

From Your Session... by Judy

There will be a **Congregational Meeting**, moderated by Rev. Dr. Dorothy, after worship on **May 17th** for the purpose of the Nominating Committee presenting the Class of 2029 Elders. The congregation will also nominate and elect three members of the congregation to serve on the 2026 - 2027 Nomination Committee. The Class of 2029 ordination and installation will be done by Rev. Dr. Dorothy during worship on June 7th. Everyone is encouraged to attend the Congregational Meeting and the Ordination and Installation as our church continues to move forward with hope and joy for the future!



SUMMER'S ALL ABLAZE

The flowers of spring are memories now; but summer's all ablaze
With hollyhocks and roses on sun-kissed cloudless days.

The hummers are at the feeders and flitting to and fro
Until purple twilight falls and fireflies start to glow.

Summer's a time to celebrate and wave our flags with pride
For we're "One nation under God" and He is still our guide.

Summer days are hot and humid, just right for a parade,
A good time for eating ice cream and drinking lemonade.

It's a time for dreaming daydreams beside a shady brook,
For sitting on a back-porch swing; to read a favorite book.

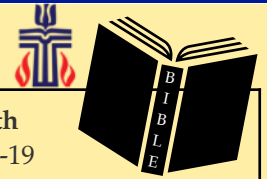
Each season has its special times, its themes and holidays,
And the flowers of spring are memories when Summer's All Ablaze.



Poem by Clay Harrison in
"Hope Renewed"
Provided by Connie

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Lectionary for May/June 2026



<p>Sunday, May 3rd Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 1 Peter 2:2-10 John 14:1-14</p>	<p>Sunday, May 24th Psalm 104:24-34, 35b 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21 John 20:19-35 or John 7:37-39</p>	<p>Sunday, June 14th Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 Romans 5:1-8 Matthew 9:35-10:8</p>
<p>Sunday, May 10th Psalm 66:8-20 1 Peter 3:13-22 John 14:15-21</p>	<p>Sunday, May 31st (Trinity Sunday) Psalm 8 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 Matthew 28:16-20</p>	<p>Sunday, June 21st Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 Romans 6:1b-11 Matthew 10:24-39</p>
<p>Sunday, May 17th Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11 John 17:1-11</p>	<p>Sunday, June 7th Psalm 33:1-12 Romans 4:13-25 Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26</p>	<p>Sunday, June 28th Psalm 13 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42</p>

MUSIC TECH VOLUNTEERS REQUESTED!

We have been so blessed to enjoy the beautiful music from our current organist, Linden, these past several months! However, we are still in need of volunteers to help run our organ during worship on the occasions when we don't have an in-person organist. If you would be willing to learn how to be a music tech, please contact Julie. She will be happy to train you on how to run the organ. We appreciate your willingness to step up!



Sanctuary Cleaning Schedule by Connie and Norm

SANCTUARY CLEANING SCHEDULE: The new 2026 Schedule is posted in the Quilt Room. A partial list is printed below with your name and the date to have the cleaning done in the sanctuary area. You may trade dates. Phone numbers are listed in the Directory or call the church office to get a number you need. Sweepers and cleaning supplies are in the room at the end of the hall just down from the Sound Room. Thank you for volunteering and for your continued support to help keep our church looking so nice. Mary Ann is available to substitute from June through October, if needed.

May 3	Connie	July 5	Julie
May 10	Jacquie	July 12	Kathy
May 17	Norm	July 19	Vicki
May 24	Julie	July 26	Jacquie
May 31	Vicki	Aug 2	Norm
June 7	Connie	Aug 9	Mark
June 14	Mark	Aug 16	Eva
June 21	Eva	Aug 23	Connie
June 28	Diana	Aug 30	Vicki



Mission Committee Report by Julie

Our Mission Highlight of the Month for March was originally the Personal Care Items for Portville Central School students. Thanks to all your generous donations over the past several months, 101 personal care items were recently dropped off at the school.

It was brought to our attention there was a need for small kids' pants at the school for the times when some elementary students would have a bathroom accident, so we shifted our March focus to request pants for this need. Again, you all stepped up to help! We were able to drop off 42 elementary kids' pants. Thank you!!



The April Mission Highlight was the Portville Community Food Pantry and we focused on collecting donations of bags of egg noodles and 1 lb. bags of rice. Thank you so much for all your donations to help our local community's food needs.

