

St. Peter's Press

St. Peter's Presbyterian Church

Spencertown, NY

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November 2016



For this November newsletter, I thought I should say something about the 2016 election and the importance of voting. But even mentioning the election makes me want to do a cleansing ritual! Truly disturbing things have been said this election year. I'm not sure I have any words to help us prepare for November 8. Indeed, perhaps silence – silent prayer – is what we need.

I encourage everyone (including myself) to be careful about how much news you read and watch in these last days before the election. It is overwhelming. At the same time, especially this year, I encourage you to fulfill your right and responsibility, as a citizen of the United States, to vote.

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, be with you.

Beth

Sunday School News

We have enjoyed the start of our new year in Sunday School. We began with the Creation in September and have been studying the Ten Commandments in October. Anyone who came downstairs must have seen the beautiful watercolor paintings by the children, from our Creation block.

In November, we will be reading the parable of the Prodigal Son, and we will start making Bath Salts to sell at the Christmas Bazaar – we are open to any suggestions on how this subject and craft might be seen to coordinate.

If you have questions regarding Sunday School, please feel free to contact Katie Smith, Jennifer Lippert, or Frances Culley.



Prayer List



Don and Peggy Shriver
All servicemen, servicewomen, and veterans



Lectionary Readings

November

- 11/6:** Hag. 1:15b-2:9; Ps. 145:1-5, 17-21 or Ps. 98, 2 Thess. 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38
- 11/13:** Isa. 65:17-25; Isa. 12; 2 Thess. 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19
- 11/20:** Jer. 23:1-6; Luke 1:68-79; Col. 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

11/27: First Sunday of Advent

Isa. 2:1-5; Ps. 122; Rom. 13:11-14;
Matt. 24:36-44

Happy Birthday

November

Mary Wambach	11/1
Evan Young	11/1
Emily Groupp	11/4
Nona Lange	11/6
Doris Jean Stalker	11/7
Rob Davis	11/10
Aleric Culley	11/11
Denise Davis	11/15
Daniel Harrison	11/20
Arlene Lareau	11/21
Adam Harrison	11/26
Ryan Davis	11/27
Sharon Wing	11/30



Clara Gott Fund

The Clara Gott Fund members would like you to know that they are here to help with financial needs. Applications can be found in the narthex, on the bulletin board to the left as you come in the front door. Completed applications are welcome and can be left in the "Clara Gott Incentive Fund" slot in the wooden mailbox, below the bulletin board.

Check the application to see when the due date is for the next Clara Gott Fund meeting when applications will be reviewed.

Peacemaking Offering

The total raised for this year's Peacemaking Offering was \$745. We thank all those who gave to this mission project.



Advent Begins

With November comes the beginning of the Advent Season. Again this year we will be having the lighting of the candles and readings at the beginning of each Sunday service during Advent.



An Update From the Trustees

Some cleanup work has begun around the manse on the grounds. Storm windows are installed on the church building, and exterior painting on the new doors and trim on the west side of the church building is scheduled to be completed by October 21.

Minor repairs have been completed recently on the elevator. The thermostat in the sanctuary is now operating properly and is once again anchored to the wall (thanks to the anonymous thermostat anchoring angel).

Just a reminder ... in-charge fire personnel, the alarm company, and/or Joel Dyslin are the ones authorized to reset the fire alarm system after the system has been activated by either a trouble, fire, or malfunction condition.

A big thank you from the trustees to the many people who take it upon themselves to continuously do so many helpful things around the church.

Scheduled painting of trim on doors on the west side of the church building was completed on October 20th.

Joel Dyslin
Chair of the Trustees

Thank You!

Our Journey Toward a New Minister

Presbyterian lingo that you may be hearing....

Pulpit supply: These are the week by week changing pastors we've had since Drew left. Pulpit supply pastors only lead worship on Sunday.

