but the class learned that God looks at the heart of a person. God knew David's heart was good. The students decorated their classroom window with that theme in mind. Look at the window and read it. What does it say?

Thanksgiving's Harvest Sunday will soon be here, and the kids are preparing to help with this mission project again, as well as Operation Christmas Child

Project. Watch the weekly bulletin to help with these projects.

"ADVENT IS ALL ABOUT LIGHT"--Join us downstairs to celebrate the Christmas season at 10 a.m. on November 30, December 7, 14, and 21 for an Advent study prepared by Diana

Dunbar. We will be sharing a wonderful breakfast to start things off, making a craft or two, studying short lessons, and relating Bible verses to this theme. She will lead us through an "enlightening" time devoted to exploring God's "light" as Christ's love touches our

lives. Join the whole church family for fun, food, and fellowship together for all ages. Come for all four Sundays or when you can attend.

Reminder: No Sunday School on December 28. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2015.

Stewardship and Finance Committee News

Judy McClain

A Thought for Stewardship

Be a cheerful giver. Give honestly--if you think you might not be giving enough, reconsider the amount you give. Give regularly. Give generously--with an open heart, and an open hand. God takes care of those who share their first fruits with others.

September 2014 YTD	
Income	\$65,912.29
Expenses	\$73,570.20

The annual stewardship pledge letters have been mailed to the congregation as the finance committee is reviewing 2014 and looking ahead to prepare for 2015. When you look ahead and

prepare for your part in the life of our church say, "**This is my church and it is a priority.** My church has always been there for me. I will always be there for my church. I will participate. I will make a commitment to be involved and make my church a consistent part of my lifestyle."

You and I will have a closer relationship with each other and God and our church and its mission will thrive. Our church is where we receive spiritual nourishment. ***Our church is the place that challenges us to live beyond the voice of culture to the freer life of faith.***

Dedication Sunday is No-

vember 23. Please prayerfully consider your pledge of your time, talents, and resources for 2015. Complete your pledge card and mark your calendar to be a part of worship that Sunday. Thanking God for our blessings and looking forward to our lives together in 2015.

"Then the people rejoiced because they had offered so willingly, for they made their offering to the Lord with a whole heart..." 1 Chronicles 29:9



Worship Committee News Anita Shuey

November and December are months when our congregation worships with awe and wonder of God's gifts. On November 2nd, we share Communion and give our thanks "for all the saints who from their labors rest." Come and share in morning worship on November 23rd as we celebrate Thanksgiving/ Harvest Sunday. Then the season of Advent begins

with the Hanging of the Greens during morning worship on November 30th. Together we will decorate our sanctuary as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus Christ. *"In Jesus Christ, God entered fully into the human condition in an act of self-revelation, redemption and forgiveness. Entering the brokenness of the world, God in Jesus Christ atoned*

for sin and restored human life." (Directory of Worship, Book of Order 2013/2015, p.75.)

Christmas Sunday, December 21, at 11:00 a.m. and Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, December 24, at 11:00 p.m. will be special times with Scripture and carols of the "Word becoming flesh among us" – how CAN we keep from praising God?





Reformation Sunday

Celebrating members of the 50+ Years as Church Members Club!

November 2014 Dates to Remember

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| <p>11/02 Sunday School, 10 a.m. (adult class canceled)
Worship Service and Communion, 11 a.m.
Confirmation Class, 4 p.m.
Congregational Thanksgiving Dinner, 5 p.m.
Daylight Saving Time ends – “fall back” one hour</p> <p>11/03 PWNV Outreach Ministry, noon (S. Hill)</p> <p>11/04 PWNV CRRR, 1 p.m. (M. Hale)</p> <p>11/05 Organ tuning, 9:30 a.m.
Bible Study, 10 a.m.</p> <p>11/08 Property Committee, 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>11/09 Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Worship Service, 11 a.m.
M4M & tag display for Harvest Sunday
Confirmation Class, 4 p.m.</p> <p>11/11 Veteran’s Day
Keynote rehearsal, 6:30 – 9 p.m. (?)</p> <p>11/12 Bible Study, 10 a.m.
Mission Committee, 6 p.m.</p> <p>11/15 Session Minutes Review (J. McClain)</p> <p>11/16 Sunday School, 10 a.m.</p> | <p>Worship Service, 11 a.m.
Confirmation Class, 4 p.m.</p> <p>11/17 Walmart/produce pick-up, 11 a.m.
@ Olean FP (Hale/Hill)</p> <p>11/19 USDA food pick-up @ Olean FP (J. Hellwig)
Food Pantry open 10-12 and 5-6:30 p.m.
Bible Study, canceled</p> <p>11/21 PCS NHS food drive delivered</p> <p>11/22 Presbytery, FPC Olean, 10 a.m.</p> <p>11/23 Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Worship Service, 11 a.m.
Harvest Sunday/Dedication Sunday
Confirmation Class, 4 p.m.</p> <p>11/26 Bible Study, 10 a.m.
Community Thanksgiving Service, 7 p.m., @FPC Portville</p> <p>11/27 Happy Thanksgiving!</p> <p>11/30 Advent Breakfast and Program, 10 a.m.
Worship Service, 11 a.m.
1st Sunday of Advent
Hanging of the Greens</p> |
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December 2014 Dates to Remember

