



**Message from Rev. Hale**

*Just after daybreak,  
Jesus stood on the beach;  
but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. [John 21:4]*

On Easter morning we went lost and alone with Mary Magdalene to Jesus' tomb while it was still dark. On Easter evening, we were gathered in fear with the disciples in that locked room somewhere in Jerusalem, when Christ came and spoke to them. And now, just after daybreak, we're standing there on the beach listening to Jesus tell the disciples exactly where to drop their net and land the catch of lifetime!

The "reveal" always comes slowly, steadily; it comes persistently; it comes knowing exactly where we are, in body, and in mind, and in spirit. It is Christ who comes to us; it is Christ who is present with us, recognized by us or not. It is Christ who invites, who is here and who feeds and fills the darkness with the everlasting light of Divine love.

Thanking God, dear friends, for Easter-each-day that is here in the darkness, here in the evening, here full and fair, just after daybreak.

Thanking God for the faith that holds us, and the Love that we share.

Marilyn

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## Lectionary for May/June 2025

### May 4 – 3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 9: 1-16  
 Psalm 30  
 Revelation 5:11-14  
 John 21: 1-19

### May 11 – 4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:36-43  
 Psalm 23:1-6  
 Revelations 7:9-17  
 John 10:22-30

### May 18 – 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 11: 1-18  
 Psalm 148: 1-14  
 Revelations 21:1-6  
 John 13:31-35

### May 25 – 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:9-15  
 Psalm 67:1-7  
 Revelations 21:10, 21:22-22:5  
 John 14:23-29

### June 1 – 7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:16-34  
 Psalm 97:1-12  
 Revelations 12-14, 16-17,  
 20-21  
 John 17:20-26

### June 8 – Pentecost



Acts 2: 1-21  
 Psalm 104: 24-34; 35b  
 Romans 8:14-17  
 John 14:8-17 (25-27)

### June 15 – Trinity Sunday

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31  
 Psalm 8:1-9  
 Romans 5:1-5  
 John 16:12-15

### June 22 – 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 19:1-4 (5-7) 8-15a  
 Psalm 42 and 43  
 Galatians 23-29  
 Luke 8:26-39

### June 29 – 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14  
 Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20  
 Galatians 5:1, 13-25  
 Luke 9:51-62

## Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) - Judy McClain

Your Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has continued to meet weekly over the past several months to discern who our congregation is and will be and who we hope our next pastor will be. There have been many reflective conversations to answer the narrative questions on the Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP) as part of Calling a Pastor process. The PNC appreciates that the congregation has been very helpful with providing thoughtful responses to the surveys composed by the PNC.

The PNC invited any comments or questions from the congregation anytime at the most recent Minute for PNC during worship. Everyone is welcome to talk with any member of the PNC, by one-on-one conversations before or after church, over coffee or lunch, as a small group gathering, phone call, email, or in writing-any way you feel most comfortable discussing your thoughts. Please remember that is an open invitation that continues throughout the Call process-it is especially important going forward that there is good communication. The PNC committee is Bizzy Chaffee, Diana Dunbar, Barb Fairbanks, Mike Kessler, and Judy McClain.

The MDP is nearing completion and ready for review by the Presbytery Committee on Ministry as the next step. The PNC also made a recommendation that was approved by Ses-

## Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) - cont.

sion that a new church website be designed. The new website will be included with the MDP for candidates to view to “get to know” who we are. TriSonder Marketing LLC of Olean has been hired to design the website based on our suggestions of what is to be featured on the website.

PNC keeps our congregation in prayer and the one who God is preparing for us according to His plan. And may we all lift Rev. Hale in prayers as she is prepared for her next phase of life according to God’s plan.

## Christian Education News - Bizzy Woodhead

The Lenten Soup and Study took place following Worship in the weeks leading up to Easter. The group was led by Rev. Hale, and they studied from the book *The Final Days* by Matt Rawle. The study was well attended by members of the congregation, and the group enjoyed yummy soups and other foods each week!

The Adult Sunday School class will meet again on May 11<sup>th</sup> to finish *Half Truths* by Adam Hamilton.