May's Mission Highlight of the Month is our Gift-A-Book program where we collect children's books to be donated to the Child Advocacy Center. The 65 books that have been donated over the past few months were prepared and recently delivered. The shelves downstairs in the G-A-B display are now empty again and awaiting more books to help those kids in need.



Baby Layette will be our June's Mission Highlight. Due to the wonderful donations that have already been coming in, we were able to drop off 10 more baby bags to new families at Olean General Hospital. If you are planning ahead for more donations to families in need, we are collecting sleepers, blankets, onesies and small to medium gift bags. Thank you!!

May

- 1st Judy
- 5th Brad
- 16th Heidi
- 18th Mike
- 18th Lucy
- 20th Oliver
- 23rd Bizzy
- 30th Brooke
- 31st Coni



Happy Birthday

June

- 10th RJ
- 15th Carter
- 9th Wallace
- 20th Kathy
- 20th Steve
- 26th Allan
- 29th Sari
- 29th Zack

Mission Committee Report by Julie (con't)


**ONE GREAT
HOUR OF SHARING**

“What does the Lord require of you? ...to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God. -Micah 6:8

The prophet Micah calls for a life that is focused on justice and mercy. It's a call to action, urging us to live out our faith in a way that reflects God's love, to put justice into practice. One Great Hour of Sharing works to help those affected by disasters, hunger, poverty, climate change, and immigration/refugees struggles. Our goal this year was \$1,000 and thanks to your efforts, we were able to achieve our goal.

With summer quickly approaching, it's time to start considering sending your children off to those joyful, summer camp experiences at Camp Duffield. The mission committee has once again set aside funds to help with the cost of the camp registration fees for any children in our congregation who would be interested in attending a christian-based summer camp. Information about Camp Duffield and their camp schedule can be found by clicking on the following link...

<https://campduffield.net/summer-camps.html>



Discover Camp Duffield

Location: 11740 Worden Rd. Delevan, NY 14042
Mailing Address: P.O.Box 55, Kenmore, NY 14217
716-440-9833

For Families: Did you know about their “First Timers” program? This special opportunity allows children in grades 1–2 to attend the first three days of children’s camp alongside a parent or grandparent — a gentle and supportive introduction to the camp experience.

Parents... if you would like a chance to check out Camp Duffield before the summer camps, you could participate in the **Duffield Work Day** on **Saturday, May 2nd from 9 am – 2 pm** as they get



camp ready for summer! They'll be putting away winter gear and preparing the grounds for the upcoming season. This is a wonderful opportunity to stop by, lend a hand, and get to know the camp. There's something for everyone—splitting wood, organizing craft supplies, cleaning cabins, painting, and more. Lunch will be provided around 1 pm and tours of the camp will be offered!

Portville Community Food Pantry Report by Randy

The Portville Community Food Pantry is always grateful for any and all donations! There were surprise donations from local supporters during March and April. Rusty Rooster Farm & Vintage LLC presented the food pantry with \$400 from the proceeds of the "Sharing the Love" t-shirt sale. Thank you to Rusty Rooster and their customers for "local supporting local." Portville Cub Scout Pack #631 delivered 638 food items from the Portville village residents response to the "Scouting for Food" project. Thank you Pack #631 and village residents for "local supporting local." And as always, there were many other donations from individuals supporting with weekly food items. Altogether this means a lot to the families in need in our community dealing with increased food, utilities, gas, and health expenses. Food pantry supported a total of 219 individuals that equates to 1,971 meals during the first quarter of 2026.



Church Calendar provided by Judy

Mark Your Calendars!

MAY 2026

Bizzy – Elder for the Month

- 05/03 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
Guest Speaker: Rev. Lee
- 05/10 Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
Guest Speaker: Elizabeth
Mother's Day
- 05/16 Rummage Sale at Church
- 05/17 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
Guest Speaker: Rev. Dorothy
Congregational Meeting after Worship
- 05/20 Session, 4:30 p.m.
- 05/21 Property Committee Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 05/24 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
Guest Speaker: Elizabeth
Pentecost Sunday - Wear Red to Worship!
- 05/25 *Memorial Day*
Food Pantry Prep Day
- 05/26 Food Pantry Prep Day
- 05/27 Food Pantry open 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Finance Committee Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
- 05/31 Sunday School **Open House**, 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
Guest Speaker: Rev. Lee
Teacher Appreciation and Student Recognition

JUNE 2026

Steve – Elder for the Month

- 06/07 Worship Service/ Communion, 10:00 a.m.
Guest Minister: Rev. Dorothy
Ordination/Installation of Elders Class of 2029
- 06/14 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
Guest Speaker: Mary
- 06/17 Session, 4:30 p.m.
- 06/21 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
Guest Minister: Elizabeth
Father's Day
Deadline for July/Aug Newsletter Articles
- 06/22 Food Pantry Prep Day
- 06/23 Food Pantry Prep Day
- 06/24 Food Pantry, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- 06/28 Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.
Guest Speaker: Rev. Lee



Finance Committee Report by Connie and Mark

Q UALIFIED C HARITABLE D ISTRIBUTION

There are many ways to give or to support your church.

