



### An Update from Our PNC by Judy

Is there a new minister yet? *Not yet.* When is the new minister coming? *Soon, we pray, we hope. God's plan. God's time.*

Yes, we might be able to get a minister quickly—but we want to get the right minister! Right for them and right for us to serve together! It will be worth the time and wait to find the right minister. Prayer and Patience.

We ALL need to be looking. You ALL are part of the PNC - not just the five of us. Please let us know of any ideas you've heard about Call for Pastors. Share with others our church is looking for a minister - tell potential candidates (PCUSA qualified) to contact us! PNC will screen, interview and discern candidates.

*PRAY intentionally, with purpose, be specific.*

*PRAY for us to continue to minister without a minister.*

*PRAY for a minister to come minister to us, with us!*

We are a small but mighty congregation! We do and accomplish A LOT! There are two aspects of our church that have an impact on our Call. First, the Call is for a ¾ pastor just as we have had for 28 years. Everyone wants full time - not only in everyday jobs but also in ministry. The PNC did a lot of discernment about this and felt that continuing to call a pastor ¾ time is what this congregation can support long term - financially and commitment to activities and service. We are financially sound now - with a ¾ Call. Based on 2025 minimum Presbytery salary requirement for ministers, if we call a full-time minister it would mean a minimum of approximately an additional \$15,000 to our annual budget that would need to be supported by all of this congregation moving forward.

Also our MDP describes our church the way it is now with many programs, activities, missions, and good attendance for worship and Sunday School. This is what candidates will be reading about us. This congregation needs to keep all this alive and vital, even more so now and moving forward, each and every one of us. We don't have a regular minister, we are all ministers now! We need to keep the Word alive, the light shining, sharing love with each other and out from this church. It is not just one hour on Sunday. This church is 7 days a week - something is going on, something needs to be done. Please do not think "There's no minister, I don't need to be there." If everyone ends up thinking that, we won't need a minister. We do have ministers. We appreciate our Pulpit Supply ministers and it is great that we hear and continue to know the Word and faith and hope through them.



*It is important to be present—to attend worship, to be in the pews, plan, prepare, attend committee meetings and activities, to be seen, be heard, see it, do it! Here I am Lord! Pray!*

PNC Update	Pg. 1	Worship/Advent	Pg. 5	Calendar/Choir	Pg. 9
Lectionary/Finance	Pg. 2	Food Pantry	Pg. 6	Christian Ed/Cong. Care	Pg. 10
Personnel/Session/Birthdays	Pg. 3	Mission	Pg. 7	Congregational Care	Pg. 11
Worship	Pg. 4	Mission/Condolence/Property	Pg. 8	PGW Coloring Sheets Photo	Pg. 11

## Lectionary for November/December 2025

### Sunday, November 2

Psalm 119:137-144  
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12  
Luke 19:1-10

### Sunday, November 23

Luke 1:68-79  
Colossians 1:11-20  
Luke 23:33-43

### Sunday, December 14

Psalm 146:5-10  
James 5:7-10  
Matthew 11:2-11

### Sunday, November 9

Psalm 145: 1-5, 17-21  
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17  
Luke 20:27-38

### Sunday, November 30

Psalm 122  
Romans 13:11-14  
Matthew 24:36-44

### Sunday, December 28

Psalm 148  
Hebrews 2:10-18  
Matthew 2:13-23

### Sunday, November 16

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

### Sunday, December 7

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19  
Romans 15:4-13  
Matthew 3:1-12



## Finance Committee Report by Connie Co-chm.

The purpose of the committee is to monitor and review the church finances and encourage the congregation to give of their time, talents, and resources. Also, the committee provides offering opportunities and to oversee the church's investments. The goal is to communicate the financial activities of the church effectively. Other goals are to establish and monitor the annual budget, encourage faithful giving, create investment accounts and strategies, and recognize stewardship. In addition, the Manse Fund distributions are managed according to the original guidelines.

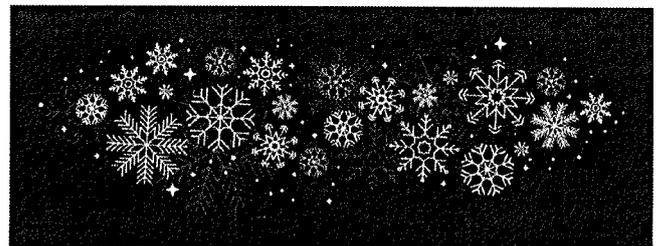
Recently the committee met to review last year's budget and create a new one for 2026. With the changing times, it was quite a task to say the least. This year the replacement of items in the church (lift elevator, microphones, organ parts to name a few) took place and maintenance agreements had to be considered.