Bible Study did not meet during Lent but reconvened on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Children’s Sunday School classes have not met during the months of March and April, but we are gearing up to meet again May 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> for our final weeks of Sunday School! **May 18<sup>th</sup> is our Open House** for all the children’s Sunday School classes. Everyone is welcome to visit the children’s classrooms before Worship between 9 and 10 AM to see what we’ve been working on this school year! Students will also be recognized for participating in Sunday School this school year during Worship on this date. Please plan to join us!

## Worship News - Diana Dunbar



### “He is my rock... and my salvation...” Psalm 62:6

The “rock” was our focus for Lent. From strength to resilience... to a strong foundation... a cornerstone set by the builder...to the stone that could not hold our risen Lord in the tomb... God used this simple symbol to reinforce his messages to each of us. He is always there for us, and He is dependable when all else falls apart.

Before church we covered wooden crosses with pebbles to adorn our sanctuary, built steppingstones for our garden, and crafted a stone necklace to remind us of God’s presence and strength during our Lenten journey. We hope that week to week you were able to see the relevance of the “the rock of our salvation” in your day to day living.

**Many thanks!**

The Worship Committee wants to thank everyone that was a part of the Maundy Thursday

## Worship News cont.

potluck dinner. The food was delicious...the fellowship warm...and the friendships blessed



What is ahead of us? What is there to look forward to?

We will celebrate the women of the church in May and of course we will not forget the men in June. As a community of faith let us acknowledge and celebrate the people that contribute to our church and our lives. Their dedication and commitment will have our focus.

### The Day of Pentecost



I read once that, "That the Christian that neglects the Holy Spirit is like a lamp that is not plugged in."

It's time to get plugged back in...Pentecost will be celebrated on **Sunday, June 8** during worship. Please mark your calendars to wear **RED** to symbolize the Holy Spirit on that day. Pentecost is a time to let go of what is holding you back and embrace a life that is worthy of God's calling. Each of us has a divine purpose that is meant to impact those around us positively. Let us use the day of Pentecost as a re-start...a time that we reflect on the life of Christ and strive to live our life as a testimony to God's glory.



## Mission News - Julie McLarney-Pagett

Our **MISSION HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH** program has yielded some wonderful results thanks to the generosity of our congregation! March saw a huge increase in donations for our PCS Personal Care Items and April brought in some much-needed items for our Portville Community Food Pantry. Our local community will benefit from your generous and faithful support. Thank you!



May's Mission Highlight of the Month will focus on books to be donated to support the Child Advocacy Center. Part of the mission of the Child Advocacy Center is to provide a safe, child-friendly environment for child victims of sexual and physical abuse. Our annual **Fun Fleece Festival** created blankets that will be given to children when they arrive at the Center and any books

## Mission News - cont.

donated through our Gift-A-Book program can help support that safe, child-friendly environment to benefit those children in need as well. **Books to be donated should range from toddler level books all the way up to books for teenagers.** Ollie's Bargain Outlet in Olean has many wonderful children's books at great discounted prices.



In June, we will highlight our Baby Layette program once again. Each of our Hands On mission projects will be highlighted twice a year, but please remember you may donate to any of these mission projects throughout the year. Your wonderful love and support is greatly appreciated.

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING** Kari Kloss led our OGHS Offering this year bringing attention to the offering's goal of working to end hunger, help with repairs after natural disasters, and promoting the self-development of all people. Thanks to everyone's generous support we exceeded our \$1,050 goal by \$50! Thank you!!

The Mission Committee has approved the financial support of new **PC(USA) Mission Workers Inge and Larry Sthreshley**. Keep an eye on the mission bulletin board for more information to come on the wonderful work they are doing to help those in need in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

**Presbyterian Youth Triennium** - The 2025 PYT is scheduled for July 28-31 in Louisville, Kentucky. It is open for any rising 9th graders to graduated high school seniors and young adults 19-23 years of age. The cost to attend with the Presbytery of Western NY group will be covered for any eligible youth in our congregation. It's an amazing experience that several of our congregational members in the past have enjoyed and we highly encourage any parents of eligible students to reach out for more information.

