



**Reminder from Rev. Hale**

*God made the two great lights—  
The greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—  
God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth...[Genesis 1:16..]*

Maybe you have noticed the moon these last two weeks, growing steadily into itself from that beautiful, thin sliver of a crescent. Even half full, it filled the dark sky with light on a clear night; a tiny luminescent misshapen marble grown now to three quarter, *ruling the night* as it arcs its way across the *dome*, etching the outline of the trees in the woods, beeches long bare now, hemlock boughs momentarily catching scatterings of dried oak leaves.

Do you find it comforting, this one-eyed *lesser light*, as you stir awake in the darkness that can hold a light-years-long-narrative of anxious thoughts? Do you find it comforting to instead imagine this *lesser light* shining down on loved ones far away wherever they may be; comforting to imagine its light guiding the night into the day for all people; comforting to remember, *God made the two great lights....*and then even more?

*...when in the beginning was the Word.....  
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being  
Through him, and without him not one thing came into being.  
What has come into being in him was life,  
and the life was the light of all people.  
The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness did not overcome it. [John 1:1-5]*

Even the light of a misshapen one-eyed moon can remind us of so very much more. *The light shines in the darkness*, dear friends, and will forever more. *Wishing you a blessed Thanksgiving and a peace-filled, Holy Christmas.*

Marilyn

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## Lectionary for September/October

### November 6

Haggai 1:15b-2:9  
Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21  
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5; 13-17  
Luke 20:27-38

### November 13

Isaiah 65:17-25  
Isaiah 12  
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13  
Luke 21:5-19

### November 20

**Christ the King Sunday**  
Jeremiah 23:1-6  
Luke 1:68-79  
Colossians 1:11-20  
Luke 23:33-43

### November 27

#### 1st Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5  
Psalm 122: 1-9  
Romans 13:11-14  
Matthew 24:36-44



### December 4

#### 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10  
Psalm 72:1-7; 18-19  
Romans 15:4-13  
Matthew 3:1-12



### December 11

#### 3rd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-10  
Psalm 146:5-10  
James 5:7-10  
Matthew 11:2-11



### December 18

#### 4th Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-16  
Psalm 80:1-7; 17-19  
Romans 1:1-7  
Matthew 1:18-25



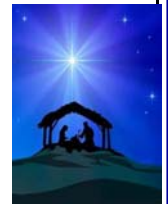
### December 25

#### Christmas Day

Isaiah 52:7-10  
Psalm 98  
Hebrews 1:1-4(5-12)  
John 1:1-14



“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.” Luke 2:11



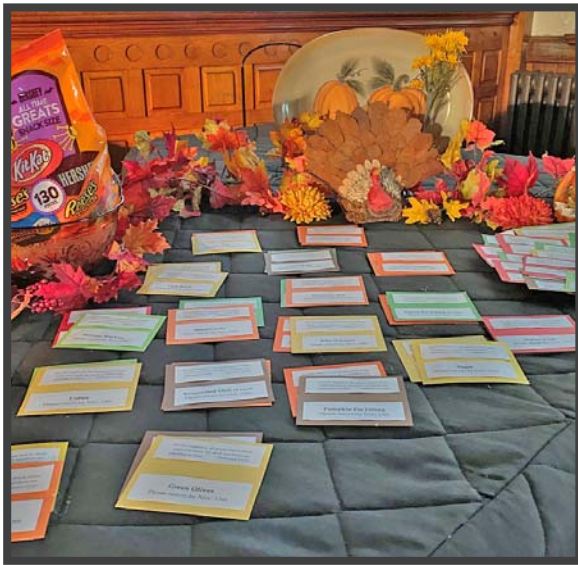
## Mission News - Cso

**Peace and Global Witness Offering:** Through your generous giving (and participation on the Coloring Sheet Challenge) our total for this offering was \$1165. The recipient of the portion retained by our church was once again, The African-American Center for Cultural Development. It was a nail-biting experience to throw out the Coloring Sheet Challenge to the members of our congregations. The challenge was for each coloring sheet returned an additional \$5 was donated to our Peace and Global Witness Offering. It was difficult to assess if any of the congregation would take up the challenge. After all, coloring, for most people, has become a lost pastime. But, to my delight, twenty (20) sheets were colored in and returned. . .and displayed on our “Tree of Peacemaking” gallery in the hallway to our dining hall. Kudos to all that accepted the challenge!.



## Mission News - cont.

### Harvest Basket Collection: Julie



Our Harvest Sunday mission project is well on its way! Two local families have been selected and all our tags were picked up last week.

The non-perishable items and cash donations are all due back by **Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>**.