You will be receiving a Pledge Letter after November 1st with a pledge card enclosed. Please return the card by November 23rd and honor your pledge every Sunday. It is vital to the life of our church that the spirit of God is present in all that we do.

**Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year 2026!**

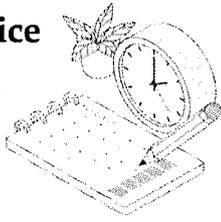
*SNOWFLAKES by Mary M. Leslie*

*Downy soft you glide to earth in white sublimity  
To nestle in the branches of the pine  
or drape the barren tree.  
You hide among the grasses or kiss the upturned sod  
Together, you are a picture.  
Alone, a masterpiece of God!*



## Personnel Committee News by Vicki

### New Office Hours



Thank you, **Judy Everetts**, for taking on the responsibilities of the church secretary! Judy can be reached by calling the church office at (716) 933-6426 or stopping in between **8 - 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday**. She can also be contacted by emailing the church at [portville.presbyterian@gmail.com](mailto:portville.presbyterian@gmail.com) or calling her cell at (716) 378-9038.

## News from the Session by Judy

*"Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak"*

As this congregation moves forward through this time of transition and change, the Session is more mindful than ever to honor the past, to continue with the ministries, missions and traditions of this church, all while being careful to plan for the future. Hymn #426 "Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak" can be guidance for each and everyone of us, individually and together, to fulfill our church mission statement "...with an open door... we strive to be open-minded and open-hearted..."

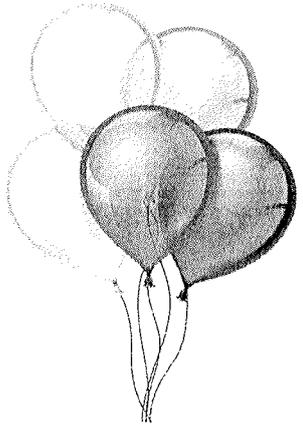
Session welcomed **Rev. Dr. Bruce Levine** to be our Moderator of Session during the time we are without a minister. Rev. Levine is the pastor at the First Presbyterian Church in Olean. Session and our congregation have welcomed **Judy** as our new church secretary. Judy is getting into the office routine and duties training with Julie McLarney-Pagett. Judy's office hours are Tuesday-Thursday 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. Please be sure to get any information to Judy about church meetings and activities. Communication, participation, and cooperation will be key to keeping the life of this church intact and living the Word. Thank you **Diana** and the **worship committee** for all the time and effort for making the contacts and arrangements for these ministers to be with us and writing and creating our worship services. We appreciate all our Pulpit Supply ministers.

For pastoral care, please contact **Judy**, Clerk of Session, by calling or texting her at (716) 933-6303. The information will then be given to Rev. Levine.



- Nov. 3rd Megan
- Nov. 10th Anna
- Nov. 10th Emma
- Nov. 11th Tim
- Nov. 12th Anastasia
- Nov. 14th Mary Ann
- Nov. 17th Connie
- Nov. 18th Mark
- Nov. 19th Bob
- Nov. 28th Mary

## Sending Birthday Wishes!

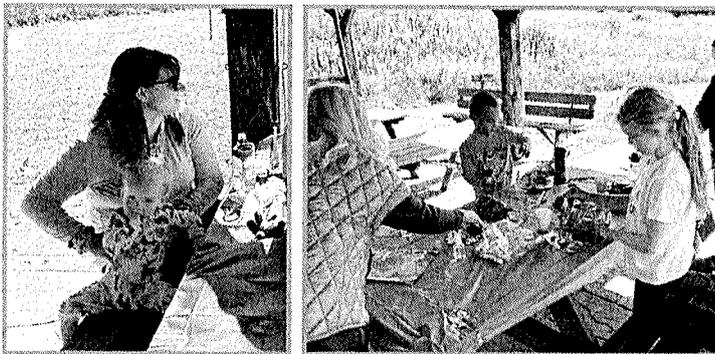


- Dec. 7th Diana
- Dec. 10th McKenzie
- Dec. 10th Cso
- Dec. 13th Norm
- Dec. 21st Kari