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| <p>12/03 Session, 6 p.m.
(combined Nov/Dec meeting)</p> <p>12/07 Advent Breakfast and Program, 10 a.m.
Worship Service and Communion, 11 a.m.
2nd Sunday of Advent
Confirmation Class, 4 p.m.</p> <p>12/08 PWNV Outreach Ministry, noon (S. Hill)</p> <p>12/10 Bible Study, 10 a.m.</p> <p>12/11 Ladies’ Night Out @ Good Times, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>12/13 Property Committee, 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>12/14 Advent Breakfast and Program, 10 a.m.
Worship Service, 11 a.m.
3rd Sunday of Advent
Confirmation Class, 4 p.m.</p> <p>12/15 Walmart/produce pick-up, 11 a.m.
@ Olean FP (Hale/Hill)</p> | <p>12/17 USDA food pick-up @ Olean FP (J. Hellwig)
Food Pantry open 10-12 and 5-6:30 p.m.
Bible Study, canceled</p> <p>12/21 Advent Breakfast and Program, 10 a.m.
Worship Service, 11 a.m.
4th Sunday of Advent
Confirmation Class, 4 p.m.</p> <p>12/24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 11 p.m.</p> <p>12/25 Merry Christmas!</p> <p>12/28 Sunday School classes, canceled
Worship Service, 11 a.m.
Confirmation Class, canceled</p> |
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Birthdates to Remember

November 2014

11/3 Megan Pagett
 11/10 Tim Kloss
 11/10 Anna Keeley
 11/10 Emma Keeley
 11/14 Mary Ann Clark
 11/17 Connie King
 11/18 Mark Hendrix
 11/21 Joyce Roulo
 11/24 Tom Clark
 11/24 Randy Sprague
 11/25 Jess Wyant



December 2014

12/5 Peg Dunbar
 12/6 Rachel Boyer
 12/6 Clara Hendrix
 12/7 Diana Dunbar
 12/7 Ron Longbothum
 12/10 McKenzie Gardner
 12/10 Cso Woodworth
 12/13 Norm King
 12/14 Duncan Wormer
 12/16 Sophia Hendrix
 12/18 Emily Sullivan
 12/21 Kari Kloss
 12/21 Arlo Wurster
 12/26 Lois Atkinson



Volunteers for the month of November



Date	Nov. 2	Nov. 9	Nov. 16	Nov. 23	Nov. 30
Greeters and Ushers	Jacque Hellwig	Coni Coletti/ Jess Wyant	Eva and Dean Travis	Jack Pagett	The Kloss Family
Liturgist	Jess Wyant	Carly Woodhead	Ronda Pollock	Christine Pagett	Shirley Longbothum
Children's Time	Barb Fairbanks	Carly Woodhead	Judy McClain	Sunday School Kids	
Acolytes	Communion Sunday	Jack Pagett	Hannah Kloss	Megan Pagett	Hanging of the Greens
Organ Tech/ Music	Anita Shuey	Kari Kloss	Judy McClain	Anita Shuey	Vicki Schmidt (Joe Hill)
Prayer Family	Jim /Rachel Boyer	Russ Burton	Ray Carlson	Mary Ann / Tom Clark	Coni Coletti

Elder for the month: Vicki Schmidt

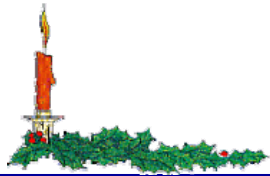


Volunteers for the month of December 2014



	Dec. 7	Dec. 14	Dec. 21	Dec. 28
Greeters and Ushers	Stephanie and Joe Hill	Julie and John Pagett	Mary Ann Clark	Jess Wyant
Liturgist	Buffy Pratt	Stephanie Hill	Kari Kloss	Pat Kennedy
Acolyte	Advent Wreath	Advent Wreath	Advent Wreath	Jess Wyant
Music/ Organ Tech	Anita Shuey	Anita Shuey		
Prayer Family	Denny Dorman	Dave/Peg Dunbar	Diana Dunbar	Kevin Dunbar

Elder for the month : Mark Hendrix



Merry Christmas!



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH -
PORTVILLE, NY**

19 North Main Street
Portville, NY 14770

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

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

Website:

www.portville-presbyterian.org