The generosity and love shown by the members of our congregation and the willingness to step up and help others is always a beautiful example of God's grace and work in our lives.

Thank you all.

### Presents For Panthers : Stephanie

Each year many families with children who attend Portville Central School would go without gifts during the Christmas season were it not for the Presents for Panthers program. Since 2005, with enthusiastic support from the school's administration, staff and faculty, children and families are identified to be recipients of this program. High school seniors are selected to participate in selecting, buying, wrapping and distribution of gifts. Confidentiality is highly valued in order to respect the privacy of the recipients.

Our congregation has partnered with the "**Presents for Panthers**" program again this year. We will be collecting gifts until **December 4**. Gift ideas include puzzles, books, toys, board games, coloring books and crayons, dolls, trucks, hair accessories and fun socks. We want you to have fun choosing a gift that will bring a smile to someone on Christmas morning! Please do not wrap your gift. Our collection point is in the Quilt Room. Just look for the **red tote** and the "**Present for Panthers**" sign.

### SUPPORTING AND LOVING PAMELA : Julie

As the holidays are quickly approaching, we wanted to get a special Christmas gift on its way to Bolivia for our **ChildFund International** sponsored child, Pamela. This year, we made a Christmas garland with individual images of the nativity scene and asked members of the congregation to help color each image and write a brief message on the back. Thank you to everyone who participated in this fun project. The garland came out won-

## Mission News - cont.

derfully and we are excited to see her reaction to this special gift made with love from our church family. We also sent along a Christmas card which many members of our congregation signed. If you didn't get a chance to sign it (or even if you did!), please consider sending Pamela and her family your own holiday greetings and well wishes. Reaching out with cards and letters to let Pamela know she and her family are thought of, prayed for, supported, and loved is a wonderful way to foster an emotional connection with this very special young lady.

**PAMELA'S BIRTHDAY IS ON FEBRUARY 5<sup>TH</sup>!** Please take a moment and sent a card to Pamela and wish her well for her 17th birthday. She loves hearing from the people in our church and receiving your cards. With the two-month shipping time needed, cards will need to be sent out in early December to arrive in time. Thank you.

### Pamela Address

Pamela Alejandra Lopez Conde  
113-44711/429  
NINAS SAN GABRIEL  
ChildFund Bolivia  
Casilla Postal 8735  
La Paz, Bolivia



## Christian ED News—Judy

Our **Sunday School** classes and Adult class have been in session September 25 and October 9, 16, 23 and 30. All classes have been well attended. Its great seeing all our young Presbyterians PreK-K and Elementary learning about God. The Adult Class led by Stephanie has had many interesting conversations about the ten commandments with Adam Hamilton's book Words of Life.

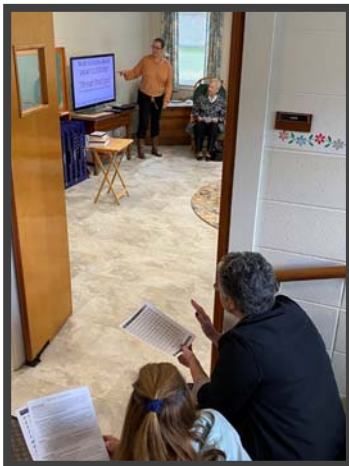




### Christian Ed News - Judy

Wednesday morning Bible Study started October 19. Teacher Dedication was October 9 during worship recognizing Bizzy xxxxxxxx, Amy Sxxxxx, Diana xxxxxxx, Stephanie Xxx, and Rev. Hale as our wonderful teachers. Heidi xxxxx and Kari xxxxx have been helpers in the elementary class. The dates for the remaining classes for Sunday School and Adult class for the Fall session will be November 13 and 20.

Diana xxxxx is preparing the Advent Program that will take place each Sunday, November 27–December 18, at 9:00 a.m. in the dining room. Everyone of all ages is welcome to attend and be part of the preparation for the coming of the Christ child.



Julie xxxxxx continues to lead the American Sign Language class. Attendance for this class is high . . . There are days that overflow seating on the steps in the hallway has to be opened up, necessitating that the door to the classroom be opened so that those in the “overflow section” can hear and participate. She has



opened a whole new world to those attending. Her presentations explain so much about sign language and everyday communication as it relates to day-to-day living.

### Property News - Norm

The arrangements for clearing the snow around the church and parking lots have been made for the winter season. The heating system has been checked over and any problems have been taken care of by the heating contractor.