# Worship Committee News by Diana

The Worship Committee had a special day in October which included two annual events that celebrated the fellowship and fun that we share here in our church. On October 12th we celebrated the Children's Sabbath, and then we drove to Pfeiffer Nature Center after church. During worship we honored the children that come to our church to learn about God. There are more than 30 children that come here to enjoy Sunday School. We are blessed to have these little ones and their families as part of our church. We wanted to give them a gift from the congregation. We gave them a small stuffed bear with "Jesus loves you beary much" printed on the bear's belly. We also enjoyed lunch at the Pfeiffer Nature Center following worship. The weather was amazing and the views beautiful. We enjoyed good food and great company. Steve Langworthy gave a very interesting talk on his passion for bee keeping. Thank you to all who participated in such a jam-packed day of fun and time together.



Children's Sabbath



**Children's Sabbath  
and  
Pfeiffer Nature  
Center Picnic**



## Worship Committee News (continued) by Diana

Looking ahead to what you can expect and asking you to be part of some upcoming services...

There are three services the Worship Committee is working on:

◎ **Sunday, November 30th will be the Hanging of the Greens.** It is also the first Sunday in Advent. We will dust off the decorations and work together that day to make our church ready for the holidays. We will need all your help that Sunday.

◎ **Wednesday, December 24th will be the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.** To herald in Christmas day, please join us at 7:00 pm to celebrate with scripture, music, and candlelight.

◎ **Sunday, December 28th will be a worship service full Christmas carols** to sing one last time before we put them away for another year to welcome in the New Year. Come dressed casually and ready to sing, learn about these traditional Christmas hymns, greet one another, and enjoy some hot chocolate and cookies like most carolers do while they sing with family and friends. It promises to be a day of merriment for all.

We will be looking for members of the congregation to be readers for each of these worship services. We hope that many of you will be willing to help us out!

*"O Come, All Ye Faithful," "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas" as we "Deck the Halls" and sing of that "Silent Night" in that "Little Town of Bethlehem" as we wait for "Angels from the Realms of Glory" to sing for us "While Shepherds Watched their Flocks by Night" to "Go Tell it on the Mountain" that Jesus brings "Joy to the World."*



## The Advent Program by Diana

Advent is a time of waiting, excitement, preparation, and reflection. In a world that often feels overwhelmed by noise and unrest, Advent invites us to intentionally slow down for just a moment and seek something different. The program designed for all ages has a theme this year of "Comfort and Joy" to help us find that deep resilient gladness that goes beyond happiness. It will hopefully help us to seek rest and comfort during an ever busy, demanding, fast paced time of year. All

are welcome. The schedule this year is Nov. 30th, Dec. 7th, and Dec. 21st beginning each of those weeks at 8:50 am. (On the 14th the children will be gathering early to get ready for their pageant to be performed during worship so we will not be having a program that Sunday.) Come for breakfast, a message, fellowship, and a craft before the church service. Watch for the sign up sheet to be set out soon...



## Portville Community Food Pantry News by Judy

The Portville Community Food Pantry was awarded a \$2,000 grant in October from the Dr. Lyle F. Renodin Foundation, a ministry of the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, New York. Cso Woodworth, food pantry treasurer, wrote the grant to request funding for the "Healthy Food Choices" program for food and gift cards for refrigerated food items. Laura Whitford, President of the Renodin Foundation, presented the check to Cso and Randy McClain, PCFP Coordinator. Ms. Whitford toured the food pantry and saw firsthand the refrigerator and freezers for the food items that compliment the dry non-perishable food times available to the pantry households. The food pantry offers eggs, potatoes, onions and bananas along with chicken thighs, drumsticks, ground turkey and hotdogs. The Aldi and Dollar General gift cards are offered for dairy and other perishable foods.

The Dr. Lyle F. Renodin Foundation provides grants for programs and projects whose public charitable purposes are carried out in a manner consistent with the tradition of the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, NY. Requests for monies should show a connection to the mission of the Foundation to improve the quality of life of those who are experiencing poverty, homelessness, food insecurity, vulnerability and disabilities.

In 1991, the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany made the decision to merge their St. Francis Hospital with Olean General Hospital.

Proceeds from the sale of St. Francis were put in a fund that was used to benefit the charitable ministries and works consistent with the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany.