Many retirees are surprised to learn that they can make charitable donations directly from their IRA in a way that may reduce taxes and potentially lower certain Medicare costs. This strategy is called a QCD. It allows individuals who are 70 1/2 or older to transfer money directly from an IRA to a qualified charity. Instead of withdrawing the money and then donating it, the funds go straight from the IRA to the charity. Up to \$100,000 per year per person can be distributed in this manner. Married couples may each contribute up to \$100,000 from their own IRAs if both qualify. For individuals who must take Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) beginning at age 73, a QCD can count toward satisfying the RMD requirement.

Many taxpayers no longer itemize deductions due to the higher standard deduction. When a person makes a normal charitable donation and does not itemize, they typically receive no tax benefit for that donation. Because the donation goes directly from the IRA to the charity, the amount is excluded from taxable income. In effect, the tax benefit is received even if the taxpayer takes the standard deduction. If a retiree takes a \$10,000 IRA distribution and then donates it, the \$10,000 is usually included in taxable income. If the same \$10,000 is sent directly to the charity as a QCD, the \$10,000 is not included in taxable income at all. This can be an effective way to support charities while keeping taxable income lower.

Lower taxable income can also affect Medicare Part B and Part D premiums. Medicare uses a measure called Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) to determine whether a person must pay Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amounts (IRMAA)--the higher premium brackets for Part B and Part D. Because a QCD reduces reported income, it may help to keep income below an IRMAA threshold, prevent a Medicare premium increase, and reduce the likelihood of moving into a higher premium bracket in the future. While a QCD does not directly change Medicare benefits, keeping taxable income lower can help manage overall Medicare costs.



For retirees who regularly support charities, a QCD can be a tax-efficient way to give. It may reduce taxable income, satisfy RMD requirements, and help manage Medicare premium levels. Before making a QCD, it is wise to discuss the strategy with your tax professional or financial advisor to ensure it fits your overall financial and tax plan.



Pastor Nominating Committee Report by Judy

Calling a pastor is a spiritual and constitutional process of discernment, partnership, and mutual accountability between the congregation and the presbytery in the PC(USA). It is more than hiring-it is seeking God's plan. The PC(USA) Process for Calling a Pastor is summarized in a ten-step process according to the Book of Order and presbytery policies. The first three steps-

1. Rev. Marilyn retired
2. The congregation elected the PNC and
3. A Mission Study was done. The Mission Study was a joint PNC/congregational self- study to clarify our identity and mission and define the duties and qualities of a new pastor for the future of our ministry together. With our Mission Study completed, the narratives for the Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP) were done along with a wide assortment of other demographics about our church, our community and our area. A new church website was also developed and is updated regularly with current information for candidates to "get to know us." Have you checked out the website yet? <https://portville-presbyterian.org>. Our MDP has been posted on the PC(USA) Church Leadership Connection program for call seekers to be matched with across the United States. Through the CLC call seekers can also self-refer themselves directly to MDPs if they are interested in that church and call. And that brings us now to Step 4...
4. Now we are at the search and discernment process step. The CLC program does a matching sequence of our MDP and the Personal Discernment Profiles (PDP) of call seekers. The PDPs at this stage show their education, employment history, qualifications and their vision of a church to be called to minister and follow God's call. At this point the matches are anonymous. Our PNC can see their information to discuss, discern, pray and decide if we want to invite them to apply. When the invitation to apply is entered in the CLC system the candidate can then see our information and decide to accept or decline our invitation to apply. More personal information about the call seeker is then available to the PNC when the invitation to apply is accepted.
5. Now there is more PNC discussion, discernment, prayer and decisions as to continue the conversation together with a call seeker or multiple call seekers. There is a series of phone and zoom interviews and in-person visits with the call seeker and checking their credentials and references, and evaluating their sermons. That completes step 5.
6. The PNC agrees on one nominee and informs the Presbytery Committee on Ministry for their examination of the candidate and their approval of a Terms of Call are developed.
7. The PNC then presents the nominee and Terms of Call at a meeting of the congregation for a vote to extend the call.
8. The presbytery examines and approves the call ensuring that all constitutional requirements are met. The call is then made official.