Eleanor Lorraine



Screenshots from Bible Study Choo-Choo Train video



## Worship News - Diana

**Worship and Fellowship at Pfeiffer:** About thirty members and friends of the congregation (including a furry one) traveled to Pfeiffer Nature Center after church on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. This preserve is 676 acres of God's creation nestled in our backyard. The weather was bright and the vistas beautiful with colors of yellows, rusts, forest greens, and burnt oranges against the blue skies. There was great fun and good conversation enjoyed by all. The food was a group effort and delicious. We took a moment to learn some lessons from the trees... Looking at the oaks, maples, and pines surrounding us we learned that when our roots are planted deeply in God's word our foundation is firm and we produce the fruit of the spirit... Some adventurous souls then went on a scavenger hunt looking for the different native trees found in these hills. So, whether hiking the hills or sitting at picnic tables with friends, everyone had fun.

Thank you to all who donated food, created our charcuterie kabobs, made treats, helped set up, or clean up after; many hands made the job easy.

Until next year...



Many hands made for light work in creating the Charcuterie kabobs!





## Birthdates to Remember

### NOVEMBER

### DECEMBER

Nov 3 Megan  
 Nov 6 Leah  
 Nov 10 Anna  
 Nov 10 Emma  
 Nov 11 Tim  
 Nov 14 Mary Ann  
 Nov 17 Connie  
 Nov 18 Mark  
 Nov 19 Bob  
 Nov 24 Tom  
 Nov 25 Jess  
 Nov 28 Mary

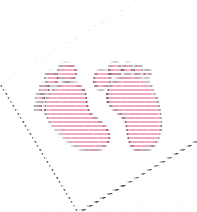


Dec 7 Diana  
 Dec 10 McKenzie  
 Dec 10 Cso  
 Dec 13 Norm  
 Dec 16 Holly  
 Dec 21 Kari

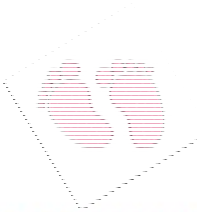
**happy  
 birthday!**



**Congratulations to Matt and Katie  
 on the birth of their third daughter, Ava Mallery.**  
 She was born on September 28, at 1;07 AM.  
 She was 7 lbs. 10.5 oz. and 20 inches long  
 She has two big sisters, Amelia and Riley.



**Congratulations to Sophia and Ian  
 on the birth of their daughter, Eleanor (Ellie) Lorraine .**  
 She was born on October 19, 2022'  
 She was 8 lbs. and 2 oz. and 2a inches long  
 She is the first grandchild for Kathy and Mark.



**Daylight Saving Times  
 ends on Sunday, November 6th @ 2 AM.  
 Remember to turn your clocks back one hour  
 before going to bed!**





- 11/05 Holiday Rummage Sale, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
 11/06 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.  
       Joe – Elder for the Month  
       ASL Class following worship  
 11/08 Lectionary Group (MKH), 10:00 a.m.  
 11/09 Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.  
       Mission Committee Meeting, 6:00 p.m.  
 11/11 Veterans Day; Church Office Closed  
 11/12 Woodhead baby shower, 11:00 –4:00 p.m.  
 11/13 Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.  
       Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.  
       Harvest Sunday Items Due  
       ASL Class following worship  
 11/14 Food Pantry Prep Day  
 11/15 Food Pantry Prep Day  
 11/16 Food Pantry open 9:00 a.m. – noon  
 11/20 Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.  
       Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.  
       ASL Class following worship  
 11/22 PCS National Honor Society Food Delivery  
 11/23 No Bible Study  
 11/24 *Thanksgiving Day*  
 11/27 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.  
       First Sunday of Advent,  
       Advent Program, 9:00 a.m.  
       ASL Class following worship  
 11/30 Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.



- 12/04 Worship Service/Communion, 10:00 a.m.  
       Mark – Elder for the Month  
       Advent Program, 9:00 a.m.  
       Presents for Panthers due  
       ASL Class following worship  
 12/06 COM (MKH), 9:00 a.m.  
 12/07 Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.  
       Session, 4:00 p.m.  
 12/11 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.  
       Advent Program, 9:00 a.m.  
       ASL Class following worship  
 12/12 Food Pantry Prep  
       Worship meeting, 1:30 p.m.  
 12/13 Food Pantry Prep  
 12/14 Food Pantry, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
 12/18 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.  
       Advent Program, 9:00 a.m.  
       ASL Class following worship  
 12/24 Christmas Eve Service, 7:00 p.m.  
 12/25 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.

*joyful*

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH -  
 PORTVILLE, NY**

19 North Main Street  
 PO Box 765  
 Portville, NY 14770

Voicemail: 716-933-6426  
 Email: portville.presbyterian followed by @gmail.com

Sunday School: 9:00 am  
 ages 3 to adult  
 Worship Service: 10:00 am

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