In 2000, the Franciscan Sisters named this fund the Dr. Lyle F. Renodin Foundation as an expression of gratitude to their longtime friend.

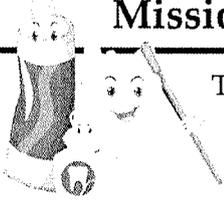
Lyle F. Renodin, Ph.D. was a former student and financial advisor to the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany. He retired as a partner in the accounting firm of Walquist, Renodin and Miller and passed away in 2023 at the age of 94 while residing in Albany, New York.

The Portville Community Food Pantry is grateful for this award and will utilize it for the benefit of the pantry families according to the Renodin Foundation mission statement.

# Thank You!

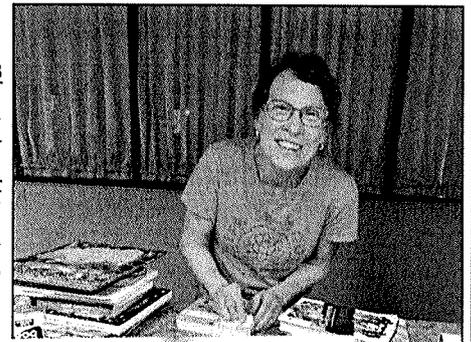


# Mission Committee News by Julie I



Thank you to everyone who continues to donate **Personal Care Items**. One hundred and twenty six (126) items were dropped off to the school nurse at PCS in October. Thank you!!!

We exceeded our goal for our annual **Peace and Global Witness Special Offering** again this year! The goal was set at \$1,100 and thanks to your generous donations (and artistic efforts - 51 PGW coloring pages were turned in!) we raised \$1,275. Literacy of Love is the recipient of the 25 percent portion (\$318.75) we retain to support local mission work. See the last page of the newsletter for a photo of the Peace and Global Witness coloring sheets.



**September's Mission Highlight of the Month was our Gift-A-Book Project.** We are pleased to report that 93 books were delivered to the Child Advocacy Center in October! Thank you so much for your book donations. The G.A.B. bookshelf is always ready to receive more books! Ollie's in Olean has lots of books for children of all ages at **very reasonable prices**.

Thank you for your donations to  
G.  
A.  
B.  
Anita, prepping books to be donated to the Child Advocacy Center.



**Cso** chose to volunteer at the **Remote Area Medical** event that took place again this year in Olean on September 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup>. She worked in the optical area and reported that R.A.M. assisted 415 patients providing over \$235,000 in medical services. Thanks for stepping up to help with such an amazing cause, Cso!

The goal of our **October Mission Highlight of the Month** is community outreach so we will be passing out candy on Halloween again this year. We have already received lots of generous candy donations from our congregation and, along with the candy, will be passing out coloring and activity sheets for the local trick-or-treaters. We've secured a canopy tent for the event and are now looking for volunteers to join us out front to welcome the community from 6-8 p.m. on Halloween. We hope to see you there!



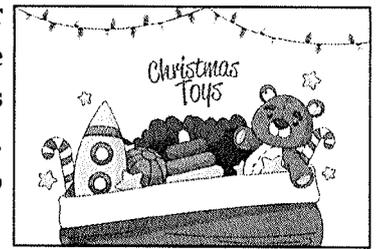
Our **November Mission Highlight is our annual Harvest Sunday project** where we collect the items needed to help provide a bountiful Thanksgiving feast for two local families in need. The display with the tags for our non-perishable items and monetary donations will be available in the sanctuary on Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please have all items returned to the sanctuary by Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup> so we'll have enough time to get the donations to our two families. Thank you all for your generosity. It's truly a beautiful thing.



*"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!" Psalm 118:1*

### Mission Committee News (continued) by Julie

Keep an eye out for those Black Friday shopping deals because our **Presents for Panthers** mission project will be quickly approaching. We will once again be accepting toys and games for children, as well as wrapping paper, bows, and tags to donate to Portville Central School. There will be a display in the Quilt Room in December for you to drop off your **UNWRAPPED** gifts. Thank you!