(Continued on the following page.)

Pastor Nominating Committee Report by Judy (con't)

9. The installation service is planned to celebrate God's call and the beginning of a new ministry together.
10. The pastor begins a new ministry with our congregation, continuing the journey of faith together.

This is only one facet of our Calling a Pastor. Our MDP has been provided to many PC(USA) seminaries for their graduates and alumni to view within their placement services and on-line job opportunities pages. Our MDP has been posted on several different social media accounts and groups. And our MDP has been shared with many contacts-presbyteries, ministers, colleagues, friends, and others to share our call with their contacts.

Our Call for a Pastor has been updated to a full time position and approved by Session and Presbytery. This change of call was made after much thought, discussion and prayerful discernment about God's plan for the future of our church and continuing to serve others in the congregation, community and beyond.

Each and every one of us should be talking about and sharing our call. Four of the most recent ministers to be installed in Western New York have been because of word-of-mouth connections. Please keep our PNC, congregation and the one who God is preparing to be our new teaching elder in prayer. Share the good news of our church and all we do to share God's love and serve others.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you."

– Jeremiah 29:11-13

Wonderful job to
 "The Portville Presbyterian
 Quartet Singers"
 (Anita and Karl,
 Diana, and Kari)
 and Linden
 for sharing their incredible
 talent on April 19th.



Worship Committee Report by Diana

“For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.” Song of Solomon 2:11-12

Spring has finally arrived with all the promises of new beginnings. Those powerful reminders that awaken around us and symbolize renewal and growth and with it comes hope.

Even with the cold drizzle on Easter morning “spring” offered us joy and fellowship. The celebration followed a meaningful week that included waving palms, sharing a delicious meal, moments with Jesus at the foot of the cross, and the quiet service of resurrection in the early morning on Easter Sunday. He has risen indeed.

Thank you to all who helped on our Lenten journey to the empty tomb...those that did readings, shared music, provided flowers, led worship, made food, and cleaned our church home.



Celebrating Palm Sunday... *“Hosanna in the highest.”*



Worship Committee Report by Diana (con't)



Easter Sunday
Sunrise Service
at
Chestnut Hill
Cemetery

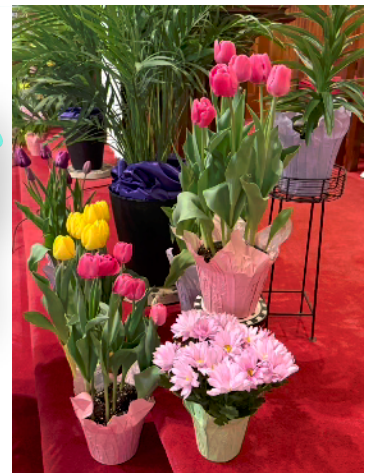


Worship Committee Report by Diana (con't)

Easter Sunday Worship



HE IS RISEN



Worship Committee Report by Diana (con't)

Looking ahead...

On May 10th we will honor the women of the church for their time and devotion to the kingdom. The children from our Sunday School will help us with this celebration.



Pentecost Sunday is May 24th...mark your calendar. Wear red on this day to symbolize the Holy Spirit that came to the disciples with wind and fire. Come learn about the "fruit" of the spirit.



On June 7th we will ordain and install elders into service.