Temporary supply Pastor: This is a longer term contractual relationship, made through the Council and voted on by the Presbytery. Rev. Beth Illingworth has entered a three-month contractual relationship with St. Peter's Church through December. She will work full time. Her responsibilities include moderating council meetings, providing pastoral care and leading worship.

Interim Minister: This is a minister trained to lead congregations through times of transition. It is their responsibility to help a congregation prepare for a new pastor.

The council has the responsibility to hire the interim minister. This involves completing the Ministry Information Form found at...

<http://oga.pcusa.org/section/mid-council-ministries/clc/ministry-information-form2/>

The committee that will be doing this work consists of council members Laura Corsun, Wendy Diskin and Katie Smith-Cashen. Please feel free to share any ideas or questions with these council members.

Katie Smith
The Farm at Miller's Crossing

Ordination of Lynn Brown

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord", and a joyful noise we did make at our own Lynn Brown's service of Ordination as Teaching Elder and Minister of Word and Sacrament on Sunday afternoon, October 23, at St. Peter's.

The church was full of parishioners and friends. Pastors sat in the front middle of the church, adorned in their black robes and red stoles. Lynn's mentor from the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry, Rev. Jerry McKinney, opened the service and later asked Lynn the Constitutional Questions. Rev. Ken Applegate, who has long had ties to our church, gave the sermon.

Familiar hymns filled the church, with Luke Olivieri at the piano. After being ordained, Lynn, with her new red stole, was put to work immediately leading the communion service. She broke the bread and poured the wine from the lovely blue stoneware communion set loaned by the Brunswick Church where Lynn had had several jobs over the years.

At the reception, St. Peter's parishioners outdid themselves, providing homemade sandwiches, cookies, punch, and coffee. Mitzi Lobdell provided the fall flowers and decorations. Afterwards, Lynn's family, relatives, and friends gathered at her house for chili and goodies. No one went home hungry!

We all send Lynn our heartfelt congratulations for her many years of study culminating in her Ordination of Minister of Word and Sacrament. She is currently the interim pastor for the Amsterdam Presbyterian Church, guiding them in their search for a new pastor.

Elder Marion Ulmer





Christmas Bazaar

**Saturday, December 10
10 am – 3 pm**

Contact Persons:

Chairpersons: Jennifer Lippert – 392-6813
Doris Jean Stalker – 392-5364

Cookie Walk: Bonnie Mesick – 392-5635

Jewelry: Barbara Conkling – (518) 929-3177

Crafts: Grace Ann Silvernale – 392-9073
Emma Jensen – 392-3754
Barbara Smith – 392-6491

Sunday School: Katie Smith – 851-2331
Frances Culley – 392-2675

Lunch: need a volunteer to make the chili

Silent Auction: need a volunteer

Quilt Raffle: Wendy Diskin – 392-6395

Decorating & Setup: Thursday, December 8 & Friday, December 9

Volunteers are needed to be in charge of the lunch and the silent auction.

We are looking for donations of jewelry, silent auction items, as well as nice wool sweaters and scarves to make mittens.

Please sign up to make cornbread!

November 2016						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7:00 pm Women Unabridged Mtg. at the church	2 7:00 pm Choir	3	4	5
6 10:00 am Worship, SS, followed by Coffee Hour	7	8	9 7:00 pm Choir	10 7:00 pm Trustees' Mtg.	11 Veteran's Day	12 9:30 am Deacons' Mtg.
13 10:00 am Worship, SS, followed by Coffee Hour	14	15 7:00 pm Church Council Mtg.	16 4:30 pm Presbytery Mtg. at Cambridge 7:00 pm Choir	17	18	19
20 10:00 am Worship, SS, followed by Coffee Hour Stewardship Sunday 12 noon Men's Group Meeting	21	22 7:00 Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at St. James Church in Chatham	23 7:00 pm Choir	24 Thanksgiving Day	25	26 9:00 am Wreath-making
27 10:00 am Worship, SS, followed by Coffee Hour	28	29	30 7:00 pm Choir	Notes: 		

Happy Thanksgiving