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

**From the Jack Shepard Memorial Mission Fund**

\$750 for Wycliffe Bible Translators, Steve and Margie

\$750 for Wycliffe Bible Translator, Leah

\$500 for Miriam Center for Hope and Healing

**From the Rummage Sale Mission Fund**

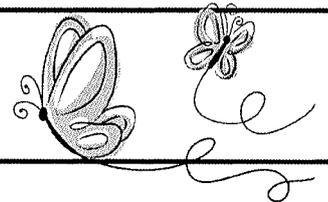
\$400 for Pfeiffer Nature Center's Wreath Sponsorship

**From the Hunger Fund**

\$100 for Christmas and Birthday (\$50 each) gifts for Pamela



*Sending our deepest condolences to Stephanie and Joe and their family on the passing of their daughter, Adrienne.*



### Property Committee News by Terry

The Property Committee has been working on several initiatives that are currently being discussed or worked on. The organ repairs (see photos below) have been fully approved and are being scheduled around the Jan/Feb timeframe. The downstairs bathrooms have both been updated with new inlet lines for better operations (thank you Alex ). The Sanctuary Pews have been checked with some being more secured to floor for safety (thank you Steve ). The much waited for new lift is completed and in service (thank you to the whole Committee especially Judy and Bill who steered the activity perfectly right down to final painting also by

Judy ) Jobs currently being scheduled/worked on include: some electrical repairs, Sanctuary lightbulb replacements, and kitchen caulking.

Everyone please also consider assisting our church with leaf

raking, flower weeding and upcoming snow shoveling around entrances.



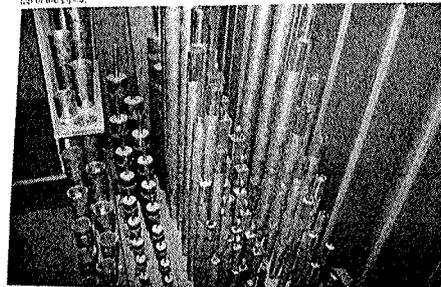
Figure 1: Terrace and the organ functioning



Figure 2: Roof replacement removed from church to prevent fall off distance



Figure 3: Sawed upwork - Deck at the wooden tank with stopper handles coming out of the top of the pipes.



# November

- 11/02 Worship Service/Communion, 10:00 a.m.  
Harvest Sunday Tags Available for Pick Up  
*Daylight Savings Time Ends*  
Elder for the Month – Connie
- 11/04 PNC, 3:00 p.m.
- 11/09 Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.  
Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.  
Coffee Hour/Fellowship Time after worship
- 11/10 Linden's Jr. Recital in Houghton, 8:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- 11/11 *Veterans Day*; Church Office Closed
- 11/16 Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.  
Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.  
Harvest Sunday Items Due Back
- 11/17 Food Pantry Prep Day
- 11/18 Food Pantry Prep Day  
PNC, 3:00 p.m.
- 11/19 Food Pantry open 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Property Committee Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
- 11/23 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
- 11/24 PCS Food Drive Delivery
- 11/26 Committee Reports for Session Due  
Please submit them to Judy
- 11/27 *Thanksgiving*; Church Office Closed
- 11/30 First Sunday of Advent  
Advent Program, 8:50 a.m.  
Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.

# Hello December

- 12/03 Session, 4:30 p.m. (Combined Nov/Dec Meeting)
- 12/07 Second Sunday of Advent  
Advent Program, 8:50 a.m.  
Worship Service/Communion, 10:00 a.m.  
Elder for the Month – Julie
- 12/09 PNC, 3:00 p.m.
- 12/14 Third Sunday of Advent  
No Advent Program  
Worship/S.S. Christmas Pageant, 10:00 a.m.  
Fellowship after worship, 11:00 a.m.
- 12/15 Food Pantry Prep Day
- 12/16 Food Pantry Prep Day
- 12/17 Food Pantry open 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- 12/21 Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Advent Program, 8:50 a.m.  
Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.  
Jan/Feb newsletter articles due
- 12/24 *Christmas Eve Service*, 7:00 p.m.
- 12/25 *Christmas Day*; Church Office Closed
- 12/28 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
- 12/31 *New Year's Eve*

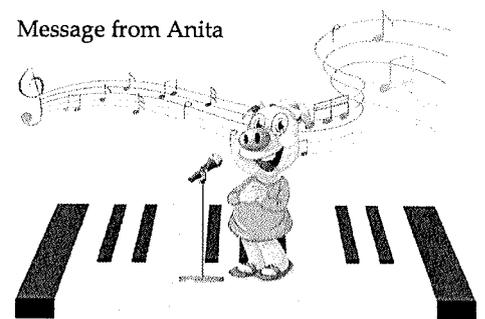
• HAPPY NEW YEAR •  
2026

## Sing Praise to God!

There will be an opportunity to do just that! Linden Foster, our gifted organist from Houghton College, would like to start a choir. We would rehearse before worship on the Sundays when no Sunday School is scheduled. A sign-up sheet will be forthcoming for a January start. Remember...