**March Mission of the Month Results:** during the month of March your donations of Personal Care items were as follows: 29 toothbrushes, 28 deodorants, 27 bars of soap, 26 packages of feminine products, 21 tubes of toothpaste, 13 packages of hair ties, 12 hair brushes/combs, 9 packages of dental floss, 7 nail care items, bottles of shampoo, packages of razors and boxes of Band-Aids, 5 bottles of body wash and tubes of Chapstick, 4 bottles of hair conditioners, 4 and bottles of lotions, 3 bottles of mouthwash, 2 packages of Q-Tips and shaving foam, and 1 bottle of hair detangles, hair styling gel, shampoo and conditioner and a package of Girls briefs.

**Donations** - The following donations were approved by Session ...

### **From the Jack Shepard Memorial Mission Fund**

- ◆ \$500 for Royal Family Kids Camp (renamed For The Children)
- ◆ \$300 for Camp Penuel
- ◆ \$500 for Camp Duffield

### **From the Rummage Sale Mission Fund**

- ◆ \$300 for Music in the Park
- ◆ \$300 for Portville for Youth

## Portville Community Food Pantry - Randy McClain

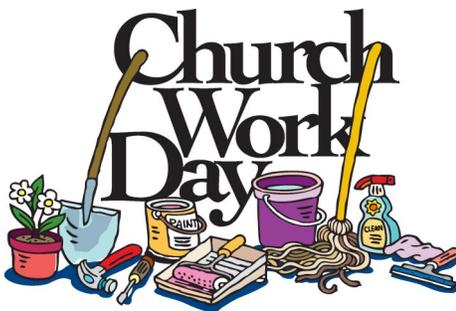


**Totals for items donated:** 35 boxes of macaroni and cheese, 7 cans of tuna fish, 5 boxes of spaghetti, 6 jars of spaghetti sauce, 16 jars of peanut butter, 38 boxes of a variety of pastas, 29 cans of port and beans, 20 boxes of breakfast cereals, 25 boxes of cake mixes, 27 boxes of rice, 13 cans of soup and 26 miscellaneous items for a grand total of 247 food items donated.

Each and every food pantry household will benefit from your open hearts. Your giving knows no end!

## Property Committee - Norm King

Northstar Lifts Co. was selected to install the new lift. Duggan & Duggan has been accepted for the work of demolition of the old lift and finishing the interior. Other work that will be done is outlined in their proposals. We will keep the congregation informed as to the progress beginning this summer hopefully.



A church "**Spring Clean-up**" was scheduled for Saturday, May 3, from 9-noon. Due to rain, the indoor cleaning tasks were started. A **BIG SHOUT OUT** to the crew of 9 volunteers ( Bizzy Chaffee, Judy McClain, Kristen Woodhead, Julie and John Pagett, Diana Dunbar , and Judy and Everetts) who began the inside cleaning on May 3rd. Inside tasks includes sweeping, mopping, vacuuming , dusting, washing windows/blinds, etc. Any inside task not completed on May 3rd can be completed on May 17th.

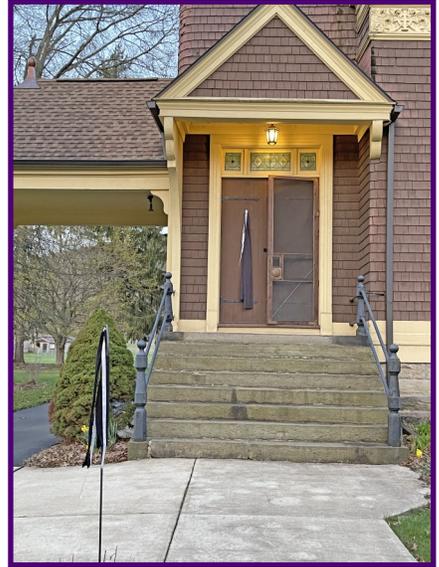
The next date to begin the outside tasks will be Saturday, May 17 from 9 am to noon. The outside tasks include sprucing up the lawn and cleaning out/mulching the flower garden areas. Bring your own shovels, garden rakes, edging spades, and elbow grease.

Any inside task not completed on May 3rd can be completed on May 17th. This deep spring cleaning has not been done in a while. There is a chart, as you come in the back door, to check off any work that has been completed. If you can help out but not come on May 3, you can come anytime and do a project. Many hands make light work! See you there!