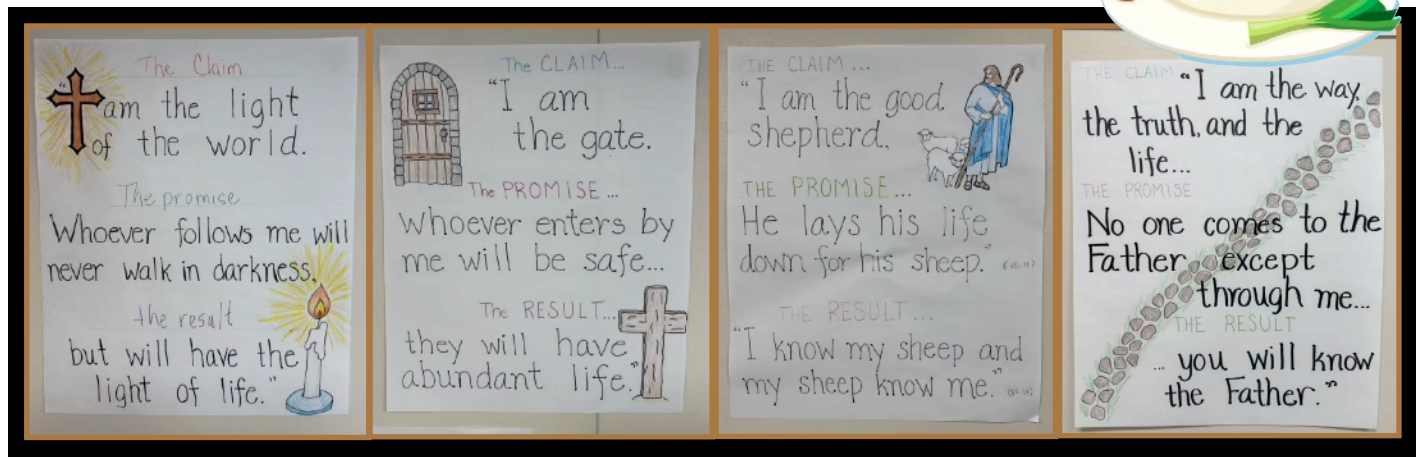
We will not forget to honor the men of our church...on June 21st we will recognize all they do in service to this church.



We hope to see you soon!

Christian Education Report by Bizzy

Diana led this year's Lenten Soup and Study following church for four of the weeks leading up to Easter. Each week began with prayer and as always, a wonderful and tasty lunch consisting of a number of delicious soups. After lunch, Diana began the "study" portion of the program, focusing each week on one of Jesus' "I am..." statements from the book of John ("I am the Light of the World", "I am the Gate", "I am the Good Shepherd", and "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life"). It's no surprise that Diana did an amazing job leading participants through this program each week, and that all participants enjoyed the program, and were of course, well-fed! Thank you, Diana!



Lenten Soup and Study Program



Maundy
Thursday
Fellowship



Christian Education Report by Bizzy (con't)

The Adult and Children's Sunday school classes reconvened April 19th after taking the month of March off, due to Easter activities in the church. Although we did not meet for Sunday school during the month of March, the Christian Education Committee held a

Movie Day in the Adult Sunday school room on March 22nd. Children, teachers, and parents came together to watch the animated Christian film *The King of Kings*. Kids brought their blankets and pillows to cuddle up with while watching the movie and also enjoyed plenty of candy, juice, and popcorn made from a real popcorn machine (thanks, Carly)! We had a great turnout, and everyone enjoyed the movie! *You can see photos from the event on the last page of the newsletter.*



The last two Sunday school classes of the 2025-2026 school year will be May 10th (Mother's Day) and May 31st. Open house for all our children's Sunday school classes will take place on May 31st. All are welcome to come between 9 and 10 AM to look at the three children's classrooms and to see some of what they've been working on this year! Please note,

Carly's upper Elementary classroom is currently located in the nursery downstairs. Sunday school children will be recognized for their participation this year during worship, as well, so please plan to stay for church! There will also be ice-cream sundaes provided by the Adult Sunday school class (thank you!), you won't want to miss it!!!

This spring, the Adult Sunday school class, led by Diana, is reading and studying the book of Colossians.



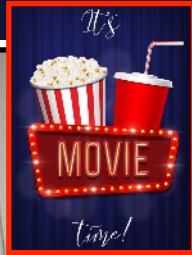
Christian Education Report by Bizzy (con't)

On April 26th, the Pre-K/Kindergarten class visited the residents next door at the Portville Manor to give them May Day flowers the kids had made for them. The kids colored coffee filters with markers and then sprayed them with water to make the colors bleed. The coffee filters were then folded up and fluffed out to make very beautiful and colorful flowers! The residents loved seeing the kids, as well as enjoyed the flowers, and the kids were happy to visit the residents!





Photos from our Sunday School's MOVIE NIGHT!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Portville, NY 14770

716.933.6426

portville.presbyterian (followed by @gmail.com)

Clipart images
designed by Freepik.
www.freepik.com

Worship Service: Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School for Ages 3 to Adults: 9:00 a.m.

Please check our church's website (see QR code below) for dates when Sunday School is in session.

 **Follow us on Facebook!**