**"All God's critters got a place in the choir!"**

Message from Anita

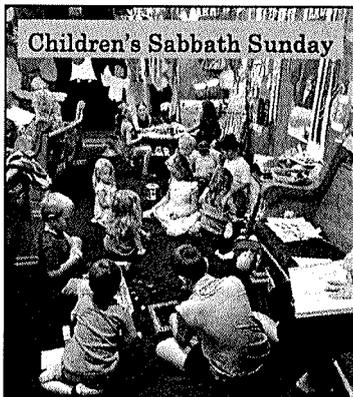
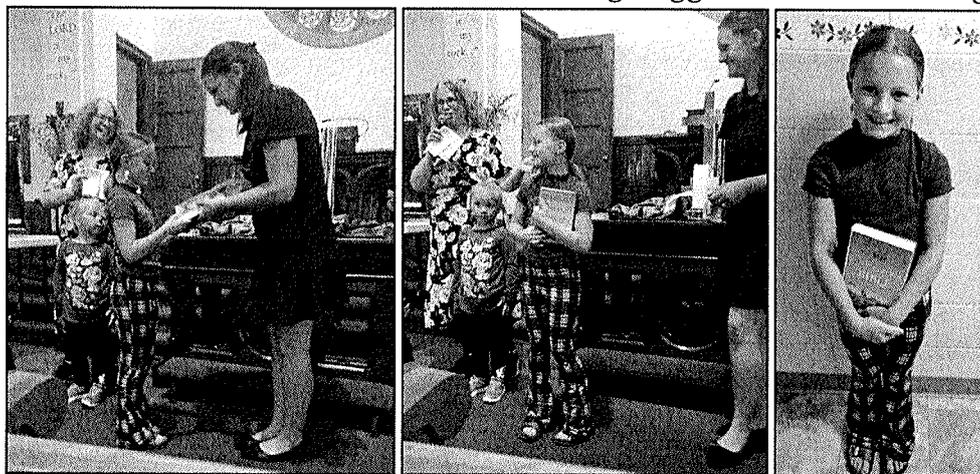


### Christian Education Committee News by Kari

*Ready, set, and GO!* On September 14th , we celebrated our opening weekend for Sunday School. It was well attended by both our youth and our adults! All were welcomed with cider and donuts from the Portville Cider Mill.

Throughout the fall semester, the children will be working through a Christmas Pageant Curriculum, written by Diana, with their teachers Bizzy, Katie, Amy, and Carly. They are invested in creating their own script/props while learning about the story of Jesus’s birth. It’s an exciting time that will come to fruition during church services on December 14th when the students perform, so make sure to mark your calendars now. Our adults will be reading through Philippians led by Diana. They are studying and discussing the verses at their own pace. Nicole is helping with children’s church on S.S. weekends. She has them watching Veggie Tales and working on related activities.

Sunday school teachers, helpers, and students were recognized on opening day and two of our children received their 3rd grade Bible. Amelia Burlingame, who was able to attend the service, and Briar Spehar. We also

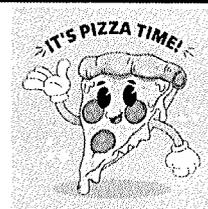


celebrated Children’s Sabbath on October 12th. Diana brought the kids to the front to talk about the day and share a special surprise with them (a cute little teddy bear to remind them Jesus loves them). Then, together, the congregation sang Jesus Loves Me while using sign language. It was a very special moment. Thank you to everyone who has made our first two months of spiritual growth so meaningful.

*Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.*

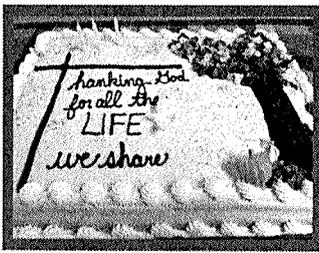
### Congregational Care Committee News by Judy

A delicious “Anything Pizza” fellowship time was held after worship on September 7th . Everyone enjoyed the variety of pizzas made by our congregation. Pizza dip and crackers, Reuben Pizza, Buffalo Chicken Wing Pizza, Brownie Pizza, Pizza Sourdough Bread and lots more!