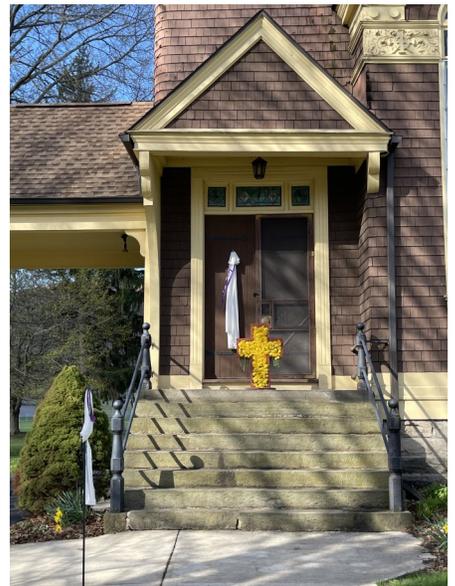


Thank you to all those who are on the Property Committee and giving of your time. Also, thank you to the many people who do various tasks around our church to keep everything looking great inside and outside. It is very much appreciated and does get noticed.

# Our Lenten Journey . . .



. . . From Maundy  
Thursday to Easter  
Morning





May 1 - Judy  
 May 5 - Brad  
 May 8 - Carol  
 May 16 - Heidi  
 May 18 - Mike  
 May 18 - Lucy  
 May 20 - Oliver  
 May 20 - Bizzy  
 May 30 - Brooke  
 May 31 - Coni



June 10 - R.J.  
 June 13 - Joan  
 June 15 - Carter  
 June 20 - Kathy  
 June 20 - Cheryl  
 June 20 - Steve  
 June 26 - Allan  
 June 29 - Sari  
 June 29 - Zack



## Portville Community Food Pantry (Part 2) - Randy McClain

The Portville Community Food Pantry was the feature Mission of the Month for April. As Food Pantry Coordinator, I presented a message about the food pantry during worship on March 30 with a list of the most popular food items donated. AND WOW!! What a fabulous response! Our congregation has been generously bringing in these items every week! **THANK YOU!**

Here is the list of our most popular donated food items: macaroni and cheese, tuna fish, soups, egg noodles, peanut butter, cake mixes, pork and beans and boxed cereals.



# May

# June

- 05/03 Church Clean Up Day, 9:00 a.m. - Noon
- 05/04 Worship Service/Communion, 10:00 a.m.  
Bizzy Woodhead - Elder for the Month
- 05/06 PWNV COM (MKH), 9:30 a.m.  
Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC), 3:00 p.m.
- 05/11 Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.  
Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.  
*Mother's Day* 
- 05/13 PNC, 3:00 p.m.
- 05/14 Mission Committee Meeting, 4:45 p.m.  
\*Committee Reports for Session due to Judy
- 05/18 Sunday School Open House, 9:00 a.m.  
Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.  
Student/Teacher Recognition during worship
- 05/20 PNC, 3:00 p.m.
- 05/21 Session, 4:30 p.m.
- 05/25 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
- 05/26 *Memorial Day*/Church Office Closed  
Food Pantry Prep Day
- 05/27 Food Pantry Prep Day  
PNC, 3:00 p.m.
- 05/28 Food Pantry open  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

- 06/01 Worship Service/Communion, 10:00 a.m.  
Steve Langworthy - Elder for the Month
- 06/03 PWNV COM (MKH), 9:30 a.m.  
PNC, 3:00 p.m.
- 06/08 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.  
*Pentecost Sunday*
- 06/10 PNC, 3:00 p.m.
- 06/11 Committee Reports for Session due to Judy
- 06/15 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.  
*Father's Day*
- 06/17 PNC, 3:00  p.m.
- 06/18 Session, 4:30 p.m.
- 06/22 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
- 06/23 Food Pantry Prep Day
- 06/24 Food Pantry Prep Day  
PNC, 3:00 p.m.
- 06/25 Food Pantry,  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- 06/29 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.  
July/August newsletter info due

  
 Please join us on  
 June 14, 2025 from 1 pm to 3 pm  
 at the First Presbyterian Church  
 to honor and thank  
 Rev. Marilyn Hale for her years  
 of loving and faithful service  
 to our church and community.



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH -  
PORTVILLE, NY**

19 North Main Street  
P.O. 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  
Please check web site for dates when Sunday School  
meets.  
Worship Service: 10:00 am

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