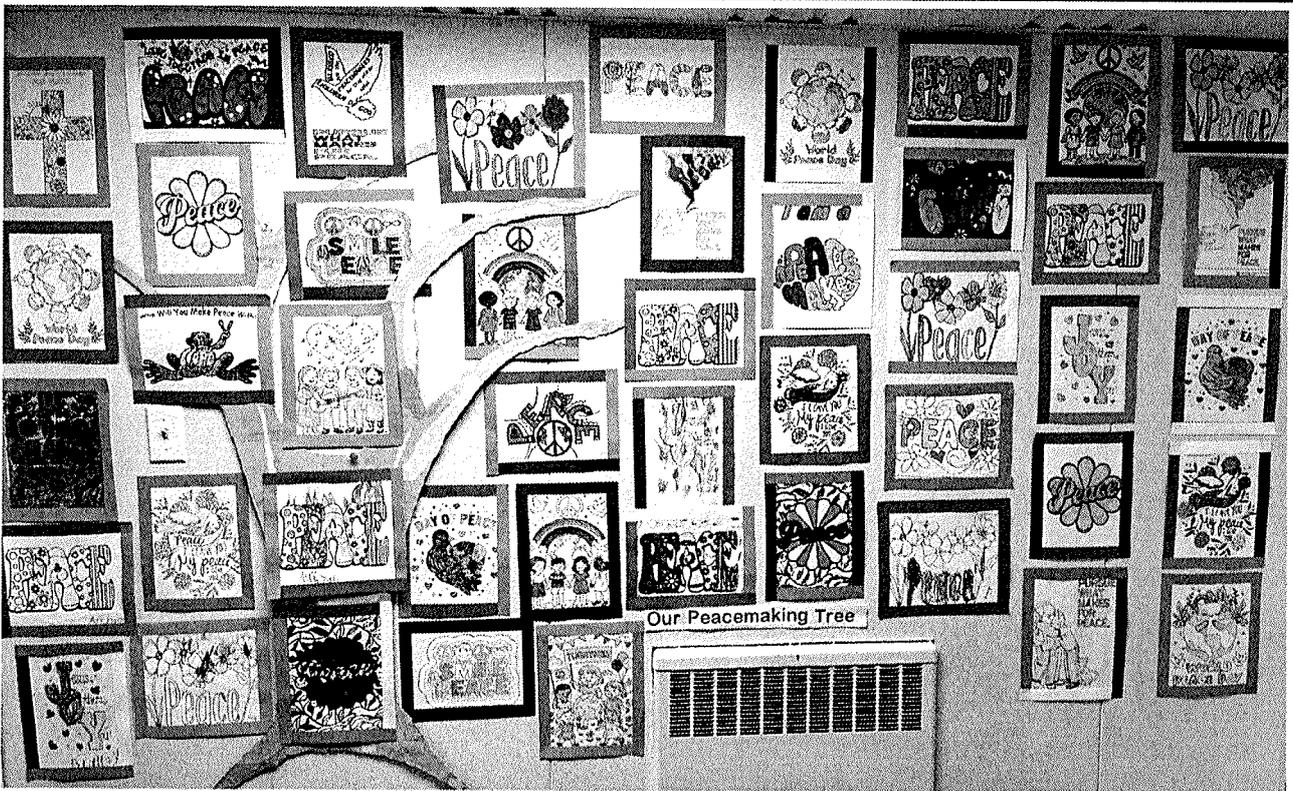


The committee will be coordinating a “**Happy Birthday Jesus**” fellowship time December 14th after worship when the Sunday School classes will be presenting their Christmas program.

# Congregational Care Committee News (continued) by Judy



A fellowship time was held after worship on Sept. 28th (Marilyn's last Sunday leading our worship service) to celebrate and thank God for the life we have shared together with her for the past 27+ years. On behalf of the congregation, she was gifted a beautiful scrapbook, handcrafted by Diana , containing photos of everyone who has been part of our church family during her tenure.



PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS

 **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)

 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

Sunday School for Ages 3 to Adult  
Classes begin at 9:00 a.m. Please check our website (see QR Code below) for dates when Sunday School is in session.

 Sunday School

 Follow us on Facebook!

Clipart images designed by Freepik.  
[www.freepik.com](http://www.freepik.com)

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



